

SPEAK OUT

Smoke This!

Joe Raymond

On College campuses there are many problems and issues that must be dealt with. While we try to settle the situations that have an immediate effect on us, we often leave other issues on the bottom of the pile. What we don't realize is that the material postponed until later still affects us until it is dealt with properly. Cigarette smoking is one of those issues, for it is killing us as we speak, and yet we are not dealing with it. We must become more aware and active on this issue by learning about tobacco, its poisons, industry and their untruths that lead to misconceptions. Then see what is wrong on our campus.

I'm sure we're all aware of the issues in smoking tobacco, but one issue that doesn't seem apparent enough is the presence of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), or second-hand smoke. Involuntary smoke is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy nonsmokers.

Exposure to environmental tobacco smoke occurs anywhere where smoking is permitted. In fact, according to *Science News*, "Nonsmoking adults chronically exposed by the cigarettes of a spouse or

coworkers face a roughly 20 percent increased risk of lung cancer."

Because of the discovery of ETS and its harms, the Surgeon General points out that it is up to us as parents, employers, employees, friends, smokers, and nonsmokers to prevent the exposure of ETS. For smokers, it is their responsibility to assure that their behavior does not jeopardize the health of others. Smoking is related to a variety of illnesses, including lung cancer, cardiovascular disease, coronary heart disease, and chronic obstructive lung disease.

Society is finally letting go of the decade when smoking was considered a harmless foible. Society is now helping create the real picture, the picture that shows smoking as a socially inappropriate and dangerous behavior.

Society's view a decade ago was socially reinforcing of smoking, a view which still lingers in the air like stale smoke. In fact, the acceptability of smoking in certain circles is an important reason why people continue to smoke. However, if society embraces the idea that smoking is dangerous, the number of smokers will shrink because smokers will be viewed as social menaces who endanger not only themselves, but also friends, families, and others in general.

The idea of quitting smoking first dawned on people after they realized just how harmful and deadly smoking is. However, many still smoke at a time when smokers should be even more inspired to quit given the medical studies on illness

and deaths caused by smoking. As the Surgeon General points out in Article 26 of the USDH, it is the responsibility of smokers to assure that their behavior does not jeopardize the health of others.

For these reasons, I am glad students abide by the rule of not smoking in the classroom buildings, but I wish students would not smoke in the dorms for the health of fellow students. Additionally, I personally wish smokers would concern themselves with the hazards of environmental smoke and not smoke outside of classroom buildings. Wanting to finish the cigarette that they can't take inside, smokers too often flock there. For me, I know that as I go to class I must dodge my way through a cloud of smoke contributed to by at least a half-dozen smokers.

Added to these facts is the additional reality that the aesthetic beauty of our campus is ruined by the infinite amount of cigarettes lying around. They are around all of the buildings on campus. They ruin the look and smell of the New Village. Why is it tolerated? What kind of example are we setting? We are a place of higher education, how educated are we if we don't learn from and act on our mistakes?

I realize that smoking is a problem that will not be dealt with over night, and that cigarettes won't be "extinguished" for at least the next couple of decades, but I do want this problem to be solved. I ask that smokers keep others in mind, and put filters in the trash. I do not consider myself selfish, though I do care about my health and my loved ones. I care about Mother Earth, my children, and their children.

Petri On Recorder Wows Full House

Jeremy Christian

Brevard recently had the privilege of witnessing a stunning concert by world-renowned artist Michala Petri. Known for her expertise on the recorder, Petri performed with The North Carolina Symphony, under the direction of Gerhardt Zimmermann. Performing before a full house at The Paul Porter Center, Petri wowed the excited crowd with her amazing notes and lightening quick fingers.

Born in Copenhagen, Petri studied music at the Hochschule fur Musik and Theatre in Hannover. She made her professional debut in 1969 and frequently performs with ensembles in Europe including the English Chamber Orchestra and the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In the US she has appeared nationwide and world premiered a work by Malcolm Arnold at Carnegie Hall. She has numerous recordings and six concerto albums with the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. She has also recorded an album with her guitar playing husband and recital collaborator, Lars Hannibal.

The NC Symphony is one of 34 major U.S. orchestras. With 65 full-time musicians, it performs over 200 concerts a year. Conductor Zimmermann, also director and conductor for the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio and the Breckenridge Music Institute in Colorado, commanded with enthusiasm and exuberance. Zimmermann, formerly Saint Louis Symphony's Associate Conductor, was selected as one of the Exxon Arts Endowment conductors.

Combining these talents made for an unbelievable show. The anxious crowd waited for the show's beginning and was delighted upon Zimmermann's entrance. Following the first piece performed by the Symphony, fans realized their money was well spent. As for BC students, no pennies required, so if you didn't go, you truly missed out!

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