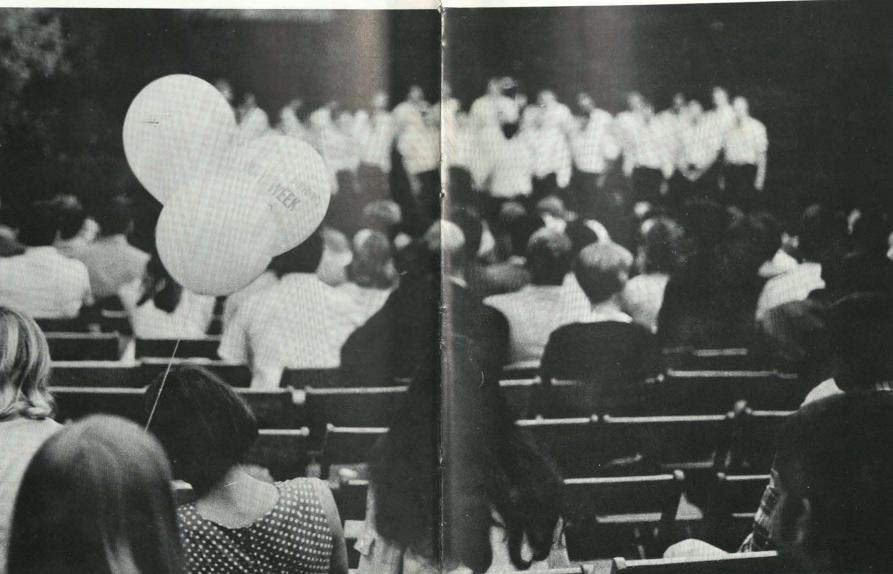




MAY WEEK COMMITTEE. ROW ONE — John Duffield, Linda Reed. ROW TWO — Toya O'Hora, Pat Richards, Betty Carter. ROW THREE — Barb Calhoun, Craig Busey, Mike Cochran, Jackie Noller, John Allen.





May Week is many things to many people. We have accepted the DAILY NORTHWESTERN's Bob Greene's interpretation of what's happening at N.U.

The SAEs in their powder blue button-down shirts and the DGs in their simple white dresses lined up together and climbed onto the risers in the East Quads. They looked at each other a little nervously, and then began to sing "Today." The grass was green and pretty. Scott Hall and Cahn towered majestically in the background. The old Evanston people sat and smiled. Everything seemed to fall right in place.

Except for the entire thing, which was completely wrong. May Sing, and May Week, and just about everything else that has been a habit at Northwestern for how many years, are anachronisms now. In this time of change and stress, people don't seem to have any time for tradition.

May Week's impending death can't be called murder. No one is out to abolish it, and no one needs to try such a move. To try to kill a tradition automatically presupposes people are violently opposed to it. In the case of May Week, people don't care.

And it isn't apathy, because these same people, these students who have no time for May Week, Homecoming floats, panty raids, Hell Week or Student Senate can be seen whenever real change is made at Northwestern. They are concerned with more important things now.

There was one truly touching moment, when Roland J. Hinz was called to Deru and the audience stood and cheered until Hinz had to bow his head. But then it is no more correct to say that May Week was meaningful because of Hinz than to say West Virginia is a beautiful state because John Kennedy once campaigned there.

The day is gone when Acacia can get up at May Sing and sing "Mammy" and have anyone think it is cute. That has gone the way of Fiji Island Parties, with the blackface and African getup. That is old Northwestern.

The new Northwestern is Sargent Hall's singers letting out with "The Greek Song," patterned after "The Jet Song" from "West Side Story." There was a time when an independent at this school hid the fact that he wasn't affiliated, and tried to make up for it however he could. Now, though, the men of Sargent could sing of fraternities: "They're hangin' a sign, says Jews and blacks forbidden, and they ain't kiddin," and end up looking good.