

Editorials

A Symptom Implies a Disease

It seems that more than a little contempt has arisen lately concerning the procedure used by the University Union in selecting a Holiday Queen. It must be remembered that, since the Union sponsors the Holiday Queen, they have the right to choose her any way they please. But who is this "they" that comprises the University Union? It is not the Chairman of the Union. It is not even the Union Program Board. The University Union is every student enrolled at UNC-C. All students are members; faculty members and alumni are also associate members. So when one speaks of the Union, he speaks of himself, as well as half a dozen committee chairmen. This reduces the Union's argument to almost nothing. The students should at least have a voice in deciding how their Holiday Queen IS TO BE CHOSEN. A student-body-wide referendum is probably impractical; it might very well result in a popularity contest. If the Program Board would just bother to ASK the students, they might get some results. Perhaps not. It may very well be that the negative response to the union's procedure is couched in individual dissention concerning the judges' choice. Some people may feel that their friends were not given a fair chance. But it is unlikely that all the dissention emits from these sources. They are in evidence after every beauty contest. There may be more behind this than just the Holiday Queen question. It may be that this is just one symptom of an infection that lies deeper than any one problem. The students are not at all pleased with the performance of the incumbent Union Program Board. Not only is the student body unhappy, but the Program Board itself is not without frustration. Several members of the Board have expressed a desire to change the present pattern of activity (and non-activity) that is manifested in the activities planned by the Board and, indeed in the structure of the Board itself. The Union Chairman and her assistants should remember that internal reform would be much more desirable and much less stormy than reform that is brought about by revolution. Revolution is fostered by dissatisfaction. The dissatisfaction is here. Now.

Substitute Method

As to the Holiday Queen question, we at THE JOURNAL would like to suggest a substitute method. Nomination procedures would, under this suggested policy, remain the same (with nominations being accepted from the student body at large). A group of supposed "beauty experts" from the area would be called in to select finalists (five of them), using beauty, poise, grace, and other qualities that contribute to "ladyship" as criteria. All this must take place several weeks before the scheduled announcement of a winner. This same group of area citizens would then, employing an interview with the finalists as a further resource of information, select the winner, who would be announced at the Holiday Dance. Why this procedure? If the Union is concerned with beauty, they should be interested in all the characteristics that make up the concept of "beauty" as formed in the mind of Western man. And if we are to be "objective" about this thing, we must eliminate faculty members and administrators as potential judges. Those who judge must be as unconcerned about the winner's identity as possible. This tactic still allows a difference between this honor and the selection of Miss UNC-C. The selection of Miss UNC-C will be partially based on activities at and interest in the institution. This does not enter into the Holiday Queen's selection. Miss UNC-C must also be willing to represent the school and maintain some consistency of personal magnetism. This method just might eliminate SOME of the controversy.

Just Curious

How long does it take to count from two to "Three"? We did not have any idea that it would take this long, yet this year's edition of a UNC-C library magazine has not put in an appearance. A semester is gone. The money that was allocated to editor Roger Grosswald and his staff came from students enrolled THIS semester. Some of them will not be back; their money will not go to benefit them at all. And Mr. Grosswald is asking the Publications Board for more money! And a salary for himself. Our faith is not strong enough to go along with this on the strength of what we have seen from the magazine so far this year. Mr. Grosswald, the students are curious. Just where is that magazine?

Trivia

By W. I. T.

Here are a few more trivial trivia questions for those who enjoyed last week's column. For those of you who didn't enjoy it, it's still here. (1) Who wrote the Tom Swift adventure series? (2) What is the definition of Parliamentary law as cited as ROBERT'S RULES OR ORDER? (3) To what genre does the following poem belong: "Night is darkening.../beans grew to/Our very door/Yet grand in moonlight." (4) What is the Latin word for 'secret'? (5) From what work of art is the following quote taken: "I will tell you what I will do and what I will not do. I will not serve that in which I will no longer believe whether it call itself my home, my fatherland or my church: and I

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Feedback

SGA Is Never Satisfied

Dear Mr. Smith,

I thank you for your Editorial. Its good for all of us to stand back and analyze our efforts and accomplishments; and I do not say this in jest. Student government being a body which must be actively concerned with every problem of the student's life, must never feel satisfied because it is never through working.

Neither should the Student Government become bogged in committees - as you rightly suggest. However some problems need deep, tedious research that will uncover as many possible questions and answers in an attempt to consider specific problems. The Registration committee and the Student Activities Committee are good examples. Yet these committees should never make token efforts nor involve themselves in kiddie-games or words which are not intended to improve the University. The detail and hard labor of a committee may be necessary before there are tangible or intangible results. (Also, at the time of appointment, I told the interested student that if at any moment he feels his appointment is token, then he is to contact me immediately.) I, as you, am concerned that we not be involved in some superscaled busy-work.



Bill Billups

There are several other questions that I would like to consider. First, the suggestion box has not been ignored; it has, however, been delayed. A student is constructing two boxes, one for use at the Union desk and another for the entrance to the Cafeteria. Hopefully these will be available at the first of the coming semester. Until that time, another box will be placed at the Union desk.

Second, the student discount plan that you suggest is well underway. Because our campus does not at present have enough students to provide a potent bargaining force, I felt it would be well to work with the other colleges and universities in this area to develop a discount program. At present, Queens, Belmont Abbey, Johnson C. Smith, and other area colleges have joined with us in an effort to find those places which are of uniform concern so that we might begin to lobby. Today a questionnaire will be placed at the Union desk and C-Lounge so that students might express their opinions about what they favor most. More descriptions of the plan is in an article in today's paper.

Third, problems of the Freshman Advisory Council and the Freshman handbook will be (this was planned several weeks ago,) raised in my President's report at the Student Legislature meeting, Monday Night, January 13.

Fourth, it is felt that at present it would be too expensive an effort to keep the Library open all nights during the exams since there has been little demand in the past. However, from the night of January 15 through January 23, the upper floor of C-building will be open 24 hours a day so that students may study. The specific rooms available will be posted on the bulletin boards. If sufficient demand is shown we might have the library open for

Spring exams.

We in Student Government are ashamed and disappointed in many of our efforts and failures. However, none of us must develop self-pity or fail to continue to strive to work for the students of this University. Committees are not enough. Nor are individuals. All committees, the efforts of individuals, and all ideas must be combined continually for no other purpose than developing opportunities for the students and the University. I hope that you and other students will continue to criticize so that we in student government may be reminded that a true student government is involved with the students.

Bill Billups
S.G.A. President.

Where Will It End?

By Tim Brittan

The promising young aeronautical engineer was unable to avoid the draft any longer. His manila envelope arrived by registered mail on March 11, 1968.

His country called him to a distant land, far from our shores. Someone had decided that democracy was the only way to go for everybody, and we were fighting to prove our point. Filthy, muddy waterways replaced the sanitary neatness of the aircraft plant. An M-14 rifle was a poor replacement for a warm young wife.

The days became months, and the letters home became farther and farther apart. Writing of

despair and misery, with no relief in sight, must become quite tiring. We must try to understand.

Several of his closest friends had been killed; yet, somehow, he miraculously escaped injury. His father received a telegram on October 17, 1968. His only son was dead, "killed in action." The headlines of that morning's paper told of acute problems at the Paris peace conference. There was no agreement as to the design of the table to be used.

I held Mrs. Creel's hand as her son was lowered into the ground. It was appropriate. She is my aunt. My cousin was dead. He died for something he didn't believe in. He gave his life for a hopeless cause. Hopeless because we can't win, and we can't withdraw. We are committed to a de-facto war.

Her tear streaked face mirrored eyes red from endless crying. The cemetery quiet was broken by a sob of despair: "Why, oh why did he have to die?" Quiet soon returned. No one could answer her question.

Snow Go

Hungry For A Little Snow?

The much talked-about and little-seen Ski-Trip is underway!

If you don't have any plans for Sunday, Jan. 26, through Tuesday, Jan. 28, then come along on the first "Learn to Ski" trip for UNC-C!

A total price of \$30.00 includes:

- 1) equipment rentals for 2 days
- 2) two 1-hour lessons
- 3) lift fees for two days
- 4) four meals
- 5) lodging

More information and colorful brochures can be obtained at the Union desk. The registration sheet is available at the Union Desk; final registration date is Wed. Jan. 22. Come on! Its a great chance for amateurs and experienced skiers alike. Skiing at Seven Devils and Lodging at Banner Elk.

Dylan Thomas' "Under Milkwood" will return to UNC - C for a two-night run on February 31 and	February 1. Performances will begin at 8:30 both nights. Admission will be \$1 for all seats.
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Agonies Approach, Journal Adjourns

This Friday (January 17) will be the first day of exams. The exams run through the following Friday (January 24). The Spring semester will begin on Monday, February third. So those who have been reading THE GOLD DIGGER can cheer up. The schedule on the inside cover is mistaken. Tomorrow is Reading Day, that oft-enjoyed day of rest or study. THE JOURNAL will resume publication on February fifth.

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