

# Editorial Page

PAGE TWO THE CLARION November 6, 1970

## Contemporary Arts Festival Needs Support Of College Community

The 1970 Brevard College Festival of Contemporary Arts began Tuesday and will run until November 24. The fourth annual event will feature excellent presentations in contemporary music, art, and drama. The festival has proved a definite asset to the cultural life at Brevard College, and we heartily encourage the college community to support it this year by attending as many events as possible.

For various reasons, the cultural offerings at Brevard this year have been somewhat limited. As one could expect, one of the reasons is lack of monetary support as compared with some other years. By showing our support for the festival's events we can do two things; become better versed in the culture of our society, enriching ourselves in the process; and let it be known that we are still interested in the arts, in order to see this type of event maintained, and perhaps along with this, encourage widening of the overall program on campus.

So let's attend!

## Midterm Grades Are Worthwhile

Since midterm grades were given out recently, it follows that this is the logical time for many to raise the question, "what's the use in giving midterm grades?" Many students and faculty members feel that midterms are not worth the trouble, and have little meaning.

True, midterms often require extra testing and special attention for the student, with extra effort for the instructor as well. Also, the midterm grade does not always indicate accurately the final outcome, despite the fact that many students become quite concerned about midterms.

However, the major purpose of midterms is to give the student (and the instructor) some idea of his progress in the course midway through the semester. Without this grade it might be possible for a student to go all the way to exam time and have little idea of where he stands. Then, perhaps, when the student is about to take an exam and asks the instructor for his grade average, he may find that it is too late to do anything about improving it.

A midterm grade can be useful in letting the student know how he has done so far, and then how to plan for the remainder of the semester's work, knowing what he must do to maintain or improve his grade. This can be done much more effectively at the midterm when eight weeks still remain, than at exam time, or the last minute.

Most interested students will make some attempt to keep their grades throughout the year; others will wait until the end to do anything, perhaps when it's too late. It is for the latter group, especially, that midterm grades can be available in conducting a better effort and performance.

## The CLARION

The VOICE of Brevard College

Mark Todd	Editor-in-Chief
Ryle Adams	Advertising
Susan Genes	Advertising
Mike E. Thorpe	Sports Reporter
Rowe Haden	Sports Reporter
Reid Tunstall	News Reporter
Milton Rankin	News Reporter
Susan Harrell	News Reporter
Bobbie McDaniel	News Reporter
Mrs. Ena Kate Sigmon	Advisor

Published weekly during the college session, with the exception of holidays and examination periods, by students of Brevard College. The opinions expressed in this periodical are those of the editorial board and not necessarily those of the College. Printed by The Transylvania Times, North Broad Street, Brevard, North Carolina.

## Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

After hearing the campaign pleas by President Nixon concerning the elections this fall, I feel that President Nixon has done a disservice to those concerned individuals for whom civil disobedience means non-violent participation instead of violent confrontation. Mr. Nixon's arduous attempts at support for his foreign and domestic endeavors met with definable opposition from Democratic leaders in both houses and from students in colleges across the nation. After con-

demning complacent Democrats, he continued in his speech to list those significant achievements by his party and to attack what he called "radical dissidents." In addition, he urgently solicited Presidential power to deal with administrative policies.

Since most of these "radical students" have neither voice nor vote in elective procedures, I can see no validity in this kind of thinking. According to his statements, anything beyond legalistic, petitioned dissent is a dangerous, threatening men-

ace. In retrospect I feel that Mr. Nixon and the present administration should take a hard look at what our democratic process is heading toward. For to invest within a President, unlimited power would be a breach of faith to the American people and a definite threat to the political balance of this country.

I have observed Mr. Nixon's alleged "silent majority," and I can see no way of finding a bridge with which communication can be achieved. Since many of my political beliefs are misunderstood as belonging to that of a New Left, I shall state simply by aims of reconstruction and reform. I want to cause a certain amount of discomfort among those who are apathetic. My struggle is to shock people like President Nixon out of their political smugness.

In the words of Thoreau, "I think we should be men first and subjects afterward."

Sincerely,  
Reid Tunstall

## Student Government Expectations For Administration Are Outlined

By Lyndon Ashworth  
President Student  
Government Association

The Student Government of any higher educational institution is basically designated to facilitate campus communication and control, and to boost campus morale. In meeting this objective it sponsors dances, social activities, and holds meetings. These meetings are comprised of endless proposals which are related to student affairs and interests. Parliamen- tarily in a college or university, if the proposals are passed by the student government, they are passed on to the administration. If the proposal or resolution is not too absurd, it should be passed, not vetoed, by the administration simply because it was first proposed in the better interest of the students.

In order to become a leader in a role of student government leaders, the association needs to have more than just a partial voice in the legislation of the higher delegation, or not be pressed into assuming the responsibility for certain functions of which they have no voice in the formulation of actual policies.

By having students on a board of directors or board of trustees and faculty committees as ex-officio members, the student body would have a much better idea of the happenings of the governmental bodies of the institution.

Because of the lack of avenues of information, the set of objectives and functions of the student government associations are not in communication with the faculty and administration.

## Contemporary Arts Begins This Week

The Festival of Contemporary Arts opened Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church with a lecture recital of contemporary organ music by Marilyn Kaiser. Miss Kaiser joined the Brevard College music faculty this fall and is presently organist - director at All Souls Parish in Biltmore, North Carolina. She is also consultant to the Western North Carolina Diocese of the Episcopal Church.

Tonight Harvey H. Miller will co-ordinate the Brevard College choral groups in an 8 p. m. musical program in Dunham Music Center.

George and Jerrie Lucktenburg will present a harpsichord and violin recital at 11 a. m. on Saturday in the music center.

Ideally the student government associations should possess the objective of total student participation in college matters and the feeling that the student has a valuable and necessary contribution to make to the institution. When this attitude is present, the students have a "sense" of maturity, and the amount of paternalism on the part of the administration is limited. It is true that the administrative officers are more experienced and educated than the students; so this introduces the practice of a teach and help program centered around counseling the leaders of the student legislature in matters of student government.

By involvement and participation in institutional policy-making and implementation, a foundation is formed for positive and productive relationships, communicable among students, faculty, and administration.

## OUTLOOK

By Mark Todd  
EDITOR

I'm sure many of you have heard the song that goes, "I've seen fire and I've seen rain." Well, lately, I've seen plenty of the latter, to say the least. I could go on and on about the weather we have had recently, but it would just bore you, and it wouldn't help anything. In fact, it seems that ever since I mentioned the fact that we hadn't had as much rain as usual this year, a few weeks ago, that the weatherman has pulled a turnabout to more typical (unfortunately) weather on us. But that's enough talk about our "local problem".

With all the talk about drugs lately, it has been brought to my attention some of the sad facts about marijuana, but without the usual sermon. It's as simple as this; without arguing about the possible effects of marijuana or anything like that, here is what can happen to one if he is convicted of using, selling, or even holding it for a friend: He can lose all or part of the following — The right to vote, own a gun, or run for public office.

Also, the right to become a licensed doctor, dentist, C.P.A., attorney, architect, realtor, private detective, pharmacist, school teacher, barber, and many other career opportunities will be revoked. He may be forbidden to work for the city, state, and federal government. He cannot be admitted to various schools and colleges. While he could enlist in the military service, he would have no choice of service. And believe it or not, marijuana doesn't win one many friends from any group of people in society.

So even to say nothing of the physical effects, marijuana, supposedly the "safest" drug as the laws stand now, doesn't seem to me to offer the individual very much that could be called positive.