

Feature Page

Book Review

Moulin Rouge

By **RONNIE SHUMATE**
Collegian Feature Editor

MOULIN ROUGE is a biography in the form of a novel, of the life and loves of the famous French painter, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

Lautrec was descended from a long line of well-to-do ancestors. His father was also among the elite.

Henri fell down a staircase at the family's summer mansion and broke one of his legs. After six months' recuperation, he slipped and fell again, breaking the just-mended leg as well as his other leg. Henri's legs failed to grow along with the rest of his body, therefore sending him through life as a midget of sorts.

As a child Lautrec had amazing ability as an artist. This love for any and all forms of artistry grew until it became almost an obsession. Finally, Henri shocked and disappointed his parents by announcing his intention to make painting his profession.

Henri moved to a fourth-floor apartment in the Montmartre section of gay Paris. He launched himself on his soon-to-be illustrious career. In the artists' school he attended he met Vincent van Gogh, the tall, red-headed Dutchman. The two became fast friends and remained so for years.

Lautrec's yearning for love led him to the brothels of Montmartre, where he came to know all the girls in these houses.

Henri's moral standards fall lower with each new disappointment in love. He turned from the bottle to the brothels and back again. His life seemed to be a succession of disappointments, until one night he met Marie.

Marie was lonely and being chased by "les gendarmes." She moved into Henri's apartment, where she loved him as he had always yearned to be loved. Henri bought clothes for her and took her out on many occasions. She would often tease him about his deformity, which sent him into fits of rage. He would send her away and then roam the streets and alleys looking for her to ask her to come back to him. The "affaire d'amour" between Henri and Marie came to an abrupt end when Henri met Myriame.

The affair between Henri and Myriame was destined from the very beginning to come to a disastrous end. Henri met through a very close friend of his who was a dancer in the "Moulin Rouge." Henri fell in love with her almost immediately, although knowing that she could never love a cripple. He was able to love Myriame in his own fashion, but she, with all her charm and beauty, could never stoop to love this little crippled

creature, who loved her so well.

All the while, Henri's fame as a painter was growing by leaps and bounds. He had painted some posters to advertise the Moulin Rouge which were quite shocking, to say the least, to the majority of Parisians. These posters, among the first to be printed in color, soon became the talk of the town, and insured Lautrec's fame as an artist. Henri also did many portraits of the brothel girls as well as the many other aspects of Montmartre life. These paintings of the everyday lives of the lower classes are by far the most famous of his works.

Lautrec's life of loneliness, sorrow, and bitter disappointments came to an end in the home of the only person who loved him through all his trials and tribulations, his deformity, his drunkenness, and his association with the lower echelon of Montmartre's inhabitants. This person was his mother. Henri's father had disowned him upon his entrance into the artistry, thereby leaving Henri's mother to suffer the pains of his legs, heart, and mind along with him. Henri's mother stood by him to the final, desolate, end, which came early in his manhood.

This novel, which was made into a movie, delved into the very soul of this lonely cripple. If ever a man yearned for love it was Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec. He had an almost unquenchable, though vain, thirst for love.

It is this humble writer's opinion that this was a great novel. This is probably not the opinion of the professional critics, but I make no claims as to my ability as one. The movie, though very good, could not reveal the intricacies of this little deformed painter. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys reading a book which gives pleasure as well as a lesson.

Interview: Jon Bass — Student Council V.P.

By **GEORGE KILLOUGH**
Collegian Assoc. Editor

Jon Bass is one of the very mature young men whom the students of Charlotte College have elected to represent them in their school government. Bass, 19 years of age, is vice president of the student council.

He was graduated from Central High School in 1956 after holding a number of honors and offices. A very modest young man, he was reluctant to talk about himself, at any length but when prodded, he mentioned having been president of his homeroom, a member of the Engineering Club, and a member of the Dance Committee. "I was most honored by being on the Dance Committee," he said; "I don't know how I ever made it."

Bass is employed by Precision Parts Company in a part-time capacity. His job is drafting. "And detail work," he hastily added; "taking care of details that no one else will take care of."

Besides his student council work, he is secretary-treasurer of Sigma Lambda Chi, the Charlotte College Fraternity. As for hobbies, he says that school is the only thing he has time for, aside from work—and a

Collegian's Top Ten Tunes

The Collegian's list of the top ten tunes for the month just concluded includes the following:

1. Raunchy—Earnie Freeman; 2. Silhouettes—The Rays; 3. April Love—Pat Boone; 4. All The Way—Frank Sinatra; 5. You Send Me—Sam Cooke; 6. Kisses Sweeter Than Wine—Jimmy Rodgers; 7. Chances Are—Johnny Mathis; 8. Honeycomb—Jimmy Rodgers; 9. Jailhouse Rock—Elvis Presly; 10. Pretend You Don't See Her—Steve Allen; Most Beautiful: 12th of Never—Johnny Mathis; Best Bets: 26 Miles—The Four Preps; Magic Moments—Perry Como; Most Repetitious: Honeycomb—Jimmy Rodgers.

Now we know that this list will not meet with the approval of everybody; we would be satisfied if it meets with the approval of anybody. But, to the best of our ability, this is how the songs rated. Granted, we don't agree with many of the selections on the list, but, so far as we can tell, it is accurate.

Free Salk Polio Shots Are Still Available

All persons who took their first two polio shots last spring and were due for their third shot in December but missed it, can still get the third shot if they act immediately. Those persons who got their first shot in December are now due for their second shot and should not delay in obtaining it. All shots will be given by the Charlotte Health Department at its downtown office.

Students are urged to take advantage of these Salk shots as soon as possible. There is no charge for this service.



certain girl. He took a picture from his wallet and threw it on the table. "Her name is Mary Alice Alexander," he volunteered. He did not volunteer an address and telephone number, however.

When asked about his ambitions, he shrugged, saying nothing. His philosophy of life can be summed up in two words, uttered in a matter-of-fact tone of voice: "Rat Race."

Upon the completion of his Pre-Engineering curriculum at Charlotte College, Bass plans to join the United States Air Force this summer. The Collegian feels that the Air Force's gain will be the college's loss.

Girl Of The Month

Miss January



Miss Patty Hill

Miss Patty Hill, our Miss January, is a petite and vivacious blonde whose cheerful smile

brightens the day for many students. Miss Hill is a graduate of Central High School.

DOROTHY McALLISTER CHOSEN F. T. A. HEAD

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Church of Christ and the special education classes in some of the grammar schools in Charlotte. This training is invaluable to anyone considering becoming a teacher, as to many minor but important it subjects the student instructor phases that would not be taught in regular teachers school. At the same time a great and satisfying service is being performed, a ser-

vice that is beneficial to the children and the school system and rewarding to the instructor. Ann McRorie and Gay Hinson are present in this type of work. Miss McRorie is assistant instructor in the special education classes of Dilworth School, and Gay Hinson is helping out at Elizabeth School.

The FTA of Charlotte College welcomes any one interested in teaching to their organization. Anyone interested in joining should contact Miss Mary Denny for details.

Poet's Corner

Edited By Hal Kellams

Poems This Issue, In Order, By Charles Couch, Martin Hill, And George Killough



Evening,

The time when all is still,
As if everything were dying.

A time when soft shadows
Blanket sound.

Summer evening, which
Lifts the heat of day.

When tree sentinels guard
The moist coolness which
Vapor-like settles

On the ground.

Late evening,

When day-tired people
Give one last thrust

Of energy

Before letting dark sleep

Bathe them with youth.

Evening,

Quiet,

Slow.

A haven to separate

Noise and strength.

Little Susie

Little Susie Sillislater
caught herself an alligator

Less than fifteen minutes later,,
no more Susie

'gator ate her

Things that Charlotte College
needs:

Friendly words and gentle deeds;
Tons and tons of parking space;
A warm and cozy smoking place;
For our basketball team, more
support

As they come thundering down
the court

Toward greater and greater
victories;

Time for more activities;

Time for work and time for play,
Forty-eight hours in every day;

And when all is said and done,
A real live owl to call our own.