

Cubes, Weeds, Pills, and Fixes

A letter written by the Dean of Students and distributed to Macalester students during the past week has caused considerable furor among various college circles. The letter, discussing LSD, marijuana, and narcotics, seemed to be mixing various state and national laws, college regulations, and individuals' moralities. Violated was the spirit of *in loco parentis*, a phenomenon in which many Macites claim interest.

The following is not designed to moralize, but to consider only the legal aspects of current drug usage, especially usage by Macalester students.

The cubes and the weeds and the pills and the fixes are all illegal. Starting with this fact, punitive action against users of these substances is not beyond the realm of possibilities.

More to the point, it has been rumored that federal agents were prepared to raid the Macalester area last spring until they discovered that classes had ended several weeks earlier. Federal agents are known to have been at Macalester during the summer; at least one Macite was visited by law enforcement officers. It can be expected, therefore, that an investigation of the drug activities in the surrounding neighborhood is being made currently.

There are said to be two "bad" regions of drug traffic in the Twin Cities—Macalester and the West Bank sector of the University of Minnesota. It may be difficult to believe, but one Minneapolis police official is reported to have described the Mac sphere as the larger of the two.

Given these facts and rumors, the only advice which can be given to Macites currently engaging in experimentation with drugs—as quickly as possible, dispose of all drugs in your possession; for the time being, do not become involved with drugs and drug users; forego any opportunities to partake of the various substances. This, it appears, is the subtly implied message of the Dean's letter.

If you think it can't happen here, it should be mentioned that last spring Carleton College was reportedly deluged by federal agents. Last week three students at Beloit College were arrested for possessing drugs.

Need we say more?

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'Magic Flute' Well Received; Presented Again Tonight

by Chas. Baxter

Last Wednesday night a large audience witnessed a concert version of Mozart's *The Magic Flute* in the Concert Hall of the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center.

A joint presentation of the Minneapolis Civic Orchestra and the Center Opera Company, the work was conducted by Mr. Thomas Nee (a former Mac music professor.) Miss Eleanor Steber served both as vocal coach and staged much of the production.

The Magic Flute was one of Mozart's last works (he died in the same year it was written, 1791) and is distinguished by the beauty of its music and the complexity of its libretto. We know that Mozart was a Freemason and that the opera was conceived as a paean to brotherhood, mutual honor, and love.

It depicts a symbolic rite of initiation, and in so doing reflects (in however obscure a manner) the common suffering of daily life. As the composer-critic Virgil Thomson has noted, its references to liberty, equality, and fraternity are unmistakable. Even if one ignores the obscurity of the libretto — it really does not matter whether the scene of the action is Egypt, Persia, or wherever — he will nevertheless discover passages of some of Mozart's most memorable music.

From the beautiful fugue in the Overture (with trombones reminiscent of the last act of *Don Giovanni*) to the chorus of thanksgiving in the finale, the listener hears melody of utter directness and clarity.

Indeed, *The Magic Flute* is the last work (he completed several others, despite the program notes) that Mozart ever wrote that is without profound strains of melancholy and despair. In this regard, then, the music overcomes, transforms, and re-directs the action. It is as though Dylan Thomas were to read the telephone directory. You sit back, and you don't care.

One of the few sour notes struck on Wednesday night came before the music ever began. The problem was one

usually associated with the Concert Hall — the rule of "too few seats/too many people." Late-comers (anyone who didn't come fifteen minutes early) were herded, like sheep, to the back of the hall. Many were forced to stand.

Smiling usherettes walked up and down the aisles, asking the hapless students to abandon their seats for visiting dignitaries. For that matter, most of the aisles were occupied. Fair warning for anyone coming tonight: come early!

Though there was little true acting involved in the production, several members of the cast performed as though their lives depended on it.

James Bowers, playing Papageno, did a fine job in his part, prancing onstage in his blue dinner jacket, shifting his massive bulk gracefully all over the hall. Connie Barnett, playing Papagena in an unbelievable Mary Jane outfit, also performed spiritedly.

The other performers made up for what they may have lacked in acting talent (in this production, acting doesn't matter much anyway) in singing ability.

Sarita Roche, playing the Queen of the Night — she played it upstairs, right next to the organ — sang several hair-raising arias. The audience loved it, and her.

The Three Ladies, played by Helen Rice, Lois Duffy, and Ann Depta, may have sounded somewhat shrill at times, rather like eighteenth-century Valkyries, but nevertheless were quite effective.

About the lead tenor, Kent Lundholm, one may say that he sang adequately, considering the difficulty of his part. The extraordinary demands surely placed upon him he surmounted with skill and charm.

Incidentally, all the performers in this production were unpaid, and rehearsal time was probably quite short. And Carolyn Bailey, playing Pamina, sang with considerable force and conviction.

Miss Steber served as narrator, and when the enthusiastic applause at the end began, she accepted hers like the star she is, blowing kisses to everybody and walking majestically (in a dazzling green gown) off the stage. She has spent much time and care preparing this production, as any witnessing of rehearsals would demonstrate.

A word remains to be said concerning Thomas Nee. He

had claimed earlier this week that this would be no fare-well concert, but the audience clearly didn't believe that, and gave him a standing ovation. He conducted Wednesday night's production with care and precision, as he has any work with which he has been associated.

Mr. Nee's good humor, his enthusiasm for modern works, and his patience, along with countless other qualities, will be missed at Macalester. It is our loss.

The production will be repeated tonight at eight o'clock in the Concert Hall. On Sunday, September 24, it will be performed in the Main Ballroom of the Coffman Memorial Union at the University of Minnesota at 3:30 p.m. There is really no excuse for missing it.



Mr. James Holly, Macalester librarian, will speak at chapel services Tuesday, 11 p.m. He will comment on his summer travels in San Francisco and his reactions to the hippies-in-residence.

Students Attend Economics Meeting

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, six economics majors accompanied Dr. David Meiselman to a marketing conference in Minneapolis. The meeting was held to explain the marketing use of the new input-output table developed by the Harvard Business School, the Office of Business Economics of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce, and members of the staff of *The Scientific American*.

The program, one of a series being conducted throughout the nation, was sponsored by the

Homecoming Promises Big Bash; Parade Out, Girls' Football Back

by Mike Rachlin

IT IS NOT GOING TO RAIN, SNOW, TORNADO OR HURRICANE DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 9-14—and that's an order if not a promise!

Homecoming 1967 (which luckily falls during a week of weather promised to be beautiful by the *Farmer's Almanac*) will be off to a roaring start when 1799 students get their first look at this year's Homecoming buttons. It's not that the buttons are funny—but the slogan is worth a second reading. After "Tucka Tommy Team Away" and "Storm the Gusties," this year's committee has come through with FLOG THE AUGIE DOGS—or OSKI BOW WOW (we play Augsburg in case you didn't get it.)

Realizing that a slogan like that is a hard act to follow, the Inner 26 (better known as That Noisy Homecoming Committee, especially by those who try to study in Cochran on Monday nights), concluded that the next best thing to eliminating Homecoming altogether would be to reinstitute the previously Administration-banned girls' football game. So we did. It will be played under the lights on Friday night.

And then there was the problem of getting a good concert—we really tried hard. If you hate us for not having one, at least be consoled by the fact that we ALMOST got The Association. As I said, we tried. And rather than have a not-so-great one, we decided to substitute the girls' football game for it on the schedule.

The traditional Scots' Club trike race will take on a new aura when it is run by flashlight after dinner. And once again Color Day will be joyously observed, with the seniors as dogcatchers (?). There is a rumor, too, that we will see boys performing the sacred function of people like Char Christian and Gerri Ego... but that remains to be seen. Watch, too, for a new format and setting for the coronation of the Queen of Scots.

No, we are not having a parade this year; it was the general consensus that the same people were working on both building decorations and floats, and rather than have them work on two projects, we're looking for better-than-ever building decorations. And yes,

maybe the faculty WILL decorate a building of their own this year, not just Dr. Frenzel's flagpole.

The semi-formal dance on Saturday night will be held in the Union. The theme is "As Autumn Leaves," and the Blue Diamonds will play. Other firsts for this year include the newly established building decorations traveling trophy, a pepfest on the new caf mall at 12:30 on Thursday, and... well, we have to save some surprises.

Want to help?—we need ALL the help we can get! Any of the following will be more than glad to find room for you: Shelly Jones or myself (co-chairmen, but Shelly does most of the work); Lou Gillham and Steve Pierce, dance; Lynn Francis and Tim Peterson, buttons; Lynn Gericke and Tom Martin, bonfire; Alice Fleming and Paul Ewert, building decorations; Sue Keenan and Ken McCarty, publicity; Jeanne Johnson and Dick Holm, halftime program; Bill Seibert and Martha Hansen, queens; Mary Bynes and Stu West, mid-week dance; Pam Worden and Mark Hansen, programs; and Jan Welch and Jon Walton, trike race and girls' football game.

Will we be able to rent the Green Mill for a pre-game luncheon for the graduates of '65, '66, and '67? We hope so.

Want a Change In Grille Hours?

by Wally Roberts

Last Saturday night, after sweating over a hot grill, frying those delicious steaks you all enjoy so much (?), I joined a group of six other Macites who were chatting with Gene Plowman, director of SAGA.

Gene mentioned that he had opened the Grille at 1 p.m. instead of 4:30 p.m., on Sundays, as an experiment. He was overwhelmed by the response and has decided to continue opening at the earlier hour.

He has also considered keeping the Grille open an extra hour on week nights, until 11:30 p.m. This would open extra jobs to SAGA workers as well as keep students away from such disreputable local spots as the Greasy Spoon for an extra hour.

We seven witnesses were unanimously in favor. However, since Gene would prefer a greater cross-section of opinion, he has asked that you complete the form below and deposit it in the box in the Grille.

In answer to the question should the Grille be open an extra hour on weeknights, I would be:

In favor Opposed