

Letter to the Editor

May 8, 1965

Dear Sirs,

As a student of this University and as a participant in the demonstration on Wednesday, May 5, I feel a responsibility to explain what constituted, in my opinion, the purpose and meaning of such unusual and unsolicited student action.

It is stated in the official catalogue of the University that the "University of Scranton educates the students to understand himself and the world in which he lives." Thus, by virtue of his own human nature and his contract with the University, every student possesses the right to know, the right to be aware of the ideas and ideals of his society. If he is refused the opportunity to become intelligent, he can no longer function as a human person in a human environment.

In the administration's statement concerning Mr. Carlesimo's new job with the Scranton Miners football team, it was pointed out that "this is his business and the University's business and no one else's concern." This is infallibly true. But we must expect that the educational philosophy of this institution is to be implemented by appropriate practical applications: having once signed a contract with this University, each student has been accepted as an intelligent functionable part of this University. Thus "University business" is, by definition, the business of students.

Thus it is only just that, as a member of the University, the students take an active interest in the formulation of its ideas and ideals and in its implementation of practical programs. This active participation can be active and useful only if it is based on a knowledge of existing situations.

However, during the past weeks and months, the students have been denied the opportunity of understanding the existing athletic situation. No one but the basketball players were ever certain of exactly who was coaching the team. Despite obvious and expressed criticism of athletic activities, no member of the administration attempted to explain the situation to the students—let alone improve it. Despite various inquiries concerning next year's coach, no statement of policy or purpose was produced by the accepted authorities. And when it was announced that the official Athletic Director of the University had accepted a new job, the administration continued its indifferent silence.

Interested students therefore took it upon themselves to publicly and directly express to the administration of the University that the recognition, which students once received as intelligent people, had been, for a very long time, ignored and denied. It was necessary to forcefully demonstrate that our right to *know*, our right to understand our world had been repudiated by the attitudes and procedures of the administration. In order that they might act as an intelligent group, the demonstrators requested that the two candidates for Student Body President act as their spokesmen. Yet in administration statements the group was called "anonymous."

Not only is our right to know, to be intelligent, to be aware, being denied by the administration; we ourselves are asked to deny them. We are asked to concede that the May

5th's "mob action was more a rite of spring than anything else."

We shall *never* concede that. We shall never be shoved into saying that we do not exist.

Sincerely,
Jerry Miller

May 7, 1965

Dear Sirs:

I have only been a part of this University for eight months, but judging from comments which were given by faculty, and upperclassmen, I would have to say this definitely was one of the most significant and most important weeks that the University of Scranton has experienced in its near eighty years of existence.

For the first time in a long while there was a chance for the students to choose who they wanted to represent them as Student Body President in the coming year. Both Mr. McNulty and Mr. Walsh gave the voters a definite choice which was decided by issues and not popularity. The other classes all had interesting elections, and there was a record turnout of voters.

On Tuesday afternoon the candidates for the University's highest student position gave the electorate a chance to make a decision by exposing their records and their prospective programs in a debate on the corner of Linden Street and Quincy Avenue. Both candidates highly commended Mr. Murphy, and this year's Council, the most active in the University's history.

Wednesday brought election day and with the election it brought the opportunity for students to make it known that they *are* a part of the University of Scranton. The demonstration was not a mere "rite of spring"; it was the voice of the students crying out to the administration from the wilderness of non-recognition.

Thursday's letters from the administration proved we weren't heard this time. It was even stated by one faculty member in discussing the demonstration, that "We don't give a damn what you think." This only proves further to us that we must show the "University" that *we do* give a damn!

Sincerely yours,
Ed Mitchell

Editor, *Aquinas*:

May I personally congratulate the author of last issue's editorial, "Hops vi. Dormies," for his magnificent failure. One rarely sees such trash in any school paper—the fact that it appeared in the Editorial Column only compounded the idiocy.

The purpose of the editorial was, obviously, a satirization of the popularly conceived "rift" supposedly existing in the Student Body. Unfortunately, the author failed to grasp the significance of this "rift," actually slight, failed miserably in the art of satire, and succeeded only in emphasizing what slight differences do exist—to the further detriment of student unity.

Thank him for me.

L. C. Schneider

Class of 1966.

**DORM STUDENTS
MAY NOW RECEIVE
WUSV-FM AT 650 AM**

Mitchell Writes Musical Score

Professor Louis D. Mitchell, Associate Professor of English at the University of Scranton, wrote the music and lyrics to his brother Lof-ten's new musical "Star of the Morning," which opened at the Karamu House in Cleveland, Ohio, a few weeks ago. The play, well received by the critics, has its backers hoping for a spot on Broadway. Mr. Mitchell, however, said, "I'm not all that optimistic. We certainly hope 'Star' does make it, but that's a long way off."

"Star of the Morning" is about Bert Williams, a vaudeville star of the twenties. More specifically, it is about the fifteen years of his struggle to succeed in the American theater. Bert Williams is remembered for several songs including the old favorite, "Nobody." Mr. Mitchell took the lyrics from some of the old Williams songs and added new music closely paralleling the accepted Broadway idiom. Mr. Mitchell's own songs are new and refreshing. They have that lively "catchy" beat which tempts one to sing along. Since the play is about a struggle, there are also sad songs. But these do not evoke the sentimentality of the blues, rather they slow down the action enough that the playgoer is conscious of the activity on the stage. No words can really describe music, so a description will not be attempted. The songs really must be heard to be appreciated.

Stage director for the Cleveland production is Benno Frank, who is well known locally for his work in the Scranton Civic Opera Guild. He was visiting professor of dramatic art here at the University of Scranton in 1939.

Professor Mitchell is a 1952 graduate of Fordham University. He received his Master of Arts degree from Fordham in 1954. He has also studied at Columbia University and New York City University where he is a candidate for the Ph. D. His teaching duties here include both the Undergraduate and Graduate schools.

Freshman Prom

Some 87 couples enjoyed themselves in a pleasant, Polynesian atmosphere, as the freshman class turned the Student Center ball room into a South Pacific isle and held their prom.

When the guests arrived, they wondered why anyone would take a dance off-campus when the auditorium could be transformed into just as nice an atmosphere as any of the downtown hotels. Music was provided by Pete Noto and his band. University letter openers were presented to the young ladies as favors.

Special thanks are in order for all the committees and their chairmen. Especially the decorating committee under the direction of Joe Siberski with the bulk of the work being done by Mike Kulkin, Ed Testa, Joe Sienkiewicz, Joe Friel and Pete Burg. Arrangements during the night were handled by Jack Baldwin, Bob Wanschura, and Ed Mitchell. It was truly an affair where the class executed the genuine spirit and team work they have applied to all of their projects this past year. It was again this spirit that made last Friday evening's prom, the best Freshman social held here at the University. Fr. Daniel J. Lawler, S.J., is moderator of the class.

J. Connolly Elected President Of ASN

John Connolly, a junior English major, was elected President of Alpha Sigma Nu at a meeting held on May 6th. The local chapter of the National Jesuit Honor Society also elected three other officers: Don Storm was selected for the vice-presidency; Jim Moran, present editor of the *Aquinas*, was chosen for Recording Secretary; and John Curtis received the nod for Corresponding Secretary. Connolly and Storm automatically gained seats on the Student Council by virtue of their office. Both Connolly and Storm were Chairmen of Committees assisting the Purple Club Drive under the direction of Dr. Wolf.

All four elections were hotly contested. Connolly edged Tom Kennedy on the second ballot for the Presidency. There were four ballots before Storm won the vice-presidency nosing out Moran and Ray Waity. Finally, there were two ballots for both offices of Secretary. Jim Collier, junior member of ASN, remarked: "This is the only election in the school where you can vote for

all the candidates before one is elected."

Connolly will succeed Kevin Corcoran as president of the Honor Society. Father Kelly S.J., national moderator of the organization, thanked Corcoran and the other outgoing officers before the meeting was over. This year the club expanded to thirty-seven members.

As the new officers were installed, plans were discussed for next year. It is hoped with the expansion of the number of members that there would be a corresponding expansion of the activities of the group. Tom Kennedy was placed in charge of investigating the possibility of placing a team from the University on College Bowl. Jim Moran and George Mazaitas had been previously appointed to head a committee to initiate ideas for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Honor Society next year. Several cultural suggestions were put forward including a foreign film festival, a ballet company, and a travelling drama. Finally student rights were discussed.

15th Anniversary of WUSV—FM

by PAUL J. BATT

Fifteen years ago Father Grady almost singlehandedly began something that was to become a tradition at the University. It was through his foresight that Radio Station WUSV-FM received her early beginnings. In those early years, there was little glamor attached to belonging to WUSV, there was instead plenty of toil, sweat and tears. The University did not even possess a decent classroom building, much less a penthouse in which to put a Radio Station. The program consisted of mostly classical music and, as now, it was regarded by the majority of the student body as "square" for that reason. The station, we are told, possessed a rickety, old transmitter which would at times work and at other times become temperamental and putter to a stop. There was no vault-like record library in which to house the albums. There were not enough albums to justify this expense. As FM was a fairly new concept in broadcasting, only the very rich could afford the luxury of FM Radio and the glamor of having "uninterrupted dinner music and classics" went, for the most part, unheeded. These were the most trying years of the station's existence.

During the late 50's the station built up its collection of classical music and began to earn a reputation as a "fine music station". This was the only place on the dial that one could turn and be assured of hearing the passionate strains of Puccini's *Madame Butterfly*, or reflecting on the exhilarating sensitivity of Dvorak's *Symphony in G*. WUSV became, during this period, a cultural asset to the Scranton community and the University of Scranton.

Bringing things up to date, WUSV now possesses a new transmitter which hums in the room adjoining the main studio. The station was moved into Loyola Hall of Science in 1957 and now maintains "penthouse studios" there. The listening audience has been estimated at approximately three to five thousand

steady listeners. The record library includes over 5000 albums approximately 3000 of which are classical or operatic. Last year under the tenure of Mr. Tallon S.J. a new jazz show and a folk hour were instituted. The collection of jazz and folk albums are rapidly nearing 1000 pieces as demand from students increases.

This past year WUSV, moderated by Father Edward Gannon, S.J., has attained a stature never before realized in the station's history. With the addition of two programs entitled "Announcer's Choice" and "WUSV Presents," WUSV has distinguished itself as a medium for student participation and expression. During a contest, held during the first semester, in which all the dormitories were asked to compete for the best show on "Announcer's Choice," two dorms distinguished themselves and thus earned themselves the right to have WUSV pumped into their AM radios at the expense of the station. It now appears that all eight dorms will be connected to two main electrical systems, thus providing greater interest in the Station.

Another first occurred this year. As the station grew in importance, so did its membership. WUSV now employs about sixty students on a full time basis; as opposed to a maximum of 35 in previous years.

WUSV also possesses some of the most modern equipment used in broadcasting today; including two new microphones valued at \$150.00 each, and a new Stereo tape recorder valued at \$325.00.

WUSV is proud of its past and even prouder of its bright future. After winning the "Best Club of the Year" award at a recent Student Council Meeting, WUSV has every right to hope for a prosperous year next year which, incidentally, will include an extension of the broadcast day of two and one-half hours, in order to provide more popular music in the early afternoon.