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What You Think

Do you think prayer should be allowed in public school?

Duane Yarborough, Sophomore, Medical Technology Major, Louisburg, N.C.

"I think prayer should be permitted in schools. The stipulations involved include not having organized prayer, but silent prayer. I think a constitutional amendment is necessary for those who want to participate without having stipulations or prosecutions brought against them."



Duane Yarborough

Janet Spellman, Sophomore, Business Major, New Bern, N.C.

"I think prayer in schools would be nice to have. A constitutional amendment is necessary. Without the amendment people would still bring up issues about prayer, but with it, prayer would be more secure. Teachers wouldn't feel that they're doing something wrong."



Janet Spellman

Bill Sheppard, Senior, Psychology Major, Jacksonville, N.C.

"I don't think a constitutional amendment is necessary because it is infringing upon people's rights. Children go to school for an education and should not be ostracized if they do not choose to pray."



Bill Sheppard

Rebecca Mabe, Sophomore, Business Major, Raleigh, N.C.

"A constitutional amendment is unnecessary. Each individual should be left to do what they want to do as far as the manner in which they wish to pray. Prayer should not be mandatory, but it should be allowed. A constitutional amendment doesn't go along with separation of church and state. It would instead mix the two, which goes against the constitution as it now stands."



Maurice Foushee

Maurice Foushee, Senior, Political Science Major, Washington, D.C.

"A constitutional amendment is not necessary. A silent moment of meditation in schools might be acceptable. A constitutional amendment is not necessary for that. There are various religions represented in some schools and students may feel that they are being left out of an activity if they do not pray. Teachers are not there to teach religion. That is done in parochial schools. What do you do about teachers who aren't Christians?"



Gwendolyn Hailey

Gwendolyn Hailey, Senior, Political Science Major, Greensboro, N.C.

"I feel that a constitutional amendment to enforce school prayer is unnecessary. As it stands, an individual already has the right to pray privately in schools or wherever else he or she chooses. It has very dangerous implications when government intervention in other areas of private life."

Beverly Farrow, Freshman, Industrial Relations Major, Red Springs, N.C.

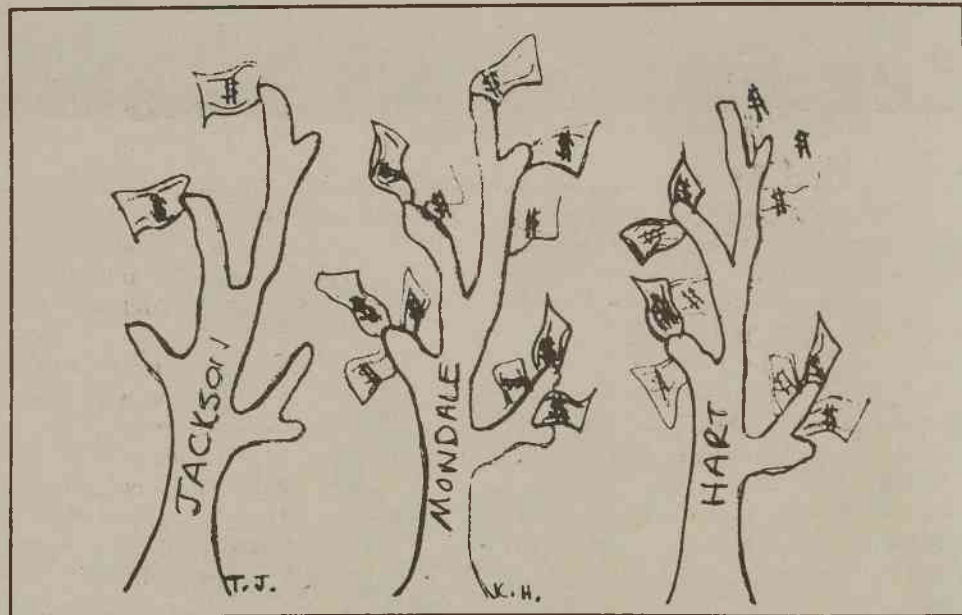
"I don't feel that a constitutional amendment is necessary. The issue should be taken to students for a vote for their opinions because they know they what they want. This is America, and I feel that things should not be pressed upon people. People should not have to pray if they don't want to."



Rebecca Mabe



Questionnaire by Angela R. Ross.
Photos by Denise Moultrie and Marjorie Roach.



In Perspective

Finally, the moment we have all been waiting for — the end of the semester. Some of us plan to work while others of us plan to attend summer school. A few intend to tour places such as the bahamas and Mexico, while others will be lucky to see anyplace but Smurfville, North Carolina.

Regardless of what we plan to do this summer, we should all hope to make the best of it. One way to have a really memorable summer is to spend it by getting closer to family members. Particularly the elderly. It is surprising to realize how strenghtening such relationships can help you develop a deeper appreciation for your family and cultural history.

Enhancing our family ties is vital during these times in which the family seems to be disintegrating and losing importance in a materialistic society.

I often reminisce over the summer before my freshman year. I stayed with my grandparents throughout July and did everything that a little country girl could ever think of.

Starting off the day at 6 am, I would help my grandfather paint, build cabinets, and lay countertops. Some days we would go out in the country and pick beans, peas and relax at the end of the day with a nice cold watermelon.

The most peaceful times were spent picking blueberries in the midst of the dark and cold leaves of

the vines and chasing yellow birds that ate the berries. That summer my grandfather even told me "How to make a nigger." Which incidentally is a recipe that you will not find in Betty Crocker's cookbook.

Over all the summer was spent just getting closer to my grandparents and thanking them for all that they had done for me. I shared my dreams and hopes for the future with them.

My grandparents often told me of how they had to struggle just to keep the family fed, and of the racial injustices that they endured. Learning of a past that I never had to live gave me greater appreciation of my grandparents and our collective history as a black people.

I believe that it is particularly important for black students at Carolina to strengthen their hold on their past. The inner power and courage that comes from our family ties serve as a stabilizing force in our lives. In a world such as ours, it is easy to have your sense of self shattered by the rascist and dehumanizing aspects of our world.

Our families can be a valuable lifeline that will hold our heads above the high waters as we attempt to progress and to mobilize ourselves.

Our generation of blacks have great potential. Yet this potential is like sand in the wind unless we know where we have been, who we are, and where we are going.

BLACK INK

If blackness can be converted into words and pictures, we intend to do it



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