

Editorial

Once upon a time ("When fishes flew and forests walked/ And figs grew upon thorn/ Some moment when the moon was blood"), long long ago and far far away, universities in the Western culture must have existed for the benefit of pupils eager to learn facts that challenged the intellect. Teachers taught with vain hopes of revealing the elusive essence of Truth and Beauty. What a long and exhausting distance we have come from those times! Today, education has evolved into little more than a game, with a goal much more crass and practical than Beauty and Truth.

Education contains all necessary ingredients for a game. Some of the players are students, persons who enter the game with narrow hopes of beefing up a resume and establishing contacts for future endeavours. While engaged in the game, they meet a more select group of players than previously accustomed to, and they experience enormous personal and social growth. Also playing are professors, who sometimes are overheard muttering grand pretences of owing their existence in the game to the student players. Certainly the presence of students allows professors to remain employed as they scramble over the earth grubbing for research material. (This role of researcher was once traditional to university teachers, but is now rapidly becoming obsolete, with no small thanks due to government and private businesses.) Also included among the players are lesser administrative figures and maintenance and clerical workers, but they are not the direct object of this game. Granted, their roles are not of grand proportions, but they are nonetheless essential.

The rules of the game are sometimes flexible and vary according to the player. All players learn to function in a pseudo-community. Students are led to believe that they really can influence plans for the future and the present. Yet all players are the fools as they spew forth grand

phrases unequalled in eloquence and unparalleled in absurdity. Believing that they can manipulate various decisions with their own free will is the most flagrant error of the players, because strategy is the most intriguing aspect of the game. Quite apart from the game exist the real gamesters. An elite quartet (the number may vary according

to realization), which probably had its roots in high school, really controls the game. In their cunning way, the quartet acquired a puppet behind which to hide, enabling them to manipulate the players without too many unpleasant distractions.

Most of the players are aware that their movements are manipulated. They lie awake most nights in morbid fear of being overheard by the gamesters uttering illuminating statements in their sleep. The only ignorant players are the students. Because they see only the puppet, they think that he controls the game. They vent their frustrations at the puppet as they wonder why he is slowly urging the real outside world to make

use of the game setting in a merger of town and gown. They see the construction of a giant golf ball intended primarily for the pleasure of the real world; they hear rumours of the longtime necessity of a sports complex, again intended primarily for the use of the outside world.

Finally, the student players realize that they are rapidly losing hold of what they only thought they had - a grasp on the game. They finally begin to comprehend that they are insignificant factors in the game. They also realize that all other players are equally as powerless in the hands of the quartet, and

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FEEDBAG

What was served !!

Dear Editor,

If anyone who was in residence (Marian or Bernadine) was not in attendance at this years "Honors and Recognition" Banquet, then I'm afraid you missed out on an excellent meal. Andy Dean, the cafeteria's manager prepared a meal fit for a King.

The evening began with a reception in Robertson Library where a choice of red or white wine was served. The main course at the Dining Hall was given thanks for by J.R.Kelly from the Classics Department.

A fresh salad and delicious homemade rolls started off the meal. This was followed by hot spicy tomato soup with crackers. During this time Dean Ledwell, the Master of Ceremonies, addressed the students and other faculty members. The main course was then served, consisting of:

boneless chicken breasts stuffed with rice, cranberry sauce, creamed potatoes, buttered baby carrots, and garden peas. Coffee and apple pie with sharp cheddar cheese finished off the banquet.

The evening was one of the finest prepared banquets I have attended in a few years. The food was hot, the guest speaker, Cathy Carmody, was very interesting, and the organization of the entire banquet was superb.

Andy Dean and staff of Saga Foods, you are highly commended on a fine job. Many thanks as well to EF Nicholson and Marie Burke for their patience and super organization of this year's banquet.

This year the dinner was certainly a great success and, hopefully, will continue to be so in the years to come.

Signed,
Impressed Senior Student.

The Sun

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