

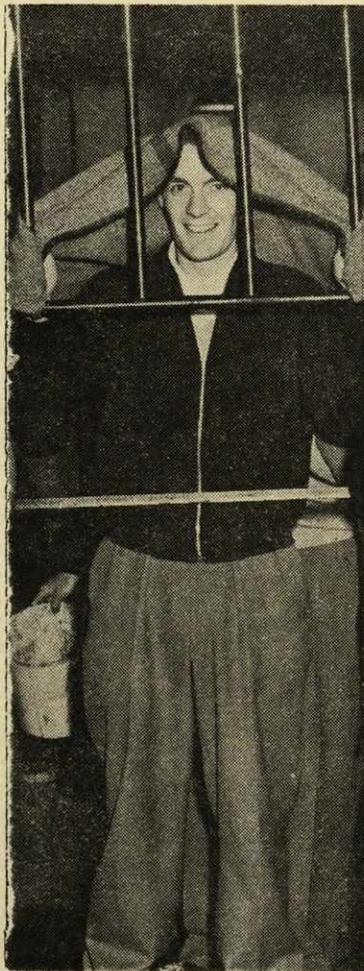
*Nick and Barry Were Offered
Ballet Contracts*



(Photo by Jollymore)

**Right—
The Sweetheart of
Sigma Chi**

**Below—
U. S. TEAM IN ACTION**



(Photo by Jollymore)

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SPECIAL EDITORIAL

Should Brains Count in School Spirit?

The most tired phrase to come tumbling from the voice of education is school spirit. Like the classical theme set to a popular melody, it has lost in meaning what it has gained in repetition.

School spirit should be the fullest measure of satisfaction given to the intellectual, emotional and physical needs of the student. It has not been this. Too often students have been guilty of forgetting the mind and consecrating the body.

For school spirit to gain in meaning we must have as much confidence in the school's academic standards as we have in its social and athletic. No amount of dances and championship rugby teams will ever compensate for the boredom of school work. That is why instructors must be willing to give, and students must be ready to demand, both depth and quality in their course of studies.

Intellectually, we must feel that we are encouraged to think for ourselves, rather than to recite platitudes; that when we write an exam we can interpret facts as well as narrate them; and that when we present a logical argument, our line of reasoning will not be discouraged just because it happens to be unusual.

If there is room for independence of thought and freedom of expression, there is less chance of timidity in professors, dullness in classes or apathy in students. We realize, however, that even in cases where such liberties are given, originality and enthusiasm will still be lacking. This could be so because of a general mental aridity, or it could be the result of courses which are over-simplified and lack imagination or depth. Students are often capable of giving more than is asked. But if they are not adequately stimulated then their class response will be poor.

Unfortunately, any dissatisfaction students experience on the academic level is too easily quelled by a sudden down-pour of dances, games and clubs. These activities are definitely necessary, but not to keep us tired, happy and stupid. They are concurrent with our intellectual needs and give us a chance to organize, create and socialize. They are media in which all who participate can identify themselves with others sharing similar activities which develop a feeling of unity and loyalty to a school.

When schools and students combine progress and achievement on all levels, then and only then, will the phrase "school spirit" take on piquancy instead of antiquity.

(Reprint—Ryersonion)