

The Top Side of Life

By FATHER ROBERT SCHADEN

Caps and gowns, speeches and diplomas, are making up a good party of life for many people across our nation this month. But there are many more students who are not going to graduate.

They are the ones who become known as professional students. Not that most of them do not have good reason for continuing in school, nor are we implying that they do not have any direction in their lives.

But there are some of them who are staying in the classrooms and the lecture halls because they feel secure in the textbook existence that they have known for so long.



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IF WE CONSIDER graduation as the moving from an old world to a new world in which we can build from the old, then we all should be graduating.

Perhaps, life presents us with a choice of hiding in an illusion of security or of moving out into a growth process that brings with it (as Robert Kennedy once said) the excitement and danger that exist in the most peaceful progress.

Why do some men graduate while others seem to fall along in a kind of eternal childhood? Why, for example, could Bob by continue to move ahead after what had happened to his brother, Jack, and what made Teddy get up last week and say the things he did—in the face of what had happened to both brothers?

Maybe the answer lies in an intangible called VISION. Perhaps, like Martin Luther King, too, had a dream—the kind that some would term an "impossible dream."

THERE IS A current advertisement that says, "the possible is done right away—the impossible takes a little longer." Unless we can dream the impossible, we will never graduate.

We may wind up with a stack of diplomas, but we will never graduate unless we have enough courage to know that while the future is beyond our control, it is not beyond our vision. Why is it that such victories are "big ones" in this country unless it is because there are not enough of them? Dreaming dreams isn't really that difficult, but daring to follow the stars we dream of apparently appears much too unsafe and unpopular for many of us.

SOME WILL STAND UP in a coliseum, but too many others will not stand up for their dreams—or the ones they should have—in a supermarket or on a patio.

The Bobbys, the Jacks and the Kings have lived rather short lives in payment for their dreams—but they LIVED. Hopefully, because they dared to live, more of us will be able to live, but the choice is still our own.

Existence can be forced upon us, but life cannot be forced upon anyone. Safety or danger? Eternal childhood or graduation?

Al-Gon-Quian Camp To Have New Director
The Camp Al-Gon-Quian Advisory Committee of Ann Arbor YM-YWCA and the board of directors recently announced that Edward D. Baker will be Camp Al-Gon-Quian's new resident director this summer. Baker is currently head football and track coach at Kalamazoo College and has served for the past four summers as assistant director of Camp DeWitt, a large private boys' camp in Wolfeboro, N.H.

He was previously a counselor for three years at Camp Susquehanna, Brackney, Pa., and was assistant head master at Haverford School for Boys near Philadelphia.

Baker, 36, had a wife and four children who will join him this summer at Al-Gon-Quian.

Assign Bursick

Army Specialist Fourth Class James H. Bursick, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald P. Bursick of 3213 St. Simeon Circle, Farmington, has been assigned as a port call clerk to the 4th Psychological Operations Group near Saigon.



AT HOME NOW — Rhoda (Mrs. Sidney J.) Niss, young Livonia kidney patient whose fight for life has been aided by donations from businessmen, clubwomen, housewives and school children, alike, gave a victory smile this week from her bedside at home. In the background is the home artificial kidney machine purchased last month with the help of public donations. Maintenance of the complex machine will run into thousands of dollars annually and friends still are keeping up their drive for Mrs. Niss' support. Recent benefits have ranged from theater party to rummage sale and raffle.

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Jane Vallier Hopes To Find Cancer Cure

Jane Vallier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Vallier, 1338 Pennington Ave., Plymouth, will begin work this fall in the New York laboratories of the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research.

"I'll start work in September and I am very excited about it," said Miss Vallier. She'll be working in chemotherapy under Dr. Joseph Burchenal.

"This will be interesting work because Dr. Burchenal does research at the Institute and also treats patients in the James Ewing Memorial Hospital, so I won't be entirely unaware of the results of my research," she explained.

Miss Vallier recently graduated from Smith College in Northampton, Mass., where she majored in microbiology. She was active during her college life, participating in campus politics and many extracurricular activities. Miss Vallier is a 1964 Plymouth High School graduate.



JANE VALLIER

Phair Awarded M.I.T. Degree

Robert D. Phair, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Phair, of 30019 Briarton in Farmington, received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering at the 102nd commencement exercises of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Phair was a member of the Open House Committee, President's Weekend Committee, Beta Alpha, the honorary electrical engineering society, the student branch of the IEEE, and participated in intercollegiate athletics in tennis during his freshman year.

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