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Prelude

On the first page of his novel *In the Beginning*, Chaim Potok has several different people quote the same adage to the book's protagonist, David Lurie. The saying goes, “All beginnings are hard, especially ones you make yourself.” When I read this proverb during the summer, I paused briefly. Upon further consideration, however, I quickly relegated it to my storehouse of “nice” sayings and forgot it. Now I find that this adage can be aptly applied to *Scholastic* this year.

Each new year and each new editor is a beginning for *Scholastic*. New directions are explored, directions which are reflections of the editor’s personality. This new infusion is carried so far that previous volumes of the magazine are never referred to by year, but rather by the editor’s name. Naming the year is a much more concise indicator of the volume’s quality and tone than a date. And so when I took the job of editor, I knew that the magazine would be a reflection of the direction and effort I put into it. I set my goals. I determined my motivations. Both came from inside me. Now I find that an entirely new impetus has arisen and is forcing me to push the magazine far beyond what I originally had imagined.

*Scholastic* is totally subsidized by Notre Dame. Our funds come indirectly from a general University fund, though the mechanics of how the money snakes from tuition fees to our coffers are known totally by only a few. Through this monetary leash, the magazine is subtly controlled and guided by the University. We are never censored and we are never instructed what to print. However, the stability and size of our budget are subject to review by a few administrators. The new impetus that I feel is coming from these people and it is demanding that *Scholastic* change and prove itself as a magazine.

The idea of justifying the existence of *Scholastic* immediately enraging me. After 108 years of publication, its purpose should be self-evident. But if someone still wanted to know our philosophy and purpose, I would send them to the April 13, 1973, issue of *Scholastic*. In this issue, the editors briefly yet expertly outlined the philosophy, purpose and place of *Scholastic*. The ideas delineated in that magazine are as valid today as they were then and had been for years. *Scholastic* should not have to tell people *why* it exists.

But the pressures on the magazine still exist. They have become an ultimatum that states, “Prove yourself or die.” And this is exactly what *Scholastic* must do this year. It must show that our goals are achievable. Our claim has been made and we are being forced to realize it.

To achieve this realization, *Scholastic* must make a totally new start. The usual avenues the magazine traveled will have to be forsaken in favor of newer, more vital, yet more treacherous paths. Our appearance, our style, our organization, our every detail will be carefully re-examined. Innovations must be sought, originality must be engendered, vitality must be instilled.

*Scholastic* will not roll over and die. The magazine’s back is up against the wall, but it is our firm intention to push *Scholastic* away from that wall. And this brings me back to Potok’s proverb on beginnings. Certainly *Scholastic* must make a beginning this year, but the exact direction must be found. This direction can only come from within the magazine. I am very rapidly discovering what a difficult task this beginning is.

by John Phelan
FEATURES

5 All Aboard Who've Been Abroad
8 Freshman Year: Protection or Restriction?
10 Gone Forever?
11 Reflections
12 People Are Dying to Get In
14 Thrill of Victory for $18 Million

REGULARS

3 Prelude
7 Gallery

Kathleen McElroy
Annemarie Sullivan
Thomas Kruczek
Laura J. Tolosko
Burt Brunner and Thomas Kruczek

John Phelan
Tom Everman,
Paul Joyce

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All Aboard
Who’ve Been Abroad

by Kathleen McElroy

Coming back to Notre Dame after a year in Rome is the ultimate drag. The pace seems so uncivil. Waiting in the dining hall lines seems bizarre and living on campus is such a circumscribed environment. I miss the cappuccino...I miss the fountains.

Returning to Notre Dame after a year of study abroad means facing an extended period of emotional jet lag. Hofbrauhaus steins are placed next to Stroh’s beer cans, Mexican wall hangings share space with the usual dorm decor and Voice of America T-shirts compete with bookstore originals.

But people are not so easily arranged. Feelings of uncertainty pervade the excitement of seeing old friends as the returning travelers realize that being in South Bend is more than just another weekend excursion.

I miss the little simple things. So much of the year was built around coffee and sitting in cafes for an afternoon. Here you would be considered loitering if you sat anywhere for three hours with one cup of coffee.

The slow life-style many students came to appreciate complemented a year complete with “so many nice distractions.” Now they will have to contend with the inconvenience of not being able to take a five-minute stroll to the Pantheon and the rediscovery that U.S. McDonalds don’t serve beer.

It’s great to see everyone, but there are so many faces I don’t know. When I contact my Rome friends, we relive the experience, but in some ways all we share at Notre Dame are the memories. I have a different relationship with them than with my friends from freshman year.

Describing themselves as a breed of freshmen with the added advantage of knowing where the buildings are located, the returning students face a time of readjustment and re-acquaintance. For some this means attempting a delicate balance between the old and the new.

It is inevitable that the foreign studies groups should become close after sharing a year of both discouragement and excitement. For some this closeness has led to a re-definition of their sense of belonging at Notre Dame. Still, as some Angers students describe it, there is a fear of being known as “Angers queer” (defined vaguely as speaking French in the dining hall and hugging each other in the streets).

There is a certain defensiveness felt by many who are hesitant as to how they will relate their experience to their friends from freshman year and what reaction they will meet. A consciousness of the solidification of friendships which took place in their absence leaves some uncomfortable with both their social and personal roles.

As one student puts it, “Everything each person says and does is to some extent built on last year; but I feel self-conscious since the transition I went through away from Notre Dame appears distinctive when mentioned in discussions among friends.” Most are looking for a resolution of...
this mild paranoia of seeming pretentious or removed, without necessarily compromising the security and confidence earned from the past year.

Academic pressures definitely were not our first concern. Traveling, surviving the day without feeling homesick, getting along with the people, speaking the language or even just waiting for a letter took priority over studying. It was my easiest year academically, but it was the hardest thing I’ve ever done.

Over the years, the foreign studies programs have acquired a reputation as an easy way to raise the GPA or a year away from the competitive atmosphere of the normal college curriculum. It is, however, a classic case of not allowing studies to interfere with one’s education.

Because many of the classes are taught in a foreign language and division is according to language ability, students often study courses abroad on a lower level than that to which they are accustomed. Architecture and art students are involved in a program catered toward their proposed field of study, but others are enrolled in courses unrelated to their major. From the biology major trying to prove it can be done in four years to the psychology major returning as a junior never having had a psychology course, each faces the frustrations of re-entering an academic environment with new demands and expectations.

We would walk past the American Express building and be embarrassed by the tourists who were characteristically loud and a bit rude. They didn’t seem to realize that they were guests in a country, and they expected everyone to speak English. Even in the streets and in the stores you could pick them out. Still we maintained a pride as Americans and an appreciation for what we left behind.

Spending a year in a foreign country afforded the students the opportunity to re-examine their self-image as Americans. Many found justification for the harsh impressions Europeans form of Americans, but were quick to defend the greater legitimacy of their home political system.

The presumption that all Americans are rich and wasteful was an attitude encountered by the visiting students. Placed in such a situation the choice arises of either accepting the challenge to be an envoy of American goodwill or approaching the land and its people with a non-committal smugness.

Those best accepted in their host countries were those with programs geared toward the language. Although actual contact with the country’s people varied among the programs, most came to appreciate an association of both tradition and culture.

I’ve warned my friends that any question beyond, “Did you have a good year?” will start me off on a string of stories with no guarantee of ending. It’s a period everyone should go through and an experience I’ll be able to draw from. It’s the most important decision I’ve ever made.

The students themselves are the best advertisement for the program. Criticism of the mechanics and design of program specifics are secondary to praise and appreciation for their actual experiences.

Expectations have blurred with events, but many have come to reassess their definition and direction of their education. Perhaps the beauty lies in learning the difference between loneliness and solitude, boredom and calm.

It was the best year of my life, but it seems like the years keep getting better. When I stepped off the plane—Europe was a dream.
Paul Joyce

Tom Everman
The Freshman Year of Studies Program at Notre Dame is one of a small but increasing number of university programs across the country designed exclusively for freshmen. In most universities, freshmen register and take courses with upperclassmen, filling their schedules from a list of standard, general education requirements. A Notre Dame freshman registers with the Freshman Year of Studies, which is, in effect, a separate college within the University designed to fulfill his unique needs. Is Notre Dame pioneering, a separate college within the University designed to prepare its first-year students, or is it being unnecessarily protective?

"I don't need a program like this. It's too restrictive," one freshman noted. "I know what I want to do and how I want to do it. I don't see why I can't go right into the department I want."

"I came here because of the freshman program!" another declared. "I think it's great. They told me everything I need to take for my major, and they even arranged for me to take another elective. I never would have known what to do if I were on my own."

A senior believes that freshmen need the program, whether they think they do or not. "At first, I figured that I didn't need any special treatment. I wanted to be as much like the upperclassmen as possible. But I started flunking out of all my major intent courses. Tutoring? They gave it to me. Interest tests and profiles? I got those too—even a shoulder of a live, caring, human being to cry on. All I had to do was to yell for help."

Dr. Emil T. Hofman, dean of the Freshman Year of Studies Program, believes that the program is essential. "The freshman year program exists for those who need it," he stated. "Some students are sophisticated enough that they don't need the services which Freshman Year can provide. But the program is designed with a variety of options so that those who have specific plans may accomplish them and so that those who need more direction can receive it."

Every Notre Dame freshman has a record of accomplishment and success. Many never had to study before to earn top grades. Those who did study probably received a lot of encouragement or even demands from their parents to do so. Therefore, few Notre Dame freshmen have much experience in choosing to study. Besides specific subject material to learn, many of them need to learn how to learn.

These high achievers have probably never experienced failure either. Since many freshmen are undecided about their majors, an element of risk is implicit in their entrance to the University. A freshman may decide to enter the pre-med program and find out, after he has committed himself, that his abilities and interests are not in science. Failure can be a crippling experience, and there is no reason that any extremely
talented person should lose all self-confidence when he finds that there are a few things which he cannot do. Notre Dame freshmen need a separate program which would enable them to sample a major area of study before committing themselves to something unsuitable.

Notre Dame is also difficult academically. A new freshman is not prepared to compete on the same level with upperclassmen. The Freshman Year of Studies Program should give them time to establish their interests and study patterns before settling down to earn a degree. Dr. Hofman has been designing the freshman program to fulfill these needs.

"A new freshman is not a college student," Dr. Hofman said. Once he enters Notre Dame, though, he can hardly be considered a high school student. One objective of the Freshman Year of Studies Program is to provide an identity for these new students. Another objective is to provide guidance specifically for those students who are undecided about their major—to help freshmen decide what their goals are and what is the best method to achieve them. Perhaps the most important objective is to ease the transition from high school to college. The change in life-style for the incoming freshman is drastic.

The people of the Freshman Year of Studies Program are in business to help freshmen through that transition. They design a curriculum, a guidance program and a social agenda to prepare their students for college life.

The curriculum is organized so that a freshman receives a general education while being able to sample or start a major area of study. A new addition to the curriculum, instituted last year, is the opportunity to take an elective and to start a college program. The elective gives a freshman the freedom to explore his interests. The college program schedule includes courses necessary to the particular discipline in which the student has expressed interest and courses which should contribute to his growth as a well-rounded individual. A freshman contemplating the math college program is exposed to language, literature and physical education as well as to calculus, chemistry and physics.

The freshman year program provides guidance by giving constant feedback to the freshmen. Advisors, trained in psychological and vocational counseling and seniors who have successfully survived the ordeal of the first year at Notre Dame are prepared to offer encouragement and advice. Vocational and educational literature is always available to the interested freshman. Midsemester grade reports are given so that the students can assess their standing in every course early, instead of being shocked by a final failure. Tutoring is offered at any time to those who show a need for it. This regular reinforcement makes the freshman’s task of adjustment a little easier.

Freshman Year contributes to more than just the academic life of its students. Orientation is coordinated so that each new student can become familiar with the place in which he will remain for the next four years. Trips to South Bend, Chicago or the dunes can acquaint the new student with more than his immediate surroundings. Dr. Hofman’s picnics and the freshman directory, or “dog book,” have become legendary as social catalysts. Through this many-sided program, Notre Dame attempts to improve the quality of life for its first-year students.

But if Notre Dame is to adequately provide for its freshmen, it must expand and improve the Freshman Year of Studies Program. Too many freshman English, foreign language and freshman seminar courses are taught by graduate students who have no experience in education. Dr. Hofman is an outstanding exception to this situation since he teaches nearly half the freshman class in his chemistry course. Freshmen need more professors who know as much about how to teach as they do about what they teach.

Freshmen also need an opportunity to meet other freshmen besides in the dormitory and in class. The freshman outings fulfill this need to some extent, but a study and social area within the Freshman Learning Resource Center would be more effective.

The Freshman Year of Studies Program has changed considerably in the past few years and, throughout this change, has been of increasing help to new Notre Dame students. If it is going to continue to benefit the freshmen, it must continue to change at an equally rapid rate.
Gone Forever?

Summers in Chicago are usually fraught with losing baseball teams, unbearable heat and thoughts of more losing teams in the fall. But thanks to The Chicago Tribune and a man named Arch Ward, summer in Chicago since 1934 has also meant the College All-Star game. This is the time when the world champions of football graciously introduce to professionalism the top collegiate players in the country.

The game has usually ended with the Stars on the losing end, but this loss is different for the Chicago fans. It's different because the proceeds go to charity instead of an owner's pocket, and the benefits go to the needy of Chicago. It is also different because the game mixes for one night the perfection of professionals with collegiate excitement.

The Stars in the last 42 years have won just nine times, tying twice and losing the rest. In the last two years the game has been played, the Stars have fought the good fight under John McKay, but lost anyway. This year McKay went to coach the N.F.L. expansion Tampa team, and the Tribune needed a new coach. For 1976, the Tribune again gave the world-Ara Parseghian.

The naming of Parseghian as head coach was a public-relations coup for the game because in recent years interest in the late-summer contest has been steadily waning. The reason for the decrease could be traced to the lack of local identification, as most of the players come from anywhere but the Midwest. Chicagoans loved the three-week period of excitement; they just didn't come out to watch the game.

In hiring Parseghian however, the game got not only a very capable and imaginative coach who has a reputation for winning, but also gave the fans a local name. In the world of athletics, especially the world of winning athletics, a city that loses much of the time will claim a team as far as 100 miles away as its own: if it wins. The Tribune pinned its hopes that the Parseghian name, along with its connection with Notre Dame, would sell tickets.

The idea worked, because at game time on a day that was suited best for staying at home, over 52,000 people came out to see Ara return. This game also will be remembered for a very long time as the game that was rained out, something that has never happened before in the history of modern football.

The official records of the game will list the game as being halted by rain late in the third quarter. But, in truth, the game was halted by the bizarre actions of a crowd that just seemed to go crazy when a torrential downpour flooded Soldier Field.

Much of the game story centered itself on Parseghian and his return to the game. The question of Ara's beginning a permanent return to the game was beaten to death in the weeks preceding and following the game and in the press box during the game. Yet through it all, he offered nothing more than the fact that he would think about it seriously in the months following the game.

Nearly three months before the game, Parseghian was relaxed. But it was evident in a talk with him that he was looking forward to coming back again for a taste of football. "The game will be good for me," he related. "It will give me a chance to see whether I would like to return to coaching on a full-time basis without having the commitment of a full season." He was using this game to guage whether he missed football enough to come back to it on a full-time or even part-time basis.

After the game, two former Notre Dame players who were under Parseghian for three years, Ed Bauer and Steve Niehaus, felt that Parseghian was relaxed during the time at camp. The three weeks at the camp, according to both "were very enjoyable." But, as Niehaus put it, "on game day, he was the same old Ara—very intense and very excited."

If anything, for Parseghian, the game provided him with a taste of what he would be up against if he chose to coach pro ball. He has mentioned time and again that he would not want to coach college anymore, so professional coaching is his only alternative.

Inasmuch as the game was terminated when the Stars were in scoring position, and before they had a chance to take advantage of a strong tail wind in the final quarter, Parseghian will never know just how well he prepared this team. Parseghian talked a lot about the challenges this sort of game posed. With its early termination, he will never know if they were met. It is just this sort of thing that could bring a man who is driven so much by challenges back to coaching again.
The All-Star game can be a tremendously frustrating experience because the talent is without question there, but the coaching staff must mold the talent together in the short three-week period. It presents itself as one of the most unique challenges a coach can meet anywhere, and there is a good chance Parseghian will take on this challenge once again next summer.

If he does take on the All-Star job again, Parseghian will prepare the team better than this year because of his experience. Perhaps the offense will be more daring, perhaps the defense will be more solid, but the team will be better because of his experience in the past July's game. Taking the job again will mean that Ara will not coach in the pros for yet another season. That is a three-year layoff from coaching. Certainly no one will forget about Parseghian and that he would be available, but as each season passes, it becomes less likely that his familiar face will be seen on the field again in a permanent coaching role.

Parseghian has unbounded talent not only as a coach, but as Tom Pagna puts it, "as a molder of men." To step into pro coaching would be different, as he would be primarily an organizer and planner, but less of a coach and "molder." Pro players don't need to be told about the fundamentals of blocking (at least most don't) or need help in becoming men. That's done at the college level.

To step into pro coaching will mean that he would be entering a position where a win-at-all-costs attitude will be the rule. In many cases, coaches are fired in the midst of a rebuilding program. They didn't rebuild fast enough. Parseghian could get caught in a situation like that; but in any event, the whole idea of adopting such a different attitude seems foreign to a man like Parseghian. In the final analysis, it comes down to what he would have to gain by re-entering the football world.

The only apparent gain is a chance to meet and conquer challenges. Parseghian will be at a disadvantage since he went out as a winner. Anything other than winning will be considered a step down. Parseghian will also have his health to consider; his health was one of his reasons for leaving Notre Dame.

If he does not re-enter coaching, he can retain his close relationship with the University and the community. He also could retain his spotless reputation as well as a reputation of being a winner at one of the toughest coaching jobs in the country.

In the end it seems that Parseghian will not return to coaching, at least not on a full-time basis. There is still time until the final decision will be in and many things could occur that would have a bearing on a decision to return to coaching. For now, though, all indications point to one inescapable conclusion: Parseghian will not return to coaching.

Reflections

by Tom Pagna

Tom Pagna is a former assistant football coach who worked under Ara Parseghian. A writer as well as a coach, Pagna was an occasional contributor to Scholastic and is the co-author, along with Robert Best, of a book on Parseghian. The book, entitled The Era of Ara, is due for release in October.

The College All-Star game is a game that is an admittedly stacked deck against the collegians as far as experience and depth is concerned. The game, however, does represent a tremendous challenge and generates countless dollars for charity. In this vein it is always a success.

As to the game itself, it marked the first time I ever saw one "called off" as a result of rain, electrical storms, torn goalposts and uncontrollable fans. There were still 18 minutes or so to be played when Commissioner Pete Rozelle called the game.

Defensively the All-Stars were giving a fine account of themselves, with only a nine-point spread at halftime. Facing a gale in the third quarter and suffering a loss of the first- and second-string quarterbacks (Mike Kruczek and Craig Penrose) through injury, our offense could not move. At 24-0, the Steelers were in control. But this is just a framework of what really happened.

The real story, as I saw it, was the three-week camp collection of who was who in college football and there was Ara Parseghian.

As for Ara Parseghian, his approach to the game was to have the team physically conditioned and thoroughly exposed to what they would face. We worked very hard to unify 53 separate cogs into one team. Ara did not moralize about training rules or enforce hard discipline. He treated them and spoke to them as adults who would soon be full-fledged professionals. Their response was gratifying.

In a final note, this game made me further realize why Ara Parseghian was so well-fitted to Notre Dame and collegiate athletics. He is a symbol of respect, leadership, courage and depth that epitomizes what the University stands for. It could be that professional football is out of step with this mold. The players in the camp recognized the same vibrant worth of Ara and provided him proper respect. Regardless of score, the experience was a memory worth having and, afterwards, many Stars privately commented that they now understood Ara and Notre Dame's past success.
People Are Dying to Get In

by Laura T. Tolosko

I remember musing last spring how ideal it would be if I could be employed this summer in tranquil surroundings, unharnpered by antagonistic customers, fluorescent lights and all that mendicant students must endure for three months to survive through Notre Dame. As it happened, I was to find myself among the most cooperative, even-tempered clientele that one could hope for, although admittedly I did become involved in a multitude of grave situations. The plot begins last May, when I made my way to Mrs. McCauslin's office to inquire about the summer work-study program here. After mulling over a few options then remaining, she left her office and headed for what I later learned was the office of Brother Kieran Ryan in Business Affairs. Ten minutes later she returned, obviously delighted with the prospects.

"Laura, how would you like to spend your summer in the cemetery?"

What a marvelous sense of humor, I thought. Surely this was a euphemism for the archives, or perhaps a reference to the occasionally unappetizing fare in the dining halls.

"Why don't you stop up and talk with him yourself? He can fill you in with the details."

She's serious—certainly the University hasn't come to this in dealing with the unemployment problem! So I ascended the stairs of the Administration Building, wondering for whom the bell was tolling, and prepared to meet my boss.

I was put at rest in Brother Kieran's office as he explained that in fact a census was being taken of Cedar Grove Cemetery on Notre Dame Avenue, and that, if I wished, I could spend 40 hours each week compiling a sort of Who's Who in the Graveyard. Realizing that here was a task too novel to pass over, I agreed to the undertaking (as it were).

I should make it clear at this point that even as a philosophy and theology major, I have no clairvoyant powers to speak of. (I can, however, walk on water during certain times of the year.) X-ray cameras, spades, stethoscopes were not provided. Rather, the stones had to suffice as evidence, and I relied on a clipboard, a yardstick and a pair of overalls which themselves now look as though they've bitten the dust.

The project entailed measuring each lot and then accounting for what it contained. There were usually about four markers of various types, since the average lot was 12 feet across and could accommodate that many caskets three feet in width. However, there were many variables to this formula. For instance, before about 1928, people were usually buried there in pine boxes, which were somewhat thinner than the bulkier, more ornate caskets of recent years. Since then, the Indiana Department of Health has made it mandatory that each casket be covered with a cement vault as well. (On a more personal note, I consider the entire funeral business something of a racket, and would hope that when I'm six feet under I'd be more quickly recycled.)

The next step in the survey involved attending to the information on the stones themselves. Names and dates were most often provided, but some monuments revealed the occupant's position in the family—"father," "daughter," "uncle." A few even bear informative epitaphs, which tell of veterans from the Civil and Spanish American Wars, of mothers who died in childbirth, of immigrants from Serbia and Ireland. This data would then be prepared for a cross-reference file by lot and by family name.
Certainly the cemetery is as familiar as any other scene in the campus layout. In the past four years I've taken notice of it seldom, but now that I know many of its inhabitants by name, it begins to come alive for me. For example, if you've wondered who owns and operates the cemetery, you'd be correct to guess Notre Dame. And it was begun by none other than Fr. Sorin, as a means of supporting the young university and serving the congregation. The oldest legible stones are dated in the 1850's, and over time the graveyard has acquired the relics of some rather prominent figures, like those of Alexis Coquillard, the "founder" of South Bend. Where Alexis was buried, a chapel (still standing but used now only occasionally) was constructed in 1860. The large shaft in the foreground of the cemetery bearing the Coquillard name belongs to his son, one of the first Domers, who was buried there in 1890. Since dead men and women tell no tales, I looked for his obituary, which is on file in Notre Dame's extensive microfilm library. Alex II was no slouch, it seems, and was ushered out in grand style. Somewhere under that massive stone is what remains of a cedar box, gold-trimmed and lined with copper. Father Walsh himself gave the funeral sermon, with Fr. Dorin presiding at the funeral.

Cedar Grove is not the burial place of George Gipp, or Rockne, nor even the C.S.C.'s, who have their own cemetery on the road to Saint Mary's. But among the persons buried on Notre Dame Avenue, there are nevertheless some with legends to rival even that of the Gipper. Fr. Louis Neyron, for example, interred under the chapel with Alexis, came to the University boasting that he'd been Napoleon's personal physician. However, a little calculation renders his claim suspect: he would have been only twelve at the time Napoleon died!

A walk through the grounds tells us much about the history of the South Bend area. Along the periphery of the golf course is a large grassy mound, crowned with a rock; its inscription divulges that in 1928 the remains of some Potawatomi Indians were transferred there from the Indian burial place situated where St. Joe High School now stands. Throughout the cemetery are stones on which epitaphs are written in Croatian, Hungarian, Polish and Italian. There is even a weighty tribute to an otherwise unidentified "mother." This immense boulder is visible from Notre Dame Avenue. I couldn't help wondering if she would need some assistance at the hour of the final judgment.

Even less revealing are the older tombstones too weathered with age to be read. Those inscriptions that I could not decipher with my fingers had to be relegated to the unknown. There are hundreds of illegible iron crosses as well, once black but now rusted.

It is becoming more and more the case that when a burial takes place at Cedar Grove on an apparently vacant space, an unmarked grave is unearthed. (It is for this reason that a new addition is under way, which will be ready in a short time.) It was those hidden graves that I wondered most about, containing the remains of people who struggled, failed, achieved, loved and whose descendants haven't a clue as to where they lie.

I was often asked if I wasn't afraid, wandering as I did among the graves. And I had to answer...yes, at times I doubted that I would ever leave the grounds. It was not the presence of poltergeists or of other spirits that caused this fear and trembling, but rather those badly placed shots from the 16th hole of the adjoining golf course. In any event, I wasn't exactly alone out there. In addition to the friends and relatives that came to care for the plots, the groundsmen, and Phil, the caretaker (he calls the cemetery his "ranch"), there was at least one badger and a large population of birds, rabbits and mischievous squirrels. (I had occasion to dodge not a few sizeable chestnuts that I believe were hurled in my direction.) Perhaps the highlight of the summer was when I accompanied a professor of mine to help him choose a place under the shadow of the Dome. (I've since had to repress the urge to go into real estate.)

Now although the project did have its low spots, it was rather nice to have so many people under me. (Fun courtesy of Ralph McInerney.)
Thrill of Victory for $18 Million

by Burt Brunner and Thomas Kruczek

As another college football season begins, ABC is ready with its sound trucks, its college reporters and its blimp to bring the agony of defeat to millions of homes from stadiums across the country. Texas, Alabama, Oklahoma, Southern Cal. and, of course, Notre Dame are the staple teams with which the network of the Olympics hopes to lure countless fans away from other daytime programming to watch college football.

College football is costly to ABC, very costly. This year they are paying $18 million for the entire package with the fee for national television games up to an incredible $501,538 per game. Regional telecasts are $380,000 per game. Confirmed football freaks will see 13 games nationally and 28 other games regionally.

Some of the good contests will be Texas-Oklahoma, Nebraska-Oklahoma, Alabama-Notre Dame, Texas-Arkansas and Notre Dame-Southern Cal. Adding to that the opening Pitts­burgh game Sept. 11 and perhaps a bowl game in January, Notre Dame managers will be using a lot of polish on football helmets for all of the television exposure. That also means a lot of money for the athletic coffers.

The only differences in this season of football watching is that the distinguished coaches in the broadcast booth will be eliminated slightly. ABC will use several coaches, but not in the great numbers that they were in past years. Ara Parseghian will be one of the coaches used. However, we will not be able to catch the guttural nonsense from Bear Bryant's mouth, as he is not slated to appear. Bud Wilkinson will be there occasionally and Bill Fleming and Jim Lampley will continue to provide in-depth analysis of the cheerleaders from the sidelines.

But when the sideline producer does signal the O.K. for kickoff at 3:20 p.m., will the Irish team be as ready for the game as the ABC technicians? The Irish are coming off an excellent spring followed by inspired action in preseason practice. The Irish are also coming off a good season, considering the inexperience of last year's squad. With the turmoil that surrounded last season, 8-3 can be considered as a good record.

The 1976 Notre Dame team will differ little from the 1975 version other than they will have a year's experience. There are several areas of improvement, the most noticeable being the quarterback spot. Rick Slager had one of the best springs on the team and is now throwing the ball with more authority than last season. After the spring game, when Dan Devine named Slager as the number-one quarterback, he mentioned that this now allows people to second-guess him all summer.

That was probably done, but Slager has commanded that position and won it clearly.

One person on whom Pittsburgh will be depending is Tony Dorsett. Last year against the Irish he set a single-game record for most net yards gained rushing against a Notre Dame team with 303 yards. It is said that he runs best on Astro-Turf, which the Pittsburgh stadium has and which Notre Dame doesn't have. Last year, the Irish seemed to have their minds on things other than stopping Dorsett, so he probably could have collected 300 yards in a parking lot.

The most important factor for the new season could be the man on the sidelines whom the regional television audience will be observing closely. Dan Devine, now into his second season at Notre Dame, understands what the pressure of Notre Dame is all about. He is more confident in his surroundings, with his own staff around to work with him.

Devine has stated that the problems of last year are behind him now, and the team has a new attitude. The team does appear to have a new attitude, but the Pitt game is a crucial one. The Irish must beat the Panthers to set a good tone for the season. A loss could bring the attitude problems right back into Devine's lap.
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