

Leap Year Alternatives: 50 Years of Marriage or the Army

Editor's Note: Mr. Beggs consented to come out from under the rock, where he is hiding during this perilous year, to write on Leap Year from the point-of-view of the pursued. This is the result:

By CHUCK BEGGS
Bachelors beware. This is the year when all womankind rises to the call of the primal urge and seeks out her victims.

Leap year, otherwise known as bissextile year, began 2010 years ago when Julius Caesar's astronomers decided that each solar year would be exactly 365 days and 6 hours long. Thus, every four years we are blessed with another day on the calendar.

Leap Year Legislation

The women, however, with their usually splendid system of logic, broadly concluded this event carried with it some sort of nuptial privilege. Although the Encyclopaedia Britannica states the custom of the women wooing the men during leap year has had "no satisfactory explanation," the tradition persists, and several laws have even been enacted to insure

the continuing plight of the unwary male. The encyclopedia quotes the following legislation, passed in Scotland in 1288:

Single Men Downtrodden

"It is statute and ordained that during the reign of Her Majesty Margaret, for the year known as leap year, a maiden lady of both high and low estate shall have liberty to bespeak the man she likes, albeit he refuses to take her to be his lawful wife, he shall be mulcted (fined) in the sum of one pound or less," unless he can "make it appear" that he is already betrothed.

Similar disregard of individual freedom was embodied in a like law passed later in France, and in the 15th century the custom was even legalized in Genoa and Florence!

Classes Help Cause

As a result of this insidious practice the poor single man has become downtrodden and virtually defenseless. In addition to defending his liberty from the usual barrage of middle-aged match-makers he finds this year the spring chickens are actually

claiming they have a prior right to lure him to the coop.

On the campus the perils are intensified. One can't pass through the Student Union or walk by a co-ed dormitory without hearing the siren's song screeching through the scented spring air. The rings look bigger in the friendly jeweler's shops. And the classes are full in such fields as "Marriage and Family," and "Household Management."

Never fear, though; avenues of escape still remain. For the harried male, several alternatives are open: 1) don't go out of doors, 2) join the army, or 3) wear a skirt and a Beatle wig—maybe you can be mistaken for a girl.

If these methods fail, however, the outlook is grim. Already this year such notables as Richard

Burton and Troy Donahue have walked down death row. You could be next.

Pansy Ring Tea Slated by Tri-Delts

By JUDY WEGNER

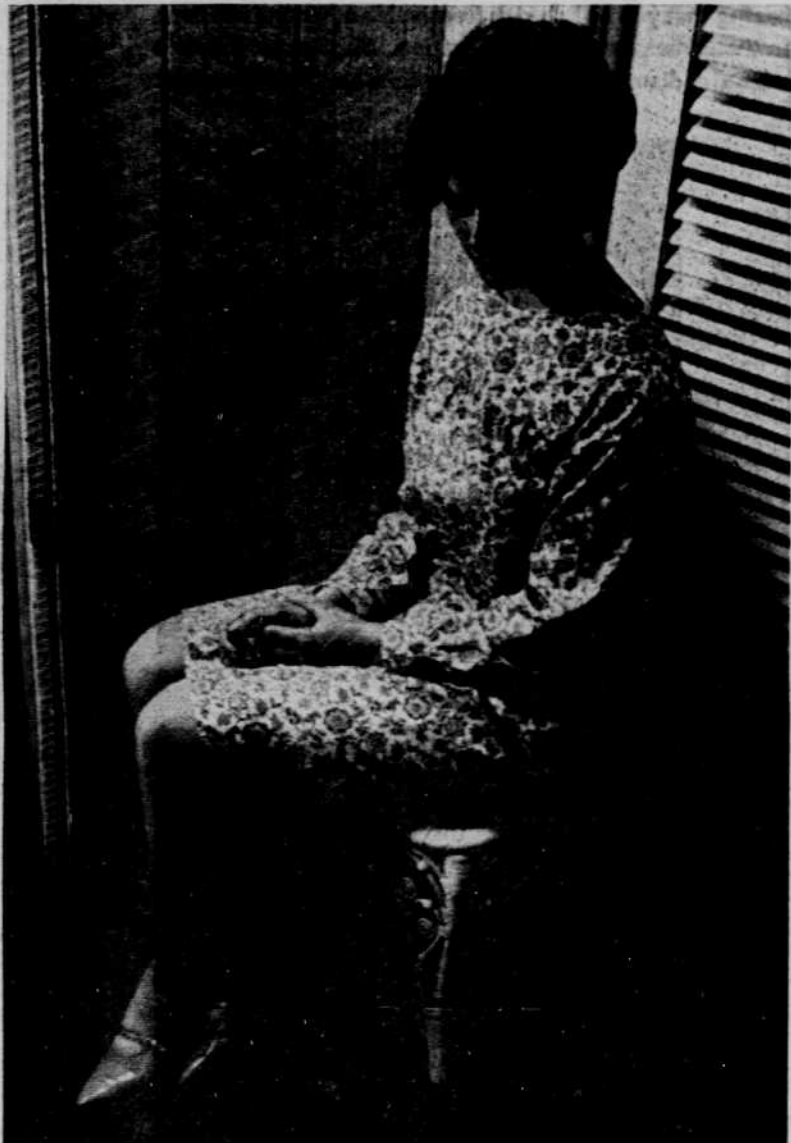
The traditional Pansy Ring Tea, presented annually by Delta Delta Delta in honor of all engaged senior women on campus, will be held Sunday afternoon, May 17. The tea, a national tradition, has been held at the University since the 1940's.

All engaged senior women will step through the traditional pansy ring of moss and fresh pansies. Highlights of the afternoon will include a spring bridal fash-

ion show, hints for trousseaus, and presentation of a scholarship to a University woman.

All living organizations will be asked to submit their list of engaged senior women. Other special guests invited will include housemothers and house presidents, Tri-Delt alumnae and members of the administration.

Co-chairmen for the event are Diana Bowring and Julie Campbell.



THE EMPIRE WAISTLINE look has been incorporated in the design of the casual spring and summer shifts. Leslie Dutcher is shown here in a belted, cotton print shift with shirred empire waist. The outfit may be worn without the belt for still another look.

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