

EDITORIAL PAGE

Page Two

THE CLARION NOVEMBER 12, 1965

On The Death Of A Very Good Friend But Barely Known And At Our Fault

In a letter to the editor, Mrs. Celia Tauscher announced the ending of the series, Friday-at-Four, due to the lack of student interest and support. We serve a greater disappointment and feeling of guilt than most.

In a previous issue, we fell all out for the efforts and quality of results by Phi Theta Kappa. One of their most applauded deeds was Friday-at-Four. Only one member of the staff attended regularly, the others not caring to attend or shouting the "no time" Mrs. Tauscher mentioned. It was not that we did not know the value of the series, just that there is a general trend not to attend a function that is not required—laziness, if you please.

So now it is ended, and once ended, mourned. As any subject that is deprived, the worth is realized. It was a program for the student, not the intellectual sack cloth and ashes, but the general student. The speakers were ordinary people who lived ordinary lives and spoke in the true essence of living. Their subjects were the subjects of everyday life but spoken upon by those who actually lived them.

We apologize to Mrs. Tauscher and to Phi Theta Kappa for (1) our lack of intelligence and (2) our lack of interest. We hope that come second semester, Friday-at-Four will be re-begun and we shall not fail our second chance.

Student Lack Of Interest Is Not All Their Fault

Brevard College students are apathetic; there is no denying the fact. They lack interest in scholastic, extra-curricular, and social aspects of student life. Grades are low, there is little or no attendance to unrequired functions, and there has not been a social gathering yet that is worthy of the name. This apathy extends even to the alumni of the college. One could almost match an active alumni with an active trustee and still have trustees left over.

The editor maintains that this condition is not due entirely to the students themselves, but rather to the manner in which they are controlled. One finds it hard to become fervently interested in a program with which he has no dealings except those of a forced nature. Lyceum, Chapel, Student Government, and classes are run by the administration, for the students, and with the administration. Students are allowed only the finished product, and one will find no finger-prints other than those of upper echelon.

In the future issues of this paper, we will present different ideas for change, some major, some minor, but all important in achieving a final goal of student education and interest in the process. We desire the cooperation of students, faculty, and administration in the form of suggestions and strong constructive criticism.

The Clarion

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Letter To The Editor

Editor, The Clarion:

I would like to express my disappointment at the lack of attendance at the Friday-at-Four programs. These programs are set up and planned to appeal to students, yet few students take advantage of them. Attendance is voluntary. Certainly the student's presence will not help him make a C in any subject, but he will gain something, something that should not have to be defined for the true student, something not recorded in terms of grades or quality points, something intangible but very real. A student whose interest extends no further than the boundaries of a lesson assignment or a textbook will leave college a narrow and uneducated person, even if his average is B or better.

I am aware that students rely on the traditional and pathetic excuse—"no time." But voluntary attendance or interest in non-class work is simply a matter of choice. One chooses that which he wishes to participate in. If one is a curious, searching, learning individual, he will choose not to waste hours in childish griping and asinine complaining; he will find that he does have time to attend history movies or operatic movies without being required to do so, to attend the functions which the college plans and promotes for his benefit—he will find there is more to an education than memorizing textbook and lecture notes.

The Friday-at-Four programs will be discontinued until next semester. I feel it is unfair to the speakers to have only five students present out of an enrollment of over 500.

Mrs. Celia Tauscher

A Progressive Government Needs Progressive Students

Most persons consider an elected or appointed official as being a public servant. After they cast their ballot or approve the appointment, they sit back and wait for results. Then, when the errors are made or the progress not reported, they condemn those they chose for being inept and incapable, never realizing that it is their faults that make the elected impotent.

Student Government at Brevard has a long way to go before it deserves the title. But the job cannot be done by a few. No massive change, which is what is needed, is accomplished by one person or a handful. George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, nor Ben Franklin changed this country alone. They had support from their electorate, a support that was coupled with a desire for a change for the betterment. The leaders may get the glory, but it must be the common populace who does the work.

A primary need is interest. This college may never have student rule, and it will be none the worse, except in the students' development. It shows a marked immaturity and unwillingness to accept the responsibility of self-government. It demonstrates the facet that students who attend Brevard have not the capability for self-criticism and correction. The students need an interest not only in themselves as individuals but also in the student body as an organization. When this occurs, turning self-government over to the students will not be a risk, but a wise move.

Another need is leaders. Not just figureheads who are content with the title, but individuals who are willing to make the title more than a sentence to go on the extra-curricular sheet for transfer to another college. Those leaders have been chosen, but possibly have not realized the importance of their delegated tasks. The leaders could help the interest and the interest help the leaders.

It is a grand idea, almost a Utopian one, that students will become interested enough to make Brevard College not just a educational institution by textbook, but also an institution for learning to carry responsibility. The idea is valid; one wonders if the students are.

The Friday-At-Four Has Maggie Masters

In October of 1955, Gail and Maggie Masters set out on a trip to Death Valley with a tent, sleeping bags, and their working equipment. This was the year of travel for which the Masters had been planning many years. In the Friday-at-Four presented on November 12, Mrs. Masters discussed the most unusual journey and the examples of her enamel-

Although they had both worked and saved for the trip, the Masters had worked in an electronics factory, they found their funds soon ran out. The trip was primarily financed by their making enamelware jewelry, sometimes in rented apartments, sometimes in their home—wherever they could find enough space to work. They sold this jewelry to craft shows along the road, literally making their way across the United States.

The Masters discovered enamelworking by accident when they were taking pottery-making lessons in California, where they originally lived. Mr. Masters was a civil engineer at the time, and his wife had had extensive art training. They found that they had a knack for designing and creating jewelry, which is made by the process of applying enamel colors on a metal background and then firing the product until a glaze is achieved.

The couple spent five weeks camping in Death Valley making jewelry. As the season grew colder, they decided to move to a warmer climate. According to the average temperatures, Brownville, Texas, the warmest climate in the nation, so, the Masters packed their gear into the car and headed for Brownville. Upon arrival they found they did not particularly like Brownville, so they went on the Corpus Christi

From Texas, the Masters moved to New Orleans (where they lived in the French Quarter), then on to Cuba. Their wandering travels eventually led them through a total of 42 states, Cuba and Canada. They arrived back in California in October 1954, with a scrapbook full of friends, and a new craft-jewelry making.

In the course of their journey, the Masters had happened to camp near Brevard, and "fell in love" with the area. In 1955, they sold their California home and moved to Cedar Mountain, N. C., where they currently operate a craft shop.

Dean Eston Roberts announced that the Brevard College Music Department is giving to the students a piano for their own use. Sgt. proved the piano.

This piano will be placed in the Student Lounge to be used as the students wish. The responsibility of the student who may use only this piano for dancing and similar activities.