

Parking Fee Frets

The recent addition of a parking fee to the necessary costs of each semester has produced some discontent among student body members. Even more antagonism has been aroused throughout the faculty and staff, who, as employees of the University, feel that the fee is ill-placed.

Perhaps the opposition on the part of the protesting students is just a spontaneous reaction to a requirement to pay for something one has gotten for free in the past. New and improved parking lots are a must on this campus, but the state legislature has announced that we will get no more funds for these lots. Viewed in this respect, the parking fee is not only reasonable for students, but obviously the next step to obtain the necessary revenue. On most other campuses, a parking fee is charged. The funds accumulating from this fee will be used solely for the development of new parking lots.

We would like to get some more information delivered to the student body concerning this fee.

Will dorm students pay more for parking than commuting students since their cars will be parked day and night? Will the money being collected now from commuting students be used to build parking lots for the dorms first?

As far as the faculty is concerned, it appears to us that an excellent opportunity for creating extra good will between faculty and administration has been overlooked. Is the approximately \$1,000 which will be collected from the faculty parking fee worth the hostility it has stirred up among faculty members because of the principle of "fringe benefits" involved?

Return To Alphabet

There is no other way to describe registration this time than as a confused, crowded, and unnecessarily time-consuming mess!

What happened to the alphabetical order procedure which was used in the past? The discouragingly long lines during the peak hours of registration (peak because many students had plans to work after dropping by school in the early morning and afternoon hours to register) were enough to increase the drop-outs of America noticeably.

There HAS to be a better way--more pleasant for the registrars, student employees and volunteers, and students involved. We suggest that the alphabetical method, by which each letter interval has a certain time span in which to register, is, at the least, a step in the right direction.

Snow Confusion

The advent of much snow and treacherous ice caused no small change in planned schedules for the end of fall semester here, and we would like to commend Chancellor Colvard and his associates for the decisions made during that period.

The decision to schedule Friday and Monday exams on Monday and Tuesday of the following week did cause some confusion and no little panic for some students. It is our considered opinion, however, that much of this confusion was the result of administration being forced to use mass communication media in order to inform the 2,000 students here of the schedule changes. Often the announcements of the changes were sketchy and brief--not the clear statement of date changes submitted to these media by our public relations department.

200th Year Celebration

A display of items relating to the observance of Charlotte's bicentennial this year has been erected in the Carolina Room of the J. Murrey Atkins Library.

The display includes a photocopy of an article from the November 14, 1967, issue of the "Charlotte Observer," prints of the Hezekiah Alexander home and First Presbyterian Church, a commemorative coin showing the bicentennial emblem, and the seal of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, a sheet providing his-

torical data concerning Charlotte, a recent Chamber of Commerce data sheet, a copy of the bicentennial prayer written by Dr. John R. Cunningham, and pamphlets describing the history of law enforcement in Charlotte and the seventy-five years of the "Charlotte Observer".

The display will be changed to reflect up-to-date developments in the bicentennial observance throughout the year. Students and faculty members are invited to examine the display at their convenience.

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Growing Pains Here Hail Coming Of Age For UNC-C

BY RODNEY T. SMITH

The Charlotte branch of the University of North Carolina is about to come of age. With the addition of dormitories and a symposium (or so I've been told), the heretofore unpleasant connotations connected with adding "at Charlotte" when saying, "I attend UNC," will be forever eliminated.

This branch is expected to accompany the City of Charlotte in her inevitable climb towards the label of "first class" (I have it on the best authority!) If the administrative branch continues to follow its present course, we are surely destined to eventually obtain an irrefutable reputation as a hallowed "citadel of knowledge, arsenal of truth, and instrument of progress."

However, if we are to approach Ivy League fame, we must adopt Ivy League standards and leave bush league tactics in the bushes. If we plan to establish a tradition of pride, we must now examine closely what it is that we're to be proud of. As E. F. Ware stated in "Ironquill": Human hopes and

human creeds, Have their roots in human needs." Not being William F. Buckley, this writer wishes to immediately acknowledge the fallibility of the ensuing criticism of present school policies and to invite correction of mistaken observations. After all, two and a half years on campus hardly qualifies one as an expert on school policy,

practices, and plans; nevertheless, it should equip one to make, at least, a near-valid critique of these facets of the University. It is hoped that this criticism will encourage students to scrutinize "what's happening" a little closer and to exercise their right to question how their money is spent.

Foreign languages are very "nice." They're especially helpful if you are abroad and would like a place to stay and something to eat. However, it is not

necessary to study the literature of a culture in order to be able to converse. The point that I'm

hinting at is that accounting or psychology students should not be required to take that superficial fifth semester of a foreign language. It is a very strange requirement indeed, and an outdated one. It has been proven that practice in rote memorization does not improve the ability to think. Transfer of training is not applicable from Spanish to cost accounting!

And it's quite true that our present society is ultra-high on the technology scale and we are becoming more and more science-oriented daily. Still, after a philosophy student, for instance, has had a semester of physics and one of psychology, any other four-hour lab course is merely an ordeal to be endured, another book to buy, another C.

And why, why are seminars only for third and fourth year students? All present seminar courses have more prerequisites than a sophomore can possibly hope to have completed. We shouldn't be afraid

to hold a freshman seminar once a week for three hours and a credit hour or two. It could be geared to attempt to tie together the other courses on the freshmen schedules. Or a humanities seminar for sophomores. They's eat it up.

Anyone who had to stand in line for two hours last week knows that there is something lacking in the organization of registration. Perhaps the problem lay in the inexperienced helpers or the lack of exacting procedure at the checking desk. At any rate, we can all hope that the Office of the Registrar profited from the mistakes made this semester and can correct them before next fall.

Another place where we must grow up is the security force that guards these hallowed halls during nocturnal quiescence. Many are the times that student government

officials have been turned away from their offices on the basis that they had no business there. On the other hand, there was a recent case where two maintenance men that the on-duty guard DID NOT

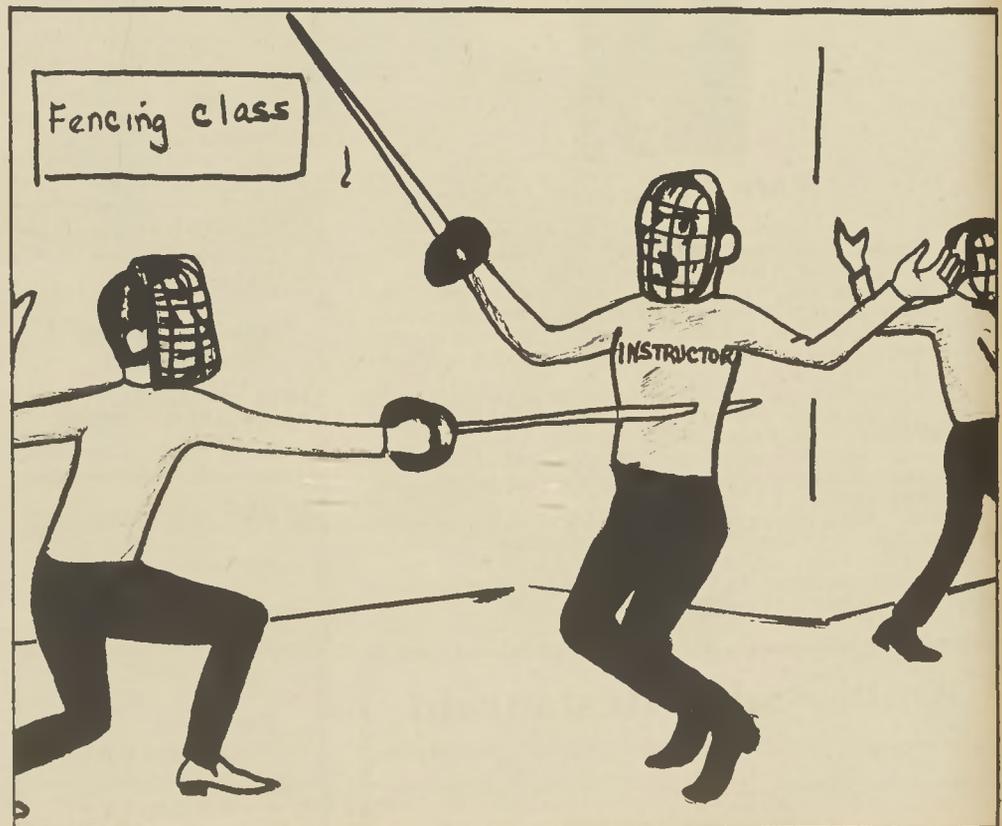
KNOW entered the administration building and left the campus in a state car. Sure, they were questioned. They were asked if they wouldn't like to join the guard for a cup of coffee. Tsk, tsk.

Another matter of concern is that students guilty of violating a student legislated honor code are deprived of their right to be tried by their peers. They must face a faculty academic disciplinary committee. Why then bother to elect a Student Court? The Student Court here is only a toy, a new game to be tried once or twice and then put on the bottom of the toy chest. The University of Virginia has a plan that might serve as a model for a revamping of the system presently in effect at the Charlotte branch.

The library must be built up, the faculty must be improved, and the students must be forced to drop this inferiority complex that often results in what I call a "transfer neurosis." The students here think that they're missing out on a part of college life, and perhaps that's so. But those who are freshmen will be able

to get the "Sunday afternoon dormitory blues" soon enough. And they'll be able to reap the thrills of big time spectator sports. And they'll be able to get away from mama and papa and sister and brother. And they'll be able to enjoy all the triumphs and suffer all the heartbreaks experienced by college students all over the world. The time interval between now and then is indirectly proportional to the effort they put out.

Many of the above criticisms can be answered quickly by the stock reply, "Well, we'd do it, but we have only so much money." This is true enough. And this criticism is directed not only to administrators and faculty members, but also in the direction of patrons, alumni, and friends of the University, including the State Legislature. The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is destined for greatness, but words won't realize this potential. It will take work.



"That does it Clark--go get a drop card."