

# OBSERVATION POST

Vol. VI—No. 1

AN UNDERGRADUATE NEWSPAPER OF CCNY

SEPTEMBER 19, 1949

## Manhattanville College Purchase "Almost Certain"

By Robert Gumerove

The recent acquisition by the Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart of some 250 acres in the White Plains area cleared the way for the "almost certain" purchase of their 18½-acre Harlem campus by the College.

Manhattanville authorities announced in July the purchase of the Ogden M. Reid Estate, residence of the late Editor of the *Harold-Tribune*, for the rumored sum of \$500,000. Prior to the Rockefeller gift, the estate had been considered as a possible site for the United Nations Headquarters.

Although it is not certain when Manhattanville will be able to move into their new campus quarters, alumni officials here have announced that construction work on the Student-Union Memorial Building should begin immediately after the land is bought by the city.

Last August 11, the leading members of the Alumni Association met with Mayor O'Dwyer to urge his support for the project as "the only hope for the future expansion of the College." The Mayor stated that he was in full sympathy with the plan, and that he would do everything in his power to have "our fondest dreams realized." O'Dwyer also revealed that Manhattanville property had previ-

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## What's My Name

OP is proud of its cartoonist, Sid Wisner, whose work you see adorning this issue. Sid has had his products published in *PIC Magazine* and was art editor of several NYU magazines while still in high school. The little karey crawling all over our page one flag is his problem child. We can't find a name that fits him. Can you? See next issue for more details.

## Recent Student Congress Ponders National Issues

By Marv Weinberg and Nat Halebaky

(Special to *Observation Post*)

Urbana, Illinois.—Over six hundred college students of all shades of political opinion gathered here for ten days at the end of August for the National Student Association's second annual Congress.

As representatives of nearly one million American students, they came to the University of Illinois campus to grapple with problems of academic freedom, student rights, international student relations, discrimination and segregation and the economic needs of students.

The College's delegation—forthrightly vocal on all convention issues—included Joe Rosenczweig, chairman; Beverly Rubin, Joe Clancy, Jr., James E. Morgan and George Gazetas. Clancy, as vice-president of the Metropolitan New York Region, was a member of the Congress steering committee, as was Tom Garrity, of the College Evening Session, former Met NY president.

Another College student who achieved prominence in NSA was Eugene Schwartz (who had been the organization's vice-president on educational problems for the past year, and who ran for president for 1949-1950. He lost by less than 30 votes to Robert Kelly, of St. Peter's College in Jersey City, who has been active in Catholic student affairs.

The other officers are: Erskine Childers, of Stanford U, vice-president for international affairs; Rick Medalie, Carleton College (Minn.), vice-president on educational problems; Ted Perry, Temple U, vice-president on student life; and Fred Houghteling of Harvard, executive secretary starting January 1. Schwartz was chosen to fill this position until then, lending much-needed continuity to NSA activities.

After innumerable meetings, roundtables and arguments, this was the 1949-1950 NSA scoreboard on some of the organization's major policy matters:

Federal aid to education was side-tracked before it reached the convention floor. NSA's position,

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## Decline Shown In Registration

Current trends in registration reveal that there is a decline in total enrollment for both the Commerce and Main Centers, Day Session.

There also was a sharp decline in the number of classes available since the dismissal from the college of forty instructors.

According to the latest estimate, there will be an approximate enrollment of 8,900 for the Main Center Day Session. Last year's figure was 7,230.

The advance figures for the Commerce Center Day Session show a corresponding decrease in total enrollment.

Robert L. Taylor, Registrar, indicated that total registration has been steadily decreasing a trifle each term as the veterans have been graduating. "While the peak enrollment of 11,281 was reached in the fall of 1947, present conditions point to a stabilization at approximately 10,000," Mr. Taylor said.



This is what the corridor outside the Book Store used to look like in the days before Bookmart came to the College. Beaverites hungry for required texts often waited for hours before they were able to make their purchases.

A chorus of "God Bless the Book Exchange," professor, if you please.

## BHE Okays Firing of Lorch, Swadesh; Lorch to Sue; to Test Feinberg Law

Despite protests, petitions and appeals in behalf of the student body, the Board of Higher Education refused to reappoint Dr. Lee Lorch and Prof. Morris Swadesh. In its report of July, 1949, denying the appeals of the two instructors, the Executive Committee of the BHE stated that they found no evidence of racial or religious bigotry on the part of the College committee in refusing to grant tenure to Dr. Lorch and Prof. Swadesh.

Although no positive reason for denying tenure was given by the BHE, the report said that, "Since the two instructors in question are both in the probationary period, the decision not to reappoint them constitutes no infringement of basic rights."

Currently, Dr. Lorch is an Associate Professor of Mathematics at Penn State. He is, however, suing City College for the retention of his job here as instructor.

Prof. Swadesh has just returned from a research project on Vancouver Island and it is believed that he, together with Dr. Lorch, will appeal to State education authorities.

### DISMISSED INSTRUCTORS



Dr. Lee Lorch, dismissed instructor of Mathematics, who has filed suit against the College for his job.

### If You Write . . .

All correspondence concerning the Feinberg Bill should be addressed to Governor Dewey or your State Senator or Representative, Capital Building, Albany, New York.

The Teachers Union of the CIO is preparing a court action which will call for a declaratory judgment on the constitutionality of the Feinberg Law. As a temporary stop-gap, the New York State Communist Party has obtained a court order staying the Board of Regents from further implementation of the Feinberg Law. The Court Order prevents the Board of Regents from publishing a list of subversive organizations in which membership would be cause for the dismissal of school employees.

Teachers Union also unanimously passed a resolution calling for a campaign to defeat and repeal the Feinberg Law. The resolution reads, in part, "We shall resist all attempts to degrade and humiliate teachers and to deprive them of their constitutional rights, whether it be through loyalty oaths, questionnaires or snooping into their thoughts or their private lives."

The Teacher's Guild of the AFL, in a telephone interview with OP, similarly voiced their condemnation of the Feinberg Law, and plan action soon.

## Inside OP This Week

- NSA Highlights . . . . .Page 2
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- Susquehanna Preview . . . . .Page 8

## HELP WANTED

*Observation Post* has openings for sports, news and feature writers, artists and photographers, advertising salesmen and administrative assistants.

The only requisite for membership on the OP staff is that applicants be students in the Day Session of the City College.

Further information may be obtained in 16A, Main, from Seymour Richman, Associate Editor, who is available daily at one o'clock.

# NSA Protests Jim Crow At Congress Site

The issue of discrimination against students was more than an academic question at the NSA Congress. The delegates learned that Champaign-Urbana — even though it's a northern town—has restaurants and cafes that jim crow Negroes.

The first instance of discrimination came to light the night the convention opened. The victims were Morris Hopkins, a Negro delegate from the College's Evening Session and three white New Yorkers, who were refused service in the Deluxe Cafe in Urbana. The case excited comment, but no action was taken by NSA except that delegates were urged to avoid the Deluxe.

At sporadic intervals thereafter, similar incidents were reported.

It was the second big incident which set off the NSA reaction on the Tuesday of the convention's second week. About fifteen students, five of them Negroes, entered Lombardi's Spaghetti House in Champaign, and were met by a waitress who claimed she was "temperamental," and therefore wouldn't serve them. The cook emerged from the kitchen and reported that she, too, was afflicted by the same ailment.

When the restaurant manager appeared, and admitted that "the policy of the management" was not to serve Negroes, the NSA'ers decided to do something.

The next morning at the plenary session, on a special order of business which was introduced by James Morgan, College delegate, the Congress voted to instruct its new officers to institute legal action against Lombardi's and make periodic reports on its efforts to American students through the NSA News.



Dean James M. Peace, Student Life, who for three days surveyed operation of recent student Congress.

## Met Region Elects

In the middle of all their conventioning, the Metropolitan New York region members managed to find time to elect next year's officers. They are:

President: Sheldon Steinhauser, Long Island U.; Vice-President: Bill Burke, Fordham; Secretary: Joe Rosenzweig, City College, Main Day; Treasurer: Gideon Nachumi, Columbia and Public Relations Director: Ronald Macht, of Pratt Institute.

ROB WEST



Rob West, last year's N. S. A. Vice-President for International Affairs.

## NSA Congress Debates Issues

(Continued from Page 1)

therefore, remains as it was stated last December: support of aid for private and parochial schools in addition to public institutions. Not fought out, because it didn't reach the plenary session, was the question of federal aid to southern schools which segregate Negro students.

Discrimination was batted around and led to many heated discussions, but the end result was that NSA will urge fraternities and other campus organizations to initiate programs against discrimination in their charters and by-laws. Student governments will be asked to ban student groups that take no steps to eliminate discriminatory clauses within a reasonable time.

Cooperation with the International Union of Students was approved for "specific projects of a non-political nature," with the stipulation that NSA does nothing to either affiliate with IUS or join a "Western Union" student movement to wreck IUS.

Academic freedom, under fire from many quarters during the past year, was defended by NSA, although its stand was slightly watered down by necessary compromises. The practice of evaluating students and faculty through "guilt by association" was condemned, with professional competence and moral integrity set as the only criteria for the hiring, firing or promotion of professors.

The Student Bill of Rights was amended, substituted, removed from the constitutional by-laws—

# Fun No Rarity At NSA Congress

By Nat Halebaky

For the 550 delegates, alternates and observers at the NSA Congress, it was anything but a vacation. Starting bright and early in the morning, they went to meetings. Then they had breakfast—then they went to more meetings. (Of course, a good many never saw what

breakfast was like, but they can be excused, because they'd been discussing all night in the Marty drive-in hamburger joint.)

Lunch came after this, from which everybody proceeded to more meetings. Then dinner. Then meetings. At midnight, the high-pressure caucuses began, often continuing until dawn.

Some people in the press room did some sixteen digit-by-sixteen digit calculating, and came up with the revelation that there had been, in all, 722 meetings (officially scheduled) during the

wonder that the delegates are still recuperating?

It's understood that Upton Sinclair's "The Jungle" will be rewritten this fall by some of the College's delegates who toured Chicago's famed stock-yards before proceeding to Urbana for the Convention. They claim that the general atmosphere of squeals, slime and blood is even more gory than 315 Main during registration week.

It's a fact that the food at the University of Wisconsin where the

first NSA Congress was held in 1948, was simply scrumptious. It's also a fact that the food (ugh!) at the U of Illinois, where this year's took place, was miserable. Delegates' complaints were so frequent that one disgruntled chap from UCLA was overheard calling home for several crates of California oranges, which he wanted to distribute free to the convention. Such a move, he felt, would be more than enough to get him elected president of the organization.

What was perhaps the most over-worked point of order during the entire Congress went something like this:

"Mr. Chairman, I demand that you enforce the NSA rule requiring all speakers to give their names and regions before addressing the assembly on any matters . . . uh . . . I beg your pardon, Mr. Chairman . . . (giggle) . . . uh, my name is Norman Holmes, from Wisconsin . . ."

NSA'ers were perplexed by the fact that the U of Illinois is located in the twin cities of Champaign-Urbana. Delegates leaving convention headquarters in the Illini Union building to buy a sundae in the corner drugstore found that in the process they had left one town and entered the other. The confusion was wonderful to behold. One bespectacled young man from Minnesota was heard to mutter: "I can wait until this convention is over. I wanna get back to the real twin cities, Indianapolis-Minneapolis."

One afternoon was declared vacation-time by the delegates, who repaired en-masse to the University's impressive 6,000 acre estate, Robert Allerton Park. On its beautiful lawns, strewn with bizarre statuary, the Met New Yorkers and Californians squared off for a rough-and-tumble soft-ball game, which the westerners won, 13-11. They cheated, of course.

## NSA Makes Left Turn

Although they probably wouldn't be caught dead doing it in their own homes or neighborhoods, the NSA delegates obviously got a big kick from singing the following song. Tuck your tongue in your cheek and join in (to the tune of "God Bless America"):

God Bless Free Enterprise, System divine. Stand beside her and guide her just as long as the profits are mine. Good old Wall Street—may she flourish. Corporations—may they grow, God Bless Free Enterprise, The Status Quo. God Bless Free Enterprise, The Status Quo.



Fred Halpern and Bev Rubin, two members of the College's N. S. A. delegation shown here, with last semester's Student Council President Bill Fortunato in the background.

and then tabled until next year's NSA policy. Whether it'll be put into practice is still to be determined.

An amendment to a constitutional by-law will provide that all NSA units can take "legal and legislative action" to wipe out campus discrimination and segregation. (Introduced by College Delegate James Morgan, the by-law for the first time puts the word "segregation" into the NSA constitution; at the 1947 convention, compromise on this point ended threats of southern schools

to walk out of the organization completely.)

The NSA's Purchase Card System (which channels student consumers into stores contracted to give them discounts) will be continued and expanded.

Still to be solved are the many problems raised in the past year of NSA. Primary among these is the declining membership of the organization—1,300,000 collegians were represented at the constitutional convention in 1947, 1,000,000 at last year's Congress, but only about 800,000 in 1949.



NSA delegates Charles Lipow, CCNY Main Day, and Jay Marjanov, Columbia.

SEPT. 19-23

# Used Book Exchange

# ARC Blood Bank To Be Started

By Jerry Fischman

Within a month, Sigma Alpha Fraternity hopes to inaugurate a blood bank program at the College which will benefit every Day student, faculty member and their immediate families.

The plan will operate in conjunction with the Red Cross Blood Bank Program of the Greater N. Y. Chapter. It will enable any student, in time of need, to withdraw an unlimited amount of blood for himself or family, free of charge.

To have the mechanism of this plan functioning, it is necessary to have at least 750 blood donors, equivalent to ten percent of the school. A bloodmobile will be set upon the campus by the Red Cross, and upon attainment of the immediate goal, the system covering the entire school will be put into effect.

The plan itself is not unique. Many business organizations and factories have used it successfully. At the College, the plan will cover all students during their collegiate life, and the faculty as long as they are connected with the school.

Although the plan will cover every student, whether or not he has contributed blood, not everyone is permitted to donate. Those students under 21 must have written permission from home, and those with a definite sickness will be forbidden to give blood.

Students Alan Cashman and Sol Fox, both from Sigma Alpha, will be on the student committee and their organization will be in charge of publicity for the drive.

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## All Volunteers Wanted

All students wishing to participate in an intra-school Model UN in preparation for a similar one to be held between fifty colleges this spring, are urged to submit their names to Victor Wolf in the Student Council Office, Room 20, Main.

## Used Book Exchange Located in AH Lounge

The Used Book Exchange is back again this term and it looks like it's here to stay. The usefulness of the Exchange, as demonstrated by last semester's long lines of book-hungry Beavers has convinced Alpha Phi Omega and Student Council that the book mart should be retained as a permanent feature of the College landscape.

This semester, the Book Exchange, operated by APO, is ready to take on all comers. With new quarters located in the Army Hall Lounge, they have the additional space and the increased efficiency to handle all customers without undue delays. During the past week of registration, the volume of business handled has been considerably greater than that of the corresponding week last term, and still a greater increase is expected during this coming week.

## Strike Arrests Trial Thursday

The seventeen College students who were arrested for disorderly conduct during the student strike last spring will come up for trial at ten o'clock, this Thursday.

The trial of the seventeen students will take place in Magistrate's Court, 155 St. and Amsterdam Ave. They have appealed for a turnout of students at court "to demonstrate that City College still is interested in working in every possible way for the ouster of the bigots."

The sixteen will be legally represented by O. John Rogge, former Assistant Attorney General of the United States.

Books are sold for students at 1/2 or 3/4 of the list price, depending upon the condition of the book.

The Used Book Exchange will be open from 1-5 and 6-10 p.m. Sept. 19-25.

The Book Exchange is operated on a non-profit basis, though a \$.05 charge is made on both the buyer and seller of a book. This money, which amounted to \$110 last term, is used to pay for the expenses of the organization. It is hoped that in the near future enough money will be saved so that the \$.05 charge can be abolished.

It was pointed out by Paul David Kagan and Barry Bernstein, members of the Student Council Committee in charge of the book mart, that the actual cost to a user of the Exchange is but \$.10 per book, if the book is returned in the same condition in which it was purchased.

# Profs. Resign; Get New Posts

Although it may not mean much to the incoming students, the upper classmen and women will be interested to know that several important members of the faculty have recently resigned their posts to take positions at other colleges.

Dean John J. Theobald resigned as Dean of Administration to become President of Queens College. Before he took the Administrative job, Pres. Theobald was Asst. Prof. of Civil Engineering at the College, as is his successor, Dean Leslie W. Engler.

Professor Hugh C. Wolfe, of the Physics Department, has resigned to become Chairman of the Department of Physics at the Cooper Union Institute. Prof. Wolfe, a prominent figure in scientific circles, began teaching at the College in 1934.

## Insurance Plan For Breakage

Eta Kappa Nu has organized a non-profit insurance plan to safeguard lifesavings from extermination by astronomically high breakage fees.

Their plan will insure the student for up to \$75 a term on all breakage and damage above fifty cents. The fee for this service is fifty cents, which is very reasonable for insuring worry free dreams and funds enough to replace damaged equipment. There is also a sliding scale of rates. As the treasury grows, the rates diminish.

Well, that's the story. If you belong to the EE Insurance Plan and break something, all you do is mail your bill to the EE Insurance Plan, EE Office, City College, and payment will be handled by their staff.

Another famous face that won't be around any longer is that of Dean Sumner S. Crawley, who has resigned as Dean of Student Life to become Chairman of the Department of Psychology at the University of Utah. He was Dean from September 1947 until this summer. Dean James S. Peace is now in charge of the Student Life Department. Dean Peace was formerly an instructor in Hygiene and Asst. Dean of Student Life.

Professor Henry H. Villard is the new Chairman of the Economics Department. He is replacing Dr. Foster, who resigned. Professor Villard, who is new to the College, was formerly Professor of Economics at Amherst College.

### ATTENTION CLUB OFFICERS

Increase your membership by advertising in the OBSERVATION POST at a 20% discount.

For further information see Murray Eisenstein Business Manager  
Rm. 16a or write Box 207

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# Army Hall Lounge

1-5 P.M.  
6-10 P.M.

# OBSERVATION POST HP Revives Camp Plan

## As Tribute to Marion

Observation Post, an undergraduate student newspaper of the City College of New York, is published weekly by the OP Staff Association. Editorial and Business Offices are located in Room 16 A, The City College, 139th St. and Convent Ave., New York 31, N. Y.

Telephone: Audubon 3-9325.

Mail Address: Box 207, The City College, 139th St. and Convent Ave., New York 31, N. Y. (The Editors welcome correspondence from their readers, but request that letters be limited to a maximum of 150 words.)

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All opinions expressed in the editorial column of the Observation Post are determined by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.



Marion Weinberg, before her untimely death last May, seated with a group of intimate friends from House Plan. The five friends of Marion's above are now vitally active in the camp project tribute to her.

Front row: Marion Weinberg, Phyllis Shapiro, Leo Davis (HP social worker), and unidentified House Plan member.

Top: Harriet Sugarman, Joan Berger.

## Some Observations

**Registration being over.** Observation Post would like to take the opportunity to welcome City College students back to school. To the incoming freshman, for whom this has been a new experience, we extend our deepest sympathies and hope that the nerve-racking ordeal he has undergone will not dull his appetite for a darn swell college.

**The Knickerbocker-Davis cases** will continue to plague the College with unrest until the guilt or innocence of these two instructors, accused of overt acts of bias at the College, is positively established by an impartial representative body. Because all other methods had failed, Observation Post last semester supported the student strike, which sought to procure trials for both men. But the strike, in large measure, also failed.

Our fundamental position in these cases remains unchanged. We urge students to keep well informed on the matter at all times. Legal action, continued pressure on the Board of Higher Education, enlistment in the fight of anti-bias community groups, and honest publicity on the issue are all steps we must follow in the future.

**Drs. Swadesh and Lorch,** meanwhile, were both refused re-appointment last semester without satisfactory explanation.

When instructors of the recognized ability of Lorch and Swadesh are not retained by the College, the reasons for their dismissal are naturally desired by a student body intent on obtaining the finest possible education. Charges of discrimination in hiring have been leveled against the administration. If these charges are unfounded, it is the moral obligation of the administration to answer them in a forthright manner. Observation Post, for one, wants to know why Lorch and Swadesh are no longer teaching at the College.

We recommend that the student body pressure the administration for an answer. In the meantime, we will watch with interest the legal suit now being brought by Lorch against the College. If the administration is guilty of discrimination in hiring, a change in administration is in order. If not, our efforts for clarification will have been justified. Pursuit of truth can be neither wasted nor wrong.

**The recent National Student Congress,** as we see it, was a flop. As far as the national policies established, too much could not be expected. Considering the great diversity of opinion represented at the convention, the final policy resolutions on such questions as discrimination in education, relations with the International Union of Stu-

### Positions Available On OP Board of Directors

Applications for the Observation Post Board of Directors will be accepted until 3 o'clock, Thursday, September 22. Positions on the newspaper's policy-making body are open to chartered student organizations with fifty or more members.

Organizations which have already been members may not apply at this time.

### Former OP Editor Announces Wedding

"OP fosters romance" could very well be the caption on a story of a true-to-life 16A Main courtship.

Norm Friedman '49 and Miss Sherry Vogel will be married shortly. Norm, former editor-in-chief of OP, and Sherry met during the first days of this paper's existence and together fought for its acceptance as an undergraduate publication. It's heart-warming indeed for the OP staff to hear of their happiness.

Best of luck, Norm and Sherry!

ents, and academic freedom were not too bad. However, on the Student Bill of Rights, the sentiment expressed at the Congress indicated that by next year, the "Bill" will be watered-down if it exists at all. The highly important question of federal aid to higher education did not even reach the plenary floor, which is perhaps indicative of the entire lack of accomplishment which marked the Congress.

### The ignominious Feinberg Law

cannot be by-passed, at this time, in any editorial of merit, which claims to deal with educational problems. We have stated in the past that we oppose any measure which is based on the proposition that we can preserve and improve democracy by suppression, rather than through education. The Feinberg Law is so oppressive that it has met with strong protest from teacher's unions, educators, and students alike. We cannot over-stress the importance of correspondence by students urging the State legislature to repeal this measure.

### The white traffic lines across Convent Avenue save your life.

It took the tragic death of Marion Weinberg to finally persuade the City that such a set-up was necessary. Now that we have traffic lights on the campus thoroughfare, let's utilize the safety zone and avoid unnecessary accidents in the future.

### "Student apathy"

towards extra-curricular life is an ever-present problem on all American campuses; City College is no exception. Too many students at the College have the attitude that they are here merely to acquire tools with which to later pursue some profession or vocation. They assume that what happens during college days is unimportant, being only a sham training grounds for the "professional world". This amounts to subverting a major goal of education, that is: the fulfillment of the capacities of the individual. Such fulfillment does not transpire automatically with college graduation. In the words of a delegate to the National Student Congress roundtable which discussed this problem:

"We are living now, on the campus, and not preparing to live."

By Fred Streit

Wouldn't it be wonderful if, for a week of schoolwork, the students of the College were able to go away to the country for the week-end?

The idea of a CCNY camp was a dormant one for a long time. Marion Weinberg was one of those interested in making it an established fact. She and her co-workers at HP left no stone unturned in making their desire known.

When tragedy struck last May 12 and Marion died, a new incentive was provided for those working on the camp project. Their task took on a two-fold purpose: to establish a sorely needed outlet for students at the College, and to build a living memorial to Marion. A Marion Weinberg Memorial Fund Committee was quickly set up by individual HP members and other friends and acquaintances.

At about the same time, the Lewisohn Line of House Plan organized a special steering committee to continue work on the camp project. The two groups met and decided upon a merger to be known as the Camp Marion Committee.

Charlie Parnett, a social worker at HP, came up with the suggestion that the Committee sponsor a "One Minute Line" contest. They contacted Arlene Francis of the W-J-Z "Blind Date" show and Miss Francis agreed to help out by arranging a future show, on which the winners of the contest would vie with St. John's University students for dates with professional models. The contest was held in the Army Hall Lounge May 18.

By the beginning of this semester, the joint committee had raised \$376 from student contributions. But \$376 is still a long way from the estimated \$50,000 that will be needed.

The erection of a permanent organization was proposed to facilitate and coordinate activities. Help, both financially and otherwise, is needed.

## M'ville Purchase 'Almost Certain'

(Continued from Page One)

ously been considered as a possible site for a new housing development.

Late in August, the Chairman of the Board of Higher Education spoke before the Budget Committee of the City Council, urging its speedy approval of the necessary funds for the purchase. The appropriation, if passed, would be part of the 1950 New York City Budget. The Committee was also asked to appropriate \$3,500,000 for a Student Life Building on the Brooklyn College campus.

The City Planning Commission has already given its approval to the plan that would add the Manhattanville campus, which extends from 130 to 135 Streets along Convent Avenue, just south of the High School of Music and Art, to present College facilities.

# City In Review



**DANCE**... "You'll find a prettier one, prettier than she," at the regular Friday night square dancing festival given at the Townsend Harris Hall. . . . The CCNY hillbillies, on proper identification, will be admitted to dance to the calling of Shelly Andrews and the peppy music of Paul Post and his 88 keys. For those novices at square dancing, it is deemed highly advisable to wear sneakers (for men) and ballet slippers (for women). . . . All dances will be taught first, so have no fear if you lack experience. Come to Townsend Harris Hall before 9:15, about the time capacity is reached, or you may find yourself swinging your partner back to the IRT. . . .

**DINE**... Gamma Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega will hold its semi-annual smoker on Friday, Sept. 30, at 8, at 467 W. 143rd St. . . . All male students of the College are invited to attend, partake of refreshments and participate in the festivities. . . .

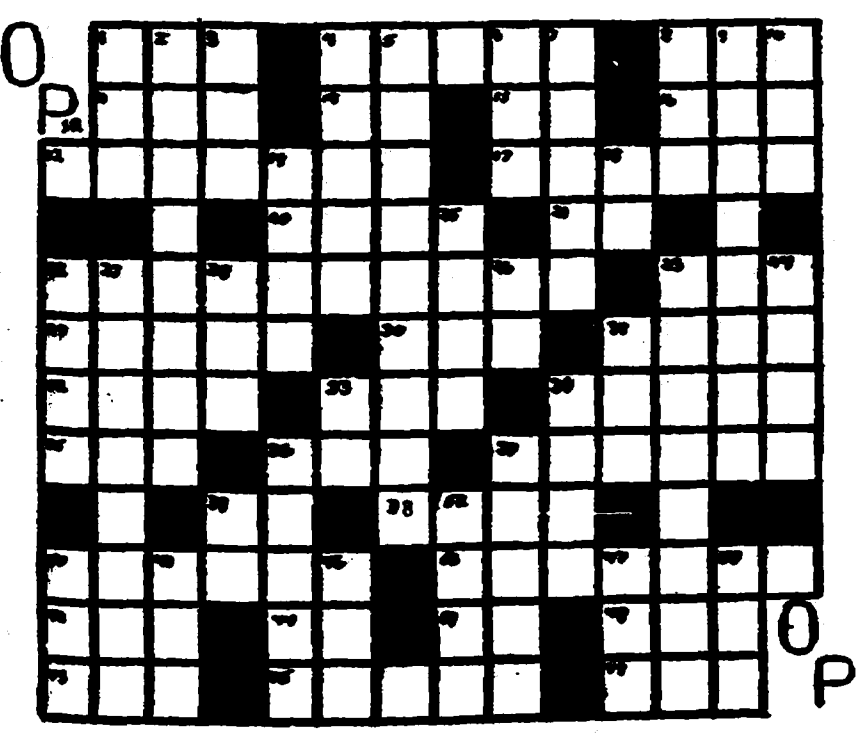
**WORK**... "Job Opportunities In The Law Field" will be the topic of an address by Dr. Samuel Hendel, of the Department of Government, before the Government and Law Society, Thursday, Sept. 22, at 12:30, 224 Main. . . .

**TRAVEL**... Class Council of the class of '52 is investigating and expects to undertake the sale of bus passes to students throughout the school. . . .

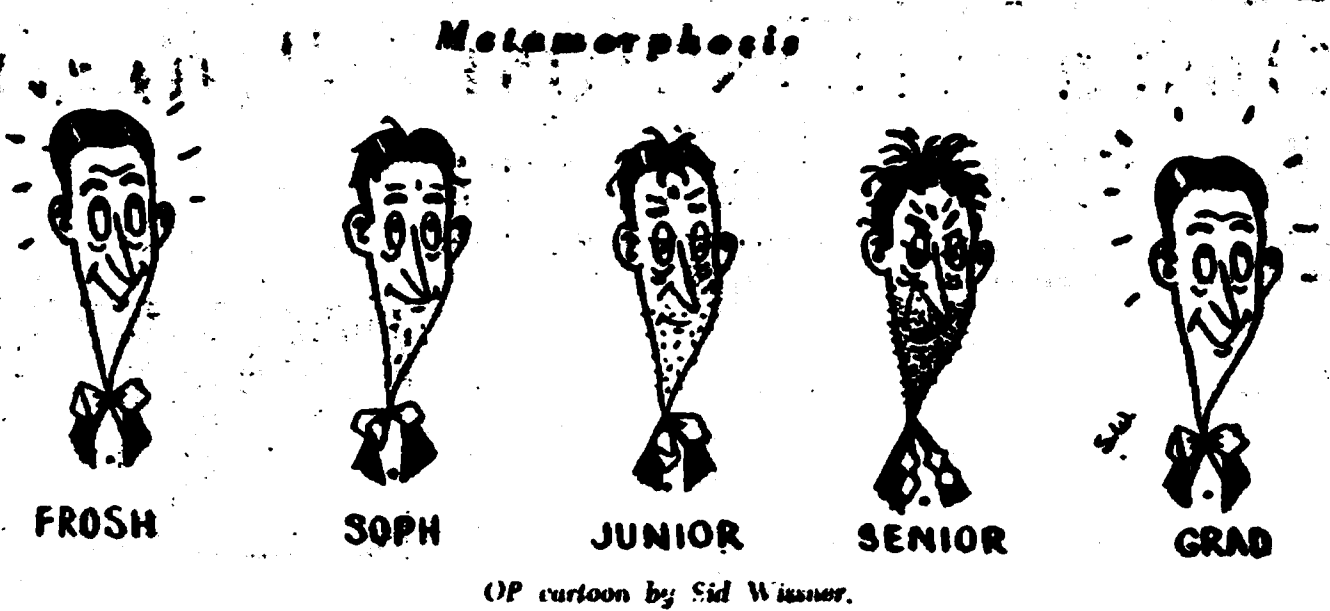


This scene was taken from last winter's Theatre Workshop production of "Jason."

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



- |                          |                         |                       |                      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Down                     | 21--Railroad (Clal.)    | Across                | 23--Overthrow in law |
| 1--All Beaver enter-     | 22--Relative (familiar) | 1--Military enter-    | 24--Famed conductor  |
| 2--Group of birds        | 24--Middle Life         | 2--Phonetic BWE       | 25--Excitement       |
| 3--Dr. Ordway Teed, Cal. | 25--Three, prefix       | 3--Gentlemanly title  | 26--Army rank, pl.   |
| 4--Darius S. Neal        | 26--Old R. V. Par-      | 4--Unobscure (abb.)   | 27--Great writer     |
| 5--Dover                 | 27--Old to friends      | 5--Slovak Shakespeare | 28--Blat brochure    |
| 6--Hollywood's           | 28--Follower of Mo-     | 6--Eddie Cantor's     | 29--Form of "up"     |
| 7--Hollywood's           | 29--Tragic suspense     | 7--Mrs. Wright's      | 30--Great prefix     |
| 8--Hollywood's           | 30--Tragic suspense     | 8--Middle name        | 31--State center ac- |
| 9--Hollywood's           | 31--Tragic suspense     | 9--Ward's             | 32--Word             |
| 10--Hollywood's          | 32--Tragic suspense     | 10--Ward's            | 33--Agitated crowd   |
| 11--H. S. author,        | 33--Tragic suspense     | 11--Ward's            | 34--Warrior          |
| 12--H. S. author,        | 34--Tragic suspense     | 12--Ward's            | 35--Paul Newman,     |
| 13--H. S. author,        | 35--Tragic suspense     | 13--Ward's            | 36--Chin             |
| 14--H. S. author,        | 36--Tragic suspense     | 14--Ward's            | 37--Scottish outlaw- |
| 15--H. S. author,        | 37--Tragic suspense     | 15--Ward's            | 38--Society          |
| 16--H. S. author,        | 38--Tragic suspense     | 16--Ward's            | 39--Society          |
| 17--H. S. author,        | 39--Tragic suspense     | 17--Ward's            | 40--Society          |
| 18--H. S. author,        | 40--Tragic suspense     | 18--Ward's            | 41--Society          |
| 19--H. S. author,        | 41--Tragic suspense     | 19--Ward's            | 42--Society          |
| 20--H. S. author,        | 42--Tragic suspense     | 20--Ward's            | 43--Society          |
- Answer to Puzzle on Page 3



## OP Review . . . Past Performances

**TW**

"Epicene; or the Silent Woman," has come to the College and gone, but those present seemed to enjoy the play. "Epicene," as you may know, is the Ben Jonson comedy concerning a clever ruse used by a scheming nephew to safeguard his uncle's wealth. He marries him off to a perfect wife, then forces him to shed his treasure, thus keeping his legacy in the family.

Those of you who have read Ben Jonson know that the plot is more complicated than this, but to summarize Jonson is to garble the plot, anaesthetize the humor and lose the sparkling Elizabethan vitality for which he is so famous.

The quality of acting in the play was far below the Theatre Workshop standard, considering that they have performed so well in the past. In this respect, "Epicene" was a disappointment. The burlesquing in the performance was overdone—it simply "out-heroded Herod."

Among the other faults of the performance was the selection of the female roles. Pleasing appearance rather than dramatic ability seemed to be the criteria for choice. One of the male leads was so zealous of his portrayal of a rather effeminate knight that he appeared more feminine than effeminate. Also, the value of adding original background music by Theatre Workshop for this type of play is dubious. It certainly didn't add much to the play.

"Epicene" was not without its redeeming feature however. He was Don Madden, whose sterling performance as Morose lifted the play above the level of the mediocre.

**Dramsoc**

Dramsoc's recent production of "Faust" by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, established another "first" for the College. The performance, on Friday night, May 27, was the first time that both parts of the play have been presented in English.

With the rise of the curtain at the beginning of the first act, the feeling of the supernatural struck the audience. The settings by Bill Summers, supplemented by the lighting effects, staged by Myron Weinberg, subtly imparted the desired effect of supernatural interference in the lives of humans—in this case—the life of Faust.

As the story goes, the Lord and Mephistopheles (the Devil) enter into a pact which specifies that if the Devil is able to corrupt Faust, he can claim his soul for his own. But the Lord has faith in Faust, who is supposed to be a modern job.

The Devil, as portrayed by Morton Lawner, gives a critique of some of the courses taught by Faust which at times sounds like a critique of courses here at the College. Mr. Lawner, without a doubt, is a talented performer, but it was felt by a few that in his interpretation of the Devil as a writhing, crawling snake, he over-emphasized the motions of the Devil and occasionally detracted from the acting of the other members of the cast.

Professor Sumberg, Dramsoc faculty advisor, who directed the play, Marvin Krause, president of Dramsoc, who produced it, and the entire company are deserving of the highest praise for doing a wonderful job on a difficult task.

**Cast**

Three cheers for CAST (City Associate Summer Theatre)—for being the first summer session dramatic group in the history of City College, for their fine choice of a play, and for the excellent performance of the same, both artistically and technically.

On the nights of August 12 and 13, the College's newest dramatic group enacted William Shakespeare's "Hamlet" to a small but apparently appreciative audience.

Paul R. Burton, in the title role, turned in an excellent portrayal. Bill Summers, in the character part of old Polonius, Hamlet's prospective father-in-law, also was convincing.

The parts of King Claudius, murderer of Hamlet's father; Laertes, Ophelia's brother; and Horatio, Hamlet's best friend, were enacted by Stanley George, Marvin Markow, and R. Willis Morea. Nat Zittner is happily humorous as the effeminate Guildenstern.

The female roles of Queen Gertrude and Ophelia were enacted by Julie Bovasso and Zelda Bennett.

Generally the supporting cast acted with ease and excellent timing.

Though the theater was less than one-third filled, applause was so enthusiastic that it was not until the cast had taken several curtain calls that the house lights were finally turned on.

The most profound thanks of the City College theatre-goer are due producer Walter Hurst and Paul R. Burton, who undertook the direction. Through their combined efforts, a City College Summer Theatre has finally been instituted.

The fine work of set design was executed by Bill Summers, while the costumes were made available through Blossom Fushnooshnik.

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# OBSERVATION POST

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# College's Football Team Had Brighter Seasons

One of the pioneer schools in the U. S. to play inter-collegiate football, City College fielded a team way back in 1873, four years after Princeton and Rutgers began the annual autumn madness.

Four schools, Rutgers, Princeton, Columbia and Yale, have the distinction of playing the game earlier than the Beavers, who share fifth place with NYU and Stevens.

### Ways and Means

In the early years, football was supported on an unsteady basis. It is recorded that one year the dramatic society undertook to raise funds for equipment. Another report tells of the crisis of 1883, when the squad's lone remaining football was battered out of shape. After thinking of levying a tax on each player to buy a new pigskin, a special committee decided to repair the old ball.

Happy memories of the 1895 eleven linger on. That was the team on which Robert F. Wagner (see photograph) played quarterback and end. That team licked NYU, 12-6, in a walloping upset. Chances are that Sen. Wagner, the retired senior Senator from New York, remembers that game as fondly as his Labor Relations Act of 1935.

### Dog Days

Difficulties in getting a good turnout for practice resulted in the suspension of the sport after the 1907 season. It wasn't until 1921 that a freshman team was organized, a development that led to the return of varsity football the next year. It's been with us ever since.

Joe Neville, a Yale man, coached during 1922-23 and was followed by Dr. Harold J. Parker. An unorthodox tactician, Parker made use of the kick formation as an offensive weapon and was among the first to introduce the eight-man line.

In 1934, Coach Parker was suc-



One of the most famous football teams in Lavender grid history—the 1895 eleven. Seated in first row center, (dark turtle-neck sweater) star quarterback and later one of America's greatest Senators, Robert F. Wagner.

ceeded by Benny Friedman, who coached until '41, when he entered the Navy. Friedman enjoyed singular success until the war began to cut into Beaver manpower.

Despite difficulty in getting enough participants, it was decided to continue the sport, and Joe Alexander, an All-American center and N. Y. Giant grid coach, took over the head coaching reins in 1942. Only 15 men turned out for Alexander's first practice session.

### An Uphill Battle

Leon A. Miller, a Carlisle grad who played alongside Jim Thorpe, became coach in '43 and was followed by Lou Gebhard in 1945, in the midst of a wretched string of scoreless games.

Dr. Parker was recalled in 1947

and put football back on its feet. His coaching staff included two men who had played under him: Frank Tubridy and Irving Mondschein. After two good campaigns, Parker asked to be returned to his Hygiene Department duties and Tubridy was named mentor for the 1949 season.

### Beaver Schedule

Here is the Beaver's 1949 grid schedule:

- September 24—Susquehanna
- October 1—Colby
- October 8—New Haven
- October 15—Lowell
- October 19—Wagner
- November 4—Brooklyn
- November 11—Upsala
- November 19—NYU



## Posting the Score

by DAVE WEINSTEIN

There isn't much chance that the outcome of Saturday afternoon's football game between CCNY and Susquehanna will have any effect upon the national ratings. Neither team could aptly be termed powerhouse. Extremely fortunate to place eleven experienced men upon the field at one time, neither of the clubs will be able to capitalize on the two platoon system. But in spite of its shortcomings, the Beaver-Crusader tilt shapes up as quite a football game.

The last time these two clubs met, the Crusaders came from behind with two touchdowns in the second half to defeat the College, 13-7. Determined that this performance shall not be repeated, the Beavers have been undergoing intensive and rigorous conditioning at their training camp in Shrub Oak for the past three weeks. An air of quiet but grim confidence has permeated the entire training session. Each athlete has displayed an extraordinary willingness to work, the morale of the club is high and the team spirit is something to marvel at. Unless something unforeseen develops by game time, the Beavers will take the field Saturday in tip-top shape, both mentally and physically—a far cry from the bedraggled and oftentimes lackadaisical eleven of last campaign.

Susquehanna, though, is out to prove that their victory was no fluke. Coach Amos Alonzo Stagg, Jr., one of the finest mentors in collegiate football, has absorbed a lot of grid cunning from his famous father. The Crusaders know how to play football. Soundly drilled in the fundamentals, their tackling and blocking are thorough. And like all Stagg outfits they don't know when to quit.

On paper, the teams are evenly matched.

Reserve strength will decide the eventual victor. Both sides' reserves have yet to be tested in competition, being composed largely of untried sophomores.

The game promises to follow the pattern of its nine predecessors. The breaks will determine which side will be triumphant. To the writer, it is inconceivable that the margin of victory can be greater than seven points.

The Lavender squad has worked hard and has earned the support of the student body. It would be a shame if the boys were to receive the same meager encouragement they got last year.

### Let's Do It Again

The history of the CCNY-Susquehanna football series dates all the way back to 1936. In the nine games played thus far the Crusaders have managed to triumph five times with one tie.

### Susquehanna Tix

Tickets for the Susquehanna football opener go on sale this Thursday, Sept. 22, in the Great Hall from 12 to 4. AA card holders can purchase two reduced price tickets, \$5.50 apiece, on only one AA card. Lowiehn Stadium kick-off time is 2:30.

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# Undefeated Harriers Open Training Today

The College cross-country team, undefeated for the last three years, will officially open fall training today, seeking to keep their string of sixteen consecutive victories intact.

Coach Harold Anson Bruce's harriers, although hard-hit by the loss of Tony Bonano and Alfred Poe, two stellar performers, are a veteran crew.

Among the outstanding performers who are returning are Vince Porter, Don Spitzer, Ed Laing, Buddy Clarke, Bill Omeltchenko and Don Hinson.

Twenty-seven members of the squad have been working out unofficially at McCombs Dam Park. Many newcomers have impressed but have yet to be tested in actual competition. Coach Bruce

is optimistic about his team's chances but expresses concern over the prospect of meeting Hofstra, Rutgers, and St. John's, three Eastern powerhouses.

## Beavers See Sunlight

When the Beavers take the field Saturday afternoon against Susquehanna it will be only their sixth day game in their last seventeen performances. However, the College will partake in three arclight tilts this season, journeying to New Haven, Upsala and Brooklyn. The Brooklyn College encounter is the only home night game on the Lavender schedule and will be played in Ebbets Field.

## The Sports Mill

by KANE

An already murderous basketball schedule could have been made even rockier if not for a smart decision by Nat Holman. Nat turned thumbs down on Western Kentucky and Bowling Green as possible opponents. Too rough...

Copper Beach, Shrub Oak, N. Y., site of the Beaver football team's fall training base, is only a few miles outside of Peekskill, N. Y., where lots of things have been happening lately...

Leo Wagner, grid co-captain, was fourth in the East in total offense last year, accumulating 600 yards. Wagner can do everything that more highly publicized heroes at name schools can do. The Public Relations Office makes no mistake in booming him for Little All-American honors...

An eight-meet program, including the Met Intercollegiate and ICAA champs, awaits Coach Harold Anson Bruce's cross-country team. College nabobs can't seem to spell co-captain Bill Omeltchenko's name correctly, but S. William is still one of the squad's best distance men...

Head Football Coach Frank Tubridy will be a guest on Joe Haecl's sports show over WJZ, Thursday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. ...

Doug Dengeles and Frank Moran, who starred on the football team the last two years, have returned to school as assistant coaches. Dengeles, despite a spotty Lavender aerial attack, snared 27 passes, good for 382 yards, to lead Eastern pass receivers last season...

There's a belated alibi for that 45-7 score Brooklyn College ran up on the Beavers last fall. BC was using evening session athletes, ineligible under the rules of the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Committee, to which it didn't belong. BC is a member this year, though...

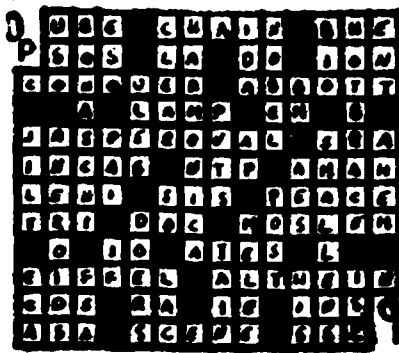
Has anyone been reading the advance dope on the NYU footballers? They're supposed to have their best squad in years. The Beavers meet them at the Stadium Oct. 19...

A glance at this year's lacrosse schedule informs us that on April 15 the Beavers tackle William and Mary, one of the nation's very best. "Chief" Miller must be optimistic...

Benny Friedman, head football coach here from 1934-41, has been appointed Athletic Director at newly founded Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass. Benny was an all-American in his playing days at Michigan, firing touchdown passes to Benny Osterbaan, present-day Wolverine coach...

Seymour "Shim" Kalman, ranking right halfback of the Lavender, never played anything more than sandlot ball until last year. "Shim" still has to control his long leaves, which he throws like so many bullets, but should run well from the "T."

Puzzle Answer



## Classified Ads

Beginning today, Classified Ads will be accepted by OBSERVATION POST at the rate of 5c per word. The minimum charge will be 20c for any ad.

Ad copy may be mailed to College Box 207 or entered in person at the OP office, 16 A, Main. Deadline for all Classified Ads is 4 o'clock of the Wednesday preceding the publication day, which will be Tuesday unless there are special circumstances.

## Fresh Basketball Tryouts Called For Sept. 21-23

Although the new crop of entering freshmen doesn't boast such an outstanding assemblage of basketball talent as entered school last year, it is by no means lacking capable court performers.

Included in this year's frosh class are Stan Barondes who starred at New Utrecht, Morris Bragin, a set-shot artist from Roosevelt and Allan Cohen, 6-2 rebound specialist from Thomas Jefferson. Other prospects from the class of '53 are Dick Dickstein, Sam Rubenstein, Norm Fauber, Larry Koss, and Marv Gelb.

Coach Bobby Sand has announced that tryouts for the frosh squad will be held Sept. 21-23 in the Hygiene Gym from 4 on. No high school experience is necessary.



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# Sports OBSERVATION POST

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THE OBSERVATION POST

Monday, September 19, 1949

## Lavender Vs. Susquehanna

### Beavers Face Crusaders In Opening Clash Saturday

By Ben Zeidman

Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. in Lewisohn Stadium! Then and there the 1949 version of the CCNY football team will be unveiled, as the Beavers open up their schedule with a contest against the Crusaders of Susquehanna.

With the advent of the new season, the Lavender football squad, under its new coach Frank Tubridy, is sporting high hopes that it will make a much better showing than in previous years. In the past, the woeful weakness of the Beaver football squad has hung like a shroud over the hearts of CCNY stalwarts both on the field and in the stands. Despite the toughest schedule in many years, the team and Coaches Tubridy, Mondschein, Dengeles and Moran are confident that the Beavers will be able to give a good account of themselves.

#### Schedule Tough

While it is admitted by its heartiest boosters that the College does not rank in the upper echelons of the football world, the opponents are of good caliber for the class. Opening the season with Susquehanna, the Lavender will meet in succession Colby, New Haven, Lowell Textile, Wagner, Brooklyn, Upsala and will conclude the season against its traditional rival NYU, on November 19.

Training for the past three weeks at Copper Beach Camp, Shrub Oak, New York, the team appears to be in much better condition than at this time a year ago. Aided by excellent weather and extensive facilities, which have created a very conducive atmosphere, the Beavers have come a long way in a short time.

As the picture shapes up now, the first team will be fairly strong but lacks experienced replacements. The big worry is the bench. The thirty-five man squad is composed of a flock of newcomers, many of whom have never had previous high school or J. V. experience. Impressive in practice, only the test of competition will show their true ability.

#### Backfield No Worry

The starting backfield presents little worry for Tubridy, inasmuch as returning veterans Leo Wagner, Sy Kalman and Johnny Lasak form a well knit nucleus around which to build. There aren't enough superlatives to describe Wagner. Suffice it to say that he is one of the finest triple threat men in the East and let it go at that. Kalman and Lasak are fast shifty runners and good receivers for Wagner's aerials. All three are great broken field runners and are threats to score from any part of the field. Monroe Morris is the bruising line backer, so necessary for a T-formation to click. Sam Newman and

### A. A. Tix On Sale Sept. 26

The Athletic Association has decided to eliminate the "A" and "B" plan on basketball ticket sales and has arranged for bargain rates to two home football games.

AA cards can be bought Sept. 22, 29 and Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27 in the Great Hall from 12 to 4, the same hours that will prevail for both basketball and football ticket sales. An AA card costs \$2.00 and runs through June '50. February grads will be able to redeem their cards at the close of the semester and receive a \$1.00 refund.

Hitherto, AA cards were stamped "A" or "B," entitling the holder to priority on tickets to half the Beavers' Garden basketball games. Under the new set-up tickets will be sold on a single day on a first come first served basis. The rule of one ticket per AA card has been retained, however. Students will be required to show their library cards when purchasing tickets.

To stimulate football ticket sales, the price gates have been opened for the Susquehanna and Colby games, the first two home tiffs of the season. AA members will be permitted to buy two reduced price tickets at \$.50 each on only one AA card. No reduced price tickets will be sold at the game for any game on the grid schedule.

Joe Mas form a capable reserve.

The Beaver starting line is adequate but lacks depth. With only three returnees from last season's starting forward wall: Italo Fabro, end; Herb Ravitz, tackle; and Jonah Juhase, center, the line looks like quite a problem. Buddy Seher, reserve guard of last year has nailed down a starting berth. Newcomers, who because of their outstanding performance in training camp appear to have won starting berths, are Mel Worshofsky at end; Arnie Weinstein at tackle and Bernie Lipky at guard. All three starred at Monroe High.

#### Shrub Oak Training



Quarterback Leo Wagner spins and fades to pass on one of the Beavers' trick plays. The squad has been running plays like this one out of the T formation all training season long up in Copper Beach Camp, Shrub Oak, New York, in preparation for their opening contest Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. against Susquehanna.

### Large Turnout Makes Soccer Future Bright; Season Opens October 8

Heartened by the largest pre-season turnout in the history of the College, Dick Havel, coach of the Beaver soccer team, confidently looks forward to a successful season. With over thirty candidates working out regularly for the past two weeks, the loss of seven lettermen through graduation is not expected to hurt the team's chances too severely.

Unofficial metropolitan champions, the squad will open the campaign Oct. 8 against Seton Hall, currently boasting a thirteen-game winning streak. Panzer, the only club to defeat the Lavender last fall, will tackle them only six days after the Setonia fray. Both clubs are much improved and will offer the greatest challenge to the Beavers, doubly so coming early in the season. S.N.

### Hoop Squad Taking Shape

Coach Nat Holman, at the helm of the Beaver basketball team for his thirty-first year, will assemble the 1949-50 squad for the first time Oct. 3.

As the nucleus of the squad, Holman has Co-Captains Irwin Dambrot and Joe Galiber, Mike Wittlin, Norm Mager, Leroy Watkins, Ronnie Nadel, Herb Holmstrom, Mos Chefec and Art Glass, returnees from the hectic '48 season.

#### Slick Sophs

As far as the sophomore talent goes, the squad possesses the finest group of sophomores ever assembled at the College. Pacing the yearlings is big Eddie Roman, record-breaking scorer for last season's freshman team. Ed averaged 20 points a game. Right behind Roman are Ed Warner and Floyd Layne, two big, fast men, and Herb Cohen and Al Roth, a pair of fine floormen.

#### Long on Height

Without the services of the graduated Hilly Shapiro and Senny Jameson, it will be a man-sized job for Nat to mold the squad into a cohesive unit. But where in the past Beaver teams have been under-sized and forced to depend solely on speed, this club shapes up as one of the tallest ever to perform for Holman. Watkins stands 6-7; Roman, 6-5½; Galiber, Dambrot and Mager, 6-4; Layne, 6-5; and Warner, 6-2½.



in the press box

by dick kaplan

Sports writers often fall victim to their unique occupational disease describing the virtues of this or that sports hero, secure in the knowledge that their readers will forgive and forget.

Fortunately for the genus sportswriter, the public rarely thinks to keep track of his daily bum guesses. If they did, a lot of seers in the journalistic set would run for cover, including the fellows who are going around inventing new hymns to sing about this year's Beaver basketball team.

This very well could be the year for the men of Holman to earn the big splashing headlines instead of a small line of agate type in the AP ratings; but talking tourney before the team has even played a game is premature as well as unfair to the athletes.

Standing between the Beavers and national acclaim are 22 tough ball games, which will be won or lost, to a great extent, by inexperienced sophs. Fellows like Roman, Warner and Layne, good as they may be, will be meeting tall, strong men with a few years of collegiate play behind them—a far cry from freshman ball.

Following the Nov. 26 breather with Queens, the Beavers plow into their 13-game Garden slate, facing Lafayette Dec. 3. While no world-beaters, the Leopards are habitually strong. On Dec. 8, SMU comes into town, and despite their doleful '48 record, the Mustangs flattened the Beavers, 62-56.

Oklahoma, whom the Beavers squeezed by, 53-51, last year, should be better now that 6-11 Marcus Freiberger has learned to coordinate his long limbs. Minus Jack Kerrin, but still possessing Ben Blutt and Jim Dawson, Loyola of Chicago should raise hob with the Beavers the night of Jan. 7. They mauled us, 62-47, in the NIT last season.

California and UCLA, Christmas Week visitors, are dark horses, but Irwin Dambrot says the Uclans will be rugged. And when has West Virginia (Jan. 10) failed to come up with a good club?

Filling out the Garden card are Niagara, Syracuse, and our intracity pals, NYU, St. John's, Manhattan, Fordham, St. Francis and Brooklyn College.

On the road, Muhlenberg figures to give us a hard time at Allentown, Pa., a howling-mad basketball town, while Ivy League or no, the Princeton Tiger is no household tabby, particularly in its own gym. Coniston and St. Joseph's invariably give the Lavender trouble and Boston College is an unknown quantity—but so was San Francisco.