College World

By Dean Roller

Departing from its usual format, this column has chosen to reprint a poem which takes on added significance in light of recently approved changes in the pass-fail system. The poem was taken from the "Minnesota Daily," which took it from the Wesleyan College "Town and Gown," which took it from the University of Tennessee "Daily Beacon," which took it in turn from the "Lancaster Argus," which got it from a geology professor who recalls seeing it several years ago in the "Daily Mail." The author, unfortunately, is no longer known.

And it came to pass
That toward the last day of the semester
There arose a great multitude smiting the books and wailing.
And there was much weeping and gnashing of teeth
For the day of judgment was at hand
And they were sore afraid, for they had left undone Those things which they ought to have done.
And they had done Those things which they ought not to have done.
And there was no help for it.
And there were many ailing in the door
Who had kept watch over their books by night
But it availed them nought.
But some were who rose peacefully
For they had prepared themselves the way
And made straight paths of knowledge
And these were known
As wise runners of the midnight oil
And to others they were known as "curve-ravers".

And the multitude arose
And they went toward the appointed place
And their hearts were heavy within them.
And they had come to pass, But some came not out.
And some of them Returned to their vicious living and denounced their fate.
But they had not a prayer.
And at the last hour there came among them
One known as the instructor; and they feared exceedingly For it was of the diabolical smile,
And passed papers among them and went his way.
And many and varied Were the answers which were given.
For some of his teachings had fallen among fickle minds
While others had fallen flat.
And when they had passed papers
They gathered up their belongings
And went their way quietly each in his own direction.
And each vowing unto himself in this manner,
"I shall not pass this way again."