



## Oh Yeah?

by F.N. Stewart

## Concerning The Rain

I have cursed at the rain more times than I have said something nice about it. But, mostly that is because it catches me in the wrong mood, so I say a few derogatory things about the nature of rain. That really doesn't help, because it then sets my mind in a bad mood towards the rain, and I just continue to cuss. Occasionally, as chance would have it, rain begins when I'm in the right mood. And then the rain and I are friends again.

On a hot summer day with dust think in the air and heat going into my lungs each time I breathe, the rain will sometimes come pushing down the dust and sprinkling the air and my temperament with a cool wetness.

The black clouds off in the distance start to lift my spirits with hope, because I have once experienced it and know the pleasure that rain can bring. When the drops start to fall, there is a satisfaction almost as if I had some responsibility for the changing of a hot summer day.

Late at night thru the open window I hear the drops from the eve of the house hitting in small puddles and a melody begins which sings me to sleep gently. It's that same sound which makes getting out from between warm sheets difficult in the morning. The lullaby sound of puddles laughing at one another makes the softness of a pillow even more comforting.

## Three Sheets To The Wind

Windows and rain have a way of enhancing one another. The late summer rain that clinks against the glass which captures a view of afternoon seems somehow intensified. The window with its necklace of crystal beads becomes a playmate of the rain. And they talk to one another in a pattering way. The drops, like small children running down a grassy slope, bump one against the other and tumble headlong across the meadow of glass.

Summer thunder showers are fun to watch, especially the bold display of lighting across the skies. That's the kind of rain that ruins a picnic or makes the tales of a camping trip more tellable. You worry about getting wet during the first few minutes, and then, after a while, getting wet becomes fun itself. It's quite funny to see people in bathing suits running off the beach to keep from getting wet when a downpour starts. Summer showers are the kind that you can see walking across open fields. It

## The Wind and I

The cold months that follow the driving rains of winter seem to make the inside warmer and more secure. Drops of rain make an enchanting sound as they hit an open fire after winding down a chimney. Rain on a winter evening seems to make a fireside and music perfect. The rain is a crowning touch to cozyness. It becomes something to hide from, not too far away but yet just out of reach, sitting behind a cup of chocolate and listening to the thousand small splashes outside.

Perhaps the best rain is the gentle spring rain. It carries an invitation with it. The quick showers of early spring are sounds almost like childhood. The rain seems to be saying "can you come out and play?" Just as I did when

drives down in long sheets blown by the wind, and soaks you in one pass.

Autumn rains have a certain coldness that foreshadows the coming of winter. Because of the season the rain seems to have a brittle sound, the dampness which the rain encourages is an enticement for jackets and hot coffee. The autumn rain mats the brown leaves and clears the air to give a crispness and chill to it.

I have sat watching rain splashing in puddles with the dimples that it makes. Like gazing into a fire, the rain has an unexplainable attraction. The wrinkling puddles produce a quiet mood like the colored tongues of flames in a fireplace. The gray mist of the sky protects the quietness, and the puddles continue to dimple. Raindrops bouncing off the sidewalks seem to form petals like the petals of a jonquil, but only for a moment, then it fades.

I was a child with a small boat playing in an overflowing stream after a sudden shower. Spring rain is a warm rain, the kind of rain that you turn your face up to and try to catch rain drops on your tongue. It decorates budding black-limbed trees with sparkles of silver. Spring rain is a soft rain washing away winter and promising a new beginning.

Rain is a thing of many moods. And when our moods match we share thoughts and often laugh together and sometimes, the sadder moments. Those are the better times of rain. The many moments of quite thoughts, and the many moments of smiling are part of the face of rain. And most of the time it is a welcome face. Much like the face of a friend.

# Legislature Appoints Program Reps

The Student Legislature of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 1969 at 7:45 P.M.

The first order of business was the announcement by the Chair of the resignation of four members: Gordon Lawrence, Freshman Class Vice President; Nancy Allan, Freshman Representative; Vickie Caldwell, Sophomore Rep; and Homer Gaddis, Junior Representative.

The President's Report was the first order of business. Mr. Billups again stated that he believes that it is necessary to appoint the FAC and Handbook chairman earlier than has previously been done, so that the Chairman could have more time to organize their work. He asked that anyone interested in either position get in touch with him.

Mr. Billups then reminded the Legislature that Dr. McEniry had asked the legislature to elect two of the five students that he is appointing for the new Honors Program. After having a number of weeks to consider several nominations, the Legislature elected Thomas Daniel Coggins and Alan Paul Hickock for the new distinction.

There were no committee reports nor was there any old business. The first question under

New Business was presented by Mr. Psomadakis. He asked Miss Drake, the Legislature's representative to the Publications Board, why the Literary Magazine for last semester had not been released. She answered the Literary Magazine for last semester had not been released. She answered that Editor Grosswald has had problems getting the work that was promised to him turned into the Magazine, but that the next edition was expected to be issued this week.

Freshman President Cary Williams announced that the poll conducted in the English 101 classes had been tallied and that he would present the results to the FAC chairman.

The Chair commended Mr. Williams for the Freshman Class Officer's serving of refreshments to the freshmen during registration.

The possibility of a permanent exterior bulletin board for important announcements to be posted upon was again brought up, and after much discussion of pros and cons of such an arrangement, Mr. Burkes volunteered to check into it and report back to the legislature.

There was a general discussion concerning the form the

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## FAC Wheels Begin To Turn

The selection of the FAC Chairman and the Handbook Chairman will be made much earlier in the year, probably at least by the end of the first semester. The formal proposal will be considered by the Student Legislature during a meeting on Monday, February 24 at 11:30 A.M. in the Parquet Room. The group has given its approval to the earlier selection, and therefore if you are interested in serving in either capacity please contact me, as I am required to make the appointments.

The SL meeting is at 11:30 A.M. so that students may attend more easily and to remind students that all meetings of the Student Legislature are open. I hope you will be able to attend.

Two suggestion boxes have been placed in the Union - one is in the cafeteria, and one in the Union lobby. I can also be contacted at the information desk of the Union from 8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. M,W,F and 8:30 A.M. to 1:00 A.M. T,Th.

If you are interested in assisting in lobbying in any way the Legislature of North Carolina for the money needed by our campus, please contact me. At present I

## Drama

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by casting in scenes from Shakespeare, Chekhov, Williams, and O'Neill. Saturday will be occupied with rehearsals and questions. The final run-through will take place Sunday morning before the scenes are performed that afternoon at two before the general public. All students and faculty are invited to participate. The fee will be \$3.00. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Mrs. Pat Peeler in B-213 or call her at University extension 252. The Sunday afternoon performances are free, and all interested persons are urged to attend.

would ask you to contact your regional representative if you are concerned about the Budget Commission recommendation concerning UNC-C requests. At present all efforts, student, faculty, and administrative, are being co-ordinated.

Congratulations to Danny Coggin and Alan Hickok who were elected by the Student Legislature and approved by the faculty to serve on the University's Honors Council.

## Union Elections

Elections of the executive officers of the University Union will begin the week of February 17-21. The Executive Committee of the Union is composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer who are in turn members of the Governing Board and Program Board.

Qualifications for the Executive Committee officers are as follows: Candidates must be in good standing with the University, have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, have completed twenty-four semester hours of course work at UNC-C prior to assuming office, have been an active member of a Union Standing Committee for at least one full academic year prior to assuming office, and be free of any major campus office or class office at the time for assuming Union office.

Nominations will be accepted at the Union Desk between February 17-21. Campaigning will be the week of February 24-28 with campaign speeches presented February 26 and voting February 26, 27, and 28.

## A Review

## Black Power

By Sherry Drake

BLACK POWER—The Politics of Liberation in America By Stokley Carmichael and Charles V. Hamilton

Surprisingly, to those of us who saw Stokley Carmichael when he was here on campus, BLACK POWER is not a format for revolutionary violence. It is a well written, logically progressing appeal for followers among both the black AND white communities.

Nor does the book advocate black racism. On the very first page of the text, racism is defined as "the predication of decisions and policies on consideration of race for the purpose of SUBORDINATING a racial group and maintaining control over that group." (The italics are the author's) Carmichael and Hamilton are not seeking to subjugate the white race, but only to abolish the subjugation which their race has endured for so many years.

According to the authors, the book is about why, where, and in what manner black people in America must get themselves together. It is about black people taking care of business—the business of and for black people. So that they can exercise control over our lives, politically, economically, and psychologically....To ask the right questions, to encourage a new consciousness and to suggest new forms which express it.

They want to contribute to "the development of a viable larger society; in terms of ultimate social benefit, there is nothing unilateral about the movement to free black people." At least this was the feeling when the book was written two years ago. This feeling, has as everyone knows changed by now. After the book had gone to press Hamilton and Carmichael issued a statement which said in part "This book presents a political framework and ideology which represents the last reasonable opportunity for this society to work out its racial problems short of prolonged destructive guerrilla warfare. That such violent warfare may be unavoidable is not herein denied. But if there is the slightest chance to avoid it, the politics of Black Power as described in this book is seen as the only viable hope." This society has not solved its racial problems despite their warnings, and now the Black Power advocates are espousing the politics of warm just as they warned that they would.

The first premise of the book is what White America is not and has never really been aware that there is a serious problem with which they must immediately come to grips. And this is one reason why the black man must no longer follow the white man's lead on the issue of race. They no longer believe that the Negro "liberation" can come about through the traditional methods on which they have waited so long. They feel that black men know better than any white man possibly could the problems which he is facing and that they must take the lead themselves in seeing that these wrongs are corrected, that these problems are solved. Mainly, they seem to be trying to make the black man realize his own worth as a human being and stand on his own two feet without relying on the white man at all. They see racism as being divided into two distinct categories—overt and covert. Overt racism is individual racism, and covert racism is institutional racism. It is the institutional racism. (Continued on Page 5)