

Along Route '66



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Volume V

Number 2

June 24, 1971

Dear '66:

Some important policy decisions concerning the future of Dartmouth are being formulated as this letter reaches you. It appears that coeducation is finally about to become a reality in Hanover. The exact nature of the coeducational structure remains to be finalized. The Trustees voted, at their April meeting, in favor of establishing an "associated" school for women, rather than simply admitting women as students at Dartmouth. There appear to be some possibly sound economic and political reasons for the "associated" school approach, but no sound academic basis for the decision. There have been some rather vocal expressions of disappointment with the decision. The faculty have gone on record as favoring the direct changeover to a coeducational Dartmouth. The Trustees will reconsider their decision at their October meeting. In any case, however, it is virtually a certainty that there will be greater numbers of women going to school on the Hanover plain within a year or two.

A revision of the academic calendar has been proposed by the Committee on Educational Planning. Critical to the CEP proposal would be the establishment of the Summer Term as an educational opportunity equivalent to the other three Terms. Under the "standard model for enrollment," the student would first spend three terms registered at the College; these would be followed by two terms of vacation during the summer and fall. The student would then register for four consecutive terms, extending through the fall term of his junior year. Two more free terms would follow, during one of which the student would complete a "significant" off-campus project. The student would then return to the College for his final four terms. Such a system, coupled with already existing foreign study and other off-campus programs, would result in a more efficient use of existing facilities, would afford the student more time for in-depth study in his major, and would give him the opportunity to have larger blocks of vacation time for work or travel.

The CEP proposal has met some immediate criticism. One negative factor would be the possible weakening of the Dartmouth "fellowship" which would result from the staggering of students' on-campus terms. Another criticism has been that because student athletes would, of necessity, be required to be on campus during particular terms, they would become isolated from the classmates, who would be on campus at different times. The proposal seems to be a generally sound one, however, and I hope that it is implemented, even in some modified form.

REUNION: We now have a reunion chairman (or chairmen). Terry Lowd has agreed to serve as our chairman; he will be assisted by Steve Rugg. If anyone wishes to help or has any bright ideas, Terry's address is: R. D. 2, Wyalusing, Pa. I hope that many of us will start planning now to attend our reunion, which will take place in June '72.

NEWS OF CLASSMATES: Response to our last Newsletter has been heartening. My mail has been spiced almost daily with several cards or letters and, except for the few which have arrived "postage due," I have received them all with abundant enthusiasm. To date, I have gotten news from over 120 '66s. I intend to include every item in our Newsletter eventually; space limitations dictate, however, that some will have to be included in our next letter. I may as well start:

Bill Gibson is presently Advertising Director of the Carolina Financial Times, a weekly business newspaper. Bill writes: "I'm also the advertising department!"

Tom Brady is finishing up his PhD (in engineering), and is married to former Smithy Betsy Carson. Also working on a PhD (his in French) is Tom Vosteen. Tom spent a year in Paris getting his Master's from Middlebury, and then taught at Central College in Iowa for two years. He says that he "will probably spend '72-? in a garbage can, as there are no openings in the field." Tom also writes of another '66, Charlie Donahue: "Got acquainted with Charlie Donahue last May when he taught me transcendental meditation. It didn't take me long to figure out that Charlie is into a very worthwhile venture. Dartmouth would do well to look into it -- it might help to ease the Big Green jock mentality into a more inoffensive framework."

Many '66s are still serving in the Armed Forces or have recently been released. Among those presently in Viet Nam are Bill Hobson, who will return to the New York law firm of White & Case in September; Gehr Oswald, who is working with a group advising the Saigon city government; Lance Roberts, who's flying air reconnaissance; and Bob Wilson, who will leave the Navy and begin law school in the fall.

Kevin Trainor was released from the Marine Corps as a Captain in November '70 and worked the winter as night manager of the Challenger Inn in Sun Valley. Kevin is currently doing a study for the government on unemployment insurance compensation among "disgruntled Viet vets." Rick Godfrey, having just completed a four year Navy tour, has moved to Birmingham, Michigan with his wife Carol; Rick has begun working as a management trainee with the National Bank of Detroit. Al Keiller is serving at the Navy's Nuclear Power Training Unit outside Saratoga Springs. Al and wife Joanne are expecting their second child "any day." Chris Stenger is winding up his tour in November, and will be returning to Chicago with Maureen and their two children. Chris is a member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, specializing in Pork Bellies. Paul Darling is a first lieutenant in the Marines and plans to make the Corps his career.

In at least one respect the Class of 1966 does not differ from some of the older classes: we have a staggering number of doctors and lawyers. I believe we have enough of each to staff a part-time Dartmouth '66 Clinic and Legal Aid Office in almost every major city in the country (I think I might be serious). Bill Wilkoff will soon be heading for Durham, N. C., where he will spend a year doing a pediatric internship at Duke. Bill and his wife have a recent addition to their family: Jennifer Ann, born April 4, 1971. Joel Mumford is finishing up an internship in Boston, and will journey south as one of the medical officers with the Navy's Antarctic Research Expedition. At the end of his tour, he will return to Hanover to take a residency in anesthesiology at Mary Hitchcock. Also now doing internships at Mary Hitchcock are Steve Abram and Steve Tosi. Both will be staying on for residencies, the former in anesthesiology and the latter in surgery. Frank Parker is another who will be joining the world's largest medical group (i.e. the U. S. Navy) following completion of his internship at Hennepin County Hospital in Minneapolis. Frank reports that John Erkkila is attending the Univ. of Minnesota Medical School and will receive his M. D. this month.

Louis Novak will begin a residency in radiology in Cleveland next month. Lou made his first visit to Hanover since graduation when he spent a week skiing in the East this winter. He writes that most of his spare time is spent training and exhibiting his champion Arabian stallion Nardraff. Mike Danzig is interning at Yale New Haven Hospital. He and wife Janice have two sons, Mayer and Aaron. Another Yalie is Dan Wuensch, who graduated Yale Med School last June and is now doing his internship at Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center in New York City.

Jim Skiles is a staff attorney for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights under Law, in Washington, D. C. Bruce McKissock is an assistant District Attorney for Philadelphia and was married on May 22, 1971 to the former Laurie Shannis, Skidmore '69, Villanova Law School '72. Laurie will be working in the D. A.'s office this summer. Rumor has it that Bruce will soon be selected to head an investigation of alleged nepotism in the Philadelphia D. A.'s office. Andy Seidman is with the New York law firm of Dreyer and Traub, while Richard Tufaro, who has been clerking for a judge in the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court, will join the firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy this month. Jim Modisette is with the L. A. firm of Dryden, Harrington & Swartz, "defending insurance companies from the frivolous suits of claims-conscious plaintiff attorneys." Two budding '66 admiralty lawyers are Parker Smith, who's practicing in Baltimore, and Andy Kerr, who is with a Portland firm. Gunnar Portanova is finishing up at Fordham Law School, and plans to attend N.Y.U. Law School, Graduate Division, for a Master's Degree in Corporation Law.

Here are some more of our Classmates fortunate enough to still be in school: Jonathan White who, having left the Army as a Captain after four years, is now studying for an M.B.A. at the University of New Hampshire. Bill Jacoby is getting a Master's of Public Administration at Pitt. Bill was married last summer in Sweden, to a Swedish girl whom he met in Israel. Jamie Stewart is at Harvard "B" School, as is George Vincent. Andy MacCornack will be leaving Seattle for the University of Kansas (Lawrence) next fall, where he will begin a PhD program in geography. Jef Fellows will receive his Master's Degree from Stanford this month.

Dave Johnston is a staff consultant for the Allegheny County (Pittsburgh) OEO program, on assignment for Booz, Allen & Hamilton Management Consultants. Dave has been married for two years to the former Hera Cohn-Haft, Barnard '69, and writes that they have "no kids, thank 'God!'" Dave also reports attending an engagement party in N.Y.C. for George Blumenthal and Miss Teri Stone, at which numerous '66s were present. David Owens is busy building Chevrolet and Porsche racing engines in N. Kingston, R. I. Dave is Vice Pres. of Kane Motor Car Co. Chaz Wilmot has recently returned from Russia, where he spent 9 months studying at Moscow State U. Jim Cason is with the Foreign Service, stationed in San Salvador. In his spare time Jim's finishing up his PhD thesis on the extremist movement in Uruguay. Terry Lowd has bought a 60 acre farm, and is working as the administrator of Tyler Memorial Hospital in Pennsylvania. Peter Sterling is in the process of completing his doctoral dissertation in Anthropology. He and his wife have spent nearly two years in Iceland. Peter's research concerns itself with problems of social organization and adaptation.

John Gantz writes that he is "Searching the elusive path between the two great abysses and also watching Star Trek reruns."

John Harbaugh is teaching English and German at Bishop Ford High School in Brooklyn. He has organized a senior English elective entitled "The Contemporary Ballad as Poetry," in which John and his students interpret the meanings of modern songs and view them as expressions of a youth culture.

I'd like to juxtapose comments contained in two of the cards which I received. The first is from George Vincent: "Spent Saturday of Winter Carnival in Hanover - nice to see old friends, but apparently the 'old traditions' have failed-shocked at the de-emphasis despite Monday off--Hop was empty-quiet-little activity-not even a poster visible-Hanover relatively quiet-perhaps many packed their bags and left-in all, a disappointment, though, on reflection, I should have expected it." The next is from Bob Booms: "Very pleased with the new 'aware' Dartmouth. College might actually become a school I'd want to have my children attend and know they'll come out with a social conscience." I set forth the above comments not for critical evaluation by me or you, but because I'm interested in getting a sense of how we relate to the College of today. The Class of 1966 is very much part of the Dartmouth community, and I think it important that we make our feelings known, both as individuals and as a Class; that we lend support or criticize where we feel it necessary; that we play some role in shaping the Dartmouth of today and tomorrow beyond sending some money to the Alumni Fund and looking at the Football scores on Sunday mornings in the fall. Please let me know how you feel about the College, whether your feelings be ones of pride or outrage. I've already gotten a number of comments in addition to the two quoted; I'll relate them to you in the next couple of issues.

One last thing. No piece of paper emanating from Hanover during the month of June can be without mention of the Alumni Fund. This year's campaign is almost over. Bill Higgins and his crew of volunteers are making an effort to contact each man in our Class on a personal basis. If for some reason you have not heard from a representative of our Class, please consider this pitch your personal visit, and make a contribution. If you have been contacted and have not yet given, please make a contribution. If you have already given, please consider something additional. And if you've never given to the Alumni Fund before, this Spring is a particularly nice one to acquire this pleasant habit. In past years when I've worked for the Alumni Fund, I've talked to people about the importance of our Class making a "good showing," etc. Frankly, (and the boys in the Alumni Fund office will have my head for this), I think that the competition-between-classes business is nonsense. I don't intend to ask any of you to give money so that our Class looks good. I say only the following: Dartmouth has given each of us something of value; we owe her something. Giving to the Alumni Fund each year is one way of repaying Dartmouth and insuring that others receive a bit of that something which we were so fortunate to get.

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