

The Moral Majority

By Marty Leary

Recently the North Carolina chapter of The Moral Majority compiled a list of textbooks it wants removed from the state's public schools.

The group primarily abhors science textbooks which teach the Theory of Evolution or deal with human reproduction. In its enthusiasm and determination to advocate fundamentalist viewpoints, however, it strayed from mere criticism of textbook selection to attacks on great works of literature. Fortunately, the Iredell County School Board did not succumb to the wishes of the fundamentalists who favored the removal from Iredell County English classrooms Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*. The group failed to recognize, or at least to appreciate, the satire employed by Huxley in his 1932 novel exposing the evils of totalitarian government.

To a certain degree, there is a valid argument for the re-screening of school textbooks and even for a closer look at the teaching of Evolution in high school biology classes. But if other county or city School Boards do not follow Iredell's example, but rather interpret the Moral Majority's views as gospel, then the situation would have gone beyond healthy criticism to outright religious persecution.

The teaching of the Creationist viewpoint in biology curriculum defies modern interpretation of science, and belongs only in the home or church. By the same token, however, textbooks which present the Theory of Evolution as indisputable fact instead of one of many theories, is unhealthy and detrimental to the purpose of education.

Greensboro School Superintendent Dr. Kenneth Newbold, in a recent *High Life* interview, expressed his belief that a local branch of the Moral Majority would confront him in the near future with a list of books it found objectionable. Perhaps Dr. Newbold will realize, should this occur, that despite the increasing popularity of fundamentalist philosophy, the Moral Majority's views do not serve as a cross-section of public opinion, and do not justify, in any form, the censoring, or removing of books from public schools and libraries.

Newbold Predicts Bright Future

By Lisa Kamenetz

The career of Superintendent of the Greensboro Public School System is a demanding one, but Dr. Kenneth Newbold likes it. "Everybody is turned on by different things, and some people think I'm crazy with all the pressures I live under," he admitted in a recent interview. "I like working with diverse parents, teachers, and groups of people," he continued.



Dr. Newbold

Before coming to the Greensboro system in 1978, Newbold had served as principal of two schools in two different systems, as an assistant superintendent in the Greensboro system from 1966-1969, and as the superintendent in the Scotland County, N.C. system. He has

received both Masters and Doctorate degrees from Chapel Hill.

Newbold has also had 35 years of experience in uniform. He feels that his active Army service and his 31 years in the National Guard have provided him with a great amount of experience in leadership and administration.

Despite the controversy some of his policies and suggestions generated last spring and earlier in his administration here, Newbold emphasizes that he wants Greensboro "to be an exciting school system where students feel free to dissent and to voice their points of view, and where teachers feel they are not restricted in any way by Board policies, Superintendent policies, or principals' policies."

Another reason Newbold likes the job of superintendent is the opportunity it offers to set goals and see those goals achieved. There are four basic goals Newbold wishes to see accomplished in the Greensboro schools. The first is a revision of the curriculum in grades seven through twelve. The second is to see effected the proper

Letters To The Editor

Clubs Provide Service

To the Editor:

Recently the purpose of the Grimsley service clubs has been in question. It is only fair that the other side of the issue be represented.

The purpose of Grimsley's service clubs is to learn by working with others, to expand one's knowledge and experience, and to gain new friendships.

Every year the Key Club directory has been used and enjoyed by Grimsley students. One club helped handicapped individuals to shop at Christmas and held a party for underprivileged children. Another club is planning a party at a nursing home. Still others have participated in the following activities: School Beautiful, GGO, the cleaning and distribution of over 40,000 Christmas toys, the entertainment of the elderly, sponsorship of a needy family, collection for Muscular



Grimsley Key Club members Chris Payne and Ira Sheldon participate in recent United Cerebral Palsy Telethon. (Rabold Photo)

Distrophy and Cerebral Palsey, working the Greensboro Haunted House, the Empty Stocking Fund, and numerous other beneficial community services.

Unfortunately, many times the students and administration criticize the bad aspects of an organization and fail to commend its

benefits. Should the thousands of people who have benefitted from the community projects of Grimsley's service clubs really suffer because of unwarranted complaints?

Sincerely,
Jennifer Dietz
Catherine Evans

Comment

Student Representation: Just A Dream?

By Becky Silverstein

Abraham Lincoln emphasized in his Gettysburg Ad-

dress that a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people" was an important part of our nation's heritage. Can we not use this idea and apply it to other governing powers? For whom does the School Board work? It is not for the benefit of businessmen, housewives, merchants, or physicians. School Board actions primarily concern the students who attend the public schools.

It is not legal in North Carolina for students to be represented on the School Board. However, any qualified voter (18 years or older) is able to run for election to Greensboro's School Board. This is too late. Many high school students are mature enough to serve on a board

that creates policies which directly affect their education. What can be done now, to ensure student representation on the School Board? Change cannot occur in Greensboro until a state law is passed. Letters to our legislators would be the first step. In the meantime, it is possible for students to attend and be heard at School Board meetings which are scheduled on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Administration Office Building on N. Eugene Street. Large attendance and cooperative input by the students could lead to legal student representation in the future -- a representation that should be our right.

use of the money allocated for staffing and guidelines guidelines which set minimum and maximum class sizes and determine the number of assistant principals, guidance counselors, and secretaries. The third goal applies more directly to Grimsley. He wishes to improve the wiring in the older buildings on Grimsley's campus. Indeed, Newbold sees a need for improvement in the plumbing, heating, and electrical systems for all of the old buildings of the public schools in Greensboro. Further, if the State Bond Issue is passed, Newbold will seriously consider air conditioning for all the schools. An immediate priority of this active Superintendent is to solve problems with computer scheduling. He feels the problems can be alleviated; and he prefers to try the system for a third year before considering requests for a return to arena scheduling. With all these goals in mind, it is certain that Newbold will strive to make the Greensboro Public School System the best in North Carolina.

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HIGH LIFE

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