



Dr. Ivar Giaever



Dr. Jean Mayer



Robert Stempel



Ruth Dyer Wells

Newspeak

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Four to be awarded honorary degrees

Worcester Polytechnic Institute will confer four honorary degrees at the annual commencement ceremonies at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 4, in Harrington Auditorium.

The recipients will be Dr. Jean Mayer, president of Tufts University, the conservation speaker, and Mrs. Ruth Dyer Wells, conservationist, historian, and a member of Old Sturbridge Museum, Worcester, Mass.

Dr. Ivar Giaever, Nobel Laureate, General Electric Research & Development Center, Schenectady, N.Y., and Robert C. Stempel, WPI Class of '55, professor of engineering, Chevrolet Division, General Motors Corp., Warren, Mich., School of Engineering.

Dr. Mayer is one of the world's leading scientists who joined the Harvard faculty in 1947 and became professor of nutrition in 1952 and later a co-director of the Harvard Center for Population Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Paris where he received his Ph.D. in 1947.

During World War II, he served with the U.S. Army in the European Theater of Operations. He received 14 military decorations. From 1968 until last summer, he served as a food and nutrition consultant to the U.S. House and Congress.

Mrs. Wells, the former Ruth Dyer, was born in Boston and attended private schools in New Jersey, where she spent her childhood. She attended Corcoran School in Washington, D.C., and the University School of Art.

She was married to George B. Wells, the founder of the American Optical Co., Southbridge. Mrs. Wells and her husband carried out the will of Albert B. and J. Cheney Wells to convert 100 acres of woodland meadow into a museum of New England rural life in Massachusetts, that is now Old Sturbridge Village.

Dr. H. Weiss, professor of chemical engineering, has been named a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE). He was nominated and elected by his colleagues in recognition of his career in industry and higher education, and in appreciation for his contributions to the theory and practice of catalysis. He holds a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a former member of the AIChE Research Committee and founder of the Subcommittee of the Institute's Massachusetts Section. Founded in 1908, is the chemical engineering professional society. It has members in industry, education, and private research.

Widowed in 1967, Mrs. Wells has continued as a trustee of the Village and serves as chairman on its development committee.

She started as a business in 1950, the Gayvil Farm in Charlton, where she raised registered Guernseys. She was named outstanding conservation farmer of 1973 by Worcester County Conservation District for developing the farm which she has donated to the Charlton Conservation Commission for a nature sanctuary.

She is presently engaged in development of a cultural center in Southbridge with the Quinebaug Valley Council on the Arts and Humanities.

Dr. Giaever received a Nobel Prize for Physics in 1973 for his work in super-

conductivity. He is a native of Bergen, Norway, and a graduate in mechanical engineering of the Norwegian Institute of Technology. He received his Ph.D. in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He served in the Norwegian Army; later was a patent examiner for the Norwegian government.

He joined General Electric's Advanced Engineering Program at Peterborough Works, in Canada, and was transferred later to the Schenectady plant, where he pioneered in investigations of electronic phenomena. His experiments helped to establish the theory of superconductivity. Later he developed a simple new technique for detecting the presence of proteins in the human body.

Stempel received his bachelor's degree in business administration by Michigan State University.

He joined General Motors Oldsmobile Division in 1958 as a senior detailer in chassis design and later designed transmissions and motors becoming assistant chief engineer in 1972.

A year later he was appointed special assistant to the president of GM and was transferred to the Chevrolet engineering department as chief engineer of engines and components. He assumed his present position in 1975. Motor Trend Magazine featured him in its February issue as one of the key GM executives responsible for producing the 1977 Chevrolet which the magazine selected as its Car of the Year.

The scientific reporter

Toy — or military device?

by Tom Daniels

The crack *Newspeak* scientific investigation team, consisting of Craig Vickery, Alicia Murphy, Rory O'Connor, and this reporter, have just concluded an exhaustive series of tests on a new and exciting engineering implement that could revolutionize the industry. Our final results show that the Wammo Turbo Tube, supposedly a toy designed for use by small children, has, by virtue of its unique aerodynamic properties, a bright future in the field of science.

Our study began two weeks ago when an alert *Newspeak* staff member spotted a strange cylindrical object lying in the grass in front on Daniels Hall.

"What do you think it is?" asked Rory at that morning's writer's meeting.

"It looks like the bottom stand off of one of those 'Legg's Canisters,'" said Mark Hecker, who quickly added that he had absolutely no personal experience with the panty hose cans.

"It could be a giant napkin holder that blew out of the cafeteria window," guessed John Wash, investigative reporter. "It looks cheap enough to have come from Daka, but it doesn't have any official WPI serial number stamped on it."

"Right," I said. "So far, we've got a panty hose can and a napkin holder. How about some kind of tube from one of the labs?"

"You're all wet," chipped in Ken Mandile. "Look, it says here on the side, 'WAMMO TURBO TUBE'. You must throw the thing, like a Frisbee!" Drawing it back in his arm, he heaved the silvery doodad across the office, clearing out, as he wound up, enough empty film cans to fill in the Grand Canyon, if not the holes in the parking lot. The tube wobbled across the office and knocked over our autographed picture of George Hazzard. Obviously, we weren't going to accomplish much, except knocking some holes in the wall, by throwing the thing around in the office, so we decided to do a little research into the Turbo Tube for this week's paper.

After checking with the Wammo people, we discovered that the Turbo Tube was,

indeed, designed to be thrown through the air. The tubes had been developed by the United States Army as a possible means of downing enemy carrier pigeons. Originally called the "Manually Catapulted Auto Rotating Cylindrical Fowel Intecceptor," it was conceived in the fall of 1918 by Private Chuck A. Can of the 181st Field Communication Corps. Private Can was in a foxhole one night when his outfit found themselves confronted by a large contingent of German troops. Luckily, the German Captain was unexperienced in war-project related situations, and decided to contact his superiors for orders. Calling for a carrier pigeon, he wrote out his message, inserted it into a small capsule, and attached it to the bird's leg.

Meanwhile, Chuck had decided to have a little midnight snack. Rummaging around in his pack, he came up with a can of C-rations, not exactly a Daka Delight, but good enough if you were as hungry as a horse. Discovering that he had no fork, he put his Yankee know-how to work, and opened both ends of the can. He proceeded to push the meat out like a popsicle, by pushing up on one of the loose ends. Just as he was about to bite off a hunk, the guy in the next foxhole down the line, thinking he had seen something moving in the underbrush, started firing random shots at the front lines. Caught off guard, Can jumped at the explosion, letting the meat fall out the open end of the can onto the ground.

Back behind German lines, the officer had made his way into a clearing and released the carrier pigeon. An American lieutenant, roused by the previously mentioned rifle shots, spotted the rising bird. Realizing the German reinforcements would be alerted if the bird delivered the message, he began screaming, "SOMEBODY GET THAT BIRD!" at the top of his lungs.

Continuing with this unlikely chain of events, Private Can, enraged that the war had robbed him of his snack, heaved the empty, hollow tube in the general direction of the front lines, at the exact same moment that the lieutenant started crying

out. The whirling tube caught the unsuspected bird square in the bread-basket, thus saving the day for the Army, who, naturally, assumed that they had a new and valuable weapon on their hands.

In the years that followed, the government spent untold millions trying to convince themselves that the new weapon worked. By the late twenties, the Army had placed in operational service the first production models of the combination Carrier Pigeon Intecceptor and Latrine Digger. Unfortunately, by that time, carrier pigeons were, to put it mildly, on the decline as a means of communication. At first, the Ordinance Board held out hopes that the leading edge of the tubes could be sharpened, so that they would rip neat little round holes in the fabric covering of enemy biplanes, but it was discovered that this changed the aerodynamic properties of the cans too much. By the time World War II rolled around, scientists calculated that a tube capable of bringing down a German bomber would have to weigh 3,000 lbs., and have a diameter of twenty-four feet! Several hundred of these monsters were constructed before the same scientists discovered that the average foot soldier couldn't quite get the things off the ground! These units were put to good use after the war, however, in repairing the famous London Tube Railway.

After World War II, the Army turned over development of the tubes to the Air Force. These experiments, in the mid-fifties, caused the original flying saucer scares.

In 1958, the United States Government decided to send the tubes the way of all useless projectiles, and sold all rights to the Wammo Co., who had previously acquired the Frisbee in a similar manner. Wammo tried just about every angle to sell the things, but nothing they tried caught the fancy of the buying public. First, they were advertised as sporting goods, to be used in hunting birds, but the Audubon Society put a stop to that. Next they were sold as plastic practice footballs, something akin to "Whiffle balls" in baseball. The emergence

Editorials: Old friends...

It is with some sadness that Newspeak notes the exit from our ranks of three hard-working, talented individuals. Chris Baker, aka "Bake", was a sports reporter and writer extraordinaire. He always came through with a good article; positively written, witty, and accurate. His stories extended beyond the realm of "average" reporting, and gave us some insight into the human side of athletics with his articles. Most of all, he *knew* what he was talking about — Chris understood sports and wrote it as he saw it.

Steve Fine worked hard for four years, first as reporter, then as an associate editor, and finally as News-Feature editor, a most demanding job. He took time to write stories that conveyed the facts to the readers, and was always on the lookout for an idea. His input was very valuable many times as to the direction a story should take, and he spent many long hours working on the finished product you see appearing magically every week. He stuck by through periods of low spirit, and helped bring it back up.

Paul Cleary, a friend and an advisor, stepped into the role not knowing what to expect from us, or us from him. Together with Pat Dunn, he gave much needed advice at a minute's call, and sound advice to boot. It's not often that a man of this caliber comes along — always helpful but never pushy; knowledgeable; and understanding. He was the kind of person we needed, and he never expected anything in return.

All these men gave us more than most of this campus would give — time. It was said at one point that the class of '77 was an apathetic one, and that no one from that class was involved in the campus. As far as we are concerned, it would have been that way except for Chris and Steve; they made up for it all. And no one can say the faculty doesn't care — Paul proves otherwise. It is also said that when someone leaves something they have worked hard at, they take some of it with them.

They do.

With thanks,
Rory J. O'Connor

A note to the kids

To the children residing in Daniels and Morgan:

It seems that this spring, more than any other, you have had nothing better to do than pitch water-filled objects at passers-by (much to their annoyance). I don't know why you insist on doing this (maybe you have no work to do???) or what pleasure you can derive from getting others all wet, except that this mirrors your own condition. Whatever the case, it is difficult to justify your presence in a group of supposed adults in a mature atmosphere. The purpose of an institution such as this is education, and it would seem that you should be better able to communicate your ideas than to simply throw water balloons, trash bags, or what have you. May I strongly urge that you all take your water and shower with it, or find some other use that would equally improve you.

Rory J. O'Connor

Letters: Folf?

To the Editor

I take Flair in hand to address the topic Frisbees on the Quad. It shows promise of becoming another of your infamous Newspeak Letters — column brawls, like those on religion and the Pub Stereo which have occurred in the past. These literary mud-fights provide weekly entertainment superior to anything on daytime TV today; but this is the first time I have felt like reaching for the mud.

Since the "Aces" have been here and demonstrated the "legitimacy" of Frisbee as an organized sport, a lot more Frisbee hotdoggers have materialized than during any past D Term. No doubt soon there will be a club, and — who knows — maybe someday a varsity team. Other area

colleges have them.

But in the meantime Frisbee remains comfortably informal, and a place to play essential. The Higgins Estate alone features a 9-hole Folf course (come take a guess). Further Frisbee activity in this area would be rough on the school not to mention all the people who already use this scenic area for practicing of less formal sports.

The Quad is the Frisbee Field. Since publication of Sysko's letter, the incidence of softball and lacrosse has diminished; is greatly appreciated. People who are afraid that their cars' complexions might be blemished by the impact of a Frisbee have plenty of other places to park.

Thanks

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me in the recent election and also to congratulate the other elected officers. Let's work together

now as a class to make next year a better one. Thanks again.

Jim Manchester
Secretary, Class of '78

To the Editor:

I would like to take this time to acknowledge my appreciation to the voters for the support you showed last Wednesday in our class elections. I know that next year, I will give 100 per cent attention

to my respected office so that '78 will be a year to remember. Congratulations to the rest of the officers.

Thank-you
Bob Hart
President

IFC Corner: TKE

As the school year comes to a close, we are saying goodbye to seniors Stann Chonofsky, Moon Clancy, Paul Deschamps, Mike Doyle, Cliff Parizo, Joe Williams, and Mac Wilmert, who have job offers they are accepting, while Don Statile and Peter Briggs will be going on to grad-school. We wish them all good luck and success, and hope they will keep in contact with us.

An addition to our house, is the new Sisters Program. The first Sisters will be

Betsy Ernst, Holly Mekker, and Susan Giorgio. We are looking forward to initiation.

Congratulations go out to fraternal Hart and Jim Manchester for being elected President and Secretary respectively, Class of 1979. We know they'll do a great job.

From the brothers of TKE, we wish you a fantastic summer. We would also like to wish all the graduating seniors good luck in their future endeavors.

WPI CLASS ELECTIONS

1978

President Rick Poole	Vice-President Paul Angelico	Secretary Cyndy Gryniuk	Treasurer Dennis Kelly
Representative Ray Dunn			

WPI CLASS ELECTIONS

1979

President Robert Hart	Vice-President Scott Booth	Secretary James Manchester	Treasurer Larry Manchester
Representative John Janas		Com. Rep. Tom Daniels	

WPI CLASS ELECTIONS

1980

President Raymond Cronin	Vice-President Bob Guarasi	Secretary Earle Blatchford	Treasurer Jonathan Ashby
Representative Mark O'Neill			

Lost on the Quad on Spree Day —

pipe about 4" long, wood with steel fittings. Has sentimental value.

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Toy...

CONT. FROM PAGE 13

of the now famous "Nerf" footballs again sent sales plummeting. Finally, in a fit of despair, they tried the oldest trick in the book, passing them off as planters. It is in this form that the Turbo Tubes came to WPI last month, as part of Phase III of the Greening of The Campus Plan. Several thousand of the planters were to have been used on windowsills throughout the campus, to be filled with a flower or plant of the student's choice.

Of course, they didn't stay planters very long before their true uses were discovered. One night last week, a resident of Daniels Hall's second floor was having a fight with her boyfriend, when she picked up one of the new planters and threw it at him. It flew over his shoulder and out the window. Having lost the unfortunate flower early in the flight, it sailed merrily over the campus, until it had the bad fortune to strike a car parked alongside the Quad. The irate commuter, thinking he had been the test victim for some kind of long range water bomb, threw the thing back at Daniels, where it came to rest on the lawn, where we found it.

Now, you're probably wondering, as we did, what good the things are. The answer is, of course, that they don't serve any practical purpose at all, which means, from

past experience, that within three days, you won't find a person on the Hill that doesn't own one. Thus, the Turbo Tube makes an excellent companion for one's skateboard and Frisbee. Within a week, a Turbo Team will be formed, and come next September, we'll see Kap and The Over The Hill Gang battling it out for the IM Turbo Tube title. Since the 10 cent piece of plastic sells for only \$2.95, there should be no problem getting Athletic Dept. varsity team funding, and 1980 could see WPI boasting about being the home of the NCAA Champions.

It's the recommendation of the *Newspeak* science team that a Presidential Blue Ribbon Committee get together and throw the issue around. Frankly, we hope that they can the thing, because we found that continued throwing of the Turbo Tube could possibly cause cancer of the index finger, if the thrower were to also drink 800 cans of diet soda in one day, or eat in the school cafeteria for one week.

Next September, we hope to take a look at the possibility of developing a plastic beer can that can, with a little bit of work, be turned into a Turbo Tube. Until then, have a good summer, and don't forget: The WPI *Newspeak* scientific investigations teams has determined that Turbo Tube throwing could be hazardous to your health!!!!



Baaa...Marilyn Wimmeraren receives a ewe from Dr. Peura of Biomedical Engineering. Marilyn, former secretary to Dean Bolz, is leaving WPI to become a shepherd-farmer on her farm in New Hampshire.

Photo by Rory O'Connor



Photo by Ann-Marie Robinson

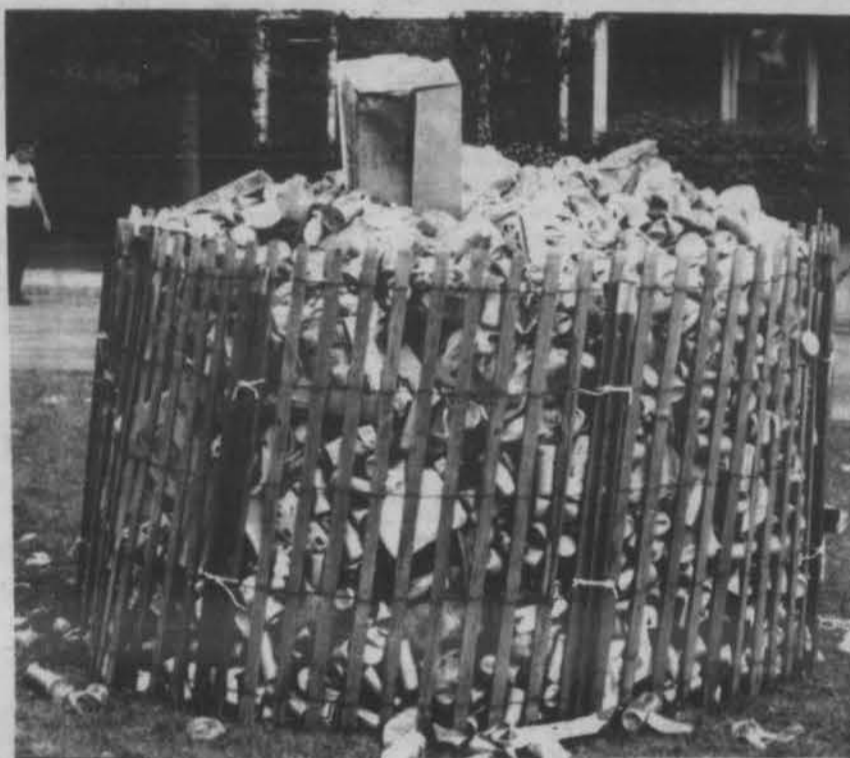


Photo by Rory O'Connor



Photo by Mark Hecker Photo by Ann-Marie Robinson



Photo by Mark Hecker



Photo by Mark Hecker

SPORTS

Softball final

by J. Gordon Gregory

The end of the women's softball season is here, and it is time to look back and assess the 6-2 record. Last year's identical record of 6-2 should not really form a basis for comparison, even though there are similarities. Basically, we lost to the same two teams that we lost to last year, Assumption and the American International College. These two teams are usually tough and we also have the added disadvantage of playing them both very early in our season, a situation that will hopefully change next year. All in all, the '77 season was as good or better than last year's, and Tech finished very strongly winning their last five straight games.

In their last game of the season, the WPI women showed, to the largest audience of the year, just how good they were. Last Monday, the day before Spree Day, Tech hosted the Becker squad in a game played on the left field corner of the baseball field. This field proved to be an excellent choice as it helped draw people who were just passing by; of course, the fact that the opposition was Becker might also have had something to do with the large crowd. At any rate, there were as many people at this game as the men's games have, and the audience saw something it doesn't see on the big diamond — a WPI victory.

The star of the day was grad student Diane Gramer, who pitched a few-hit shutout. This was Diane's last game, since she is leaving WPI. A better performance by her could not have been imagined. The whole team pitched in to amass the eleven runs, however, and when I say whole team I mean it; Coach Sue Chapman put everyone in for this final game and when it was over, the Tech 11-0 supremacy could not be questioned.

The season has had a few memorable moments, a couple of them supplied by home game umpire Andy Corman. Now how many times do you see a funny umpire? In an unprecedented display of coordination and finesse, Andy, called upon to deliver the other game ball when the first was fouled over the fence, reached into his pocket and pulled...and tugged...and yanked. It was at least one minute before Andy managed to get the ball out of his pocket, to the applause of those in attendance. He later recalled, "It went in easy..." It was noted that he looked like Peter Sellers taking off his shirt in the love scene at the end of "The Pink Panther Strikes Again." In another game, in a move perhaps not as funny, Andy, calling a tag at home plate, screamed "Safe!" while hooking his thumb in the traditional 'out' signal. The play was not that close, but the members of the opposition were a bit more miffed at the unorthodox call.

Contrary to how I may sound, I don't think that Bake, Rick Wheeler, or Andy were substandard umpires at all, in fact, a great deal can be said for the consistency and accuracy of all the calls. I believe the umpires we had were superior to what I have seen elsewhere.

On a serious note, another memorable moment occurred just before the Bryant game. After a long delay, the girls took the field to find that certain conditions on the field had been corrected; somebody knew

they existed, they weren't nobodys after all! On that day, the WPI girls softball team scored as many runs as they had in their first three games combined, beating Bryant into submission, 20-7. I'm not saying that the field improvements caused the team to win, but it certainly made them feel better about themselves, and it certainly didn't hurt.

Looking back, the statistics for this season show some interesting peculiarities on the WPI offense. Home run king of the season is Diane Curren with five, three of them in one game. Diane is also the extra-base hit king, with ten this year. Oddly enough, Diane ranks only third in her batting average, a .378. Leading batter is Mary Donovan, who hit a torrid .622 this season. In second place is Freshman Janet "what's the scoop" Hammarstrom, with a .382. Fourth is First Baseman Leslie Knepp, who, although she was hitting .429 before the Becker game, now has a .375 because her hits during the game were judged Becker errors. I seriously disagree with at least one such call, but that's the way manager—scorekeeper Greg VanHouten wrote it in the record book, so I have to go with it. Mary is the consistent hitter, getting singles better than half the time she comes to bat. Diane, on the other hand, doesn't hit as much, but when she connects, she connects; Diane had more home runs than singles this year. Janet and Leslie are steady hitters, but they both have had their bad days, and that has kept their average down.

In a typical starting lineup, Junior Third Baseman Sally Hodgerney was first, with Leslie, Mary and Diane next. Batting fifth was catcher Janet Hammarstrom, next, if she pitched, was Freshman Nancy Convard. The bottom third of the order was extremely variable depending on who could play, and many starters were replaced during the game so that the entire team acquired experience. The primary choices for these three positions were Diane Gramer, Junior Anne Dyer, Sophomore Sandy Dorr, and Freshman Cathy Linehan. Rounding out the team this year were Grad student Pattie Grahm, Senior Terry Murphy, and Freshman Cathy McDermott and Candy Buckley.

Next year, prospects for a winning season look good. Leaving the team are Diane Gramer, Pattie Grahm, and Terry Murphy. Despite these losses, the team will still have good depth. Added to this will be the incoming Freshmen; if they are anything like this year's, next year will be the year that we start beating the teams that we now lose to. Sue Chapman and assistant Jim Fowler coached this year's team to smaller-margin defeats by AIC and Assumption than last year, and next year's possible step into Varsity status may just be the impetus needed to spark the team to victory over these two foes. Here is this year's record:

Assumption	5-8
Lowell	10-9
AIC	5-10
Bryant	20-7
Becker	16-9
Holy Cross	17-10
St. Regis	11-3
Becker	11-0

Track roundup

by 'Bake'

The track season has been over for a couple of weeks but let's see if we can rummage through our minds to tie up some of the loose ends and put things in proper respect...whatever that means.

In case you missed it, the track team at old Whoopie Tech had another fine season, finishing with seven wins against only one narrow defeat. There should be no problem matching that or perhaps even coming up with another undefeated season (knock on John Panora's head). Super-sophs John Barghout, Mark McCabe, Russ Murray, and Randy Wheeler lead an impressive group. This year's freshman and juniors (whether or not they will all be next year's sophomores and seniors depends on qualifying under the Dean Grogan Class Test) will also hold their own. The team will be rounded out by what coach Merl Norcross calls "a good looking crop of incoming freshmen."

The results of the New Englands have yet to be posted in this fine journalistic sheet. WPI failed to get any points in the meet but with the excellent performers present, it wasn't hard to figure. The big story was co-capt. Pete Sherer coming up with his finest throw of the discus on the final chance at this institution. The beardless Mr. Sherer added two feet to his WPI record, which now stands at 158'2". Out of the best throwers in New England, this is all divisions, Pete finished 8th. He stands atop however in Division III and is undoubtedly one of the top ten throwers in the country in that division. The other WPI competitors did respectable jobs in their running events. Russ Murray, John Barghout, and Randy Wheeler all made the semi-finals where Russ and John were eliminated. Not that Randy progressed to the finals, but he didn't even show up for his heat due to a screw-up. Still all these guys deserve a hand for their efforts.

One of the unsung heroes of the 1977 track squad didn't run, throw, or jump. What she did do was to provide some of the difficult managerial chores on the team. Ellen King, whose name was inadvertently left off the spring sports schedule, has performed her duties with aplomb. She takes all the grief and jokes of the team and still manages to have a smile or an encouraging word. Ellen even made the long trip to Middlebury, Vt. on her own (though she had a number of offers to stay with the team). She deserves credit for her efforts. Ellen was not alone as she was joined by the semi-adequate work of Steve Delesandro. Actually, we kid Steve a lot (and rightly so) but he too, does a good job.


There were some notable "highlights" from the abbreviated season this year. The gorgeous one and one-half forward roll by John Barghout has to take high honors. In a spectacular tumble after his leg of the 440 yd. relay, John received an unprecedented 10.0 from the infield judges. It was said to be the first perfect 10.0 ever given out. Ralph Marrone, the fine pole vaulter, takes an award for his screeching hand slides down the pole. Ralph couldn't understand why his hands always looked like Swiss cheese, but with anyone noticing how Ralph used his implement like a fire pole would not be surprised. Finally, the bronze medal goes to Bruce Junket. His amazing feats of endurance were witnessed on a trip to Middlebury College. Bruce won the 880 during the meet on Saturday. What is special about that was the guest he had in the room the night before. Most of the team members were surprised to see him and his guest for breakfast in the morning let alone winning a race. If that is the secret then we can't understand why Paul Fearnside didn't throw the javelin 300 feet this year.


Oh well, that is all I have to say...forever it seems. All I can tell you is that you won't have Chris Baker to kick around anymore!

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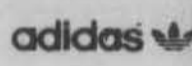
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HUSTON'S

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Graduation is June 4, 1977.



Congratulations

to the winners of the Freshman Math Contest:


First prize: Stephen Amato
 Second prize: Jill Fabricant
 Third prize (tie): Andrew Pelletier, Bob Fisher
 Honorable mention: Michael Miller, Wendy Weaver,
 Stephen Boor.

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