

Equal Opportunities

I have read your article on blacks on campus ["Unfinished Business"] in the December issue of *Syracuse University Magazine*, and would like to congratulate you on an excellent, thorough piece.

For several years I taught a black study course at Cayuga Community College [Auburn, New York], and concluded that the biggest obstacle to improving racial relations was ignorance of black culture and the latter's role in American history. . . .

Anything that can bring the problem of racial relations to the attention of whites helps to solve the problem, and that, in my mind, is what your article has done.

GEORGE R. METCALF
 AUBURN, NEW YORK

What you've done here allows us both to feel proud and discouraged by what has and hasn't occurred with respect to race relations on this campus in the last 20 years. Clearly, your journal says important things about history and future in that regard.

DAVID C. SMITH '66
 SYRACUSE

Smith is the dean of admissions and financial aid for Syracuse University.

You captured the essence of the issue of minorities on white college campuses and gave voice to the variety of concerns.

CHARLES V. WILLIE G'57
 CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Willie, who was featured in the article, is a professor of education and urban studies at Harvard University.

All of us in academia know that great progress has been made in breaking down admissions barriers, but without comparable progress in the area of social and collegial acceptance once a minority student arrives on campus. Such acceptance is, in my view, the operational definition of equality. One could also say that just as stereotypical misperceptions are the defining root of racism, genuine (i.e., motive-free) acceptance is the essence of equality.

In many quarters, especially those trafficked by (mostly white) university presidents and deans, this is the campus issue "no one likes to talk about." I am pleased that *Syracuse University Magazine* has "talked about it" and has done so with riveting

panache. I suspect that the December issue will find its way to the desks of many university presidents, and I ask my fellow alumni to facilitate this process by obtaining and distributing copies to academic leaders with whom they have influence.

THORU PEDERSON '63, G'68
 WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Pederson is president and scientific director of the Worcester Foundation for Experimental Biology, in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.

The reference to Project 1000 on page 26 contains a small error. In fact, Project 1000's national goal is to increase Hispanic graduate enrollment by 1,000 by 1992. This is a combined effort of all institutions participating in the project—not Syracuse University alone.

LEO LAMBERT G'84
 SYRACUSE

Lambert is associate director of the Graduate School at SU.

Your December 1989 issue makes me proud of SU's change in attitude toward Negro and Hispanic students.

RUTH W. HAZARD '17
 DELAND, FLORIDA

A radio program I heard recently stated [that] members of white fraternities are very strictly regulated regarding rushing. However, members of black fraternities can do as they wish and are not regulated.

If this is so, is not the University discriminating against whites? Are not all students treated equally, regardless of race?

MARY H. YOUNGS '43
 POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK

At Syracuse, all Greek organizations, regardless of racial composition, are governed by a peer group known as the Greek Council. It sets the minimum standards of behavior and conduct by which a fraternity or sorority is permitted to exist. Anti-hazing initiatives, alcohol-policy compliance, and academic eligibility of initiates are among its concerns. To repeat, its purview overarches all registered Greek organizations.

Additionally, three separate peer organizations set rushing procedures, among them the Black Pan-Hellenic Council, which represents nine traditionally black fraternities and sororities at Syracuse. According to Daniel Maxwell, who serves as the University's advisor to Greek governance bodies, Black "Pan-Hell" sets initiation standards that are as stringent—if not more so—than those of

other Greeks. Self-governance, in this case, has created a rushing tradition that is mature and particularly sympathetic to its participants.

As I was reading "Unfinished Business," I realized my version of Malcolm Forbes's quotation in *U.S. News & World Report* (January 9, 1989) should be taught to all students. To wit:

"I have no choice in being born. I have no choice in dying; our Creator determines the how, when, and where. I do have a choice in how I live during the interval between. I choose to help and serve others. That way I will enjoy my choice."

IRVING WEINBERG '51
 BALTIMORE

Remembering the Eighties

I want to commend you and your staff on the [September 1989] issue of *Syracuse University Magazine*. It is outstanding. I especially appreciated the "Exit the Eighties" piece, an excellent and thought-provoking series of quotes and excerpts from a wide variety of SU sources. I now look forward to reading each new issue of *Syracuse*, but I believe that this last issue is the best yet.

JOHN NAGLE
 SYRACUSE

"Exit the Eighties" skillfully blended the contributions made by SU alumni and members of the SU community with the critical events of the eighties into a most entertaining piece.

H. RICHARD LEVY
 SYRACUSE

Nagle is a professor of foreign and comparative studies at SU; Levy, a professor of biology.

The look back at the eighties left me with the need to request a more balanced approach to the review.

The business, computer science, or communications schools . . . could paint a more positive picture of the advances we have made in the past decade. We have seen reduced inventory and boarded-up mall stores of the Jimmy Carter era give way to new malls and more stores filled with merchandise. The original Apple II computer of 1980 has been far surpassed by the new Apple Macintosh II of 1989. Communications by portable video equipment, VCRs, computers, satellites, and other multi-media devices are reaching far

and wide to bring change to even the most entrenched societies.

Social programs of the industrial age are going through an important change. The big spending by national and state governments will be replaced by more effective and caring local programs, perhaps even new profitable businesses. We will not go back to wasteful programs. We can only go ahead to better ideas and new ways of solving old problems.

PAUL J. TERZIAN '77
SCOTIA, NEW YORK

On Schedules

Inside the back cover of the December issue of *Syracuse University Magazine* is a basketball schedule and pictures of basketball players—the men's schedule and men's [photos].

Syracuse University also has a very good women's basketball team. Where is their schedule? The women's season has also started. Where are their pictures? . . .

No wonder so few people attend women's sporting events. The University's own magazine doesn't even print the women's schedule. Burger King doesn't hype women's basketball the way it does men's. The local newspapers and TV stations give sparse to no coverage of women's events.

So much for Title IX. Equality still does not exist within the world of sports, the media covering the world of sports, or the institution supposedly supporting sports for both men and women.

M.F. STUCK G'81, G'83, G'85
HOMER, NEW YORK

At any one time during the academic year, as many as eight varsity sports are under way. Printing all of their schedules in this magazine is not feasible. When space allows we publish the schedules of the three teams for which we invariably hear requests: football, lacrosse, and men's basketball. It's important to note that, by way of television, football and men's basketball are the only sports viewed by fans away from Syracuse-area media; for such fans, our magazine often provides the only access to these schedules.

However, you may receive a copy of all varsity sports schedules in a given season by writing to Kathy Bilbrough, Sports Relations, Manley Field House, Syracuse, New York 13244. Please write no sooner than one month prior to the season in question. The schedules for most sports are far less definite than those we print—another impediment to our printing them.

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P10

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