Bishop’s Day in Fenwick Chapel, 1902.
Holy Cross after dark. After spending time in the fish-bowl, most students give their nights to various organizations on campus. From being a big brother or sister to inner city kids, to organizing Sunday Mass in St. Joseph's, Holy Cross students embody the school's philosophy of "Men and Women for others."
Amnesty

In the Fall of '92, after a year hiatus, Amnesty International returned to Holy Cross. For those of you who don't know, Amnesty is an international human rights organization that works for the release of all prisoners of conscience—people imprisoned for their race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or political affiliation, provided that they have neither used nor advocated the use of violence. Amnesty also works for fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and an end to disappearance, torture, and execution in all cases.

This year's small, but dedicated group, was active both on and off campus. Our main activity throughout the year was writing weekly Urgent Action Letters to governments around the world demanding that they live up to the international standard of human rights established by the United Nations in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In the Fall semester, we traveled to Boston for a Student Activism Day at Tufts University where we heard such inspirational speakers as Jack Healy, executive director of A.I.U.S.A. We also were active on behalf of the indigenous peoples of the Americas. Besides co-sponsoring a showing of The Mission with Pax Christi, we held a day of action on October 15, commemorating the 500 year struggle of indigenous peoples against the barbarous repression and outright genocide they have endured. We addressed other human rights issues by bringing Billy Neal Moore, a former death row inmate, to speak about his life and experiences while on death row and since. And in December, we offered students an opportunity to send holiday cards of hope to prisoners of conscience around the world.

Our major project of the second semester was Jamnesty, a human rights concert held in the fieldhouse on the 26th of March. Toy Truck, Canister The Dregs of Society, Danko, and The Toads all played, and between the sets members of Amnesty shared information about human rights abuses in particular countries around the world. We also had an information/letter writing table where we were able to collect signatures and get over 150 letters written. We ended the semester with a second trip to Boston, this time for a Students for Students Rally at Fanueil Hall.

Next year's group promises to offer much of the same commitment and activism, as Anne Donahue and Shannon Handley will take over as co-chairs from Ted Henken, who will be in Ecuador teaching English, and Brendan Sharkey, who will spend his junior year abroad in Ireland. Erin Phair and Sandra Pace will remain as Urgent Action coordinators and the new Secretary/Treasurer will be Sheila Keating.

-Peace, Ted Henken
The Appalachia Service Project sends over seventy students to the poverty-tricken region of Appalachia during spring Break. Since the beginning of the program, when a small group of committed students decided to volunteer their time for the benefit of others, the A.S.P. has proven itself to be a truly enlightening experience for all of those involved. They never forget the people they meet and their stories of hardship and courage.

In addition to trying to satisfy the immediate needs of those in the region, the program has also been beneficial to the Holy Cross students involved. It creates a sense of Christian community in which students with different backgrounds and goals are united in a common cause. This solidarity forms strong friendships and provides a Christian support group which continues well beyond the students’ remaining years at Holy Cross.

The Appalachia Service Project allows students to answer the call to service voiced by Jesuit ideals and Christianity. It also provides a valuable opportunity to experience oppression from the perspective of the oppressed. From this students are able to learn about themselves and others, as well as grow spiritually.

-Christian Archambault
Campus Ministry means a lot of different things to its members and the community which it serves. It is composed of CCD teachers, Eucharistic Ministers, the Folk Group, Greeters, Lay Leadership, Lectors, Pax Christi, Schola, and Servers. Through each of these ministries, Holy Cross students participate in the life and work of the Church. We share, celebrate, question, challenge, and most of all, act together.

This year Campus Ministry focused students’ attention on hunger and homelessness in Worcester, and by sponsoring the Oxfam and World Hunger Day fasts, we even attempted to alleviate global problems. The success of the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive and the Toys for Tots Mass helped bring some cheer to the local holiday season. More importantly, the 3rd Annual Meal Auction raised over $3,500 for Worcester charities. The Mustard Seed, Abby’s House, and AIDS Project Worcester each benefited from the generosity of the faculty, staff, administrators, and students. Thanks to everyone’s help, we realized that hunger takes many forms—physical, social, and spiritual, and that our efforts must therefore continue.

This year, as in past years, the members of Campus Ministry acted as a dynamic community of faith. It was, and still is, constantly being created and recreated by its members. The energy that resonated from a classroom in Worcester, a lay leadership prayer service, or the Folk Group at a 10 p.m. liturgy, was a daily reminder of our efforts. Although our groups’ works were numerous and varied, we singularly saw the Church not as a place simply to go to, but as a place to go from.

-Charlie Heintz, Chairperson
College Republicans
This year G.E.R.P. (Green Earth Restoration Project), led by Mercedes Bransfield, Chris Hood, Mark Thomann, and Juliette Reiter, had a successful year in helping to promote environmental awareness on campus. With the help of Massachusetts State Law, G.E.R.P. hopes to enhance the newly implemented recycling program by expanding its coverage to paper and newspaper throughout the entire campus. This year G.E.R.P. planned a very successful Earth Week, bringing in speakers from the Audobon Society and professors from Holy Cross to help educate students on environmental and recycling issues. G.E.R.P. also managed to fit in a few hiking trips, which included day trips to Mount Wachusett and Purgatory Chasm.

-Mercedes Bransfield
Marching Band
Late one night in the editorial office I found myself rummaging through old dust-covered copies of The Purple and getting caught up in the wars, woes, and joys of students past, despite the awkward forms of expression. That night I had a kind of epiphany—I realized the profound importance of The Purple which I present to you. In The Purple you will find the imaginative landscapes which dot Mount St. James:

landscapes as old and as present as O’Kane which, for the most part, we walk by without noticing. The works in this volume point out these invisible places and give them shape and color and life in a language we can understand—the language we speak now. They let us share in the imaginative spirit of Holy Cross that inspired past artists and is a muse to us and all who come after. With time our language will probably become outdated and even silly, but these works, like our predecessors’, will have a dusty immortality. This immortality is won at a high cost. Therefore, to the artists, I wish to express my gratitude for their works of labor and love which re-open these landscapes to us. I also would like to thank the people who help make The Purple possible: Henry Roy and Graphic Arts, The Editorial Staff, and Professor Cording.

-Adapted from E.J. McAdams’ introduction to The Purple
Social Concerns

IF THERE IS NO STRUGGLE THERE CAN BE NO PROGRESS
The Student Coalition on Homelessness and Housing (SCOHAH) is an organization that works toward alleviating the problems of poverty, hunger, and homelessness in Worcester and throughout the United States. SCOHAH attempts to educate the Holy Cross community about homelessness and possible solutions to it. There are currently three million people in the United States who are homeless, the majority of whom are single mothers and children. Our society has been unsympathetic to their needs through its negative stereotypes of the poor and its lack of programs, which would allow people to escape the cycle of poverty. Worcester has nine homeless shelters, all of which operate at full capacity and some of which have waiting lists up to two months long. One of the main problems facing this neglected group of people is the lack of decent, affordable housing. The United States is currently facing a housing crisis due to the unwillingness of landlords to lower rents and maintain livable conditions or to sell buildings for the establishment of cooperative housing.

SCOHAH benefits the Holy Cross community as a source and starting point from which individual students can interactively work with their peers to fight homelessness and poverty in a concentrated and collective effort. Furthermore, SCOHAH connects Holy Cross with the Worcester community through neighborhood cleanups, clothing drives, and canned food collections. SCOHAH has also established an alliance between Holy Cross and Worcester Common Ground, an organization which provides housing for low-income families at low monthly rents.

On Halloween we trick-or-treated for canned goods from Worcester residents and donated them to Worcester shelters and soup kitchens. Following a conference sponsored by the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness, SCOHAH began a food salvage program. In November, we planned a Hunger and Homelessness Week with Campus Ministry, which involved a campus-wide clean-up, a Thanksgiving fundraiser, and a twenty-four hour fast to raise money for relief efforts in Somalia. SCOHAH also connected students to the Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Project (HOAP). These students were paired with low-income families which had recently made the transition from shelters to housing. The students informed the families of resources in Worcester and offered support in adjusting to a new lifestyle.

One of our final and most exciting projects was the National Hunger Clean-Up held in April. Seventy-five Holy Cross students joined with students from Clark University, Worcester State College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester high schools to raise money and to clean up shelters, parks, and community centers.

Our involvement in the Worcester community has revealed the injustices of poverty and homelessness so prevalent in our society today. Our actions are only the beginning of a long and difficult path toward the elimination of these injustices. Our hope is to continue the struggle beyond the gates of Holy Cross, so that one day decent living conditions may become a right, and not a privilege.

-Kurt Kaufmann
S.G.A.

S.P.U.D.
Women's Forum
Alumni
Carlin
Clark
Hanselman
Student Life 135
Healy
Lehy
Loyola
Mulledy
Wheeler
Off-Campus
Four Year Roommates

Bill Hitchmoth & Marcus Duckworth

P.J. Pettinato & Kevin Penders

Marilu Purcell & Diana Batile

Meg Schaefer & Colleen Deters

Shawn Sierra & Troy Dixon

Reynaldo Alfonso & Tom Drew

Abby Scholz & Carolyn Sheedy
They say when people live together for a long time, that they start to look alike. What do you think?
Why Holy Cross?

I looked at a lot of schools before I decided to come here. Or, to be more accurate my parents dragged me to a lot of schools. I wasn't really into the whole college selection thing. I told my mother just to draw a name from a hat and I'd go there. She hit me.

When you come right down to it, a college is nothing more than a cluster of buildings, a catalogue of courses, and inadequate parking facilities. Looking at it from the outside, Holy Cross is no different from any other. On the inside, though, Holy Cross has one unique feature. Us. When you think about the years you spent here, when you try to figure out what Holy Cross meant to you, the question you'll really be answering is "What did we mean to each other?"
Someone once asked me to give a quick definition of life at Holy Cross, and I couldn't do it. Now I think I can. It's that silly half-face burn we all got while sitting on the Fitton Field bleachers on some Saturday afternoon. It's watching apples thrown to the band. It's the crowd that stayed on its feet for the whole second half of the Women's NCAA Tournament game against Maryland. It's throwing snowballs at Security cars at the Streak, reading about Spap and Durds on Kimball trays, and dodging airborne baked potatoes at the St. Patrick's Day dinner. It's the night my friends and I devoured 120 wings at The Ground Round. It's the first day of Freshman Orientation when my new hallmates and I tried to show each other how tough we were by playing tackle football on the Hart lawn, and it's the midnight games on the turf in the weeks that followed. It's those nights when friends trickle into your room and talk until four A.M.

When we started high school, everyone said those would be the four best years of our lives. Guess again. They said the same thing when we got here. Well, this time they were right. I loved every minute I spent here. For that I thank you all.

- Michael Ellis '93