

# Drew Acorn

Student Publication Of College Of Liberal Arts

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November 8, 1965

## Would Widen Implications of Mellen Affair

The continually widening implications of the question of academic freedom on this campus were once more examined on Wednesday evening, November 3, when Mr. Al Lowenstein, a lawyer presently traveling for Americans for the Reappraisal of Far Eastern Policy, and the author of *Brutal Mandate*, a book on South Africa's apartheid policy, addressed an all-University forum at Great Hall. The Commission on Christian Social Concerns of the Theological School, who invited Mr. Lowenstein, distributed a flyer which explained that "Being aware of recent events on the Drew Campus, Mr. Lowenstein refused to speak about South Africa without reference to Drew's own problem. He maintains that a more basic issue at Drew is that of academic freedom and the nature and role of the university."

Instead of concentrating on the subject of his book, Mr. Lowenstein preferred to take time to give us a view of ourselves as seen by an outsider.

He prefaced his remarks with the observation that although one not intimately involved in a situation of such complex proportions cannot hope to be aware of all its nuances, the detached perspective of such an observer compensates for the lack. Mr. Lowenstein then went on to outline the situation in general terms by defining the University's prime reason for existence. In our present society, he said, the university, partly because of its traditional image as a place of sanctuary, is the only institution which can perform the vital role of giving a forum to diverse points of view. If our democratic processes and ideals are not to become a farce, the university must champion those of its members who find it morally necessary to dissent from the opinions of the majority. How can we expect others to believe we take free speech seriously, asked Mr. Lowenstein, when we get hysterical as soon as someone exercises it?

Regarding the Mellen affair specifically, Mr. Lowenstein chose to disregard those technicalities which he felt were introduced in order to obscure the basic issues. He expressed his amazement and great disappointment that the decision of the Board of Trustees, which either intentionally or out of genuine naivete, was released at such a time that it fed the passions of partisan politics and made Drew a supporter of those interests which seek to undermine the role of the university stated earlier. Realizing that a basically conservative corporate body like the Board of Trustees may be expected to react in such a manner, why hasn't the student body, Mr. Lowenstein asked, exerted the necessary leverage to effect a balance of reason? Academic circles throughout the area, he implied, have been waiting for the students and faculty of Drew to raise the voice of protest, not only to discuss, but to act.

## EDITORIALS

And so time passes, and those who are concerned outside our walls wait and wait, and finally wonder what is wrong at Drew. Has the voice of dissent been so quelled that we are afraid to cry out in indignation against the brutal violation of the principles we cherish? And if indeed our idealism has died, what about practical common sense? Do any of us honestly believe that true scholars will now choose to come to Drew after the disgrace that has befallen us? Too much time has passed already. But if we are willing to stop smothering the issues in endless discussion and debate, there may still be time to redeem Drew and ourselves. The time has come to act.

**IN LOCO PARENTIS!!!** We agree with President Connor that the academic community must not be a four year baby-sitting service. We feel that not only must the parents be informed of this educational necessity, but the executive members of the community be reminded as well.

The Student Council Committee on Discipline is now busy applying the spirit of the new "philosophy of discipline" to college regulations. Due for revision are curfew and dress rules, and social institutions such as ECAC and the Judicial Board. We hope that the Council, in its zeal for revision, will not accept compromise reforms more for the sake of communal bliss than to overcome the community's inadequacies.

Exchanging one set of particulars for another (e.g. changing 10:30 curfew to 11:00) is not our essential need. The particulars must always be grounded in a well-defined philosophy. In the case of Drew, this definition resides in the new "philosophy of discipline." The premise of this document is that students be responsible for their own affairs. It has not, however, been the policy of school officials to consistently maintain this philosophy; indeed, many of their statements in no way embody its major premise. We cite, for example, President O'Connell's speech of October 24: in his treatment of the "working paper," O'Connell expounded all manner of paternal concern for the grades of the freshmen and for the naivete of the student in the face of the seductive lines of The Movement. I do not wish to condemn the President's paternalism, but rather to exhibit it as his natural attitude. While the administrators claim that Drew is opposed to **IN LOCO PARENTIS**, we must nevertheless realize that this claim and belief shares the executive mentality with an opposite, paternal tendency.

### ON LOWENSTEIN — AN AFTERTHOUGHT

It is crucial that the Council and its Committee on Discipline recognize the incompatibility of the 'new philosophy' (and any real applications of it) and the **FEELINGS** of the University administration. Submission to these feelings produces compromise reforms, which are accompanied by such statements as "You can't question Sunday dress rules because they've given you so much informality on weekday dress."

We must not view the new philosophy as a gift from the seat of authority, but as a recognition of the needs of an academic community. We must force the adequate application of the philosophy of discipline, and not allow our fear of confrontation to lead us into compromise.

## Ruggers Beat Lehigh, Curbed by Old Blue

Written in the sublime style with John Lockes in mind.

Rugby:

Drew 18, Lehigh 0

Davies scores three times, Waldman once. Extensive story next week!

by Sure Guy

Perhaps a few of you lucky readers will recall that dandy article written by this same sure-handed fellow (note, if you please, that rather clever pun) which recorded Drew's near victory over the Old Blues. Perhaps you wondered why the score was never reported. Perhaps you weren't asked to come along. Perhaps you're too ugly.

"Souls of Ruggers dead and gone  
What Elysium have ye known  
Open field or mossy cavern  
Choicer than the terminal tavern"

Ranger doodles:

Columbia first scored with some lucky play in the opening minutes. Their next score was a 30 yard drop kick which was a thing of beauty. "A thing of beauty is a joy forever..." The ole reveler, David Millar played a spectacular game at fullback, saving Drew from many an embarrassing moment. John Armbruster, Drew's authentic preppy, did an exceptional job as out of bounds man, with his pipe lodged in his mouth and his sandy hair glistening in the late October sun. Drew played with only eight veterans. One of the most exciting plays of the day must now be recorded - with all objectivity and modesty. Early in the game none other than Drew's fly-half alertly intercepted a Blue pass and with speed to burn, rumbled his way down

the field, knocking over aspiring tacklers with grim determination, and was finally brought down by no less than the entire Columbia team...

Was it not Damon Runyon who said that "life is a six to five proposition against"? ... and was it not Charles McCabe who wrote "that we are sort of on the losing end in our worried progress from womb to tomb and it is not an altogether comforting notion. On the one hand, things are tough all over buddy. On the other, there is a thing called gallantry, and it's gallantry which makes the fight, even though it be unequal, a marvelously stimulating thing. Apart from downright excellence, there is nothing more admirable in life than the vigorous prosecution of what you feel in your heart to be a losing cause." Doctor Johnson said, "A man used to vicissitudes is not easily dejected." There we have it, I think, the Doc himself was a cesspool of crankiness and neurosis. Yet he is the most memorable and loveable figure in our literature. He was profoundly pessimistic about the chances for the human condition, yet, as he said of someone else, "the cheerfulness kept breaking through."

A British friend of mine once said "I take no nonsense from life." He viewed the whole deal as a bout with an antagonist who weighed about a stone more than he did, but for whom he held no fear. The Britisher was what the world of sports calls a pro. "The pro combines excellence with a certain knowledge that there will always be more losers in the world than winners. The pro is proud. He is a man used to vicissitudes. It is a pleasure to watch him operate."

## To Exhibit Paintings

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Elizabeth P. Korn and Lee Hall opens Sunday, November 14 at 3:00 p.m. The show will occupy most of the wall space in the University Center and will permit students to see the work of the Drew art professors.

Mrs. Korn is already represented in the Center by the King and the Queen: Miss Hall (in her first year at Drew) has not exhibited here previously. Viewing hours are 9:00 - 5:00 weekdays, and 1:30 to 5:30 Sundays. The exhibition will last from November 14 - December 17.

FALL PRODUCTION  
Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 3, 4.

### GENOVESE

Dr. Eugene D. Genovese, professor of history at Rutgers University, will speak on Tuesday evening to an all University forum on the subject of academic freedom. Time and place to be announced.

Drew Women's Hockey Team opened its 1965 season with an impressive 4-2 win over Monmouth College at Monmouth. Maurine Mackey and Susan Strandberg each scored two goals in the victory.

## KICKING THE BRICKS

The Student Council's Committee on Discipline has several momentous tasks presently before it: (1) defining the duties, responsibilities, and rights of students within the educational community; (2) codifying those rules of discipline consistent with such a definition which shall govern the civic and social life of students on this campus; and (3) determining how the student body will assume responsibility for maintaining whatever rules it proposes to govern itself.

As the Committee moves along toward the completion of this task, there is at least one issue which must be directly confronted: the doctrine of "in loco parentis." In an age when many elders in our society seem to look upon our generation with a measure of mistrust and an even greater lack of understanding, the Faculty and Administration of this institution can ill afford to allow such attitudes to guide them in administering student life in an academic community. If parents feel that they have not sufficiently indoctrinated their son or daughter with the "right" standard of personal ethics during the course of his or her first eighteen years of life at home, it is hardly justifiable for those same parents to expect a college administration to finish the completed task. The line of self-determination and self-responsibility must be drawn somewhere in a person's life unless he is to remain forever psychologically dependent on others.

What better place to draw that line than at the break between home and college? College is where the student is called upon to enlarge his mind, test his ideas, and formulate his beliefs and goals for the future; where he is called upon to mature socially and learn to live with others in a more intimate context. Thus it is here that the student must attain some degree of self-dependence uninhibited by those authority figures or parent-surrogates who would dictate morals or be overly protective of student's interests to the point of intruding into the personal lives of others.

The academic community must learn to say to the anxious and overly concerned parents of our society that college is not a four-year baby-sitting service. It is, rather, a place where the individual must be free to grow and mature in all ways.

Any rule or regulation that threatens to interfere with the many possible expressions of a student's academic, civic, or social interests on campus, unless such a rule is necessary to protect the same freedom of expression for others, must be interpreted as a threat to the philosophy behind a liberal arts education. According to the statement of "College Objectives and Ideals" in the Drew University catalogue, "intellectual curiosity, mental initiative, accurate observation, and critical reflection are among the primary ends of education." But the statement goes on to affirm that education is "incomplete unless it is matched by growth in character and responsibility." To grow, one must be free to grow.

To the Committee on Discipline falls the task of determining what correlative duties and responsibilities must accompany such freedom, but they must first be mindful of the need in this academic community for such freedom to exist. I trust that no one would consider such freedom to be "contrary to everything Drew stands for as a Christian institution."



# Letters to the Editor

## ALL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Deadline is 7:00 P.M. Wednesday before Monday distribution date.

Letters will be limited to 300 words. Any longer contribution may be subject to deletion by the editors.

### To the Editor:

Since Wayne Conner went to such lengths in last week's "Kicking the Bricks" to deny that he has acted unusually in any way in fulfilling his duties as Student Council President, I feel it necessary to clarify my statements in regard to him in *The Acorn* of two weeks ago.

I wish first of all to state my agreement with him about the "thus far successful effort on the part of this year's student leadership to create and maintain open channels of communication with administration..." However, I assert that the Student Council has gone too far in this respect by reaching agreements with the Administration over critical issues before these issues were submitted to the student body as closed matters.

As to the status of Student Council - student body communication, I fear the picture is considerably more dismal. For one so concerned about "representative democracy," Mr. Conner has assumed a remarkably elitist stance. Ever since the night of October 14, when the Student Council Executive Board and "friends" held a closed meeting which excluded three members of the Student Council, Mr. Conner has demonstrated an unusual aversion to conferring with anyone who disagrees with his "conscience." Thus, there was on this campus an "Ad Hoc Committee to Stop the Screams," formed by Wayne Conner "as a concerned student in the Drew Community" and ultimately composed of 40 students. This informal committee made up of Mr. Conner, a few "friends," and some of their "friends," held closed meetings excluding at least one with President Oxnam before that fateful Sunday night

when the "Working Paper" was brought forth. Certainly neither I nor any of my "friends" were informed of the creation of this committee prior to the President's speech by any means but leaks from a few untrustworthy "friends" of Mr. Conner. It seems apparent that Mr. Conner has hardly acted in a manner conducive to "an end to polarization."

Eric Glaberson

### To the Editor:

The officers and I would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to all who participated in making the Drew-Eds Parents' Weekend, October 30-31, a success. Without the support of our fellow students, there would, of course, have been no such weekend.

Since this is the first attempt at such a project, we would also like to call for any suggestions or corrections that might assist in future planning.

My personal "thanks" to: The Parents' Weekend Committee -

Cece Poltrack, Marilyn Stevenson, Marylee Goldberg, Pat Doyle, Marilyn Miller, Vivian Parcels, Maureen Pheneey, Dorothy Hutchins, Linda Lyon, Anne Greene, Sue Fielding, Gaylen Grohe, Peggy Bray, Janet Buonnacorsi, Karen Viebrock, Carolyn Tuttle, Vicky Robbins, Marnie Barno, Lori McIlvin, Jane Dugdale, Chris Strickland, the counselors, and Resident Directors; Film and Lecture committee; Dr. Mastro and Dean Sawin; Reader's Theater committee; Miss Crane and her Oral Interpretation class; Buffet Dinner and Coffee Hour committee - Ed Polash, Dick Vols, Bob Brower, and Jim Von Dreele; Chapel Service committee; Chaplain Sessions, Frank Brooks, Dave Johnson, and Jim Minish, and Alan Barthel.

Hoping that you all enjoyed the weekend and hoping that these initial attempts may lead to a new Drew tradition, I remain,

Sincerely,  
Judy Tomshaw

### To the Editor:

The recent actions on the part of Drek's Board of Trustees brings to mind a recent lecture given by Lison Pope at Yale. In effect, he stated that it is quite correct to assume that a board of trustees at any university "owns" its property - most times outright. Therefore, they legally have a "right" to run it as they wish. But he also pointed out that a university, by definition, exists primarily for its students such that without students, its "property" becomes meaningless. To this point, then, the board of trustees has a specific responsibility to the students and that responsibility demands that they be open minded enough to give the students who use their property and pay for it, a "liberal arts" education which in fact means an education that explores all of the possibilities of life without demanding that only one is right. As far as I am concerned academic freedom means the right of a professor (not just those with tenure) to express his opinion such that the student might hear both sides of the issue. Unfortunately, Drew in the past has not really presented the student with the variety of opinions that perhaps is most characteristic of a true "liberal arts" education. The fact that opposite points of view are presented points of view are presented along with the ones that we perhaps support can only serve to bring things more into perspective.

In conclusion, Drew has only threatened the concept of "academic freedom" and the true "liberal arts" education by the action that it has taken. The elimination of Mr. Mellen in the face of external pressures not only has alienated Drew in my mind from academic respect, but has also set Drew backwards as far as the wider concept of education is concerned. The Board's action again questions in my mind whether or not they look at students as mature individuals with the ability to judge or children that have to have their education bottle fed so as to conform strictly to the mainstream of American thought.

Yours truly,  
Roger H. Martin  
Yale University

### To the Editor:

I was shocked and dismayed at the two savage attacks on President Oxnam published as (so-called) "Editorials" in the latest issue of the *Acorn*. I believe that these attacks were both unreasoned and unjust. As head of this university, the President was quite right in reminding students that this is a university and not a cockpit (in the older, more "barbaric" sense) for political infighting. He was equally right in making students aware that there are those who would pervert free debate and the exchange of ideas into a campaign to further the objectives of a self-righteous minority by foisting their ideas on a majority which basically does not accept them. I am sure that the President would join with me in commending the "Ad Hoc" committee protesting the war in Vietnam for its efforts to stimulate discussion and present fresh and different ideas to the campus community. Drew University needs such stimulation. But I join with the President in saying that it does not need an organization which would attempt to organize the campus community and influence the student government to further its own personal and private policies.

As for Mr. Mellen, I cannot help but feel that he should have been retained. Such an instructor would help greatly to broaden and deepen thought and discussion here at the university. I sincerely wish that the Board of Trustees would change its decision. But since this appears virtually impossible we ought to accept the decision as it stands, since the Board is at least within its legal rights, and if its decisions as to faculty appointment are to be overturned by the student body, or, rather, by a part of the student body, the mechanism of university administration can come to little good.

In conclusion I recommend that a referendum be held in order to ascertain how the student body as a whole really feels about these issues. For the question is not what Robert Fisher Oxnam, William Chambers, Rick Schell, or yours truly, R.S.V. thinks, but how the student body as a whole feels. And the time seems ripe to answer that question.

Richard S. Veit

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Drew University students will have a chance to voice their food likes and dislikes on Thursday, November 11, according to Ed Polash, manager. That is the date boarding students will be invited to complete Saga's 143-item Food Preference Survey.

"I hope every student will feel it's well worth 15 minutes of his time," says Mr. Polash. "The data obtained here at Drew will be separately tabulated and returned to me. Then it will be my job to see that your preferences are reflected in the menus served in the dining hall."

Dr. Van Harvey to speak  
Monday at 8 PM. in Great Hall!!

## Will Charge

The Student Council's Big Name Committee with the approval of E.C. A.C. was successful Friday afternoon in requesting the College Faculty to suspend the "No Admission charge" rule in order that big name entertainment could be secured for Spring Weekend. (Leonard Fisher, Student Council Treasurer and Financial Coordinator of the Social Committee and Gene Boyd, Chairman of the Big Name Committee appeared before the faculty to present their plans and make the request.

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