END OF-THE-YEAR CRUNCH

BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY
CRUSADER COLUMNIST

Looseness, it occurred to me, was the basic emotion of them all. It was always there in the background, waiting to pounce, waiting, always waiting.

It was a recent Kimball bunch that put all of this into perspective for me. Frequent Kimball patron and plastic cup collector Joey Brocklesby '03 suddenly put down his spoon and looked at his bowl. “It must be tough for him,” he said slowly and pensively. For whom, I asked.

“Cap’n Crunch,” he answered. “Think about it, he’s been out at sea for at least a dozen years, just him and a bunch of kids … but you’ll notice the kids change every now and then. The kid changes, but he stays. And I’ll bet he doesn’t even really open up to them, either. They’re only there for a year or two, in the first place, and they only know him as Cap’n - does anyone know his first name? We all only know him by his job title. It must be tough for him, the loneliness of command and all that. The open sea, the wind in the sails, one man in command.”

Joey wasn’t finished yet, either.

“Remember the Soggies?” he said next. “Now, there was a worthy ad- versary for the Cap’n. But the Soggies are all gone now. They’re like the Soviet Union, the great enemy that was finally defeated. The Cap’n has a ship but there’s no war to fight anymore, just endless sailing around ‘mak- ing it happen,’ whatever that means. I think it must be very lonely for a man called just Cap’n, sailing around the world with no enemies and no friends.”

I decided not to tell Joey that he had lost all semblance of sanity. First of all, it wouldn’t have done any good, and second of all, I had already tried to tell him that every week since January. We finished our cereal in peace and Joey fixed his eyes on his hamburger.

“You know who else is a lonely figure?” he asked as he wiped the milk off his spoon and started dipping it into his paper cup of ketchup. “The guy who washes knives at Kimball.”

* * * * *

The speed at which this school is moving forward continues to astound me. Recently they debuted something called “MyHC,” which allegedly would be a great Internet portal for students, if it ever comes online. Yes, that’s right: soon - very soon - Holy Cross will join the Internet portal rev- olution. Welcome to 1997!

Meanwhile, progress is evident on College, er, Smith Hall. And the Col- lege is finally considering adding a new dorm. My unscientific poll found that 100% of students wanted there to be large, apartment-style suites, 100% wanted reasonably close parking, and there was large wellspring of support - estimated at 90% or higher - for free use of elevators. Joey and I also agreed that big windows and nice furniture would be helpful.

Work also continues on the subject that SGA and the College Administra- tion have been debating and brainstorming over for months: the quality of the Crusader.

“Quite frankly,” said one of the SGA representatives who sits on the Crusader Column Excellence Task Force, “we are disappointed with the caliber of writing that has appeared in this space over the last two semes- ters. There has been undue attention on Kimball’s shortage, unfair jokes about ITS, and too much emphasis on subjects that require little or no research.”

This is a stinging criticism, even if you take into account the fact that this particular SGA rep is upset over the way he’s been quoted in this column (once up a little there, Joey). However, just like our faculty and whoever it is who makes our NAPSTER policy, I’m always looking to improve - so here’s my first-ever Column Evaluation Form, to help me determine what my readers want and how I can respond.

COLUMN: Comments on the Passing Parade PAGE: 15
My Q.P.I. is (circle one) 4.20 3.14 2.90 1.23 OTHER
My I.Q. is HIGHER / LOWER than my Q.P.I.
Not counting in-class time I put hours per week into reading this column.

Consultation with the writer outside of Kimball was [ ] helpful [ ] un- helpful [ ] violent.

This column has decreased my capacity to think [ ] somewhat [ ] not at all [ ] only when it had that Brookesley kid in it.

ROUND CAMPUS
Check out what’s happening at HC this week . . .

Friday, April 27
• Battle of the Sexes has been cancelled due to lack of interest.
  • Concert: Piano Recital by the students of Marian C. Banshaw. Brooks Concert Hall, 4 p.m. Performers include: Joanne Golden, Chris Jones, Leilani Inoshima, Kaie Blanche and Andy Sauer. Sponsored by the Music Department.
  • Kimball Movie: “Wonder Boys.” Kimball Theater, 7 p.m. Admission is $1.50 with a college ID.
  • Spring Carnival. Hart Recreation Center Lawn. Noon to 5 p.m.
  • Lip Sync Contest. Hart Recreation Center. 9 p.m. Sponsored by CAB.
  • Kimball Movie: “Wonder Boys.” Kimball Theater, 7 p.m. Admission is $1.50 with a college ID.

Saturday, April 28

• Workshop: Religious Interpreting Workshop for the Deaf. Hogan Campus Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Deaf educator Patrick “Pax” McCarthy will lead a workshop tied to “Religious Frozen Text Translations.” The workshop will be conducted in American Sign Language (ASL); no interpreter will be provided. The workshop will focus on translating from frozen texts: prayers and songs commonly found in Hearing churches and temples. It will focus on improvising stylistic renditions and incorporating some commonly used ASL phrases. There will be hands-on translation activities with constructive critiques from participants. McCarthy is a native user of ASL and a Deaf CODA. He received his bachelor’s degree from Gallaudet University and a master’s degree in Deaf education from Western Maryland College. Registrations are required for the workshop as seats are limited; the registration fee is $25. To make reservations and for additional information, contact Judy Freedman Fask at 508/793-3344, 508/793-3038, or jfask@holycross.edu.

• Concert: Matthew Dirst, Concert Organist. St. Joseph Memorial Chapel, 3 to 4 p.m. Sponsored by Habitat for Humanity.
  • Baseball vs. Brown. Fitch Baseball Diamond, 1 p.m.
  • Women’s, Men’s, and Women’s Outdoor Track & Field: Patriot Challenge. Fitch High School, noon.
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  • Habitat Benefit Softball Game and Cookout. Fitch Baseball Diamond, 3:30 p.m. $5.00 for students. Sponsored by Habitat for Humanity.
  • Lecture: “The Place of High Culture in Jesuit Education.” O’Kane Hall, room 495. 4 to 5 p.m.
  • Professor Joseph P. Lawrence presents a year-end lecture followed by a reception. Sponsored by the Philosophy Department Colloquium Series.
  • Friday, May 4

Finals Begin

• Kimball Movie: “What Women Want.” Kimball Theater, 7 p.m. Admission is $1.50 with a college ID.
  • Men’s and Women’s Outdoor Track & Field: Patriot Challenge.
  • Kimball Movie: “What Women Want.” Kimball Theater, 7 p.m. Admission is $1.50 with a college ID.

Monday, May 5

• Basketball vs. Brown. Fitch Basketball Diamond, 1 p.m.

Welcome to 1997!

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Newbury Comics offers affordable variety

“Round Worcester, page 11 that good stuff.

My absolutely favorite part of the store is the relatively new used CD section. I now get physically ill when I feel the need to buy a new CD. The newer the CD, the more expensive it will be. At $10 the price becomes questionable if I can buy it new for $13. Most of the deals are cool though at $6 or $8. This is a safe haven for music snobs ... you know who you are. I keep hearing how this one friend of mine bought a Flaming Lips CD for next to nothing. The bonus is that you can also sell your old CDs, the better the condition, the rarer the CD, the popularity of the music all help for a better price, but don’t ex- pect too much.

To cap things off, the store also sells jewelry, t-shirts, magazines, comic books, decorative lights, and all the crap you could want. They also have a very nice selection of Dr. Martins and funky hair dyes.

For the sake of humanity, go and check this place out, or as Justin Timberlake says, you’ll be ‘Tear- ing up my heart’.

Directions: It’s on Rt. 9 past White City and Spag’s. Get on 290 East and get off at Shrewsbury St. and get on Rt. 9 East. It will be on your left.

Comments on the Passing Parade

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