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Is There A Future In Education?

Educational Problems

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Is There A Future

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spelling without the "w". The history of Bridgewater, England is quite a

bit more involved than that of her counterpart here in the United

States. Although Bridgewater, England has be a major for only

years, the community date back to the time of William the

Conqueror. As is usual with many towns both in England and the

United States, the settlement grew up at the crossing of a river. However, it was the bridge rather than the water that gave the town

in name. After 1066, the com­

munity was called the "Bridge of Walter" (Walter, of Touil). Local

pronunciation corrupted the name to Bridgewater (without the "w") used in the U.S. Bridgewater. L i k e Bridgewater, Massachusetts, Bridgewater, England has a college - a technical college. The town also features an art center, opened in 1946 by the Arts Council of Great Britain. The center has a small modern theatre, which, through two dramatics

chains, sponsors an annual Youth Drama Festival and the renewal of Original Plays. Also here are twenty-four local societies connected with the Arts Guild.

Chances for a job in education for the 1972 graduate are

pg 2

EDITORIAL

It has been stated that the purpose of Bridgewater State College and her sister institutions is to prepare teachers for the public schools of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Yet Bridgewater and her sister colleges are not alone in their task. Many of the Massachusetts 200 plus colleges and universities are also creating

bishops for the public schools of the Commonwealth. To get an

idea of the completion this year's education graduates are up again.

within a fifteen mile radius of Boston there are thirty four

institutions dedicated to the preparation of elementary school

teachers. This June, these thirty four institutions will graduate

instructors. What kind of job market do these people

have to look forward to? According to the Massachusetts Department of Education there will be an estimated 900 elemen­
tary school openings for September, 1972 in eastern Massachusetts. Facing these cold facts chances for employment in the field of elementary education, not even considering secondary education for the moment, are more than thirty to one against the 1972

graduates.

What about the classes coming up? The picture is not much

brighter except for the K-P people (kindergarten-primary). The

state manditory kindergarten law takes effect in September, 1973. Many leading education authorities are predicting a massive

surplus of teachers by 1980. Many are even going further by saying that there will be a decline in the need for teachers by 1/2 by 1980.

They attributed this to the declining birth rate nationally.

These very disturbing factors have several far reaching impli­
cations for not only Bridgewater and her graduates but for the entire Massachusetts System of Higher Education. An additional

background information, all of Massachusetts' state-supported four

year colleges and universities offer degrees in education, with the

possible exception of Lowell Tech. Even closer to home, our own

state college system, as has already been mentioned, is devoted

almost exclusively to education although this is being deem­
phazized as many of our sister colleges. In our own neighborhood of Southeastern Massachusetts, Bridgewater no onger enjoys the

part of being the only state school supplying teachers for this

year. Southeastern Massachusetts University in

Dartmouth now has an accredited teacher preparation program and will be graduating 200 education majors this spring.

continued on page 2

Is There A Future In Education?
Editorial from page 1

Where Do We Go From Here?

Where do we go from here? Our principle product is no longer in demand what alternatives does a college like Bridgewater State have? We'd like to offer several suggestions-food for thought as our year of self-study draws to a close.

Perhaps a de-emphasis of Bridgewater's education programs or at best a "tell it like it is" orientation session for prospective education majors. We find it rather difficult to agree with the "who knows what the job market will be like in four years" philosophy. Our technology is sophisticated enough that an accurate prediction can be determined.

Perhaps an increasing emphasis on the liberal arts, aspects which in our opinion has been sadly neglected, in the past. We offer the Placement Service as an example. BSC's Placement Service which all Seniors are required to subscribe to, is titled "Teacher Placement" thereby neglecting that 10 to 15 percent of the graduating class is not interested in the teaching profession. And what assistance is offered to the student interested in Graduate School? In our investigations we have been advised that the Division of Student Personnel and Mr. Dooley, Director of Guidance are available for these people to turn to, but this is a sideline for these people. The Liberal Art Student is discriminated against at this "liberal arts college for the preparation of teachers."

If Bridgewater cannot de-emphasize its education programs then we suggest that Bridgewater consider throwing out its present education curriculum and build a new, innovative curriculum. To lend substance for thought we offer the question: How is the Bridgewater graduate any different from the S.M.U.; B.U.; B.C.; or any other graduate from the education program? When we put this question to an area superintendent he answered there is little difference from one institution to the next. The course titles may be different but the content is basically the same.

It could prove a challenge to the community here at BSC to develop a curriculum so outstanding that a superintendent cannot no longer make that statement where a Bridgewater graduate is involved. Bridgewater has an outstanding opportunity to revitalize its curriculum in connection with the new teacher preparation facilities. We feel it would be suicidal if the outdated methods and practices are not practiced at BSC. School are carried over to the new facility. We sincerely hope that a new curriculum will be developed around a newly established teacher education rather than a training school.

Lastly, and in connection with our above statements we'd like to call attention to a change in attitude. First on the part of the faculty and second of our institution is the Education Department. We may be unfairly generalizing. How much contact does Bridgewater have with its graduates? And of what type is it? We would like to relate some examples of one type of contact. Bridgewater undergraduates and graduates are comprised of the same faculty and a majority of our graduates are recipients of Bridgewater Bachelor's degrees. Yet when a BSC professor teaches a graduate class it is not uncommon for him, to knock the public school teachers for the methods used in the public schools. Now, where did the majority of the public school teachers receiving their training-Bridgewater? Who are the professors knocking them? Indirectly and probably unconsciously of course, the training the public school teachers received at Bridgewater. Keeping this in mind, we think that a call for a change in attitude might be in order. Bridgewater, you are knocking your own graduates and therefore yourself.

An attitude change is also in order on the student behalf especially these seniors who feel Bridgewater owes them something. Let's face reality people. Bridgewater owes us nothing. This institution gave us the tools to build a career with but BSC can't build your career for you. We have to do that. There are still some teachers here who want to teach in a school system in September who still haven't applied to any school yet. The schools aren't coming with arms open. Some complaining for example aren't even considering first year teachs. What can you do then? Simple-sell yourself. Use every means you can to let a superintendent know you're better than the other 1500 applicants for one job.

We'd like to offer several suggestions-food for thought as our year of self-study draws to a close. We have offered these suggestions in an effort to stimulate thinking as to the alternatives this institution and her graduates to the future.

Harry P. Whitmore

Where to look for your next education program.

1. The Turning of the Baby
2. To a Golden Haired Girl In A Louisiana Town
3. A Girl's Madmen of the Evening Flowers
4. Ruth 1:16 BIBLE
5. Sunshine Susannah
6. My Mistress' Eye
7. Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes
8. When I Compare Thee To A Summer's Day
9. Excepts, Voice of the Master
10. Nancy Hanks
11. Oh, When I Was One and Twenty
12. Oh, When I Was In Love With You
13. Excerpt, The Prophet
14. Proverbs 31:10 BIBLE

English Mayor to be Honored

from pg 1

Like Bridgewater, Massachusetts, Bridgewater England has many churches. But unlike the churches in this town, one of the churches in Bridgewater Massachusetts dates back to the close of the Norman period. This is St. Mary's, most of which is genuine Gothic architecture.

There are many other fascinating facts about Bridgewater, England, the town for which this town was named. The college community is cordially invited to meet Mrs. Tester, the Mayor of Bridgewater, England, who with Councilor Charles Tester and Alderman and Mrs. Ayer will be present.

The program, which is partly humorous and partly highly dramatic will consist of both poetry and prose. The program is being directed by Dr. Karen V.L. Dublin, Associate Professor of Speech and Theatre. The dancers are being trained by Assistant Professor Corn Winkle and the instrumentalists by Assistant Professor Vincent Gannem.

Program

Part I: The College-town community is invited to attend this program: Wednesday, April 13, 8:00 p.m., New Library Lecture Hall. Admission is Free.

Part II: Episodes: A Girl Grows Up

Part III: Woman Sees Herself in Literature and in Poetry

Tickets are still available for tonight's ROBERTA FLACK concert

$1.50 College Community
$2.00 General Public
Student Union Auditorium

LAMBDA DELTA PHI

If you wish to pledge contact Annette DiMascio in Wood or any secret sister as soon as possible.

Pledging Initiation- April 17

Share Some Happiness

Lakeville Hospital Visits, Wednesday evenings: Visiting patients in Children's, Teen-Age, and Adult Wards. Bus leaves Woodward Hall at 6 P.M. and Great Hill at 6:30 P.M. Bus leaves Lakeville for BSC at 8 P.M. Hope you can join us!

SGA Elections

Executive Board Nomination Papers due in Noon, Friday, April 14th
Return to S.U. Information Booth
Executive Board Primary Election- April 19th
Executive Board Final Election - April 26th
"If no Primary is necessary, the final will be held the 19th.

Members of the Verse Choir under the direction of Dr. Karen V.L. Dublin

Verse Choir Performance Tonight

At eight o'clock on Wednesday, April 13, 8:00 p.m., the Verse Choir will present a special program entitled "Woman Through the Eyes of Man." This program will be dedicated to Mrs. Tester, the Mayor of Bridgewater, England, who with Councilor Charles Tester and Alderman and Mrs. Ayer will be present.

The program, which is partly humorous and partly highly dramatic, will consist of both poetry and prose. The program is being directed by Dr. Karen V.L. Dublin, Associate Professor of Speech and Theatre. The dancers are being trained by Assistant Professor Corn Winkle and the instrumentalists by Assistant Professor Vincent Gannem.

Program

Part I: The Turning of the Baby
Part II: Woman Sees Herself in Literature and in Poetry
Part III: Woman Sees Herself in Literature and in Poetry
Part IV: Woman Triumphs. As announced
Part V: Parting Word. (a secret)

The College-town community is invited to attend this program: Wednesday, April 13, 8:00 p.m., New Library Lecture Hall. Admission is Free.

MUSIC ENCOUNTER CLUB
Purpose: To take advantage of musical performances (serious and contemporary) in the area and to sponsor musical artists at BSC. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: Tuesday, April 18th

SAM COHEN CO

1134 Montello St.
Brooklin, Mass. Rt. 28
6-5 Mon. - 8 Sat.

la C 617 586-2945

COLLEGE TOWN CLEANERS

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BRIDGEWATER—Baseball.

To ready themselves for their

Remember the great American
demanding schedule members

of pastime? Well, it’s alive and well
the baseball team ARP their

at Bridgegwater State...

...struggles, water-like spring vacation right
no $100.00 crayfish ballplayers, no

here on the BSC “ghoul” campus.

merely team... Coach Lehmann and

his new baseball and plenty of it. In fact Assistant

Ed Bravo held regular

there will be more baseball for the

workouts (or their squad and

Bridgegwater State baseball team) watched them as they screamed
this spring than ever before. Yes, Brandeis and Plymouth State.

the Bees are slated to play 22.

The Bees will face five new
days in 29 games, including 15 opposing 2019

doubleheaders with 6 of those picked up Westfield State, Wor-

coming in the last six spots on the Northeast

BSC schedule.

It’ll all start today with

Northwestern.

Coach Lehmann doubleheader against Westfield

pointed out in an interview with the

State College at nearby Legion

Comment.

Field. So if you’re reading this

Bridgegwater will be competing

story now Wednesday, April 18 in the newly formed MNC. State

chances are that if you break down College Athletic Conference as well

Route 18 you’ll be able to catch a Battle between the Western New England

few innings of one of the games. Conference. With nine MSCAC

time Hackenback, a right-handed starter listed and four SNC

sophomore fireballer from Webster, competitors, listed, some of BSC’s

Mass. has received the nod to start non-conference opposition will be...
Senior Prom 1972
Dinner & Theatre
at the
Chateau de Ville
Rte. 9, Framingham
Tuesday evening
April 25
(No classes for Seniors Wednesday, April 26)

on stage
Fiddler on the Roof

Tickets - $25 - available at the S.U. Information Booth
(Deadline for tickets- Friday, April 4)

Semi-formal/Formal
(dancing after the show)

dinner menu -
fruit cup  prime rib  potato
salad  vegetable  dessert