Free U. Courses Need Students

Despite a poor first week's attendance, the Free University is going to continue to offer its new list of courses and according to Jane Clingman, "we'll hope that the students become aware of the value of these courses soon.

One Free U. class entertained five students during the opening week but Miss Clingman, who is general coordinator for the Free University says, "that was our record. Most of the classes were fortunate to have two or three people other than the class leader in attendance. Yet most of the leaders enjoyed the experience and despite the lack of response, they want to continue."

The Free University was an idea of last semester, was formed and took shape in the form of class offerings this semester because a group of students suspected that Aquinas is suffering from social and cultural apathy. Says Miss Clingman, "We are not sure if students are apathetic because they are unaware, or if they are aware because they are apathetic. We hope it's the former and if it is then we can give the student a chance to become aware of the social problems of our time and perhaps together we can all come to some solutions to the problem. The Free U. does not for a moment claim that we have the answers, but perhaps through discussion and study we can help a person find his own answers."

Some of the courses that deal with social problems include a Black History course taught by Professor Lewis Clingman a history professor at Aquinas. An example if I found that a majority of the students wanted hot dogs at least once a week I would make sure that they got hot dogs once a week. The menu is not inflexible."

Aquinas College is but a small unit of the Saga corporation which services some 370 colleges in the nation. Those colleges are predominantly private but the corporation is beginning to expand into the state universities and are also building dormitories with food complexes on the big campuses, to pick up the

It's a play about absolutely nothing," according to the author of "Endgame," Samuel Beckett.

The Aquinas College Drama department will present this play about nothing, Feb. 27 and 28 in the Carriage House. Only four actors take part in the play which has no setting of time or place. Gregory Kelah, a senior will play the role of Hamm. Jim Chernvaska another senior, and like Kelah a veteran of Aquinas productions, will take the role of Clove. A freshman

Unique New Play Casts Four Roles

Jeff Lyon, editor of the campus newsletter, the "Letter," has "regretfully" presented his formal resignation to the Publications Board of Aquinas College.

In a statement prepared for the Herald, Lyon said, "After polling the staff of the "Letter," we feel recognition and consideration of the intent behind the Publication Board's official statement; and with the full realization of the fact that the most outspoken opponents of the "Letter" have deemed it unnecessary to continue as advisor of the "Letter" effective two weeks from now.

The statement Lyon is responding to was as of this printing not formally published but Lyon told the Herald that he interpreted the statement as asking him to "change my style, which I will not and cannot do."

Lyon went on to say, the "Letter" as it has been known this year was begun with the best of intentions as a vehicle that might allow Aquinas to laugh with and at itself, particularly in a year in which it finds itself under the close and continuous scrutiny of the self-study. The "Letter" staff, apparently failing this objective in the view of many of its non-contributing critics, and with a realization that not only are representations of the newsletter being challenged but the very "intent" of the "Letter," itself, has decided to devote its time and energies to more rewarding activities for both the students in particular and Aquinas college in general."

In resigning Lyon commended the staff members of the "Letter" for "contributing week by week to what they felt was an honest and meaningful contribution to better living, in that often men realized and extremely intangible concept called the Aquinas Community." Lyon said the the "Letter" has the budget and resources to continue publication and his two weeks notice "gives the public board an opportunity to find a replacement for me," he went on to comment, however that, "as far as I know the decision to cease publication, in my staff's opinion rested with me, and I think that with my resignation also comes theirs."
Return of The Spirit Can Mean New Life

Self-Study spirit has seemingly returned. Dr. Hruby has once again set April of this year as the completion date for the Study. Some faculty members want to be called by their first names by the Student Advisory Commission chairman says, "I really thought the spirit of the students was great during the Advisory session and I think we can keep it high." The "sixth group" has begun its work.

All these refractions were directly or indirectly the result of the second visit of the Self-Study advisory board, the weekend of Jan. 30-31. From here, the group has to come the word, caution. The essence of what we'll refer to as "Advisory weekend" was words and words are not going to help Aquinas College. Words have been spoken before; it is action we need. One gets the impression however, that this time it will be different. Discussion at the Advisory session was practical, constructive and hopefully sincere. With those foundations words can very well become the Advisory board lies not in the ease with which the Advisory Board was also asked "What is a co-educational college?" seemed to center about the college community under the Boards critical feeling that the problems of the greater community did not really exist in Aquinas. This really disturbed the community. This is not to say that participation was dominant, was that the college and the Self-Study should offer has already been enacted. The Board called for the formulation of a "Sixth Group," a steering committee. They will serve to pull together all of the other groups. Father Hunger suggested that it should be entrusted with deciding the mechanisms which will be used to enact the other proposals of Self-Study. This group was also suggested by the Board after their first visit to the college.

All indications of the visit of the Advisory Board indicated that the Self-Study was progressing much better than many of the participants had felt. The encouragement given by the Advisory Board has brought renewed optimism and new efforts. The timetable for Self-Study has been re-evaluated to the original target, of April 1970. At the Self-Study enters its final stages many look eagerly toward Spring.

Student Takes Look At Advisory Visit

Dr. Hruby summed up the visit of the Advisory Board to Aquinas College when he said, "Something important seems to have happened over the weekend." Something does seem to have happened; but at this time there seems to be little agreement, as to what exactly did occur during the visit of the Advisory Board. The two day visit of the A.B. involved some twenty-four hours of reports, reactions, and dialogue about the progress of the Self-Study. Every Self-Study presented a progress report and oral statement. Discussion about some of the reports was varied and constructive. Many people took the opportunity to avail themselves of the services the A. B. was meant to provide. The Advisory Board was concerned to be an outside party which brings "experience and wisdom and compassion and disinterestedness to bear on the problems of Aquinas." In the course of the weekend they were asked to do this. The Advisory Board was also asked to take sides during their two-day stay, fortunately they did not do so.

What the Advisory Board did do was to lend their professional understanding to the problems of the college and the Self-Study. They encouraged trusted group members and sympathized with those tackling Herculean tasks. Often the encouragement came by pointing out to the community how great was the task and that others are facing the same problems. The Board did not leave without making some specific recommendations on areas they felt needed more study or some new and fresh thinking. One theme which was dominant, was that the college and the Self-Study should drop the "either-or" approach and seek to design systems which would be flexible. Flexibility might well be the tone of mood of the college for the future. Much of the discussion ("What is a Catholic college?" "What is a co-educational college?") seemed to center around the Boards critical feeling that the college community under the Board left the definite impression that this was an unanswered question which could not, and dare not go un answered. Thus we have to immediately set April of this year as the completing date for the Study. Some faculty members want to be called by their first names by the Student Advisory Commission chairman says, "I really thought the spirit of the students was great during the Advisory session and I think we can keep it high." The "sixth group" has begun its work.

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As the Self-Study enters the action stage, responsibilities increase proportionately. This is the time in which the future is shaped. What the five groups present as final recommendations will most probably indicate the community atmosphere might be one of the great attributes of Aquinas. He was supported by Taylor in his comment on the importance of community. One of the most concrete suggestions that the Board had to offer has already been enacted. The Board called for the formation of a "Sixth Group," a steering committee. They will serve to pull together all of the other groups. Father Hunger suggested that it should be entrusted with deciding the mechanisms which will be used to enact the other proposals of Self-Study. This group was also suggested by the Board after their first visit to the college.

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GI Program Underway At Aquinas

Recently, a nationwide effort has been underway to get ex-servicemen back to school. Mr. Thomas Liggett, admissions counselor at Aquinas, has recently completed his military service, and is aware of the existing problems under his direction. The Aquinas veterans' program now has 12 ex-servicemen enrolled as full-line students. This has made Aquinas a leader in instituting this program. The admissions office has also branched out into a more vigorous recruiting program. The members of the admissions office have recently travelled to St. Louis, Chicago, and Long Island in an attempt to get a greater and more diversified student body at Aquinas.
TOMS LOSE THRILLER TO KALAMAZOO CAGERS

Dan Laskowski's pressure basket with 4 seconds remaining on the clock lifted Kalamazoo College to a thrilling 71-70 victory over Aquinas on January 30 at the winner's gym. The Tommies suffered their second loss of the 1969-70 campaign to Kalamazoo, as the Hornets took an 83-77 decision on December 8 in Grand Rapids.

Both teams played sluggishly in the first half, with numerous turnovers marring the action. The scoring of Mark Simons and Bob Pratt, both of whom notched 9 points in the first half, enabled Aquinas to carry a slim 34-31 lead into the dressing room.

The game developed into a real cliff hanger as the teams played evenly throughout the second half until Laskowski's dramatic shot decided the issue.

Laskowski, a 5'10" senior guard, paced the Hornets with 20 points, while Pat Ryan and Tom Van Portflet added 18 points and 16 points. Pat Ryan followed with 17. Thirteen field baskets that found the raspberries and he endured a considerable amount of heckling from the Aquinas cheering section.

Pratt, knocking in an eye-catching 10 of 11 free throws, finished with 20 points and Pat Ryan followed with 17. Thirteen Tommies entered the scoring column before the game's conclusion.

Aquinas recorded a pair of home-court victories the previous week, overpowering Purdue North Central 93-72 on January 23, and rocking favored Hillsdale 99-84 on January 28. The win over Hillsdale was a gratifying one, since it avenged an 84-66 setback the Tommies suffered on December 8 in Hillsdale.

Executing their patterns with military precision the Tommies jumped to an early 21-12 advantage. The chargers clawed back to 26 points from close in. Unfortunately, his great size instantly stamped him a prime target for the raspberries and he endured a considerable amount of heckling from the Aquinas cheering section.

Pratt, knocking in an eye-catching 10 of 11 free throws, finished with 20 points and Pat Ryan followed with 17. Thirteen Tommies entered the scoring column before the game's conclusion.

It took three free throws by Bob Pratt within the last minute of play last Saturday to make Homecoming successful as the Tommies basketball team nipped Oakland University 85-84.

With Pratt pacing the club coach Phil Kahler's squad hit on 55.4 per cent of their shots en route to the win. The game was tied 15 times and the lead exchanged hands 13 times in the second thriller in a row for the Tommies.

Pratt led all scorers with 25 points. Pat Ryan and Tom Van Portflet added 18 points and George Kopko scored 12 as he continues to improve his game and give the Toms a very strong backcourt duo.

During halftime of the homecoming contest Homecoming queen Mary Callan was honored along with her court. Ann Zamba, senior representative, Muriel Mercier junior, Mary Tychoj, sophomore and Sue Umidi, the freshman representative.

Also during halftime, Ray Bauer, president of the Alumni Association presented the first outstanding alumni award to Lyle Morrison, a local insurance agent.

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housings stacked. Saga is also prominent in hospital food service.

Of all the colleges served by Saga, Aquinas ranks very high in percentage of meals eaten. Of the 20 meals per week that Garver serves, 70 per cent of the meal ticket holders eat them. Garver says the average for most Saga units is about 60 per cent. He says, "we are very proud of the fact that such a high percentage of our meals are consumed."

In attempting to provide good food service Garver employs some 40 people, including several Aquinas students in addition to his full-time help. He says, "I have very little difficulty filling the open positions. School has 15 students apply for the eight breakfast positions available and 40 students signed up for the 21 dinner jobs. We have no major employee problems."

According to Garver, "right now Aquinas and SAGA corporation are investigating possibilities which would perhaps allow more students to purchase partial meal tickets. However I have no idea what possibilities are being explored. I do believe that we are currently operating under a meal plan which is as economical as possible for Aquinas students. But when anyone freeloads it can tend to push the overall costs up and hurts the paying student."

Garver is a professional in his field having received a degree in Hotel and Restaurant management from Ohio State University.

**Students Will Teach Handwriting Course**

A considerable number of the Aquinas community have been familiarized with the rudiments of Graphoanalysis, the scientific system of determining personality and character through handwriting. With the considerable interest shown in this discipline, William Odell has arranged to offer an eight-week course in basic Graphoanalysis formulated by the International Graphoanalysis Society.

The course will be offered Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., room 303 of the Administration Building, beginning February 9, except for the period covered by the Easter break. A fee of $35 will cover the total instruction.

The purpose of the course is to establish in each student the ability to analyze handwriting, but not to grant certification to each as a Master Graphoanalyst, which comes only after years of formal and intense study. Study will include foundations and methods of Graphoanalysis using specimens of writings of such famous individuals as Albert Einstein, T. S. Eliot, and political figures of the day, including President Nixon and Senator Eugene McCarthy, along with writings contributed by students. Of special interest, will be the study of each person's own handwriting so that he may learn more about himself through his writing.

**Housing Proposals Under Consideration**

Extensive research of institutions of higher learning has revealed a tendency by the students to move off campus, and Aquinas is no exception.

Recently a number of suggestions were proposed that might make the dorm more palatable if not desirable. These suggestions were given to the Students Rights and Responsibilities Self-Study group and were presented by them in meetings at each dormitory. The object of the meetings was not to force ideas and actions on the students, but to make them aware of the variety of possibilities for campus housing. The students were encouraged to voice their own ideas and opinions on the subject.

Dividing the dorm into units, for example, smokers on one, language majors on another, and twenty-one year olds on another, was discussed. The possibility of a co-ed living arrangement was the second major area of discussion. It was brought out that a co-ed dormitory would not remedy the social problem to an extent, but it would be a living-learning arrangement.

Both of the meetings seemed successful at least on the surface. The women began their meeting on a very conservative note while the men headed way out for left field. By the close of the meeting the women had almost completely changed their views, while the men toned down their proposals in an effort to reach a happy medium according to some observers.

A questionnaire is to follow up these meetings. At least three choices will be presented on the form to determine what the majority prefers. One choice will be for the status quo. Depending on the results of the questionnaire a proposal will be drawn up and sent to the self-study group so that an experimental program can be set up for the 1970-71 academic year.

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**FREE U.**

(Continued from page 1)

Alternative Future for America is another course which faces social problems head-on. That course will be conducted as a discussion seminar in which the progress in technology is coordinated with our country's cultural and social progress.

Miss Clingman says, "the Free U. courses do not utilize teachers in the usual way. We do not want to teach the course or even be a discussion leader. Instead we attempt to coordinate the class and let the students take the course where they want it to go."

Not all of the Free U. classes are socially oriented. Says Miss Clingman, "we realize we cannot ignore practical courses. A real student has to be able to understand the practical aspects of an established system. Thus we have also offered courses such as investments with Mr. Charles Leik and Semantics with Mrs. Dorothy Clingman.

The Free University as an organization is a "fluid one" in Miss Clingman's words, as it has no organization, so that complete freedom will be its mark. However, those students involved with the Free University have invited anyone who is interested in helping with the work necessary to keep the courses functioning to contact Miss Clingman. She also says, "we want everyone to understand that there is no fee, no credit or grading involved with the Free U. We hope that response to the courses will improve."

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