Polzin Looks to Better Semester

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Polzin says his year's commission has broken ground in several areas and is prepared to innovate in other areas. The Publicity Commission under Peg Owen, a Portland senior, under protest, solicited some junior class women to pick up the petition again. It has been a year which has seen the commission involved in several brief discussions with little conflict and controversy. In discussing this Polzin says, "I really prefer to have conflict and controversy. It's more vivid for the forty enrolled students and more important to me because I am trying to affect the Aquinas curricul-um in a more pertinent way."

Jim Chernick's has the male lead as Christy, the Irish Playboy. Peg Callaghan is the female lead as Peggie Mike. Other main roles are being filled by St. Clare Terrier as Michael James; Phyllis Gwatzky as Widow Quin; Greg Kelsch as next semester, is cautious about predictions but says he is basically optimistic that the commission can implement the ideas conceived this year. The no-credit program concept which would include courses taught by members of the faculty on a variety of subjects is a novelty that recently conceived by Polzin and he says it is still definitely in its early stages of development. He comments, "we don't have anything official yet but it would be great to see if we can implement such a program of free instruction. I hope we will be able to implement such a program of free instruction. I hope we will be able to work in conjunction with the free university in this area. We want to cooperate with them and not compete."

Polzin sees the 1969-70 edition of the student commission as being both pertinent and innovative. "Yes," he says, "we're being innovative because we are coming up with different ideas and we're still developing programs." The chairman goes on to say, "we are definitely also learning the students but its quite a job to attempt to be pertinent for all students. I would, if I were to generalize, to divide the Aquinas student body into three groups, the conservative thinking and acting people, those who act and think moderately and those who are more liberal in their ways than others. To me this is not so much a political division as a social one. I see this division as very pertinent to the conservative division because we are offering enough to satisfy them because they don't want all that much, I think the moderates are pretty much satisfied although they want a little bit more in the line of action and services. I would say we are doing an adequate job in being pertinent to the liberal group but they expect much more and we will hopefully be able to better meet their desires soon, without compromising the desires of the other divisions."

It has been a year which has seen the commission involved in several brief discussions with little conflict and controversy. In discussing this Polzin says, "I really prefer to have conflict and controversy. It's definitely necessary. However I do not like conflict just for the sake of conflict."

Polzin hopes that the investigation by Wolford's committee is necessary. "I would tend, if I were to look at the college as a whole, to the liberal group but they expect much more and we will hopefully be able to work in conjunction with the free university in this area."

The play is funny and sad, light-hearted and tense. It is considered one of the best of the Irish poetic plays. The entire dialogue is in the Western Irish brogue. It is a play of very little substance.
WHEN SOMETHING HAS TO BE SAID

So often editorialists hammer at what should be in his particular society and propose grandiose solutions if only...

Yet every now and then, that same editorialist has to look around him and take note, not so much of what could be done, but what is being done to make his society a better one...

Just before Thanksgiving such an event occurred at Aquinas in the form of the White Rabbit, a dance set in an elaborate night club setting, and sponsored by the guys of St. Joseph's Center. The fact that a dance was held is not an earth-shaking event, true, especially when it was not exactly a rollicking success at the gate. However, the man behind the White Rabbit not only deserves a big pat on the back and a hearty thank you but much more. Brother Edmund Murphy, O.P. is the dorm director at St. Joseph's but while in the past, dorm direction has lived "as the same building as the boys," Brother Edmund lives with the guys. He does not present himself as a high-handed dictator but instead a friend. He played the role of a friend to those students helping to organize the White Rabbit. The man is unsung, but dynamic and he wants to see that same dynamism at Aquinas and he realizes before that can be developed it has to be delicately nursed.

Brother Edmund is one of the members of the administrative Community at Aquinas who recognizes that there is an urgent need for dynamic response but he is also one who has the wherewithal to lead the drive to a new dynamism. The Brother's involvement in something innovative, abounds a new hope for this editor that administration and faculty are going to join in the Aquinas' students attempt to make this school more pertinent to what we are and to what we want to become. The editor hoped that the Brother's actions of the past few months would rub off on faculty and administrators alike, showing them that a degree doesn't have to put them in a different world than students but instead helps them to make the world we all live in, more real.

Then suddenly the day after the White Rabbit adventure this editor was hurled back to reality when Joseph McNamara, an English instructor at Aquinas, released a mimeographed reply to a "letter to the editor" which appeared in last edition of the Herald.

The letter in question was in this editor's opinion, seriously in need of accurate information, more careful thought, and logic. Yet the letter's author did have the gumption to publicly state her views although she like so many of this generation did not offer any concrete solution. So what did the girl get in return, but a vindictive and in this editor's opinion, a brutal attack not only on her letter but on her person from a faculty member who is of much intelligence and holds a reasonable amount of student respect.

If we read the Aquinas temper properly, it is our guess that numerous other members of the Aquinas community found themselves in more than a vehement mood after reading the letter, yet self-restraint is a necessary virtue in a society in which everyone lives and works together. Miss Lisa Piascik's ideas as presented in the letter had every right to be disputed but was it necessary for them to be bludgeoned and was it necessary to call her personal traits into the fray? We strongly feel it was not and we are of the opinion that such moves dangerously limit student-faculty relationships.

Let's follow Brother Edmund's lead. He's got the right idea. In order to win them you have to be with them and not against them. The maturity of Aquinas students has rightly been questioned at various times over the past few months, yet is everyone in the community really taking a more proactive on that score? We think not.

By the Way with Barb Morin

Hebert Questions Dorm Government

When something is being performed at the carriage house and another injustice is being committed in conjunction with that play.

The Herald Editorially denounces the issuing one free tickets to faculty members for these plays as long as students are expected to throw their dollar bills into the pot. Once again, as we commented in an editorial a few weeks ago, it seems inconceivable to us that people earning $8,000 per year and up be admitted free to an event which charges students with unlimited debts.

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**Serving Students is Her Job**

Dear Editor:

Earlier this week, in a class that I am teaching, I called on a student to make a comment to forego discussion on a certain topic and move to another topic on the syllabus, because she wished to cover all of the material and, also, because such an action would leave “a bitter taste in our mouths.”

I do not know why our educational system dictates that we must cover all of the material in such-and-such an amount of time.

And I do not know why our classes have to be so tightly structured that we do not have time to devote to discussing the problems that we run into by deviating slightly from the syllabus. They were the previous weekend the people that queer, “have no place in a truly academic community,” Mr. McNamara, not a “mistaken or unreasonable generalization.”

Whether you agree with what is being said or not, it is the important thing but, that you have the opportunity to be exposed to varied opinions, to hear something besides the instructor’s or your own thoughts. For an academic community can be the key to better human understanding — through others we can better understand ourselves.

Lisa Piatecki

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**NEW COURSES (Continued from page 1)**

The other course to be innovated next semester and also marked on the pass-fail basis is “Modern Cinema.” The one-hour credit course, according to the Editor, is scheduled to be presented in WEG Center. Sensitivity to the film will be explored in the discussion course.

Dear Mike Polzin,

I would like to make a reply to Mr. Joseph S. McNamara’s open letter published on Nov. 26, stemming from a letter I wrote, expressing my views against director of the Herald. I doubt very much if I am an ignorant critic, I feel that I understand every word I did. Each facet of Aquinas College I criticized was looked into and each statement can be proven as a valid statement, backed up with facts. That’s FACTS Mr. McNamara. I know what responsible journalism is and I used it. Obviously you were not the one who didn’t look before you leaped.

In your open letter you asked for my ideas. In the following paragraphs I shall express one of them. An idea I feel is of utmost importance in an academic community, an ideal I feel Aquinas is lacking. Aquinas has a duty to educate them. This duty is not solely the responsibility of the faculty but also the students. Every individual student in this college, whether he considers himself an intellectual entity or not, has a responsibility to the academic community. This responsibility should be a part of the curriculum and not only the students.

Lisa Piatecki
AQ THUMPS HOPE CAGERS

A combination of tough defense and timely scoring enabled Aquinas to thump the Flying Dutchmen of Hope College 87-70. A crowd of 1600 viewed the heated Dec. 3 battle at the Aquinas Fieldhouse.

Playing guard shooting by Bob Pratt and Mark Simons aided the Tommies in forging a 39-27 half-time lead. A stubborn zone defense bothered the usually unerring Dutch marksmen, and also left the visitor's front line badly outmanned under the Aquinas defensive backcourt.

The 2nd half proved more exciting, however, as the Dutchmen came out firing. Buoyed by Dan Shinabarger's hot hand, Hope narrowed the lead to a 4442 half-time edge, but did not break the shackles of VanPortfleet's 9-3 senior forward from Grand Rapids, snapped up 21 misdirected shots and complemented this effort with a flawless 9 for 9 from the charity stripe. Ryan pumped in 26 points to share game honors with Mercy's Joe Serement, Pratt added 16 and VanPortfleet ended with 15.

LOTTERY

(Continued from page 1)

The Aquinas Freshman team, overcoming what Coach Don Purvis termed a "stagnant first half," flattened the Hope newcomers 91-58 in the preliminary to the Variety contest. As a result of that triumph, the frosh kept their slate unblemished and Pat Frawley, with Frank Brechbiehl and Larry Schafer contributing 12 and 11, respectively. The freshmen utilize a bustling, ball-hawking, defense with an exciting, fast-moving offense. Extremely uptight, they naturally generate a lot of excitement and present a refreshing change from the deliberate style of play to which college basketball seemed to be moving.

HOURS

(Continued from page 1)

At Aquinas the suggestion was initially made last year when some junior class women circulated a petition asking for no hours. When the subject had been seemingly forgotten by the administration this year, once again the petition was solicited. Following this a questionnaire was distributed by the administration asking the ladies their desire as hours. Sister Ann Justin termed a protest, but rather a questionnaire as a "free steak dinner." She felt that the questionnaire was near the point of uselessness. In other words they asked the girls a question that was already known, she elaborated on the fact that it might as well not have been handed out. After several weeks of no reaction a demonstration was formed in order to attain Dr. Hruby's attention. The demonstration was not conducted under protest, but rather a questioning of how their petition was being acted on. Finally after careful consideration the motion was passed and the women had their wish.

The freshmen utilized a continual and proceeding cost, one that would begin to hurt the dorm financially. However she also added that if this becomes a permanent fixture they might as well make an initial cost. Such as purchasing dorm keys or a machine that would process identification cards to unlock the door.

FREE SPIRIT

The copy editors for the Poetry Magazine "Free Spirit" is January 23. All submissions to the magazine are welcome according to co-editor Michael Kiefer. They may be sent to Kiefer at 1307 Lake Drive.

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