

## EDITORIAL OPINION

### Hit-and-Courtesy

Hit-and-run. It's not a nice subject but it does happen. If you can't park your car in front of your dorm, where do you park it? In case some of you haven't noticed, most cars are too big to put in your pocket or in your room. It's a really bad feeling when you go to get in your car and someone has hit it.

As college students we should have more respect and consideration for our fellowman. If the problem gets too bad, we could always hire someone to sit and watch the parking lots. It would look pretty bad if college students had to have someone to watch out for other immature and irresponsible students.

Although some can afford new cars there are others who can't, and seems as though the people who can't afford nice cars are the ones that get hit. Sure, their car may not be much but to them it is all they have, and nine times out of ten they can't afford to have it fixed.

Most people with older model cars do not carry insurance for hit and run. This school has no insurance on the students' cars and will take no responsibility for any damages done. Last year the problem really got out of hand and one student's car was burnt. Several students had sand, sugar, or water put in the gas tank, causing most of the engine to be cleaned and costing a lost of money.

If anyone thinks hitting a car and just leaving it is funny, please ask some of the victims how they feel about it. The words you may hear might not be too pleasant. If you see anyone hit a car, please report it to your head resident or to the security guard. No one has to know who reported it.

If you hit a car yourself, please leave a note giving your name, dorm, and room number. After all, your car could be next and how would you feel if your car got hit and did not know who did it? It is not a very nice feeling at all.

—BELINDA ELMORE

### Journalistic Feelings

We are appalled that some Student Government Association members would stoop so low as to say this year's Smoke Signals is a sheet full of "yellow journalism." That's definitely not fair.

What spurred such an upheaval between Smoke Signals and the SGA was the coverage given to the organization Oct. 1, when Vice-President Nancy Loy and Social Chairperson for Men Greg Kaserman argued over guidelines within the constitution governing a quorum of the legislative body. Kaserman protested that the organization should not hold the meeting because the needed two-thirds of the legislative body did not show. The result left Loy crying, and Kaserman stalking from the room in a rage after President Mike Burke continued the session.

Because we covered this meeting and detailed the incidents of our leaders, we've heard nothing but unfavorable statements because of our coverage. Many feel that mention of those accounts should never have been published, but how can a conscientious reporter sit and not report on such a big issue. If anything, the story had an influence on the representative body of SGA, according to one officer, because at the government's next meeting on Oct. 15, the room was packed with SGA members, not an empty seat in sight.

What disturbs us most is being hailed as persons who do not care for another's feelings." Whether the reporter cares for the feelings of another is not the thrust of the issue, what is significant, however, is that he fulfills a mission: to report on the events which take place before him.

A reporter will never be a good one if he closes his eyes and ears to issues that may hurt others' "feelings." He has a responsibility and an obligation, not only to his paper but to his readers who want to know first hand the accounts of developments which take place, whether it is Washington or Chowan College, the public deserves to know.

Walter Cronkite, anchorman for CBS News, says it best: "Our job is only to hold up the mirror to tell and show the public what has happened, and then it is the job of the people to decide whether they have faith in their leaders of government. We are faithful to our profession in telling the truth. That's the only faith to which journalist need adhere."

Smoke Signals is only a bi-monthly student newspaper, but that doesn't mean it can't be professional in content. Our objective is to report the news, not make it. So don't expect us to turn our heads when newsworthy material confronts us, because we won't and we wouldn't be worthy of being called JOURNALISTS if we did.

We might remind the SGA, as newspaper people, we too have feelings. But we can not neglect our responsibility of informing the public.

—HARRY PICKETT

## Check Up On Your Habits

By SARAH WRIGHT  
Director of Health Services  
Have you taken inventory of your habits lately? Years could be added to your life or subtracted, depending on your daily habits. Do you smoke, sit too much, drink alcohol, use drugs, or eat improperly? Is your seat belt fastened when you travel?

Your lungs are kept clean by tiny hairlike structures called Cilia. This helps ward off infection. The Cilia is paralyzed by cigarette smoke. Smoking speeds up your heartbeat. Smoking is the major cause of lung cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and contributes to coronary artery disease. The risk of a heart attack is much greater in a smoker than in a non-smoker, about twice as great.

One who sits too much and exercises too little is a good candidate for a heart attack. Why not improve circulation, lose pounds and save gasoline by walking everywhere possible. Walking twenty minutes a day is an excellent exercise habit to acquire.

Alcohol does not have any food value, but one ounce of alcohol has about 200 calories. Alcohol's irritating effects to the mouth, esophagus or stomach may cause cancer. An alcoholic often has an enlarged heart leading to congestive heart failure. Everyone knows how alcohol damages the liver in the form of cirrhosis or cancer. Then there are stomach ulcers from too much alcohol. Another major killer by alcohol is the car accident caused by the irresponsible drinker.

Americans take a pill for everything, sometimes becoming dependent on them. Then there are the people who take drugs for kicks. All drugs have side effects, so think before using drugs.

The weight can be kept down if we are willing to leave off sugars, starches and fats. Don't munch junk food, but try to eat three balanced meals. Learn to enjoy the nice raw salads and fruits.

By following a few basic rules, life can be healthier and longer.

A healthy person is a happy person.

### Shortage Prompts Suit By Students

TOWSON, MD (CPS) — The annual dorm room shortage has been particularly severe this fall, and, in what may be a harbinger of a more resolute student attitude about dorm overbooking, a Towson State University student is suing the administration for breach of contract.

Around 100 Towson State students found there were no rooms open to accommodate them this fall. Approximately 40 women who had reserved dorm space were temporarily housed at a motel about three miles from campus, while 60 men are still in apartments about five miles away.

Student government Vice President Michael Burns claimed the dorm shortage is tantamount to "breach of contract", and went looking for a student who would be willing to sue the university on those grounds. Freshman Nancy Camut ultimately agreed to have her name used, despite fears the university might retaliate in the future.

Terry Smith, director of Auxiliary Services for the university, said the shortage happened because there were fewer dropouts than usual this year. Between 100 and 130 students who reserve rooms typically don't return in the fall. The university normally takes about 100 more reservations than the dorms can accommodate to compensate for the no-shows.

But that policy, Burns claimed in a letter to the school paper, was "detrimental...to those who expected rightly to be housed on this campus, and were forced to either live in slums — and slums they were — or find off-campus housing, with only days remaining before school commences."

The displaced women were moved back onto campus the week of September 17, but into dorm basements and hastily-converted study rooms.

Camut, whose name will represent all the displaced students, was given space in a converted study hall. She speculated that others refused to put their names on the suit because of apathy. "The reason I came forward," she recalls, "was because...I knew the (overbooking of rooms) would happen again."



## GUEST PERSPECTIVE

By FREDDIE DAVIS

Phi Theta Kappa President  
Phi Theta Kappa is a recognized honorary scholarship society whose object is to promote scholarship, to develop character and to cultivate fellowship among the students of both sexes in the junior colleges of the United States.

Phi Theta Kappa was formed at Columbia, Missouri in 1918. Its chief purpose was to give merited recognition to the outstanding students in junior colleges. For a junior college to be eligible for a chapter in Phi Theta Kappa, it must offer two years of college equivalent to the freshman and sophomore years of a fully accredited four-year college. The college applying for membership in the fraternity must also be a member of the American Association of Junior Colleges and of a regional accrediting agency, or fulfill the requirements of the Executive Committee.

In 1957 Chowan College submitted a

petition for membership in Phi Theta Kappa. Shortly after, its application was approved and its chapter was assigned the name Iota Delta. The establishment of this chapter at Chowan signified greatly its academic growth. It also symbolized the purpose of the institution, to develop the mind of an individual to its greatest capacity.

Iota Delta now consists of 35 members and is sponsored by Professor Ed Wooten.

To be eligible for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, one must be a regularly enrolled student who has a B average or maintained a quality point ratio of 3.0. He must have completed one full semester of college work with a minimum of 15 hours. Twelve of these hours must be in courses leading to a recognized degree in a fully accredited university or 4-year college. Furthermore, he must be of good moral character and possess recognized qualities of citizenship as judged by a faculty committee.



DAVIS

### Current Issues

## Cure for Dreaded Discomania Discovered in Rock and Roll

By DEAN LOWMAN

Trumpeters, prepare to sound "Taps." The dreaded fad called disco is dying slowly!

Over the past six years, the plague called disco has spread across the world, infiltrating the minds of both young and old with its overbearing drum beat and its repetitive lyrics. The afflicted have been seen wandering aimlessly into dank buildings which house huge amplifiers and flashing lights.

In these arenas, masses gather in anticipation of yet another disco high, as if their continuous intake of germs provided by the radio were not enough. Dressed in yards of silk, satin, or tacky polyester, the diseased obtain a sense of meaning from life by flailing their arms, shaking their bodies up and down, or bouncing their hips over various parts of someone else's anatomy.

It is interesting to note that while most diseased people seek a cure for

their illness, these "disco freaks" continue to feed upon the source of their sickness.

However, a cure for this plague of "discomania" has been available since the early fifties. Commonly called rock and roll, it utilizes instruments ranging from the Indian sitar to the Moog synthesizer to produce myriad of sound. The dosage may be either large or small and is usually administered orally.

The antidote is available in many forms (e.g., progressive, acid, folk, new wave, pop, southern boogie, country or instrumental) and is found in music stores and concert halls around the world.

Disco sufferers should take heed, however, as "rock" music frequently puts more than three words together coherently. I suggest that the acute discomaniac should ease into rock and roll gradually. Start with some mellow pop like Billy Joel or Neil Young before attempting to grasp the music of Led Zeppelin or the Rolling Stones.

Otherwise, the discomaniac may suffer from complications such as acute withdrawal from reality or severe depression as his mind may not be able to withstand the transition.

### Woman: Chemical Description

By FLOYD FRITZ

Symbol: Wo

Accept Atomic Weight: 115 pounds

Occurrence: abundant wherever man is found; seldom exists in the free state.

Physical Properties: boils at nothing; freezes at any minute; melts when properly handled; very bitter if mistreated.

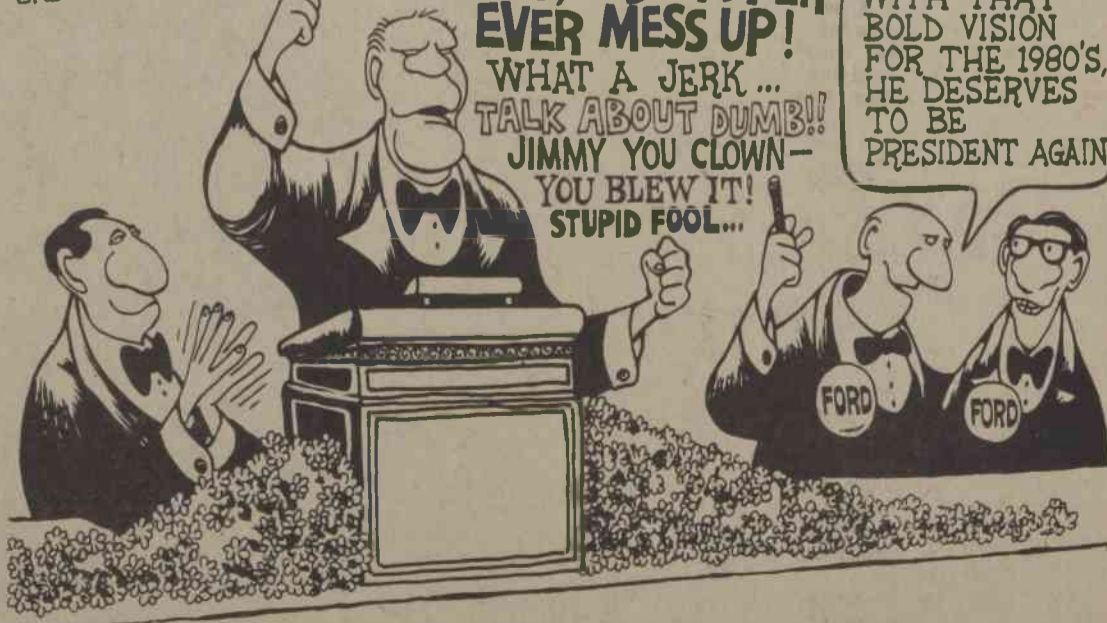
Chemical Properties: very active; possesses strong affinity for gold, platinum and precious stones; able to absorb great amounts of expensive food matter; turns green when placed next to a better specimen; ages rapidly.

Uses: highly ornamental; useful as a tonic under certain conditions; an equalizer in the distribution of wealth; probably the most powerful income-reducing agent.

Caution: highly explosive in inexperienced hands.

Variation: basic structure are patterned after those of the original model. (Eve-but there are many isotopes and configurations; will vary from "WOW" to "reject.")

MARGULIES  
CPS



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Harry Pickett — Editor  
Donna Swicegood — Assistant to the Editor  
Dean Lowman — News Editor

News Staff

Greg Bassett Menford Grisewould Shelly Jankosky  
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