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Home Ec Babies at Saint Ben's

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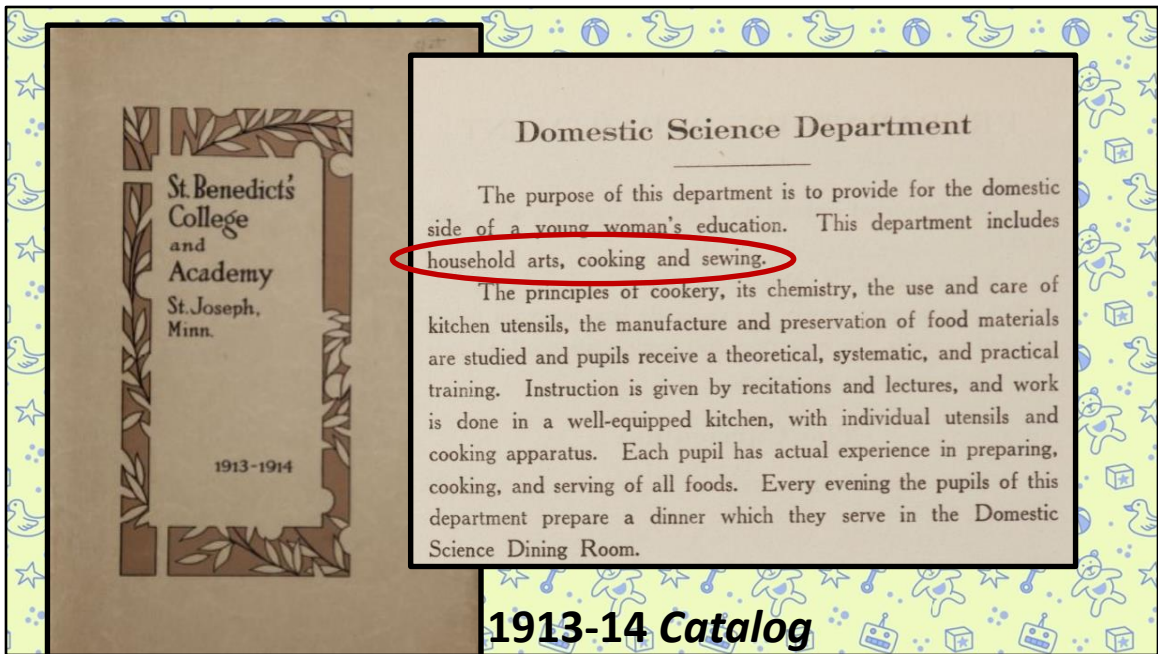
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Home Ec Babies at St. Ben's



Background from https://www.freepik.com/premium-vector/cute-seamless-kids-pattern-background_24447303.htm#page=10&query=baby%20background%20pattern&position=23&from_view=keyword&track=ais&uuid=43cf9807-e04b-4066-a690-779155566d4d



The Saint Ben's Department of Home Economics began with one purpose: "to provide for the domestic side of a young woman's education," as stated in the 1913-14 Catalog for the college. It covered "household arts, cooking and sewing."

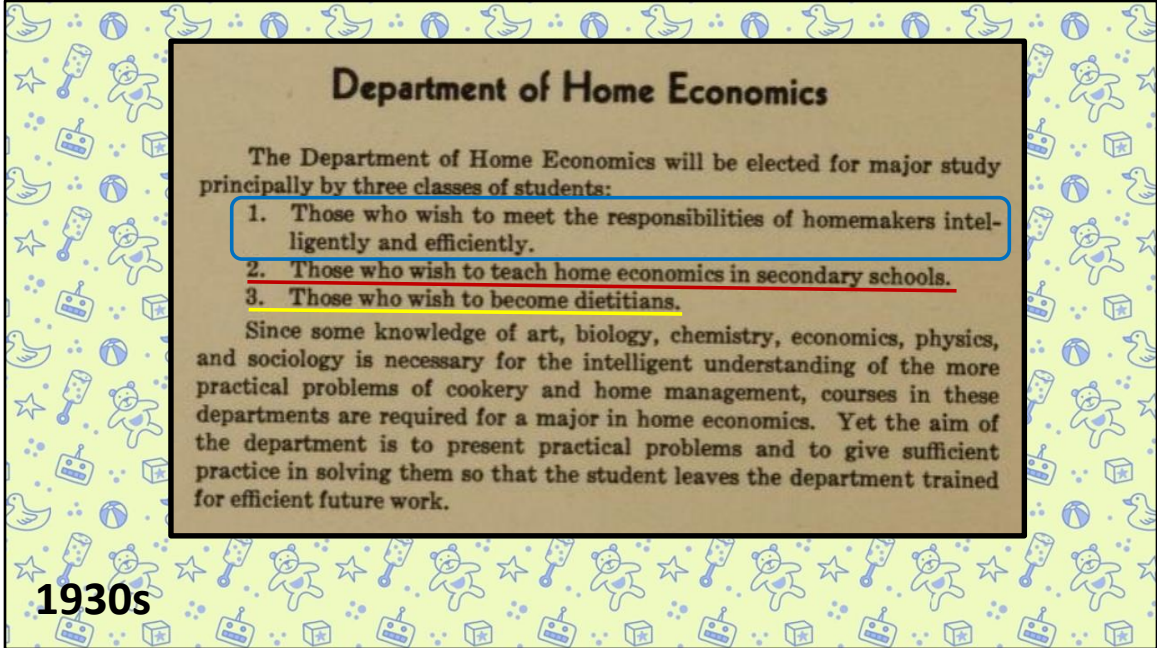
Thirty-first Annual Year-Book, 1913-1914, St. Benedict's College and Academy
<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2180#?c=&m=&s=&cv=35&xywh=16%2C-225%2C3143%2C3160>



Domestic Science started out as a two-year course at the new College.

Photo from the 1914-1915 *Catalog*, opposite page 24

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2417#?c=&m=&s=&cv=40&xywh=338%2C58%2C3413%2C3431>



In the 1930s, the re-named Department of Home Economics appealed to three kinds of students:

- those wishing to teach Home Ec in high schools,
- those who wanted to become dietitians, and
- those “who wish to meet the responsibilities of homemakers intelligently and efficiently”

Bulletin for the College of St. Benedict 1938-1939

p. 68

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2712#?c=&m=&s=&cv=71&xywh=331%2C2005%2C2237%2C2249>

Department of Home Economcis

The Department of Home Economics offers two sequences: one for those who wish to teach home economics in secondary schools, the other for those who wish to become dietitians.

The plan of the sequence recognizes the recommendations offered by the State Board for Vocational Education and by the American Dietetic Association. For the degree of Bachelor of Science 128 credits and 128 honor points are required. The following are the requirements for both sequences.

1. Those who wish to meet the responsibilities of homemakers intelligently and efficiently.

1940-41 through 1960-62

But in the 1940s and 50s, they were back to *two* sequences: for those wishing to teach Home Ec in high schools, and those who wanted to become dietitians.

Apparently, those wishing merely to be intelligent and efficient homemakers need no longer apply?

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2511#?c=&m=&s=&cv=68&xywh=163%2C2627%2C2158%2C2170>



HOME ECONOMICS

The Department of Home Economics offers three sequences: one for those who wish to teach home economics in high schools, one for those who wish to become dietitians, planned to meet the requirements of the American Dietetic Association, and one for those who wish to have a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in General Home Economics.

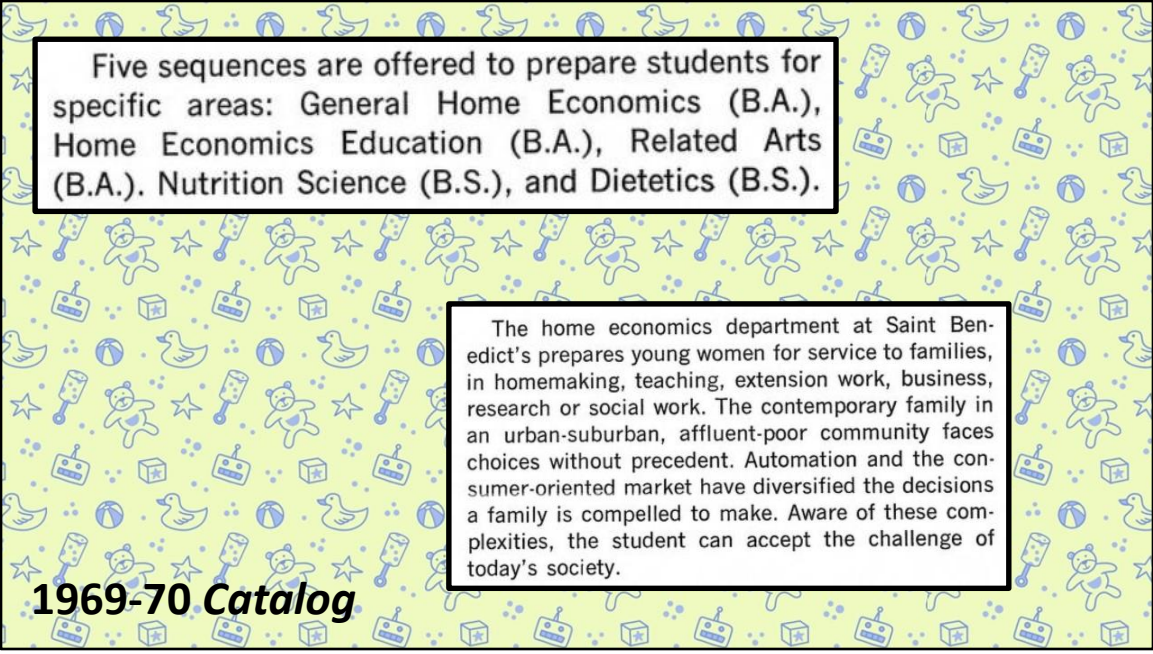
★ **1964-66 Catalog**

The 1964 *Catalog* went back to having three categories of students:

- those wishing to teach Home Ec in high schools,
- those who wanted to become ADA-qualified dietitians, *and a new (old?) catch-all one:*
- those seeking a BA degree with a major in Home Ec.

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/2812/rec/8>

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/2857/rec/9>



Five sequences are offered to prepare students for specific areas: General Home Economics (B.A.), Home Economics Education (B.A.), Related Arts (B.A.), Nutrition Science (B.S.), and Dietetics (B.S.).

The home economics department at Saint Benedict's prepares young women for service to families, in homemaking, teaching, extension work, business, research or social work. The contemporary family in an urban-suburban, affluent-poor community faces choices without precedent. Automation and the consumer-oriented market have diversified the decisions a family is compelled to make. Aware of these complexities, the student can accept the challenge of today's society.

1969-70 Catalog

By the end of the 1960s, no fewer than five different bachelor's degrees could be earned from the Home Ec department, reflecting how the "contemporary family" in society, with "automation and the consumer-oriented market," was "compelled" to make complex decisions.

1969-70 [joint] Catalog, p. 94

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/15041/rec/14>



That's all a bit of academic background to my real history lesson today, which is about something that was a feature of the Home Economics Department for many decades: Home Ec Babies!

Photo from Susanna Humphrey Hynes. She was born in 1945.

34. *Home Management.* Operation and maintenance, lectures. Discussion of management responsibilities of home-maker with special emphasis on budgets and household accounts.

1924-25 College "Year-Book"

50. **Home Management: Operation and Maintenance—Laboratory.**
Laboratory Experience: Twelve weeks actual experience in a home management house with problems related to management of the household and care and behavior of a child of pre-school age.
Prerequisite: Course 49. 6 quarter credits

College Bulletin 1927-1928

A "home management" course shows up in the 1924-25 "College 'Year-Book,'" i.e. the *Catalog*. The course offered lectures on home operation and maintenance, with emphasis on budgets and household accounts. Two years later, a "Lab Experience" has been added to the course, one that includes 12 weeks of actual experience in a home, complete with "care and behavior of a child of pre-school age."

Top: *Forty-Second Annual Year-Book, 1924-1925, St. Benedict College and Academy, St. Joseph, Minnesota*

(Same in 1925-26)

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:4467#?c=&m=&s=&cv=71&xywh=562%2C1950%2C1888%2C1898>

Bottom: *College Bulletin 1927-1928, College of St. Benedict, St. Joseph, Minnesota*

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:4747#?c=&m=&s=&cv=40&xywh=282%2C228%2C2014%2C2024>

The special equipment for this department includes a foods laboratory with electric stoves and refrigerator, modern conveniences for cookery, a service pantry, a dining room, a nutrition and textile laboratory, and a clothing room. The class in Textiles has access to looms and spinning wheels. Two classes, Institutional Management and Large Quantity Cookery, make use of the institutional equipment in the college kitchen. For the Home Management course the following home departments are arranged for student care: kitchen, dining and living room, and nursery. A child of infant or pre-school age lives in the home during the course and is cared for by the students.

“A child of infant or pre-school age lives in the home... and is cared for by the students.”

1932-1939 Catalogs

By the 1930s, the *Catalog* gets more descriptive, noting that the department’s equipment includes electric stoves and a refrigerator, the classes make use of the institutional college kitchen, and the Home Management class uses a kitchen, dining and living room, and a nursery. AND their “special equipment” includes *a child of infant or pre-school age who lives in the home and is cared for by the students.*

Bulletin for the College of St. Benedict 1938-1939

p. 69

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2712#?c=&m=&s=&cv=72&xywh=293%2C584%2C1932%2C1943>



The earliest published photo I could locate is this one, from the 1939 CSB yearbook, showing a baby outside with a couple of college students.

1939 *Facula* p. 23 of the pdf

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/9326/rec/1>



But the Monastery Archives has this article from an Alexandria paper featuring a home-town girl taking the Home Management course at Saint Ben's, with pictures of "Baby Roger" and his caretakers as they "...plan, cook, and do all the household duties" of the normal home. It goes on to say that "each year the college *usually borrows a baby from the St. Cloud Orphanage*, but this year the child comes from a private family."

Sunshiny Bennie O'Leary Storms School

Who is the most popular gentleman in school? Why, it wouldn't take Professor Quiz to answer that question, for Bennie O'Leary has taken the college by storm, and every girl yearns for one of his rare smiles. Bennie arrived several weeks ago to take his important place as the youngest member of the O'Leary family, better known to the uninitiated as the Home Management class. His real parents, who live near East St. Cloud, have loaned him to the Home Economics Department until Easter.

Carefully reserving his affections for the inner circle of his family, young Master O'Leary smiles but seldom for strangers; he merely examines each and everyone with wide, blue-eyed attention. However, he does have definite aversions which he indicates by loud vocal protests. Radiators and men are among his pet dislikes; equally to be avoided are women with hats, for he is principally a college-girl's man. His best and most constant friend is Sister Glenore, head of the Home Econom-



Katherine Vertin, Cleo Cleary, and Peggy Stewart take their turn at entertaining Bennie O'Leary—and they certainly had a hard time making him hold “still” for the photographer, Betty Boulger.

ics department and instructor of the Home Management class, for she is a constant factor in his life and the Home Ec's take turns in being his Mama every week.

Bennie's schedule is carefully followed every day. He receives his daily orange juice, cod liver oil, and bath in the infirmary. There, too, he sleeps under the watchful vigilance of his current mother. All the rest of his time is spent down in the Home Management House where he supervises the cleaning, cooking, and management of the little household from the play pen or crib. His favorite magazine is the Saturday Evening Post which he looks at after his daily afternoon airing in the buggy. His mothers think perhaps he will be a great scientist or at least a philosopher equal to Aristotle when he grows up; for whenever he is taken outside he observes everything with grave, silent attention, not permitting his toys one frivolous glance until he returns home.

1941

This March 1941 article introduces Baby Bennie O'Leary, who had “arrived several weeks ago...His real parents, who live near East St. Cloud, have loaned him to the Home Economics Department until Easter.” “His best and most constant friend is Sister Glenore, head of the Home Ec department ...for she is a constant factor in his life. The Home Ec-ers take turns being his Mama every week,” and he “supervises” them “from the play pen or crib.”

1941-03 *The Handshake* Volume 06 Number 04 p. 3

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1696/rec/1>

are interested not only in the latest administrative sacramentals. But a long

HOME EC BABY DRAKE IS MOST POPULAR BENNY OF 1942

Have you seen the new Benny? He's a very privileged individual in our school—first of all because he's a boy, and secondly because at a mere eight months he is already a member of a Senior class in college. Although he is the traditional "Benny," his adopted family prefers to call him by his real name, which is Drake. During the day he lives in the Home Management House but spends the night in the infirmary under the watchful eye of his mother-for-the-week.

The first group of the Home Management Class will "mother" Drake until Easter when the other half will enter on family life until the close of school. Each girl has complete charge of him for one week; during that time she dresses him, feeds him, and in general, treats him as she would her own favorite son. The rest of the class composes the family, in turn

Readers' Guild Meet

(The story doesn't continue onto another page, it just trails off here.)

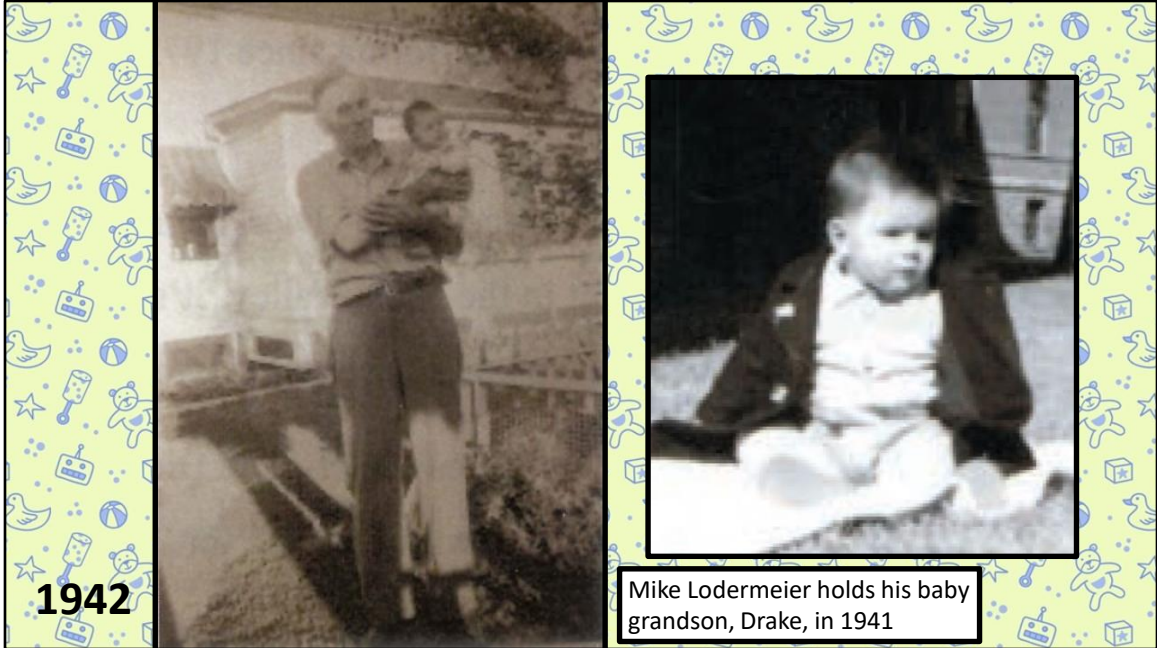


1942 *Benet*

The "most popular Bennie of 1942" was Home Ec baby, Drake. As the article notes, "Each girl has complete charge of him for one week; during that time she dresses him, feeds him, and in general treats him as she would her own favorite son." I am actually related to this Home Ec baby, whose full name is Drake Dierkhising. His mother and mine were Lodermeier first cousins.

1942-02 *The Benet* Volume 07 Number 06 p.1

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/6490/rec/4>



When Drake was three months old, his dad was off to the Pacific in World War II, and baby Drake and his mother moved back to St. Joe to live with her parents during the war. His mother, Kay, was not happy about handing over her precious firstborn baby to a bunch of college girls. (I can't imagine doing so!) But Kay's mother "couldn't say 'no' to the nuns" (according to the Nov. 7, 2013 *St. Joe Newsleader*). The picture on the left shows Drake with his grandpa, by their house on West Minnesota Street, just a few blocks from Saint Ben's.

Left photo: Nov. 7, 2013 *St. Joe Newsleader*

Right photo: 1942-02 *The Benet* Volume 07 Number 06 p.1

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/6490/rec/4>

4. Drake Dierkhising (SJU '63) is an honorary member of the class of 1942, as he served as the college's home management baby during that year, helping students learn child development and caregiving. According to *The Benet* in February 1942, "During the day, he (Drake) lives in the Home Management House but spends the night in the infirmary under the watchful eye of his mother-for-the-week." Bonus trivia: Drake's family opened the LaPlayette Bar and Kay's Kitchen, two popular establishments in St. Joseph that are still alive and well today.



1942 (in 2014 article)

Drake was included in a 2014 article celebrating CSB's Centennial with 100 interesting tidbits. It notes that Drake's parents ran the La Playette when it was a gourmet restaurant. His mother later established Kay's Kitchen; its "Dirk-L-Burger" is named in honor of his dad. (Drake later moved to California to operate another restaurant, Café Sarafornia, in the Napa Valley.)

(1942) 2014-03 *Saint Benedict's Magazine* Spring p. 29

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/6909/rec/5>

See also <https://cafesarafornia.com/>

● The Home Economics department at St. Benedict's is a popular one. Just get the junior and senior Home Ec'ers talking about the fun they have and the things they learn. There are the quantity cookery projects . . . "oh yes, we made twenty-six pies today" . . . and the home management baby!! He's a **doll** this year. His name is Drake. Real? Of course he's real—ask any one of his mamas (each senior takes care of him for a week.)



1942 yearbook

The 1942 yearbook referred to Baby Drake as a “doll...”

1942 *Facula* p. 27 of the pdf

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7195/rec/4>



...and he got another appearance in the 1943 yearbook, too, along with baby Mary Jane, who was “sweet as sugar and good as gold. Ask any Senior Home Ec'er.”

1943 *Facula* [but with higher-res photo from *St. Joe Newsleader* superimposed on newsprint version beneath it]

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7927/rec/6> p. 61 of the pdf

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7928/rec/6> p. 62 of the pdf



The same photo of Mary Jane is in the Archives, and appears on p.107 in Annette Atkins' book on the history of CSB with this caption: "S. Clarus Himsl and this 'Home Ec baby' (of whom there were many) helped students learn how to care for children."

1943 *Facula* p. 62 of the pdf

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/7928/re>

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin

Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB

photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-118.jpg



Another photo in the Monastery Archives shows Baby Jane being bottle-fed, which must have been the norm, with the babies separated from the moms!

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-117.jpg



Another baby was named Geraldine, as noted in this senior's short bio in 1944, which shares that the college student had her "struggles with the home management house and baby Geraldine."

1944 *Facula* p. 23

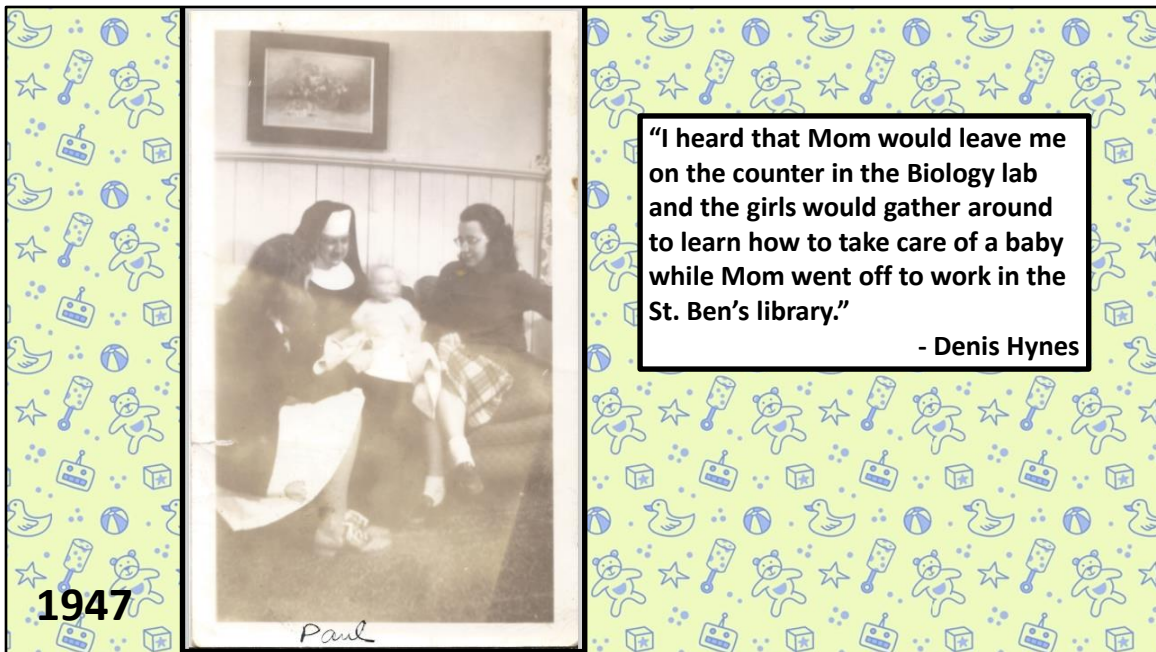
<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3219/rec/4>

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-121.jpg



I've been keen on this topic ever since I first learned about it, but it was fairly recently that I made a discovery; my neighbors, both with deep Collegeville connections and married later in life, were *both* Home Ec babies. This photo is of Susanna Humphrey Hynes, aka "Susy," who shared this photo with me. She said, "Our mom wasn't happy with the results of my being a Home Ec baby... [Her sister] felt that baby Susanna didn't recognize her mother when she came home from St. Ben's. "She said Mother was very upset when I came back from St. Ben's, and I wouldn't pay attention to her.... [And] my mother wouldn't have dressed me like that [in the photo]; I would have had overalls. So the students must have done that."


Photo from Susanna Humphrey Hynes.



Susanna's younger brother Paul was also a Home Ec baby two years later. And her future husband, Denis, had been one, too, near the same time. Denis said, "I heard that Mom would leave me on the counter in the Biology lab and the girls would gather around to learn how to take care of a baby while Mom went off to work in the St. Ben's library." - Denis Hynes, who was born in 1947

Home Ec Baby Paul Humphrey (Don's son, Susanna's brother); he was born in November 1946. Photo from Susanna Humphrey Hynes.

"They took my brother Paul much later, when our house burned down."



unidentified Home Ec baby

1948

Home Ec'ers Set Up Housekeeping As Baby Arrives Today

by Mary Ann Stovik

This year's first home-management family has been established and Baby Danny arrives Friday.

The household consists of four senior Home Ec. majors who will carry on this project for six weeks. A second group of four seniors will have the same course after Easter.

During this time each girl will play the part of either father, mother, cook, or maid, and will take charge of all the activities that go on in the home. They will do their shopping and cooking for meals, wash clothes, and their own entertaining for special days like February 15, when Danny will be four months old.

So if you notice dark circles under any of the Home Economists' eyes these days, just remember there's a baby in the house and one of the girls probably had to sit up with him all night. But I'm sure Danny does not mind, because after all, it isn't every boy who gets to go to college with 250 girls.

The spring semester baby's arrival was a significant event, as noted in this February 1948 article in the student and alum newsletter, *The Benet*. The Home Ec students would take care of Baby Danny for six weeks, during which time he would turn four months old. Another group would form another household after Easter, presumably with another baby...

The Benet Feb. 14, 1948, v. 13 n. 3, p. 1

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1736/rec/2>

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-114

**Former Home Ec Baby Returns
As A Freshman Next Year**

Dorothy Ann Lyons was three and a half years old when she was cared for by the Home Economics Department in 1934. As a result of her stay here, she was awarded a V.G.G. degree (very good girl). A niece of Sister Jameen, she is now enrolled here as a freshman next year, in order to do advance work for a B.A. degree. When she returns as a college student, the Home Ec. Department will begin to feel its age.

Since the time of Dorothy Ann, the department has put more trust in its students, who care for the babies in order to gain practical experience.

Danny celebrated his sixth month under Juanita Traxler's care last week and gained ½ pound as well. Sally Lloyd and Mary Therese have yet to go through this phase of Home Management class before the baby leaves for home on May 7.

unidentified Home Ec baby



1948

...or not! An April article notes that “Danny celebrated his sixth month last week.” So unless they got another baby with the same name, Baby Danny spent 12 weeks with the students as caregivers. The article also notes the return to St. Ben’s, as a student, of a Home Ec baby from the previous decade.

1948-04 *The Benet* Volume 13 Number 04 p.1

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1733/rec/9>

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-126



This 1950 *Benet* article mentions that a previous Home Ec baby was the son of Josephine Zehnle Tervey, class of '39. Some of you may recall Josephine being celebrated at CSB's centennial as the oldest living alumna at that point; here is a photo of Josephine with Sister Lois Wedl. (Josephine and her friend Betty Schneider were also significant in CSB history for befriending some black students when they spent a summer as social workers in New York, two of whom became the first students of African descent to attend CSB.)

Text: 1950-12 *The Benet* Volume 16 Number 02 p. 4

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/1746/rec/11>

Zehnle Tervey: 2015 fall *Saint Benedict's Magazine* p. 23

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8864/rec/64>

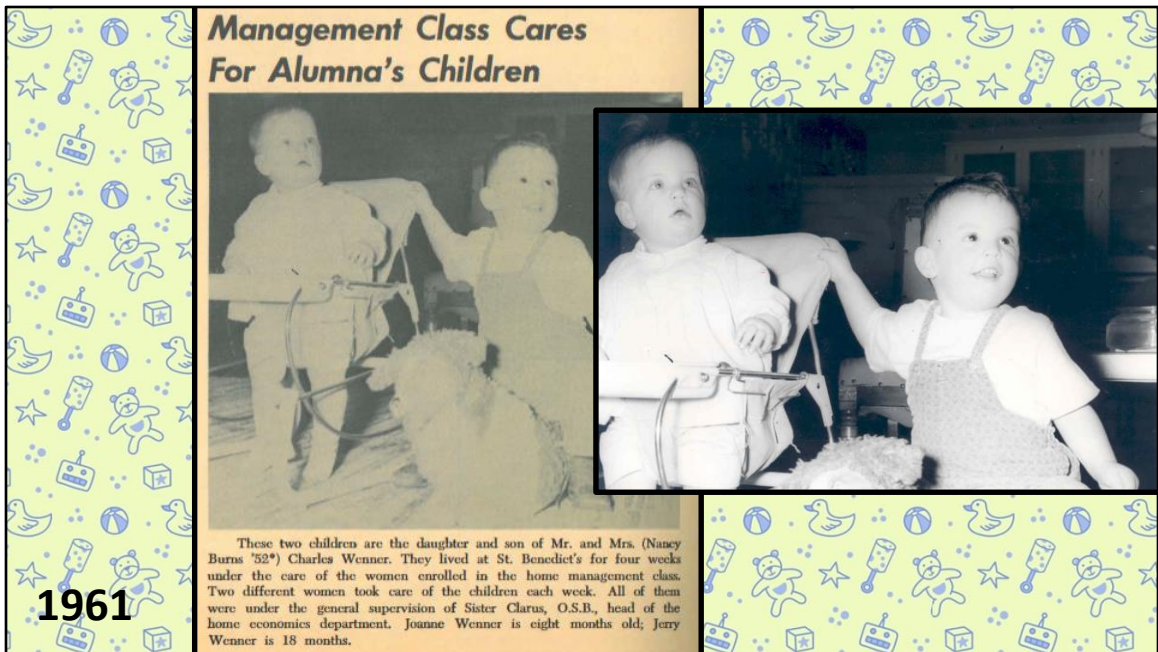
SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-124.jpg



This baby, in the 1960 yearbook, was identified as Wayne Hoeffler, the Home Ec baby who put in “three and a half weeks at St. Ben’s without credit” – and had the advantage of one of the students being his aunt.

1960 *Facula* p. 110 of the pdf

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/13359/rec/22>



The Wenner children, ten months apart – for whom we also have the photograph used for the news article – lived at St. Ben's for four weeks in 1961. Their mother was in the class of 1952.

April 1961 *The Benet* p. 2

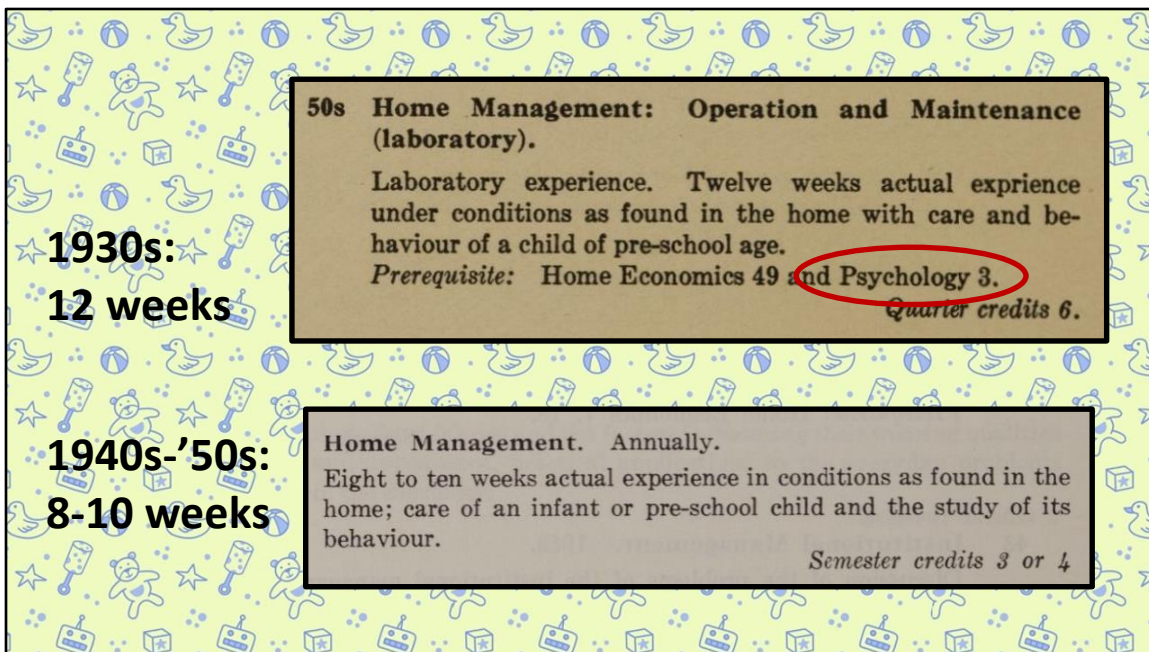
<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/8956/rec/13>

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-116.jpg



Here's another unidentified baby outside on the Saint Ben's lawn with Sister Clarus (I think) in this undated photo.

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-122.jpg



Understandably, a course in psychology eventually became a prerequisite for students caring for a Home Ec baby. And the Home Ec course went down from 12 weeks in the 1930s to 8-10 weeks in the 1940s & 50s.

1939 *Catalog*

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2712#?c=&m=&s=&cv=75&xywh=615%2C2689%2C1942%2C1953>

1938-39:

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:2712#?c=&m=&s=&cv=75&xywh=676%2C2780%2C1728%2C1737>

1952-53:

<https://collection.mndigital.org/catalog/stbm:4905#?c=&m=&s=&cv=73&xywh=788%2C1773%2C1859%2C1869>

COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT
Syllabus of Course

Department Home Economics Instructor Sister Clarus

Name of Course Home Management Course Number 60 Sem. 2nd, 1955-1956

Texts Nickel & Dorsey, "Home Management"
(indicate title and author of each text)

Kalvinator, Kitcher Reporter.

Supplementary Texts Finder, "Meal Management"

Recipe books, commercial bulletins, "What's New in Home Economics"
Give a comprehensive summary covering the general character of the content of course.

1. A group of 3-6 girls "live" in the Home Management Apartment where home conditions are "approximated as closely as possible."
2. Meals are planned and served three days a week at the low, moderate, and liberal income level.
3. A minimum of 9 laboratory hours are spent in the house. One hour is spent in group discussion, planning, or reporting on special topics of interest. Work simplification techniques are experimented with.
4. Household tasks are apportioned according to the number in the class. Manager, cook, housekeeper are minimum number needed.
5. When possible a child is kept in the house so that each girl has one week of child care responsibility.
6. Each manager has a "group" entertainment and a dinner at which one or two guests are invited.
7. Some home furnishing project is undertaken each year such as re-upholstering, or refinishing furniture, making drapery, etc.

1955-56

The Monastery Archives has some syllabi forms from the late 1950s. This one, from spring semester 1956, was filled out by Sister Clarus, noting that “when possible, a child is kept in the house so that each girl has one week of child care responsibility.”
SBMA Scans RG22 Home Ec

COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT
Syllabus of Course

Department Home Economics Instructor Sister Ingrid

Name of Home Management Course 60 Sem. 2, 1956-1957
Number

Texts _____
(indicate title and author of each text)

Supplementary Texts Management in Family Living--Nickell and Norsey
Economics of the Household--Andrews

Give a comprehensive summary covering the general character of the content of course.

Experience in all phases of home management. Special emphasis on meal planning, marketing and preparation at three different budget levels--low, moderate and high cost. As part of the study of child care, a seven-month old boy lived in the house for about 5 weeks, with the students rotating the responsibility of caring for him. A small community project was executed by the group, and numerous small improvements made in the home management house. Several large entertainments (15-40 peoples) were planned and given as class projects.

One hour a week was spent in a seminar-type discussion of different aspects of home life and household management. Some of these were:

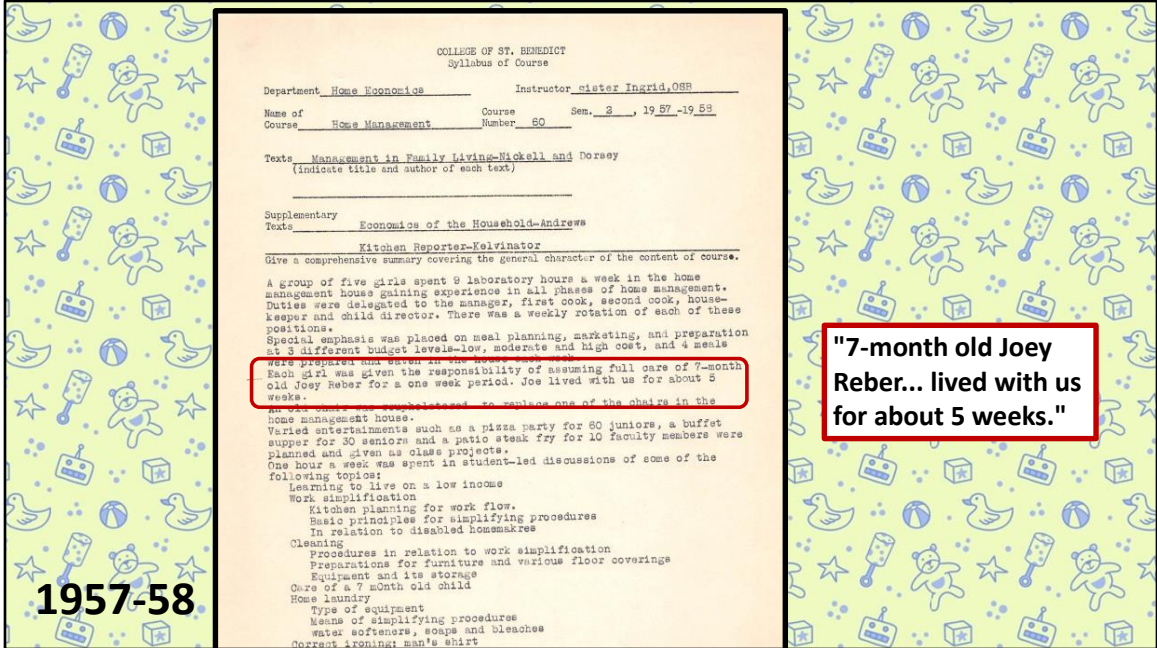
- Work simplification
- Learning to live on a small budget
- Care of furniture and floors
- Foreign cookery
 - European
 - Orient 1
 - South American
- Ideals of Christian family life.
- Development and care of the 7-months old child.

"As part of the study of child care, a seven-month old boy lived in the house for about 5 weeks, with the students rotating the responsibility of caring for him."

1956-57

This form was completed by Sister Ingrid Anderson. "As part of the study of child care, a seven-month old boy lived in the house for about 5 weeks, with the students rotating the responsibility of caring for him."

SBMA Scans RG22 Home Ec



In spring 1958, "7-month old Joey Reber...lived with us for about 5 weeks."
SBMA Scans RG22 Home Ec

In the St. Joseph Cemetery: headstone for Benedict Davidson (3 Sept 1957-Apr 13 1962), carved by Joe O'Connell

"Pal Joe," the darling of the Home Management class, is always the center of attraction. Marianne Loher and Mary Alice Zimmerman find that he'd much rather play with a pillow than his rattle.

96



1958

A photo of "Pal Joe," the darling of the Home Management class," presumably Joey Reber, is in the 1958 yearbook. 1958 *Facula* p. 96

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/3564/rec/20>



unidentified Home Ec baby

COLLEGE OF ST. BENEDICT
Syllabus of Course

Department Home Economics Instructor Sister Ingrid Anderson, OSB
 Name of Home Management Course 20 Sem. 2, 1958-1958
 Course Number

Texts Management in Family Living--Stekell and Dorsey
 (Indicate title and author of each text)

Supplementary
 Texts _____

Give a comprehensive summary covering the general character of the content of course.

I. Laboratory

A. Meals were prepared at three different budget levels
 1. 5 weeks at low cost
 2. 3 weeks at moderate cost
 3. 4 weeks at high cost

B. Each girl had two opportunities to be manager.
 1. Manager made all market orders, did necessary marketing in the village of St. Cloud for foods unavailable in the kitchen.
 2. At the end of her week as manager, each girl placed her report, market order and nutritional evaluation of one full day of lab in the log book.

C. An individual project was required of each class member.
 1. 5 students chose problems in space and storage.
 2. 5 students did home improvement projects such as reupholstering chairs, repainting a lampshade, sewing a bag etc.

D. Each group of five students planned and gave some larger meal party. Among the entertainments were a dinner party for the senior class; a supper for the junior and senior home economics staff; an ~~entertainment for the junior and senior home economics staff; an~~

E. One experience in baby care was provided when 7-month old Bernard Davidson spent a week in the home management house.

II. Seminar period:
 Students prepared the assignments, presented the topics, wrote abstracts and prepared evaluations.

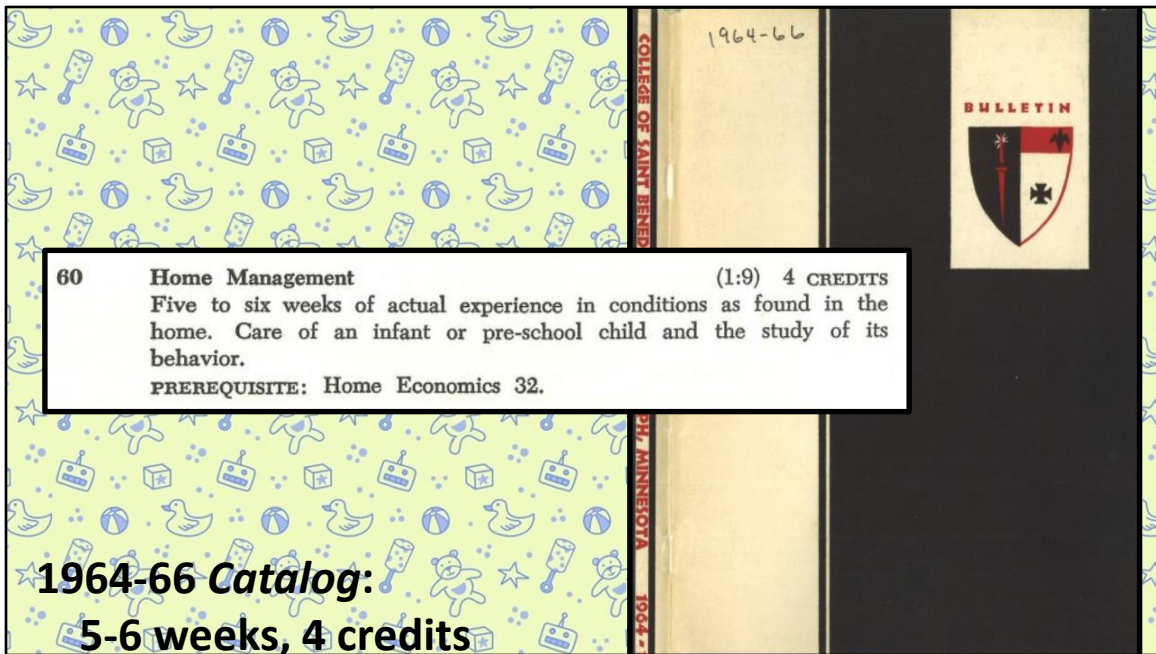
1. Living on a low income
2. Efficient use of time and energy: fatigue and its causes
3. Efficient use of time and energy: work simplification
4. Efficient use of equipment
5. Efficient use of space and storage
6. Cleaning procedure and preparation
7. Laundry: dressmakers, syndies, blouses and blusing
8. Laundry: procedures
9. Care of a 7-month old child
10. Home safety
11. Foreign foods
12. Home maker as home manager

"Home experience in baby care was provided when 7-month old Bernard Davidson spent a week in the home management house."



The last form in the Archives is also by Sister Ingrid, who identifies another Home Ec baby as 7-month old Bernard Davidson, who was only there for one week. I suspect he was the son of the campus' Doctor Davidson who built his home near campus – a house which later became the Idzerda home, the CSB presidents' residence, and the Eco house before it was torn down. (Baby Bernard's younger brother Benedict is buried nearby in the St. Joe cemetery, after the four-year old fell off the home's balcony and died. His headstone was carved by local artist Joe O'Connell.)

SBMA Scans RG22 Home Ec
 In the St. Joseph Cemetery: headstone for Benedict Davidson (3 Sept 1957-Apr 13 1962), carved by Joe O'Connell
 SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-129.jpg



According to the 1964-66 *Catalog*, the total home management experience is down to 5-6 weeks, but still 4 credits. ["ITS" behavior??]

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/2857/rec/9>

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS

59 HOME MANAGEMENT—RESIDENCE
 Budgeting of time, money and energy in an actual family living experience for a five to six week period for a "family" in a four-room apartment. Experience with the care and responsibility of a pre-school child.
 2 Credits

60 HOME MANAGEMENT—THEORY
 The inter-relationship of the family's philosophies, values and goals as they influence decision-making. Management of time, energy, and finances in relation to family situations.
 (2:0) 2 Credits

COLLEGE OF SAINT BENEDICT
 1966-1967 / 1967-1968

1966-68 CSB catalog: 5-6 weeks, 2 credits x 2 classes

In 1966, they split it into two 2-credit courses, one on theory and the other including "experience with the care and responsibility of a pre-school child."

1966-68 *College of Saint Benedict Catalog* cover & p. 58

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/5978/rec/10>

Class descriptions p. 56

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/CSBArchives/id/5979/rec/10>

B344 HOME MANAGEMENT RESIDENCE

Management of time, energy, and finances in family living situations. Experience with care of pre-school child. Emphasis on decision-making, scheduling. 4 credits

1967-68 joint CSB+SJU catalog

B344 HOME MANAGEMENT RESIDENCE

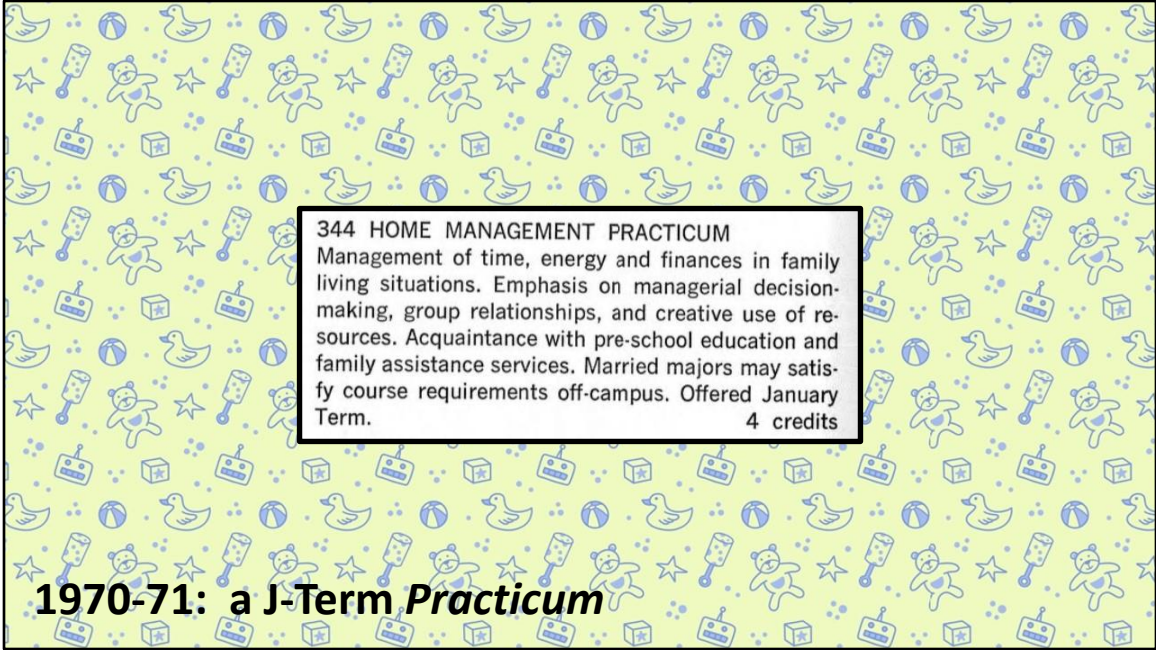
Management of time, energy, and finances in family living situations. Experience with care of pre-school child. Emphasis on decision-making, scheduling. Offered January term. 4 credits

1968-69: a J-Term class

In the first joint CSBSJU *Catalog* in 1967, the Home management course description still says, “experience with the care of a pre-school child,” but leaves out the part about *responsibility* for the child. Might that mean no more Home Ec children? And a year later, the course has become a 4-credit January Term course; January Term classes were then four weeks long (but students only took one class).

1967-68 joint *Catalog* p. 37

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/14731/rec/11>



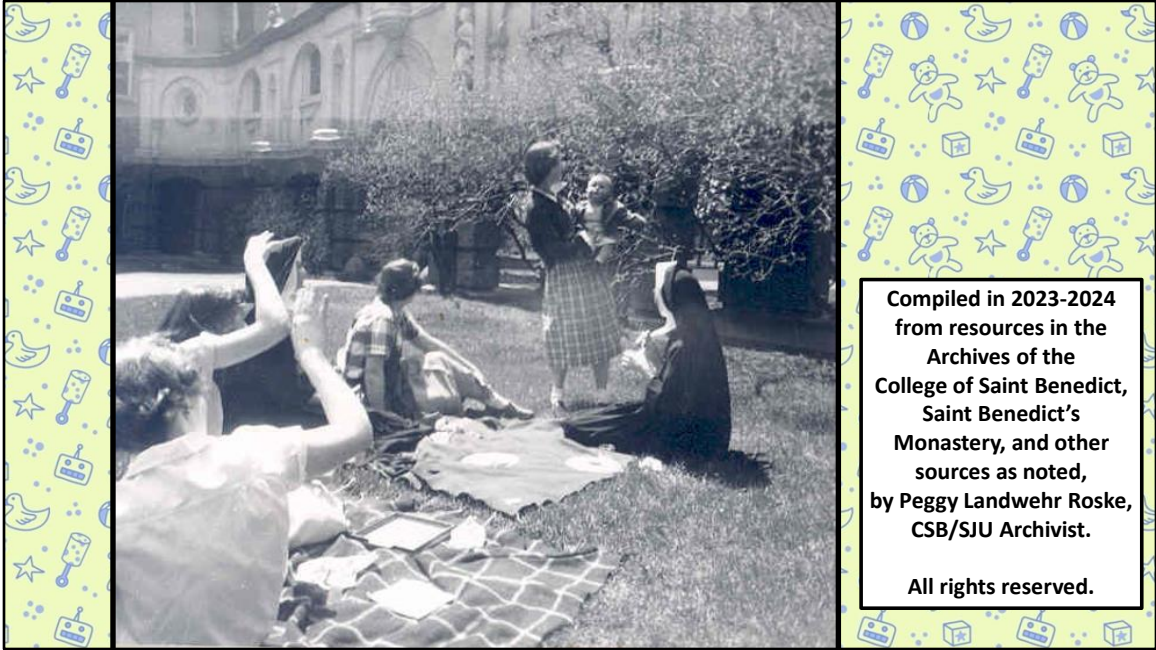
344 HOME MANAGEMENT PRACTICUM
Management of time, energy and finances in family living situations. Emphasis on managerial decision-making, group relationships, and creative use of resources. Acquaintance with pre-school education and family assistance services. Married majors may satisfy course requirements off-campus. Offered January Term. **4 credits**

1970-71: a J-Term *Practicum*

By 1970, it's become a Home Management Practicum, with one component being "acquaintance with pre-school education." It's not clear when the Home Ec babies program ended, but by this point, there were no more.

1970-71 Combined *Catalog* p. 58

<https://cdm.csbsju.edu/digital/collection/SJUArchives/id/14628/rec/16>



Bye-bye, Home Ec Babies!

SBMA photos O:\Archives\SJUArchives\Digital Archives\Committees\Admin Assembly Presentations\In Process\Babies for Home Ec classes\Pics from CSB photos from SBMA.COLLEGE n-123.jpg