

THE COLLEGIATE

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Liberal Arts

Atlantic Christian College faces a predicament which is familiar to many so called liberal arts colleges during our period in history. ACC is faced with the question of whether to remain essentially a liberal arts college or whether to change to the demands of the time and orient its curriculum so as to be producing specialized students, educated to do a specific job.

This question is very controversial in all parts of our country, especially since the higher paying jobs are demanding that one have considerable knowledge and skill in specific areas. The liberal arts college is caught in the situation of having to decide whether they should be producing men and women who are prepared to do a special task in life, or producing men and women who have a knowledge of themselves and the world and who have been taught to see themselves in relation to all things.

We feel that the latter is more important. We feel that our curriculum needs to remain directed towards producing what Ralph Waldo Emerson called the "Thinking Man". When man reaches the point where he no longer sees life as having meaning more than what is within his own immediate environment and concern, and becomes a doctor, a teacher, a farmer, or a lawyer instead of a man then education is producing no more than robots trained to perform certain programmed tasks. If colleges continue to go in the direction which many are headed and continue to put so great an emphasis upon specialized education then this is what they will be doing.

However, we do not completely eliminate the importance of specialized schools. There is a great need for people who have specific skills and knowledge, but we feel that the undergraduate study needs to be left essentially liberal in order that the student may gain an understanding of his own life and what its relationship is to the rest of the world. The undergraduate period needs to be a period in which men may grow as men, seeing the unity of things and the great diversity that also exists within this unity. It needs to be a period when one can have an opportunity to view life from all angles. Then if one wishes to specialize in some field he can do so in graduate school or some other specialty school.

The point is we do not feel it is the purpose of education to prepare a person so that he can make a certain salary. Education has a greater task of helping man to understand, both himself and his relationship to all aspects of life. If he is educated in this manner there will be no need for worrying about his survival, because such a man will have a much better chance of survival than the one who is taught to do only one or two tasks and is lost when he is out of his normal everyday environment.

Self-Defeat

Because of certain embarrassing situations which have occurred recently, because of the obviously lack of efficiency, and the great amount of backtracking that has had to be done by the Executive Board we hope that they will make a special effort to come to the meetings better prepared to meet the business of the night, and that there will develop better communications between the Board members and the cabinet than now exists. We feel from what has been going on during the Board meetings these are necessary steps that need to be taken. We feel the Board is essentially serious about their job and are attempting to do a good job, but they are letting lack of preparation and communications defeat them.

Readers' Forum

To The Editor:

Yes, stupidity has struck again! It was very evident in the letter to the editor in last week's Collegiate from the Chapel Bell Ringers Society for Reform, Etc.

We would like to inform the Bell Ringer's Society of the purpose of the bells in the new gymnasium.

First of all we do have lecture classes in the Health and Physical Education Department, although some people are unaware of this.

Secondly, we want to explain the bell system used in the gym and its purpose. Two minutes before class begins there is a bell warning the students that it is time to be in the classroom. Another bell rings on the hour, signaling the beginning of class. Then at twelve minutes 'til the hour another bell rings warning the professor that it is two minutes before the end of the class. This gives the professor ample time to close his lecture and make the assignments. Then at ten 'til the bell for class dismissal rings.

Even though most of the clocks and bells on campus are "off", the bell system and clocks in the new gymnasium are precise.

We agree that most of the bells on campus could use the attention of an electrician, but not the gym.

Surely Dr. Kemp understood that we have bells just like any other college and you can't switch them on and off when you would like. This would be more trouble than listening to four little bells and surely most people have enough patience for this, or do they?

Those For Whom the Bells Ring

Calla Boney

Betty Carol Reaves

To The Editor:

I have never been quite so discouraged in all my life as I was today during Golden Knot Honor Society tapping when the student body supposedly sang the Alma Mater. How many of our student body were singing? Could there possibly have been twenty per cent singing it or pretending to sing it? I thought Atlantic Christian had school spirit but how could we, we don't even know our Alma Mater?

The freshmen cannot take all the blame for it, for how are we to learn it if the upper-classmen are not singing. I may be just a lowly freshman but I have enough respect for my college to know her Alma Mater. How about you? One can take just a few minutes of time to learn two verses to the school's most important song — after all it is our school and our song.

Mary Katherine Manning

Dear Editor:

First, I would like to state that I am not a Greek, therefore, I am not defending myself.

Week before last your editorial stated that, "If the Greeks want to improve faculty and administration relations then they will begin to show a concern for the college, and not just the fraternities and sororities."

I would like to know how you arrive at such a conclusion after so many Greeks gave their time and energies last year in a telephoning campaign, to raise money for our school.

This is only one of the instances which I know of where the Greeks have participated in such functions as this.

Some persons may feel that the Greeks on our campus could play a more active part. This may be true, but in the future let us also give credit where credit is due.

Jim Curtis



Mr. Editor . . .

God And The Beatles

By MEREDITH EIKER

The Collegiate Press Service

The period of public mourning over the death of God seems to have passed; a big thing in religious symbols is now a Yellow Submarine, the Holy Trinity has become a quartet, and the Alleluia Chorus requires an electric guitar.

Needless to say this is the Year of Our Lord—1966, B. C.—B. C. being, of course, Beatle Century. The Western world is hearing the first cries of worship this week: "John not Jesus." And as is true of most deities, the popularity of the current idols is suddenly dubious.

Obviously when John Lennon—the Beatle sitting highest on Mount Olympus—announced some weeks ago that "the Beatles are more popular than Jesus," he undoubtedly thought that he was merely stating fact. It seems, however, that at that point he had initiated a cult.

Long worshipped but never officially sanctified, the Beatles began somewhat unobtrusively in a place called the Cavern in Liverpool, England. The whole set-up was not much unlike the manger scene where Christ made his first appearance 2,000 years before. People came and kind of stared—both at the infant Christ and later at the singers.

Other similarities cannot be easily overlooked either. Both

Christ and the Beatles were fated for destinies with the stars, both performed miracles (the Beatles being able to turn docile, apathetic, teenage girls into screaming beasts), both experienced surging popularity and large followings only to find themselves eventually called blasphemers.

Both Christ and the Beatles knew they were doomed . . . rock and roll and religion are fickle. The Beatles have been waiting for "their downfall" for several months now. Both have witnessed angry mobs. It may not be long before fanatics are throwing rocks at the Beatles instead of kisses.

Significantly, the Beatles even have a gospel of their own. Twentieth century communication has enabled the singers to reach thousands without the aid of loaves and fishes. Their words are immortality inscribed on discs. . . Lyrics such as those of Nowhere Man and Eleanor Rigby are as didactical and thought-provoking as the sermons of Christ.

And why shouldn't the Beatles become the successors to Christ? They're alive, enthusiastic, current, and palatable. Besides it's just as easy to say "John, Paul, George and Ringo" as it is to say "Father, Son and Holy Ghost."

News and Views

By Dwight Wagner

In an indirect way the war in South Vietnam came to Atlantic Christian last week in a more realistic fashion than we have seen to date. The war took from our midst our visiting student from South Vietnam, Odette Nguyen, in the sense that her country has asked for her service in the teaching of American military men the language of her country.

While there is a personal loss to Miss Nguyen, in that her education was interrupted, there has also been an educational loss to the student body. We have for the time being lost the chance to find out directly how the people in South Vietnam feel about American assistance in their war, the spirit of the people after twenty years of war, and many other things concerning the struggle in that country.

A situation of this type does place special attention on the need of college students to have a firm understanding of world happenings. The United States has involved itself to a strong degree in a particular area to the point where American lives

are being lost at around 100 a week. Despite our degree of involvement, the level of solid understanding comprehension in the American public and college campuses leaves much to be desired.

There is an encouraging note which should be emphasized. The desire to obtain information and to digest it seems to be an important note with the ACC student body. In this light an effort should be made to activate such groups as the International Relations Club, and to bring in special speakers and films. This is an area of activity which automatically falls in the realm of the Social Studies Department and the faculty throughout the college needs to emphasize contemporary happenings in their various courses.

The Student Government can also do much work in this area. The appearance of Dr. Arthur Larson from Duke University is a good beginning in this direction. Other speakers need to be obtained and special films are often available and should be presented to the student body.