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Full lives found in balance between studies, fun; take time to find selves

March 17, 1998

Spring break is over. It's time to hit the books, to study, study, study. You've had a week of fun, so, no more fun.

No more fun?

In spite of all the hearty resolutions with good intentions behind them, one thing needs to be remembered -- a worthwhile life needs balance.

Remember the wheel from Welcome Week? Balance needs to be achieved to keep life running smoothly. So, keep the other parts of the wheel in mind when resolving to actually start those papers ahead of time.

Spiritual: Look at your life as a whole and remember those things that you believe. It's not too late to join a church if you haven't yet, or even to start visiting one. College is a time to 'find oneself,' so take a few moments and evaluate what you believe and who you are.

Physical: Have you walked the Bear Trail yet or used one of the gyms on campus? Intramurals are a great way to meet people while playing a fun sport. It's also a good idea to watch what you eat at the cafeteria. How many times does a piece of chocolate cake find its way onto your tray?

Social: There are some organizations that are still accepting membership. It's also a good time to finally introduce yourself to the people you don't know on your hall or living in the apartment next door. Get to class early and talk to the people around you -- you never know who will become a lifelong friend.

Intellectual: This area doesn't just mean learning in your classes. You can learn from the people around you and the experiences you have. Reading books for leisure or doing further research into a topic mentioned in class can also increase your knowledge. Surfing the net for useful information can also make your intellect grow.

So, remember that even though your 'week of fun' has ended, life doesn't have to be boring. There's more to life than studying and there's more to life than having fun -- and it's all found in the balance.

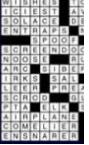
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