

From term to semester system

# University calendar may change

By JERRY SCHWARTZ  
Collegian Staff Writer

September still will have 30 days, but after the University calendar committee is through the Penn State calendar year may look drastically different.

The committee, made up of students, faculty and administrators chosen by University President John W. Oswald, will recommend to Oswald whether the term system should be abandoned for a different unit, such as the semester.

The committee is experimenting with both 14- and 15-week semesters and month-long semesters. Under the semester system, classes would be shortened to about 55 minutes.

James Bartoo, dean of the graduate school, said, "Whatever we come up with, it will have to be flexible enough to fit about 300 different academic programs."

Other requirements for a new system were discussed at a committee meeting Friday. Committee members said the school year should begin after Labor Day and end early in May to allow

students to take summer jobs, and most said the first semester should end before Christmas.

The committee also hopes to allow students the same size workload under a new calendar as under the present one.

Committee members discussed the faults of the term system. Asa Berlin, committee chairman and professor of speech, said Summer Term has failed.

"The 12-month system has been a failure, not because courses were not offered, not because of the instructors but because students did not enroll," Berlin said.

James Dungan, deputy director of planning and budget, noted that other schools, such as University of Pittsburgh, Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania, start school after Labor Day and finish weeks before Penn State.

Dungan also criticized the way Winter Term was broken up this year, saying the worst time to split a term is in the beginning.

But Lamarr Kopp, assistant dean of liberal arts, said, "We have a great deal more flexibility under

the present system than some would admit." Mike Ostroff (6th liberal arts) said he had talked to student council presidents and found them in favor of retaining the term system.

Ostroff said some students decided to come to Penn State because of its calendar. He said students felt if they had a bad term, they could improve in the following two terms.

Berlin said the committee also is looking into staggering classes so those on Saturday could be dropped.

Berlin said the committee almost had decided two weeks ago to endorse the semester system. Since then, however, he said the committee has become less certain.

"There are many balls up in the air at this time," he said.

Berlin said the committee hopes to finish its work and have a recommendation for Oswald by the end of the month. He said the earliest a recommendation could take effect would be Fall Term, 1975, although the chances for that are slight.

## Room and board fees may go up next year

Room and board charges for dormitories are likely to be raised next school year, according to Director of Housing and Food Services Otto Mueller.

Mueller said no exact figures have been decided on yet, but Housing and Food Services possibly will petition the University Board of Trustees for an increase.

Administrative officials are investigating the price increase of food and other commodities. Any room and board increase would parallel price increases in these areas.

The increase would follow a proposed \$60 yearly tuition increase. The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for the end of this month.

## Energy forum to feature Sawhill

By MIKE SOLL  
Collegian Staff Writer

Causes, realities and future options on the world energy crisis will be the major topics of a comprehensive energy symposium to be held this week in Schwab.

Sponsored jointly by the University and the Federal Office of Environmental Quality, the conference will be held in the auditorium from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday.

The conference's primary purpose, according to the sponsors, is to bring together ideas on the energy crisis

and to introduce all members of the University community, including students, to the causes and possible solutions.

Opening the symposium at 9 a.m. Wednesday will be keynote speaker John C. Sawhill, director of the Federal Energy Office in Washington. Sawhill replaced William E. Simon as director of the FEO in April when Simon became Secretary of the Treasury.

Sawhill is expected to outline the country's present standing in regard to the crisis and the administration's plans to develop new energy

technology.

A total of 30 speakers are scheduled for the symposium's two days. They will lecture on the definition of the crisis, how it came about, its impact and alternative solutions and priorities. Representatives from 10 University colleges have been invited to participate.

Individual speakers will concentrate on issues such as supply vs. demand, the relationship of the economy to the crisis, energy vs. environment, energy's impact on agriculture and the various psychological and social effects of the

crisis, as well as a full-scale study of alternative energy solutions.

This session of the symposium, set for late morning and afternoon on Thursday, will deal with conventional organic fuels, such as coal, oil and gas, and the future of nuclear power, solar power and other options.

Following the seminars on both days, at 7 p.m. in 102 Kern, will be a series of short films produced by National Broadcasting Co. on the energy situation, dealing with oil in the United States and the Mideast, and coal, gas, the environment and the future.

## 'Grass' smoking higher

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP) — The number of college students who say they have tried marijuana at least once is 11 times as great today as it was in 1967, according to the latest Gallup Poll.

Fifty-five per cent of the 1,100 students surveyed this January and March said they had tried marijuana, as compared with 51 per cent in 1971, 42 per cent in 1970, 22 per cent in 1969 and 5 per cent in 1967.

The students were asked, "Have you yourself ever happened to have tried marijuana?"

The survey showed that students from relatively affluent families are more likely to have tried the drug than students from less affluent families.

In addition, men are more likely to have smoked marijuana than are women. The poll showed that 62 per

cent of the male students indulged while only 42 per cent of female students had smoked the substance.

When asked whether they had smoked, only one in 25 of the students said they had. A Gallup spokesman said 4 per cent projects to a quarter of a million nude runners for the total college population.

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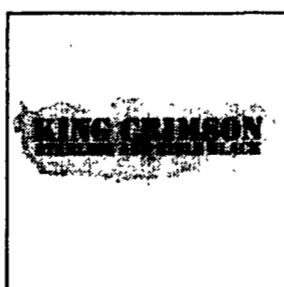
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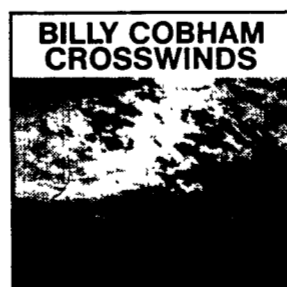
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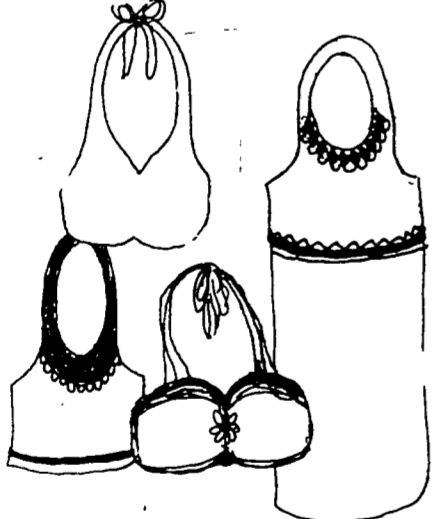
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