

Don't Fret

NEW YORK (UPI) — About 16 per cent of all Christmas cards arrive at their destination after December 25, says the Catholic Digest.

Administrators Meet Off-Campus to Discuss Enrollment, Other Problems

By Sheri Jackson and Wolf Metzger

Of the Observer Staff

Top University administrators met in Highland, Mich., all day yesterday to discuss Oakland's enrollment problem and confer on other matters of concern.

Chancellor Varner; OU's deans and associate deans; the registrar and admissions staff; the director of business affairs; OC Manager John Corker; several faculty members; as well as Mrs. Alice Haddix, resident halls director, and Gary Beeman, program advisor, assembled in secluded Haven Hill, part of the Ford Estate just 20 miles west of here, as registration for the winter term approached deadline late in the afternoon.

By Wednesday 1272 students, 226 less than last fall, had registered at Oakland University, reducing last semester's enrollment by 15 per cent, it was officially announced this week.

Administrators were found less reluctant to release information and comment on recent rumors which had arisen in the wake of unofficial statistics.

Dean of the University Donald D. O'Dowd admitted Wednesday that OU's enrollment "surely is a problem, but not different from those in other years."

Compare to '62

O'Dowd said though last year's dropout rate between the fall and

winter semester was smaller than this year's, present figures compare to 1962's and the years before.

Last year, enrollment dropped by only 9 per cent between semesters, while in 1962 the decrease was 18 per cent.

A preliminary survey had shown that part time students accounted for a vast percentage of this year's dropouts, O'Dowd told the Observer. He said that though "we concern ourselves with every student who has not returned, . . . our first commitment is to (full time students)."

A complete analysis of this term's rapidly computed enrollment statistics is still lacking, according to O'Dowd, but the dean said that final records will probably not be made public. This, he said, might harm the University. He described it as a common policy of universities.

19 Graduates

Oakland graduated 19 students at the end of the fall semester. 39 new students and 34 transfer students were enrolled at the University for the winter semester.

Meanwhile it was confirmed 80 students, 47 of them freshmen, were dismissed from the University for academic reasons. A grade point average of less than 1.0 in four courses is the basis for dismissal of freshmen. Upperclassmen are dismissed when, after one semester on academic probation, they fail to attain a minimum GPA of 2.0.

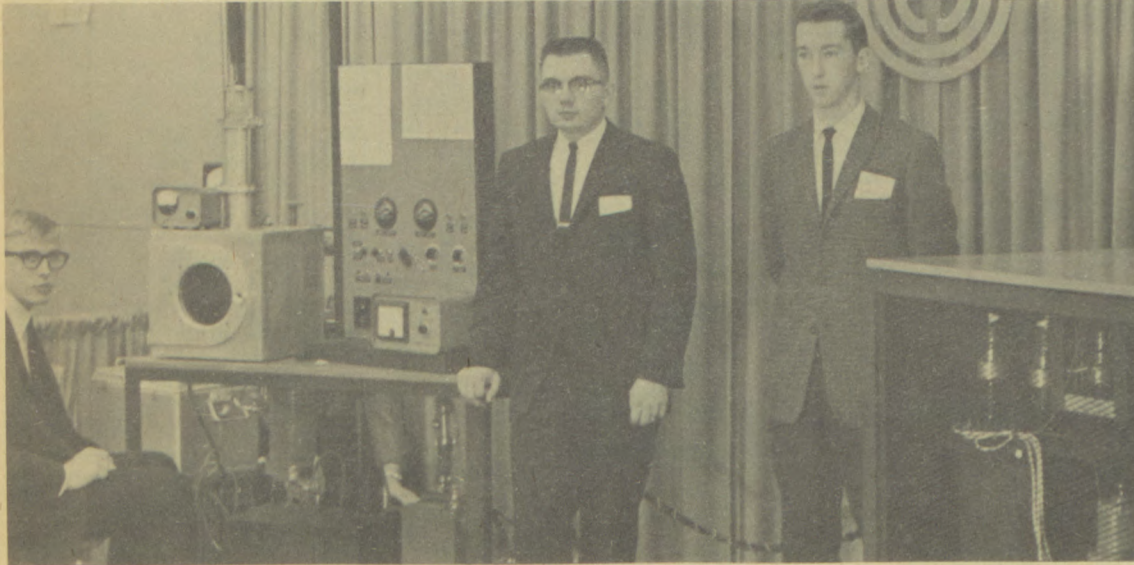
Dean of Students Duncan Sells revealed this week that 60 more freshmen who had a GPA below 1.0, but only taken three or less courses, were asked to see him for counseling before registration. After the interviews, five of them decided to disenroll while the others were permitted to register.

Superior Freshmen

O'Dowd maintained that the present freshman class is academically superior to its predecessors, even though it may have performed worse than the 1962 freshmen. He cited crowded classrooms and like circumstances as causes of the paradox, but did not think the dorm tripling situation accounted for the problem.

Assistant Professor Donald Hildum is presently studying a possible correlation of dorm trip-

(Continued on Page 2)



WELDER WITNESSED — Cobo Hall's exhibition of displays by members of the Society of Automotive Engineers includes the recently completed electron beam welder, designed and built by Oakland's Engineering Society. The shoestring \$1,000 project was eight months in construction. Shown with the welder at the show are Tom Vos (left) Jerry Hagaman (center) and Paul Stack.

Welder Displayed in Cobo Hall

By the Observer Staff

On display at the annual exposition of the Society of Automotive Engineers in Detroit's Cobo Hall is an intricate electron beam welder built by the members of Oakland's undergraduate Engineering Society.

Two Trustees Appointed By Governor

By the Observer Staff

Governor Romney has appointed Paul Bagwell and John Pingel, of Grosse Pointe, to one year interim terms on the MSU Board of Trustees, Chancellor Varner announced Monday.

The two new positions to the Board were made possible when the new state constitution went into effect January 1. The constitution now provides for eight trustees instead of six. Both Bagwell and Pingel will have to run for re-election in the general election in November.

Varner said he was pleased by Romney's appointments. Bagwell has been a long-time friend of the Chancellor and Pingel is a member of the Oakland University Foundation.

Leading Republican

Bagwell is one of the leading Republicans in state politics. He ran for Governor twice. In 1958 he lost to G. Mennen Williams and in 1960 former governor John Swainson defeated him.

These two new members will be highly valuable to the Board, according to the Chancellor. Both men are talented and respected in the state, and should help both Oakland and MSU-EL.

The device, constructed over a period of eight months with over \$1,000 in materials, will be on display at the Cobo Hall show through this evening. It has been at the show since Monday.

Originally, \$500 was earmarked for the project, but after six months of purchasing and adapting of army surplus materials, a \$400 four-inch oil diffusion pump was lacking, as were funds. Pleas to engineering firms and the SAC resulted in grants permitting construction to be completed.

The welder will be used according to student sources, for construction displays for a metallurgy laboratory, and is capable of supplying needed welding precision in aerospace components, and is unique in its ability to weld aluminum foil to steel.

Staffing the project are seniors Jerry Hagaman, Lewis Claffey, Paul Stack, Ron Toles, Phil Williams and Bill Schwark, along with juniors Daryl Keezer and Tom Voss.

Vienna Choir Boys to Appear Monday at PN

By the Observer Staff

The Vienna Choir Boys, called "the most beloved choir ever to tour America," will appear on Monday, January 20, as part of the Community Arts Council Concert Program in Pontiac Northern High School Auditorium.

The choir has been performing concerts for nearly five centuries, since its inception in 1493. Approximately 200 boys are trained by Father Joseph Schmitt at the choir's home, in Augarten Castle, Vienna, Austria. Of these, 20 are chosen each year to tour America.

Statement of Earnings Sent To U Employees

By the OU Information Service

MSU-EL's payroll department last week sent a statement of earnings to each University employee who worked for the University during the first six months of 1963. This statement covered the earnings of that period only.

On Jan. 21, Oakland U. will send all employees their statement of earnings for the last six months of 1963. All University payrolls were transferred to Oakland on July 1, 1963; therefore, it was necessary for both payroll departments to issue separate six month statements.

Employees are cautioned to delay filing federal income tax returns for 1963 until both statements which combine to cover total earnings for 1963 are received.

Basketball Organized

Nine teams have entered the Men's Intramural Basketball League, Robinson announced Tuesday afternoon. Competition began Wednesday afternoon and will continue for six weeks. After the eight-game schedule is completed, the league will have a one-game elimination tournament.

Girls interested in forming an Intramural Basketball League may organize their teams, and register in the IM Building.

League opportunities are still available for both men and women in badminton, tennis, and volleyball.

Costumed operettas, sacred songs, secular, and folk music comprise their unusual and popular programs. The choir's repertoire includes such composers as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Liszt and Bruckner. Haydn and Schubert were themselves Vienna Choir Boys.

Seniors to Stage Jazz Festival

By the Observer Staff

Jazz headliner Herbie Mann will head a jazz-folk-song festival to be staged late in February by the Senior class, according to a statement released this week by Senior Committee Chairman Don Roe.

The committee, which met last Thursday, voted to approve the project, with tentative plans calling for use of the IM gymnasium as a staging area for the festival. Tentative admission price will be \$1.50 per person.

Roe also announced a senior banquet and ball, to be held April 4 at a local country club. The exact site and final details for the banquet have not been arranged.

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A Moral Lapse

Last week, the Observer reported that three students were subjected to disciplinary action by the Dean of Students for plagiarism. In addition to those three cases, which were positively proved, numerous students have been cited by professors for papers which were almost certainly plagiarized, but for which sources could not be found. Such cases rarely result in disciplinary action, for the Dean will not convict a student unless proof positive can be produced. Suspected students' names are kept on file, however, and if several professors report suspected but unproved plagiarism, the Dean may act.

Every entering freshman must read a memorandum composed by the University stating the bounds of plagiarism, and every student must sign a statement saying that he has read—and understood—that memorandum. There is no confusion, then, as to what constitutes plagiarism.

All students should be keenly aware that plagiarism is the most serious academic offense they can commit. At very least, it will result in an indefinite suspension, and in aggravated cases, may lead to expulsion.

But the punishments for plagiarism should be of only secondary interest to students. The fact is that plagiarism represents a serious moral lapse, a reprehensible moral lapse. (THERE IS NEVER ANY EXCUSE FOR PLAGIARISM, EVER.) It is tantamount to intellectual embezzling, it is lying, it is cheating. Many students rushed for time, may feel that their professors would rather have an essay by Malthus on time than work of their own late.

This is never true. Cases of plagiarism rarely slip past professors who read all of their themes—it is usually practiced in classes where the professor is known to spot-check papers. Added to the insult of lying is the insult "I'm going to put one over on Professor X."

There is a certain amount of evidence that plagiarism is relatively widespread among Oakland students. We wholeheartedly commend the Dean for his actions against known plagiarists, and encourage him to take even stronger action against future offenders.

In the university, which should be bound together by honor, plagiarism is the most pernicious influence imaginable. Plagiarism is dishonor incarnate; its practitioners have no place in the academic community. We damn and despise plagiarists, and ardently hope that they be removed from our midst as soon as possible.

Administrators

(Continued from Page 1)

les and freshmen dropouts at the end of the fall semester.

Sells said he has been so busy seeing the immediate effects (of dropouts) that he has had little time to consider the causes.

According to Sells, the biggest freshman problem seems to be an inability to express in writing. "Oakland," he said, "puts very heavy emphasis on critical thinking, interpretation, and writing." He felt that freshmen had not been properly prepared for this in high school.

Blame Themselves

Sells also pointed out that most students in academic trouble blame themselves, not the school, a course or a professor, for their failure, and generally were re-

morseful for "goofing off, for sliding on high school laurels."

A special study to find out the causes of students leaving the University despite satisfactory academic standing will again be conducted this year, O'Dowd announced. Last year a study had shown that only 10 per cent of such students had dropped out for "controllable reasons." In most cases private matters had been the causes for disenrollment, the dean stressed.

Present enrollment trends will not result in changes of admission policies, according to O'Dowd. He described OU Kids as "fairly good students" who would be accepted by any Michigan university.

Minority Report

By Daniel Polsby

Christians have made sin an especial part of their religion, for without sin, there would be no reason for the coming of Christ.

Jews, who do not recognize the divinity of Christ, have therefore thought a good deal less about sin than their gentile fellows. But it is incorrect to say that sin is not a part of Jewish thought.

Jews have traditionally held the belief in the one, all-powerful, all-good God. In traditional Judaism, the concept of original sin is pretty generally rejected. Therefore, goes the reasoning, if God be good, and has created all, when the evils manifest in mankind and in men?

The answer is probably in the doctrine of free-will. Men are endowed by their Creator with the power to distinguish between right and wrong. Jews have access to the Word of God, but are not compelled by Him to observe the mandates of his Word. Since perfection of judgment is reserved to the deity alone, it is to be expected that men will commit wrong through imperfections of judgment. In opposition to Christian doctrine, (if I understand it correctly,) Jews expect error, and do not style error so much as an affront to God but as an affront to man. Thus sin is not punished in the terrifying maw of Hell, nor are the agents of such punishment in Christian belief, devils, credited with tangible existence.

In his great theological work "Mishna Torah," Dayyan Moshe ben-Maimon quotes Simeon ben-Lakish as saying, "Satan, evil inclinations, and the angel of death, these are all one in the same being."

Judaism may be seen in this way as a more placid and this-worldly religion than Christianity, for its sins are social evils where the sins of Christianity are cosmic breaches which must be punished in a most hideous and inhuman fashion.

Third Win For OU Cage Team

By the Observer Staff

Two foul shots by John Reynar with less than two minutes to go gave Oakland's Basketball Club its third consecutive win, a 64-63 squeaker over the Milford Faculty-Alumnae team last Saturday.

Reynar was the team's high scorer for the third time this season with 18 points, 15 of them coming in the second half. Reynar is averaging slightly better than 20 points per game. Bob Rowell added 14 Saturday.

Oakland jumped off to a quick lead, but it quickly evaporated as Milford led 29-28 at halftime. The one-point edge remained throughout the third quarter. The lead changed hands several times in the fourth quarter, and the game was finally clinched with a stall after Reynar's foul shots.

The team played Christian College last night and has another game with Christian next Thursday night in the Oakland gym.

Krausmeyer's Alley

by Bob Linsenman

New to the Observer this semester is Robert Linsenman with his all-purpose, giant economy-size column, "Krausmeyer's Alley," after the old vaudeville act of the same name. Linsenman's contributions will appear in the Observer every week.

Try and imagine this. We lay in a disgraceful heap, I bleeding and Dan giggling. The ceiling began to swirl, the floor moved sideways and the tables jumped. At first I thought it was the heavy stride of death, or perhaps, even the warring elements of good and evil, my personal demon or "bosom serpent," and my guardian angel.



A sudden recollection of the events of the last two hours quickly ruled out the latter supposition. My guardian angel wasn't anywhere around. He knew better. The commotion turned out to be nothing more than vibrations from the sextet on the bandstand combined with the stereophonic percussion of the hooch rampant in my head.

I decided that if I could get up I would leave and we both promised to make a novena if God would help us. We swore off forever, lurched to our feet, straightened our Cosa Nostra sweatshirts and made our way through the scrambling couples to the door. Glad I am that Dan's innate nature led us quickly to the red light district where the crimson bulbs flashed "exit." So sweet a sight it was.

Outside, bellybutton deep in snow and breathing air again, it was considered wise to call a friend for assistance. Dan waddled through the slush, picking his way through the cars and bodies in the parking lot and lifted up the receiver on a "phone from your car" booth. You guessed it, no dime.

The problem was solved when Dan, sly as a fox, sold my topcoat to an inebriated hermanutist attached to State for the necessary amount. At first I was reluctant, but then he assured me that, since he was an upperclassman and therefore higher in the "Great Chain of Being," everything would be all right if I would follow his leadership. I did. It wasn't. He launched a great interrogative speech on whether or not it would be ethical to phone from a "phone from your car" phone both if you weren't in your car. I convinced him that since I was bigger, colder, madder and had two hands like cannon balls it would be completely ethical and a damn smart thing to make the call immediately. He did.

Paul Turk appeared on the scene a short time later decked out with rescue machinery. The seal wasn't broken yet, in fact, it was still in the bag under the seat. We rode in silence to the hallowed halls of OU where we sat Dan on the back porch of NFH, rang the ball and ran like hell.

Fifteen minutes later I was home. As I kicked the assorted books and bones away from the entrance to my lair the wind blew from the east and I thought I heard, ever so faintly, someone laughing.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

We would like to thank Mr. Polsby and Mr. Linsenman for the "real intellectual stimulation" we derived from their columns. Since we are examples of the naive young ladies who "believe anything and agree to anything" we welcome any insight into the lives of our admired sophisticated upperclassmen. Their eloquent columns in last week's Observer filled this need more than they can possibly imagine.

We admire Mr. Polsby's proficiency in really taking advantage of the library staff. We agree with Mr. Polsby's wise self-analysis that Wednesday is a bad day for him, and we sympathize with him that the pressures of the deadline forced him to write his column Wednesday night when no soothing broth was close at hand.

On reading Mr. Linsenman's column, we find that he had an equally bad night. If it is any consolation, we rush to reassure him that even if Olivia leaves him, he will not be invaded by "younger, less sophisticated girls." We feel great empathy with Dan's laughing fit because after reading the two columns we succumbed to a similar outburst.

We hope that this letter puts Mr. Linsenman in "the kind of a place where you just have to keep smiling," and Dan lives up to his reputation of "laughing at the darndest things."

Breathlessly awaiting your next efforts, we remain: Four Freshmen not yet intimidated,

Maureen McClow
Hannelore Von Zittwitz
Ellin Weiss
Diane Christianson

Placement Office

The following corporations and government agencies will interview on campus the week of January 20.

Jan. 20—Federal Mogul Service Division of Federal Mogul Bowler Bearings.

Jan. 20—Simmons Company.

Jan. 21—Aetna Life Insurance Company.

Jan. 21-23—U. S. Marine Corps and U.S. Navy.

Jan. 23-24—Ford Motor Company*.

*Ford interviewees must fill out Ford Motor Company Applications before interviews. Details are available from the Placement Office, 266 SFH.

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Wayne Meets OU in Sports Day Tomorrow

By the Observer Staff

Wayne State University will invade the Oakland campus Saturday for the winter semester's first extramural sports day. Competition starts at 10 a.m.

Involved in the sports day will be basketball, volleyball, tennis (both singles and doubles), badminton (singles and doubles), and table tennis (singles and doubles).

Hollie Lepley and Dick Robinson, physical education directors,

are both hopeful that this semester's sports day will be successful. The next sports day will be next Saturday when Oakland will host the University of Detroit.

On February 8, Oakland will participate in a sports day at the University of Windsor. Scheduled for later in the semester are sports days at Adrian, University of Detroit, and Wayne.

Yearbook Production Under Way

Yearbook editor Daniel Polsby announced Tuesday that the 1964's production is well on its way, and should meet with no difficulty in achieving its deadlines. The yearbook is scheduled for distribution on April 1.

"We believe that this yearbook will leave the benchmarks for the yearbook industry for the next thousand years," Polsby told the morning news conference. "We expect about three hundred thousand sales all told," he stated. About five hundred and have already been reserved.

After the news conference, Polsby told the Observer in an exclusive interview: "We will be doing what yearbook editors have wanted to do from time immemorial. Namely breaking even. Probably." Polsby has stressed in previous news conferences the experimental nature of the yearbook. "We plan to do a photographic essay on a human sacrifice," he said, "and are now waiting for a volunteer."

Yearbooks may be reserved

with a \$1 deposit in 109 NFH or with Gary Beeman in the Activities Center. Total cost of the tome will be \$3. "One from three makes two," Polsby stated. \$2 will be the additional price on delivery.

Flynn Starring

"Charge of the Light Brigade," starring Errol Flynn, will be shown in 190 Sci at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 21. Admission to the SAC-sponsored program is 50c.

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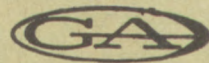
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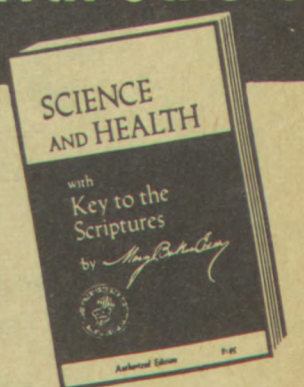
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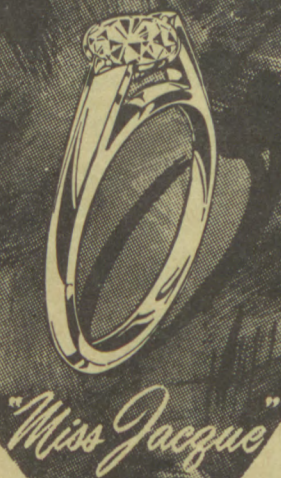
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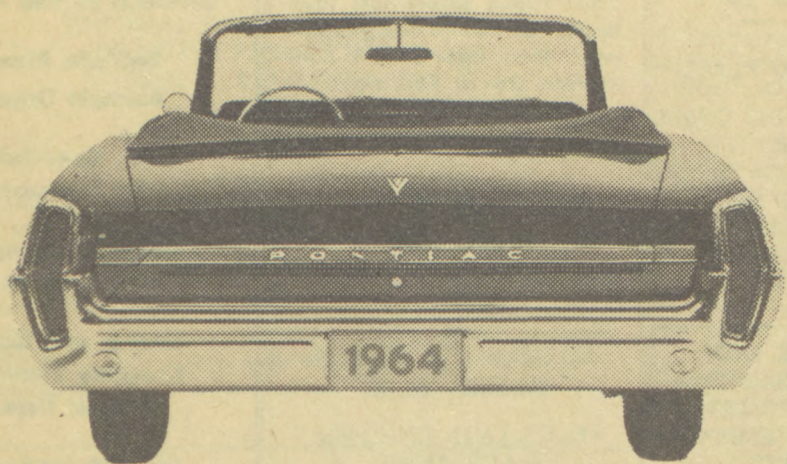
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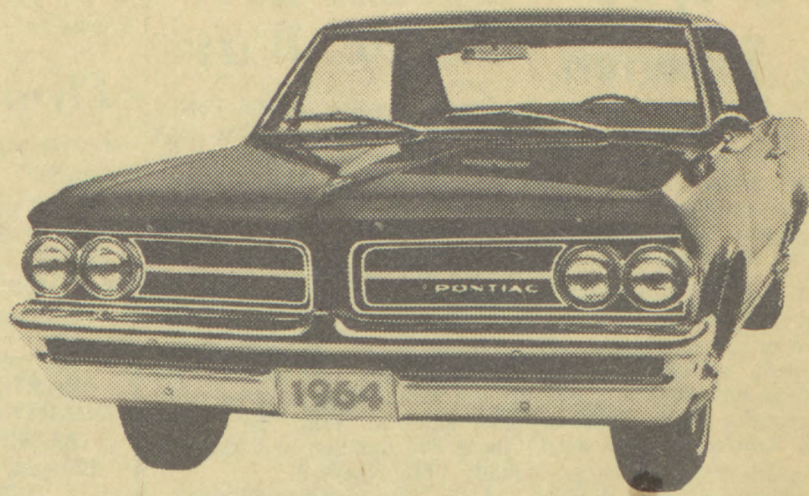
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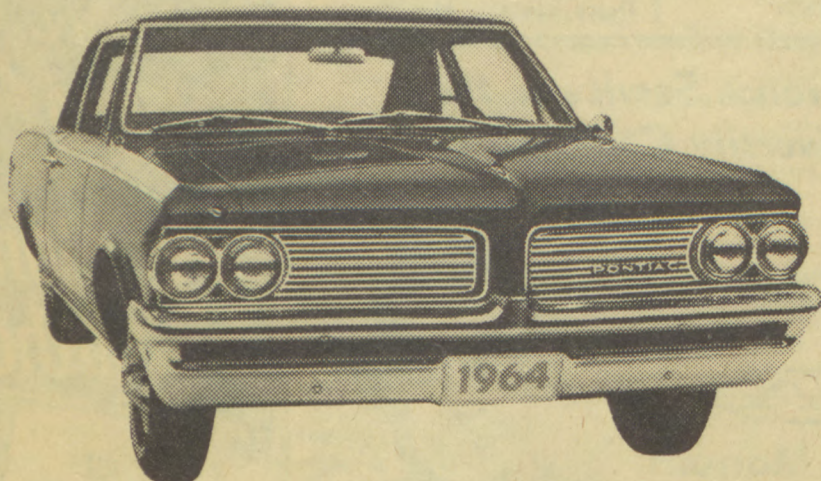
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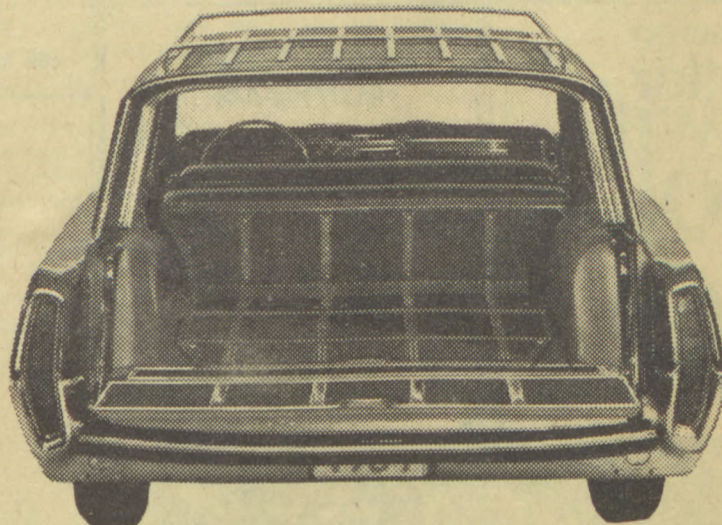
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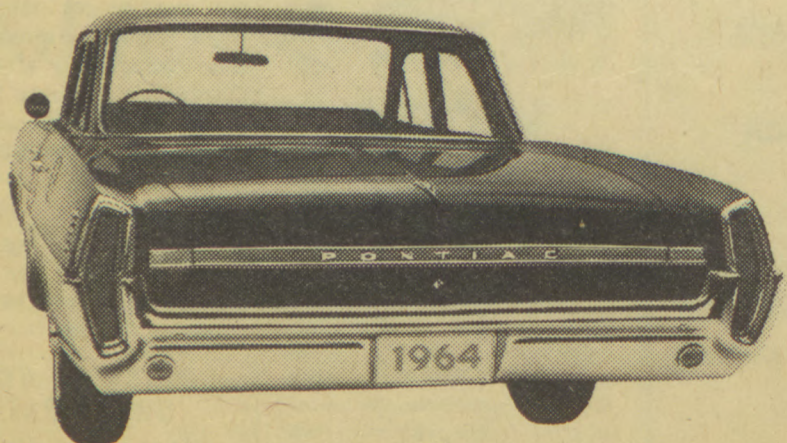
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