

Editorials & Opinion Page

Semester has brought a harvest of events

Sometimes it's a pleasure to summarize activities.

It's hard to remember a fall that offered such a variety of experiences to students as this semester, and the strange thing is that the semester is only half gone.

From political action to music to a coronation, there has been something to appeal to everyone.

Jesse Jackson, accompanied by many Belles and Aggies, marched to the NCNB building and gained assurances that the bank had divested itself of interests in South Africa and that it would no longer lend money to the profiteers conducting business with the government of apartheid. In addition, many Belles participated in Black College Day in Raleigh.

In conjunction with Founder's Day and Parents' Weekend, Marilyn Thompson, a Hampton Institute Alumna, gave a remarkable recital. The weekend was also highlighted by the crowning of Penny Hill as Miss Bennett and the coronation ball. Hill promises to be an especially gracious and articulate spokeswoman for the Bennett family.

There have been literary successes as well. Alumna Linda Bragg's novel *Rainbow Round Mah Shoulder* has been selected as part of a book exhibition to appear overseas. Dr. Virginia Tucker had a guest column on the op/ed page of the Sept. 29 Greensboro News and Record.

All these occurrences are signs that our community is moving forward on many fronts.

What's next? For entertainment and provocative ideas, don't miss the Evening of Public Speaking. For spiritual beauty, keep the Living Madonnas in mind.

Use Seatbelt: the life you save will be your own

The state government has passed an important law to ensure public safety. The use of seatbelts will be mandatory.

For now only warnings will be given, but in 1986, a \$25 fine will be issued to drivers and passengers who do not comply with the law.

It is estimated that many deaths will be saved. But many Americans will not take advantage of this opportunity to save lives just as drunk drivers and habitual speeders are constantly breaking the law, destroying themselves and others.

Legislators have done us a great favor. Please take the responsibility of adhering to the law and buckle up as a safety-conscious driver should. Remember that only the strong will survive. (Dee Evans)

Whites sowed whirlwind in Africa

a column
by Elfrida Mensah

It all began in the 17th century when the whites from Holland arrived at the Cape of Good Hope—the southern-most part of Africa.

These people, together with other white nationalities like the British and French, began to move inland in the 1830s, destabilizing African kingdoms in their path. This continued until the whites claimed leadership and power.

In the early years of the 20th century, the black South Africans began peaceful protests, but these got them nowhere. The response they obtained was the banning of the two main African organizations at the time—the Pan African Congress and the African National Congress. Many blacks have been killed in protests; many have been imprisoned; and many more have had to flee to neighboring countries.

Since last year the black South African students have decided to use violence to get the Botha administration to do away with apartheid in South Africa. Are these students to be blamed? These violent riots and demonstrations brought about reactions from different countries in-

cluding the United States. Many people have showed their dislike of apartheid in different demonstrations, and not even arrests have stopped them from proving their point.

The Reagan administration declared its policy of "constructive engagement" in South Africa. This made President Botha announce the abolishment of the "Immorality Act" (it was considered immoral for whites to marry blacks and vice versa). The whites have total freedom now since this act was the only restriction on them. This still does not give the blacks their rights in all aspects of life.

A few days ago, President Botha, in a speech, committed himself, for the first time, to some form of universal suffrage. This is a little step in the direction of anti-apartheid. Yes! But is it a step that is going to be built on? There is no definite positive answer to this question although most black South Africans will be inclined to answer in the negative because of former experiences with the leaders of their country.

This being the case, the fight and struggle for freedom still go on.

Seeking Justice

Activism is returning

a column
by Vicky Dunn

I suppose it is my inquisitive nature that sometimes makes me want to experience life in another era. When given a few spare moments, my mind wanders to two eras, the '20s and the '60s. I'm sure that I would not be suited to the life of a flapper, so I am especially drawn to the latter.

Years throbbing within the rapidly changing pulse of America and the world, this time appeals to many young people who wonder what the heart of the struggle is all about. Recently, life has been serving up its own set of crises and causes, giving me a sense of the years I so dearly long for.

I always knew, though not with such urgency as now, that the role of committed black students in social reformation was gaining increasing importance. I sense among us not only a willingness to protest but also to apply pressure to a wound that will otherwise cause us all to bleed to death. Fortunately, this wound is not fatal! It has been infected, however, with disregard for human life, greed and economic instability.

Students at Fisk University, a historically black university in Nashville, have felt the infection's

most bitter sting. Suffering from low enrollment, as are many of the traditionally black colleges, the "Fiskites" have been forced to make up for it in other ways. Through charitable donations fund-matching and sacrifice, the Fisk family is regaining its footing.

I felt that sense of family firsthand at the National Black College Conference. Sacrifice, the watchword for the two-day conference, plays as much a role now as it did in the '60s. Student Government President Juliette Williams said that without sacrifice the purpose of the conference and all subsequent battles would be defeated. We agreed that a \$35,000 a year job with a black firm would far exceed the benefits of a \$50,000 a year job with a racist company. Even more productive and economically liberating would be the formation of our own private businesses.

Students addressed such thought-wrenching questions as "Does the black college sufficiently produce and prepare black leaders?", "Does the quality of education at black colleges equal that of white universities?" and "Should black colleges and their students openly denounce South African apartheid, and to what extent should this protest be

taken?"

I was asked, "Are there too many black colleges?" and I answered, "As long as there are uneducated black people in our communities, No!"

Students at predominantly black Tennessee State University are questioning the state's demand that they up minority enrollment by 50 per cent while predominantly white state institutions are doing little to recruit blacks. Spokesman David Mills denounced such injustice and enjoined the support and unity of his peers. Dr. Manning Marable, keynote speaker at the conference banquet, awoke in us the desire for sound education. He by no means proposed that it would solve all of our problems, but that it would raise our awareness, the base from which we can make a collective stand.

At the Black College Day March on Sept. 30, we were urged to join the Free South Africa Movement.

My generation has its own battles to wage and its own problems to confront, but none that are not related to those of our global brothers and sisters. In a way, though, we face them with an international sense we were never encouraged to have. "A" is not for apple; "A" is for apartheid.

Classic novel concerns isolation

a book review
by Laura Nelson

One Hundred Years of Solitude.
By Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Avon Books. 383 pages.

This great novel by the Columbian Nobel Prize winner tells the story of the Buendias in their small, Old World village of Macondo. Marquez writes of a Macondo which is so new that "many things lacked names and in order to indicate them it was

necessary to point."

The reader enters this mixture of fact and fiction and lives with Jose Arcadio Buendia, tracing the ascent of his family. The story begins with a trip through the mountains in futile search of an outlet to the sea and with the founding of Macondo. Time, one of the novel's themes, begins as life in Macondo begins.

Jose Buendia and his wife, Ursula, are the main charac-

ters. Both hold a major significance in their family and village. Marquez creates a flashback in the beginning of his novel, giving the reader an intimate look at Jose and Ursula. *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, published in 1970, is full of fantasy. Combining myth and reality, the result is a fairy tale for the adult imagination. Marquez cleverly gives his characters more life and reality than is usual. He gives the reader a chance to see that the idea of solitude can be a very real aspect of someone's life, and this idea is the major theme of the novel. The concept of individuals existing in loneliness while surrounded by others makes the novel seem even more alive.

Each character deals with solitude in his or her own way. Jose, the patriarch, finds solitude in his far-reaching imagination. There are times when no one can penetrate his circle of solitude. The Buendia children, even at birth, exhibit the mark of solitude. Marquez introduces the fate of separation into his characters' lives and makes

this alienation the struggle of their existence.

Yet, the victory of overcoming the loneliness is tainted with sadness, for the loneliness is never escaped, only accepted. The Buendias experience death, disaster, revolution and family discord while trying to break through personal conflicts of soul and mind.

The only releases from the clutches of solitude for the Buendias are death and insanity. Marquez presents the passing of events so wonderfully that one may have to stop to remind oneself of the fictional nature of the novel. Marquez gives readers a chance to immerse themselves in the solitude of others and truly understand the meaning of isolation.

How to live with someone who's living with cancer.

When one person gets cancer, everyone in the family suffers.

Nobody knows better than we do how much help and understanding is needed. That's why our service and rehabilitation programs emphasize the whole family, not just the cancer patient.

Among our regular services we provide information and guidance to patients and families, transport patients to and from treatment, supply home care items and assist patients in their return to everyday life.

Life is what concerns us. The life of cancer patients. The lives of their families. So you can see we are even more than the research organization we are so well known to be.

No one faces cancer alone.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

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