

## EDITOR'S VIEW

by Lillie Booth

Wouldn't it be fantastic if all of our names became household words? Wouldn't it be equally as great if this gave rise to instant fame and fortune? Realistically, the odds are against it and for some of us the only exposure we will get will be in the form of our death announcement in the obituary column.

It isn't fair, is it? After all, we've constantly declared, "When I grow up I'm going to be rich and famous." And if we didn't acquire the famous status, we would settle for comfortably well off. Despite the compromise, we've still insisted, "I'm going to make it."

However, years later when our goals aren't reached and our dreams haven't materialized, we ponder and ask of ourselves, "What am I? Who am I? Am I doomed to be a failure?"

It takes one of those depressing hectic days when nothing seems to work or go right for you to take the time to assess yourself, negatively, of course. But if you're a positive thinker, you immediately cut with the self-pizysand pull the curtains on putting yourself down. From there you push on until you get something better for yourself.

I have always wanted to be a writer. I've had the recurring dream of having several best-selling novels on the market. But what if I never make it? What if I never get to discuss one of my books on **BOOK BEAT**, **THE JOHNNY CARSON SHOW**, or whatever? Am I going to become bitter at the world just because I failed at having the mass majority know my name? Am I going to stop there because the contributions I expected to make didn't occur? I have no such intentions. Lillie Booth may never join the ranks of Martin Luther King, Jr., Barbara Jordan or Julian Bond, but I assure you, I will be making my share of contributions that help to make this world a better place.

The world revolves around hardly noteworthy contributions. Usually they are the ones that ask nothing more than the sacrifice of time and effort. Yet, in these days that yield reluctance to get involved, especially other people's affairs, the need to have someone around to listen, to smile, to lend a shoulder, to lend or hold a hand, often goes begging.

It's true that these tasks can be time consuming. But does rationalizing, "I'm busy, I don't have the time to get involved with other people's problems," become enough to justify no commitment or involvement at all? Perhaps because showing someone that you care and are concerned about their welfare doesn't rate enough praise and glory, a lot of us are turned off. The proper thing in this case, however is not to be so quick to demand credit where credit is due. Believe me, nothing can replace the contentment arrived from sharing, from caring, and from just being there when you're needed.

There will be a variety of times when my name doesn't really matter but they'll be the most important in my life. How I perform then will inadvertently expose me, supplying you with a valid ID. You'll have a complete picture of who I am, what I am, where I'm going -- and you need not know my name.



Lillie Booth, Editor

### OCCUPATIONAL HAZARD

#### National On-Campus Report

College students lead a "sedentary lifestyle with unhealthy habits such as smoking, drinking too much caffeine, and being under excess stress," according to a U. of Florida psychologist. And that lifestyle is giving many of them high blood pressure.

In a recent study there, 196 of 2,000 students screened had high blood pressure, a condition that may not bother them now but could result in one third of them suffering weakened hearts, kidneys and brain blood vessels, according to UF Infirmary Blood Pressure Clinic Director Denis Geary.

Students with high blood pressure should immediately begin treatment, through medication, exercise, diet or relaxation techniques, before permanent damage can occur, say Geary.

## SHOULD THE VOICE HANG IT UP?

In retrospect, many are probably considering the numerous problems that **THE VOICE** encountered last year and are wondering if the pattern is destined to repeat itself.

Hopefully, the answer will be "No." Perhaps this year we will convince and recruit enough people that are willing to contribute their time and effort towards making **THE VOICE** a productive outlet for the student body.

We are incorporating this

year a motto: "Speaking For Ourselves." It is imperative that each of you realize the significance of this idea and after doing so will capitalize on it.

I pose a question. Instead of toying with the idea of **THE VOICE** hanging it up, why not take a moment and share your ideas with us? We welcome all comments, poetry, creative writings and any suggestions that you have to offer. Here's your chance to speak for yourself.

### If You Can't Pay

## COLLEGE LOANS —

### Is Bankruptcy Justified?

Do you have a student loan? Are you thinking of getting one? **GLAMOUR** Magazine's More For Your Money columnist, Barbara Gilder Quint, has some important facts you should know regarding loan payments and bankruptcy.

In 1975, Ann graduated from her state university with a master's degree in education, lots of confidence -- and \$7,500 in debts she had accumulated during her last five years of schooling. She quickly discovered that there were no jobs for high school French teachers, and that she was either overqualified or unskilled for any other available jobs. Her best opportunity, it seemed, was as a \$5,500-a-year clerk in an insurance office -- a far cry from

the \$9,000 she had counted on as a teacher. To top it off, she received the first monthly bill of \$91 for repayment of her college loans.

Unwilling to face ten years of repaying a loan with only meager earning prospects, Ann declared bankruptcy -- that is, she went to court, told the judge she was unable to pay her debts, and asked to have them legally canceled. Under bankruptcy law, which varies somewhat from state to state, a person declaring bankruptcy must turn over most of her assets to be distributed to her creditors -- in Ann's case, this was the \$65 in her savings account. She handed over the \$65 and left the courthouse legally free and clear of her \$7,500 debt

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## THE CASE AGAINST FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

by Lillie Booth  
(Reprinted from **THE VOICE**, October, 1977)

Before I actually got into the swing of things on campus, I discovered a fool-proof method for getting an instant feedback, even from a relative stranger. The trick is to mention the secret words: Freshmen Orientation. These two words are guaranteed to provoke a smile, a look of pity,

or some other facial expression. And if you aren't careful, you'll find yourself engaged in an advisory session or wanting to head a complaint department.

The consensus seems to favor that the ritual is a waste of time, especially since there is no credit given for the now eight weeks invested in it. Not only this, many complain that it's boring, there are too many people involved and perhaps the most thought of sentiment is, "I'm not going to get anything out of it anyway." Even though the debate rages on, the question remains, "Is Freshmen Orientation a waste of time?" and if so "Whose?"

If you know everything about your educational plans and goals and can answer outright any questions that may arise, you may have a valid case against Freshmen Orientation. Still, I'm of the opinion that it's not a waste of anyone's time and that the supplementary material gained is beneficial now and in the future.

I'm thinking that those who adamantly disagree with my opinion are of the old school (so to speak) that never experienced the chance to work with Doctor Willis Ham, the director of the program. The interest expressed by Doctor Willis Ham leads me to believe that Freshmen Orientation will get its much needed face lift and will be responsible for destroying associated with the program.

Under normal circumstances, I would never attempt to pilot an airplane

without any prior experience or orientation. Nor would I consider entering one of the laboratories to start an experiment without knowing the procedures involved. Would you? Since this is true, I'm sure you can see how I can correlate this with an educational plan.

One of the main reasons for being here is to grow educationally and to develop into the best person possible. If you are how to start, how to find out what's best for you, and what will help you to develop into the best person that you can be, then investigate and invest in your Freshmen Orientation program. It's all there: guidelines, road maps, alternatives, and some free and professional advice.

I suspect the case against Freshmen Orientation will never make it to court. The evidence appears to be mostly hear-say and based on bias opinions furnished by witnesses that preferred not to get thoroughly involved. Because of the lack of sufficient evidence, I think the only alternative would be to completely dismiss the case. Remember, you are the judge. And with that closing remark, I rest my case.

And with that closing remark, I rest my case. (This article is the first in a series of articles concerning Freshmen Orientation. New changes are expected in the program this year and **THE VOICE** will present follow-up reports on the changes and reactions that occur.)

## NEW GRADING SYSTEM SURVEYED

During the summer, a survey was conducted by a marketing class at Fayetteville State University to determine the feelings of the university community towards the new grading system. In addition, Fayetteville area residents were surveyed concerning the new grading system.

A random sample (10 percent) was taken of the institutional population and selected areas in the city of Fayetteville. The results revealed that the majority (77 percent) of the respondents felt that the new grading system should have been put into practice before now. The results also revealed that fifty-nine percent (59 percent) of the students do not wish to go back to the old grading system. A majority (57 percent) of the respondents felt that the new grading system will be a success.

What is your opinion concerning the new grading system? Please submit your opinion to **THE VOICE**. Letters MUST NOT exceed 350 words.



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## THE VOICE



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