

Point Blank by Larry Keith

Getting Ready For College In High School



Where would you be without your high school diploma? Certainly not at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

That handsome roll of sheep skin around which a silk ribbon was tied, symbolizes the one characteristic all college students have in common. High school, in deed, is perhaps the most decisive factor that influences the q and semester hour breed.

I discussed, among other topics, the unique relationship between the secondary school and the college recently with Mrs. Betty Knox, a former high school counselor and now a member of this institution's admissions office, and with Mr. Gary Peterson, the student affairs counselor.

"The high school," feels Mrs. Knox, "is doing a fine job of preparing students for college, but it has come a long long way. Too often today, however, the high school student doesn't take advantage of the opportunities he has."

Mr. Peterson refers to the "changing picture of education." "We're just beginning to get a glimpse of the adolescent mind and its capabilities for learning," he said. "Courses are being taught in high schools today that were once offered only in college."

The approach, or perhaps it is better to say, the idea, ascribed to education differs in the two academic atmospheres.

--Special Courses For A Few

"College level education has one main purpose," says Mr. Peterson. "It prepares a student to adjust to the value system in an every changing technological society. His senses of questioning are sharpened and begins to ask himself 'where are we going?' and 'what are we doing?'"

High schools have not fully created this stimulus for all students, however.

"There have been attempts, especially with the advanced and excellent students," says Mrs. Knox. "Certain courses have been created just for them. It is hoped that the courses will not be as much geared to the ideas of the teacher as to what can be gained through the promotion of thought and discussion."

Too often, students enrolled in these special program do not realize what is meant for them.

"There were many students who signed up for a course of this type who complained later that they had expected history but found logic," recalls Mrs. Knox.

Mr. Peterson adds that despite these efforts, "the gravitation toward the idea (of informal, question raising education) is never really reached in high school."

The often damaging results arise during the college student's early years, in the period of adjustment that causes too many to drop out of school.

At this institution, where for the past two years half the fall enrollment was found in the freshman class, the problem takes on major proportions.

--Continued Enrollment Issue

However, an even larger percentage of transfers, junior college transfers especially, will never receive a diploma.

"There is no comparison to the pace of a course at this school and at a junior college. Many transfers say that the material is handled in a greater dept and at a faster pace," says Mr. Peterson.

"It is a problem but we are working to correct it," Mrs. Knox adds.

Continued enrollment requirements also were discussed since they bear witness to the student's achievement and his right to remain enrolled.

"I have often wondered," said Mr. Peterson, "about the system as we have it. It doesn't seem likely that a student who has only the minimum 1.6 quality point average through two years will obtain a 2.4 and thus be able to graduate with the minimum 2.0. It isn't likely to happen because a student just doesn't undergo such a metamorphosis."

"But," engaged Mrs. Knox, "in the final two years the student is engaged primarily in his major field of study, so his grades should be higher."

Mr. Peterson differs still. "Since the norm group is more exclusive in the junior and senior years, the competition for the B that the student needs is much higher."

He added that a study on the subject would be interesting, while Mrs. Knox believes that "It is not as difficult to do the work necessary those last two years as would seem to make it."

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'Anyone Who Wants Pill Should Have One'--Doctor

Editor's note: The following article appeared in the Tuesday, February 28, edition of the Daily Tar Heel.

BY HUNTER GEORGE

The doctor was frank: "Anyone who wants a birth control pill should be able to have one."

The statement was candid—and unqualified. So was the reasoning.

"If a girl is going to be promiscuous, then keeping the pill from her is not going to prevent her from being promiscuous. She's going to be that way regardless of whether she gets the pill or not.

"But if she's going to be promiscuous, she should know the dangers—and I tell her that the pill will not prevent venereal disease."

The reason was both sociological and medical.

"It's better to have the pill than to have a baby. It's better for the girl and society both."

Moral considerations don't enter. Moral considerations don't enter into the matter, according to the doctor. "The girl should be protected as much as possible."

Girls desiring "protection" approach this doctor, as well as other doctors in Chapel Hill, almost daily.

They know the University infirmary will not dispense birth control pills to unmarried coeds, so they try the town doctors.

And if the opinions of several

doctors interviewed are shared by most of the doctors in Chapel Hill, the girls are successful.

"I prescribe birth control pills when they are requested," stated another physician.

He said that by doing so he was "choosing the lesser of two evils," although he hastened to add that there was nothing evil about the pill.

"I do not wish to promote or condone promiscuity, but I think the girl should be protected, that's all."

He said his reasons for the stand were medical.

The doctor further stated that he preferred to give birth control pills to unmarried, rather than married, girls because the married girl "a girl because the married girl 'has the right to her husband's name, and to give her baby this name."

When a couple is not married, he said it is better to prevent a pregnancy than to have the girl find a criminal abortionist "who is likely to kill the mother as well as the baby."

The doctor is asked to prescribe the pill about 15 times a month. This number decreases during the summer months.

As for the pill's side effects, he said his patients seldom reported serious occurrences. The federal government required that

drug companies print on the bottle any possible consequences which may result from taking the contraceptive.

"I haven't encountered any serious side effects," he said, "but they are reported in journals. Actually, though, aspirin or quinine or any other drug can affect a person adversely."

Another physician said he does not prescribe the pill for unmarried girls who want them for contraceptive purposes, but only as medicine for gynecological reasons, such as regulating periods and reducing cramps.

Before the pills are prescribed, a thorough examination is required to determine if the girl's past medical record indicates any previous disorder which could complicate the pill's effects."

The doctor said the danger of cancer was very slight, but "certain other problems" could affect the decision to prescribe the pill.

Usually if the drug is prescribed, it must be taken for a number of months to relieve the disorder, he said. Asked if the girl might not use the pill for contraceptive reasons during this period of therapy, the doctor commented.

"Of course, that's always possible. We just have to assume a certain amount of honesty in the doctor-patient relationship.

'No Use In Feelin' Blue; 1 Week And We're Through'

Editor's note: This is the last in a series of articles by former Journal editor turned soldier, Howard Pearre.

BY PVT. HOWEARD PEARRE

FT. BRAGG — The end is in sight.

"Ain't no use in feelin' blue; one more week and we'll be through!"

The chant lingers and grows louder and louder until the words are indistinguishable and rasping voices resound somewhat of a beat to march by.

It's all over but the cream. No more P.T.; no more bayonet drill; no more "YES DRILL SERGEANT; " no more basic train-

ing. Graduation is Friday. A prouder bunch of degree holders you couldn't find at West Point.

A parade; a walk around the drill field; a speech by a general; then milk and cookies in the mess hall.

The week died slowly. Friday was as far away as Thursday as it was as far away Thursday as it was seven weeks ago.

The jubilation was mixed with other feelings. You were surprised to feel a pang when you thought of the friendships the common Hell fostered. You wondered how many guys you'd never see again.

Friday morning. As usual the day begins at 5:30 a.m. Fall out in fatigues. Eat.

Equal Opportunity Women Deal Death Blow To Chivalry

BY PATRICK MCNEELY

The other day I was minding my own business, picking up a cup to put some coffee in, down at the Union. All of a sudden I heard this helpless, frail whimper. When I turned to see what unfortunate being could have emitted this sound I saw a long-haired human with a painted face and a worried look (It was a girl female of the opposite sex).

She looked at me with those big baby-blues and asked "Is chivalry dead?" while she made feeble attempts to illustrate to me that she couldn't possibly lift her own cup and saucer.

Well, I'll tell all you women just as I told her: Yes, it's dead and you are the murderers.

You want proof? All-right I'll give you proof. You've taken men's jobs; you have gained the right to vote; you have driven race cars; you've taken up wrestling; you have forgotten how to cook; you are in

politics, law enforcement, and a lot of pool rooms (That's got to be the ultimate).

Now don't get me wrong, I'm spoke. We were no longer basic trainees. 'Twas a wonderful feeling! (a bit unsavory, perhaps). What I am saying is that if you insist on having all the same opportunities as the male sex then you should be prepared to accept all the responsibilities of your new status. Don't expect special consideration as a female and in another situation treatment on par with the male sex.

I can talk 'till I'm blue in the face and all I can hope for is a small dent in the impass of our "Fantasy Society". The truth is that millions of unthinking young men will break their necks to get their hair cut, their car washed, their face shaved, and their money spent this weekend while billions of dollars rot in pink purses.

Clean.

Now. About 8:30 you change into class "A's" but not before a company formation.

Joking, handshaking, even (no kidding) a little mist in an eye or two.

It's cloudy and the ground is muddy. The company is called to attention. The company responds half-heartedly, more interested in their fate a few hours hence than at the present.

Drill instructors are in the same mood.

"Open ranks, MARCH!" The command is obeyed. Still the troops are goofing around. "DROP!"

This command brings full (and I mean FULL) attention.

"You gotta be kidding," is the collective thought.

The drill instructor wasn't. We proceeded to pump out 50 good ones.

"Your last taste of Ft. Bragg," says the drill instructor. We hope so.

Then the parade. The general spoke. We were no longer basic trainees. 'Twas a wonderful feeling!

By 1 p.m. the same day, about half the company was on its way to all kinds of places — from Virginia to Arizona; from South Carolina to California.

Lion-Like

(Continued from Page 3)

of the poem from the abundance of words.

The prose selection which seems to leave the greatest impression upon the reader is John Hostetter's "A Collection of Ill-Produced Images". Hostetter might not have been trying to expose a truth, but he did!

Let's not have to see The Barnstormer, which came in like a Lion, go out like a Lamb.