Challenge 3-1/2: Mardi Gras '68 Gets University Sanction

“St. Mary’s To Be Allowed To Compete In Mardi Gras”

Saint Mary’s College authorities were reported overwhelmingly by the prospect of their girls competing in Notre Dame’s Mardi Gras raffle charity drive. “It will give us girls a chance to prove we’re #1. We know we can match Notre Dame guys in brains and brawn but this will give us a chance to match them in a far more important aspect, the selling of raffle books,” a prominent member of the Saint Mary’s student council was quoted as saying. Across the road however, Notre Dame students were not quite as willing to allow the Saint Mary’s girls to participate. “They try to pull something like this every year,” an irate senior commented. The overflowing optimism at Notre Dame was that it was just another excuse to bring the belle of Saint Mary’s into a closer union with Notre Dame men.

The Saint Mary’s administration also announced that because of the College’s goal to sell more raffle books than Notre Dame, dating hours would be severely curtailed (which for once would be action on the better side of the 6 to 1 relationship). Weekend dating was to be abolished as it would cut into valuable time that could be used to sell raffle books. The Saint Mary’s social commission also sees self-interest and other forms of “raffle selling dates” as a big boon to ND-SMC relations. “Now they will accept us for more than our great beauty and wonderful personalities,” a modest Le Mans Sophomore was heard to say. Of course, there are still some problems to be worked out — the administration does not particularly like the idea of their girls accepting money from strangers.

In order to change the belles otherwise drab appearance, there have been rumors of a proposed prize of a new winter robe from a prominent big-city retailer in an effort to enhance the loveliness of the Saint Mary’s girl who sells the greatest number of raffle books. And as the result of many different hours of planning and negotiations with Mr. Cahill on the part of the Mardi Gras staff, the winner of the Saint Mary’s student prize will also have the opportunity to retain her season pass to the Notre Dame football games.

Meanwhile, the Notre Dame social commission announced plans to send raffle books to the beloved home town honey in an effort to keep the competition keen. Also rumored were plans to bring the Barat Bombers into the raffle drive if the Saint Mary’s girls seem to be falling far behind by Nov. 21. Local bookmakers however feel the Saint Mary’s girls are just too good for the Fighting Irish and have installed them as 20- 000 raffle book favorites in the big drive.

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Will Get Your Money

The University of Notre Dame administration and the social commission announced yesterday at a joint press conference held at the Senior Bar, plans for another monumental money drive — possibly rivaling the great national gold recall of 1933. Because of the vagueness of the proposed charity, the student body president addressed the historic conference on the primary goals involved. After speaking six hours and saying nothing relevant (a usual habit, we understand) he surrendered the floor to another high-ranking university official who later granted an exclusive interview to the Observer. He reported that the proposed fraud..., or, fund is destined for the benefit of “Notre Dame Charities” the original proposal of purchasing a Sherman tank for the campus cops having been vetoed only after considerable debate. The new plans call for the addition of upwards of ten stories onto the present library structure; a personal jet for the unrestricted use of Father Hesburgh; and five high rise dorms, perhaps co-ed, in an effort to alleviate the present shortage of on-campus housing.

The method of solicitation will be based on the sale of raffle books which all N.D. students will be “encouraged” to peddle. Once again the venerable administration will allow all students either to keep 1/10 of their total sales or be allowed to remain in school for the second semester. Rumor has it that after depleting our South Bend neighbors of all their financial resources, certain students may be allowed a four day weekend at the end of November in order to drum up sales back home. The Observer learned further that a large contingent of N.D. seniors especially selected for their representative qualities will invade the Gold Coast of Florida and attempt to impose on the students at large.

The chairman of the drive tells us that the winning raffle ticket holder (drawn completely at random as always) will receive as his grand prize a 1968 Buick Riviera which has reportedly been seen on campus during the past few football weekends. The unofficial reason for this revealing of the hitherto secret prize was that the social commissioner could find no other place to pack it free of charge. The prize will be awarded to the winning ticket holder on the condition that the raffle chairman feels that the students have taken a sufficient interest in the sale of raffle books. Otherwise, the raffle drawing will be declared invalid and the raffle chairman will keep the car himself as he has usually done in previous years.
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