

Student As Nigger

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it. That, more or less, is what's happening in higher education. And the results are staggering.

For one thing, damn little education takes place in the schools. How could it? You can't educate slaves; you can only train them. Or, to use an even uglier word, you can only program them.

Educational oppression is trickier to fight than racial oppression. If you're a black rebel, they can't exile you; they either have to intimidate you or kill you. But in high school or college, they can just bounce you out of the field. And they do. Rebel students and renegade faculty members get smothered or shot down with devastating accuracy. In high school, it's usually the student who gets it; in college, it's more often the teacher. Others get tired of fighting and voluntarily leave the system. This may be a mistake, though. Cropping out of college, for a rebel, is a little like going North, for a Negro. You can't really get away from it so you might as well stay and raise hell.

How do you raise hell? That's a whole other article. But just for a start, why not stay with the analogy? What have black people done? They have, first of all, faced the fact of their slavery. They've stopped kidding themselves about an eventual reward in the Great Watermelon Patch in the Sky. They've organized; they've decided to get freedom now, and they've started taking it.

Students, like black people,

have immense power. They could, theoretically, insist on participating in their own education. They could make academic freedom bilateral. They could teach their teachers to thrive on love and admiration, rather than fear and respect, and to lay down their weapons. Students could discover community. And they could learn to dance on the IBM cards. They could make coloring books out of the catalogues and they could put the grading system in a museum. They could raze one set of walls after another and let life come blowing into the classroom. They could raze another set of walls and let education come blowing out and flood the streets. They could turn the classroom into where it's at - a "field of action" as Peter Marin describes it. And believe it or not, they could study eagerly and learn prodigiously for the best of all possible reasons - their own reasons

They could. Theoretically. They have the power. But only in a very few places, like Berkeley, have they even begun to think about using it.

Marlena Shaw

In Concert
Oct. 11

Gov. Bob Scott says he is "surprised" that student leaders are concerned about the rising costs of a college education. Governors might be surprised about a lot of things on campus if they got close enough to students to find out what's really on their minds.

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Sept. 18, 1969

The Bulletin Board

ACE

The Association For Childhood Education invites all who are interested in the education of children to get-acquainted meeting today at 11:30 in room D-102. Refreshments will be served.

Beta Iota Mu

Beta Iota Mu, UNC-C Biology Club, will meet Wednesday Sept. 24, at 11:30 in Room K-107. The Biology faculty will introduce themselves and speak briefly on the Biology department and activities. Refreshments will be served.

Fencing Club

The Fencing Club will hold its general meeting today at 11:45 A.M. in Room U-233. All interested students are invited. The club provides all fencing equipment and free instruction. No prior experience is required.

BSU

The Baptist Student Union will meet Friday, September 26, at 11:30 A.M. in rooms U231 and U232. A short film, "Genesis," will be shown. It is an interpretation of the first book of the Bible through modern art. Discussion will follow which will include plans for future activities. After the program and the business, refreshments will be served. This is an informal get-together where EVERYONE, ALL religions is welcome.

Student Legislature

Student Legislature meeting, Wednesday, September 24, 1969 at 11:30 a.m. in Parquet Room. Open meeting and everyone is welcome to attend.

Engineers Club

The Engineers Club will hold its first biannual "Coffee Hour" today, September 24, in room 348 of the Smith Engineering Building. Engineering majors interested in joining the club and/or meeting fellow engineering students are invited to attend. The Fall '69 membership drive began Monday and will continue through the eighth of October.

Union Film

The Unions Arts Committee will present "Planet of the Apes" today at 2:00 on Union 209-210. The film, starring Charlton Heston and Roddy MacDowall, introduces a new and unusual theory of human evolution. Admission will be 25 cents with a student ID card.

From the Black Viewpoint

By James Cuthbertson

The Weight-Carry The Load Together

During the summer, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School Board submitted a desegregation plan to the courts which was approved with reservations. A focal point in the plan provided for the closing of Second Ward High School and the dispersion of its students into the surrounding high schools. The plan also virtually ended the hopes of Second Ward students and parents for a new school that has been promised to them for a long time, and it was a prime example of one-way integration.

While seeking votes for a bond issue in 1965, the School Board promised the parents of Rieds Park, Southside, Brookhill, Dixie, and Third Ward a new school which was to have been built behind York Road Junior High School (now Kennedy Junior High). When the desegregation issue evolved, the School Board dissolved their plans and announced that the proposed York Road Senior High School would be built in the southern part of the county. The rejection of this plan was in our opinion a breach of ethics. That school is now called Olympic, and it sits in a pasture near the headwaters of Steele Creek in southwestern Mecklenburg County. The reason that the school was not built behind York Road is very simple. The School Board did not think that white students would come to a school in a black neighborhood with a predominately black student body. They would rather bus black kids out of their natural environment into a predominately white situation. In Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, the entire burden of school integration has been put on the black man. The average white has not suffered in the least. I see a repeat of the Olympic situation at Second Ward. The school has now been closed and the students dispersed. In a few months, unless pressure is applied by the black community and the courts, the School Board may just decide to build the new school that was proposed for Second Ward in the supposedly fast growing southeastern section of the county. Then they will want to bus black kids out to it to make sure that it is integrated. I can not see why second Ward could not have been integrated this year.

The word "gerrymandering" brings a loud protest from the general community. However, they should not be alarmed because the school districts have been gerrymandered for years. In an effort to keep Olympic Senior High from becoming predominately black, the kids in a black neighborhood along West Boulevard are assigned to three different high schools. This has backfired because of the transition in the neighborhoods which were once all white, and Olympic may have a black majority one day. A simple gerrymandering could have easily integrated Second Ward this year. If Second Ward's district had been expanded to the south to include Dilworth, Sedgefield, and the Griffith Park Area and east to include Hawthorne, Colonial Heights, Edgemoor, Eastover, and Chantilly, and the freedom of choice abolished, there could have been white students at Second Ward. The School Board, however, decided upon a plan that placed the entire load on the black man.

The days on one-way integration will have to come to a rapid finish because the Black Man is tired of carrying all the weight.

A Bell Tower When?

By Allan Boger

An original grant by the Belk Foundation of \$100,000 long ago gave UNC-C its chance to join the family of colleges with bell towers. As all students know, construction on the Belk Bell Tower has foundered.

Date of completion of the Belk Bell Tower hinges on the date of delivery of the main body of the structure, a pre-fabricated concrete shell which will house the electric carillon and

amplifiers. When finished, the imposing tower will soar some 140 feet over the campus.

Administration officials assured the CAROLINA JOURNAL that once the shell had been delivered, only a few days will be needed to complete the tower. Officials also promise that concrete sidewalks soon will replace the quagmire which now surrounds the base of the tower.



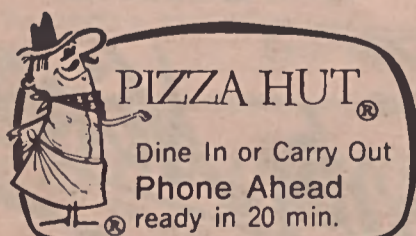
Memories of bell towers past

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