

Pharos' dilemma

Around this time every school year, ads appear in the *Gazette* urging potential Grads to get their graduation photos in before the Yearbook deadline, if only "... for your mother's sake!" And every year, an estimated one half of all graduates fail to do so; partly from sheer neglect and partly from the (unfounded) fear that the process is complicated and expensive.

While the neglectful grad may not regret it at the time, most come to realize they missed a golden opportunity to preserve irreplaceable memories with a quality product and at bargain rates. And the tiny black and white photo that appears in the PHAROS can be put to more purposes than might be imagined. About a third of the engagement photos in any daily paper use black and white grad photo reprints because of their high quality, low cost and easy availability (all professional photographers keep careful records of their sittings for just such purposes). And since the original of the black and white shot is a series of four to six 4 X 5 colour photos, the student can get a collection of colour reprints for grandmother's mantel, at a very reasonable price. And, of course, think how disappointed your future girlfriends or boyfriends will be when they turn the pages of PHAROS to see how "... you looked then. . .", only to be greeted with a blank space.

Dave Grandy, last year's PHAROS editor, makes the point that Halifax is fortunate in having so many good photographers for such a comparatively small city. "When you think that they give you a professional sitting plus photos for under \$10, when a normal sitting can start at \$75, a student has to be crazy not to jump at the opportunity."

While students can go to any photographer as long as they bring back an individual, vertical black and white shot, dressed in graduation gown or formal wear, most photographers find the hassle of obtaining and renting the appropriate gown for each school and degree quite a problem, and charge accordingly.

Instead, most students go to one of three well known local photographers who specialize in graduation photos and who are known to give quality work in reason-

able time, and at a bargain rate. A phone call to all three revealed that they are very ready to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of their own special approach.

Robert F. Calmen has the smallest operation and he made it clear that he could not give as fast a service as the others. And as he also makes clear, his photos only provide "acceptable" black and white reproduction. But he has no end of customers despite these disadvantages because of the soft, glowing air he gives to his subjects. This effect is seen to its best advantage in full colour and with women, so if you are a woman who wants a whole set of colour graduation photos, he is certainly one to consider.

Sherman Hines is probably the best known photographer in Halifax and his name on your photo has a definite allure. Because he has the biggest operation, he can give you very fast service. However, for your \$7.50 sitting, all you get is 4 colour shots ("previews"), from which you choose one pose which becomes your black and white PHAROS photo.

By contrast, our last photographer, Jarvis, charges you \$8.50 for the sitting, but lets you keep your colour 'previews', at no extra cost. While Jarvis takes about 10 days to get your previews to you against Hines' one week, many students consider the free colour pictures a real plus.

Getting your grad photo done is easy, but since PHAROS' deadline is the end of February, you should start today. Pick the photographer of your choice and call for an appointment. They'll want to know your university, faculty and degree so they can pick the proper hood and gown. If you hate your expression on photos, the photographer will often redo the session, but if it's your hair or beard you dislike, forget it. Make sure your coiffure is okay before you get there. Part of the package price is that they'll send your photo onto the yearbook, but Dave Grandy advises you call PHAROS in March to be sure it arrived. Lastly, the contract you sign usually allows the photographer to re-use your picture for promotional or modeling purposes. But for the rest of you who are less than photogenic, get your picture taken anyway ... it'll make your mother happy!

Howe Hall elections

The 1980 Howe Hall Residence Council Elections were held on January 22. Despite a notably lackluster turnout at the polls during the election, the elected officials all managed to establish strong support in the majority of the houses. Hopefully, this will lead to a continuance in the upgrading of residence life, and a unified, active role in

campus events by the future council.

The official results are as follows: Howe Hall President: Greg Tynski, Howe Hall Vice President: Doug Reid (acclamation), Howe Hall Representative: Larry Nelson, and Studley House President: Gary Thorne.

All other positions by acclamation, as reported earlier.

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