

the RIDGERUNNER

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

11-07-74

SENATORS: SELF-EXAMINATION

Leslie Deane

At the October 28 Senate meeting, held at 9:00 in the Coffeehouse, a faction of Senators presented some convincing arguments for the suspension of Senate activities until the actual worth of Senate proceedings could be established.

The efficacy of Student Government legislation has long been a subject of campus debate. Sen. Bulmer argued at the meeting that in all practical terms, there was nothing the Senate did that could not be done more expediently and efficiently by one of the commissions.

Senator Stephenson spoke briefly to the members of the Senate on the worthlessness of student legislation. She argued that the group did little more than play Senate since there was no bill in the constitution providing for bill enforcement. There is also no body on campus for enforcing student legislation.

Vice president David Ramseur replied that while the weekly meetings may be little more than dramatics as far as the worth of legislation goes, the Senate has a responsibility to the students that could not be carried out by abolishment of the Senate.

Senator Swift replied that the faction of senators promoting the investigation did not, at this time, advocate abolishment of the Senate, but merely requested that senate proceedings be suspended until the committee could complete investigations on Senate power and position on campus.

Senators Swift and Stephenson further argued that until the committee had reached a conclusion, all legislation and proceedings could not be considered permanent or in the best interest of the students,

the constituency. They called for adjournment of the meeting.

Senators Hickey and Glick replied that there were several pressing issues that needed to be decided on that night, such as the allocation of funds for student intramurals. To suspend proceedings until the committee could meet and decide would needlessly delay the execution of certain senate proceedings. This, they argued, is not duly representative of the constituency.

Those members of the university community who are interested in voicing an opinion on the abolishment of student government at UNCA should contact one of their senators or come by the Ridge-runner office.

CLIMBING CLASS HELD

The Middle Earth Society, newly formed organization for outdoor aesthetics and appreciation, sponsored a rock-climbing class on Nov. 2.

Under the tutelage of Brad Shaver, veteran rock climber from Mountaineering South, and Grover Cable, a senior mathematics and philosophy major from UNCA, the group was taught the delicate art of scaling rock walls.

The techniques of belaying and propelling were explained, as well as the use of equipment and the proper tying of knots.

The class was taught at Looking Glass Rock, located about seven miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway, on the far side of Mt. Pisgah. It is an interesting rock face with a wide range of faces to scale, both for the beginner, and the veteran. Mr. Shaver introduced the group to the south side to give them a true taste of what climbing is like.

(CPS) He or she may be the forgotten student a member of a surprisingly large minority of students who go to college but do not live there--the commuter student.

A growing number of researchers have found that commuter students have very different problems than residents and for one reason or another, are connected with their colleges solely by their classes. According to a survey of nearly 200,000 incoming freshmen at 360 schools by the Co-operative Institution Research Project (CIRP), 42% of the students reported that they resided with their parents.

A recent issue of Research Currents, published by the Washington-based ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education, has compiled some of the major studies done on commuter students and their characteristics.

The primary reason for commuting is financial benefits, concluded a study in the late 1960's, by Robert Frenske and Craig Scott of almost 33,000 students

NATIONAL STUDY REVEALS

COMMUTER QUIRKS

at 800 different colleges. These "local attenders" lived at home while commuting to classes and were mostly from lower income families.

Yet a study this year by Elizabeth Suchar for the College Entrance Examination Board revealed that the actual difference in college costs between residents and commuters is only about \$300 per year.

Some of the difference, if not all of it, Suchar pointed out, may be eliminated by higher transportation costs that resident students do not have to pay, making the actual finance commitment of both commuters and residents about the same.

Nonetheless, financial considerations play a big role for commuters. A study done at Wayne State University in Michigan found that the typical commuter at that school spent six hours a day commuting or working. With that many hours involved, these students usually scheduled courses grouped together and often left the campus immediately after the classes were over.

With such a schedule, commuters often have little time for normal, college related extra-curricular activities and for developing relationships with other students and faculty.

A number of studies have tried to discover what effects this has on the typical commuter student. Two studies done in conjunction with the American Council on Education explored the impact of college on commuters.

In one study conducted at 13 liberal arts colleges, Arthur Chickering and Ellen Kuper discovered that commuters

participated in a narrower range of activities, and had a smaller range of friends. They tended to have more formal relationships with members of the opposite sex.

The Chickering-Kuper study also found that resident students tended to change more rapidly in non-intellectual areas than commuters, because the residents saw a sharp contrast with values

(continued, p. 3)

LAW SEMINAR TO BE HELD

All minority students in North Carolina who have an interest in studying law are being invited to attend the annual Minority Recruitment Weekend Conference on Saturday, Nov. 9, 1974, sponsored by the Minority Recruitment Committee of the SBA.

UNC law students are currently making preliminary visits to campuses throughout the State to encourage participation. Discussion will include practical aspects of gaining admittance to law school such as the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), helpful undergraduate curricula, and financial aid sources.

The conference is informational and not directed specifically toward recruitment toward the UNC law school.

The conference will be highlighted by a panel discussion on the topic of "Social and Political Dimensions of the Lawyer's Role." Speakers who have been invited are Atty. Henry E. Frye; Atty. Walter T. Johnson, Jr.; The Honorable Judge Elreta Alexander; The Honorable Justice Susie Sharpe; Atty. Julius L. Chambers; and Atty. Arnold Locklear.

Registration for the conference will be held between 8:00 am and 8:50 am.

