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What Price Success?

by Lisa Michels

In comparison to previous years, an increasing number of Notre Dame students enroll in the business college. More and more Notre Dame seniors find employment. Fewer and fewer Notre Dame seniors attend graduate school. Employed Notre Dame students earn more and more money. In comparison to the national average of college students, Notre Dame students find more jobs, earn more money, and are accepted by more graduate schools.

With observations such as these, Notre Dame writes its success story. As jobs have been found and graduate schools have been entered, goals have been reached. Yet these goals are as varied as the students. Some students enter their freshman year with one specific goal in mind—to be accepted into medical school or to be offered a job with a “big eight” accounting firm—while others desire nothing more than a liberal education.

Recently, there has been a trend towards professions both at Notre Dame and across the country. Students are more goal-oriented. They want to be employed when they graduate from college. For most, the means to this end is a bachelor degree in business or engineering. Success will be determined by immediate employment even if a liberal education has to be sacrificed. The student who desires solely to be educated, regardless of future employment, is becoming a rarity in today’s colleges.

Which of these students should Notre Dame accommodate? Certainly the University will appear more successful if its graduates have found jobs since employment is a visible objective, easily translated into a concrete statistic. A liberal education, on the other hand, cannot be measured or categorized just as its attainment cannot actually be determined. Which course, then, should the University pursue? Should its top priority be to employ or to educate? Or is it possible to seek a median of the two?

The preprofessional or premedical major has one clearly defined objective: to be accepted into medical school. When Rev. Joseph L. Walter, C.S.C., Chairman of Preprofessional Studies at Notre Dame, was asked if he envisioned the success of a preprofessional student’s education as acceptance into medical school, he replied, “Of course. Why else is he here, but to get into medical school? The preprofessional student is extremely goal-oriented, and if he gets into medical school he has fulfilled this goal.” Father Walter’s program has been successful in ensuring the success of its students. This past year 148 of the 204 graduates who applied to medical schools were accepted. This represents a success rate of 72% as compared to a national acceptance average of 33%. The competition among premedical students remains fierce, yet according to Father Walter, “The number of medical school applications is no longer increasing but has plateaued off. It is just as difficult to be accepted into medical school this year as it was last year, but in the future the number of applications will decrease.”

The ratio of science preprofessionals accepted into medical school to Arts and Letters preprofessionals accepted is approximately five to one. To attain a science degree the preprofessional student must take 124 credit hours, 66 of which must be in science. This is an intense work load which serves to “weed out” many who would not have made it into medical school. For this reason, many who entered freshman year as preprofessional intents have switched to other majors by senior year. In 1977 there were 131 graduating seniors in this major whereas 169 members of this class had listed science-preprofessional as their intent in freshman year. Walter, however, insists that it is “presumptuous to draw an attrition rate between classes.” It provides a “false statistic since so many freshmen don’t really know what they want but decide to try to become doctors since they liked science in high school.”
The breadth of a preprofessional student's education depends, for a large part, on the individual student. With 66 credits of science required, the student is left with 58 "elective" credits. These "electives," however, are quickly consumed by University requirements and other required preprofessional-related courses. Medical schools also exert great pressure on the student to take extra science courses. While Walter believes that 66 credits of science is more than adequate and provides an intense work load, he also admits that "given the choice between two equally qualified students, medical schools will choose the students with more science courses every time." With the further pressure of earning high grades in all courses, the preprofessional student is often forced to be more selective in choosing courses than a truly liberal education would warrant.

The College of Engineering has much in common with the Preprofessional Studies Program. It is, too, extremely goal-oriented and successful at placing its students in their desired positions. With the recent upsurge in available engineering jobs, more graduates are finding employment and less are attending graduate school. Of the 212 1977 engineering graduates, 175 responded to a Notre Dame survey. This survey shows that only 23 of the bachelor degree recipients went on to graduate school, which represents 11% of those who responded. In 1975, 30% attended graduate schools. This decrease in graduate school attendance is understandable when one realizes the salaries being offered to engineering graduates. Of those students who had been offered jobs as of May last year the average starting salary was $14,466, over $1,000 more than the average beginning salary for all bachelor degree recipients at Notre Dame.

Although most engineering students are aiming toward one determined goal, to be an engineer, other allied fields are open to them. According to the Assistant Dean of Engineering, Professor Ettore Peretti, "An engineering education does not force one into just one job, but rather, many jobs are available. Some are directly related to the student's education, and some merely border on the education field." While the career choices for engineers may be adaptable, the curriculum for engineering students is not. Peretti says, "The program is not flexible. The courses to be taken are specifically spelled out by the College of Engineering. The faculty knows more about which courses the student should take than the student knows. Therefore, the choice is not left open to the student. Furthermore, there is a national accrediting agency which established strict requirements with which the University must comply if it wishes to be accredited." Of the various engineering majors, chemical engineering has the least electives with six. If an engineering student wishes to receive a more liberal education he does have the option of a five-year program as long as the time and money are available.

In the 1977 summer survey of engineering students, 65 of those who responded were uncommitted. Of these 65, 49 were in architecture. Architecture students all over the country are notorious for not finding "jobs" in architecture. Historically, 60 to 65% go into architecture and many work in construction or urban planning. According to the chairman of the Architecture Program at Notre Dame, Professor Ambrose Richardson, "One hundred percent of the architecture students intend to be architects, but many decide to go into other related fields in their fourth year of study." The reason for this is not disenchantment, but rather new insight into other available areas. The Notre Dame Architecture Program has a much lower attrition rate than other schools because its students are selected "carefully" and are highly motivated.

The placement process for architecture graduates is particularly difficult because architecture firms do not interview on campus and do not recruit extensively. The student must seek employment on an individual basis. The Notre Dame graduate, however, has the advantage of a broad education. A good balance is achieved among courses of a general, creative, and technical nature. Architecture is a mandatory five-year program which allows for a more diverse curriculum, but even more importantly, allows for a year spent abroad in Rome. After these five years the architecture student has received much more than a "general education of problem solving." Richardson says, "The study of architecture is a way of life. Its students are highly motivated and possess an unusual spirit. They are not driven by a monetary incentive, but rather they are creative people who desire to improve the environment. No matter what field they pursue they do not lose their interest in architecture."

In contrast to architecture students, graduates with accounting majors are heavily recruited. This is especially true at Notre Dame, the "accounting recruiter's dream," for two reasons. First of all, accounting firms know of the high quality of Notre Dame graduates as a result of both previous employment experience and outstanding results on the Certified Public Accounting Exam (in 1976, out of 89 taking the test, 10 passed all 4 parts and 50 passed at least two). Secondly, Notre Dame is a national school, and, thus, accounting firms can economically recruit for their offices all over the country. With all these factors combined, Notre Dame accounting graduates find good employment. As early as May of 1977,
almost half of last year's seniors (105) were employed with a mean starting salary of $13,405. Undoubtedly, many more had been hired by the end of the summer. Professor Robert Williamson, chairman of Accountancy, affirms the success of his program. He observes that nearly half of the seniors in recent years have been hired by Certified Public Accounting (CPA) firms, 10 per cent have gone to graduate school, and most of the remainder have worked in private accounting. Williamson adds, "Practically all graduates do get a job after graduation although it may not be the job."

Accounting, like engineering, architecture and preprofessional studies, has a curriculum which emphasizes professionalism and has a goal of employment in the learned profession. All business majors are required to take at least 40 per cent of their credit hours outside the business college. Thus, the accounting student is given some leeway in determining the direction of his education.

The Notre Dame student desiring a pre-legal education has no requirements as such. He is only restricted by the requirements of the College of Arts and Letters and his chosen major. The law profession is unusual in that it requires no undergraduate professional training and, in fact, overwhelmingly prefers a broad liberal arts education to a specialized education. All the training necessary for a legal profession can be received in the three years of law school. The Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Robert J. Waddick, says of law schools' preferences, "Law schools don't want a pre-law major. They want students to major in whatever the students want. They care more about what courses students choose around their major. Undergraduates should receive as broad an education as possible to form a base of knowledge for law school."

Therefore, there is no "magic major" for law school intents. Traditionally at Notre Dame, more government majors are accepted into law school than any other major, but this is only because government is the largest Arts and Letters major and, thus, produces the most applicants. Notre Dame graduates are generally very successful with acceptance into law school. As early as May 1, 1977, 138 of the 227 (61%) applicants had been accepted. The average Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score of Notre Dame students is 550 as opposed to the national average of 532. According to Dean Waddick, "Any Notre Dame graduate with a 2.5 Grade Point Average and a score of 500 or better on the LSAT will be accepted into an approved law school."

Within the past decade the number of law school applicants has been on a steady increase until two years ago when the number leveled off. Dean Waddick does not believe, however, that law school is a catch-all for Arts and Letters majors who do not know what else to do after graduation. Rather, he believes that the large number of applicants is a result of a "herd instinct." He says, "Many students will take the LSAT because everyone else is taking it. Yet a much smaller number will follow this up by actually applying to law school."

Like most Arts and Letters majors, psychology is not intended to actually prepare the student for a specific career. The Assistant Chairman of the Psychology Department, Professor Donald Kline, admits that "Most psychology majors do not use their major. Their chosen career usually does not involve a direct application of their education. In order to practice psychology a student must go on to graduate school. Many students use a psychology major to go on to some unrelated graduate professional school or simply use the major to attain a general Bachelor of Arts Degree."

A major in psychology provides a stepping-stone for a number of careers and graduate schools. Although a student will not be as secure in the job market as an accounting or engineering major, he will, nonetheless, be able to receive a liberal arts education and be able to procure some type of employment, with or without the aid of graduate school. The only jobs available which require a direct application of psychology, but not a graduate degree, are those of a social nature such as working in a halfway house. Such positions, however, are extremely limiting. Kline comments, "These jobs are closed avenues and force the worker into a subservient role. Not many are willing to live with these diminished horizons." For the student who decides to attend graduate school, career prospects are much more promising. For the undergraduate with a research position in the psychology department, there is an excellent chance of acceptance into graduate school. Last year 15 of 26 applicants were accepted by spring, yet this figure does not reflect whether the student was accepted into his first choice graduate school.

From this sampling of majors in all four colleges of the University, it is obvious that Notre Dame is successful in the placement of its graduates. A student's final placement, however, may not be indicative of his original goal. After four years, he may have found that he was not capable of attaining his goal or that, in the end, he did not actually desire to attain it.

Undoubtedly, all students enter college with the three goals of obtaining a job, security, and an education, though each student places a different degree of emphasis on these goals. Dependent on this emphasis is the choice between an education of liberal arts and one of professionalism.
Where Do We Stand?

Notre Dame has taken much legitimate pride in the success of her graduates in attaining professional school admissions, but I would propose that some of this pride has been achieved at the expense of the education that the students should receive here. The professional schools look with great respect on Notre Dame graduates, but they must always allow us the right and responsibility of determining our own flexible curriculum rather than specifically preparing our students to enter their institutions. The same holds true for career preparation for accounting and engineering. I venture to say that we will still produce graduates who will attain places in all of the professional schools and occupations even if we relax the burdens upon them for direct preparation.

We have all seen, participated in, and to some extent suffered from the stifling competitive atmosphere on the campus among preprofessional students of all types. One cannot help but question whether or not they are fully benefiting from the Notre Dame liberal education. Requirements or "suggested courses" have gone up in the major concentration areas and have declined in the liberal arts area. Many students graduate with a minimum of free electives unrelated to their major, and for all of them this is the point of no return.

There is no better opportunity than a "liberal" education to grow and broaden in our basic knowledge about life and human wisdom. To spend four short years in preprofessional or professional training, to the exclusion of areas that should interest us most, and could shed light on a future undreamed-of option for graduate study or work, can only appear as folly later in life. Then the time is no longer available and the resources are far away. Ask present doctors and lawyers if this is not true.

Whither the university in this situation? We have long taken pride in the apparent fact that Notre Dame does make a difference in our students lives, both while here and in later life. We who work here can see noticeable growth during the four years a student is with us. This growth is evident in many ways—certainly intellectually, most often physically, more often than not morally and spiritually, and hopefully in self-awareness, self-confidence and sensitivity toward others. Much of it we rightly attribute to the fact that we "care" about students in all aspects of their lives. Moreover, we can document the continued effect of the impact in the lives of our alumni.

We frequently attribute our success to the dedication of the faculty and to our quality of "residentiality." We have a faculty who by and large love students and take time with them beyond the call of duty. We take pride in our dormitory system and the interaction which it provides. But Notre Dame has greatly diversified in student composition and orientation, and it is crucial that we take time to re-evaluate "the way it has always been done," even though that "way" appears to be quite successful. To train or to educate?

Our ever-quotable President, Father Hesburgh, once said that "Education is probably the one thing that people are willing to get less of than they pay for." This statement is as good as any to set the tone for a discussion on one of the major dilemmas facing higher education at present.
"IF WE ARE NOT GETTING AS MUCH
EDUCATION AS WE
PAY FOR, THEN IT
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WE REALLY DO NOT
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OF AN EDUCATION."

The dilemma is hardly a new one, and the dichotomy between training and education is hardly the only one we face in life. But like most dichotomies, it is false: business vs. labor, the President vs. the Congress, liberal vs. conservative, the government vs. everything. In education we are faced with other time-worn dilemmas, such as educating the mind vs. the heart, and the enrollment statistics bear this out—may be to get all the "training" he can during these four years.

The "professions" which now seem to be the goal of nearly all who enter Notre Dame, have further perpetuated the myth that "preprofessional training" is necessary for successful graduate work. Students fear that they will never be able to get into professional schools, let alone succeed in future life as professionals without this. Future lawyers thus search in vain—thankfully, for the most part—for a clear-cut prelaw program. Future managers feel that the only route into management is by a heavy dose of business on the undergraduate level. Future accountants, looking toward the "Big Eight," are willing to take every possible elective in the accounting area—as if they won't have time to learn on the job—so that they will be more marketable when they dress up for their interviews. Most discouraging of all, future physicians take a total program of preprofessional studies to successfully prepare them to enter medical schools.

The saddest thing about this is that no one seems to realize—or no one is saying—that Notre Dame has always turned out successful professionals throughout its history, and there is no reason to believe that this "sellout" to preprofessionalism is necessary to assure a continuance of this tradition.

In this short essay, I cannot go into the specifics of each professional area and the elaborate requirements.

liberal arts, than of the mythology surrounding the job market. He and we seem to forget that the most "saleable" skills of all are personal ones—the ability to communicate, self-confidence, creativity, and adaptability—because they transcend a particular job. But, not being told this, his natural and logical response—and the enrollment statistics bear this out—may be to get all the "training" he can during these four years.

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In this short essay, I cannot go into the specifics of each professional area and the elaborate requirements.
But I do know that the dichotomy between liberal arts and professional studies is a recent and disastrous one which needs pruning. And students need to know about it, because in many ways they are being sold a bill of goods. Back in 1929, when Harvard established its business school, Alfred North Whitehead, noted philosopher, professor, said: "The antithesis between a technical and a liberal education is fallacious. There can be no adequate technical education which is not liberal, and no liberal education which is not technical." That is, no education which does not impart both technique and intellectual vision.

If there is no inherent conflict between a liberal education and some vocational training or preparation, then whether the student, in this atmosphere of "presumed" conflict? Here I will only discuss the student who intends to enter business and/or management, the area with which I am most familiar. All graduate schools of business (generally MBA programs,) ostensibly want to prepare students for responsible careers as managers, thus, logically, one does not have to be "prepared" for such a career. Most MBA programs are actively searching out liberal arts graduates, engineers, and scientists, offering them a "crash course". In business and the broad business, training necessary for careers which couple management with their own background.

For a freshman who anticipates attending a professional program in business in the future, there is little reason for him to give up a broad liberal education in the present. In order to "prepare" for what really should come later, if, however, he has a clear special interest and is anxious to "get going," with it, or sees four years in college as a big enough hurdle, or abhors the idea of spending more years in graduate school, then he is likely to prepare for an undergraduate degree in one of the functional areas of business. He will without a doubt need certain skills in order to attain an entry level position in business.

But a student with a solid liberal education in areas that both interest him and challenge him, and a good academic record including some studies in the quantitative area, will have no trouble getting into a good MBA program. I would venture to say that other professional areas also look with favor upon such a student because of his broad education.

There is no question that he must in some instances have "prerequisites." Someone interested in a career in medicine cannot avoid taking a certain amount of natural science. A prospective law school applicant can certainly benefit from developing his personal skills of written and oral communication. A prospective theologian should have some background. In history and philosophy. Someone who enters a graduate school of business with the intention of concentrating in international business, but has taken no language courses and studied little history, or political science, may be able to find a niche in business, but it is a bit behind in preparing for international business. The dilettante may have a hard time convincing a professional school that his "liberal" education was a preparation for anything, but this seems, hardly, a problem for most of our students.

In many ways, the burden is on the student. If the University can lighten this burden in any way by supporting the "liberal" education of her students as at least an equally valid preparation for professional study, then it must do so. To do less is a tragic mistake, both for the student and for the integrity of the institution. In order to get a liberal education, it is more than buildings and research institutes, more than balanced budgets, and huge endowments, more than chairs, or faculty "status," or administrative "efficiency." It is essentially a quest of the human spirit, a joint venture of young and old, working together to find answers to the penetrating human questions, and to penetrate, with questioning, the "answers" we think we have.

November 18, 1977

"INSTED OF

NARROWING OUR FOCUS TOWARDS

A PARTICULAR JOB, WE SHOULDN'T BE LEARNING HOW TO LEARN"

WE WANT OUR UNIVERSITY: TO BE A PLACE OF "EDUCATION" IN THE BROADEST SENSE AND AN INEXTRICABLE PART OF THIS IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PREPARATION, TRAINING, CAREER ORIENTATIONALL CALL IT WHAT YOU WILL. BUT IN THE PROCESS OF FOCUSING ON CAREER GOALS, WE SHOULD ALSO BE OPENING NEW CAREER OPTIONS TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL. INSTEAD OF NARROWING OUR FOCUS TOWARDS A PARTICULAR JOB, WE SHOULD BE LEARNING HOW TO LEARN. THE ESSENCE OF A LIBERAL EDUCATION IS JUST THAT: LEARNING HOW TO LEARN ON THE JOB.

I DO NOT PURPORT TO HAVE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS, BUT THE QUESTIONS THEMSELVES ARE ULTIMATELY MOST IMPORTANT. HIGHER EDUCATION HAS INDEED DROPPED OUT OF ITS IVORY TOWER. HOPEFULLY IT WILL SOON RECOGNIZE THAT ON EARTH, ALL AROUND, ARE PEOPLE LIVING AND LONGING TO LEARN. WHEN WE AT NOTRE DAME FEEL THESE VIBRATIONS, WE WILL IN FACT REDISCOVER OUR BEST TRADITIONS AND BE READY FOR AN ILLUSTRIOUS FUTURE.

Father Dave Schlauer is Assistant to the Dean of the College of Business Administration and Chairman of the MBA Admissions Committee. He is also a Ph.D. Candidate in Higher Education from the University of Michigan.
Too often, the curricula of many colleges have been crippled by specialization. And specialization is not only true of the scientific disciplines, but also of the liberal disciplines. It is an understandable aberration. Knowledge today is surfacing at such a rapid pace that people naturally want to limit their scope of study. In this manner, they can keep abreast of most of the information in their area of study. A history major in many colleges, for example, can choose nothing except history courses, but one wonders how legitimate it is for a faculty to confer a Bachelor of Arts degree. Why not a Bachelor of History degree?

The diversity of a liberal education has most at stake when one considers the matter of specialization. To safeguard in a fundamental way the diversity of a liberal education is precisely the work of Notre Dame’s Committee on Academic Progress (C.A.P.). The Committee, which includes 23 professors from the College of Arts and Letters, stresses the need for diversity in a liberal education. The professors guide those chosen students who, they believe, can benefit from advice. Under the mass of requirements which years ago determined the College’s curriculum, the Committee was formed to advise a group of seriously minded students about what particular courses they might choose; courses which would challenge them and would fulfill requirements.

But according to the current chairman of the Committee, Thomas Jemielity, “The Committee’s function has changed. With the advent of a very flexible curriculum, today’s student can select challenging courses on his own. The uniqueness of our advisory role is called into question. Therefore, I believe it necessary to focus our role, if we still wish to stress the need for diversity in a liberal education.” Under Jemielity’s tenure, one way to focus the Committee’s role has been to elicit a communal spirit from both the faculty members and their advisees. This communal spirit stems in part from the voluntary nature of the Committee’s work and from the willingness of the student to use, for his own benefit, a Committee member’s advice.

Whether or not an applicant can benefit from a Committee member’s advice is basically the criterion for admission. “After some are admitted, they in fact do not take advantage of their advisor,” explained former chairman Thomas Werge. “But I think that the student can draw some psychological benefit. The student at least knows that there is someone available who cares about his academic life, someone who is available, aside from his departmental advisor, and someone who can help the student to choose electives according to his preferences.”

With a broader base of support, as a result, a department may improve its curriculum. In spite of this beneficial result, many students are skeptical, particularly about places in some courses reserved for CAP advisees. Jemielity insists that this skepticism is based on a misconception. “I have never heard that any student was hindered by these reserved places. The policy does not affect the majority of courses offered by the College. At the last registration, only one-third of the students who can use these reserved spots actually did so. And assuming that every student under the Committee’s direction would take these places, each student would get one reserved place in only one course.”

The Committee may also grant waivers from required courses. They are not as frequently requested as they were at one time. Most of the waivers today involve Collegiate Seminar. It is easy to find a substitute for Collegiate Seminar, and Jemielity claims that he will approve and forward any such waiver to the Dean’s office. Rarely, however, does
a student ask to be exempt from both of the required semesters. A Collegiate Scholar program is also offered by CAP. This program is offered to those who wish to take a semester of independent study. The senior essay and various colloquia make up the Scholar’s credit hours. “The Scholar must have an extraordinary amount of self-discipline. It is not very realistic to expect this of most undergraduates,” Werge believes. The program in Jemielity’s words is “moribund.”

The Committee does not claim that its advisees make up some local version of Phi Beta Kappa. The Committee wants to be of some benefit to a student. If it believes that it can, then the student is admitted. On the average, the Committee admits 45% of those who apply. Many bright people, consequently, are turned down and consider the Committee’s action an insult. “But,” Werge maintains, “they shouldn’t feel this way. Those who turn down a student merely believe that the Committee would be of no use to him. The grade-point-average is considered, but alone, it is no adequate criterion. The student can either be nominated by a professor or nominate himself. He then writes an ‘intellectual autobiography’ to explain his basic interests. Afterwards he is interviewed thoroughly by a student and two Committee members, who thereby decide whether the Committee can help him.”

Werge continues, “The Committee’s intention is not to breed a new crop of scholars, although after graduation many advisees have gone to graduate school or have gone into teaching. Their aspirations, I insist, are as varied as the aspirations of all those students in the College.”

Whatever the Committee’s intention, the number of advisees has decreased to under 160, but Jemielity maintains that this is consistent with the decreased enrollment in the College of Arts and Letters. “I expect an increase in the number of applications and acceptances, since the C.A.P. Student Advisory Committee aims to make the Committee more visible. With this aim in mind, Cori Ching, Dan Prebish, and Karl Kronebusch have been very helpful.”

To date, the creation of the Student Advisory Committee is perhaps the most concrete change made to foster a communal spirit between advisors and advisees. Each advisor is available for guidance to no more than six advisees. The student committee wants an advisor to be in personal contact with more than six students. Werge concludes, “The newsletter and even the social gatherings can be quite helpful, if the Committee still wishes to stress diversity in a liberal education.” As a result, the student might be more encouraged than before to seek a Committee member’s advice. He will also be better informed of any changes in those courses with reserved places. But most important on an academic level, the professors on the Committee and from the departments have in these social gatherings a sounding board on the strengths and weaknesses of their respective departments.

The communal spirit in these social gatherings would affect not only academic life inside the classroom, but also academic life outside the classroom. Jemielity believes it incumbent of the Committee to sponsor exchanges of ideas. There have been lectures, for example, given by Matthew Fitzsimons of history and by Edward Goerner of government. And the student advisory committee plans to attract lecturers outside of the University community. Jemielity observes, “The need for exchanges of ideas in a situation less formal than a classroom is perhaps greater than it was ten years ago. The Committee’s call for diversity in a liberal education must be louder than ever before.”

This diversity is threatened by a student’s obsession with grades. By refusing to believe that the classroom is the only bastion of ideas, however, the Committee on Academic Progress attempts, in a sense, to dispel this preoccupation with grades. It is certainly limited in what it can do, and changes in the functions and goals of the Committee might be very effective. Still, it is an unusual animal, in the jungle of this competitive age.

Jim Jordan is a junior history major from Scranton, Pennsylvania.
A noticeable consequence of being a senior in college is that one is hardly ever asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" anymore, and the firm, quick returns of such glamour-filled occupations as "fireman" or "lion tamer" are virtually non-existent. These days the question is more apt to be phrased, "What are your plans for May?" and the replies tend to range from "A Ph.D. in English, Harvard Law School, or Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, depending on the day of the week" to some indistinguishable mumbling about a sales job with dear Uncle Sam, that is directed more towards the floor than to the inquirer.

Tackling the mammoth project of life after college is often overwhelming at the outset, and one in which the moment of indecision is sure to be encountered along the way. Self-asked questions are often as ominous and those of the casual inquirer, "What shall I do with my Theology major?" "Shall I go on to graduate school?" "How about marriage?" "In which part of the country shall I locate myself?" "Will I be happy?" "Won't someone help me?"

For the Notre Dame or Saint Mary's senior, the answer to this last question is "yes"; both schools' staff placement and counseling services to aid faculty, students, and alumni in deciding what path is right for them, and then in achieving their goals.

Four years ago, Saint Mary's changed, the emphasis of its placement program to a Career Development Center. Its director, Karen O'Neill, explains, "A placement bureau serves those who are already career oriented, rather than those who need direction. I see the Center as a source of information, of moral support, and of encouragement. I support whatever the goal is, whether marriage or bumming around the beach, as long as the decision comes from the student." She believes that in focusing on development, the student can be persuaded to start his decision process as a freshman.

Guidance under the Saint Mary's program begins as a series of eight workshops, open to all ND/SMC students, which takes the individual through each step of planning a future. Beginning with a seminar on general decision-making techniques, the series progresses to cover work values and the relationship of a job to home, then to the more concrete topic of job information and the opportunities available. "There are plenty of job opportunities today, but you have to know what you want in order to get out and get it," explains O'Neill. "The job market can seem rather overwhelming at first."

Directly associated with knowledge of the job possibilities open to a graduate is the ability to identify the skills required for that job. "Many students come in very undecided and unconfident, with no idea what their real skills are, and they talk themselves out of the job market, whether they're philosophy or business majors." Next in line is a workshop in resume preparation, focusing on one's newly uncovered skills rather than on actual paid work experience. "Travel, volunteer work, academic course work, and extracurricular activities all play an important part in job and career preparation."

Fifty per cent of the battle is confidence in one's capabilities. The assertiveness-training workshop encourages students to hold their own among employers and parents.

Last in the series, the Career Development Center offers instruction in the job search itself through their extensive campus recruiting program. With direction and confidence, the student can then select a specific future goal and choose a path accordingly. She points out that O'Neill, a 1971 graduate of Saint Mary's philosophy program, identifies with the problems associated with planning a future. "For a long time after graduation I floated, as a salesclerk, a waitress, and a proprietor of a dress shop," she remembers. "I had many experiences, and about all they had in common was that they were low paying."

After two years, I realized there was more out there to be offered." Her approach to advice and counseling is an offshoot of this experience. "I interviewed with firms and was told there were no opportunities available for women. So I read up on careers, gained some confidence along with my information, and interviewed with much more success." She notes with pride that since the inception of the workshop program, more students are interviewing, more companies are interviewing, and there is an increased interest in the offerings of the liberal arts student, she relates.

While the services offered at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are similar, Notre Dame's emphasis is presently on the placement process itself. Seniors are quick to fall into the autumn routine of standing outside Room 213 of the Administration Building in the wee hours of Monday mornings hoping to procure a time slot for a campus interview, "be it with industry, the government, or a law school." In charge of the Notre Dame Placement Bureau is Richard D. Willemin, a Notre Dame alumnus, whose staff carries out all the details involved in connecting students with potential employers, from sponsoring annual placement nights to arranging for informal employer/student/social hours. Each year 1,800 invitations are sent out to top firms, schools, services, and governmental agencies; last year, 350 major employers were able to recruit on Notre Dame's campus for a total of over 7,000 interviews.

For the most part, engineers and business majors have no problem relating their projected goals with the prospective needs of an employer; and interview opportunities through the Placement Bureau are

by Julie Runkle

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A noticeable consequence of being a senior in college is that one is hardly ever asked, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" How about the question: "Where will you be happy?" Many students come to Notre Dame or Saint Mary's whose staff carries out a liberal arts major, with no concrete career goal in mind. They are often among the most skilled, but they are unconfident, with no clear idea of the path that is right for them; what path is right for them. For the Notre Dame or Saint Mary's student, the emphasis of the undergraduate program begins as a series of eight voluntary counseling sessions. At the end of these sessions, the student can then select a specific placement and focusing on one's newly discovered major, students, which takes the individual through their routine sixth semester of their college experience.

Placement at Notre Dame is the kind of thing that builds on itself. However, one major reason a firm is convinced to search at ND is because of alumni employees who suggest such a campaign. "Firms know ND's reputation. They're looking for outstanding graduates, and see statistics of Notre Dame as an outstanding independent school," states Willemín.

Sister Kathleen Rossman, rectress of Walsh Hall and the Notre Dame Placement Bureau's only career counselor, agrees that Notre Dame has provided its students with an excellent education. "I remind students to make themselves marketable — they've got so much. They'll have a good chance 'out there' because they've learned things here. A lot of people get discouraged coming for interviews, but the important thing to keep in mind is that the immediate competition is with other Notre Dame students, and not the whole world."

Rossman's job as a career counselor "just kind of evolved." "I looked around and noticed students wandering aimlessly around the Placement Bureau." A master's degree in counseling psychology qualifies her for her three-hour-a-day job, and she credits Karen O'Neill as her mentor. "Too often I'm dealing with the student who has gotten through four years and doesn't even know if he likes his major," she continues. "I encourage them to act — it won't suddenly 'zap' they have to face reality. They have to seek out the jobs, the jobs won't come to them. I give them three pieces of advice: 1) Read, 2) Talk to people about their jobs, and 3) Think of the possibilities open. For instance, a biology major could be a tree surgeon, but how many people think of that? Investigate the field!

"More importantly, listen to your heart. Do what you want to do — not what your roommate or friend wants to do. This is such a professional school — but don't seek a career if you don't want it. Law school, or MBA school, is often the thing to do, and can be a means of putting off decision-making. You shouldn't go unless you're almost guaranteed a job you couldn't otherwise get. Being scared to make a decision is not the same as not being ready to make a decision. Perhaps it's better then to get a job. It's important to see the options and alternatives so you don't feel trapped afterwards. I try to provide some information upon which 'a student can base a decision."

A first job shouldn't be viewed as an end, either. Rossman is on her fourth or fifth career herself. "At first I wanted to be a third-grade teacher — but I was always receptive to other opportunities and guess I ended up in the right places at the right times."

"The solution is broader than the answer to 'What will I do in June?'" Rossman continues. "The important thing is to know yourself — who you are and where you're going; not what to do jobwise, but what to do with your life. Ask yourself, 'What in life is worth my energies and talents?' and aim for it."

Julie Runkle is a senior accounting major and Production Manager of Scholastic. She hopes to place herself accordingly in June.
After four years of University study many second-semester seniors are plagued by a gnawing doubt that those hours in the classrooms and those notebooks full of forgotten lectures may be utterly inadequate in preparing for the next step in life of tying down a job and finding a career. What is the future? Is there life after college? If destiny is not preordained in the shape of graduate studies, law or medical school, or immediate employment at some monstrous corporation, will there be nothing but the dark unknown before their eyes?

There are ways of avoiding this uncertainty. At Notre Dame, many departments in the College of Arts and Letters offer undergraduate courses which go beyond the traditional classroom education. These courses give students the chance to apply their knowledge from the classroom to actual working situations through various internship programs in which the students hold part-time jobs with an organization related to their field of study. Through this blend of academics and work experience, students gain not only three hours of credit for the semester, but also a better understanding of that particular line of work, which should ease the transition from college to careers.

There should be no misunderstanding; the students participating in these undergraduate internships are not getting credit for merely working on a part-time job. "Any internship course must have an academic component in order to differentiate it from work experience you would normally gain from any job," says Dean Isabel Charles of the College of Arts and Letters. "There is an important difference between experience and a course which involves experience." Dean Charles states that the students have asked for accreditation for various activities (like being a radio station manager) which is not possible. "I do not question the value of experience, but the real question is, does everything have to be reduced to credit hours?" Dean Charles stresses that there should be some reflection on the work experiences by the student intern and some academic work should result from every program.

Yet there is no official policy or guideline concerning the establish-
ment or structure of internship programs within the College. It is totally up to the individual departments to take the initiative and organize any program the department believes to be beneficial. Actually, no official policy is needed because the belief that these courses should be put in an academic context is shared by all the departments involved, and, on the whole, the programs have been established accordingly. The result of this, however, is that the structures of the internships vary from department to department. Some courses are pass/fail, others are not, and some require prerequisite courses. The Theology department has its one-credit Urban Plunge program which takes place during Christmas break. The Government department intersperses the student’s work in city organizations with class discussions and seminars. Students practice teaching in neighborhood schools through Saint Mary’s education program. The Sociology department emphasizes learning through observation at a Juvenile Delinquent Correction Center in town. Any differences between these programs are relatively superficial; they all provide an education through experiential learning.

Of all the departments in Arts and Letters, the most visible in the movement towards experiential-as well as academic teaching is the American Studies (AMST) department. It is, for example, the only department that lists its four courses specifically under the heading of Internships in the Course Selection sheet. “Although AMST is essentially a noncareer-oriented major, I am a strong believer in internships as a steppingstone from college to careers,” says the American Studies director, Ronald Weber. Weber also points out that a problem with students is that they are launching themselves into careers that they really know nothing about. He hopes to alleviate this problem with well-structured internships which are taken in addition to the requirements of the major. To insure that the academic component is present, prerequisite courses are required of every internship. In fact, Weber sees the internships as extensions of these required courses.

The only program in AMST not related to the communications field is the Community Internship formerly directed by Prof. Schlereth and now headed by Prof. Barbara McGowan. Unfortunately, this semester no AMST majors took up the opportunity to work on a Community internship. Last semester, however, several people did participate successfully in the programs which usually involve work in museums or historical organizations. For example, last year, seniors Clare Leary and Claire Boast worked with two architects from South Bend’s Historical Preservation Commission. Their job was to determine which houses in certain communities in South Bend have historical significance and deserve to be restored. Clare Leary remarked on how her experiences on this job gave her a unique understanding of how South Bend developed as a community. “You can see how development started around the St. Joseph River and the transportation systems and spread from there.”

This year the AMST department hopes to set up a Community internship at South Bend’s Century Center. Prof. Weber explains that it is difficult to establish a new program because it is hard to find an organization which is willing to give the students more than just menial office tasks and which can meet the academic standards of the department. The purpose of the internship is to give the student a general overview of all the workings and functions of the organization.

These organizational problems became somewhat apparent when AMST Prof. Christman established for the first time this semester a publications internship. Chris Datzman works on campus at Ave Maria Press, which publishes Notre Dame football programs and Scholastic as well as religious publications. According to Datzman, she is at somewhat of a disadvantage being the first intern to work there. “I do a lot of Mickey Mouse jobs, filing, and secretarial stuff, but it does give me the experience of a real working situation.” As an example, Datzman points out that even the company’s book designer has to do jobs such as typing and proofreading. The Publishing and Sales department in which Datzman works consists of only five or six people, so she has close contact with all aspects of this part of the publishing industry. Datzman remarks that she learned the most on the job by watching the others at work and asking questions.

Another publications intern, Lisa Michels, works at South Bend’s Gateway Editions. Initially, she too was assigned boring and trivial tasks, but when one of the five people who make up the company resigned,
Michels was given a more responsible assignment. As well as writing business letters and the like, she also did research. When Gateway republished a book written in the 1950's, Michels did the research to gather critical comments about the book which will appear on this edition's back cover.

The other publications program is the News Internship headed by Sister Madonna Kolbenschlag. This one requires the interns to hold a major position with one of the campus publications: the Observer, the Dome, or the Scholastic. Joan Fremeau, the Observer's copy editor, and Bob Brink, the assistant managing editor, must both write six by-line articles as well as maintain their positions to get the three hours credit. Bob, however, admits, "I haven't learned anything new that I wouldn't have learned if I had the job without the internship." But Bob does see his internship as a practical extension of a previous newswriting course with Prof. Kolbenschlag. "The internship does give me a break—getting credit for time and work which once caused my other courses to suffer." Joan Fremeau states, "The main idea is not to get three easy credits. You take the internship to gain some experience and to get some idea of what it's like working in those jobs."

The most fascinating and extensive program in the AMST department is the Broadcasting Internship which is also co-sponsored by the Speech and Drama department. Ten students from both majors hold positions in unique and varied fields of the broadcasting industry, radio as well as television. At the beginning of the course, the interns went through an orientation program to familiarize them with the different aspects of WNDU-TV, then each student chooses what field he or she wants to pursue. For example, Mark Harmon elected to work in the TV Sales department. Harmon now goes out with WNDU's salesmen and calls on six or seven clients per day, to try to persuade companies to advertise on TV and to buy commercial time from Channel 16. Harmon reported that he was enthusiastic about getting involved in a real part of the business world. "These guys are talking real dollars and cents." Mark has already been successful in his role as a salesman. He sold to Sears a package of available times for ten-second commercials advertising Sears sweaters, after he had figured out which were the best times and most favorable TV audiences for these commercials.

Mike Sheehan and Tom Panzica are in the production angle in the studios of WNDU. Each is currently working on producing and filming new beginnings to WNDU's Saturday matinee and Sunday movie. "We were told that we could do anything we wanted for the new movie intro project," reports Panzica, delighted at the opportunity to get his creative juices going. But Panzica also admits that there is less glamour involved in broadcasting than he had expected. There is, however, no lack of hard work. "The best experience is working at football games. At the MSU game we had to carry 300 pounds worth of cameras and cables up to the press box," Panzica muses. "You get to meet and talk to a lot of broadcasting people while taping the games, but you also learn that the job can often be dirty, tiresome, and grimy."

As far as insights into the broadcasting industry go, Lee Hendricks, a TV Graphics intern, has come up with some thoughtful observations during his activities at the TV station. Besides drawing up some graphics for TV shows, Lee is also working on the production of a public service program called The Campus View. While assisting in the production of this show as well as observing the planning of other productions, Hendricks noticed that many hurried decisions are made in the planning stages because of the limited time factor involved. There is a strict schedule to adhere to. Hendricks says that this time limitation does bring out the people who are talented in their field, but it also causes many bad decisions to be made. Hendricks and some of the other interns are caught in this dialectic conflict between the time factor and creativity and quality of production. "We are treated like real employees," says Hendricks, emphasizing that falling in the internship would be a good indication on how one would fare in a real career. "The profession takes a toll on a person's enthusiasm and incentives. People who move up in this profession must always keep reviving their enthusiasm and creativity. It can be a very frustrating thing," he admits. He also stresses that observing both the good and the bad aspects of the industry has given him a kind of "professional inspiration" which prepares him realistically for a career.

The internship programs have been instrumental in shaping the attitudes of students towards their prospective careers. Peggy Rodgers, another broadcasting intern, has found that she enjoys her work in TV newswriting and reporting, and hopes to follow up on it once she graduates. "If I hadn't taken the internship, I would have settled for less; now I have a lot more motivation to go out and get a really good job," Rodgers states. Chris Datzman, who considers making publishing her career and has recently become interested in book design, says that the program helps to focus her interest on certain fields of publishing. "You don't find what you want to do. You find out what you don't want to do," muses Datzman.

The value of the education received in the classrooms of Notre Dame can be questioned as to whether it can prepare us realistically for the jobs we must get someday. But there is no doubt as to the worth of experiential learning these internship programs offer the student. At least when a student who has an internship under his or her belt steps out into that wild world, he or she will be treading on some familiar ground.

Jon O'Sullivan is a senior American Studies major.
PARTIES I'D LIKE TO ATTEND

by Elizabeth Christman

Literature is full of parties. At balls, heroines dazzle visiting princes, or sneak off behind the potted palms to receive clandestine kisses. Twentieth-century characters carry on courtships and intrigues at cocktail parties as vigorously as earlier characters did at teas. Fiction is full of dinner parties memorable for the food, like the Cratchit's bursting goose in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, or for the company, like the guests who act out the Seven Deadly Sins at Sir Magnus Donners' dinner, in Anthony Powell's The Kindly Ones. Novelists of every period love house parties in the country, where people are proposed to, seduced, robbed, or murdered.

Some of the greatest parties are better to read about than to attend. On the whole I would not like to be present at the Dedalus' Christmas dinner in James Joyce's, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, though I'd love to see the pudding carried in, "studded with peeled almonds and sprigs of holly, with bluish fire running around it and a little green flag flying from the top." The violent argument between Mr. Casey and Dante, ending in sobs and slamming doors, would ruin it for me. Likewise, that dinner party that Dick and Nicole Diver give at their villa on the hillside overlooking the Mediterranean in F. Scott Fitzgerald's Tender Is the Night. It's an enchanting scene: the late summer sunset, the table on the terrace lit by candles which, reflecting on a bowl of spicy pinks, shed a "gracious table light" on the faces around it, the wine-colored lanterns in the pines, the fireflies on the dark air. "The table seemed to have risen a little toward the sky like a mechanical dancing platform, giving the people around it a sense of being alone with each other in the dark universe, nourished by its only food, warmed by its only light." Yet the scene which Violet McKisco stumbles upon later in the evening, all the more sinister because it is never described, spoils this party for me.

Dr. Aziz gives a memorable picnic near the caves at Marabar in E. M. Forster's, A Passage to India, including a ride on an elephant, but I wouldn't want to be included, considering what terrible things happen afterward in the cave.

But there are a few parties so rich in good spirits and hospitality that I'm madly envious of those fictional characters lucky enough to be present. The dance at Dingley Dell, for example, in Charles Dickens' The Pickwick Papers. Mr. Wardle, that prince of hosts, is entertaining Mr. Pickwick and his three friends, plus six or seven young ladies who are to be bridesmaids at Miss Wardle's wedding, plus poor relations, and neighbors by the dozen. And he hasn't invited them merely for an evening. They are all staying for a three-day round of breakfasts, dinners, wassail suppers, the wedding feast, and—best of all—the dance.

The big parlor has been cleared, the rugs taken up, and a bower of holly and evergreen arranged at one end, in which the musicians are seated: two fiddlers and a harp. There's a fire crackling in the huge hearth, and candlesticks and sconces everywhere are blazing with candles. Mr. Pickwick appears in silk stockings and pumps. His friends are astonished to see the stout, middle-aged bachelor without his garters.

"You mean to dance?" one of them asks. Apparently he had never been known to dance, or display himself in silk stockings.

"And why not, sir—why not?" asks Mr. Pickwick warmly.

He not only means to dance, he can hardly wait to begin. He leads Mr. Wardle's old mother onto the dance floor for the country dance, and in his eagerness he makes four false starts while laggard couples are being recruited. Finally the fiddlers and the harp begin to play in earnest, and how Mr. Pickwick dances!

Away went Mr. Pickwick—hands across—down the middle to the very end of the room, and halfway up the chimney, back again to the door—poussette everywhere—loud stamp on the ground—ready for the next couple—off again—all the figure over once more—an other stamp to beat out the time—next couple, and the next, and the next again—never was such going!

Mr. Wardle's mother becomes quickly exhausted, and they have to persuade the clergyman's wife to substitute; the newly married couple retire from the scene; and the other
fourteen dancing couples are finally ready to call it quits. But still Mr. Pickwick keeps perpetually dancing in place, keeping time to the music, trying to entice some of the company to continue the dance. How I'd love to see this scene, take part in this dance with the indefatigable Mr. Pickwick, and sit down to the toast that is delightful to watch.

Another gallant host, like Mr. Wardle, is Captain Forrester in Willa Cather's A Lost Lady. Captain Forrester, of the nineteenth-century railroad aristocracy, treats his guests with an old-fashioned hospitality that is delightful to watch.

Captain Forrester still made a commanding figure at the head of his own table, with his napkin tucked under his chin and the work of carving well in hand. Nobody could lay bare the bones of a brace of duck or a twenty-pound turkey more deftly. "What part of the turkey do you prefer, Mrs. Ogden?" If one had a preference, it was gratified, with all the stuffing and gravy that went with it, and the vegetables properly placed.

When a plate left Captain Forrester's hands, it was a dinner; the recipient was served, and well served.

Niel Herbert, the local Nebraska boy who is invited to dinner, is wide-eyed at the sophisticated hospitality. After Captain Forrester has carved the turkey, his butler, in a white waistcoat and high collar, pours the champagne. Captain Forrester lifts the frail glass in his thick fingers, glances around the table at his wife and his guests, and utters his favorite toast: "Happy days!"

It was the toast he always drank at dinner, the invocation he was sure to utter when he took a glass of whiskey with an old friend. Who ever had heard him say it once, liked to hear him say it again. Nobody else could utter those two words as he did, with such gravity and high courtesy. It seemed a solemn moment, seemed to knock at the door of Fate; behind which all days, happy and otherwise, were hidden. Niel drank his wine with a pleasant shiver, thinking that nothing else made life seem so precarious, the future so cryptic and unfathomable, as that brief toast uttered by the massive man, "Happy days!"

The party given by Miss Kate and Miss Julia Morkin in Joyce's "The Dead" is notable for the music, as well as for the food. The two old Morkin sisters are musical, and their middle-aged niece, Mary Jane, has graduated from the Academy and plays the organ in a leading church. At the party Mary Jane plays her Academy piece, "full of runs and difficult passages, to the hushed drawing-room." Later Aunt Julia sings "Arrayed for the Bridal." Her voice is still strong and clear, and she attacks with great spirit the runs which embellish the melody, and does not miss a single grace note. Her listeners are stirred at the sight and sound of the elderly singer. They feel the same shiver of mortality that Niel Herbert does when Captain Forrester makes his toast. I wish I could be there to shiver with them, and then to warm myself again at the feast which follows.

What a feast! Though the Morkin sisters live modestly, they believe in eating well and in treating their guests handsomely.

A fat brown goose lay at one end of the table and at the other end, on a bed of creased paper strewn with sprigs of parsley, lay a great ham, stripped of its outer skin and peppered over with crust crumbs, a neat paper frill round its shin and beside this was a round of spiced beef. Between these rival parts ran parallel lines of side-dishes: two little minsters of ham, stripped of its skin, with nutmeg, a large green sash, and sweets wrapped in wax paper. A huge yellow dish lay in waiting between the hands of Mrs. Morkin and Mrs. Timofeev, a companion dish on which lay a choice of pickles and peas, and some minia
ture bread around a pot of spiced beef. A huge black vase of celery on a bed of footstools, his "supper" bowl, with the indefatigable Mr. Morkin's name penciled on it, was, served, "Happy days!"
closed square piano a pudding in a huge yellow dish lay in waiting and behind it were three squads of bottles of stout and ale and minerals, drawn up according to the colours of their uniforms, the first two black, with brown and red labels, the third and smallest squad white, with transverse green sashes.

This marvelous supper is devoured late at night, without a thought of cholesterol or indigestion, after plenty of dancing, singing, and arguments. Gabriel, nephew of the hostesses, gives an elaborate speech after it, in which melancholy tributes to the past modulate into a chivalrous toast to the "Three Graces of Dublin." No wonder it is practically dawn when the party ends.

Someone has said that the essence of hospitality is to have plenty. All the hosts at these enviable parties offer food and drink in lavish quantity and variety. And so it is with Professor Timofey Pnin, Vladimir Nabokov’s heart-breaking Russian émigré, who gives a party for some of his faculty friends at Waindell College. He has at last, after a series of rented rooms, leased a little house, counted the number of chairs and footstools, and concluded that he can manage a buffet supper for nine guests. I love to see Pnin arranging his “supper à la fourchette.”

... buttered slices of French bread around a pot of glossy-gray fresh caviar and ... three large bunches of grapes. There was also a large plate of cold cuts, real German pumpernickel, and a dish of very special vinaigrette, where shrimps hobnobbed with pickles and peas, and some miniture sausages in tomato sauce, and hot pirozhki (mushroom tarts, meat tarts, and cabbage tarts), and four kinds of nuts and various interesting Oriental sweets.

Pnin’s guests bring him bottles of whisky, vodka, and French champagne. Pnin has also provided brandy-and-grenadine cocktails and a rowanberry liqueur. But the climactic drink is Pnin’s punch, a mixture of chilled Chateau Yquem, grapefruit juice, and maraschino, which he mixes in a brilliant aqua-marine glass bowl with a design of swirled ribbing and lily pads. It is for that bowl of punch that I most yearn to be at Pnin’s party. The glass bowl was sent unexpectedly to Pnin by 15-year-old Victor, his "stepson," a youth of rare understanding. In fact the tangible beauty of the bowl is, for Pnin, dissolved in its blazing reflection of Victor’s sweet nature. The bowl, so much admired by Pnin’s guests and so emblematically dear to Pnin, is the hit of the party.

Pnin’s party, like some of the others I’ve recalled, has a melancholy overtone. The shiver of change and mortality invades it. Pnin, while he entertains, is unknowingly scheduled to be fired from his untenured position. He learns of his misfortune at the end of his party. The bad news preoccupies him as he cleans up and washes the dishes. A nutcracker slips from his hands and crashes into the sink where the aquamarine bowl is soaking in hot suds. His hand, investigating beneath the obscuring foam, encounters broken glass.

But wait! It’s not the bowl. It is a broken goblet. The beautiful bowl is intact. The symbol of Pnin’s hospitality and Victor’s generosity survives. The essence of the party is saved.

Probably every reader has other memorable parties to add to this list. I feel safe in predicting that every one of them will be like my own favorites in prodigality. No budget for these party-givers, no calculations about how many drinks per person, no cutting corners. These hosts serve the best in bountiful quantities, and with care for the visual beauty as well as the taste. You can’t imagine any of them becoming ill-tempered, like poor Ivan Ilych, because some of the expensive food is left over. You can see the sheer joy they take in entertaining their friends. That’s what makes these parties abound in good spirits despite the shadows of aging, change, and sorrow that hang over hosts and guests. It’s their bravado that makes me wish I could be present.

Elizabeth Christman teaches several courses in the American Studies department. She is the author of the novel, A Nice Italian Girl, which became the basis of the recent television movie, Black Market Baby.
The image contains a photograph and some text. The text is not clearly legible due to the image quality. However, it appears to be a continuation of the text from the previous page, discussing the same topic. The photograph shows a stack of bottles or barrels, possibly indicating a wine cellar or a storage area for beverages.

The text from the previous page seems to be discussing the environment and the conditions necessary for the storage of wine or other beverages, emphasizing the importance of maintaining the correct temperature and humidity levels.

**TOM EVERMAN**

Undoubtedly the next great step in the direction of perfect perfection in the art of making and preserving beverages, is the understanding and application of the principles of preservation.
He Doesn’t Look Like A Monk . . .

When the words “monk” and “monastery” are uttered, they immediately bring to mind the images of stone walls, a pervading silence, and men leading impoverished lives. Monks are thought to belong in the history of the Dark Ages and are rarely recognized as active people to today’s world, let alone in the Notre Dame community among all the priests. Yet, there is a Benedictine monk at Notre Dame, serving as the rector of St. Edward’s Hall. He is Fr. Mario Pedi, who chuckles at people’s initial reactions when learning that he is a monk. “They seem surprised that I don’t wear a long robe with a rope belt tied at the waist,” he laughs, “and that I am able to speak.”

The idea of monks not speaking to each other stems from two institutions that exist in a monk’s day. “The Minor Silence” takes place during daylight hours, and this entails maintaining an atmosphere of calmness and reflection by speaking only when necessary. “The Great Silence,” however, is more strict. Monks are not to speak at all after the 7:00 p.m. prayer. “The main theme in monastic life,” states Fr. Mario, is Ora et Labora, which means “pray and work.” Manual labor is stressed so that poverty can be observed—only the rich are idle. This goes back to the spirit of the early Church when the early apostles worked the land with the poor and learned to be self-sufficient.”

The manual labor in Fr. Mario’s early training consisted of working on the farm that his monastery, Marmion Abbey in Aurora, Illinois, owned. He joined the monastery in 1951 and found the lifestyle there to be pleasing. “I had been attending Loyola University studying medicine when one of my brothers died, and this caused me to reflect on my life and on what I was doing,” Fr. Mario explains. “I chose to join the Marmion Abbey because it was located 35 miles from my hometown.”

After ordination, a monk’s work may switch from manual to administrative. For Fr. Mario, his work after being ordained in 1957 took place in the offices of the military school that was part of the Abbey’s complex. He first was placed in charge of the library, then later taught English and theater and eventually became the principal of the school. “Different monasteries have different work requirements,” he says, “but work is always important. The early monks carried the idea of ‘work’ to the point of being totally self-sufficient. They survived without the outside world; everything was done within the walls of the monastery. Benedictines today, though not to quite that extreme, do as much for themselves as possible.”

There is a certain stability in monasticism that insures a family-life situation. Monks live as a family: they live at the same monastery most of their lives, work to sustain themselves, and are buried on the grounds. So why is Fr. Mario at Notre Dame and not at the Abbey? “A minority of monks are allowed to leave the community with the permission of the superior,” he explains. “But the idea of stability is preserved. Whatever you do outside the monastery is a positive thing, and you bring back to the monastery what you’ve gained from your experiences. I think ‘sabbatical’ is the best word to describe it. It gives you a chance to refresh and to gain new insights.”

Fr. Mario’s first move away from the Marmion Abbey occurred in 1971 when he participated in an exchange program with the Delbarton School in New Jersey, another Benedictine school. There he taught English and theater until 1973, then moved to New York City to work as...
Yes, it did get frustrating — how do you talk about the good God when they've never seen the good God?

“Different work requirements,” he says Fr. Mario, “is studying theology and fine arts this semester at the University. When not in the classroom, he is often seen playing backgammon or painting in his suite at St. Ed's, which is decorated with plants hanging in plant holders that he has macramed and oil paintings that he has created. He owns a Yellow Nape Parrot named Mike who is friendly with visitors, and he is training his new Greater Sulfur Cockatoo, which remains nameless (he resembles the bird that Bareta owns). Fr. Mario directs the plays that the St. Ed's residents perform, drawing from his New York experience of studying with Lee Strausberg, founder of the Actors' School. During warm weather he will challenge passers-by to a game of bocce on the lawn.

Karen Caruso is a junior American Studies major and Managing Editor of Scholastic. She lives in Lyons Hall.
Digger's Crew

Sets High Hoops

The Irish hoopsters have taken many forms since the arrival of head coach Richard "Digger" Phelps six years ago. Notre Dame has relied on five solid starters, a big team, a fast team, and a one-man show. Regardless of their style of play, the Irish under Phelps have become a consistent national power on the hardwood court.

Phelps, who moonlights as head cheerleader at Notre Dame, goes into every season with one goal—to win 20 games. The Irish mentor's record at Du Lac reflects a consistency in attaining this goal as his teams have compiled a 114-56 record since 1971 (averaging 19 wins a season) and hit the twenty mark in four of those campaigns. The Irish have been invited to postseason play in four of those banner years (1 NIT and 3 NCAA). This year could be Phelps' trip to the roses but the master of mental attitude enters this season like all the rest with his usual composure which disappears with the opening tipoff of the first game.

"Our goal is always to earn a place in the NCAA tournament," says Phelps. "To do that we need total dedication from the players."

There is no doubt that the players are there, although three of the starters in last year's season opener have graduated. Branning, Williams, Flowers, Laimbeer, Batton, and Carpenter, however, have a great deal of experience and with the addition of an outstanding crop of freshmen, Irish fans cannot help but get excited.

Phelps is a little more reserved, "With nine returning letterman we have an experienced nucleus. I am also pleased with our incoming freshmen, all of whom should make a contribution before the season ends." Phelps indicates his preseason strategy as he adds, "I want to play ten or eleven people because we have the players to wear the opposition down."

In the past two years Notre Dame has placed first in the country in rebounding margin, outrebounding their opponents 1,229-916 last year. This year Notre Dame must replace two members of that prestigious frontcourt in Toby Knight and Bill Paterno, both of whom were among the first 45 players selected in the NBA draft. Knight was the top rebounder on the team while Paterno left with 1,000 points over his four-letter career.

The Irish relied on three forward-centers last season, but with the return of Bill Laimbeer, the center spot is filled. At 6-11, 250 lbs, Laimbeer does more than just fill in at center. The Toledo, Ohio resident was showing signs of stardom his freshman year before being banished from the courts due to academic ineligibility. In limited playing time he was averaging eight points and eight rebounds in his ten appearances. These numbers read 17 points and 16 rebounds when prorated to a 40-minute game.

Bruce "the Butcher" Flowers will man one of the starting forward spots. The Huntington, W. Va., native was a preseason All-American choice by Playkid Magazine mainly on the merits of his defensive ability. Flowers averaged 11.3 points per game last year and led the team in field goal percentage and fouls committed.

For the Irish to reach the winner's circle, they will need a consistent Dave Batton to fire from the perimeter. The "Irish Colt" at 6-9, 235 lbs., was effective around the basket last year, but his outside shooting was suspect at times. The senior from Springfield, Pennsylvania, averaged 12.2 markers per contest and was an effective passer.

Adding depth to this rugged frontcourt are sophomore Bill Hanzlik and freshman Randy Hafner, who has been continually plagued by injuries throughout his three years at Notre Dame, possesses a sharp shooting eye and is very effective off the bench. Hanzlik appeared in all but one of the Irish's contests last year and is very versatile as a guard-forward.

The backcourt is set with Don "Duck" Williams and Rich Branning ready to pick up where they left off last year. These two have styles that have complemented each other and with a full season of playing together and learning another one's motions, they should be ready to take off. Williams finished tops on the 'team-in'scoring last year with 18.1 points per game average, including a stellar 29-point performance in the upset victory over San Francisco. "Duck" averaged 22 points and shot an outstanding 59.4% over the final nine games.

In the Irish's nine losses last year,
Williams was one of the top two scorers for ND in only two matches, which shows that Notre Dame's fate lies largely in this senior's line-drive shots from outside.

Branning finished his impressive rookie campaign as the Irish's fifth player in double figures. More importantly, the Huntington Beach, California native more than doubled any of his teammates' assist totals with 138. This freshman showed uncanny poise leading Notre Dame in free throw percentage, hitting nearly 80% from the charity line. If this defense leader gains confidence in his outside shot, he will quickly become one of the most talked about backcourt aces in the country.

Jeff "the Roadrunner" Carpenter should see a good deal of action as the third guard. The Oak Park, Illinois senior averaged over nine assists per 40 minutes of playing time last year and is often called on to wear down the opponents' star ball handler with his tenacious style of play.

Many teams have reached the status of "top twenty" in polls over the years using five solid starters, but no one becomes the National Champion without a competent bench. Phelps' answer to this facet of the game lies in the ability of five incoming freshmen, and with the reviews this quintet has been getting, his problems may be solved.

Stan Wilcox is one of those quick guards that keeps a team moving. Last year he kept North Babylon High School of Long Island, N.Y. on the move by connecting on an incredible 66% of his field goal attempts for a 17.6 point average per game. Wilcox is sure to see a lot of playing time as the season progresses and is looked on to be a starter in the future.

The other four freshmen are all frontcourt players which indicates how Phelps plans on wearing down Irish foes this year. At 6'5, 205 lbs. Tracy Jackson is the ideal swing man. Boasting a 61% field goal average and a 29.8 scoring average, this resident of Silver Spring, Maryland was named Metro Player of the Year in Washington, D.C. last year as a senior.

Gilbert Salinas will not be forgotten in San Antonio, Texas where he set the city record for career scoring gathering 2,202 points surpassing former Texas Tech star Rich Bullock's 2,004 total. The 6-11 center pulled down 15.5 caroms a game while possessing a deadly 68% accuracy from the floor.

Tripucka is not an unfamiliar name to Notre Dame fans and it will be heard of once again as Kelly Tripucka, son of former Notre Dame quarterback Frank Tripucka, makes his presence known. The Essex Falls, New Jersey native became the fourth player in the team's history to score 1,000 points in a single season averaging 36 points per tilt during his senior campaign. Throwing All-American honors in the process, he was named the most valuable player of the East Coast Invitational in Orlando.

Woolridge also comes from athletic bloodlines. A cousin of former New York Knick star Willis Reed, Woolridge notched 21 points and 25 rebounds a game last year to bring his high school career total to an eye-catching 3,000 points and 3,945 rebounds. His points and rebounds average cited...These freshmen are regarded by many experts as the top recruiting catch by any team in the nation. Under the tutelage of Dick Kuchen, Dan Nee, and newly added Scott Thompson, these newcomers may make the difference between a fine and perfect season. "Perfect" means a national championship crown, as it is clearly impossible for Notre Dame to win 30 games over a three-month span with the hardest schedule in the country. The Irish face ten teams that were in the top twenty in the nation last year or are predicted to rank there this year. These include games against UCLA, Indiana, Kentucky, and San Francisco on the road.

At home Notre Dame will need the support of the 11,345 seated (or standing) fans. The Athletic and Convocation Center became a "happening" place once again last year when the Irish stopped the San Francisco Dons 29-game win streak and knocked the wind out of their sails for the remainder of the season. Phelps' eagerness to get a 16-1 record at home (losing only to UCLA). This success is of little surprise when the fans voted Most Valuable Player of a nationally televised game which teams complain it is a six against five battle out on the court. The Irish wrap up the season with home games against North Carolina State and Marquette and: the momentum of two wins here may be all Phelps' proteges need to roll to a National Championship. It is much too early to predict that far in advance, but that won't keep Notre Dame fans from blood pressure down.
Responsible Freedom

by Maureen Sajbel

When someone asks "What dorm do you live in?" and the answer is "Augusta," often the next question asked is "Which campus is that on?" Few people know about Augusta, its residents and location. To clear up the mystery, it is a self-governing junior/senior dorm located between Regina and Holy Cross Halls on the Saint Mary's campus.

The decision to move into this dorm is difficult for some. Of the 65 residents, 33 live in singles, many are in their professional semester of nursing, teaching, or business, and many moved together with their friends into a block of rooms. The threat of isolation from friends in other dorms, former roommates, and the campus itself appeared great at first. But after living in Augusta for even a few months, the advantages seem overwhelming.

The idea of Augusta being a self-governing dorm began back in 1971. Two sisters of the Holy Cross and a group of seniors moved into Augusta, formerly a part of the convent and its novitiate dorm. With the denial of the merger between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's in 1972 and a large acceptance of freshmen, the dorm was changed to a freshman/sophomore dorm with a hall director. The following school year Augusta was given back to seniors as an experimental self-governing dorm, as it has remained ever since.

"Self-governing does not imply license or a throwing away of rules," according to Kathleen Rice, dean of student affairs at Saint Mary's. "It means that the residents have a kind of responsible freedom." The dorm is still under the jurisdiction of the college and its rules concerning parietals and possession of alcohol. However, no dorm staff or army of resident advisors enforces the rules. They are enforced by the residents themselves, a hall council and a single resident advisor. Augusta women have their own keys to the outside doors and carry the responsibility of keeping the doors locked at all times. For this reason, Augusta has been termed "the safest hall on campus." It does not have traffic going through it constantly, as do other dorms, and only residents and their guests can gain admittance with dorm keys.

The feeling of living in a self-governing dorm is one of relaxation and even relief after three hectic years of noisy dorm life. Augusta is more of a community due to its number of women. The building is old and spacious, making it personal and comfortable.

"It's so big, it's great," said Kay Spahn, a junior living in a quad the size of a small ballroom. "I like the location of the dorm too. It's like coming home. You walk through the trees and leave the campus behind." Others like the dorm for its quiet, relaxed atmosphere. Senior Mary Rukavina, student body president, sees the privacy as Augusta's number one asset. "For someone in a position who goes 24 hours a day you need to be able to come home, close the door and tune out the problems for a while." Many see the dorm as an earned privilege and a

Scholastic
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"Augusta," few people know about Augusta, former part of the convent of the sisters of the Holy Cross and a residence hall.

Two junior/senior dorm located between the campus itself appeared great at first. But after living even a few months, the advantages of responsible freedom is one of relaxation and the independent life of city or campus.

Maureen Sajbel, a senior and art major, at St. Mary's, in her opinion, is the best of on and off campus living. "You still have that umbilical cord to the campus. Off campus people have severed it. We don't have the hassles of off campus life."

Augusta acts as a buffer or transition between regulated dorm life and the independent life of city or apartment living that most of its residents will encounter upon graduation. It is an easing away from a dependency on college rules to a dependency on one's own sense of values and responsibilities.

Living in Augusta does have a few minor disadvantages. To pick up packages and flowers or to use vending machines, one has to go to a neighboring dorm. There is no hall desk for messages and the kitchen is poorly equipped. For the eight junior transfer students placed in Augusta quad, the social situation is not ideal. It is difficult, they say, to meet great numbers of people. Although they did not originally like Augusta, several have said they plan to stay in the dorm through their senior year because they've grown accustomed to the advantages, responsibility and quiet of the hall.

Despite the minor disadvantages of Augusta, it has evolved into a workable living situation. With the initiation of a hall council, the residents have created a greater sense of unity within the group than ever before in its history as a college dorm. They received an award for the first and only dorm at Saint Mary's to have 100 percent participation in the United Way drive this year. They plan to have the first Augusta Mardi Gras booth and a football team for An Tostal. Residents hope by working together they can make Augusta a model for future self-governing dorms and that it will finally have a recognized identity in the Notre Dame-St. Mary's community.

Maureen Sajbel is a senior English and art major at St. Mary's. She is a resident of Augusta Hall.
The Unsung Athletes At Notre Dame

by Ron Hunter

When the average Notre Dame student thinks of sports at du Lac, his or her thoughts tend to center around our fine football, basketball, and hockey programs with good reason. Notre Dame's feats on the gridiron are legendary, our basketball team is one of only ten schools which can boast of having over one thousand victories, our hockey program has risen to national prominence, and now our soccer program appears to possess upward mobility. Despite the fact that all of these varsity sports started out as 'clubs,' club sports remain an obscure part of our 'nationally-minded' athletic program and a little appreciated part of student life. Perhaps this unfortunate occurrence can be attributed to academic rigor rather than the individual merits of these particular sports. If this is the case, a closer inspection of these sports may serve to enlighten and perhaps illustrate their remunerative value.

Since the University Board of Trustees moved to institute coeducation here, many profound changes have occurred, among them the institution of a Women's Athletic Department. Since its inception, the Department has nurtured the growth of club sports and has even witnessed the transition of some club sports to varsity status, most notably basketball and fencing. However, club sports still remain the backbone of the Women's Athletic Program and a subject worthy of our interest.

The Women's Field Hockey Club recently finished its third campaign, posting a 5-1-1 mark. The team, stricken by the flu bug and academic wars, was affected somewhat as it lost both of its contests in the Indiana State Tournament—one of the losses at the hands of powerful Indiana. But Club President Patty DeCoste praised the performance of the team and lauded the efforts of Co-captains Mary Hume, Sue McGlynn, and Terry Rooney. Currently, the club plays both varsity and club teams from the Midwest and despite the loss of six seniors, DeCoste remains optimistic about the upcoming season. "The goal of the club is to improve each year," she stated. When asked to weigh the possibilities of becoming a varsity sport, she was very pessimistic, saying, "I don't think it's very likely." It seems safe to assume that this club shall retain its status for the time being.

In their initial season, Notre Dame's women's harriers placed fifth out of eight teams in the Golden Triangle Quadrangular meet at Ypsilanti, Michigan. "The team really did well this year," bubbled Club President Helen Weber, adding that Purdue, Indiana, and Indiana State provided stiff competition. The enthusiastic group trained hard, running 40 miles a week for the aforementioned contest as well as for two dual meets this season. Foremost among the women's harriers cited by Weber was freshman Maggie Lally, younger sister of basketball standout, Carol Lally.

The Women's Track Club completed its first season last spring by competing in the USTFA nationals (United States Track and Field Association Championships). Weber lauded the efforts of javelin thrower Mary Holmes, who came within inches of placing third. The Track Club, feels Weber, "can attain varsity status within five years, maybe less." She went on to say the women must show interest before any more will be made by the Athletic Board. With a strong core of freshman runners, the future looks auspicious for the Track Club and the Cross-Country Club as well.

Unfortunately, the prognosis is not the same for the Women's Volleyball Club, which has seen its membership dwindle from 40 members down to 12. Beth LaRocca, president of the Volleyball Club, attributed this to the start of women's basketball season and another problem which plagues many organizations, the lack of strong leadership. Explaining the problem, LaRocca felt that there was talent on the team, but the leadership to bring it out was lacking. The spikers experienced a rough season, losing to St. Mary's, Butler, and St. Joseph's among other varsity squads. The club is in need of equipment and could benefit from the designation of a practice area; benefits which are endowed on varsity sports. With players like Co-captains Kathy Lew and Nancy Maloney, as well as stalwart Carmella Walker, perhaps varsity status is not really out of the question.

On the whole, Women's Club Sports are in need of better equipment and would stand to benefit from increased use of Notre Dame's fine athletic facilities. There is talent in all of the clubs, but it seems to be of an unknown quality due to a lack of sufficient competition. Since interest in the sport seems to affect competition, we have the makings of a complex situation for the Athletic Department, which justifiably withholds funds unless interest is exhibited by the women. Nevertheless, the future of Women's Club Sports is questionable, but one should realize that the very nature of club sports at Notre Dame is tenuous. In comparison to the women's programs, the men's 'club sports' seem to be on terra firma, as witnessed by the Notre Dame Sailing Club. The Sailing Club is the University's oldest club sport dating back approximately 100 years ago. According to Commodore 'Bill' Kostoff, things are proceeding well for the Irish sailors, who were ranked 10th in the nation last year. This high ranking can be attributed to a solid training regimen which features a 'lesson program' for novices during weekends of the season (fall and spring): The club is very active, entering one or two regattas each weekend during the course of the season. Over October break, the club competed in a match race (run in 20-foot keelboats)....
boats) off Long Beach, California, and has just qualified for the Timmes, a major fall regatta. But the team always aims for the elimination regatta in the spring which sends its top two finishers to the nationals. The Sailing Club is very competitive and has fared well against Navy, Yale, and Harvard, all of which have varsity teams. In view of such circumstances, one might think that Kostoff would welcome the mantle of varsity status. "I'm not sure," he said, adding that, "the funds would help because the team travels by car." Presently, membership, dues, donations, and contributions are the major sources of income for the club. However, Kostoff pointed out that the club was satisfied with the relaxed atmosphere which presently exists. Furthermore, despite the loss of All-American Buzz Reynolds, Kostoff feels that the Sailing Club has the cohesiveness every successful team needs to remain competitive.

Not to be confused with the Irish Sailing Club is the Irish Rowing Club, a fine organization in its own right. The Rowing Club has supported a men's team since 1963 and a women's team since 1972. The dedication of Notre Dame rowers is unfailing because the members must face the oars at 5:30 each morning. But Club President Paul Shafer feels that practice has paid off, because the Irish finished 12th out of 40 teams in a race at Boston last October 23. The Irish are classified as an intermediate crew, as a result of its showings this autumn (the classifications are Elite, Senior, Intermediate, and Novice), and will work arduously with the weights this winter in the hopes of becoming Elite. The spring season, which is climaxed by the Dad Vales in Philadelphia and the Wisconsin Sprints, should be a successful one for the Irish. return eight oarsmen and size is a factor in crew. Shafer lauded the efforts of Al Caccavale (men's coach) and Jody Gormley (women's coach) for their outstanding volunteer work. Schaeffer went on to say that the Irish would welcome varsity status because of the cost of boats. A boathouse is needed, also, if the Irish hope to compete with the likes of Harvard and M.I.T.

Another club in its initial year is the Weight Lifting Club. According to Club President Pete Malech, the club is in the process of organizing another interhall meet similar to the one held last spring. If such a meet does materialize, watch out for Lenny Larcara, Larry Graziani, Tom Frerick, Dave Miller, Mark Meyer, and Mark Hug. If Malech is successful in finding competition for the Irish iron pumpers, they will be more than able to hold their own.

Another successful organization, the Lacrosse Club will be shooting for its best mark since the 1973 stickers posted a 10-1 slate. After a fall scrimmage and a match against the University of Chicago, the Fighting Irish will take on several varsity and club teams in the spring. With such solid returnees as tri-captains Pat Clynes, Jim Scarola, and Mike Kinsella, the likes of Ohio State, Michigan State, and the Air Force Academy had better beware. John Murphy, Jim Romanelli, and Jim Walsh help spearhead the Irish attack. Club President Rich Mazzei seemed optimistic about the upcoming season, saying, "We are only a couple of players away." Mazzei was a little pessimistic when asked about the possibility of varsity status, saying that the club would welcome the money and the chance to play varsity teams, but he deemed the possibility unlikely at this point.

Perhaps the most famous of all club sports is rugby. The Irish "ruggers" compete mostly against other clubs at the intercollegiate level although they do tangle with association teams (usually composed of older men) such as the Chicago Lions, champions of the Midwest. The Rugby Club participates in 10 to 12 matches each year. Including a tournament in which they play three or four games each weekend. Club President Tony Mendiola cited Tom Byrnes, Kevin Corcoran, Rob Keffler, Mike McGlynn, and John O'Connell as the outstanding players on the team. Mendiola feels that everyone likes the club as it stands and could not see the prospect of varsity status. "It's easy going; we play hard and party hard." I can see why they want things to stand pat.

Another new group is the Judo Club, which will offer a Free University course next spring according to John Mahon, Club President and Third Degree Brown Belt. Mahon feels that for now, the members need to learn the basics before the club can actively compete with other judo clubs. Vice-President Curt Hensh feels that the club is merely trying to whip the members into shape, teach them self-discipline as well as judo, along with a bit of oriental philosophy and martial arts. How do the members like it? Well, Meg, a novice, replied, "I really enjoy it — you know? Especially the gymnastics."

Perhaps this young lady really drove the point home. Club sports are for the enjoyment or everyone.

Ron Hunter is a Stanford Hall sophomore in the College of Arts and Letters. This is the Canonsburg, Pennsylvania native's first contribution to Scholastic.
Book Review

One would think that there could hardly be need for another book on marriage, Christian or otherwise. Most marriage manuals, coming from a relativistic humanism which offers personal fulfillment in self-indulgence combined with moderate self-sacrifice, would serve best as fire kindling. Official Roman Catholic Church publications have overcome their explicit condemnation of sex for pleasure in marriage, but remain largely antiseptic. In Marriage Among Christians, A Curious Tradition, Father James T. Burtchaell has brought his steady and insightful theological perspective together with the opinions of his eight married co-authors to present a warm and challenging vision of Christian marriage.

"For Better, For Worse," is the title of Burtchaell's own first chapter of the book, and it is, appropriately, the book's theme for Christian marriage. Burtchaell notes that in nearly all marriage ceremonies today, including civil ones, the couple pledges commitment unto death, but means, in fact, only that they hope for lifelong marriage—rather like hoping to do good instead of deciding to do good. The key pledge of "marriage unto death" is the primary concern of all of the authors of this book. Not that this pledge is a guarantee of success in marriage, but that it is the first requirement for meaningful marriage.

Some liberal Catholic theologians might label this theology of marriage as too strict because it does not allow for remarriage after divorce. Burtchaell writes "... Jesus, in repudiating divorce, is commending a radically different sort of marriage. One would bind oneself to a person, rather than to a specific set of conditions or duties... Jesus calls men and women to a union that is more frightening because the legitimate claims on one's generosity are open-ended." The effect of the open-endedness of this risk is to demand and allow individuals to "become better than they are wont to be." In Christian marriage one cannot delimit the areas and capacities of one's loving. The spouse's needs must be met, whatever they are.

Margery Frisbie, in her chapter "The Power of the Promise," relates how the pledge of fidelity has permitted her and her husband to grow to their full humanity. "[My husband's] fidelity to me has confirmed my striving, my stumbling, my struggles, my advances. Without it, I think the best part of me would have shrunk and faded, the worst might have stretched and swollen. For my most human impulses, my direct responses to experience, have not been cut down and left to wither. They have been protected by the knowledge that there is another who accepts them for what I mean them to be." The greatest of the individual's potentials may be fulfilled within the security of a marriage, a fidelity, that is pledged to be permanent.

Yet one might object that this offers little consolation for those trapped in unrewarding marriages. Rosemary Haughton replies, in her chapter "Marriage: An Old, New Fairy Tale," that the problem is Western people's tendency to view marriage in terms of trying to live out the Romantic Myth: that the only valuable relationship between a man and a woman is one filled with love, passion, and joy. The trouble is that the Romantic Myth is inadequate, says Haughton; it fails to value human experiences of suffering and perseverance. Haughton proposes the Hero Myth, where fidelity to "the cause" is valued as a superior paradigm for Christian marriage. Heroic marriage can withstand suffering and give meaning to the family unit. It is the risk of transforming personal sacrifice which makes Christian marriage worthy of human effort.

One might wonder why this book, which calls fidelity necessary for Christian marriage and which cherishes desire for children, has no Imprimatur or Nihil Obstat, official Church sanctions, stating that the book is free from doctrinal error. Perhaps Burtchaell's stand on birth control is the cause for this. He applauds Pope Paul VI's intention in "trying to argue, to a world unwelcoming to children, that marriage and sex were wrong and selfishly perverted if intentionally closed to childbirth." Unlike Pope Paul, however, Burtchaell feels that the rhythm method of birth control should be called "artificial" and direct contraception should be called "natural." He argues, "it matters less whether any single act of sex be open to conception than whether the entire sequence (not of a month but of a lifetime) of giving and sex and marriage be open to family." This seems to be a most reasonable and wholesome attitude towards birth control; it is unfortunate that a few Catholics who could use this book, which is ideal for pre-Cana programs and any serious study of Christian marriage, might not do so because it lacks review by Rome.

What sets Marriage Among Christians apart from the multitude of books on marriage is its sense of vision rooted in the real lives and family experiences of its authors. Burtchaell's first chapter could stand alone as a holistic and articulate expression of Christian marriage. The book is, however, enhanced by the viewpoints of its many married authors. It is challenging and well-balanced—and presents a vision of marriage appropriate for those who truly desire permanent marriage.

Jim Romanelli is a former Culture Editor of Scholastic, and a preprofessional major also in theology. He and his wife, Phyllis, reside in University Village.

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