

Draft lottery stirs campus

"What's your number?" With the advent of the draft lottery, this greeting has replaced the familiar "Hi, how ya doin'?" among Monmouth College Students.

Other changes, more important ones, have made life on campus more interesting. The future is definite rather than a mystery.

A sophomore business major, intent on taking a leave of absence next semester, discovered he was number 17 in the lottery. He plans to take 18½ credits instead.

Laurel Hall lobby was the scene of tears and joy as the results of the lottery were announced Monday night. A

freshman girl breathed a sigh of relief as the first 100 dates passed without mention of her boyfriend's birthday. Others whose boyfriends weren't so lucky breathed only prayers.

A Sept. 14 (1) senior was seen Tuesday afternoon beating his head against the columns on the great steps.

The New York Times was sold out in Wilson Hall and lists of numbers was surrounded by excited or depressed males Tuesday morning.

A junior in a 10 a.m. biology class (Tuesday) had not yet seen the results so he asked a friend, "When did February 14 come up?" Without even glancing at the list, his friend held up four

fingers. He buried his face in his hands.

A subdued atmosphere prevailed in Beachwood dorm. Residents whose birthdays were picked in the "top 100" were either studying quietly or working on overdue term papers in the library. Good grades had become a necessity of life.

The two thirds who were not "chosen" are now happily planning their futures: graduation, then either graduate school or a career free from the threat of the draft. The "chosen ones" are making plans too--graduation, then either Viet Nam or Canada.

Most males think the draft lottery was a good thing, regardless of when they were picked. At least the future is decided and known to them. In the words of a sophomore English major who was picked 361st, "What's your number?"