

TRICKY PRICKERS



- WORKING TOGETHER



Some heavy discussion in a peaceful setting.

photo by ROBERT HARLEE

Retreat Brings Heads Together

by Danny Hoback

An assortment of students, faculty and administrators spent Halloween at a beautiful camp called Mundo Vista (near Asheboro) at the invitation and expense of the student government. No one was quite sure what was to be expected of them upon arrival, and I'm not sure anyone understood what was accomplished when the Retreat was over. However, it was a very interesting weekend.

The Richardson Foundation directed the exercises in which there were hypothetical situations and some role switching. We were divided into three groups and introduced ourselves. The groups were well mixed between students, faculty and administrators. Then one group became students, one faculty and one trustees, and each was given a sheet with the "situation" outlined.

The situation involved a student body requesting credit of up to 30 semester hours for the experience they received in their fulltime jobs toward a degree (which meant graduation with 90 hours) and a more personalized program to suit the individual.

The reactions of the "faculty" and "trustees" were very interesting. Since, for reasons unknown, no trustees saw fit to attend, this was a foreign role to everyone involved. But the tactics used by the group acting as trustees showed, I think, that most knew how the role should be played. The tactics were essentially to stall for time and hope the problem would disappear. The "Trustees" felt these changes were far too radical and the community and

Alumni would resent them, causing a further economic crisis.

So, essentially, it was decided that first, the faculty would have to understand the trustees position and support it. In order to stall for time it was also decided a committee would have to be formed to study the present situation. Of course, the students could be represented by a conservative, short-hair. (I believe the term used was "clean-cut"), etc., etc.

The faculty resented very much being the victims of a squeeze play; being hassled on the one hand by students, and on the other by the trustees. But, when gently reminded that contracts were about to be reviewed, most saw the trustees' point, easily. The ones who didn't were duly noted.

But, we had the basics for almost any situation. Trustees fighting for the status quo, students demanding change, and the faculty trapped, being subtly threatened no matter what their real views might be.

Later, there were discussions about what might become of the downtown campus. There were many suggestions and counter suggestions and everyone was reassured that nothing was going to change very soon, at least.

The students were prodded during the discussion but few had much to add. Also, many of the faculty remained strangely silent.

At one point, the question was asked, "What can the Downtown Campus offer that couldn't be offered if it were moved to Main?"

The responses to this were

indeed vague. There was some discussion about rumors that students and some faculty at the main campus tend to put students from the Downtown Campus down. From the discussion, though, it would seem that the downtown students may be a little uptight when they attend classes at Main; this leading to a self-fulfilling prophecy.

One thing very interesting was how some of the administrators and faculty seem to think of students. Actually, it wasn't part of the discussion, but slipped out very naturally, which seemed to make it even more relevant. Students were first referred to as a "product-line." Finally, though, we got up to "student population," but only to be returned to "products." This would seem to make the request (made by students in the exercise) a valid one. If students are considered "Products" or considered mainly as a "population," where does the individual consideration fit?

On the other hand, student apathy is apparently rampant. We were reminded that students had been asked to be a part of committees and etc., but hadn't really accepted the responsibility. As a matter of fact, hadn't even attended the meetings. If students allow themselves to become mere "products" or blend to a "population," they really can't bitch when referred to as such.

Even though the objectives remained vague and there was really very little "Hot" discussion, I would describe the Retreat as interesting and thought provoking.

by Jane Taylor

Ever heard of Issac Hayes? Yes, yes, the dude who's been around since most of you were watching the Mouseketeers— (I know. I wish this article were about Buffalo Bob, too—maybe later . . .) Anyway, Mr. Hayes (as his closest friends and proteges call him) has been enjoying a rebirth of wonder . . . what with his "Hot Buttered Soul" album success, and his current tour of college towns and any other places where it is big enough to make a nice profit, (considering the capacity of the Greensboro Coliseum and its exorbitant ticket prices).

May I interject a note to you brothers out there? If Issac Hayes is such a soul man, then why in the jolly hell doesn't he ever jam at some nice little joint down on the block? I realize Leon Russell didn't come to our local Halloween Party (though invited) but he did come out on the stage as a natural guy and just played music (which is more than I can say for Issac Hayes; now, with a full orchestra, outrageous costume, etc., and etc., Mr. Hayes can come across—but, friends—all Leon did was to walk out in jeans and a tee shirt and get DOWN HOME with some music.)

Or, another example would be B.B. King. When he is in concert, it is often free for a college crowd and his group runs around among the people rapping and making friends. It seems, to those of us who are still idealistic about music, that THAT is how it should be.

Probably by now, you'll want my credentials. Point for you. I didn't go to the Issac Hayes concert. I don't dig soul music. That's cool. You may not dig the Blues or Bach, or folk. Irrelevant point, however, I have a roommate who is a fairly good hippie-yippie-radical—r. and r. critic who attended the Issac Hayes concert held last Sunday night at the Greensboro Coliseum. She went with a group called WAR—yes—of Eric Burden and War fame—a nice, tight, smooth group who doesn't seem to lose much of the absence of number one on the record cover.

WAR played first on the bill at the Coliseum. Played well. Good response; finished the set, got all the instruments put away and walked down behind the stage to watch god come on. But, uh-oh—trouble boys. It seems Mr. Hayes has his own security rules, and, if anyone, including WAR is standing within the restricted area, he assumes that would ignite the

revolution we've all been waiting for. So, they proceeded to give the first performing band less respect than that of a minimum-price ticket holder, and told them to go back to their dressing rooms, (back to where they came from?????)—or get the hell out.

Well, but of course. Mr. Hayes, in his body stocking (not to be catty but shouldn't there be an age limit on those?) must have full attention—and his private mafia will by golly see to it that he does.

I have to call you unflattering names, rock fans, but, when are you going to wake up and see when you are being royally ripped-off? The rock stars now who play for people instead of money can be counted on practically no fingers—John Sebastian has done it; the Allman Brothers have the Stones tried and had it thrown in their faces by our lovely American bikers. I remember being in Florida in 110 degree F. heat waiting for Joe Cocker, only to find out, AFTER he had landed and started getting set up, that he decided to pack up and leave—alas! He wasn't going to get paid—poor dude; we all know how hard it must be for him to eat rice and beans just like Issac Hayes.

It's worth \$3 for me to see a musician with his own group play steadily for two hours—singing and playing' tight and heavy and into-you-head music. But I'll be damned if it's worth \$5 to see Issac Hayes do a god-stance backed up by a 30-piece (local!) orchestra.

V. A. Benefits

At the beginning of the Fall Semester the Veteran's Administration put into operation a computerized method of distributing V.A. benefits. Numerous problems have yet to be corrected.

All V.A. checks should be checked carefully to insure that the proper amount is being received. If you are not sure, then ask Mrs. Blakely in the Business Office. If you have not received your first V.A. check, then notify the Business Office. Corrections can only be made if you tell us about the problems.

James F. Hoyng
Business Manager
Downtown Campus