

Vote today

You have the chance to vote three days in a row this year. If you didn't vote yesterday, you blew one chance. Academic Assembly is providing you with the two other chances today and tomorrow in a student referendum on the calendar system.

To change or not to change — that is the question. Academic Assembly wants your answer. It is not a simple question to answer, though. Many features of the different calendar systems must be weighed.

Would you prefer the shorter class periods of the semester system to those during which you often nod off now?

Would you prefer the semester

system, in which one week's illness would mean missing only one-fifteenth of the time rather than one-tenth of it? Or do you like the term system better because, if illness forces you to drop out for a term, you miss only one-third of the school year rather than the one-half of it you would miss if you were forced to drop out for a semester?

Would you prefer to get to know your good instructors better during a 15-week period or get rid of the bad ones fast in the present 10-week term?

Do you think you are under more pressure taking 9 to 12 credits in 10 weeks than you would be taking 12 to 18 credits in 15 weeks?

Under which system do you think you can get the best quality education? This is the most important question, since an excellent education is what you are paying your tuition for.

Consider these questions and all the other ramifications of a change. And vote.

You can pick up a form and vote in all the dining halls, the HUB, ground floor and in Chambers.

Academic Assembly will present the results of the poll to the Calendar Commission, which will recommend a calendar to University President John W. Oswald, who will ultimately decide on one.

Make sure Oswald and the Commission know what you want.

Letters to the editor

Who rates who?

TO THE EDITOR: This is in response to the column "A Bad Case of Jammy-itis" in the Oct. 28 Collegian. In reading thru Jammy-itis we noticed a blatant lack of male rationalization. From our point of view, the women are just as guilty, if not more guilty of rating men at jammies. The major difference is in the placing of the tape measure.

The jammy, as we see it, is not a throw-back to high school dances, but more a throw-back to the pioneer days on the prairie with the women gathering in defensive circles while the wild, drunken fraternity savages circle for the attack. He selects his prey and notices that while she only rates a seven on the "Richter" scale, she may move up to a nine after a couple more beers. Although she thoroughly enjoys his suggestive gazes, she will act like Morris the Cat, finicky. But once the can's open and the meat is out, she will find a way to get you upstairs for 30 minutes of frustrating attempts. Success often leads to disappointment as you find that getting a drunken female in bed is as satisfying as carrying on an intellectual conversation with a dead goldfish. And besides, she might throw up. After she passes, and the savage showers, he returns to the golden-flowing tap for some of the best draught beer this side of Munich.

As the jammy ends, the drunken savages clean their home and plan for another week of philanthropic, academic, and

community action events, the little mentioned, but major part of Fraternity life!

Bill Mayo
10th-insurance and real estate
Ed Kennedy
10th-law enforcement and corrections

Beware of food

TO THE EDITOR: We would like to inform all residents eating in the dining halls to be on the lookout for worms. On Monday, Oct. 26 we were having lunch at Findlay Dining Hall, when a friend and neighbor of ours screamed, "A worm!" We proceeded to inspect her beef barbecue and realized that it was in fact a worm. We took the sandwich back to the cafeteria attendant, at which point, she grabbed the plate away and said, "This is not a worm." And when we asked what it was she did not give an explanation.

While talking with several of our peers, we found that we are not alone in these discoveries of bug infested meals. More than one of our acquaintances has found flies in his soup or bugs in his lettuce.

If this is any example of the sanitary conditions of University kitchens, we feel compelled to demand better sanitation. And we would like to inform the rest of the student body who eat in the dining halls to beware!

Barbara Graham
2nd-art education
Deborah Oliver
2nd-theatre

Side orders

How columnists get their ideas

By BILL SPANGLER of the Collegian Staff

A woman I know once asked me where I get my ideas for this column. I'd like to use this space to answer because I didn't give her a very good reply at the time, and there might be others who have wondered the same thing.

I get my ideas at a store on Calder Alley. The store is called Ideas Unlimited, and it's part of a national chain that also serves people like Art Buchwald and Garry Trudeau, who draws Doonesbury.

Since I've started doing this column, I've become close friends with the store's proprietor, George Spigott. When I stopped at his store the other

day, he greeted me with, "Ah, Spangler, I'm glad you dropped by. I've just received a new batch of George Cernusca satires."

I replied, "You can't fool me. I know Tom Gibb was in here already. He's probably got all the good ones."

"Gibb was in here," Spigott admitted, "but there are still plenty of good ideas left." A lot of Spigott's Cernusca ideas were recycled Nixon jokes, but there was one in the corner that seemed interesting.

It began, "I understand, George Cernusca was here, selling health insurance."

"That's right."

"Did you buy some?"

"Had to. He said it wouldn't be healthy if I didn't."

I thanked Spigott but told him it wasn't what I was looking for.

"I see," he replied. "How about a parody of dining hall food?"

"Dining hall food is a parody."

Spigott sighed. "Well, then. How about a nice paranoid fantasy?" He walked down an aisle and pointed to a little blue one, cowering on a shelf. "It's all about ICE," he explained.

"Ice?" I repeated.

"Not ice. ICE. The International Conspiracy of Everything."

I picked up the idea and rolled it around for a few moments. Spigott said, "If you're interested, I'd advise you to buy it now. Jack Jackson was in here looking at it this morning."

It did have a nice heft to it, but I put it back on the shelf.

"Just what are you looking for?" Spigott asked.

"I'm not sure, exactly, but it has to be something special. I'm working on my last column, you see. I'm going to graduate this term."

"Really? Congratulations."

"Thanks. I think."

"I really wish you had mentioned it earlier, though. I could have sent off for a special order about job hunting and alumni associations."

"You mean you don't have anything in stock?" I asked. I was beginning to get nervous.

"I didn't say that. I think we can cannibalize some things from my used ideas." He started to walk around the store, occasionally stopping to look at some premise or one-liner.

"It's always good to thank people in last columns," he said. "You do have people you want to thank, don't you?"

"Dozens. Harris Abrams, Jack Jackson, Linc King, Jan Komarnicki, Diane Nottle, Randy Oppenheimer, Andy Smookler, Barb White — hell, I'll probably forget most of the names."

"Well, you've got the right idea. Another thing you can do is make some type of statement about Penn State."

"I've been making statements about Penn State all term," I replied. "Or trying to, anyway."

"I know that, but the reader'll expect you to make some sort of parting shot. Something about how you never liked it here to begin with."

"I don't know if I can do that. I liked being here. It's a good place to get an education."

"Really?"

"Yeah. You can even learn things in classrooms."

"Spangler," Spigott said, "you're beyond my help."



'Now I would like to introduce to you a man who I believe can continue the Cernusca tradition of vigorous, energetic government...My new vice president...'

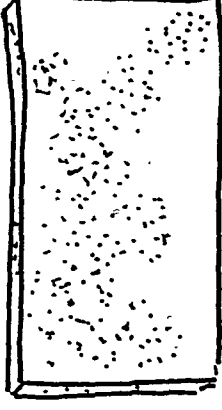
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We need YOUR opinion!

The **ACADEMIC ASSEMBLY** is conducting a campus-wide poll to solicit your opinions on the calendar, to be presented to the University community.

When: Wednesday, Nov 6 and Thursday, Nov. 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Where: HUB ground floor, Chambers Bldg, and dining halls of each dorm area

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