

Blackfriars Deserve Support

The Journal staff congratulates the cast and crew of "The Firebugs" on a most entertaining production of the Max Frisch play.

The ingenuity and hard work that went into the presentation of the play were evident, especially in the face of a limited budget and few technical facilities. The cast demonstrated that we have the talent here and the crew showed us the know-how that would warrant more financial support for drama on campus.

The student interest on campus in drama productions is notable. The cast played to a full house for every performance, the audience consisting primarily of students. In fact, spectators were turned away Friday due to limited seating facilities. One advantage of an almost "traditionally" apathetic student body is that when the students do turn out in significant numbers you can bet they have a real interest in the event. So it seems logical to provide the Blackfriars with the means to give the students more of what they want.

The admission to dramatic productions is included in the student activities fee paid as a part of the general fee by all students. Perhaps a raise in this fee, with the new income going solely to the drama group, is in order.

Dr. Catherine Nicholson and the playmakers have shown their willingness to provide us with the best entertainment feasible with available facilities. Let's counter with added support in the form of more funds.

We look forward with pleasure to the Spring production of the Blackfriars.

Thrown Out?—Oh, Come Now

Even on a commuter campus there are some things that need to be done on the weekends that require the use of University buildings.

Last weekend, on Sunday night, the Journal staff was working on getting this issue to bed in the basement office in the Union. Upstairs four students were decorating the attractive Christmas tree which is in the Union lounge.

Some staff members, who had gone up to see the tree, and the decorating crew gathered around the piano in the back of the Union lounge to listen to one of their number play the instrument.

In a few short minutes, the night watchman appeared to say, "Get back to work or get out."

The Journal staff members had been working since early afternoon. The musical break was something of a relaxing device. And the decorating detail was ready for a rest, too.

It's a sad campus that allows its students to be bullied for recreating in the recreational area provided and with the recreational facilities available.

Students won't tolerate such pettiness forever.

THE CAROLINA JOURNAL

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 Editor's Special Consultant.....Ellison Clary, Jr.
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Dollar Mark—Sign Of Xmas Cheer

BY RODNEY SMITH

On the ninth of November, as I was returning from Atlanta, I saw it.

At first, I didn't believe it, but I soon realized that it was too keen a perception to attempt to deny. Yes, there it was in red and green lights—the outline of a Christmas tree on the side of a manufacturing company. This

Whitt, Knights Of Music Tops In Big Band Sound

Many students long for some excitement to break the humdrum pattern of driving to school, going to class, and driving home again each day. Perhaps a trip—to St. Louis? L.A.? New Orleans? Atlanta—would do the trick.

There is on campus a boy who has just such a break virtually every weekend. He's Terry Whitt, trombone player and band leader of Terry Whitt and the Knights of Music.

This unique band, which plays conventions, parties, and dances in all of the above-mentioned cities plus many more, will entertain students here at the Holiday Dance, Saturday, December 9, 9 p.m.—1 a.m. in the Parquet Room of the Union.

"The band was organized five

Expense Paid Tour Of S. E. Asia Offered

BY ROD SMITH

This semester, an all-expense paid tour of Southeast Asia is being offered by an anonymous organization as the grand prize in a contest to determine which male student on campus can accumulate the lowest quality point average this semester. All students interested should continue to pursue their present course by sleeping late, getting into complex conversations in the Student Union (preferably running from 8:30 a.m. 'til 11:30 a.m.), buying one more round the night before at test, copying term papers from The World Book and Sports Illustrated, blaming it all on the professors, "eating" lunch at Hurlockers, and just not giving a royal split.

Students with copper kidneys, lonely lungs, helium hearts, jello knees, and mental incompetence will not be accepted as contestants. Students with high estrogen counts will be given special considerations (don't despair fellows, there is a place for you). This offer void where prohibited by law (Cuba, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, etc.).

All winners will be notified through the U. S. Mails (plain wrapper). Other fringe benefits afforded the winners are the following: an opportunity to 'go back to nature', the 1968 model of the M-16 'instrument', and entire new wardrobe complete from shoes to raincoat, a new set of cooking utensils, a keen flashlight, secret handshake instructions, three Mighty Mouse comic books, and an opportunity to compete for further prizes.

early in November, yet.

Then, last Tuesday night, they struck in my neighborhood. On the way home from my night class, I saw three houses already lit up and ready to celebrate the season of Yuletide. Can it be that this "religious" holiday has influenced the lives of North Carolinians in such a way as to cause men to rise up and express, symbolically, their deep feeling fifty days be-

fore the actual date of Christmas? To this, I answer, and vociferously, No!

What can it be then, that sets men to whistling, "White Christmas", and buying spruce trees and extracting last year's wrapping paper from the hall closet? Herein, I think lies the answer to the entire dilemma. The commercial holiday, called by those in-the-know simply, Xmas, is the answer.

The "Saviour" of this holiday is not a man, but a god-money. "Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la three for a quarter."

"Make the man of your house happy; give him a Boulova this year."

"The most heavenly gifts are from Belk's".

"Give your entire family the lasting gift 'of beautiful music! BUY NOW!... and enjoy it throughout the holidays! Solid State Stereo."

"Piano for Christmas? Don't pass this up!"

Enough? I didn't have to do much research for these quotes, I merely read one newspaper and watched thirty minutes of television. This was on November 27. "Not so early," you say? Lost cause.

The department store managers dress their salespeople up in bright colors, give them cheery "Merry Christmas" name tags and say, "We've got them now. They're coming up here to buy a few gifts. Sell them!" You have succeeded as a salesman if the customer leaves with a gift for Uncle Charlie whom he hasn't spoken to in two years!

Everybody has to have a hand-carved nativity scene for the top of the television set. In just a few more years from now, halfway through the "Super President Show," a shepherd will appear on the screen and say, "If Christ were alive for this Christmas, he would want you to give him a Zonk shower for his birthday. Get one for your husband. Don't delay, only eight-four shopping days left 'til Xmas!"

But it goes much further than just being a non-religious unholiday. The whole affair centered around December 25 has become ridiculously superficial as a commercial celebration. Have you ever seen an aluminum Christmas "tree"? Since when is aluminum a plant? Will the miracles of Santa Claus never cease? How long can mass media continue to support belief in this outdated folk hero now that the true Spirit of Giving has turned her back and ridden away on her Harley-Davidson? Just as long as the toy companies continue to pay them for it.

Maybe I'm out of tune and these incidents that I've cited are only isolated incidents noted by me through selective perception. Maybe. How anyone can hear the lines of Paul Simon's "7 O'Clock News/Silent Night" and still be so concerned with getting the presents arranged beneath the "tree" in the most aesthetically appropriate manner is beyond me. To me, the whole matter is summed up by the little girl who queried, "Mommy, why does Santa Claus give us presents on his birthday?"

Announcements

The Ways and Means Committee of the Student Legislature has placed a suggestion box at the Union Information Desk.

All interested students are urged to place their suggestions here.

Would all students who have registered for the Graduate Record Examinations, please pick up the Prospectus for Students and the descriptive booklets for the Area, Advance, and Aptitude tests at the Student Union desk.

If anyone has materials on George Washington borrowed from Newell School last spring please return them.

Sorry About That . . .

The Journal staff would like to correct an error in last week's edition on page 4.

The fine basketball pictures appearing on that page were attributed to one Joe Campbell.

In actuality the photographer was Joe Caldwell, head photographer for the Rogues 'n Rascals. We appreciate the use of his talents in the Journal and sincerely regret the error.