

Editorial opinion

Rain or shine

Plans for outdoor graduation will go smoothly with or without help from Mother Nature

Imagine trying to coordinate a commencement ceremony involving some 5,000 eager students and approximately 25,000 of their proud and excited relatives and friends, and then adding the unknown variable of Happy Valley's infamous spring weather, and you have one gigantic headache.

Of inclement weather, will be included in an information packet that spring graduates will be receiving soon. The decision to move the exercises indoors will be announced the day before and/or on the morning of commencement on all local radio stations.

Last year, graduation was also planned for Beaver Stadium. But when the forecasts said rain, students had to be informed of the change in plans and the times and locations their major was to meet, causing confusion and irritation for everyone.

Rugh said the University has recently received confirmation that the person who was asked to give the commencement address has accepted the invitation. Though she declined to name him or her, she did confirm that the speaker is a well known person from outside the University — sorry Joe. She said University President John W.

Oswald will make that announcement in a couple of weeks.

This year, the diplomas will be given out at the end of the ceremony on the stadium field, while family and friends will be asked to wait outside the stadium. Students will be instructed in the program as to which table to go for their diplomas. Only those receiving Ph.D.s will be called to the stage to receive their degrees during the ceremony.

According to Karen Rugh, manager of campus relations, whose office organizes the event, there will be some changes from the past.

This Spring Term's commencement exercises will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 31, in Beaver Stadium. However, unlike last year, the times and places for the indoor ceremonies, in case



"I HAVE SEEN THE PRESENT... AND IT IS US!"

Letters to the Editor

Medical ignorance

I was very surprised to learn that students were charged by the University for medical treatment associated with the apparent food-borne disease outbreak that recently affected over 100 dormitory students.

In the first place, if I assume that you have been quoting accurately, Dr. Hargleroad has demonstrated an embarrassing and frightening ignorance of food-borne disease. His statements to the press have revealed archaic concepts that sound like something out of a textbook written in the '50s.

open and shut case, the University Health Services would be making a more public investigation.

Ann Lafan, 9th-business logistics April 15

Are you hooked?

Since the introduction of the electronic video games, the popularity of pinball seems to be on the upswing.

Are you a pinball wizard? Do you see in those flashing lights? Perhaps pinball is the classic example of the "man versus machine" battle. Or, is pinball simply a psychological release for sexual frustrations? Or could it be an addiction? But, from the other side of the bumper, maybe pinball is just a waste of time and money.

State College lacks alternatives Local radio: two band wasteland

By PEHRCE LEWIS and WILBUR ZELINSKY
Professors of geology

How much longer will Penn State's academic community tolerate the continued indignities of radio station WDFM under its present management? The station is at best an irritation. At worst — which is most of the time — it is a public embarrassment.

endlessly. Is it really necessary for the University radio station to duplicate those dreary offerings?

To be sure, there are oases in the desert of WDFM programming. Three hours of classical music in the morning, and yet another three hours in the evening are sops for local egg-heads.

Yet even that music is punctuated by insane chatter from would-be top-40 disc jockers, whose specialty is tasteless humor and illiterate mispronunciations of well-known composers' names. It is bad enough that WDFM's programmers interject jarringly inappropriate pseudo-commercial advertisements between Beethoven and Brahms, while announcers giggle, chatter and tell in-jokes to one another like adolescent teenyboppers.

Walter Braun will retire in June

By MERRY MLOY
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Walter G. Braun, associate dean for instruction in the College of Engineering, will retire as professor emeritus on June 23 after 28 years at the University.

He will be succeeded by George J. McMurtry, co-director of the Office for Remote Sensing of Earth Resources (ORSER).

Braun said he plans to work part time after retirement to complete work already started. Although he will be in the office, Braun said he wants to make a clean break from the duties of dean.

1969 and February 1970, when he was named assistant dean for resident instruction for the College of Engineering. Braun became the college's associate dean for instruction in 1974.

Braun said the major change over the years has been the rise in enrollment in the College of Engineering. "This increase is beyond anything experienced before," Braun said. Larger class size has caused a strain on faculty and facilities in labs, he said.

Campus briefs Energy 'break' saves money

The University reported that it saved \$91,000 through energy conservation efforts during this year's winter break. By lowering thermostat settings and closing heating valves, the University says it saved \$5,200 a day was saved, said Ralph E. Zilly, chairman of the Executive Energy Conservation Committee.

Pitt sports novelist to lecture

Mark Harris, a sports novelist from the University of Pittsburgh, will hold three lectures today. "Insights into the Creation of a Sport Novel," will be held at noon in 104 White Building. A second lecture, "The Imaginative Creation of Sports Heroes and Myths," will be held in 2 White

Conference for minorities set

The University's School of Journalism will conduct a minority journalists conference this summer, from July 28 to August 1. The program is designed for early to mid-career journalists who want to explore ways to get ahead in the field.

State labor group calls for Stevens product boycott

By PAMELA MACLEOD
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO has passed a resolution calling for the University and all state institutions to join a boycott of J.P. Stevens Co., a southern textile firm accused of illegal and unfair labor practices.

The resolution, submitted by the Legislative Committee of Pennsylvania of the United Steelworkers of America, was passed unanimously at the state AFL-CIO convention April 17 and 18 in Pittsburgh.

the second largest textile employer with 85 factories employing 44,000 workers — pays its employees some of the lowest wages in the country and is guilty of discrimination and permitting unsafe working conditions. It also has caused a major loss of jobs in the state and against union efforts to organize its workers.

Harry Boyer, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO president and a member of the University Board of Trustees, told the convention that he has talked with University President John W. Oswald about the issue, and will hold further conferences soon. Oswald could not be reached for comment.

storing some of the company's sheets and pillow cases to be used as replacements for old sheets.

Burgel said that the University places an order with a firm that meets specifications for the goods, such as the size, quantity and weight of fabric of sheets, for example. He said, therefore, that the university could buy Stevens products if the company meets the specifications.

Uehlein said Frontlash wants to see the University establish a policy of disqualifying Stevens bids as they are received because the company is not a responsible bidder.

James L. McDonell
Department of microbiology and cell biology
April 21

Reubens versus elms

I was very disappointed in The Daily Collegian's April 14 article on last weekend's possible food poisoning problem. I'm sure the reporter was made well aware of some of the other conceivable causes of this sudden epidemic but none of these were brought out.

For example, the University was spraying elm trees all over campus Friday night to prevent them from getting "Dutch Elm Disease." Could there be a cause-effect relationship here since many people got sick early Saturday morning and all weekend long? Or is this merely a coincidence?

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Secret societies inhibit and control Happy Valley

Editor's note: This is the last of a two-part series looking at elite and secret organizations in America — both in government and on the University level.

One of the country's oldest institutions, an educational bastion of intellectualism and elitism, Yale University, is spotlighted in the national press often these days.

The New York Times last week ran a long article about the first female editor of the oldest college daily in America — The Yale Daily News. The story explains that the woman, Andy Perkins, had successfully transcended the traditional wall around the editor's desk because her credentials were impressive. It was, after all, her stories alleging that the provost of the university had misused \$67,000 of the university's money to redecorate his house, that led to a major scandal at the school and ultimately the provost's resignation.

the Wall Street Journal began a front page article about the presidential aspirant like this: "When George Bush was a student at Yale University, he joined Skull and Bones, a society so secret its members are supposed to get up and leave the room should a non-member be caught enough to mention its name."

The Journal then made an analogy between this elite college group and one of the U.S. government's own such clubs — the Trilateral Commission. The story goes on to say that "those who subscribe to a conspiratorial theory about how Yale and the rest of the world are run believe it is a natural progression... after all, the Skull and Bones people who they ran Yale, and the Trilateral Commission wishes it ran the world in a tidy new order of its own making."

of the group who is called the Right Paw. It is here that these select student "leaders" carry on a tradition nearly as old as Penn State itself by discussing the current issues or politics of the university. The group comprises students representative of various campus organizations — usually one of the editors of your campus newspapers, the presidents of student government, the heads of the fraternity and sorority councils and usually a sports personality.

While they are well seated around the wood burning stove in the living room, the provost let slip the fact that he had known all along about the incident which occurred in the Grange Building when an officer fired a gun. Although the incident took place long before any decision was made pertaining to the use of firearms by campus personnel, the provost failed to reprimand the head of police services. In fact, publicly, Dr. Eddy claimed he never knew of the Grange Building affair until after until after the Daily Collegian learned of the incident and reported the story.

Just last month Yale made other headlines when it was revealed that one of its graduates, Presidential candidate George Bush, had belonged to a club called Skull and Bones, while he attended the university.

Penn State has its chapter of Skull and Bones, but it is significantly less influential than that of Yale's. But at University Park there is a comparable secret organization called Lion's Paw.

Late on Sunday evenings, when the sky is dark around Old Main, a light can be seen shining from a small corner room window in the third floor, below the bell tower. It is in that room, called the Lion's Lair, that meetings of Lion's Paw convene wherein dozens of so students sit back in old wooden chairs around a big lion's fur rug.

Conspiracy or not, Skull and Bones is comprised of important student leaders who meet in secret. And maybe if George Bush had been editor of The Yale Daily News last year, that story about the provost may never have made it into newsprint. Odds are that at Yale University the Skull and Bones group is friendly towards, and has a working relationship with the administration. They can talk about keeping controversies quiet for the better interest of the university.

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lobbying for a campus dietum allowing the campus police the right to carry firearms, he entertained the Lion's Paw in his home.

What if they were seated around the wood burning stove in the living room, the provost let slip the fact that he had known all along about the incident which occurred in the Grange Building when an officer fired a gun. Although the incident took place long before any decision was made pertaining to the use of firearms by campus personnel, the provost failed to reprimand the head of police services. In fact, publicly, Dr. Eddy claimed he never knew of the Grange Building affair until after until after the Daily Collegian learned of the incident and reported the story.

The point is this, the time during which the provost talked to the students was a particularly sensitive moment of debate among campus groups, and the editor of the Collegian and recently retired head of the University's Board of Trustees, "learning how to manipulate students and opinion."

the good sense to point reporters in a particular direction to investigate moves by authorities, if indeed they cannot do so themselves. An editor's responsibility is, after all, to the student body which depends on their newspaper for information.

What is of major significance here is that a system which promotes a special understanding between elites (be they students and administrators or politicians and media executives) succeeds in deceiving or misleading the masses of people who they are supposed to be responsible to.

"They select people who have the same attitudes, have similar personalities and are malleable — so they fit right in," she explains.

According to another past member, Anita, who identified herself as the group's token minority member, most of the people who get in Lion's Paw view it as a stepping stone.

"From there you can go on to bigger and better things," she says speaking on the phone from her office in a building of one of the world's largest multinational corporations. "It's obviously a way of

UNIVERSITY CALENDAR SPECIAL EVENTS Wednesday, April 23

- 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. HUB/HSR lecturers: Mark Harris, sports novelist, on "Insights into the Creation of a Sport Novel," noon, Room 104 White; "The Imaginative Creation of Sport Heroes and Myths," 2:20 p.m., Room 2 White; "Sport and Literature," 7 p.m., Room 101 Kern.
- Sports: baseball vs. Mansfield, 3 p.m.
- Music in Interesting Times lecture, 3 p.m., Music Bldg. Recital Hall. Bruce and Patricia Heigle-Tanner, PSU, on "The Relationship of Music and Dance to Society."
- Yachad lecture: 7:30 p.m., Room 320 HUB. Amnon Shamosh, Israeli novelist, on "The Peace Process: A Golden Age for Cultural Cooperation Between Jews and Arabs."
- English Colloquium, 8 p.m., Room 102 Kern. A. C. Spearing, Cambridge Univ., on "Chaucer and the Chaucerians."
- HUB Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., HUB Main Lounge.
- Shakespeare film, Henry V (BBC), 8 p.m., Room 303 Boucke.
- Alard String Quartet, 8:30 p.m., Music Bldg. Recital Hall.
- Black Arts Festival, Mandinka kora players from Gambia, 8:30 p.m., Robeson Cultural Center.

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