

"Where Come the Clowns"

An Artistic Success

By John Pilarski

ambassadors of joy,
 messengers of fun,
 jesters, knaves . . .
 comedians, singers, dancers,
 musicians, actors,
 purveyors of the happy emotions . . .
 "Where Come the Clowns"

Produced by Fr. Bernbrock, S.J.

at the Marquette entertainment center occurred in early February and a crew of about 70 students and parents put on a musical revue which drew laughs and applause from capacity crowds in the auditorium on two nights.

"The Best of Broadway — Where Come the Clowns," the show's theme was that all entertainers are clowns. It celebrated the home of Broadway's finest and featured well-known faces from JHS.

Shows included, "Oklahoma," "Your Gun," "The Sound of Music," "Camelot," "Oliver," and

many more.

Mr. "Luigi" Schmitt, a member of the cast, called it a "great community experience." He added that, "If the show came off right, it was a bonus." And it did, indeed, come off right.

Ranking high on the audience applause meter was Fr. Majka's rendition of "If I Were a Rich Man." Fr. Driscoll, as Lancelot, gave a strong performance singing "If Ever I Should Leave You." Mrs. Suzie Potter gave an excellent on-key performance singing "You Can't Get a Man With a Gun." And Fr. Thomas Brennan can be credited with a first-class job producing and directing "The Clowns."

Another notable performance was that of Mr. Sy Kreilein who sang "Wunderbar". But there are countless others who could be listed here for their talents but can not be for lack of space.

Congratulations to cast and crew for a musical, choreographical, and comical masterpiece.



Carl Wellstein helps a student

Service Project Worthwhile

The seniors at Marquette High have gone through a transformation. This change is not very obvious, but it is nevertheless unmistakably present. They have become more sensitive and more mature because of the Senior Social Service Project. From January 10 to January 21, the seniors went to nursing homes, schools for disadvantaged and mentally ill children, and hospitals to learn and to grow. Some seniors went out of state to Kentucky, New York, Mississippi, South Dakota, and Florida to experience the different cultures in the various parts of the country, and to broaden their perspectives on social problems.

The Project this year, as well as for the last three years, was under the direction of Mr. Richard Bridich, assisted by Mr. James Radtke. The process of setting up the Project is a long one. Mr. Bridich and Mr. Radtke contacted various institutions in the Milwaukee area and beyond to inquire about the possibilities of student volunteers working at those sites. Once the institutions were deemed qualified, it was up to the seniors themselves to take the initial

steps and contact the supervisor of the institution to make an interview. After the two weeks were over, each student was required to fill out an evaluation form concerning the Project. Most seniors also had to attend a Day of Reflection to reflect with other students on their experiences.

The only major disappointment of the Project was the cancelling of the first of the two groups planned to go to Appalachia. The group scheduled to go the first week of the Project, had to cancel because of the severe weather. The 17 seniors were placed at other institutions in Milwaukee.

Social Lab

By Berny McCabe

Three years ago, under the inspiration of Mr. Lawrence Siewert, a class called "Social Lab" was added to the curriculum. Since then the class has developed into one of the more popular courses the school offers. During the first two years, a full year social lab class for forty juniors was team-taught by Mr.

(Continued on page 6)



Fr Doran and friends showoff sterling voices

Senior Social Service Project : Insights

Appalachia

By Jim Chudy

In Appalachia, I had the opportunity to live with 15 senior friends, Mr. Fasi, Fr. Stang, and Jan and Bill, the Glenmary novices who ran the "Farm" as the mission is called. The major growing experience was the community which formed among the group. We became very close and caring towards one another. We each had to provide something for the group, such as wood, food, or entertainment. There was much sharing and a high degree of esprit de corps.

The work that we did in Lewis County was primarily at one farm. This was the home of the Toller family. We chopped wood and tuckered corn for them, but their

gifts to us were much more than we could have hoped to give them. They were materially poor (they relied on wooden stoves for heat), but were spiritually richer than I, and I am sure most of my comrades would feel the same. Mr. Toller raised tobacco for a living and made about 2500 dollars last year. He could have made more, however, if he could have sold the hundreds of pounds of tobacco that the government prohibited him to sell.

They were the happiest people that I had ever met in my life. Their joy in life was a moving lesson for all of us. Our preoccupation with material possessions, no matter how much we try to minimize it, keeps us from their kind of happiness. That experience will remain with me forever.

Children's Hospital

By Steve O'Marro

Milwaukee Children's Hospital offered a unique experience to the senior volunteers who worked with physically ill children. It is very difficult for these children to adjust to their hospital stay. They wish they could remain in their homes with their parents. Many fail to understand why they must stay at the hospital, and they do not recognize the value of the care they receive, yet they all faithfully adhere to their doctor's orders and, as with all children, they enjoy the time they spend playing with new-found friends.

The nurses, volunteers, and administrators try to accommodate the needs of these children during their hospital stay, but it is often difficult to relate to patients who are confined to their beds and to find enough time to console all of the confused children. During the two weeks which I spent at the hospital, I tried to help these children cope with the hindrances of their illness and enjoyed the attention and commitments offered by those who would ask if we would come back.

Although we were impeded by unfamiliarity with the project, we soon enjoyed a close relationship

with the children. Though it is difficult for any of us to understand the many thoughts of these unfortunate children, it was both frustrating and enlightening to see them adjust to their treatment and to watch their careful advancements toward improved health.

When the project was finished, it was difficult for me to imagine how the children would feel without the new friends they had gained and without someone to help them with their studies. I feel I have received a gift of love from them that I will cherish, along with the memories of the Senior Social Service Project.

Irving School

By Greg Otterson

My experience at Irving School, teaching mentally retarded children, was very good, but it was not what I had planned on. For that reason, it took a long time to appreciate. When the first trip to Appalachia was cancelled, those scheduled to go were located at local institutions. Besides the tremendous disappointment of not going to Appalachia, it was hard for me to do work which I had not planned for mentally. It did turn out to be a very good experience by the end of the two weeks.

St. Francis Children's Center

By John Gruesser

At St. Francis Children's Activity and Achievement Center, I worked with the teachers in the Infant II program. Through knowledgeable and loving instruction, language delayed and retarded children, ages one and a half to four years, received help in speech and motor development. Using fifteen minute sessions to maximize the children's attention, the teachers work on simple but important tasks such as naming pictures, matching like objects, and putting pegs into holes. When successful, the child is praised and rewarded; if he does not accomplish the task, he is carefully taught how to do the task again.

The children did not trust us at first, but after a day we were their puppets; they could make us ecstatic with their successes and then completely frustrate us with their failures.

Working at St. Francis taught me patience and gave me an ambivalent feeling. I helped the children's learning, shared their joy, commiserated with their sorrow, and totally en-

joyed myself, but every day I left with a pleasant future ahead of me while the children left with continued problems ahead of them.

By Dan McQuillen

Working at St. Francis Children's Activity and Achievement Center with learning disabled children was a fun and rewarding experience. Our initial fears were soon erased by the teachers and the children. We taught the children relatively simple things but we really didn't cause any sudden educational progress. It turned out that we were the students, for the children taught us a lot about service. In spite of their individual problems they seemed bright and were very loveable. Our last day at the Center was marked by a sledding outing and a party. It was easy to see the joy and appreciation on the children's faces as we did such little things as helping them put their boots on. These children may soon forget us but it will take us a long time to forget them and the things they taught us.

Bellevue Hospital

By Brian Denny

Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan, New York, was the institution I worked at during the Senior Social Service Project. Spanish-speaking people and Spanish culture interest me, and that is the reason that I chose to work at Bellevue. About eighty percent of the patients are Spanish speaking, and almost everything from the bathroom doors to the exit signs are written in Spanish. I worked as an interpreter in the Emergency and out-patient rooms, and I supervised the Pediatric Workshop. The people I helped and worked with were nice and interestingly different. Between the times I worked, I tried to see as much of New York as I could. Chinatown, Spanish Harlem, Greenwich Village, and Broadway all passed under my feet, and I saw much more. The night life in Manhattan is fantastic! My experience in and out of Bellevue was very challenging and exciting.

Harambee Community School

By Jim Chudy

At Harambee Community School, the first such school (run by the members of the community which it serves) in Milwaukee, I tutored first through third graders primarily in mathematics. At first there was a certain amount of apprehension on my part, for I had never experienced being with underprivileged children before. My uneasiness soon faded as the little people accepted me as a friend within just a few minutes. Their affection was so unsophisticated and natural that those children made me feel better than many of my peers do. They accepted me unconditionally, even though I was 10 years older and of a different race. I was truly colorblind for a week and hopefully much longer. I did not really change Harambee or its students, but I was definitely changed by them.