

# Disappointing Freshman Pot Or Not To Pot

Approximately two hundred voters elected class officers for a 617 member freshman class during elections last week.

Each new freshman class ideally should bring a new, active force to school activities each year. Obviously, this freshman class is lacking something.

Perhaps the freshmen do not realize just how vital the class officer positions are. The president presides over class meetings, and, more important, is the strongest voice presenting the freshman class in the student legislature. All activities for the freshman class are initiated by the president and fall under his supervision. The vice-president also represents his class in the student legislature, and he must be capable of standing in for the president if he is unable to discharge his duties at any time.

Therefore, the freshmen have allowed one-third of their number to elect the officers and representatives who will make policies and plan class social activities that will effect the entire class.

Some will say that a 30% turn-out is a good showing in comparison with 15% and 20% turn-outs at other schools. Nevertheless, should two-thirds of the class be guided by the minority?

A new institution especially needs working, active students. In most new situations, the newness and excitement of growth in itself are enough to instill in its participants a desire to be a contributing part. Not so here, apparently.

The new president, Mike Robertson, has a looming task confronting him. Apathy has proven itself a tough, persistent enemy for the most dedicated combatants. The Journal staff urges Mr. Robertson to address himself to this problem from the beginning of his term in office.

The two hundred elected a UP President and an SP Vice-president. We trust that the two men will be willing to put party biases aside when the best interests of the freshman class are at stake. It is crucial that these two officers pull together to coalesce the evidently shredded freshman class.

## Begin That Beard

The 49'er contest ends in approximately one month, so guys you still have time to begin that beard.

There are a number of sharp looking beards on campus -- the competition is getting rougher.

The Journal and annual staff would like to see every man on campus sporting a beard. Talk about image!!

## THE CAROLINA JOURNAL

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By RODNEY SMITH

(Of the students questioned, all but one agreed that they could easily acquire marijuana through their contacts on this campus. So, little renowned rising university that we are, we are not untouched by the issue. Therefore, despite protests from several sources, and after serious consideration, I am submitting this article with reservations.)

The growing, selling, buying, possessing, and smoking of marijuana in the United States is illegal. These acts are crimes, yes, CRIMES. They should not be. The laws of the United States treat the stimulant marijuana as if it fell in the same class as heroin, cocaine, and morphine. This is incorrect treatment. Marijuana is not habit forming and does not lead to heroin, or "horse." There have never been any cases of a person becoming physically addicted to marijuana. There never will be. There is a possibility, and not a remote one, that the smoking of "pot" may become a psychological compulsion, but the same danger is existent with tobacco. If a person who has been smoking marijuana is refused pot for an extended length of time, he will not go through the physical reactions that are experienced by addicts on "cold turkey."

Now a brief comparison of marijuana and alcohol. People do frequently become addicted to alcohol to a point that they cannot function physically without it. Not so with marijuana, which is less expensive. Many people who have been smoking marijuana for years have quit simply to show the public that it can be done, but we re-

fuse to ascribe any value to these cases. The public has its mind made up to stick to an outdated opinion. The American public is, indeed, a strange animal.

It has been pointed out that many crimes are committed with the obtaining of money to purchase marijuana as a motive. No doubt this is true, but if marijuana were legal, the cost would go down and enterprising "dealers" could not elevate prices to the point where a little weed becomes too expensive to be included in the average budget of an American worker.

By making marijuana against the law it seems that the U. S. government is trying to hand down a moral judgment for all to adopt. If the government must look at pot as a moral issue, they should hesitate a moment and meditate on another ethical question--is it right for a handful to prescribe moral standards for multitudes? The standards imposed from authority are likely to be rejected simply because of their source, but in this case it is quite obvious that there is already a shifting of the mores to accept marijuana. The law is in direct opposition to the mores involved here. There is an obvious cultural lag--a paradox that shouldn't be.

What is thought of marijuana on the UNC-C campus? In an effort to answer this question several students were asked their opinions.

Bud Stewart: "By trying to legalize marijuana using the argument that liquor and cigarettes are legal, you are saying that we should add to our sins. That's not logical."

First of all, Mr. Stewart has judged the use or disuse of marijuana on a moral basis -- a presupposition not universally accepted. This false premise, i.e. that



Rod Smith

smoking pot is sinful, tends to make the argument fallacious, Mr. Stewart, not logical.

Lane Hurley: "If I get to the point where I must turn to marijuana to solve my problems, then I'm no longer worth saving. You can't solve real problems in an unreal world. However, I do believe that the present laws concerning marijuana should be re-evaluated."

Brenton Steel: "The 'Law of the Land' says that it is wrong to smoke pot and that's enough for me. I'm not personally objecting to it, but it is against the law."

Miss X: "I think pot's groovy. There are so many tensions in the world today that, without some escape, we would really have blown minds. Besides, pot is cheaper than liquor and it won't make you fat."

Bill Billups: "If it has been proven to be harmful to the body and has harmful effects, then it should not be legalized. Secondly, if it were legalized, I would wish it to become a psychological crutch, because there are other ways to release tension and problems, using more rational methods. I'm against anything but a crutch, even the church. I want people to enjoy life by facing their problems."

Mr. X (not to be confused with Miss X): "If all the legislators and readers of POST would turn on, then pot would be legalized by the end of the year."

Jerry Hancock: "I don't think that marijuana is the danger that everyone says it is, but there should be some limitation. Total banning of marijuana is not the answer."

Mr. Z: "I think it's a carry-over from old taboos. It has no business being illegal unless alcohol is illegalized too. People who condemn it without even trying it should all be stacked up. The solution to world problems is to turn the whole world on."

Candy Kimbrell: "Pot will be as difficult to legalize as alcohol was during Prohibition because of a great many narrow-minded people and many ole wive's tales. Pot as it is now is a very dangerous thing to be associated with because of its connotations and this is unfortunate because it could be enjoyed more in a society which sanctioned its use."

Let this article not be taken as an absolute plea for legalization of marijuana, but merely as a hint that the present situation invites immediate evaluation and that the marijuana question is definitely an important issue of today. We are neither for suppression of marijuana in the United States nor are we advocating its stocking on your local Harris-Teeter shelves; we are merely trying to put the facts down for all to see and leaning towards liberalization of present U. S. laws dealing with marijuana. Each individual should be allowed the right to decide for himself (on a moral basis if necessary, or on a psychological basis if possible) whether "to pot or not to pot."

## Salaries: A Must For Quality

By RODNEY SMITH

The editor of the Carolina Journal and the editor of Rogues 'n Rascals both have desks in separate offices in the Union basement. What do these two energetic young ladies have in common? Answer: The amount of time spent behind these desks. Miss Candy Kimbrell is a case in point. The many section editors must be coordinated and their efforts must be kept on a single theme. There is much to be done concerning the advertising section. Many firms must be contacted and visited.

## Attention

The Business Club will meet today in Room C-122 immediately after the lecture by Mr. Bob Kirby.

The Barnstormers will meet today at 11:30 for a short business meeting. All members should attend; new members and visitors are welcome. The meeting will be held in the Barnstormer office (B-5) Union.

SEMINAR: "DeGaulle -- the Dilemma". 11:30 a.m. today in Room U-233. With comment and discussion by Dr. Slechta, Moderator; Dr. Macy, Dr. Bush, Dr. Jamgotch, Dr. Morrill. Everyone is invited by the French Club.

Students for ACTION present a forum on "Open Housing" today at 11:30 a.m. Mr. Curt Hartog, instructor in English, will discuss social implications, and Mr. W.H. Carstarphen, administrative assistant to Charlotte City Manager, will discuss the administrative aspects.

COMING: November 8, a Teach In -- Vietnam Peace or War? Guest speakers, films, and . . . demonstrations??

Photographers must be contacted, encouraged, instructed, and assisted. Other pictures must be taken by the editor herself. Proof sheets must be made up and pictures printed. Ideas must come in as a stream, calling for original thought and constant worry. Decisions must be made concerning type, cropping, and layout. Then deadlines must be met, calling for many long hours and several lost weekends. Trips must be made to Winston-Salem to be sure that the publisher is doing what he has been asked to do. Finances are a constant problem and critical students must be faced constantly concerning the fall delivery. Deserving of a salary? Miss Kimbrell certainly is!

Journal editor Miss Gayle Watts spends hours each day involved in assigning articles, writing of articles, typing of articles, and proof-reading of articles. Then, when Sunday rolls around, she parks her car in the Union lot and moves in until the paper is put together, usually in the not-so-wee hours of Monday morning. Then, when the advertising salesman has finished selling, the writer has finished writing, and the printer has finished printing, Gayle must ride across town to pick the papers up, bring them back, and distribute them among the stand in the buildings. Time, effort, determination, patience are just a few of the requirements. So why shouldn't she be salaried? Without the proposed \$300 salary she would probably have to work in a department store or a filling station, where she could make a fortune by working the same amount of time that she works for the Journal.

Another rationale behind salarying editors is that the quality of future editors may depend on whether or not salaries are appropriated. You get what you pay for. This year we have two extremely capable editors, so why shouldn't we pay for what we got?