

# Lafayette Alumnus News

OCTOBER 1969

## Changes, Changes, Changes

### College Plans For Coeducation

Lafayette will never be the same. After a year's study, the board of trustees decided last spring that it was time to reverse more than 135 years of tradition by letting the girls in.

While the exact date for the admission of women has not been decided, the board of trustees made three decisions during a September 13 meeting that moved the College closer to the day when girls will walk on the quad as students.

At the meeting, the trustees



*In the library*



*... ah ... ah ... oh, well*



*... at concerts*

### Alumni Questionnaire

Preference of respondents by number of replies							
Classes	00-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-68	Total
Favoring all-male	127	286	231	185	446	310	1,585
Favoring admitting women	30	62	111	166	294	445	1,108
No preference	7	20	16	16	39	17	115
% response from decade	25%	24%	18%	17%	18%	20%	20%

### Response by occupation

Occupation	Clergy	Educator	Profes- sional	Business	Gov- ern- ment	Engineer- ing & Science	Other
Favor all-male	26%	37%	50%	62%	35%	63%	64%
Favor admitting women	65%	58%	48%	35%	55%	33%	32%
No preference	9%	5%	2%	3%	10%	4%	4%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
No. of responses	46	245	365	866	105	681	481



*... and finally in the classroom.*

approved the concept of a college of 2,000 students as being the most reasonable basis for developing the ultimate model. Under the plan, the College would admit approximately 1,500 to 1,600 men and 400 to 500 women.

The trustees agreed to seek to reach a decision at their December meeting on the date for the admission of women. A decision in December would make it possible to admit women as early as September, 1970.

College officials also were given permission to appoint two consultants and a dean of women or associate dean of students to assist in the planning process during the coming year.

Last June the trustees approved in principle a faculty recommendation for the admission of women to the College. Administrative officers and the faculty were instructed to develop a program "as quickly as feasible."

Administrative officials met throughout the summer to develop plans to implement the board decision. Faculty members of the admissions committee and academic council endorsed preliminary staff plans and a special trustee subcommittee worked with College officials. The resolutions were submitted to the board by Joseph A. Grazier '25 and Sumner H. Babcock '24, both members of the trustee subcommittee.

The trustees considered the opinions of alumni before they decided to admit women. Approximately 2,800 Lafayette men responded to the alumni coeducation questionnaire. Gary Evans '57, vice-president for development and director of alumni affairs, noted that "We had considered a scientific random sampling that would have been statistically representative of all our alumni, but we later decided that every alumnus should be given an opportunity to register his opinion." The opinions of those who responded were studied by the board before a final decision on coeducation was made.

The trustees, in the final analysis, based their decision to admit women on the following: 1. a desire that Lafayette should serve all

members of society; 2. the overwhelming preference of the college-age population for the coeducational environment; 3. the fact that the admission of women would increase considerably the market from which the College selects its students and, 4. the belief that the admission of women would strengthen the academic and social programs of the College.

## Frosh Arrive And Settle into Routine

Five hundred and twenty-five new students—504 freshmen and 21 transfers—ascended to College Hill on September 3. By sunset the next day they had not only moved in, but had met with their dorm counselors, joined in the *Alma Mater* to conclude a "welcoming banquet," broken bread at lunch with their faculty advisors, shaken the president's hand, purchased books and attended their first day of classes.

The young men required to make such a rapid adjustment to Lafayette weathered it well. All 525 were still on board at this

writing. A review of their records indicates that generally they have always been successful in adjusting to the demands they have faced. Selected from 2,679 freshman and 91 transfer applicants, they represent a mix of academic and personal accomplishment which bodes well for their years at Lafayette and beyond.

The typical member of the class of '73 outranked five out of six of his classmates in secondary school, outscored 17 out of 18 of the nation's seniors on the Scholastic Aptitude Test and was accepted by two or three colleges in addition to Lafayette.

But the credentials of the new class go far beyond academic ability and attainment. Among them are 15 student council presidents, 13 senior class presidents, 73 publications editors, 108 musicians and 297 athletes holding 777 varsity letters, including 93 team captains. Parenthetically, 45 of the new students are sons of Lafayette alumni, a number believed to be a modern record, and 11 of them have fathers who were in the class of '50.

Campus reaction to the newcomers was rather reserved, as

always. Not about to be impressed by the secondary school credentials of the frosh, upperclassmen and faculty awaited first-hand evidence of the qualities which earned these 525 the privilege of a Lafayette education.

## Alumni Softball Team Moves From Rags to Riches

The Philadelphia Lafayette Alumni softball team has a history that would rival that of the amazing New York Mets. The Lafayette men joined the Interclub League of Philadelphia, one of the oldest softball leagues in the country, in 1964 and quickly lost all the games they played but one. Even the Mets of eight years ago would have been embarrassed at such a dismal beginning.

But things have changed. This year, only five years later, the Lafayette men have upset the Philadelphia softball world by winning all their league games. They did so by beating names that are so famous that one scarcely dares to speak them aloud. For example, the Lafayette team trounced Princeton 5-3, dumped Dartmouth 8-3, flattened Yale 5-0, and walloped Racquet-Cornell 17-6.

The team's coach, Joe E. Bell, Jr. '63 credits the success of his colleagues to the "truly superb pitching of Howie Youmans '53, who never pitched as an undergraduate, but who gained his skill with the help of a rubber ball, a strong cellar wall and an understanding wife."

The club also depends on the heavy hitting of Ed Morgan '63 (.571), Don Mill '66 (.555) and Andy Cook '63 (.476).

Other members of the team include Harry Speiss '65, John Kinard '52, Ed Brunswick '58, Steve Minkel '63, Spence Manthorpe '58, Fred Matz '68, Walt Midura '53, Marty Shane '63 and Dick Flood '54.

What about next year? Coach Bell is optimistic although he will lose slugger John Kinard, who will trade in his bat for a surfboard and head for Hawaii for a year.



**WET FROSH** The class of 1973 was welcomed to Lafayette by a down-pour. The rain caused a few problems, as the photograph above indicates. However, the frosh quickly adjusted and headed into the busy life of the first year at Lafayette.

## Meyers Combines Medicine, Acting; Leads Busy Life

There are many doctors and many more actors. But very few people are both. Michael Meyers '68 may be an exception.

Meyers has already tasted success as an actor. He received wide acclaim for his portrayal of Ron Patimkin in "Goodbye, Columbus." At the same time, he is studying medicine at Jersey City Medical College and hopes to become a doctor.

How did such a conflict of interests occur? Coincidence, of course.

Meyers just happened to be going to a wedding rehearsal of a friend in the Plaza Hotel in New York, and he just happened to get lost, and he just happened to run into Larry Peerce, cousin of the bride, who was also lost. Peerce just happened to be director of "Goodbye, Columbus."

It sounds like one of the great star "discoveries" of the past, but Meyers just happened to be the type Peerce was looking for and so Peerce asked Meyers to come to the studio for a screen test.

Meyers' first reaction was "You're kidding!" Finally, he did decide to go to the studio to try for the part.

"I told him I'd be driving a truck for my father, but that I could stop by around 2 p.m. because I had a delivery in the area," he said.

"I double-parked this big truck on 44th Street and asked a guard to watch it. I told him I had to go up to the director's office," Michael laughed, "and I know he didn't believe me."

At the time, Meyers was wearing a pair of faded "dungs" and a Lafayette T-shirt, no less. Little did he know that the outfit was exactly the same as the outfit Ron wears in one scene of "Goodbye, Columbus." The only difference is that Ron wears an Ohio State T-shirt.

But in addition to the same dress and the same physical appearance of both Meyers and character Ron Patimkin, there are some sim-



Meyers with fellow medical students.



Meyers in scene from "Goodbye, Columbus."

ilarities that made Peerce and producer Stanley Jaffe want to sign Meyers immediately.

Both boys were recent college graduates who had played basketball during their college careers. And, both boys also drove trucks for their fathers.

Michael decided to sign a contract only if his role would be completed before he started med school in the fall. Both director and producer agreed and Meyers was added to the cast.

During the summer Meyers held a total of four jobs. He drove a truck for his father, gave tennis

instructions, was a New Rochelle Hospital volunteer, and completed filming "Goodbye, Columbus."

"The last day of filming was on a Thursday. I picked up my cadaver the following Tuesday with 80 other students," Meyers said.

Then Michael was in another world — the world of medicine.

"It's been difficult to keep switching back and forth between Michael Meyers, struggling young med student, and Michael Meyers, so-called actor," said Meyers. "For example, at the preview everyone was talking about flying out to California the next day — I kept

thinking about the urine analysis I had to run the next day and the physiology I had to study before an exam."

The big question for Meyers now is whether he should continue with medicine or acting, but he feels that he doesn't have to decide right away.

Who knows, maybe, if he puts off the answer long enough, he will turn out to be one of those few . . . one of those few who can be both a good doctor and a good actor.

## Alumni Calendar

Alumni will be mailed detailed information concerning programs scheduled for their areas.

### Boston Area

Nov. 7-9—Lafayette-Vermont football weekend Burlington, Vt. Phone Donald B. Dalbeck '51, 617-829-3886. Lehigh Valley

### Bux-Mont

Oct. 12—Barge Party on the Delaware Canal. Meet at Municipal Parking Lot Landing, New Hope, Pa. \$4.50 per person. Phone Warren Sachsenmaier '20, 215-794-7976.

Oct. 25—Alumni Homecoming tailgate picnic on March Field. 12:00 noon.

### Lehigh Valley

Luncheon meeting with speakers from the College will be held every third Wednesday of each month at the Elks Club, 31 So. 8th St. Phone Louis J. Chomo '59, 215-434-5151, Ext. 735.

### Metropolitan New York

Uptown Luncheon Group meets third Wednesday of each month at Park 100 Restaurant, 100 Park Ave. Phone John Ragsdale '62, 212-557-3908.

### Morris-Essex

Oct. 25—Alumni Homecoming tailgate picnic on March Field, 12:00 noon. South Jersey

Oct. 29—Annual dinner for area guidance counselors. Phone William McDowell '37, 609-854-0965.

### Philadelphia

Weekly luncheon meetings, Poor Richard Club, Juniper & Locust St. 12:15 p.m.

Oct. 15—Annual "Beef" Cummins '88 Luncheon. George Azar, freshman football coach and varsity wrestling coach, will speak.

## Alumni To Return; Homecoming Set For Oct. 24-25

Homecoming 1969 will be different!

The usual activities—a football game, picnics, etc., are still intact, but for the first time in the history of the College the homecoming committee has started the machinery moving that will eventually make the traditional fall weekend the major event of the fall season.

Roland Brown '49, homecoming committee chairman, and his colleagues hope to involve students in the events of the weekend and to improve the homecoming program until it becomes as important to alumni as spring reunion weekend.

Homecoming 1969 is the first step in that direction. The weekend will include a variety of activities designed to keep alumni busy, happy and involved in the life of the campus. The weekend will revolve around two major events—the Lafayette-Bucknell football game and the dedication and naming of the new biology building.

The weekend will officially begin on Friday, October 24 with morning and afternoon symposia on "Pollution and Public Policy." The faculty will join panels of legislators and other experts in a discussion of the problem of pollution in America.

U. S. Senator Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, who is currently the favorite to replace the late Senator Everett Dirksen as leader of Senate Republicans, will top the day with a lecture on pollution at 8:30 p.m. in Colton Chapel.

On Saturday, October 25, H. Keffer Hartline '23, winner of the Nobel Prize in Medicine for 1967, will be the principal speaker at the dedication of the new biology building.

A large tent on March Field will be available for those who want to picnic. Lunch will also be served in Marquis Hall where alumni will have an opportunity to meet and dine with students.

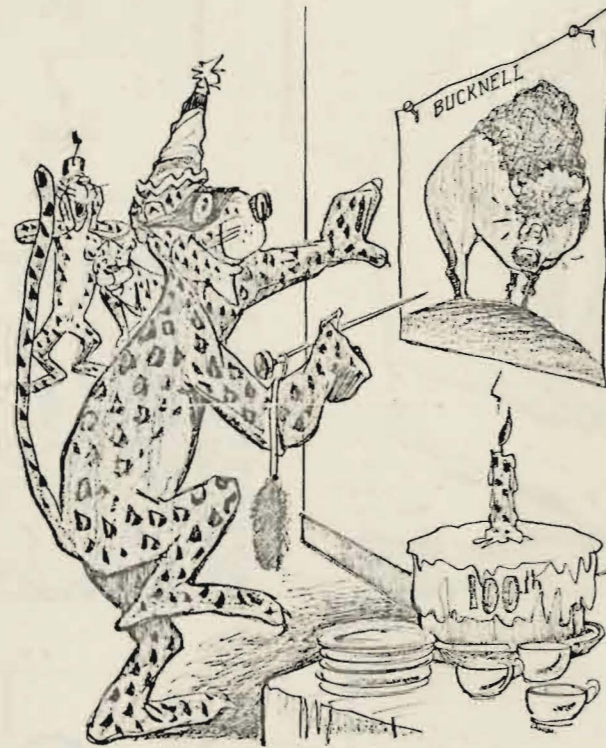
Alumni also may want to

attend a soccer match between Lafayette and Swarthmore. The match will begin at noon on Metzgar Field, the College's new outdoor athletic complex.

The football game is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. After the game, alumni are invited to a post-game social under the tent on March Field. A special musical program is planned.

### VARSITY FOOTBALL 1969

Sept. 20	Rutgers	H-2:00
Sept. 27	Columbia	A-1:30
Oct. 4	Hofstra	A-1:30
Oct. 11	Drexel	H-2:00
Oct. 18	Boston U.	H-2:00
Oct. 25	Bucknell	H-2:00
Nov. 1	Gettysburg	A-1:30
Nov. 8	Vermont	A-1:00
Nov. 15	Colgate	H-1:50
Nov. 22	Lehigh	A-1:30



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