

# Apathy is Alive and Well at UNC-C

A Guest Editorial  
By Richard Dedmon

(Editor's note: Richard Dedmon is the chairman of the Coffee house sub-committee of the Union Arts Committee. He is primarily responsible for the fine decoration and efficient organization of last week's rendition of The Green Garter Coffee House, which finished up a very unsuccessful engagement (if success is to be measured in numbers of customers) at UNC-C. Richard is a clean-cut, hard working young man who made the mistake of getting involved.)

Having just recently taken on the responsibility for a Union activity, I have for this first time felt the effect of something everyone on campus seems to be aware of, but no one has done much about. We've all heard about it, we've read about it, and a few have been receptive enough to realize that it really exists. But has anyone done anything about it? From the record of attendance at the Green Garter Coffee House last week, my observation is an emphatic "no."

The Green Garter featured an exceptionally good duo who travel under the name of *Donnery* and Rudd, as well as some very good campus talent. It opened well Wednesday, October 16 and ran through Saturday, October 19. Wednesday evening's attendance was so small that I was actually embarrassed to charge an admission. By small I mean three or four paying couples. Thursday evening would have been no better had there not been an art exhibit upstairs and had these people not stopped by the Green Garter afterwards. Friday saw an improvement in attendance; Saturday was by far our best night, but when you consider the size of our student body, you wonder what happened to all of them. Do they turn into pumpkins Friday after class?

There are always good reasons why people can't come out, and to those who did, I extend my thanks, and I'm sure they found it well worth the trip; but, let's face it, some people just don't care. To those people who just did not feel like it, all I have to say is that they missed a very good show. I'm not all sorry for them. That's just plain tough.

I am far from blaming the students for all of the difficulties we may have had in this production. However, I do find it frustrating to work like the Arts Committee and my assistants have worked and have no one take enough interest to come out and see what it's all about. We have had problems with publicity and this did hurt us. One of our biggest problems occurred when THE CAROLINA JOURNAL did not publish a paper last week.

The campus newspaper is the one way to communicate with all the students, not just those who come into the Union. I realize that this was not the fault of the editor or his staff. As a few of the interested students know, the requested budgets for student activities has been significantly cut, and Mr. Smith simply couldn't afford to publish a newspaper. Hopefully the difficulty encountered by the Green Garter may wake up a few complacent people in student government and cause them to correct the mistake. I realize that our budget has to be handled carefully and with restraint, but believe it or not, people, you have to have money to operate a newspaper, a Green Garter, dance, or anything else on this campus. If our campus is lacking anything, it is communication among all the students. Our newspaper serves the purpose and serves it well, so if the budget has to be cut for God's sake don't cut publication. When our newspaper suffers, we all suffer.

The preceding paragraph may seem to deviate from my discussion of Apathy in connection with the Green Garter. My point is, however, that we are expected to do so much with so little and in the end no one seems to care.

For some reason I had the feeling at the first of this semester that this year was going to be different. We were going to have people coming to dances. We were going to have students contributing to the newspaper, the BARNSTORMER, and helping on the yearbook staff; we were going to have all the help we could use in running an effective and productive Union. We were also going to have the best Green Garter yet.

We have some sharp people in this school. We've got some good leaders, but they can't do it by themselves. Although today is filled with weariness, frustration, and a headache from four long weeks of painstaking preparation for a Green Garter that few took the time to know about or come to, I see a hope some where out there--there in the mass of students on the campus of UNC-C. Maybe, just maybe, someday we will have some Indians to follow our chiefs, and the student body will rise off its can and take an interest in the things this school has to offer.

# REACT!

By Tim Brittan

The time is now, the place is here, the person is you. At no time in the history of our civilization have we, the students in the Universities and Colleges, had such an opportunity to take an active part in reforming social attitudes. Students are the focal point of attention in nearly every country of the world, not because they are apathetic, but because they are vocal, and adamant in the expression of their opinions.

Too many of us leave it to someone else to express acceptance or rejection of institutional action of social ideology. It is time we expanded our communicational sphere beyond the realm of our group of friends. Tremendous influence can be brought to bear upon our legislative bodies by a coordinated expression of views. It is time for reaction, time for student opinion to

be consolidated, to be placed before the world in an organized form.

The injustices done to humanity by our predecessors cannot be dismissed by the statement: that's life. This life is what we, collectively, make it. It is up to us now to demand change -- change from an extremely unpopular state of war, an unjust draft, continued discrimination by race, color, and creed, and an unfair system of taxation.

If we want change, we must react, in the manner most likely to achieve our goal. Time is of the utmost importance. We are in a changing society, directed by influence groups. The time for action is now. We must become an influence group, with activity as a byword. Our views must be heard and recognized, from the campus to the world. It is not sufficient to merely criticize unjust conditions to your

neighbor. Express your views publicly, to all with whom you make contact.

The elected officials of our government are acutely aware of the importance of student support for major legislation, especially that of a social nature. It is time we made this awareness a matter of pressing urgency. Our elected legislators must be made to feel an obligation to represent the interests of the students of the United States of America.

Our voice can be heard, it must be heard. Share your views with your friends, speak out in criticism or praise, write your elected law and policy makers. It is only through these efforts that meaningful change can be brought about in the world to come. The world we will live in tomorrow is being made today. Take part in its creation, REACT NOW.

# FALL IS.....

Fall is...

- much more than pretty girls in short dresses on football Saturdays
- more than festivals and fairs and such
- even more than a time to ride up the Blue Ridge Parkway to see the leaves.

Fall is...

- a time for nature to display her finest achievements, whether they consist of colors or forms
- a light chilling breeze that musses hair and ripples banners
- a walk in the park as all the lovers are heading for cozy firesides and worried mothers begin to call for stray children
- a bright red sunset, with golden lined clouds just above the horizon

- a full, orange harvest moon, lunatics' delight
- hot Dutch chocolate in a cold corner of the public library as dusk begins to settle over the town

- a friendly feeling that causes one to speak to strangers and greet old enemies
- a silly little black stick you found in the country and kept
- a long walk along a quiet lake beach with a friend
- a nice time to begin jogging
- our season to be kind to costumed neighbors' children
- the first of a long, pleasant series of logs in the fireplace
- a time for new revelations, libations, indoctrinations
- the period of peace in the world of nature, days of rest and peasantry for the native

peasantry

- apples of green and apples of red, cider and pie, and canning for the preserving winter soon to follow
- foil to the whims of warring nations (or is it the other way round?)
- a blanket of birds that blots out the sun in the late afternoon
- hurrying footprints along the sidewalk
- a greeting time, a meeting time, almost invariably a heating time
- a time when men can shed their differences, their retributions-- their hate
- cold rain showering on the heads of solemn figures in mock-black
- the two or three months when one wonders how he would look with a hat
- a rural lane, otherwise unoccupied, save one figure content in its conspicuous solitude.

- anniversaries, universities, intimacies
- legal actions, retractions, illegal actions
- warm days -- sudden surprise of cold days
- broken hearts, guitar string, and analogies

- the pleasant chill that begins at the neck and seeks the end of the spinal chord as one first hears those words of youth and finality -- "I love you"
- cold mornings and colder floors

- calluses from the old ax that stands in the corner
- that time when plans are made and laid at the kitchen table over strong coffee and smiling talk

- preparation for the culmination of the temporal unit that makes us all slaves to its arbitrary agent -- the calander

- just another part of that everlasting cycle of which we are all satiated victims at one time or another, even those who must resist all forms of teleology and order.

Fall is...  
--less than perfect, but not much less.

It is really what you make it -- joy or sorrow, warmth or chill, life or death, fast or slow, victory or defeat, love or hate. Fall is one fourth of that framework around which a man can build his life. Fall is opportunity.

Portrait of a Father: "A medical student, an oarsman, a tenor, an amateur actor, a shouting politician, a small landlord, a small investor, a drinker, a good fellow, a storyteller, somebody's secretary, something in a distillery, a taxgatherer, a bankrupt, and at present a praiser of his own past."

-- James Joyce

## Editor's Comments

We would like to thank Richard Dedmon for his guest editorial and genuine concern seem to be that appears in this week's JOURNAL. Richard, you have arrived at the point of future, though not, we think, in involvement at which one begin to realize that the vast majority of the students don't really care if year's freshmen elections. Next week Journal will feature a view of national elections by John Lafferty, a pre-law student who serves the University as Chief Justice of the Student Court. Keep those cards and letters coming, folks.

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