



L to R: Bob Koenig, Anne Kierce, Deirdre Morro, Bill Porter, Katie Kremer, Mark West, John Quigley



A year ago today *The Rag and Bone Shop* published its first issue. It was only eight pages long and was staffed by primarily two people. Within a month it had grown to twelve pages and had experienced such exponential growth as can be reflected in a staff of four. By May of last year we had made the leap to sixteen pages in a harrowing night which involved, at about 1:00 a.m., the discovery that we could not possibly fit all the copy into twelve pages. By the beginning of this academic year in August the paper had grown to twenty pages. We had acquired a permanent staff of seven, with fifteen contributors and twenty-one ads.

Although our primary interest a year ago had been the art of writing, it soon became apparent that in providing a forum for that writing, we would have to become intrinsically involved with the process of packaging words. In the somber and respectable world of literature, words carry their own weight between the covers of modestly hued cloth bindings. Although many of those works may have had rather raffish beginnings, once they were included in the ranks of literature, they remained comparably far from the madding crowd of commercialism.

When we first embarked upon this venture, most of us had little appreciation for the technical aspects of publishing a news magazine. As literature majors we were provided with a diet of only the rarest morsels from Milton to Faulkner. No headlines, no pictures, no advertisements, scissors, glue, cutting knives, or reduction wheels --- just words in their purest and most erudite. Despite this we have become fascinated by the aspects of commerciality that a publication of this sort demands. The process of assembling words to interest a varied readership is totally absorbing. Like monks illuminating a manuscript, we have adorned our printed words.

I would like to thank everyone who has made it possible for *The Rag and Bone Shop* to celebrate its First Anniversary. Special thanks must go to Dr. Eric Iovacchini of the UNC-A Publications Board. In addition, I would like to thank Jean Penland of *The Arts Journal* again for providing us with the first glimmers in the process of our learning lay-out. *The Arts Journal* as a whole has been of inestimable value through its mere inspiration and in performing the overwhelming task of typesetting. Our printer, *Black Mountain News* has been extraordinarily encouraging and accomodating. Their staff is interesting, interested, helpful delightfully funky, and utterly professional. They have made it a pleasure to go to press each month.

As for *The Rag and Bone Shop* staff, I would like to recognize them for their dedication, wit and good nature. Bob Koenig has been with *The Rag and Bone Shop* since its second issue and is one of the most responsible and intelligent people to be found. His sports pages have provided a rare blend of acumen and style. Without Rebecca Jackson's and Anne Kierce's valuable proofing and lay-out help we would never get to press. I would like to thank my old friend Katherine Kremer for her meticulous contributions in all areas of production. Her careful and well-executed lay-out has often made us look better than we actually were. My most profound thanks must go to Bill Porter who has been a part of this enterprise from day-one. Happy Anniversary, Bill.

Deirdre Morro

The Rag and Bone Shop

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ASSISTANT EDITOR
Bill Porter

ARTS EDITOR
Katherine Kremer

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Bob Koenig

ADVERTISING
Anne Kierce

ART & LAYOUT
Rebecca Jackson,
Anne Kierce, Katherine Kremer,
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Bob Koenig, John Quigley

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letters

I was very much interested, pleased, and shocked all at once by the random sampling of students' and one professor's reactions to the possibility of a draft. Six out of eleven appear to be willing to be drafted; one, to be simply scared (who isn't?); and four, totally opposed. I would like to ask my colleague, Dr. Coyne if the draft is really synonymous with coercion? (After all, six out of eleven declared they would be drafted *voluntarily*. Unlike that of the Russians, our draft would, at least, be subject to the democratic process). Is the draft of the unwilling of the same order of coercion as, say, the suppression of Afghanistan independence? the invasion of Hungary? of Czechoslovakia? the now all too possible Russian take-over of the Persian Gulf? How would the non-communist world develop and sustain its relatively decent standard of living and its even more precious set of freedoms, which Dr. Coyne himself cherishes? To Mr. Cooke, how does he know the Pentagon is incompetent? Has he worked there summers, studied our defense policies and options? On what logical grounds does he assert that "the people who would actually be fighting the war are not involved in the military now?" There is an unexpected truth in this statement. It is true only because, in fact, in the event of a conventional war (God forbid the unthinkable) the people involved in the military now (of which only a minute

percentage are Pentagon officials) would be the first to die.

Sally Baumann
Asst. Professor of French

Dear Editor,

After talking to several of my constituents I, as the Student Body representative, would like to commend the talented *Rag and Bone Shop* staff on the eight issues that have been far above the quality that we, the students, had come to expect. Shortly after the first issue came out, I was talking to the Chancellor. His remark concerning the new paper was, "I only found three misspelled words in the entire paper." I asked him if this was unusual and he said that it had been customary for the papers printed by students to contain many misspellings. I think you and your staff have done the job beautifully. I envy the quality of your staff, as I was not as fortunate as you in having a staff who was able to work together until this semester. *The Rag and Bone Shop* is a pleasure to read. I am not embarrassed to show it to my family. Thank you on behalf of the students, for a job well done and for giving us a paper of which we can certainly be proud. My hat's off to ya.

Sincerely,
Lynn Smith
President, Student
Government