

# BISHOP RELATES DECREES TO COLLEGIANS

By Robert Proudfoot

"Vatican II is memorable for having created a theology for the laity," synthesized Bishop Walter W. Curtis, to the OBELISK staff late Friday afternoon.

Within hours of his return to the United States, Bishop Curtis answered an invitation from the editorial staff to relate council decrees and information to our intellectual environment.

## On Laity

Since College students are the future lay leaders of the Church, His Excellency felt that

the major responsibility for SHU students was set forth by the council in the theology for the laity, covered in the document on the church.

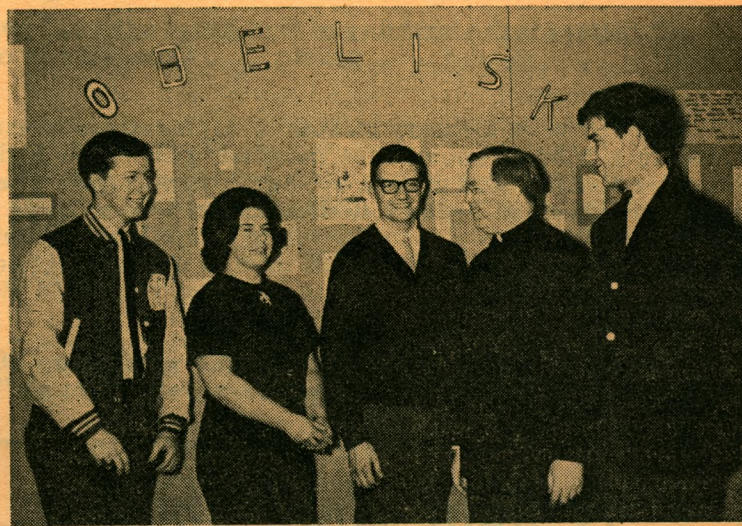
"The council has spelled out a tremendous job for the laity in becoming a vital part of the moving and driving force of the church. This is going to take some working out, but it is going to be very important.

The document on the church and the world has set forth the principles and made some applications on the position, the presence, and activity of the Church in the world-the presence and activity of the

Christian-and since most Christians are lay people, most of this must be carried on by the laity.

Now, it is important that this be understood, because most of you from Sacred Heart University will be the lay world. You will be laity all your lives. Some, of course, will seek the religious vocations, but the majority will be in the various fields of the lay life and so it will be your task to bring Christ and make Him present in the life and spirit of the entire world.

I think this idea was expressed-Continued on Page 4



# The Obelisk

Vol. III No. 4

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

December 17, 1965

## Sophomores Announce Plans

### Here "A Winter Happening"

With the fall semester almost over and the Christmas season underway, the Sophomore class is busily completing the plans for SHU's first big winter weekend.

The "Winter Happening" will prove to be both exciting and unique. The activities leading up to the four day weekend will begin two weeks before with the campaigning and voting for Winter Weekend Queen. Each society and class will sponsor a candidate and the voting will be by penny. Large glass jars will be in the lobby and the candidate accumulating the most pennies will be the winner. All the pennies in her jar will go to her, the others will be donated to a charitable cause.

The winner and her court will be announced on the first night of the Winter Weekend and there will be a formal crowning ceremony.

Later that night skits will be put on by both faculty and students. A trophy will be given for the best performance to be kept for one year by the respective winners.

The Queen's Contest and Skit night are being sponsored by the Ephebian Society. They have donated the robes, crown, and trophy to the Winter Weekend Committee. All events that night are free.

The second day of Winter Weekend will find the Shags and the N.A.I.F. battling in the SHU gym. The mixer is being sponsored by the Panta Delphian Society and there will be an admission charge.

The Woodland Grove Inn of Stratford has been acquired to lend a bit of sophistication to Saturday night's formal, sponsored by the Sophomore Class. This promises to be the highlight of the four day weekend. Dinner will be served at the formal, with a choice of roast beef, chicken, or ham. Tickets for the Winter Happening will go on sale Jan. 3, 1966.

Immediately following the Formal, the Caralannas Society will sponsor an ice skating party at the Greens Farms Skating Rink in Westport. This affair will run from 2-5 a.m.

Plans are being made to have homes in the area available to change from formal to informal clothes for the skating party.

Early Sunday morning Father Martin McDermott, SHU chaplain, will celebrate Mass on campus.

In addition to night activities planned, there are a host of others scheduled for the days leaving little or no time for sleep; but plenty of time for fun, relaxation, and participation. Some of the activities include a contest for the best float, a scavenger hunt, a hootenanny, and snow-sculpture contest.

## President Conley Summons Leaders To Conferences

Student Government, class officers, and The OBELISK editor spent yesterday afternoon discussing many facets of SHU life with Dr. William Conley, Sacred Heart University president.

Both Dr. Conley and the invited student leaders hope that these informal meetings will continue and become a regular and vital means of communication between the administration and the students.

In his invitation, Dr. Conley

stated, "The increasing size of the University is making it very difficult for me to maintain contact with student body. It occurs to me that since I cannot possibly reach all students directly, it would be helpful if I could meet, with some regularity, the student leaders who are representative of the total group."

Meetings such as these take place on several university and college campuses and have proven successful as a means of communication.

## SG INVESTIGATES CAFETERIA

Recently, Student Government President, Maureen Dursi and Junior Class President, Peter Schwickert conferred with Mrs. Viola Nobrega, manager of the university cafeteria, regarding the numerous complaints the Student Government has received concerning the price and quality of food in the cafeteria. The Student Government has made known the results of this discussion. (1) It is presently impossible to increase the variety of hot meals because of the set up in the cafeteria kitchen. It is important to note that the cafeteria was basically set up for high school and this arrangement has proven inadequate for accommodating the university. Future renovations will hopefully settle the inconveniences. (2) The cafeteria personnel admit a certain inexperience with a snack bar program. This too, they expect to overcome in time. (3) Mrs. Nobrega pointed out that the government subsidizes the hot lunch program of the high school. Therefore, the difference in price of the University's lunch. On the other

hand the students of the college are served a larger portion.

During the discussion it was also brought up that the prices are comparable to those of the University of Bridgeport. This fact was reported by a member of the SHU faculty who had checked the prices at UB. (4) Cafeteria hours are as follows: Hot food is served until 1:30 p.m. at the kitchen. The Snack Bar is open from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and evenings from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. (5) If the students would co-operate by returning their trays to the kitchen, the cafeteria help would have more time to work at the

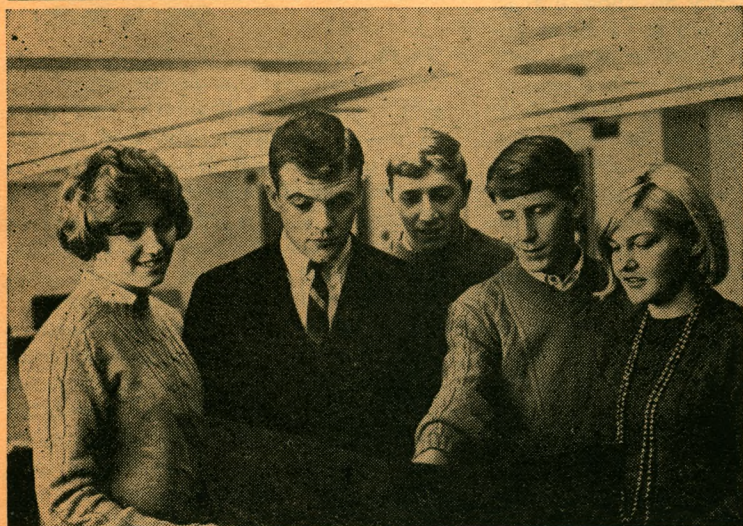
snack bar and kitchen area especially during rush hours.

Maureen Dursi commented, "Hopefully our conversation promoted an understanding between the cafeteria personnel and the students of the university. The students should realize that the facilities are presently inadequate for serving three meals a day. Their co-operation and understanding will help to ease the situation until the cafeteria comes under the auspices of the University. Please, if you have any complaints, direct them to the Student Government and we will try to see what can be done about them."

## President Sends Holiday Message

I wish to extend to the faculty, staff, and students cordial greetings at the beginning of this holy season. May the blessings and joys of Christmas be yours now and through the year, and may the Peace of Christ, promised to men of good will, prevail in our lives, in our University, community, and throughout the world.

William H. Conley



Members of the Sophomore co-ordinating committee for Winter Weekend plan posters and advertising for the coming event. (l-r), Marijean McGuire, Kieran Kilbride, Bob Proudfoot, Kevin Hunt and Sally McMahon.



## Christmas Is Oh, So Many Things

Christmas is the birthday of The King, a time of merriment . . . reflection . . . wonder . . . prayer . . . Christmas is oh, so many things!

Christmas is a merry-go-round, a Christmas-go-round, which turns in a blur of snowflakes mingled with tinsel and rings with laughter sparked and graced by the Christmas rose. **The Christmas-go-round revolves around understanding** — a home for unwed mothers; kindness — food for hungry families; joy and gladness, peace and contentment . . . And then, it centers on people, people giving of themselves to others in honor of the Child Whose Birthday It Is.

"There seems to be a magic in the very name of Christmas, would that Christmas lasted the whole year through."

*"A light shall shine  
upon this day . . ."*

Ps. 9-2

May the Light Who brightens this season guide you through-  
out the coming new year.

The Staff

## AUTHORITY - OR LACK OF IT

The Student Government has to be the center of campus life: All organizations are chartered by the S. G., thus they should be working with and through the S. G. — or they have no right to exist on campus.

The typically SHU problem of authority or lack of it, which has pervaded the campus and haunted student conversation as a result of the last few S. G. meetings — and hasn't faded yet — has to be faced up to. Let's hope it doesn't fade — at least until something has been settled once and for all.

The fact is that once a rule is made — it should be followed. Exceptions shouldn't be made for anyone, or a precious bit of respect and proper authority has been lost. No amount of exuberant verbosity convinces that wrong is right. Regardless of what other groups may do before a rule is made; once it is passed — all have the responsibility of following it, **not finding loopholes** to get around it.

Those groups or students that wish to exist in their own cozy little cliques or niches, seldom caring about others, are not only lazy and apathetic, but disrespectful and irresponsible. By refusing to recognize the proper authority they undermine all that the S. G. has worked for these past few years. Contrary to last year's cry of "ineffective government" — some groups are now crying "dictatorship." Let them cry — and let's hope the S. G. holds its ground.

We laud the actions recently taken by S. G. to enforce rules it has set for the benefit of the university community. It is through this type of positive action that the respect for the S. G. will grow.

## ON COMMITMENT

**Involvement, concern, commitment.** These are the qualities that are supposed to mark today's college students, at least a minority of them.

This is part of the explanation for recent campus outbursts against U. S. foreign policy and for student agitation over other great issues of the day. Few would argue that this involvement, despite its excesses, is a bad thing; indeed, it provides an enriching aspect to education. It's not at all realistic to demand that a student confine his intellectual activity to the classroom.

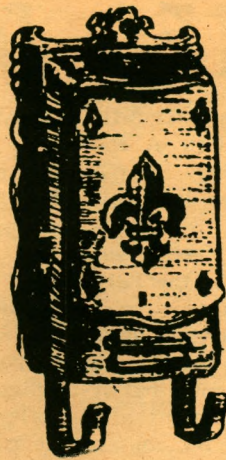
Yet student involvement, even without the headline making excesses, poses dangers to education, as we were reminded recently by Chancellor Roger W. Heyns of the University of California at Berkeley. That campus, in particular, has seen a good deal of youthful "commitment" of late.

Chancellor Heyns circulated among Berkeley's teachers a warning that student-faculty political activity has a part in education. But he also noted that society has a right to expect that the resources of the university not be diverted from the university's primary function — education — to political activity.

The principle applies to the individual student. Let him form his opinions, and let him speak out. But also, let there be for the serious student — especially for the serious student — the opportunity to become uninvolved, to draw back and to disengage himself when his activities draw him too far from his books. Let him not be labeled timid if he says, about foreign policy or anything else: "I don't want to become committed on this — not yet. I need time to read, to study, to think."

Again, this is no plea for cloistering the student. It is a **plea to the student, and to those who would prod him on, to see formal education primarily as a time to prepare for involvement, not for involvement itself.**

(Reprinted from The National Observer)



THE OBELISK welcomes letters from its readers for publication. All letters should be addressed to the Editor, and should be dropped in the mailbox outside the office.

Unduly long letters may be reduced or omitted at the editor's discretion. All letters should be double spaced. Correspondence intended for immediate publication must be submitted at least one week prior to publication. The opinions that are expressed in published correspondence are not necessarily those of the editorial staff.

ANONYMOUS LETTERS  
GO INTO THE WASTEBASKET!

## ON RATING PROFS

To the Editor:

Your editorial of November 24 struck me as incorrect, confusing, and contradictory. Your allusion to hemlock as a candle snuffer is first of all a badly mixed metaphor, but even worse it's a very thoughtless statement. "Campus Guides" alone will never get a man fired or gain him a promotion, nor should they. As Prof. Mizener of Cornell pointed out in the November issue of the *Atlantic Monthly*, a good professor is more than a well liked, widely approved instructor; he is, in fact, something more than students can realize. However, as Mr. Fischer has impressively argued in an earlier issue of *Harpers*, students have the right and even the duty to somehow publicly evaluate their professors.

I have cited the above articles mainly to make them known to anyone interested in arguments more detailed than the following. Prof. Mizener, incidentally, does not believe students are capable of evaluating their professors. Personally I agree with Mr. Fischer. No, a "campus guide" alone will not cause promotions or firings, but it can, or at least should be, instrumental in such acts. Your statement about judging the whole man is irrelevant. Of course no student can judge the whole man. The professor as father, husband, church member, and citizen is usually unknown to his students, and therefore they can make no judgements concerning those very important aspects of his life. But the point is that they do know him as an instructor: they can tell if he is impartial and openminded or if he is a narrow minded, bigoted crank; they can tell if his classes are well prepared or neglected; they know if he really corrects their papers or if he merely puts a grade on them; they know if he wastes time on meandering digressions or on irrelevant anecdotes, if he is merely an entertainer or really a teacher. In other words, as far as his teaching ability is concerned, they are in a position to know at least as much as his chairman and dean do, and much more than his wife and colleagues.

The student, then, knows many important things about a professor, and it would seem to me that since a collegian should be by definition a fairly mature individual, he has the right, if not the duty, to make his knowledge available

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

to all concerned. After all, novelists, poets, dramatists, actors and politicians are publically criticized. I also believe that one should not be deterred by the fact that public criticism is going to result in mere gossip beyond the bounds of the college, for I do not believe that gossip should be able to hurt any university worth its charter.

I must add, however, that students who take upon themselves the responsibility of publishing a judgement of their professors must be very careful and also very charitable. They must remember that words are very potent things and that most professors are dedicated men, not self-seeking hirelings. Professors should, I believe, be given the benefit of any doubts and the respect due to any man who is working for something more than personal gain. Furthermore, since it is easy, sometimes perversely enjoyable to be critical, they should also make themselves see a man's good points. A truly dedicated and effective professor deserves praise. If he is truly dedicated, praise will not only please him; it will also strengthen his dedication.

Yours truly,

W. G. Kilbourne, Jr.

Instructor, Department of English

## URGES PARTICIPATION

To the Editor:

Fellow students of Sacred Heart University. As you can see from the Winter Weekend article a variety of activities has been arranged for your pleasure. The work that went into the culmination of these plans is not important to the people who worked on them, for the simple reason that these people are solely interested in their fellow students and not in any praise given to them.

I am asking you not to let your fellow students down. This is our first "Winter Weekend" so let's make it a memorable one, and a weekend that will be continued for years to come. This will only be possible if you participate, and I am sure you will all.

Kieran Kilbride

President Class of '68

## REQUESTS GERMAN

Dear Editor:

Although our foreign language department is well organized and its teaching kept at high standards, I have noticed the absence of a very essential language, German.

In acquiring a Master's Degree or a Doctorate in either history or science, German will be a pre-requisite.

Also it would be very useful to those of German, Austrian or Swiss parentage.

Therefore, I request all students interested in German to sign the petition on the main bulletin board across from Dean O'Sullivan's office.

Sincerely yours,

Clair R. Snyder

To the Editor:

I would like to congratulate the whole Obelisk staff on the last issue of the school paper. The new appearance and physical divisions within is a great improvement over the old. But more so the ideas expressed in the paper are of much higher quality. I hope that this new approach will continue and impress upon the students of Sacred Heart a sense of responsibility to the *Obelisk*. For it is every student's responsibility to support his school paper and you have certainly initiated the opportunity for him to do so. In closing I would like to wish the whole staff a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes in the New Year.

Peter Schwickert

Junior Class President



# BISHOP ANSWERS PERTINENT QUESTIONS

Continued from Page 1

ed very clearly by Pope Paul on the final day when he issued the official statement or message to the various categories of people. In one he addressed the intelligencia, one to the artists, one to the workers, and so on-to which, in effect he said, "You are important in the world and God must be in your life so that good may come into the whole life of the whole world."

I think that the Holy Father's fear is that the world has drifted away from God and that he no longer has the close union of the spirit of Christ in the world.

The world is guided by secular values and there has been quite a split between them. Now, the Holy Father's thought is that the church, and this means the laity largely, must get back and close that gap and become part of the spirit and movement of the world. So, he addressed those messages to these categories of people with that in mind to encourage."

## Theological Impact

Bishop Curtis feels that the most important decisions were made in the theological field --giving first place to the Document on the church; this document being the heart of the council since practically all the Council revolved around the Church, gives the theology on it, deepens our spirit, our knowledge of the Church and her impact around the world.

This year we brought back eleven documents. You have to divide those which are more spiritual and theological from those which are more practical.

The document on the laity, the document on education, the document on the church in the world; these are on the more practical order because they deal with things which change more easily. In 20 or 25 years they may have to be completely changed. They may, perhaps, be antiquated by then.

But, the document on the Church and that on Revelation--those two are current and they always will be current because they are theological."

## Extreme Pacifism

In relation to Christian Pacifism and the reaction of the Council Fathers to draft-card burnings and other activities of the past year, the Bishop made the following comments.

"I think the reaction of the American Bishops was about the same as the reaction of the majority of the people over here..

I think it is recognized that there is certainly a place for the spirit of pacifism, if by that you mean a desire and an eagerness to work for peace. But, I do not think there is room for a real objective pacifism under our present circumstances. Some day there may be.

If we had an effective, powerful United Nations that was able actually to enforce peace, then there could be such a thing as a real hard-core pacifism among ourselves here.

Until such time as a nation



Interviewing Bishop Curtis hours after his return from Rome are OBELISK editors Bob Proudfoot and Lis D'Andrea (back are OBELISK editors Bob Proudfoot and Lois D'Andrea (back

can rely on some other agency to guarantee it of its security and its social well-being, then I don't think there can be a real pacifism in the sense, objectively saying, that we should never bear arms or have part in war: **Just or Not.**

Now, I am not saying there is no such thing as a conscientious objection. There are people who believe this. There are groups who as a matter of religious principle will not bear arms. There can be conscientious objection, our Lord allowed for it.

Incidentally, part of the conflict in the council is that some of the European countries, such as Italy will not allow conscientious objection. They have laws against it. We Americans were not so concerned about it because the law allows for it: not only for those who do it as a group religion, like the Quakers, but also for those who in good faith from religious conviction have this way of life.

There is room for conscientious objection on religious grounds. **I don't think myself, there is room in our present world set-up for a true objective pacifism in the somewhat**

**extreme sense in which it has been done."**

## Nuclear Warfare

Is there such a thing as restricted warfare? The Pope announced at the U. N. that nuclear armament could be used as a deterrent to war.

"The document on the Modern World does not condemn nuclear warfare. It does say that there are great dangers to the possessions of scientific arms in our own times because they can lead to tremendous catastrophes and great wrongs in warfare. So there is a great hazard connected with them and your attention is called to the fact that this is an extraordinary hazzard and has to be guarded against.

But, it does not say they may not be had--and it does not say they may not be used in war.

There are several things we must think of in connection with nuclear warfare.

We've had scientific means that could destroy the world since World War I. Gas was used in that war and later outlawed by International covenant. We have bacteriological warfare -- which could destroy

the world in one night. It has never been used -- it is simply so horrible that one couldn't possibly win by using it.

So, we've had scientific arms before the explosion of nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons shake the imagination because they are so powerfully strong--but they are not so damaging as bacterial warfare can be.

Apart from that, our country particularly and I'm sure Russia too, has advanced to the point that we now have the nuclear arms which are not like the tremendous bomb. They have a very specific area of impact, they do only a certain amount of damage and they have no fallout--so they are a tremendously powerful cannon; but, that's what they are--a cannon.

And so, you can't speak of nuclear warfare and speak of the great bombs of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. You have to speak of the variety of new weapons which exist. This is just a part of the overall thinking in regard to this."

## Birth Control

Answering a question concerning the Council's stand on birth control, Bishop Curtis made the following comments.

"Pope Paul has asked that the Council not settle this problem. Therefore, the council just simply didn't.

**If it did anything, it didn't slam the door shut on that issue, it just closed it a little bit.**

I think this document is a little tighter now than many would have liked to have seen it. It seems to hint that the traditional policy is not going to be changed.

It does not say that, and the council itself does not say that because our directions were not to take that subject into consideration.

The Holy Father himself

sent a couple of suggestions for the rewording of this document.

## Accomplishments

In summary the Vatican Ecumenical Council accomplished these goals from its opening October 11, 1962 to its closing December 7, 1965:

--Changed the traditionally monarchistic concept of the church's government to a more democratic form by declaring that the bishops share with the Pope in governing the Church. It voted for the establishment of a synod of bishops from around the world to put the historic new concept into action. Pope Paul VI promised the first synod would meet by the end of 1967.

--Permitted the replacement of Latin in the Mass and most languages to make Church more meaningful to the average worshipper.

--Agreed that ways of life and dress of nuns, monks, and frairs must change from medieval custom to become conversant with modern times.

--Voted for a program of common worship and other efforts to bring Roman Catholics and other Christians together. This included joint studies toward a common Bible.

--Declared that all Jews could not be blamed for the crucifixion of Christ. The world's half billion Roman Catholics to work for better relations with Jews and other non-Christians. It was the first time in History that the Church voiced such a plea.

--Declared that all men have religious freedom, to act in accordance with their consciences, another move designed to bring Catholics and non-Catholics closer together.

--Outlined guidelines for Catholics on such problems as nuclear warfare, social justice, love, and marriage. It upheld Church teaching against contraception but left the door open for future changes.

# Editor Reflects On Founder's Visit

By Rose Gorman

Many college students could not anticipate spending an afternoon in conversation with their bishop. Many bishops would not appear on a campus less than 24 hours after returning home from Vatican II for the sole purpose of talking with the newspaper staff.

SHU is unique partly because the Most Rev. Walter W. Curtis, its founder, is a unique bishop. OBELISK editors requested a short interview concerning the Vatican Council, and they were rewarded by a personal visit on His Excellency's first day home. The editors and staff were originally delighted at the prospects of talking with "the shepherd, and later stimulated as they discovered a warm and sincere person.

Upon arriving, Bishop Curtis told editors Lois D'Andrea, Rosemarie Gorman, and Robert Proudfoot, that he had read the three recent OBELISK'S, although it had taken until 1:30 a.m. to get through every

article. Conversation flowed more easily as the staff recognized His Excellency's sincere interest in SHU students. At one point, he mentioned that the paper is maturing with every issue, "just as you are maturing in college." An original feeling of awe was more appropriately replaced by a warm respect.

As the circling tape on the recorder grew thicker, there was a feeling of regret that the interview could not extend beyond a tape recording and one short news-story.

During the interview and later conversation, the Bishop revealed an easy wit. One staff writer asked if he had any further plans for expansion in the diocese, and the progressive bishop smilingly replied, "Well, what would you like?"

A group of staff members surrounded the large white table on which customarily rests page proofs, layout sheets, and typewriters. His Excellency answered questions put to him

by the captivated collegians in the thoughtful, sincere manner of a dedicated teacher. Questions grew into conversation, and a few began to put forth the inevitable collegiate doubts.

"What about Catholics who embrace Communism as a political philosophy?"

"Isn't Communism changing?"

"Is it right for us to fight a war?"

The bishop nodded thoughtfully at times, probably recognizing the same ideas from a newer generation, but nevertheless stimulated anew. He noted that while Communism is condemned as an atheistic philosophy, many Catholics have been misled by leaders to think they are embracing only a political system.

War and pacifism drew a few questions during the interview and later conversation. Bishop Curtis noted that religious who demonstrate against wars are speaking as individuals, but there is a danger that they may be interpreted as a voice

for Church teachings. While clergy have individual rights, it must be understood that the Church can not rule out all wars as immoral. He mentioned earlier that when a nation deprives others of their freedoms, war is unfortunately necessary.

Conversation shifted to newspapers, and Bishop Curtis discussed a leading Catholic newspaper's custom of printing numerous letters to the editor. The intellectual clergyman noted that the letters are sometimes a hindrance to a reader because he has no inkling of the writer's background. "It is important to know a man's authority," he said.

Three OBELISK editors and Miss SylviaTackowiak, moderator, accompanied Bishop Curtis to his car at 5:00 p.m. If it seemed unusual for a bishop to drive himself home after a visit with undergraduate newspapermen, no one commented. All felt refreshed from, as one SHU instructor would say, "rubbing intellects with a great person."



# WHAT IS IT DOING

By Tony Krulikowski

"The Word was made Flesh, and Dwells among us."

Christ brought with him a new hope for the thinking people of his time. Those who accepted him found a new reason for living and understanding their somewhat questionable way of life. Through the ages he has renewed this quality of giving meaning to chaos in various sessions of twenty one Church councils. Acting as agents of Jesus Christ, our leaders, the bishops, have brought rich meaning to the simple words of the Galilean.

There is something unique and exciting about living and maturing in the light of a Church Council. This feeling may not be different from the one that Christians our age felt about Trent, yet somehow this council seems like the greatest step taken by any church in an effort to renew its hold on reality.

Unlike Trent, this Council does not come in the aftermath of violent protests against the Church. It is more of a realization that we, the laity, are ready for a greater understanding of our Faith. We no longer blindly believe the doctrines that our brothers in the past have accepted. We have become more educated and more aware of our duty as Sons of God and heirs of his Kingdom.

The bishops ventured a re-examination of our Theology. Revelation was enlarged and therefore our part, the Laity's

part in the Liturgy was also. We now resume our place with the priest in offering Jesus Christ to God the Father in the Mass.

Sacred Scripture has regained its importance. Not that it lost its place, but it lost its meaning in the modern world. Its role in worship, prominence in the Church and individual life, is being renewed. We now read Scripture not seeking a meaningless selection of stories to quote to our non-Catholic friends apologetically, but an answer, a moral.

Non-Catholics, those wayward brethren, are no longer tolerated; they are acknowledged as fellow followers of the Infinite. Past differences are now considered, giving way to dialogue, a translating of ideas. Even atheists are allowed to believe in their non-belief.

Christian education, both Lay and Religious, the media of communications, family life, poverty, economics, culture, and peace are all subjects of great debate at the Council.

Re-examined, renewed, revived, re-emphasized, and revealed — so what?

So what! The Council was called for us . . . the laymen, the New Breed Christians, the reason for these reforms. Sacred Heart University is one of the most outstanding products of this Council. Never before has so much been given back to the people of God. We can now think and advise, encourage and crusade with the

clergy, walking, running, toward God.

It is our duty, our right, it is our hope, our sword of truth, to bring the smooth and complete deliverance of these renewals to all. As it was so well put in our Bishop's last Pastoral letter: "In this great assignment of our lifetime, each must do his part to make effective the Second Vatican Council."

## Athletes Recognized

The Ephebian Society recently announced the establishment of an annual award to be given to each year's outstanding Soccer, Basketball, and Baseball player.

The qualifications for the award will not only be outstanding skill, but excellence in

promoting team spirit and good sportsmanship as well.

The winners will be selected by the various team coaches and the athletic director. Their names, to be announced in the Spring, will be placed on a plaque to be donated by the Ephebian Society.

The halls are decked; Christmas is in the air at SHU.

The Christmas tree that stands in the Student Lounge was donated and decorated by the members of Hai Adelphais society.

Members of the Caralannas and Ephebian societies spent

the recent holiday decorating the cafeteria. Sandra Carlotto '67 and Bob Proudfoot '68, respective presidents, hope that their efforts have helped create a Christmas spirit. The creche which is on display in the trophy case was also prepared by the Ephebian and Caralannas.



Pausing a moment for our cameraman are the recently elected officers and SG representatives of the Class of 1969. Standing (l-r), Dan Tedesco, president; John Ratzenberger, vice-president; Linda Curzi, secretary; Jon Maynard, treasurer. Seated (l-r), Don Cleary, Linda Perry, Jim Garthwaite, and Greg Sigler, SG representatives.

## More Letters To The Editor

Con. from Page 1

### UNTIL THEN

To the Editor:

"Until the person is able to abstract and define rationally the idea of good, and unless he can run the gauntlet of all objections, and is ready to disprove them, not by appeals to opinion, but to absolute truth, never faltering at any step of the argument — unless he can do all this, you would say that he knows neither the idea of good nor any other good; he apprehends only a shadow, if anything at all, which is given by opinion . . ." Thus Plato defended the dialectic approach to learning and understanding over 2,000 years ago. He defended this approach as elevating the highest principle of existence and as conceiving of what is essentially valid and good in all ideas. The United States utilizes this technique on the national level. The House and Senate, elected by majority, voice the ideas of the majority, synthesize and decide democratically what is best for all, what is ideally American. Mr. Proudfoot tells us that our course of action in Vietnam is consistent with such American ideals and practices. He tells us that America is "right" and we are bound to support her freedom spreading activities. I do not feel the U.S. is right because it is not consistent. I do not feel that the U.S. is consistently employing her democratic principles in the international plane. Surely we did not decide our course in Vietnam by synthesizing the es-

entially valid points of all parties concerned. Surely we are not acting with the consent of the majority because the United States contains only a fraction of the total world population. I do not advocate pacifism nor do I advocate intervention. I do say, however, that we should step from the "shadow" of impatience and into the "light" of endurance. I do say that we should demand more than the lofty "right is right" as a reason for immediate physical warfare, that we should patiently endeavor to extend our democratic principles on the international plane. Then and only then, can the United States say that it seeks freedom and democracy for all.

Joan-Carol Carrafiello

### CONFORMITY

To the Students and the Faculty:

I address you all because I feel that this matter is important enough. The subject is that of attitude. Even right here on campus, boys let their hair grow long and girls pierce holes in their ears and don "knee-ticklers" just to prove that they are "well adjusted." "Well-adjusted" is a hallowed word today in society. The "well-adjusted" man loves and hates, laughs and cries, and then forgets. If someone close to him dies, he's crushed for a while, but in a month he forgets the deceased one's name and finds a substitute quickly. However, take away his land, or a sum of money, and twenty years later he will still not have forgiven you.

The well-adjusted man lives his fami-

ly, but no one else. He believes that any man who loves his friends and is sincerely concerned about them possesses traits of latent homosexuality, and does not wonder what is wrong with himself; why his heart is so lacking in love. He believes that if he gives to the poor, or accepts a member of a minority group into his neighborhood, he is a "do-gooder."

The well-adjusted man scoffs at the teachings of Christ. Then on Sunday he goes to church and sings hymns and prays and throws a dollar bill into the collection plate and finally goes home and continues with his ethnocentrism. He criticizes his next-door neighbor, who did not go to church, and considers himself superior when he himself is just as bad. He sees men, women, and children who have to crawl on flat stomachs into alleys and dig into maggot-infested garbage cans for crusts of bread, and either pretends that he hasn't seen them, or expresses his firm belief in "the survival of the fittest" by stating that it's their tough luck if they don't know how to hustle for the "dough," unmindful that it is people like himself who often prevent these unfortunates from prospering as well as they might.

Man today is lonely. He thinks that he craves companionship, but really he does not; he craves understanding, and he longs for the chance to really and honestly "be himself," to put an end once and for all to this dung-hill philosophy of being "well-adjusted."

Men have gone to others "naked", and have said, "This is who I am, This is what I feel. This is what I need." and

have often actually been ostracised by society.

Today, who exactly is the eccentric man? Is it the beatnik? No, because he, too, conforms, even though he conforms with the minority. He does not stand alone. A man today who is eccentric is one who is unselfish and has faith in mankind and believes in brotherly love.

I ask you, how can man spread a religion throughout the world and keep hearts alive with faith if he ignores God's teachings, considering them only for saints and crackpots? How will the decent man ever teach his children to distinguish a hero from a coward, when today in the eyes of society a hero is a coward, and a coward is a hero- Thank You.

Judy Kaminski

### DEDICATION

To the Editor:

In a recent letter to the Editor, Israel Menchero stated concerning sporting events, "Spirit is finally a part of the Sacred Heart University student body." Sporting events, however, are not the only place to find spirit on the SHU campus these days. The staff of THE OBELISK has shown it consistently through its hard work and unselfish dedication of time in order to produce our school newspaper.

I wish to compliment you especially on your last issue. It was truly one in which you can take pride.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Gorman '68



## "Self-Propelled" Students Needed

Educators all over the country have been concerned with a lack of intellectualism among many college students. We decided to discuss the problem with SHU professors in order to determine general attitudes and to gain some positive insights.

Among the sampling of instructors questioned, there was a general feeling of optimism for a growing university and her individual students. We found our professors to be frank in their criticisms of individual student failings, but equally sincere in their praise.

To paraphrase one professor: "You are maturing, now, but don't be discouraged. I think you are wonderful! You have a spirit here which I have not found in any other college. Perhaps it is the excitement in a new university . . ."

"The intellectual life of a university depends heavily on the kind of teaching and the willingness of students to respond to teaching. As long as you have stimulated teaching, it creates a response in genuine hunger for knowledge," stated Dr. John Rycenga, SHU's English Department Chairman, and co-editor of several college textbooks on linguistics.

In talking with the English chairman we gained some ideas on the university atmosphere as a joint effort by students and professors. Dr. Rycenga said that "Students themselves have to realize that most of the responsibility depends upon their effort; it must be generated at least partly on realizing their advantage and acting on it."

Miss Diane Roomy, a foreign language instructor, commented on some advantages in a commuter college which may serve to offset drawbacks. Most important is the opportunity for a student to function as an individual, forming his own sense of values, objectives, and goals without having the "kind of security which evolves from a dormitory life."

"People are distinct entities, like threads in a tapestry," stated the petite teacher, "the university offers one binding uniformity, just as the threads are bound together in a tapestry."

Within a university the student is faced with new ideas which must be met with an intellectual curiosity. The individual faces doubts, but the "process of jolting a person is good, it promotes thought." Miss Roomy feels that these new ideas should be assimilated to form an "individual's philosophy of life." "Essentially, ultimately, everybody is different."

One of the greatest criticisms of the modern college student, is that he often lacks the open-mindedness necessary in a real intellectual, a real person. Mr. William Kilbourne, English professor, commented on the fact that non-required books do not sell as rapidly in the bookstore. Several professors joined in the

criticism that too often students go to college for a career and neglect to develop their minds fully as human beings.

Miss Joanne Walsh, English teacher, noted a "close-mindedness." "By this I mean to critically evaluate others' viewpoints and theories." She added that students should work to foster "a more healthy atmosphere of intellectual curiosity in all areas, socially, educationally, religiously, even politically."

Dr. Elizabeth Farians, Theology professor, told the OBE-LISK that "Too often the professor has the feeling that he is all alone in the classroom, no one else is there. So difficult is it to spark an idea, sometimes one can even feel active resistance, some students seem to say, 'I dare you to teach me.' If one questions a student to read something in connection with a question he has asked, the student seems to lose interest in his question." The Theology professor stressed however, that there is a growing "core group of students" who are earnestly interested.

Mr. Daniel Daly, a member of the English Dept., stated, "I believe that there is a tendency on the student's part to conceive the classroom as the sole center of learning. There is need for intellectual discussions in more sociable and relaxed atmospheres where a freer exchange of ideas can occur."

"Too often the teacher is a kind of recluse who gravitates toward the warmth of his office and the safety of discussion with his colleagues. Consequently, he needs prodding if he is going to take a more personal role in the life of the university," noted the English prof. "It seems to me that the student might supply some jolting electrical current which would serve to make the teacher feel that his retreat is an insulation."

"We have at SHU a faculty who through their learning, their reasoning powers, and their sense of urgency are eminently well-qualified to help the students," stated Mrs. Marcella Malloy, a Spanish teacher. She continued, "Students should regard the teacher as a guide and should be increasingly self-propelled."

Mrs. Malloy pointed toward library resources as a prime means to intellectualism. "The students must learn patience with books. The great works are mines of knowledge which do not yield up their treasures easily and are worth long and tedious digging."

Dr. Robert O'Shea, philosophy professor, suggested that controversial convocation speakers

might serve to stimulate students in other issues. He recommends that students discuss more with their teachers outside the classroom.

We asked Mr. Anthony Pinciario, a Chemistry instructor and one of the original faculty members at SHU, to list some problems which a commuter student and a collegian in a new university would face. He stressed that as a new university, SHU is doing extremely well, but students should not become complacent, they must continue to improve.

"A commuter student is not primarily a student, he is still a son or daughter in so far as his family obligations are concerned; generally he is a working student."

Parents must realize that their son or daughter is developing and he must have time to study. If work interferes, the Chem teacher urges that students try to raise their grades and earn financial assistance, or postpone their education until it is possible to study.

Mr. Pinciario noted that many SHU professors including himself, were commuters, and they recognize some problems. The real problems, however, are in a "retention of high school attitudes." The student "must look beyond the text, he must have a constant curiosity."

"We are working toward a tradition where students feel as though their presence is an integral part of SHU," concluded the professor.

## UNDERCURRENTS

By Jan Muldoon

"Tis the season to be wary." Rally round the National Safety Council and watch out for the Christmas syndrome. Shop early and put Christ back in Christmas. Avoid: 1) undercooked turkey stuffing food poisoning; 2) faulty tree lights (fire); 3) misplaced erector set (broken limbs). As a member of the mass media crowd, though ever so humble, we feel obliged to further elaborate on this joyous Christmas message. Listed below are a few specialized dangers that will be lurking beneath every college student's Christmas tree.

I) "Christmas Vacation story." If one has accepted the fact that "vacation is a change of occupation" then the shattering of the Christmas Vacation myth will not come as a complete shock. We will be occupied behind counters in busy department stores and in quiet corners of plastic hollid libraries. Remember, we are vacating classrooms, not work.

II) "Wassailing." The word evokes a festive feeling of good fellowship enhanced by some species of alcoholic beverage. One will become aware, however, of the dead seriousness with which this custom is pursued. "Merry" (originally it meant peaceful) is inextricably connected with "high."

III) "Bethlehem revisited." If you took the death of Santa Claus hard, you are in for a rough time on this one. Last year the theology department, armed with the latest in biblical studies, set themselves to shattering some long cherished beliefs about the Christmas story. It is progress but it hurts. Perhaps they will be more gentle this year — for the frosh of course.

IV) "The Thinking Man's Christmas." It should be safe to assume that, as Christian liberal art students, we have begun to acquire an honest, healthy sophistication in matters religious as well as more broadly intellectual. Therefore, a lot of the Christmas corn and tinsly-winsly ho-ho-ho will be particularly irritating. One might feel tempted to throw the whole thing overboard or just to play the game.

No strenuous effort is required to put Christ back into Christmas. A simple undramatic preparation for and focusing on Christmas Mass will let the words and meaning of the liturgy swizzle around inside you. Joy is quiet. It is just there. The parish creche is a good place to think about the poor Christ, about love, hope, and peace, about the still unfinished work that began Mary's delivery.

There is danger in this, too. You might forget to be wary and trip over the erector set, breaking your leg and short circuiting the tree lights which cause a fire which makes your mother forget to finish cooking the turkey, and you end up in the hospital unable to write the term paper which is due the first day back from vacation.

Merry Christmas, SHU. You can take it!

## CAMPUS LIFE

By Pat Godfrey

There will be a Student Government Representative in the new Student Government Office, adjacent to Mr. Najamy's office, daily from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Caralannas Society recently held a toy drive among their membership. The toys collected were contributed to the "Holiday Exchange" program of the local United Fund Agency and will be distributed to the needy children of the area. Chairman of the toy drive was Anna Pizza '68.

### Directory on Sale

The 1965-66 Student Directory, published by the Kreuzfahrer Society is now on sale. It may be purchased in the lounge, the bookstore, or from any member of the society. The cost of the directory is 75 cents.

Mr. Croffy, Dean of Admissions, has recently spoken on "Why a Catholic Higher Education?" at various College Nights including Stamford Catholic High School, Watertown College Fair, Notre Dame of West Haven, and Waterbury College Fair.

Hai Adelphais Society is sponsoring a bake sale, Dec. 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lounge in conjunction with the annual Christmas Party.

Dean Hughes has asked the society to repeat this service first initiated Nov. 24.

A musical program was presented Dec. 13 at Assumption Parish Hall by a student group from SHU. The opening number sung by Sharon Brennan, was "O Holy Night", Christmas Carols were sung by Dennis Swindon, Thomas Glynn, Thomas Caggianello, and Steve Doolley. David Ryer and Steve Doolley sang a duet, "Virgin Mary." The last two numbers were "Silent Bells and "Lullaby." Other students who sang were Carol Syvester, Janet Kahn, Jeannine Carpentier and Sylvia Giroux.

The history Club will hold an informal meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Mon., Dec. 20, at the home of Barry James. New members will be welcomed at the Jan. 7 meeting. Requirements for membership are a genuine interest in history and a satisfactory grade in history.

Dr. Rycenga, chairman of the English Department, lectured on Linguistics, Dec. 1, at Fairfield University. The lecture was presented to Father Lynch's senior seminar class of English majors.

The Panta Delphian Society has recently held elections in

which officers were awarded as follows: President George Gardner; Vice President, Joe Marzullo; Treasurer, John Lehen-ey, Recording Secretary, Sean Moyer, Corresponding Secretary, Robert Morris; Chaplain, John Caporaso; Social Chairman, Frank Bruno; and Historian, Steve Lanzo.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women's basketball is the latest addition to the schedule of female athletics. Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. the Sacred Heart coed cagers take the court under the direction of Miss Dorothy Anger, coach. The girls drill on the basic shooting, dribbling, and passing in preparation for possible intercollegiate competition. Thus far, the scrimmages have exhibited a quick offense and potential for a well-balanced squad with additional practice. Any girls who are interested in playing should contact Miss Anger in order to find out if there are openings on the squad.

Coeds participating include: Pat Calise, Joan Carrafiello, Winnie Charleston, Kathy Corrigan, Judi Davenport, Sylvia Kalil, Mary Joan Reasby, Nancy Rizzi, Karen Sautter, Phyllis Testa, and Janet Young.

## Plaque Commemorates Deceased

A plaque in memory of deceased students of SHU was unveiled recently in ceremonies held in the University chapel. The wooden and bronze plaque, which was donated by the 1965-66 Student Government hangs on the epistle side of the altar.

The unveiling ceremony took place following the 11:00 mass on Wed. Dec. 15. Father Martin

McDermott, University chaplain officiated at the ceremony to which the parents of Cathy Chamberlin '68 and Bob Biancardi '67 were invited. Others in attendance at the ceremony were Dr. O'Sullivan, several faculty members, Student Government Officers and representatives and several members of the student body.



Cagers Exceed 100 Mark Twice: Win 3 Straight

PARK AVENUE QUINTET  
TOPPLES U CONN

On Tues., Dec. 2, the cagers met the Waterbury branch of The University of Connecticut at SHU. The Pioneers put their 2 game winning streak on the line while U Conn had lost its first encounter. After 40 minutes of basketball both teams extended their streaks, SHU winning 88-73.

For almost the entire first half the Pioneers and the Huskies traded baskets. With 3:56 remaining, Coach Feeley's cagers ran off a string of 13 points while holding U Conn scoreless. Mike Koritko, shining at both ends of the court, paced the offense with 10 points, while Ganino and Donoghue garnered 9 each.

At the onset of the second half, the Park Ave. quintet quickly took command, opening up a 15 point spread. The U Conns never recovered as they merely matched SHU scores for the remainder of the game. Koritko matched his first half performance by scoring ten

more points while controlling the backboards. He was ably assisted in the offensive department by five double figure Pioneers. Three straight home court victories had boosted hopes for SHU's next assignment, the first away game with the favored Quinnipiac five in New Haven.

SHU	G	F	P
Griffiths	6	0	12
Koritko	10	0	20
Donoghue	4	1	9
Riehl	5	0	10
Jankovsky	5	4	14
Lake	4	2	10
Ganino	4	3	11
Longo	0	2	2
	38	12	88

U CONN	G	F	P
Rotella	4	4	12
Curzi	2	1	5
Hinds	4	1	9
Snow	5	6	16
Staskavich	6	0	12
Dwyer	8	1	17
Loiseau	1	0	2
	30	13	73

MORSE IS SECOND VICTORY

On November 30th SHU's Pioneer basketball team rolled to its second straight victory over an inept Morse College five 111-54 at the Sacred Heart gym.

Although the Park Avenue quintet obviously outclassed the Raiders of Hartford, Morse trailed by only a few baskets for more than a quarter. Perhaps a bit overconfident, our cagers passed sloppily, rebounded haphazardly, and scored infrequently. Coach Don Feeley then inserted into his lineup John Donoghue and Joe Griffith; the Central High graduates said not a word, but went right to their work. Between them they rammed home nine field goals and sank three from the charity stripe to completely demoralize the fading Raiders. By half time SHU had piled up a 50-21 lead. Hank Jasiukiewicz, another substitute, found three teammates open for baskets in addition to directing the offense.

SHU continued to build its lead in the second half with Donoghue, Griffiths, and still another substitute, Woody Lake leading the attack. Dave Riehl and Mike Koritko did a work-horse job off the backboards, garnering 17 and 10 caroms respectively. Joey Ganino, who scored the 100th point with 2:41 left, and Pete Jankovsky headed SHU's "prevent" which defense continued to stifle opponents. With a second straight home win, SHU looked for a third against UConn.

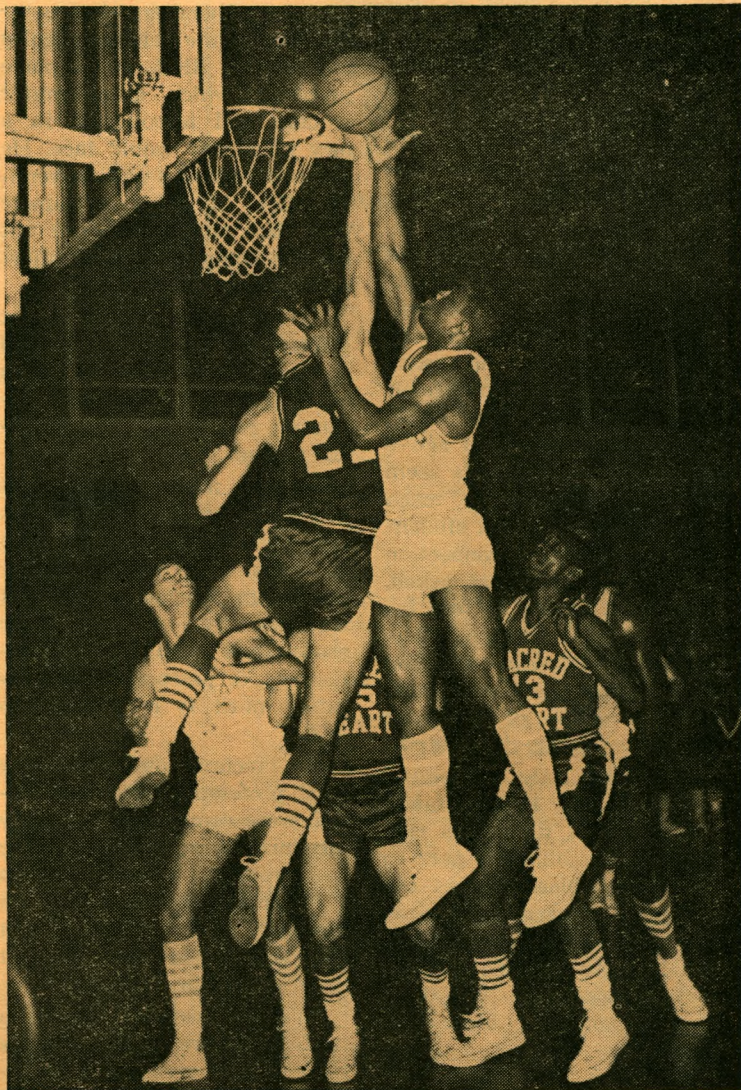
SHU	G	F	P
Collings	4	0	8
Griffiths	7	3	17
Jasiukiewicz	3	0	6
Koritko	3	1	7
Donoghue	8	5	21
Sia	1	0	2
Riehl	3	1	7
Jankovsky	4	2	10
Lake	5	2	12
Ganino	3	4	10
Hrabstock	3	0	6
Longo	2	1	5
	46	19	111

MORSE	G	F	P
Barnes	5	6	16
Quaggin	2	1	5
Green	2	0	4
Daily	1	1	3
Baldyga	4	1	9
Simmons	7	3	17
	21	12	54

Southampton Breaks Ahead 86 - 76

SHU's fifth basketball game of the season ended in defeat as Southampton College, with its superior height and defense, topped the Pioneers 86-76 at the Bridgeport gym last Saturday.

The Colonials' marvelous Marvin Lewis, 6'8" and 245 lbs. strong, dominated the offense and defense by his mere presence. He blocked numerous shots in addition to hauling down 24 rebounds for the Long Island Team. Teammate Roland Stansbury, who engineered Southampton's sticky defense



Koritko dumps another to score for Pioneers.

WNEC BURIED DEEP

Sacred Heart University initiated its first varsity basketball season with a resounding victory over Western New England College 108-60 in the Pioneer gym.

From tip off to the final gun the home quintet completely dominated the offense and the defense. Guards Pete Jankovsky and Joey Ganino pumped in SHU's first thirteen points. Dave Riehl and Mike Koritko pound the backboards at both ends of the court, many times limiting WNEC to a single shot. The Pioneer defense held so tightly that the Springfield, Mass. squad scored only 20

points the first half and no points at all for over eight minutes. Coach Feeley emptied his bench in the first half with 10 players notching baskets. At the end of the twenty minute mark SHU led 50-20.

The superior Pioneer controlled the second half as the first, although the hapless WNEC cagers caused some ragged stretches. Koritko continued to explore the Golden Bears' defense by passing for three baskets. John Donoghue led a fast breaking SHU offense with 12 second half points that all but demolished the WNEC game.

Sacred Heart University's first brick wall was Quinnipiac College whose much taller braves swamped our Pioneers 125-79, Dec. 7, in Hamden.

After an opening parlay, in which the Pioneers tied the score at 9-9, the Braves streamed to a 15 point lead and they were never headed. At half they lengthened their lead to 51-30. Mike Koritko scored nine points in an otherwise gloomy first half. In the entire twenty minutes the Bridgeport quintet managed only 9 field goals in thirty attempts while Quinnipiac canned as many as did Sacred Heart in the entire game — 23.

The Braves continued to pour in points after the mid-game break with Dave Schindler rimming 14 points. Hank Jasiukiewicz responded to his calling by coming off the bench to score 10 points for the Pioneers. The it just wasn't enough. The Braves' superior height and defense told the story as they held SHU to only 18 rebounds for the entire game. Coach Don Feeley's lost possession of the ball on 31 different occasions while shooting a cold (23-78) 29.4 percentage from the floor. Add to this Quinnipiac's brilliant accuracy (58-91), 63.7, and it spells defeat.

SHU	G	F	P
Collins	0	2	2
Griffiths	1	8	10
Jasoukewicz	3	0	10
Koritko	5	3	13
Donoghue	0	2	2
Riehl	2	5	9
Jankowsky	5	5	15
Lake	2	4	8
Ganino	2	0	4
Hrabstock	3	0	6
	23	33	79

QUINNIPIAC	G	F	P
Schneider	7	0	14
Starckland	6	2	14
Lisnow	8	4	20
Grove	7	1	15
Lavan	6	0	12
Hughes	3	1	7
Schinoler	9	0	18
McMorrow	2	1	5
Shen	4	0	8
Koniuskiesky	1	0	2
Faulkner	5	0	10
	58	9	125

SHU	G	F	P
Collins	1	0	2
Griffiths	0	3	3
Koritko	12	2	26
Donoghue	2	4	8
Riehl	5	0	10
Jankowsky	8	1	17
Lake	3	1	7
Ganino	0	3	3
	31	14	76

Southampton	G	F	P
Ferez	5	3	15
Buchinsky	3	2	8
Lewis	9	4	22
Stanbury	8	1	17
Cavalier	1	0	2
Parks	7	0	14
Rakity	0	6	6
DeMichelle	1	0	2
	35	16	86