

THE RIDGERUNNER

There Is Absolutely No Inevitability As Long As There Is A Willingness To Contemplate What Is Happening—Marshall McLuhan.

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ASHEVILLE-BILTMORE COLLEGE

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Co-eds In Tug-of-War

A-B COEDS DEMONSTRATE their collective strength of the Homecoming festivities. in a tug-of-war during Coed Capers, January, 12, part

Proposed Grading Change Tabled For Second Time At Meeting

Asheville-Biltmore's faculty and administration tabled for a second time a move to adopt a revised grading system, one that would allow students to erase work previously failed by making a satisfactory grade on the second go-round.

The move came at a January 15 faculty meeting. Recommendation of the proposed system was made by the ad hoc Calendar Committee.

Other proposals submitted by the committee, headed by Dr. Kenneth Nickerson, chairman of the social sciences division, included a pass-fail option, a dean's list and proficiency examinations.

Under the proposed plan, the present method of grading would be replaced by letter grading ranging from 'A' for excellent through 'F' for failure.

Two additional grades would be available to indicate incomplete classwork and withdrawal from either the class or the college. 'I' would indicate an incomplete, and 'W' would indicate a withdrawal.

The committee also recommended a pass-fail option for one elective per term providing students have completed "the greater portion of the General Election Curriculum requirements."

Consent of the student's advisor and the course instructor would be required for the pass-fail option.

The pass-fail option would be limited to one course per term not to exceed a total of six courses.

Grades of 'P' in such courses would not be considered in evaluations for dean's list or graduation honors, but grades of 'F' would be considered, and would contribute toward action concerning advising, testing and counseling, course load restrictions and suspension, in the same manner as an 'F' in a course graded in the conventional manner, the committee said.

The committee recommended the establishment of a dean's list for "a small number of students who demonstrate outstanding achievement."

The dean of the faculty, Dr. Roy A. Riggs, and a committee appointed by him would consider candidates for inclusion on the lists.

Proficiency examinations, under the new plan, could be requested by the student at any time for any course. If the examination is passed with a grade of 'C' or better, and pending completion of any additional assigned work, the student would receive full credit for the course. A \$10 fee would be charged for the testing.

In the grading system proposal, the committee recommended that courses in which a 'D' or 'F' have been received, the student be permitted to retake the course at the discretion of his advisor.

If the grade second is 'C' or better, the 'F' or 'D' originally received would not be counted toward suspension or related requirements.

If the special examination grade is a 'C' or better, the original 'D' would not count toward suspensions or related requirements.

A grade of 'D' would not normally receive credit in terms of hours, and the committee recommended that with the consent of the instructor, the student would be permitted to take a special examination and do such other work as the instructor assigns.

Critical Stage For Peace Corps

By WALTER GRANT
College Press Service

WASHINGTON—The Peace Corps, one of the Mecca of many student idealists, is on the threshold of what could be the most crucial period in its seven-year history.

Few will deny that the Peace Corps has been one of the most successful and popular of the New Frontier programs initiated during the Kennedy Administration. But the Peace Corps now faces many new and delicate problems, most of them a direct result of the war in Vietnam.

The tactfulness with which these problems are solved within the next few years may well determine whether or not the Peace Corps can survive on a large scale, and if it can, how effective it will be in accomplishing its original mission.

Peace Corps officials—who in the past have had little trouble convincing young people to give up two years of their life to work in an underdeveloped country—now find themselves on the defensive for the first time. The major problem is the Peace Corps' close association with the federal government at a time when the government is unpopular among young people.

Peace Corps officials, including Agency Director Jack Vaughn, are not ready to admit the corps has problems. But some other high-ranking government officials have confirmed privately the corps may be in trouble.

Recruiting figures alone indicate the Peace Corps has less appeal now than it had a year ago. In November, 1966, the Peace Corps received 7,097 applications from college seniors.

Last November, applications were filed by only 3,768 seniors, nearly a 50 per cent reduction.

Overall, the Peace Corps received 9,661 applications last November, compared with 12,411 in November of 1966. Recruiting also was down in December, with the corps receiving 7,095 applications last December, compared with 8,288 in 1966.

Peace Corps officials, however, claim these figures should not be interpreted as meaning the corps is losing its appeal to students. "The decrease is attributable to the style of recruiting in the fall of 1966 compared to that in 1967," one official explained. "In late 1966, we put on a major recruiting drive which hit its peak in November. In 1967, however, we visited 25 per cent fewer schools in the fall. During the current academic year, we will have our major recruiting effort in the spring."

Since most Peace Corps volunteers come directly from the campus, the corps' recruiting figures are based on the academic year. So far, applications this year are running about 4,000 behind last year. "But with our major recruiting drive still ahead of us, we expect to at

least equal last year's figures," Vaughn says.

Despite efforts by corps officials to convince the public that it is not losing its appeal, officials admit the corps is more controversial on the campus today than at any other time in its history.

The main reason for this, Vaughn said, "is a feeling that we are an official part of the establishment." One government official explained, "Before the United States became deeply involved in Vietnam, young people did not mind so much being associated with the government, but now they do."

However, Vaughn says the expanding group of student radicals who want to be completely dissociated from the government is not affecting the Peace Corps. "We don't in any sense, or never have, tried to tailor a message for the activist. Our message is more to the concerned, and the concerned can be of almost any political stripe," he said in an interview.

But Vaughn admits Peace Corps recruiting on campuses is more difficult now than it was several years ago. "Most campuses are boiling," he said. "There is more noise and more turmoil, which makes it much harder for us to get our message through." A few years ago it was easy for a recruiter to talk with students, he said. "But

Israel's Consul General Says People "Want Peace"

Tuesday the Honorable Zeev Boneh, the Consul General of Israel, spoke at Asheville-Biltmore College, first to International Relations 23F, and then to social science students in the Social Science Auditorium. The second meeting consisted of

questions from the floor and answers by Mr. Boneh.

Mr. Boneh holds a master's degree in law from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Joining the Israel Civil Service, Mr. Boneh was sent to England and Holland on a United Nations

Fellowship for more study in his field of administration and in the training of Civil Service employees. After serving as Assistant Director of the Training and Education Division of the Civil Service Commission, he gained his present position of Consul

General of Israel serving in the Southeastern portion of the United States.

Questions that were sent to him from the floor of the auditorium concerned, for the most part, the Arab-Israeli conflict—or as he called it, "the six-days war." He was adamant in that it had been a surprise to everyone involved.

In later discussion in the entire history ("it depends on how far back in history you go.") of the State of Israel there have been problems with the neighboring Arab countries. Mr. Boneh said that he was confident he could speak for all of his countrymen in saying "all the Israeli people want peace." According to Mr. Boneh, everything possible was done to prevent any bloodshed in the recent war—except direct communication with the Jordanese government, and that his people had had enough war.

"There is no question about who started this war," Mr. Boneh said, "We just want to be able to live in peaceful coexistence with our neighbors."

Residents Choose Home Rule

An administrative committee of four gave disciplinary control to the residents of the respective dorms on January 19.

Representatives from Scott Dorm submitted and had approved the proposal for peer control by Deans Dula, Riggs, Wutchell and President William Highsmith.

Each residence has compiled personal rules to be coupled with A-B's skelton house rules. Punishment procedure for infringement of dorm rules is also devised by each dorm.

Disciplinary cases are handled by the House Council in most dorms, with the administration acting as the final authority.

In Scott Dormitory cases are ruled on by a changing committee chosen from all of its residents. When asked, however, the administration will take over in cases where the dorm residents feel unqualified to act.

How Many Cards Burned?

NEW YORK (CPS)—Selective Service Director Lewis Hershey and draft resisters are at odds again, this time over the number of draft cards turned in by draft resisters.

Hershey says 618 draft cards have been turned in since draft resisters started sending the cards in on October 16. Hershey claims that a number of the cards were actually drivers licenses or other cards, not draft cards.

The Resistance, the group which has been organizing the turning in of cards, says Hershey is lying and the total of cards turned in and burned is over 2,000.

President Cancels Report Says "As Is"

WASHINGTON (CPS)—The Presidential commission studying last summer's riots will deliver its final report several months ahead of its original deadline, with much of its research incomplete, because its researchers' findings didn't jibe with the kind of report the Administration wanted.

AS IS, a newsletter on civil rights and community action edited by Dave Steinberg of the National Student Association, says the commission's administrative staff suppressed much of what the researchers had found.

As an example, AS IS says the researchers found in one city that "there was no question that the police—not Negroes—were the rioters, bringing a bloodbath to an innocent Negro community."

AS IS says that, faced with these reports, the Administrative staff of the commission, in consultation with the White House, decided that this information had to be suppressed because:

It "would embarrass too many people in an election year."

"There would be too few kind words for local police, or for local political leaders."

The report "could only support an outcry for radically increased federal expenditure," while the President is cutting domestic programs to meet the expenses of the Vietnam war.

So the final deadline for the commission report was moved up. This is what happened, according to AS IS:

"The executive director (of the Commission), presumably in consultation with Governor Otto Kerner of Illinois, chairman of the Commission, informed Commission members that they were to reach their conclusions sooner than expected, to meet the President's wishes. With the apparent assurance that research would continue beyond the date of the Commission's initial report, the members agreed to the President's request."

"The administrative staff immediately requested a final document from the researchers in a matter of a few days. They produced a document of nearly 200 pages, only to be told that it is totally unacceptable. A new version was to be written around the President's specific requests for information on fourteen

points. When the modified report of the research staff still proved unacceptable, all documents were channeled through the administrative staff lawyers who were to describe the research findings in a politically acceptable document which would then be presented to the Commission members."

The major question is how much information will be available to other researchers. AS IS says some of the most damning information may go into the National Archives for five years, where it will be available only to selected researchers. The commission staff may make information available to some other groups, such as the American Sociological Association but observers have speculated that this merely means there will be two sets of reports.

Poll of Campus Leaders Shows McCarthy Ahead

WASHINGTON (CPS)—Student body presidents and editors from 155 colleges and universities have signed a statement supporting the Presidential candidacy of Senator Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.) "and other realistic political alternatives."

In the statement 128 presidents and 40 editors said, "we are singularly impressed by Senator Eugene McCarthy's forthright position on the immorality of U. S. involvement in Vietnam and his courageous decision to challenge President Johnson." They added that they "are hopeful that this example of principal and integrity will not only lead to a change in our government's policies and leaders but will inspire our generation to renewed sense of dedication and purpose."

Sam Brown, a Harvard divinity student who led the effort to gather signatures for the statement, said the phase about supporting other alternative was aimed at those who might wish to support other war opponents, such as Senators George McGovern (D-S. D.) and Stephen Young (D. Ohio), who may run as favorite sons, as well as those who might support Senator Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) or a Republican dove.

He said that about 70 or 80 percent of those who were asked to sign the statement agreed

Coming Up

Friday, Feb. 9—SGA Dance; Grave Park Inn 9-11 p.m. "Swinging Medallions," \$3 per couple.

Saturday, Feb. 10—Basketball (Pembroke—there)

Mon., Feb. 12—Movie: "Suddenly Last Summer"; Student Center Auditorium, 8 p.m. 25c.

Saturday, Feb. 24—Alumni Day; 10 a.m. meeting; 3 p.m. alumni tea in Ramsey Library; 7:30 p.m. basketball game, A-B vs. Maryville;

9:30 SGA Dance Greek Community Center on Cumberland Ave.

Sculpture Is "Hard Work"

By JIM PERRY

While the Art Lab in the Humanities Building remains relatively quiet and clean, the new Art Annex is the scene of the noisy and messy process of stone and wood sculpture.

Michelangelo, the Renaissance sculptor, felt that "sculpture" was accomplished by the removal of material from a whole, as in wood and stone, not by adding, as in clay and plaster. The latter he described as "molding."

The A-B art students, are, in the true sense of the word, sculpting, and are using tools no more advanced than those used by Michelangelo.

"It's really hard work, physically as well as mentally," said Lani Campbell, sitting beside her half-sculpted block of marble. "While you're swinging a two-pound hammer, and chipping away at the stone, you have to keep a lot of things in mind.

"First you have to hit it hard enough to chip off enough rock so that you can finish it in a reasonable amount of time, but, if you hit it too hard, you'll end up with two blocks of marble instead of one. Also, as you're chiseling and hammering and rasping and sanding, you have



ELOISE DOWNS works on a piece of marble with a hammer and chisel as part of A-B's art program. The newly opened art annex is the sculpting lab.

Recruiters

On Campus

During the months of February and March a number of Organizations will be on campus to recruit prospective graduates. Below you will find the name, time and place for each group. If you are interested in talking with any of these groups, see ED HARRIS, SS 217, to sign up for an interview.

Friday, Feb. 23, Navy Officer Selection Team, SC Lobby, 9:00.

Monday, Feb. 26, W.T. Grant Company SS219, 9-2

Wednesday, Feb. 28, U.S. Marine Corp, SC Lobby, 9-1

Friday, March 15, N.C. State Dept. Personnel, SS 219, 9-2

Thursday, March 28, Aetna Life, SS 219 9-1

Thursday, March 28, U.S. Forest Service, SS 219, 1-5

Friday, March 29, Wachovia Bank, SS 219 9-2