

EDITORIAL

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The bitter end

This is a bad year for student clubs and organizations. Chronic apathy, laziness and personal selfishness are rampant and have prevented a lot of groups from attaining goals they should normally reach. "The Hilltop" is not excluded from attempted "politicking," apathy, late deadlines and long, hard, busy hours. It receives as much verbal attack as does any organization on campus; this is due to the fact that any paper is at all times open to attack from its readers. It is the kind of attack prevalent this year which is so disturbing.

Constructive criticism is usually welcomed by any organization interested in improving itself. However, "constructive criticism" at Mars Hill has decayed into "cutting" and has been given with neither evidence nor hint of concern-induced action.

It is a disgrace to us as a campus community and to us as supposedly responsible individuals that, while the majority of students can find any number of problems that need immediate remedying, any substantial work toward that goal is handled by a select few of devoted personalities.

Anyone sitting in on Senate meetings can testify that proposals are successively offered by the same senators and that discussions are carried on by the same. Various leaders of different organizations on campus, in their struggle to keep their groups functioning, are in essence becoming their organizations. The majority of lead stories covered for the Hilltop are written by students actively involved in them.

As a result, students who continuously cry for more voice in student affairs and academic conditions are having their present and future at Mars Hill determined by a few hard-working students who have been compelled by a sense of devotion and purpose to give all they have. While the winning majority sit on their fannies and complaining watch the world go by, the few interested enough to try to effect some change are literally working themselves into an academic dither. It is not their fault for caring too much — it is the majority's fault for caring too little.

Although the college years historically have been ones for self re-evaluation, doubt, renewal, growth and change as well as a time for students to find new horizons closing in to become solid ground beneath their feet, this traditional occurrence is not happening here. While there is a phenomenal turning away from the Church and the big, bad Establishment, there is not a turn to ANYTHING.

Most individuals are "here for the duration," trying to get the most out of it for their own benefit and not concerning themselves in the least with the future of this college, this state or this nation. With all the problems faced by students on this campus and with all the lack of anything being done about it, I find the angry complaints against the "general lack of concern for humanity in the American society" to be a disgusting farce.

As long as people continue to plan utopian tomorrows over a game of bridge or in the privacy of themselves, the world will continue to live in a succession of hellish days and the masses of humanity everyone is out to save will be dead before they are reached. Perhaps we need to seriously consider "reform from within"; perhaps we need to dream of improving on what we have instead of fabricating an existence that, even idealistically, cannot be. I am not knocking dreaming—I believe in it. But I have no faith in dreams without sweat—they are as valuable as love that is not given.

Too many of today's dreamers are becoming self-intoxicated and their tendency toward pious snobbery is revolting. Be they loners or campus leaders, they too often express the attitude that the rest of the world hasn't progressed to their advanced mental state and, with all their mouthed concern for humanity, they are losing touch with all that is human.

Individual rebellion brings results to the individual alone. Conforming to a set norm of non-conformity constructs nothing heroic or important. Withdrawing completely from society means only that the world misses out on a possible friend and benefactor and that the person misses out on the world. Apathy means nothing ventured, nothing gained. Yet these are the four most popular routes for the college student to take.

The trouble is—we all want to change the world but we really don't give a damn!

(Editor's Note: The editorial above is by Linda Baldwin, Editor of "The Hilltop", the student newspaper of Mars Hill College.)

A Dream

A dream is a very special place,
where you can go and leave no trace.
A dream is like a secret cave,
or a giant shell beneath a wave.
A dream is a place where you can go,
where life is fast and time is slow.
But a dream is also like a cell,
a one-way street, an endless hell.
So be a King and reign supreme
but don't get locked inside your dream.
—L. JASON TICE

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

About to complete four semesters at Chowan College, I feel that I am somewhat aware of the problems which exist between the student body and the administration.

In retrospect, it appears that the students' main concerns are that there are too many rules governing them and that something needs to be done about that kangaroo court we all seem to find ourselves before some time or another. Admittedly, we must always have rules by which to live, but Chowan appears to have gone overboard with this to the extent of impracticality.

With respect to the faculty judiciary, needless to say, there

is room for improvement. The members who make up this committee appear to have an idealistic philosophy with the belief that there is no such thing as human error. As many students have argued: Just what is the use in having a Men's Council if every case passes on to the Judiciary afterwards? Why not just drop the Men's Council and give the Judiciary all the business from the start? Why not just cut out the middle man?

However, everything isn't as dismal as it may seem. One can always be given the last resort: "Should you wish to appeal this decision, you may appeal it to the President of the college."

After all, as our own Dean of Students would say: "This is being quite 'Democratic'."
John Algeo



They'd bet their sweet "hippies", would you bet your Valentine?



The face of love at Valentine's certainly has changed.



This is better than what's on the plate.



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