

Lafayette Alumnus News

OCTOBER 1969

Changes, Changes, Changes

College Plans For Coeducation

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

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

At the meeting, the trustees



In the library



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



... at concerts

Alumni Questionnaire

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

Response by occupation

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



... and finally in the classroom.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Frosh Arrive And Settle into Routine

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

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

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

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

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

Campus reaction to the newcomers was rather reserved, as

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

Alumni Softball Team Moves From Rags to Riches

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

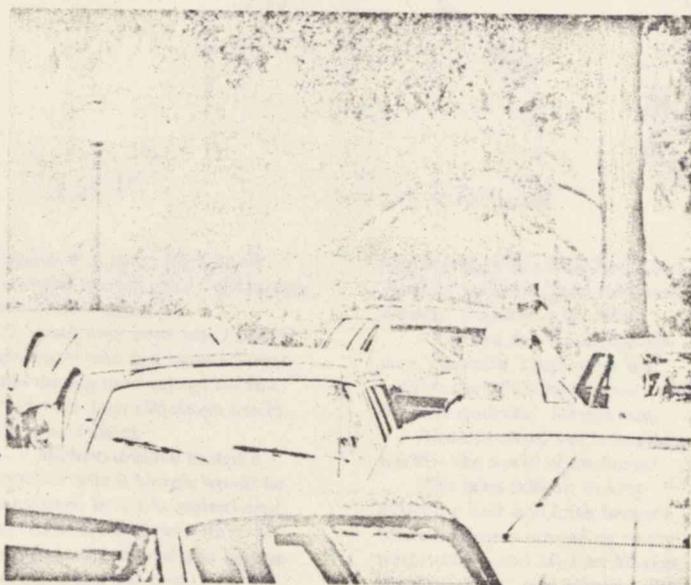
But things have changed. This year, only five years later, the Lafayette men have upset the Philadelphia softball world by winning all their league games. They did so by beating names that are so famous that one scarcely dares to speak them aloud. For example, the Lafayette team trounced Princeton 5-3,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

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

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

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

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



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