# Shaping Student Identities: The College Chronicle in the 1950s

### How We Think of the 50s

- Entering the Cold War
- Beginning of the Civil Rights movement
- Separate Spheres
- Consensus



# What Students Saw as Important

- SCTC → St Cloud State College
- Religious Emphasis Week
- Women entering Industry
- Humor

### Letters to the Editor

### Letters on Religion Only Cause Confusion

To the Editor: In recent letters to the editor fanatical and misleading statements have been made. Their appalling stupidity has astounded the reverent members of our group. Their atmosphere of ignorance has clouded the "Real Truth" which, of course, lies in the tenets of the Pre-homolousians.

The doctrines of our dynamic group may not be known to the uninformed layman. We therefore would like to clarify our position. We enjoyed the fascinating confusion, doubt, illogical reasoning and greedy ego-centrism that have been common in recent letters. We think this state of affairs is perfectly satisfactory with one exception. This aforementioned confusion is too spontaneous and not planned well enough.

The primary function of our cult is to plan confusion, doubt, illogical reasoning and greedy egocentrism thereby taking it out of the hands of incompetent amateurs.

There may be a few isolated factions who think our program perverse. To these we reply, "Your protests will cause more confusion which, we beg to remind you, is our objective . . . Planned Confusion."

In the future we expect full cooperation and referral of all religious discussions to our cult. Only the Pre-homolousian cult has the necessary experience and knowledge to make the most out of the least.—Charles Fisher

# Space and Place in a Newspaper

- Space and place
- The sports page
- "Girls Shorts"

### Huskies Take Two Over Weekend

### **Defeat Minot** and Jamestown

### Loss Of Gambucci Presents Problem To Vandel Puckmen

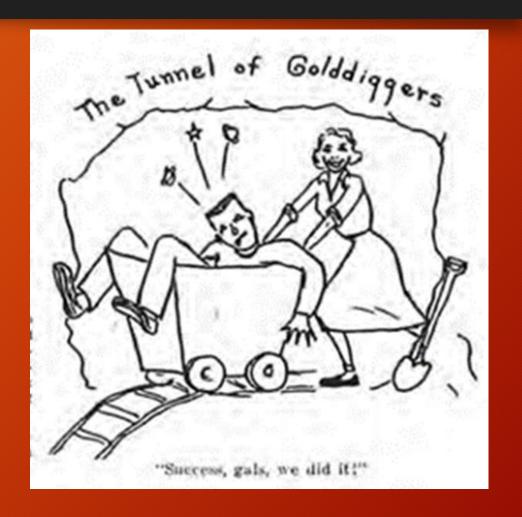
### Kaschmen Take Fourth Straight; Romp Over Eau Claire, 62-43

### Cagers to Participate In Holiday Tourney



# Context Is Key

- Associated Women Students
- Gold Diggers Ball



# Take-A-Ways

- The College Chronicle sculpted Identity through articles debating varying topics during the 1950s
- Among the issues discussed in The College Chronicle the role of women on and off campus was one of immense development
- One cannot look at comics in the 1950s and take them at facevalue

## Bibliography (Documents Available at SCSU Archives)

Fisher, Charles. "Letters on Religion Only Cause Confusion," *The College Chronicle* March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1954,

"Girls—Grab Your man for the Gold Diggers Ball," College Chronicle (St Cloud, MN), November 10th, 1953.

"Girls Shorts," College Chronicle (St Cloud, MN), December 17, 1953.

"Good Ole Days Forgotten: Riverview Girls Learn Industrial Arts," *College Chronicle* (St Cloud, MN), March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1950.

• Sahlstrom, Jim. "Men—Beware the Fairer Sex," *College Chronicle* (St Cloud, MN), December 15<sup>th</sup> 1953.