

EDITORS NOTE

Eureka! I have found the "universal picture." The mystery photo on the last Gargoyle has been positively identified by a record number of readers. Unfortunately this outpouring of response has created a few problems. The scene was identified as taking place in two different classrooms with four different professors teaching six different courses in ten different years. Many of the respondents were so certain that they were in the picture that they have requested copies of the photo. Miraculously students from 1947 appear to be in the same class with students from 1960! Perhaps we had better recheck graduation records to see if a few grads may have violated the rule requiring completion of studies within five years of starting. One person narrowed his selection of the professor to two and then made his choice based on the professor's socks.

From greater confusion has come definition. With an assist from another Law School staff member I went to the graduation pictures posted in the building. Picking a distinguishable face I felt that it would be easy to identify at least one person and thus define the year involved. Much to my surprise I discovered that either the Law School has a sinister admissions policy that favors look-alike applicants, or, that like people and their pets, law students grow to resemble each other after three years of close companionship. One wag suggested that perhaps we all begin to resemble the gargoyle itself, rather than looking like each other.

In some desperation I turned to the old class rosters. Since each respondent had identified several classmates in the picture, it should be easy, I reasoned, to find the one class roster that contained all the right people and thus eliminate all alternatives. Again I was disappointed. The respondents were generally correct in their memory that they were in such-and-such a class, but often their classmates were not. Was this class so popular that students not enrolled attended?

The ultimate facts are few: We are certain that the professor pictured was Howard Hall. Prof. Hall taught a variety of subjects during his years here, including corporations, municipal corporations and creditors rights. Most people placed the date in either 1952-54 or 1959-60.

The process was fun but frustrating because I could not make a positive identification. I have, however, learned something: Be very careful about using large group pictures, as it seems to increase the confusion. While I tend to forget these self-defined rules, for this issue you will see a picture taken in the new library wing with only five persons who might be identified. The location makes the date post-1963, and prior to the 1978 remodeling. Do you recognize any of these students?

This issue introduces three student-writers. Their names will appear on the stories they have written in a deliberate effort to spread the blame. Seriously, I am happy to have them and hope you will find their efforts entertaining and informative.

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COVER PHOTO: St. Patrick's day has come and past this year with hardly a notice here in Madison. Spring recess was underway, the state high school basketball tournament was still two days away, and certainly there was no parade on State St. The parade was a mainstay in years past, and highlighted the rivalry between the Law School and the School of Engineering. The 1920 parade saw this float portraying the difference between lawyers and engineers.