



# ST. JOSEPH'S RECORDER



Grand Rapids 7, Michigan

AD MAIOREM DEI GLORIAM

Vol. XXXIV No. 4 March-April, 1961

## BEST - SELLING NOVEL ADAPTED FOR MAY 1st



The annual May First Musical Production promises to be a unique spectacle. A number of the greatest Rodgers and Hammerstein show tunes have been selected to fit the plot of that well-known stage play and movie "No Time for Sergeants". The production, wholly adapted by the students themselves, is entitled: "No Time for Hicks". Such familiar melodies as "Getting to Know you", "You'll Never Walk Alone", and "Younger Than Springtime" have been adapted to the story of Will Stockdale (Bernard Sass) and his somewhat scrawny army buddy, Ben Whitledge (Myron Hawkins).

"June is Bustin' out all Over" when a number of rustic folk are gathered in the cabin of the Stockdales; Bart Glovers (Robert Lesinski), who "Enjoys Bein' a Hick", arrives with a month-old letter for Will, which turns out to be his draft notice. Will's Paw (Michael Gokey) foreseeing that soon he will be learning that "Pore Will is Daid" regrets to see his son leave home, but finally acquiesces and Will enters the Army. There he is met by a number of unsympathetic souls, one of whom is the rather vociferous Sergeant King (Joseph Grabinski), who is "Gonna Wash that Man Right Out of His Hair." However, Will does find one friend in the person of Ben Whitledge, whose sole ambition in life is to enter the infantry. The world almost ends for Ben as he finds out that in the Psychiatrist's (Kent Lewis) office Will is unable to name the notes of the scale, "Do, Re, Mi," and finds out that he himself, to his great disappointment, has been assigned to the Air Force, but is consoled by the fact that Will is going with him. In the Air Force, Ben whistles a happy tune even though he is quaking at the deafening sound of low-flying airplanes. After the two recruits "Climb Every Mountain", a sudden turn of events causes Will's kinfolk to appear from Oklahoma, and all of the characters find happiness at the final curtain.

The production boasts of a huge cast of thirty-nine, including ten members of the Soprano Chorus of Mikado-fame. (Incidentally, the musical cast of thirty-nine exceeds by one that of the Mikado.) the musical side of the program is being masterfully directed by Edward Hahnenberg, while Thomas Rinkevich is in charge of the dialogue. From all indications, it appears that this

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## Debates Wind Up, Orations Begin

The debate season entered its final phase, after a two-week pause, on February 26, when William Birchmeier and Paul Kress, on the affirmative, and Thomas Polzin and Thomas Rinkevich, on the negative, argued the resolution: "Resolved that all diplomatic relations with Cuba should be severed." Although such a step had already been taken by our Government, the issue was still very controversial, as it appeared from the debate. Both judges and students sided with the affirmative on the basis of their more forceful presentation.

The subject of the final debate, on March 5, was: "Resolved that the granting of athletic scholarships should be discontinued in American colleges and universities." In this single debate, Clark Hurlbert upheld the resolution, while Robert Walsh opposed it. The latter, by his excellent delivery and well-directed arguments, won the decision of both students and judges.

And so ended the sixth-class debates for one more year. As the chairmen laid aside their well-worn analogies, and the judges ripped up their ballot sheets, and students forgot their impassioned questions, another time-honored tradition was carried on with the beginning of

the sixth-class orations.

March 12 saw the first of this year's orations, as Dennis Wasco led off with an excellent presentation of the life and work of Dr. Thomas Dooley, "The Splendid American." The labors and hopes of the Spanish Apostolate formed the basis of Myron Hawkins' very timely oration. Thomas Popma followed with a very practical and worthwhile discussion of the heart and our physical health. The final oration of the day was presented by James Swiat, who ably explained the Moral Rearmament Movement and its significance for Catholics.

Robert Lesinski started the second group of orations, on March 26, with a soul-stirring portrayal of the life of a camp counsellor. "The Motherly Face of Materialism" was the subject of Edward Hahnenberg's very thoughtful and pertinent oration. James Beckstrom then analyzed the present situation in "Berlin--The City Where East Meets West." Gerald Willing, the last speaker of the morning, explained the detailed training that goes to make a man a Communist.

The third set of orations was presented on April 16; "Africa's Challenge to the Free World" was

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# THE WORD FROM



## BOB AND RAY A WORD OF THANKS

You can please all the people some of the time, and some people all of the time, but you can't please all of the people all of the time. This is not an exact quotation of the memorable line of Abe Lincoln, but it serves the purpose when it comes to writing editorials. Some have criticized the editorials of this paper for containing too much agitation, some because they contain too much vacillation. And since this is my last association with this paper as Editor-in-Chief, I would rather offend as few people as possible with this piece of writing.

What I would like to do here is to pay tribute to the fine staff with which I have been blessed, if blessed is the right word to use here. Why do it now? It is better out of the way before the frenzy of the approaching graduation is upon us. Why do it on the editorial page of the Recorder? Because I feel that the contribution that these men have made to the paper this year deserves public recognition.

### STAFF MEMBERS

First of all, I should like to thank those men who are listed on the Recorder staff and who have done yeoman's duty in the production of this paper this year. Bob Lesinski and Jim Swiat have, I think, given the alumni page a new aura of originality throughout the last issues. The fact that they think up the composition of their page, type it out and set it up themselves, takes a lot of pressure off those who are responsible for the welfare of the paper as a whole.

Paul Kress deserves a hearty "Thank you" for the services he has rendered to the Recorder this year. Listed only as a typist, he has, during his term on the staff, performed every duty concerned with the publishing of the paper. It was he who was largely responsible for the fact that this paper had a Christmas issue at all. With a large portion of the staff involved in practicing for the Christmas musical, and consequently unable to shoulder their normal load in the production of the Recorder, Paul filled the breach made by all these men, and in a real sense cannot, we think, go without public recognition.

Thomas Schindler is another who has been of immense help to me during this publishing year. Tom has spent a great deal of time in after-hours work involved with the last-minute rush of meeting deadlines. He too has had a hand in every phase of work necessary in setting up a paper like ours.

### NON-MEMBERS DESERVE CREDIT

Myron Hawkins also is a jack-of-all-trades, even though he is not listed on the Recorder staff. With his experience in typing, in writing a column, and in headline construction, "Ace" has proved an invaluable asset to me this year.

Last, but by no means least, I should like to cite the work of two others who are not listed on the staff, but without whose help things would have been in a sorry state this year. They are Frank Fallon and Ed Hahnenberg. These two have responded in a brilliant

## Saint Joseph's Recorder

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### COLLEGE STAFF

Editor-in-Chief ..... Robert Walsh  
Assistant Editor ..... Raymond Hanslits  
Circulation ..... Dennis Wasco  
Art ..... Bernard Sass  
Sports ..... Thomas Rinkevich  
Chester Dusnik  
Alumni ..... Robert Lesinski  
James Swiat  
Reporters ..... Thomas Schindler  
Joseph Grabinski  
Typists ..... Paul Kress  
Philip Kelly

### HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

High School Editor ..... Walter Derylo  
Circulation ..... Kenneth Balaskovits  
Art ..... Terrence Stewart  
Sports ..... James Runyan, David Hooper  
Reporters ..... Walter Broad, Thomas Platte  
Thomas Bettag  
Typist ..... Dale Greiner

spirit of cooperation whenever called upon to contribute an article to the paper. (And they will not tell you so, but they have been called on very frequently for these last five issues.)

Of course there were others who have been of great assistance to me, but I think that these especially deserve special, public recognition for their work.

I should like to thank everyone with whom I have had the pleasure of working this year for the cooperation and their willingness to give of their own time in helping me to publish the Recorder this year.

## IN SMALL THINGS...

During the months of February and March, it looked as if St. Joseph's Seminary had turned into a logging camp. Often during these months our neighbors on Martin Street heard the blood-curdling cry of "Timber", then the cracking of a tree trunk and a loud thud as a tree hit the ground. At first, perhaps they were stumped as to what was happening, but they had only to look out the window to see groups of seminarians armed with saws and axes playing lumberjack. By Holy Week we had completed our task of felling fourteen elm trees before the new fence was to be erected.

The seminarians are to be commended not only for a job well done but more especially because they volunteered to do it. This has been the largest volunteer project since the "days of the giants" in 1955 when trees were removed for the construction of St. Henry's Hall and in 1957 when the sod around St. Henry's was laid.

At times like these the tremendous spirit of St. Joe's comes to the fore. But, perhaps you have noticed as I have that the only times when large scale volunteer projects have been successful were when there was something big to do. All boys like to fell trees or to push wheelbarrows filled with black dirt needed for grass. This type of work requires strength and boys are always ready to show how much they have. When it comes to weeding myrtle or raking leaves, not much strength is required and they are quite boring tasks; therefore we are not interested in doing them. We ought to do the little jobs also because later on in the priesthood many of us shall never have any opportunity to do anything great but we shall all be required to do the little things well.



# Sem Surrounded... Sixty-five With By New Fence Father Beahan

Step out onto the playing field and glance about you. Look to the east, and what do you see? Steel. Look to the west. More steel. Look anywhere, and there it is -- steel, some twenty-two hundred feet of it, to be exact. This steel is in the new cyclone fence with which we of St. Joseph's Seminary have recently been surrounded.

The construction of the new fencing began with the placement of the posts on Wednesday of Holy Week, and the last gate was in place by April 11th, two days after our return from Easter Vacation. The job was done by the American Fence Erectors to the tune of over seven thousand dollars, or approximately three dollars per foot.

The fence begins at the north-east corner of the classroom section of St. Henry's Hall and continues around the perimeter of the property as far as the south-west corner of the Athletic Building, and resumes at the north-west corner to enclose the portion of the driveway north of the Athletic Building. The remainder of the area along Union Boulevard and along Burton Street as far as St. Henry's remains open. Gates have been placed at the drive into St. Henry's, at the drives just north and south of the Athletic Building, and at central points on the east and south sides.

As Msgr. Moran assured us in a recent conference, the locked fence was not placed there for the purpose of keeping us in. It is, however, a popular question with the students as to just why they have the barbed-wire along the top of the fence leaning inward.

## Entrance Exams For 100 Boys

Approximately one hundred wide-eyed young men invaded the seminary premises on April 22 to take examinations for their entrance into the seminary next fall.

After two and a half hours of tests, these prospective aspirants to the priesthood were given a brief tour of their future home by their seminarian guides. Then ice cream bars and orange drink were served by the Sisters.

Sunday, March 25th, we were all surprised and delighted to learn that that night Fr. Hugh Michael Beahan would be here to show us some of his slides and movies of Europe. There were some off-hand remarks that seemed to indicate a doubt whether Father had mastered the art of films and slides as well as he has that of the microphone. However, no one encouraged the doubt further, and with not a little enthusiasm the students all found themselves awaiting the travelogue's beginning.

Without knowing quite how it happened, no sooner had Father taken the floor, than boys and professors alike were literally "rolling in the aisles". His several humorous stories about his recent trip in Europe as a chaplain for a group from our own state, and his witty remarks all put us in quite a receptive mood. After his all-too-short introduction, we took off on his flying carpet to various cities in Europe. Father alternated the travelogue by first showing movies, then slides, some more movies, and some more slides, and so on, while all the time keeping it flowing along with his usual personable and interesting remarks.

We took a tour at the International Eucharistic Congress in Munich, then we visited Oberramergau. Rome was next, and with the sights of St. Peter's and the Roman Forum was coupled a visit with the Holy Father himself. From Rome we went to Paris, and from Paris to Ireland and a view of the Blarney Stone. (Now we know why he always seems to have a word ready for every occasion.) All too soon the showing of both movies and the slides was completed, and back we were at St. Joseph's.

We all agreed and sympathized with Father's final remark, "It's too bad, but I'm not a bishop, so I can't give you a free day!"

We hope Father comes back again, for not only did he quell any doubts there may have been as to his ability with cameras, but he also provided a very enjoyable and interesting evening, as well as a very profitable one, for all of us.

### THE SORROW OF THE APOSTLES

The hope of men had died the day before  
When Christ our Lord was laid within a tomb  
With but a hint of resurrection soon.  
The horror of His death made them deplore  
What might occur if they should face the roar  
Of crowds incensed with lies and ruin.  
O God! but that they might avoid such doom  
And never be remembered any more.

But lo! On Easter morn it came to pass  
That Christ, our King, was born once more to men.  
What joy His children knew when His calm voice  
Was heard. For if God's power could surpass  
The stamp of final death to rise again,  
'Twas meet and just that they should now rejoice.

Bernard Sass

### A MEDITATION ON GRADUATION

Twenty-one youths' agitation  
But slightly precedes celebration;  
They've learned to debate,  
And learned to orate,  
And now they await graduation.  
  
And as they await graduation,  
Their hearts undergo consternation,  
Since held out as bait  
Are the flats of fate--  
Each longs to know of his destination.

Why long to know one's destination?  
We seek these off-hand intimations  
Our fears to abate,  
Our hopes to dilate,  
To escape from the Lake's desolation.

'Tis known from the Lake's desolation  
One fellow will taste aggravation:  
He claims a rebate,  
He gets quite irate--  
At length will he try opiation?

We doubt that he'll try opiation,  
Until he's tried all extrication;  
In his present estate  
His hopes will inflate,  
As long as there's still suffocation.

Since bishops deplore suffocation,  
And we want to avoid degradation,  
We'll ask him to wait,  
And join in our fete,  
And bear with his slight irritation.

We shall all endure irritation,  
And not even try vindication;  
And so, we relate,  
We'll bear any fate--  
At least until past graduation.

(Editor's note: Since we are merely passing on, we have used the word "graduation" in lieu of a better one.)

Francis Fallon



# Otto's Last Time

## Under Old Regime

Unlike my usual rather jovial beginnings, this one is a bit on the more serious side, in that it is on one of life's little setbacks which is currently being undergone by one of our hopeful graduates, and indeed by all of his classmates as well. On April 17th, Tom Popma was confined to the Infirmary with a high fever, which was later diagnosed as being due to an acute attack of rheumatic fever. He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where he is currently a patient. The fellows of his class, and all of the students of the rest of the house as well, have asked me to pass along to Tom their best wishes and the assurance of their prayers for his speedy recovery.

### Longer Quarterlies

A new switch helped to create the proper spirit for Holy Week this year, namely that examinations in all subjects - not just Latin and English - were two-and-a-half hour affairs. This change, I understand, is to be permanent. Some of the students are nervously considering what may happen to semester exams, which are already two-and-a-half hour ordeals...

### A Fast Break...

A freak accident added to this year's toll of unwanted ventilation in St. Henry's Hall. A stray grounder thrown by Dick Lawie (of the Maintenance department, no less) took a bounce off a fence and lodged in Ed Hahnenberg's room window. It was perhaps by a strange twist of fate that the accident occurred the day before we had a mid-April ten-and-three-quarter inch snowfall with appropriate temperatures. The fact that Ed was a dorm prefect did not prove to be any help, as that happened to be his month to sleep in St. Henry's...

### Animal Haven?

There seems to be a fad of pet-care hitting the

seminary these days. The second class (which is taking biology this year in accordance with the new curriculum) has its own private litter of rabbits. The last I heard, there were just two of them, but then this paragraph isn't finished yet... Walt Broad tried to get into the act with a crayfish which Mitch somehow managed to procure for him, but the crayfish didn't seem to want to cooperate. After an almost suicidal excursion down the hall one night, the homesick crustacean finally cashed in.

In fine...

Contrary to my usual custom, I won't close the last Otto column under the present regime with a sentimental flash-back over the years. I have made a resolution to be forward-looking, unconcerned about past boo-boos (though I've made plenty of them, believe me). So, instead, I am presently wondering about the chances for my being employed here next issue. But, I'll probably be at it again, seein' as how I've usually been able to come through so far.

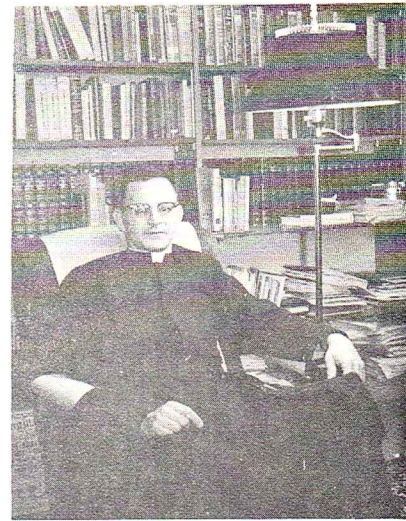
I almost wish I could go with this year's graduating class -- guess I'm getting a yearn to see the country. However, in the many years I've been here, I've formed some really wonderful friendships, so wonderful, in fact, that I can't bear the thought of leaving my buddies -- and many of you probably don't know how much I really mean that, either.

So, if you get any ideas about such escapades as accidentally appearing in chapel in your pajamas, or forgetting to come back at the end of vacation, better think twice, 'cause good ole Otto will be there to observe -- and to report...

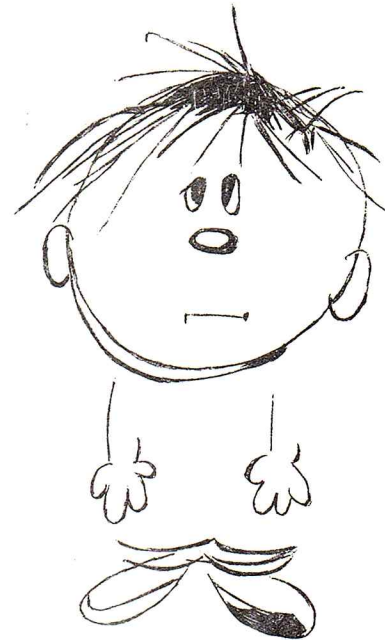
By the way, for the benefit of those who were trying to figure out who I really am, some were close, others weren't. Good luck in subsequent issues, but sorry, as usual, I can't spill the beans...

Otto

## DID YOU KNOW:



That the Fr. Niedzwiecki fan club complained early in the year that we didn't run a picture of Father with our article in the first issue? We can't afford to lose any readers, so here is the picture, along with our apologies to Father for our former oversight.



That this is what the Recorder staff as a whole looks like after a frantic rush to put out the last issue of this year's paper?

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the topic of Francis Fallon's informative analysis. The dangers and implications of psychological advertising were very forcefully described by Thomas Schindler. Robert Tisch then spoke on the fate of the buffalo, "The Monarch of the Plains," and the conservation of our natural resources. To end the program, Norbert Bufka expounded on the importance of understanding the Protestant Reformation in convert-making.

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year's musical will be a big success, even though less than three weeks have been available for rehearsal.

This year, as in previous years, the musical will be presented at the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor. We hope that they will enjoy it as well as all who see it performed from our stage. Our only regret is that we are unable to present the annual musical to a larger audience.



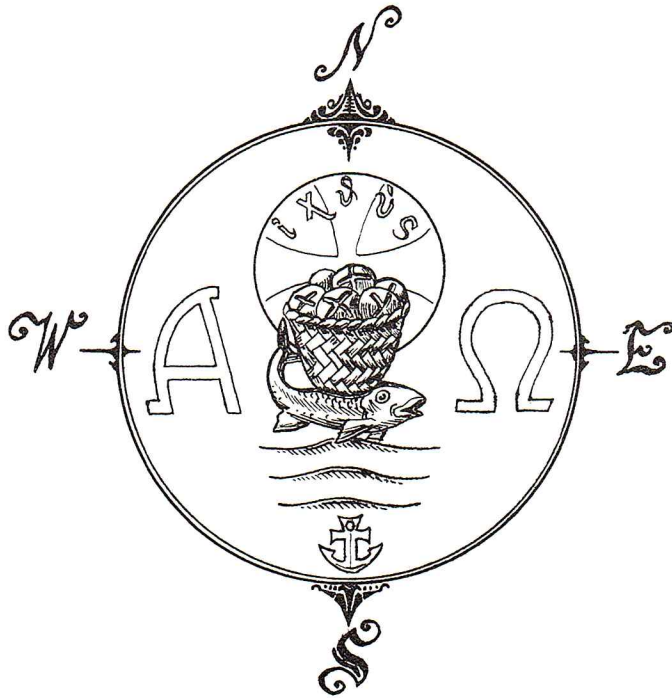
# From All Points ..

The Northwest

The Southeast

Saint Paul

Baltimore



"The flying rumors gather'd as they roll'd,  
Scarce any tale was sooner heard than told;  
And all who told it added something new,  
And all who heard it made enlargements too."

-- Alexander Pope

The Southeast

Cincinnati

Larry Spitzley, ex-alumni editor, and one of our most loyal correspondents, is quite concerned over the activities of the GCD here at St. Joe's and is always ready to offer a few suggestions of ingenious ways Frank Fallon can get the students to pray for the success of the organization. He has even volunteered to print out a number of cards for this purpose (probably just an excuse to operate the printing press at Cincinnati, which, we understand, he practically owns.) Apparently, our alumni had a very enjoyable Easter Vacation, and we are wondering whether they have recovered from it or not. Larry Spitzley is looking forward to the visit of Bishop Albers to Cincinnati,

and is hoping that he will be able to find out the appointments of the Lansing seminarians before they do. All of our alumni at Cincinnati are hard at work preparing for exams (they must be). Larry is planning on attending the optional three-week course in education at Cincinnati which he will begin after final exams are over. Our other alumni at the Rock prefer to return home in June, rather than attend the course. After the course on education, Larry plans to work on the census in Cincinnati from June 18th to June 25th. Following this, he hopes to attend a three-day institute on Sacred Scripture. Larry, are you ever going to come home this summer?

For Chuck Howley at St. Paul's in Minnesota, March 19 came without a welcomed free-day as he was used to here at St. Joe's. Don't worry, Chuck, Den Wasco did not even make any mistakes in the Holy Week ceremonies, although lately his litanies could use some improvement.

Eugene Alvesteffer and Pedro Garcia head the list of newsmakers from Baltimore this issue. Pete and Gene, along with another seminarian from St. Mary's spent three fun-filled days in New York during the Easter holidays. The United Nation's Building, St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Statue of Liberty, Wall Street, Greenwich Village, and China Town are but a few of the attractions that fascinated the trio. We were, however, surprised to learn that the three did not go up to the top of the Empire State Building. But then Eugene Alvesteffer, being from Hart, has no doubt learned to take these skyscrapers in stride. Arriving back at the seminary, tired but happy, our alumni were living proof of the familiar lines (excuse the variation) "Ecce quam bonum, et quam iucundum, itinera facere fratres in unum."

We've been having a lot of complaints from our alumni at St. John's about our not putting their name in the Recorder, and so, here it is:

## OUR ALUMNI AT ST. JOHN'S

The only trouble is, that we have not received any letters from them lately. We do understand, however, that they are somewhat concerned about the Shrine Project. We were happy to hear this, and hope that our other alumni will have a similar concern.

Sixth Classmen here at St. Joe's may find some consolation in the realization that the Second Philosophers at St. Mary's are sharing with them the mental anxiety that is so allied to appointment-time. Maybe Plymouth, maybe San Antonio.... But regardless of destination, to all we send best wishes for continued success in their theological studies.



Discussing this and next year's policies for the Recorder are, left to right: Ray Hanslits, Joe Grablinski, Jim Cavera, Bob Walsh, Jim Swiat, and Bob Lesinski.



# Sports Schedule Changes Tempo

## Baseball's Losing Popularity

Baseball enthusiasts began getting into shape about the middle of February, since all our snow had disappeared. This phenomenon ceased, however, when snow again covered the ground. March saw these same enthusiasts appear now and again with their equipment; but because of the inconsistent weather

the baseball season did not get into full swing.

After Easter vacation, the Junior and Intermediate Leagues began their season which was rudely interrupted by a heavy snowfall. However, now that good weather has returned the cry of "Play Ball" can be heard again.

The Senior League, however, had not started because of the "May First Musical" whose cast is made up mostly of members of the Senior House and because of baseball's waning popularity in the Senior House. The majority of the students want to play softball alone, a few wish to play baseball alone, and some are willing to play softball and baseball. In the case of those willing to play both, softball will probably be played on weekdays and baseball games would be scheduled for Wednesday and Saturday afternoons when more time is available. This system seems to be the most probable but the problem of getting teams still remains. In any event this season should prove to be interesting.

## Who Plays Volleyball ?

Nobody does now, but its popularity was never as great as during March. The recreation periods saw the volleyball courts pretty well jammed almost every day. The Junior and Intermediate groups even formed leagues (the results of which, see below). The Seniors leagueless still swarmed to play. We find ourselves at a loss to explain this unprecedented popularity.

<u>Junior Volleyball</u>	
Mennen	3-0
Old Spice	3-0
Avon	2-1
Hush	2-1
Ban	2-1
Trig	1-2
Yardley	1-2
Stag	1-2
Fresh	0-3
Arrid	0-3

## Intermediate Volleyball

Intermediate Valley	Score
Hogan's Hoods	3-0
Tabor's Thugs	2-1
Bettag's Beatniks	2-1
Ed's Ex-cons	2-1
Gilbert's Gang	1-2
Gardiner's Goon's	1-2
Fran's Fighters	1-2
Joe's Jokers	0-3

## Looking Ahead

All are anxiously awaiting as Field Day (May 17, 1961) quickly draws near. The big day promises to be better than ever with the possibility of a new event this year. The 440 yard dash may replace the 50 yard dash providing it meets the approval of all. There was hope for a discuss event but chances of that are quite slim. The pole vault is a certain event now that the broken stands have been replaced. The Blues are eager to defeat the Reds after last year's defeat, and the clergy-student game will be enjoyed by all.

"The bow cannot possibly always stand bent, nor can human nature or human frailty subsist without some lawful recreation." (Cervantes)

No, I do not intend to force you to endure an essay, however brilliant, on recreation. I merely want to point out that we ought to make a better effort to use our times of recreation as often and as well as we can. Those who go through life without lawful and periodic recreation, do not really go through life; rather perhaps life goes through them. Especially those in institutions have no excuse for not using the athletic equipment provided for them.

## Sports Hints

...Tired of the conventional sports? Looking for something else? Why not try playing baseball with a ping-pong ball. This twist quickens both the eye and the reflexes and costs only \$.15 a ball (you will hardly ever break the bat).

...For that run-down feeling, take a few turns around your neighborhood or campus.

Unusual, what?

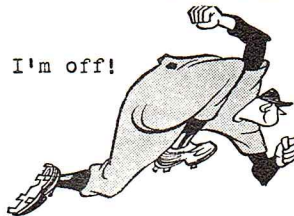
It is a belated greeting, perhaps, but hats off to the 3rd class for their cool performances against the 4th, 5th, and the 6th classes. Quite startled were these three classes when they were defeated by the 3rd class 32-20, 28-21, and 40-27 respectively. A keen sense of observation tells us that this constitutes a quasi-championship.

## News Briefs

...The Senior Reds defeated the Blues in the handball tournament.

...The tennis courts are lined with a marvelous shade of turquoise instead of the usual yellow.

I'm off!



There was once a young boy  
who at bat  
Was accustomed to doff oft  
his hat.  
One day when he doffed  
The crowd it just laughed.  
Now what are you thinking  
of that?

