

TECH NEWS



THE CITY COLLEGE

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1970

MEs Elect Representatives For Student-Fac Committee

By MING MAR

Candidates are now submitting to the Mechanical Engineering Student-Faculty Committee their intentions to run for the two student seats vacant this term. New representatives will be elected in March.

The three year old Student-Faculty Committee is a departmental equivalent of the School of Engineering Student-Faculty Committee. Their function is providing a line of communications between the students and the faculty. Prof. Steinhauer, Mechanical Engineering Departmental Chairman and member of the M.E. Student-Faculty committee, said that students are reluctant to break through "unbreakable doors" to speak with the department chairmen and that the Committee provides the mechanism for students and faculty to air their gripes.

Last year the Committee was

able to effect the change of engineering electives from 15 credits to 20 credits (effective September 1970) even though the only power of the Student-Faculty Committee is to call meetings.

Requirements for candidacy in a M.E. degree objective and ability to serve for two semesters. The terms of office are staggered so that every term at least two students on the Committee have experience in its functions.

The Committee consists of four student members and three faculty members. Either group may call for the basement conference room meetings. Recent meeting agendas have included proposals of curriculum changes and complaints of the lack of study hall facilities.

Two candidates have already listed their names on the M.E. bulletin board.

Conrad Attacks Open Admissions Plan

By LOUIS RIVERA

Professor Alfred Conrad (Chairman, Economics) and acting-President Joseph Copeland discussed the effects of Open Admissions yesterday in the Finley Grand Ballroom before a body of about 500 students and faculty. President Copeland's remarks were riddled by hecklers from the audience.

Copeland's three-minute address pointed out that City College was expanding its physicality in its attempt to meet the incoming freshman class through Open Admissions. He asked the student body to sacrifice for the hardships of possible overcrowdedness in the College for the sake of the large number of students expected in the fall. He stated that he was in favor of the present plan and that with due patience from the student body as well as a substantial budget allocation, Open Admissions would become a successful reality.

Contradicting this, Prof. Conrad raised serious questions directed toward exposing the fal-

lacies inherent in the presently proposed Open Admissions "formula." Conrad stressed the importance of four points. First, he asked "Where do the new students go? Are they going to be isolated in some loft away from the main campus?" Second, "How can students similar in needs to SEEK students, attend full-time with no financial assistance? There are those who cannot lie at home. There are those who have families of their own to support. There are those who do live at home and have to contribute to family support." Third, "What are the plans for remediation? How will the new faculty be chosen?" and last, "Will the space now being rented, be ready? If not, then who will be left out — SEEK, Open Admission, or regular white middle class students?"

Carlos Ponte, a Young Lord, began his revelation by reminding everyone that Open Admissions became the issue it is because of last Spring's takeover of the South Campus by Black and Puerto Rican students. He asserted that Open Admissions originally meant that the proportions of Black and Puerto Rican graduates from the sec-

ondary school level must be reflected in the entering classes of the entire City University. He charged that the present plan will only gear the two-track system which has excluded Third World high school students from higher education to the college level. He added that these students will be directed to career programs in the two-year colleges and not to the academic of the four-year institution. He emphasized that the "tracking system is such that whites will go to the four-year colleges while Blacks and Puerto Ricans will go to community colleges."

Mr. Ponte, presently a student at Manhattan Community College, elaborated on his charge "lies" embedded in the so-called of racism by pointing out the career programs. He said that the "remedial programs and non-academic courses being taught to Black and Puerto Rican students at the junior college level are primarily geared toward turning out social workers." He also asserted that counselors are "pushing our people into career programs where jobs do not exist, instead of the academic transit program white middle class students receive."

Counseling Center Fights Against Drugs

By TOM McDONALD

In the wake of the increased use and abuse of drugs by the campus community, a new and vital organization began operations this past Wednesday. The Drug Information and Counseling Center, located in room 410 Finley Student Center is an organization to which anyone who has a drug problem can go for help and information. The center is run by Dr. Breitmen, a clinical psychologist, and is part of the College's Counseling and Testing Division. The focus of the Center is to alert the student to the content and effects of the drugs that are being used. Through discussion, the Center also hopes to make the student understand why he has turned to drugs. In the case of a serious drug problem the Center can get the user in contact with one of the various rehabilitation centers such as the Phoenix or Odyssey Houses. The counseling given will be individual and confidential, but in the future the Center hopes to have group discussions featuring ex-addicts and representatives from various drug rehabilitation centers. The Center will be open afternoons Tuesday through Fridays, and also Wednesday mornings. In hoping that students will take advantage of the facilities, the Center stresses that there will be no names taken, no records kept, and most importantly, no police around.

An Open Letter To Dean Spring

Dear Sir:

In part of an article in the latest issue of *Tech News*, Prof. Cordingley was accused by a group of black architecture students, of giving a black student, Marcus Malloy, a grade of F in his design class 112V2 because of his alleged racial attitude towards Mr. Malloy.

Those who accused Prof. Cordingley of bigotry claimed that he was "motivated by 'racist attitudes'." This is an insulting attack on Prof. Cordingley's judgment as a teacher and on his integrity. Their only argument for this claim is that they feel that their judgment of Mr. Malloy's work is more valid than that of Prof. Cordingley. An implication of this claim is that the failure of a black student constitutes an act of bigotry.

We, who were in this design class with Mr. Malloy, find this claim against Prof. Cordingley to be unquestionably false since we can find no evidence whatsoever to support it. Here, it should also be mentioned that three white students failed, and the other black student in the class was passed.

Furthermore, we were shocked to read that you, Dean Spring, said that you would have worked more closely with Mr. Malloy in his design work if you were his instructor. The implication of this is that Prof. Cordingley had neglected to spend sufficient time working with Mr. Malloy. The truth of the matter is that this was an unfairly large class of twenty-three students with eight contract hours per week. This, alone, would make it difficult for any instructor to spend an adequate amount of time with any individual student. Furthermore, constant interruptions by numerous and lengthy committee meetings, and guest lectures, which you urged students to attend and which you scheduled during design hours, made it almost impossible for Prof. Cordingley to spend hardly any time with any student.

Lastly, we found no evidence in the article that Prof. Cordingley was given an opportunity to answer these absurd charges. We find this both shocking and embarrassing.

Class of Prof. Cordingley

Senate Freezes Campus Funds

By JOHN BOHN

The Student Senate has made public that *The Campus* has been suspended from publication for a period of at least one week due to certain alleged irregularities in their publishing procedures.

They were originally informed of the suspension in a letter sent to them last Tuesday evening by Dr. Meisel and the executives of the Senate, a letter which presented the reasons for the cessation of Student Senate financial support. The letter also stated that suspension of publication was effective until at least March 9. At a meeting of the Senate last evening, however, the suspension was set at one week.

Dr. Meisel could not be reached for comment, but Barry Helprin, Treasurer of the Senate was available. He presented a copy of the forementioned letter, which was addressed to David Seifman, Editor-in-Chief of *The Campus*, and then he expanded upon the four points. The first charged alleged that *Campus* entered false information concerning their printer's bids for the present semester. It seems that Rally Press, *Campus*' "No Bid" bid, does not print newspapers, and thereby, a bid from that company is illegal according to Senate by-laws. According to Helprin, this leaves the Senate no choice but to suspend *Campus*' funds. A "No-Bid" is a legitimate entry, meaning that the bidding company can print the paper, but because of lack of time or space will not

form a contract with said publication.

The second point made was that *Campus* printed illegally, or more specifically, that the paper printed when their third bid was not in. It is alleged that the editors were informed by Dr. Meisel to suspend publication until a proper third bid was entered to replace the illegal one from Rally.

Third, they were charged with printing without the authorization of the Senate. They were allotted \$600 by the school to print during the interim period before the Senate could meet and make the allocation of funds for all the papers for the rest of the semester. The last charge reiterates the aforementioned in that it questions the validity of *Campus*' printing two issues during the week of 22 of February. Helprin stated that for a paper to publish two editions in one week, they must have the permission of the Senate.

Helprin also stated that he did not know who would pay for the illegal issues, and in the meeting last Wednesday it was confirmed that except for the last issue, which must be paid wholly through revenues raised in advertising, the costs of all other issues involved will be subtracted from the allotment for this semester. Also, *Campus*' charter has not been lifted, so it is possible for them to publish on their accord using their own funds.

A Reflection, An Opinion

The decline of student involvement in extra-curricular activities is largely due to apathy. Membership in many student organizations has dropped greatly. Last Wednesday evening at the Student Senate meeting, a proposal was made to hand the control of the Finley Student Center over to the students. This from an organization which has trouble even obtaining a quorum. Bohn's article tries to evoke emotion either towards the article or against it.

— ed.

By JOHN BOHN

It appears that our esteemed student body here at City College has again fallen into what might be described as mid-winter lethargy. We have, for the most part, tidily forgotten last year's strike and the five Demands, leaving the mechanics of open admissions to political hacks in the

(Continued on Page 3)

TECH NEWS

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ENGINEERING GRADUATES

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The Mail

To the Editor:

The article by Louis Rivera reporting my meeting with a group of Black Students in Architecture was written in a way that gives a false impression of what was said at the meeting.

A series of quotations spoken at the meeting in different contexts were strung together to make it appear that I had suggested a particular teacher in this school held racist attitudes. Anyone who listens to the full transcript of our discussion would realize that I most certainly did not say anything like this.

Also, certain key statements I made concerning the case of Mr. Malloy were omitted. I did say that I also reviewed his work and judged that it probably was not passing work at his level in design. I also explained that Mr. Malloy was not singled out as a failing student. Two other students (who are not Black) also received failing grades for the same design problem. In addition, I explained that Mr. Malloy, who has been at City College for ten years now, and is at the second year level in our program, did not receive proper counseling and should not have been in the class in the first place. His record shows that he did not take one of the prerequisites for the course which he failed. Since this background was omitted from the article, it was inevitable that a completely erroneous impression of the case was given to the reader.

A further distortion of what was actually said appeared in the statement concerning the transfer of faculty to the School of Engineering. To begin with, I am not personally responsible for the transfer. It is being made by the Board of Higher Education upon recommendation by the Dean of Engineering, the Dean of Architecture and the President. The faculty members concerned were consulted and agreed to the transfer.

The capability of these faculty members to teach architecture was never in question as is suggested by the wording of Mr. Rivera's article. None of the teachers in question has been teaching architecture. All of them have been teaching En-

(Continued on Page 3)

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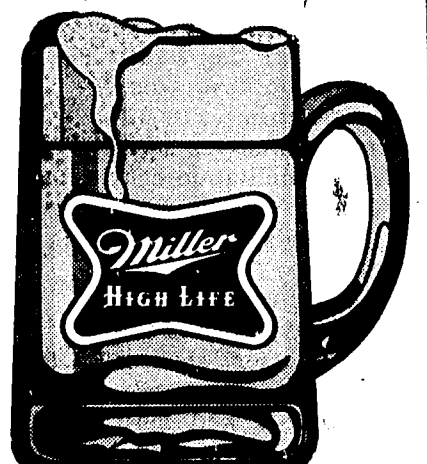
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Mail...

(Continued from Page 2)

gineering and Graphics courses in a most capable manner.

The latter part of the article is, in contrast to the headline and beginning paragraphs, relatively accurate and straight-forward. I can only hope that it was the lack of experience and skill on the part of the reporter that lies behind a story which converts a most constructive and hopeful meeting into a sensational and divisive event.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard P. Spring
Dean

18 February 1970

To the Editor:

Dean Bernard P. Spring "reacted" to the students who came quietly to discuss, among other things, a charge of racism against one of the Professors of the Architectural staff. It is unethical for Dean Spring to judge a situation before he had heard both sides. It was particularly improper that he allowed his statement to be quoted without the professor involved being notified of the charges. Furthermore, Dean Spring, allowing his statements to be quoted, has the effects of having a man tried and convicted in the press without a fair hearing on the issues.

Dean Spring's addition that "the committee looking into the second, third, and fourth year courses was presenting a barrier to progress" is comical. The three weeks old committee which has been able to meet only once, due to the holiday on Feb. 12, has not had time to get beyond the organizational stage.

Olga M. Rivera-Gomez

Our Confrontation Lost

(Continued from Page 2)

B.H.E. and in City Hall. But I find myself somewhat torn every time I try to forget those days, mainly because it was that strike which helped open my mind to what the Black and Puerto Rican students had to say.

You see, I was clubbed at the South gate during the so-called "race-riot," so my memories are obviously vivid, but what really happened to me goes deeper and calls for an explanation of my feelings. I had been chased off campus that morning by a rather large Black cat wielding a golf club, and I was damned mad at having to run like a dog with his tail between his legs. All along, the strike had seemed, really, the only recourse for the B.P.R.S.C., and I had, to some degree, actively supported it. Now, my pride was hurt and I really wanted to lash out in retaliation for this "spit in the face."

Well, we (the white students) broke back inside the gates, and ran through the campus to the South Gate near Wagner. Three 'sisters' were going over the fence, and we told them to watch out for the spikes, and that we'd better open the gate for them. One climbed over, though, and ran down the terrace to 127th st. believing that we were beating the other two up. This set the fire to the fuse, and soon, about thirty strikers appeared with clubs and white cats began to arm themselves with tree branches and rocks. Blacks came over the top, and of the two hundred or so whites, all but forty scattered. Fights began to spread like fire, and me — I just stood there and shook with rage and fear.

That's when it began — you see, I looked at the faces of these determined Black men, and I saw that they knew they were right, that there was no other action to take, that Whitey was trying to blow this whole plan sky-high and thus ruin the future for their Harlem U. And the white faces? Most showed just as much determination; just as much purpose. These guys were affronted, and the strike was making them blow their cool; after all, what more do they want, anyway?

Yet both sides were really fighting for nothing! 'The

Man' had brought about this fight — yeah, Mario and his pals — hacks seeking office. They were playing with our lives! Well, I tried to stop the fighting and I stopped a club instead, and I wound up the day in Knickerbocker Hospital. But I realized something in that fight. I realized my own lack of conscience; that I and so many others, had supported the strike with lip service, and then expected a gracious applause in return. I saw the manipulation of lives by city bosses (after all, wasn't I one of Mario's seven pet campaign issues, even after he had re-opened the school and caused the fight).

Above all, I saw that the B.P.R.S.C. were right and determined. That the very future of good education in this city depended on what they accomplished with the strike, that the future generations of their brothers and sisters depended on their success. I figured that maybe we whites should stop worrying about our education of books, and maybe start worrying about our education as men. Funny, I knew a lot of counter-strikers, and I'll be damned if half of them had gone to class in a month before the strike. I mean who were they fooling? Who were any of us fooling?

No, I didn't dig the violence of the confrontation, nor could I hack the pain in my head for the next three weeks, but what has happened has happened, and the past can dictate the future. Is it too much for us to break out of this comatose state and attempt to see some justice done?

The B.H.E.'s present plan on open admissions offers the program on an experimental basis subject to cancellation in the event of failure. Yet it admits all graduating High School seniors without any sort of provision for pre-college or pre-Baccalaureate training. Thus, as this college admits — high school seniors of questionable skills, are thrown into the pit. Unless some miracle takes place, these kids will fail and the program will be labeled a bust. "Well, that's that; those damned radicals will shut up for a while." Keep in mind, though, that this is presently the favored plan, and that some other version may take its place, and so on and so on, all of this with the deadline just seven months away!

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OPEN RUSH PARTY

BID INTERVIEWS

TEP FRATERNITY

AEPhi SORORITY

REFRESHMENTS — DANCING

FRIDAY NIGHT

336 CONVENT AVENUE

CORNER 144th STREET

Notices

There will be a trip to Grumman Corporation's Lunar Module facilities on April 1, 1970. Deadline for applications will be on March 12, 1970. This early date is needed to establish security clearance. There is only one bus for transportation and students who submit their names and go out there by car or by train will be permitted on the tour.

A trip to IBM is planned for Saturday, February 28, 1970 at 2 P.M. Students will be taught the use of the computer and then let loose for three hours to do their homework or whatever on the computers. This trip is limited to 40 people. Those who are not taken now will go on subsequent trips.

The Israeli Student Club will have an important meeting this Thursday in S205 at 12:00.

The City College Ski Club will meet in Finley 307 from 12-2 on Thursday, Feb. 26. Future ski trips will be discussed.

Society for Environmental Salvage meets Friday at 1 P.M. in F306. Speaker: Peter Kahn on "Defoliants and the Ecology of Vietnam."

CCNY's Music Department presents three concerts: One on Thursday, March 5 at 12:30 in the Music Studio, 133rd St. and Convent Ave.; one on Friday, March 6 at 8:30 P.M. in the Graduate Center, 33 W. 42nd St.; and one on Sunday, March 8 at 3 P.M. in the Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Ave. between 103rd and 104th Street.

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Our Confrontation Gain

(Continued from Page 3)

If the Universities past record on programs is any indication, the final plan may be done in a half-shod, questionable manner, either for lack of funds, lack of time, or both.

So what's left? Do the Black and Puerto Rican students make their move again, do the White students cry "OPEN-IT-UP" again? Do we claw at each other's throats again? Do we let ourselves be manipulated by the racist powers, or do the white students of City College stop thinking about themselves and their own sheltered little worlds and start thinking about the people out there who are living with rats and screaming for heat and hot water? Is it too much to believe that maybe the kids out in this very real world might want an education, and that this institution was created for the poor people of New York so that they could gain an education of the highest degree.

Stop worrying about your own selfish whims and new cars and start thinking about cold and hunger, heroin and pushers numbing your mind, or about politicians using cops to "keep you in your place." Maybe I'm the biggest dreamer that ever lived, but I'll be damned if I don't really think it can happen. All we need to do is to stop forgetting the true face of our racist society which turns man on man, and plays on ones fears to foster a political victory and new births of racism. Don't worry about loss of educational excellence

either — we don't have it to lose. After all, any college that completely excludes itself from its surroundings and keeps its student body openly apathetic to its curriculum is far from excellent.

Open admissions could only help stem this mounting apathy, and it would pull us out of the walls and into the community. Get off the white fiasco; quit your own particular ego trips and get together for a change. Forget your wheels, your bread, your engineering lethargy. Let go of the crap and give your hand to the people — now's the time for your indifference to end!

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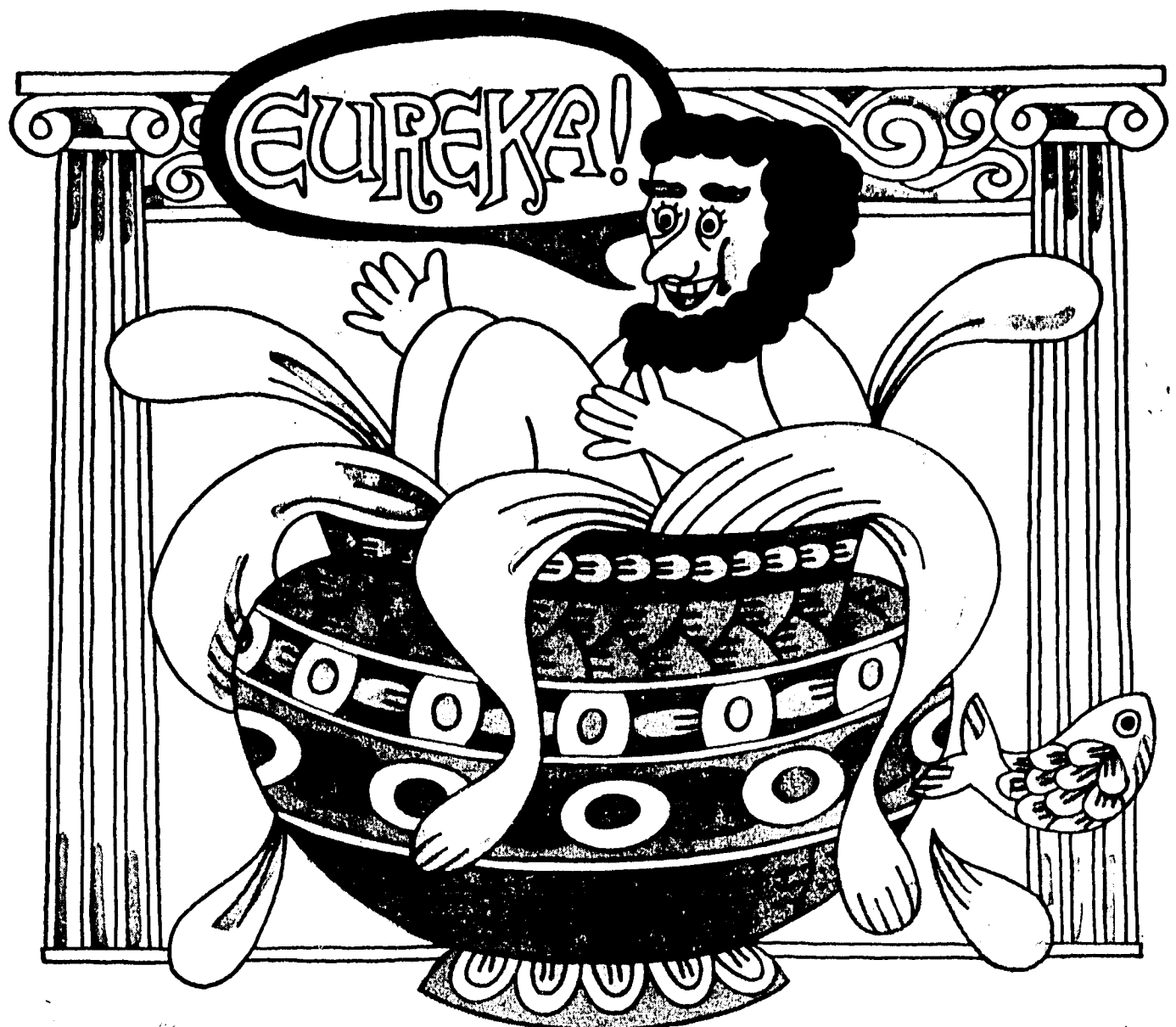
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