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Crowder's Creek: A Eulogy

by douglas munroe

It smelled like shit, it looked like shit, and I wasn't about to see it if tasted like shit; this is the nasal and visual confrontation that takes place upon viewing the present condition of Crowder's Creek. At one time Crowder's was a prolific wild-game refuge; now it is the sad joke that closed down the South Carolina side of Lake Wylie - I went to see what happened.

Reluctantly, I slid my boat into the nauseous slime, fearing for my life if I were to accidentally fall and be consumed in the depths of the quagmire. To look upward and away, spring was in her bounty, pollution was a bad dream in some other place. A few heifers stood with the green and the fields, not noticing the drifting death at the perimeter of their world. "Life! I saw life. . . ." A small snake sunning itself on a limb was alarmed with the intrusion of our presence and dropped lazily into the slop floating beneath it. Crowder's Creek was desperately-hanging onto life, though her resources for sustenance were being choked off.

My first-hand investigation of Crowder's Creek began a few weeks prior to the actual voyage down her silted waters. The South Carolina side of Lake Wylie was condemned to swimmers and skiers; for years this lake had been a personal summer haven for me to fish, soak up the sun, swim, ski, and enjoy various friends' companionship; now all of this was gone, for me and for everyone that retreated to the Lake Wylie shores. What were the reasons for this atrocity? Could anything be done?

I was contacted by various part-time residents of the Crowder's Creek area because of my previous pollution control stompings and my affiliation with the JOURNAL to see what could be done. THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER followed up their announcement of the South Carolina portion of Lake Wylie's closing with a hasty nostalgic journey into the depths of a fisherman's heart; the old die-hard fishermen were stirred and tearful

but Crowder's killers remain untaunted and unrevealed.

I was notified of WBTV's news staff's interest in attacking the problem at Crowder's Creek and was asked to go along. On Tuesday, May 3, two camera-newsmen from WBTV, John Robinson (a South Carolina Game Warden), Dick Robertson (a concerned resident), Dean Duncan (Journal photographer), and myself rendezvoused at the Hungry Fisherman to plan our survey of Crowder's Creek. WBTV manned Warden Robinson's boat and entered the mouth of the creek; Dean Duncan and myself portaged up stream to just south of the North Carolina state line and drifted downstream into the heart of Crowder's Creek.

Crowder's Creek still has a heart, but unfortunately her heart no longer lies in her main stream. Only the hardiest reptiles ventured into the black, brown,

and orange crap floating by, and even they left their skeletons on the mazed trash on Crowder's shores. Only an occasional hawk scanning the ruins or a hoot from an owl in the distant swamp reminded me that I was in Nature's house.

The woods and marshes were so out of place in their silence. There were no fish snapping at the insects; there were no ducks trailed by their off-spring; there were no turtles sunning themselves on logs; there was nothing but the trees, the trash, and the silence.

The polluters are still untaunted and unrevealed. I have witnessed their devastating wrath. It can no longer be pushed aside; their apathy, their ignorance, their massive waste cannot be tolerated if man wishes to survive in a natural world. To break down the very source of life is a fool's game that has no winner.



journal photo/duncan

DEAD FISH COVER CREEK

"Their massive waste cannot be tolerated if man wishes to survive in a natural world. To break down the very source of life is a fool's game that has no winner." --Munroe

Oxford Study Available

UNCC students are being offered a chance to live and study at Oxford, England this summer. Dr. John Wrigley, UNCC History Department, says that twelve more vacancies are available for the session running from July 15 until August 14.

Courses offered are in English Literature, Irish Literature, History, Philosophy, Economics, The Theatre, and Psychology. They will be taught by faculty members from UNC-Chapel Hill, Charlotte, and Asheville with lecturers and tutors from the colleges of Oxford and other British Universities.

Cost of the program is \$703 which must be paid in full by May 13. This includes room, board, and tuition at Regent's Park College and transportation from New York to London, round-trip.

The dates of the Oxford session are scheduled to permit the use of the UNC 1971 flights to Europe.

Reservations, with a deposit of \$100 are being accepted now. Interested students should contact Dr. John Wrigley in the Department of History.

'Eleven Charlotte Poets'

Profs' Poetry Published

by charlie peek

Four poets, associated with UNCC in some manner, have recently had their work published in a volume entitled *Eleven Charlotte Poets*. Robert Waters Grey, Bertha Harris, T.J. Reddy, and Julie Suk are among those represented in the book.

Grey and Harris are affiliated with the English Department's Creative Writing program; Reddy is a former UNCC student; and Julie Suk is currently a part-time student here.

The volume, without any attempt to be all-inclusive, is designed to present a cross-section

of people writing in the Charlotte area. It is edited by Robert Grey and Charleen Whisnant. Miss Whisnant, of Red Clay Publications, is former editor of *The Red Clay Reader*.

Other poets represented in the work are Paul Newman, Charleen Whisnant, Harriet Doar, Amon Liner, Marion Cannon, William Browne, and Stan Burns.

Eleven Charlotte Poets can be purchased in the University Bookstore or through Mr. Grey (Room B206).

A short reading by Grey, Harris and Suk, of their works in the book, will be held on May 13, at 11:30 a.m., in room D101.



journal photo/duncan

Journal Reporter Munroe examines a dead 10-pound catfish he found on his investigations of Crowder's Creek, conducted last week as part of inquiries into area pollution.

Students Still Out Next Year

by michael mculley

The number of students "designated" to receive letters from the Housing Office barring them from dorm residence next year now stands at six. According to Journal sources, eleven students were originally due to receive notices of the Housing Office's action. It cannot be determined whether the original list was "cut" in the wake of protests over the action or if in fact there were only six students originally.

Five letters were sent to the student's home of record address and one student was advised verbally of his "suspected" activity. All six students have contacted either the Housing Office or Dean of Students Dennis Rash or both over the matter. However, according to Lon Weston, Director of Housing, "no formal appeal of our action has been taken as yet to my knowledge."

Weston also noted that the procedure for dealing with such matters in the future has been revised. Housing rules' violations, except those dealing with drug or sex offenses, "will go through the Residence Hall court system as prescribed in the Judicial Act governing the dorms," Weston stated.

"Because of their sensitive nature," he added, "drug and sex matters are to be handled by a campus committee on that. It protects the student from public exposure and nothing appears on his permanent record at the University."

In a statement issued by Chancellor Colvard on the dorm barrings, he stated: "Assignments to the dorms have been handled, individually, by Student Affairs personnel. The persons involved to have a right to appeal this."

The Chancellor declined further comment on the matter at this time.

29 Positions

Elections

End Today

by charlie peek

A slate of 52 candidates are vying for 29 elected positions in this year's spring elections which end today.

The ratification of the new Student Body Constitution, on April 21, has created a new student body organization-the Student Union, and new constituencies for the election of Student Legislature representatives. The Student Union will be the entertainment programming agency for the campus, consisting of a chairman, vice-chairman, and 5 directors.

Twenty-two legislature positions are up for grabs, including 4 class presidencies, and representation of 6 University colleges, undeclared majors, and graduate students.

Following are policy statements from the candidates who contacted the Journal concerning publicity: Charlie Barnes: (Candidate, Student Union Board Chairman)

"I feel that the Board of Directors should represent as many segments of the student body as possible. This is why I am seeking to form a committee on student information and research as an attempt to make the Union more responsive to student wants. In the student interest, I would like to encourage an investigation to see if student fees are spent for student wants and needs.

"The administrative heads should be allowed to respond to
(Continued on Page 3)

Senate Complete

Chancellor

Appoints 7

Senators

by michael mculley

In a news release, dated May 3rd, Chancellor Colvard announced his appointments to the University Senate and stated that "an organizational meeting of the Senate will be held as soon as is practically possible."

Chancellor-appointed Senators for next year are: Miss Elinor Caddell, Miss Dot Conley, Mrs. Bertha Maxwell, Mr. Donald McKay, Mr. Charles Sutton, Dr. Burton Wayne, and Dr. Robert Williams.

The University Senate is composed of ten (10) faculty Senators, ten (10) student Senators, one (1) Senator from each major academic unit, and seven (7) Senators appointed by
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