

THE
SWEATHARD

CARBON

Feb. 10 '67

the view from here

Recognizing the disaster of carrying the label "Catholic college," and the ever more frightening name, Marian in the "thinking" culture of 1967, the CARBON attempts to find a more meaningful place for the school than Cold Springs Road.

Certainly we must offer something more than we do, or we will be nothing more than a last resort for a desperate high schooler, the only possibility for a local prodigy or a haven for the product of some Catholic high school temple, whose greatest academic question is mortal sin. If Marian is ever going to establish a name beyond that of a "low tuition coeducational Catholic place", then we must provide students and potential students with something more. Perhaps it might even fall under the title of learning.

The CARBON would like to present an innovation which this editor believes is worthy of consideration. Perhaps, as offspring of "Mothe Knowledge" the various departments might begin looking into the possibility of establishing an elaborate program of independent study. Under this type of program, qualified students might enter into investigation of a problem or topic in their field which cannot be covered in the classroom. Independent research would afford the interested student an excellent opportunity to develop beyond the natural or unnatural limitations of the class situation.

We might now even be so bold as to offer the possibility of arranging independent study on an extended basis. We would eventually like to see such a program become the sole concern of a senior major. In other words, this student would be removed from his other course obligations and enable him to devote his entire effort to his chosen area of research. Perhaps, the departments could allow the first six weeks of semester I of senior year to be utilized for this purpose.

Certainly the problems of establishing such a program, are numerous, but even the problem of "mortal sin" is being resolved. The idea is not unique and several colleges have obtained added recognition for similar programs. And it is not beyond sanity to imagine qualified students at Marian who might make excellent use of such a program.

Someone should take time to consider this proposal. As stated problems would confront us, but they could be worked out. Investigating the possibilities might even strengthen the departments. But eventually we are going to have to place the horse in front of the cart if we are to go somewhere, anywhere. And we might even be able to throw off the cart some of the ridiculous course requirements which litter the catalogue.

Interested students, if they've ever gotten past the trash pile of requirements in the catalogue, might note the present offering of a 2-3 credit program in independent study in most departments. Even this is rarely utilized.

Time is no problem. Everyone knows we always take all the time in the world and everyone knows that time is on the side of Catholics.

L. S.

The CARBON Calendar for the week beginning Feb 10 and ending Feb. 16.

Friday

8:00 The English Department in fierce competition with sweethearts everywhere will present "Member of the Wedding" for those who are always a bridesmaid, never a bride.

9:00 Hear Johnny Mathis sing "The Sweetheart Tree" for the four thousandth time this week at the Cole Porter Ballroom.

Saturday

8:00 The boys from St. Thomas Aquinas will discuss Thomism and its pertinence in the Twentieth Century - at half-time.

Continued next column

CARBON Calendar Continued.

Sunday

2:00 Campus cuties go on display in the Music Building. Glamour will die again at 2:15.

Tuesday

8:15 and beyond...Sophomores will pencil in squares.

7:30 "Portrait of a President: LBJ." This is the good one by Norman Rockwell.

Thursday

8:15 Sr. Mary Luke, girl Friday in Rome, tells all about the goings on in the Latin city

PERCHING MERRILY THROUGH THE PEONIES

I have perceived a popular collegiate movement here at Marian College of Indianapolis. It is the height of "coolness personified": perching. The practice of habitual perching has, without a doubt, produced a multitude of earth shaking experiences: that of boredom, lack of creativity, and an intense drowsiness.

It all begins with a four-to-five hour working day spent in the Perc, replete with a series of Musical Chair games, the object of which is to let everyone see what a "clean head" you are, and to see and be seen by as many people as possible.

To make everything coherent, let's study a specimen of an addicted percher -- name: Patty Ann Sit-on-her-can, rank: Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, or Senior: number: 9890.

Pat, a most faithful patron of the Perc, spent every precious minute of her day chatting away in the snac bar, taking time out only for her classes.

She welcomed each new day for it offered an opportunity for a graceful entrance and a choosing of a booth for a grand finale. Someday, if she labored earnestly, a choice of any table would be available, including the "in-group", and excluding those tables flickering dimly in the rays of "un-coolness".

The inevitable happened about 10:30. It was time to go to class for another boring lecture, but never fear, at 11:21, Pat sat again in her familiar domain. The conversation commenced as follows:

"What a boring school. Why doesn't somebody do something?"

"Yes, very un-collegiate."

"Nothing ever goes on here."

Then someone stepped up to Pat and said, "I'm sorry, but if you ask why this school doesn't do something, do you mean that the bricks and plaster composing the school should get up and do something? Or are you speaking of the students? If so, make something happen, dearheart?"

Ceci Ryan

FACULTY SALUTE

This week, the University of Marian announced the establishment of the College of Veterinarian Medicine headed by Doctor Kristy of Frump. Dr. Kristy, child-bride and girl-wonder, will conduct inauguration ceremonies for the new college in the Percarea of the Administration Building. Blowups of prized but worthless Siamese and Persian cats, a foreign student crowd pleaser, will be the focal point of a display to be set up outside on a bulletin board previously used only for day-hop ride seekers.

(cont. next week)

Dean: "Where are your parents?"

Co-ed: "I have none."

Dean: "Where are your guardians?"

Co-ed: "I have none."

Dean: "Where are your supporters?"

Co-ed: "Deanie, you are forgetting yourself!"

Procurer: "For Whom the Belles Toiled."

ZING GOES THE STRINGS OF THEIR HEARTS

Ready!. Aim! Fire! Once again the obese little brat sadistically strikes down another unfortunate victim, for out of the hands of babes springs tragedy. Oblivious to all external stimuli the wounded crave flowers, chocolates, and lacy messages of declared passion. One sees them suffering behind the library, on the couches of the ML and in the more serious cases, wherever they happen to be when a new stroke occurs. Efforts to try to cure the suffers or even to eradicate the unsightly symptoms of their disease are futile the sickly merely proclaim that the well-wishers are indifferent machines. Consequently, machines, if you can't cure 'em, endure 'em, and have a miserable Valentine's Day.

J.O.

DON'T FORGET YOUR DATE

The annual Sweethearts Ball will take place this evening, Friday, Feb. 10 from 9:00-12:00 at the Gole Porte Ballroom of the downtown Sherton Lincoln. Judging from advanced ticket sales, a good crowd is anticipated. Naturally it is too late to ask for backing but the sons do hope that if the dance is successful it might set a precedent for a new frontier of "college" entertainment at Marian.

JO'K

Wednesday evening's 69-62 triumph over Wabash was not as convincing as the previous win over Huntington, but it was sufficient to establish a school record. It is now impossible for the Knights to have a losing season, a school first. Our applause to the dedicated men on the Knight team and the old growler, Cleon, too.

The Knights shot 44 per cent while holding off a stubborn Wabash five to gain Marian's first victory in the three game series. Larry Schmalz led the scoring parade with 18 points, followed by Larry Brodnick's 15. Hohn Hendricks cooled off considerably from Sat.'s contribution, and Joe Bittlemyer was having trouble finding the range. Had these two been on target, the complexion of the game would have been changed by 30 points or more.

Back home Sat. evening for a return match with Aquinas, Cleon's Kids will have to hustle to get #14 for Valentine's Day. They have a 99-94 victory on the road to substantiate their demand for a second win. Jam the crackerbox, fans, and celebrate victory 14 on the way to 20.

JT

Sister Mary Edgar: "You missed my Spanish class yesterday, didn't you?"

Unsubdued Student: "Not in the least, sir, not in the least."

Statistics show that Notre Dame graduates have 1.3 children.

While St. Mary graduates have 1.7 children. Which proves that women have more children than men.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CARBON:

Providing the present expansion program succeeds, within the next ten years Marian could well become one of the outstanding Catholic co-educational colleges in the Midwest. Those colleges and universities which have made the most commendable achievements are those which have had little tamerity where change and innovation are concerned. I should hope that Marian would not discount those possibilities which a little creativity might open to it. I should like to present a few suggestions which I feel are badly needed and which, if enacted, might well have far-reaching effects on the future of Marian College.

During the free discussions sponsored by the Student Board in October the intellectual atmosphere of Marian was a topic which was heavily put under fire by many of those who attended. We were given the impression that something had been set in motion which would not soon fizzle out. But, we have ploughed through another semester and those issues seem largely to have fallen by the wayside. Therefore my comments will be limited to this problem and specifically to two major issues which are inextricably connected with it: the present grading system and the Honor Society (and implicitly those sororities which in one way or another are connected with it).

Recently some teachers have suggested that the traditional grading system be replaced by an "either-or" system -- a "B" or a "D". I back them completely. The present grading system can only work in terms of problematics and grades are always subject to dispute in "borderline" situations. Under the proposed alternative a "B" would indicate that a student had done well in a course; a "D", that he had not. Under this approach much of the pressure would be taken off the students' shoulders and we would be made aware of the fact that we are here to learn something rather than to get a grade. The present system all too often forces us to think in terms of grades and not in terms of creativity, relationships and responsibility. Indeed, if anything, it entices us to prolong a high-school culture in which grades, like the old gum star, serve as rewards and status symbols.

I would also like to question whether or not the Honor Society and those sororities which are intended for "intellectual" students can furnish a sufficient *raison d'être*. While I have only been able to gain my information concerning the activities of these organizations from my role as an outsider, my observations have often led me to the opinion that they are some sort of nebulous extra-credit club which one joins in order to procure a few more nicely scrolled letters on one's diploma rather than to further one's education. It seems to me that they have tended to form an official caste system in which one becomes an official Brahmin and that they serve the same purpose as the pinning of a gum star on the collar does for a five-year-old kindergartner. Quite often Honor Students unconsciously reveal that their main motivating factor, their main reason for attending classes and studying so diligently is "Honors Degree". When some of the Brahmins shirk from enrolling in courses which they would like to take, but can not afford to do so, because of necessity of keep-

ing the sacred cow breathing, i.e., the scholastic index, I am persuaded to think that the poor cow is merely being kept alive in an oxygen tent and might as well be relieved of its misery. In other words, as it stands now, the Honor Society is a farce.

While at present I am far from disposed to the idea of such societies, I do feel that, if they are to be maintained, some radical changes are warranted. I should like to make a few proposals. First of all, the Honor Society and those sororities connected with it must be opened to all students -- not just to those who have fed the sacred cow. It should be painfully obvious to anyone who has spent any time in any college that grades are one of the poorest criteria of academic excellence available. All too often they are merely signs that one has endured and/or memorized sufficiently. Secondly, the attending of periodical seminars and the nominal submitting of critiques on subjects discussed must be discontinued. In place of this "routine", I would suggest that the Honors Program consist of a special curriculum in which the participating student would take a series of courses with other students in which far more original and creative thinking would be demanded than is demanded in regular courses. Or, if due to an insufficient number of students enrolled in the program, this proposal could not be enacted, these students might be required to take a certain number of courses in which extra-work and/or a lengthy paper would be demanded of them in addition to the regular class work. I think that these proposals regarding the Honor Society would go a long way towards separating the dedicated from the mere riders-on.

In concluding, I would like to reiterate that any college has to be receptive to new approaches to perennial problems. The present grading system and the present condition of the Honor Society are mere relics of an era that has passed. They should be put in the tomb with the rest of the remains--with honors.

Steve Schwab.

MARIAN MAIDS ARE 5-0

In the midst of Marian College's best basketball season, Thelma's girls are setting records of their own as the Maids now stand 5-0 for the year. Wednesday evening the girls set a school record for women's competition by smashing the I.U. Nurses team, 60-14. After a shaky 6-point first quarter, the girls settled down to methodically destroy the visiting ward warden.

With three more regular season games to play, in addition to a play-day at Purdue, the Maids are gaining a strong reputation among local squads. The big one will come toward the season's end when the Waterbuffaloes tackle Normal College. Monday, February 13, the Maids travel to Butler to notch victory number six. Good luck sweeties.

J.T.

Mr. Pedtke: "I don't make the rules. Thus-ly I don't enforce them."