

# SC's 'first women'

## Alumnae share stories of early days

by Allison Deering  
Feature reporter

Thursday, November 5 1964

More than two decades ago a 110-year-old tradition was shattered when the University of Santa Clara accepted women as undergraduate students for the first time, thus becoming the first Catholic coeducational institution of higher learning in California. Those women who made Santa Clara history by entering the University in 1961 are now scattered throughout the US, from New Jersey to Alaska.

But some have remained in the Bay Area and continue to be very active in the Santa Clara community.

"There is something about the Santa Clara community that is very special," says Kathleen Bui, one of the first SC alumna who has remained active in Santa Clara affairs. Bui, who lives in Menlo Park, came to Santa Clara in 1961, following in the footsteps of her father, brothers, and grandfather.

Bui, also known as "Muffy" in her Santa Clara days, recalls a mixed reception that first semester. "We had a cool reception, and there was a problem with the junior and senior guys not accepting us," she says. "Not everyone was against girls, however. Some guys were really friendly and even helped the girls move in."

"Muffy" lived in the Villa Maria apartments, now the Villas, on Park Avenue, which were the only on-campus housing for women at that time. The rules were strict — NO BOYS ALLOWED — at all times. "You would meet your date at the houseparents' apartment," she remembers, "and he wasn't allowed past the gate when he brought you back."

She left Santa Clara as a sophomore to get married; her husband was a senior at Santa Clara at the time. She has been

THE SANTA CLARA QUESTION MAN

# Hustled!

by Mike McLaughlin

HOW DO YOU DEFINE "HUSTLED"?



JOANNE SANFILIPPO, SOCIOLOGY, JUNIOR, SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

Under my Constitutional guarantee, I refuse to answer on the grounds that it may tend to incriminate me.



BELLA CATALANE, POLITICAL SCIENCE, JUNIOR, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

With an ear like mine I can't relate any personal experiences but I would say hustled is the shoulder to shoulder action at noon Mass, good looking girls posing for pictures in front of new Mustangs, and the hours spent in Graham's laundry rooms toiling over Bronco's shirts.

involved with the Student Recruitment Program since its inception 12 years ago and even served as its chairman for one year. Bui has also been on the Santa Clara Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and was president of the Alumni Association for 1978-79.

"There's a real family feeling about Santa Clara," says Bui, who will have one of her own children at Santa Clara next fall.

Nancy Walker '64 was also carrying on the family tradition when she entered Santa Clara in 1961 as a sophomore. Walker, who also lives in Menlo Park, says that, like herself, many of the first coeds were daughters of alumni.

Although there weren't many activities available for young women, Walker was involved in the Irish Club and the Ski Club. There were no sports

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## IMs: birth of 'something big'

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the class champion, and finally a class championship series to determine the University's championship volleyball team.

### ALL-STARS

Rowe also mentioned that after the final playoffs an All-Star team will be selected and then will compete with teams from Bay Area colleges.

In the near future, there will be a tennis tournament. The tournament, open even to members of the tennis team, will not consist of a league type play; but will consist of novice, intermediate and advanced sections. The champion of each division will receive a reward.

Rowe also stated that the trophies for the Intramural champions are now arriving. Furthermore, there will be a banquet at the conclusion of the spring semester for all of the members of the championship teams and individual champions of the intramural program.

The results of this week's games can be found on the sports page.

Although the names, and even the program itself, have changed over the last three decades, the intramural program is still "something big." With many more sports now than just volleyball, it has become the most popular outlet from the academic grind at Santa Clara. And that's the way we were—Feb. 19, 1953.

## OBIT: Henry Ruddle — lovable, humorous, dead

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include, 'A master of that certain turn of phrase to diffuse any potentially harmful situation' in my obituary."

I repeated my question. He said, "Gee, Henry, I just don't know about that," while I knew he was pondering where to include. "decisive and clear, he never left any inquiry unanswered or indefinite."

I wondered just how many public officials have their obits prepared. Is it something you do when you first start "wowin" the masses? Is it something you update every year? Pass on to descendants? Have included in your memoirs?

I'll bet you could make an anthology of Douglas MacArthur's rough drafts and various final forms. I expect that John Kennedy's buddies had to improvise his. I'd love to see what words of affection Ronald Reagan has for Bonzo.

Would you like to see mine?

Of course you would.

"Henry Ruddle — (insert age), president of the United States, world famous writer, astronaut, the town's most well known bum/dog lover (choose whichever one appropriate) was a kind/nice/helpful/cruel/shallow/bizarre (choose appropriate one) man with a witty/sardonic/lovable/well-intentioned/rich/cruel/cut-throat (pick any that apply) sense of humor. He affected/bored/hated/thrilled/loved (pick one) many/none/some (pick one) of those he knew. All of us/one or two of us/his mother/his dog/the entire world population/his creditors/nobody (choose the one deemed most likely) shall surely miss him."

Well, I've got my obituary written. Now all I have to do is become a public figure.

Perhaps if I flap my arms fast enough...

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# WOMEN: a 'cool' reception

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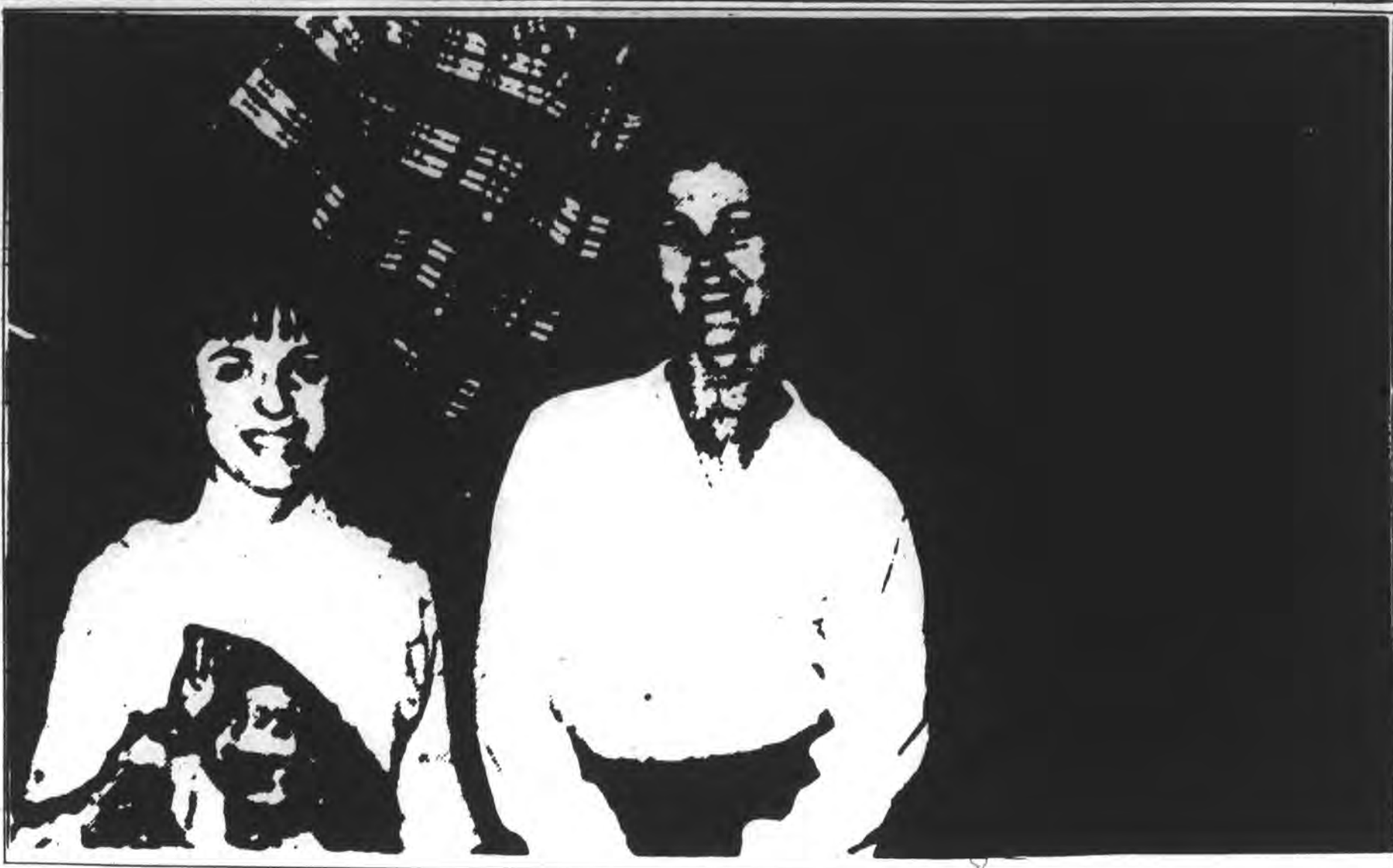
for women whatsoever, and they were not even allowed to sit with the boys' rooting section at basketball games, which were then played at the San Jose Civic Auditorium.

After graduating with a major in history and "an emphasis" in philosophy and psychology, she went to work for the telephone company. "That didn't last more than a year," she says. "I was not prepared for work." After her marriage, Walker never left the Bay Area and has remained active in alumni affairs. She has been the chairman of the Student Recruitment Program for the past two years and has been involved in the annual fund drive. She also arranged the first coed reunion, held two years ago in Benson Center.

Walker's son, who attends Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, and her daughter, who is applying to Santa Clara, will continue the family tradition that Walker believes is a very important part of the University community.

"Day students didn't exist," says Lorraine Paskeicz, whose experience at Santa Clara was a little different than some of the other coeds'. She lived at home while working her way through school, and her feeling that there was "no such thing as day students" is still common among SC day students. Paskeicz majored in French, and is now a French teacher at nearby Mt. Pleasant High School, where she encourages many of her students to go to Santa Clara.

"Santa Clara was a really different place then," she recalls.



"Students were on a first name basis with the president of the University, Father [Thomas] Terry. The young women didn't aspire to be corporate executives. There were limits placed on young women, and most of the women graduates went into nursing or teaching."

Paskeicz thinks highly of SC but feels that private education is becoming "elitist" and that, unfortunately, Santa Clara is becoming "out of the reach of the middle class."

"We were shattering a tradition, we knew that history was being made, and we were proud of it," says Marygrace Mulcrevy '65, who recall her years at Santa Clara as "a very special experience." As were many of the women in those early years, she also had family ties to Santa Clara before she entered — her godfather was on the Board of Regents.

"The girls who entered when Santa Clara went coed were special. . . really beautiful girls. They were the class presidents,

the cheerleaders; they were successful girls who were individuals and willing to try something new," says Mulcrevy, who doesn't recall any real problems, although she says that "the guys had a definite reaction." One not so pleasant memory is of the football team yelling, "Coeds go home!" She also remembers endless practical jokes being pulled on the girls who lived at the Villa Maria.

Shortly after graduation,

Mulcrevy married a '64 Santa Clara graduate; they have remained close to Santa Clara in a unique way. They are owners of Mulcrevy's, an Irish tavern — restaurant in San Francisco, which each year hosts an alumni reunion on St. Patrick's Day.

When a recent survey of Santa Clara alumni was conducted, it was discovered that 80 percent of Santa Clara graduates are or have been involved in their communities. Bui believes "this really says

something about Santa Clara and the kind of people it turns out."

The women who attended Santa Clara in the early 1960s were part of a unique period in the history of the University. Although many things have changed since then, the family tradition at Santa Clara and the special kind of people who graduate from SC — like these women who made history by coming to the University in 1961 — remain.

## How important is your GPA?

by Renee DiDuca  
Feature columnist

Yes, grade point averages do count.

Although many major firms throughout the Bay Area claim to consider the "whole person" when students apply for positions, personnel managers rate grade point averages high on the list of qualifications because GPAs are a crucial means of detecting a student's ability to fill technical and liberal career positions.

Garland C. White, associate director for recruitment and placement at Santa Clara, says that firms "always look at grades." She states that "GPAs are the only measurement firms have of how successful you've been in school." The firms want to know "how much knowledge you've gained and how well you've applied yourself."

Grades are even more important if one is being considered for a technical position. In these positions, job hiring and placement are based upon how much proven knowledge a student has about a specific subject. But even if a student is seeking a non-technical position grades are still important, says White. She suggests, along with attempting to earn the best grades possible, a student successfully master good oral and written communication skills because such skills are important in an interview.

If a person has a low GPA, the firm may look to find out why the GPA is not high. And when a student has a low grade point average, it is helpful if he has been involved in work and

### Futures

other extracurricular activities.

When a few spokespersons of major Bay Area firms were questioned, all agreed that although many things are taken into account, GPAs are extremely valid and important considerations when hiring.

A spokesperson for Apple Computer in Sunnyvale says that Apple certainly looks at grade point averages. If an applicant's GPA is below 3.5, the employer would look for reasons why. At Apple, "the total picture" of the student is considered, and outside of a serious appraisal of a student's GPA, Apple looks favorably upon related work experience.

At Food Machinery Corp. in Santa Clara, GPAs again prove to be important. Since this firm deals in technical areas of production, research and development, and internal consulting, a higher level of experience and knowledge is needed. A spokesperson claimed that it would be "highly unlikely" for FMC to hire anyone who has a GPA below 3.0.

When recruiting at colleges, FMC considers experience, extracurricular activities, how an applicant presents himself in the interview, and, of course, the applicant's grade point average. Although "the whole person" is important to FMC, grades are, again, a deciding factor in determining employment.

At IBM, a spokesperson said that each individual case is considered separately. Personal character, extracurricular activities, a student's major, related work experience, and course load are all considered, but grades are "what it's all about," claims the spokesperson. IBM looks for students in the top 10 percent of their college class, and the company uses college performance records as an indication of the person's future growth in the firm.

But in the non-technical positions, where specific technical knowledge is not generally required, firms want to see whether or not an applicant is capable of communicating well with people. A spokesperson for the Red Lion Inn in San Jose, for instance, claims that good grades are not an indication of how well an applicant will be able to relate with others when selling goods and services.

Grades do count and are increasingly important due to advance technology and needs of our fast-paced, complex world. But firms, depending upon the specific field, seem to vary in their GPA requirements. While technical positions require technical courses, study and excellent grades, non-technical positions, such as those in sales and management, need a person with an excellent sense for service and the needs of the public.

However, people from most firms agree that competition is steadily increasing and college performance is a practical measure to indicate future performance.

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