

Editorial Page

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Laos Offensive Arouses Many New Questions Of Credibility

The American people are now, more than ever, puzzled as to the conflicts in the aims of the Nixon war policy and what is actually happening now that the South Vietnamese, with American air support, have entered Laos. We wonder how can we end the war quickly by expanding it. As in the Cambodian invasion last spring, the Nixon policy seems to be to flush out communists, using Laos as a sanctuary, in order to enable the South Vietnamese to stand on their own.

Unlike the Cambodian invasion, American troops are not actively involved. However, there have been reports of some Americans being secretly employed as advisors, which tends to concern the public once more as to the "credibility gap" of the Nixon statements. Also, the extensive but admitted U. S. air support has resulted in heavy casualties to date in American lives.

The conflict then in present policy seems to be our hesitancy to accept that the best way to end our role in Indo-China and allow the South Vietnamese to take full control is to "give them hell" while we are still there. It would be a more popular move for us to simply bow out with a whimper, but the present administration seems to feel that it is more feasible to give a maximum effort before we do leave, whenever that is.

The disillusionment with American policy is understandable, and indeed, there are many things we need to question. However, despite the fact that the media and many others are increasingly suspicious of our motives, there is still a chance that our policy may be worthwhile in the long run. Since this invasion is primarily being carried on by the South Vietnamese, there is some glimmer of hope that they are becoming more independent and self-sufficient.

The question of a proper policy is not an easy one to answer, and the most popular ways out are not always the best. At least our government thinks so, since they continue to cut their own throats as far as public acceptance goes.

Waiting For Disaster

While residents of the Los Angeles area in California slowly return to life as usual with an occasional interruption caused by aftershocks, scientists are busy at work. They seem to think that the devastating earthquake that occurred there last week is only an omen of bigger things to come.

In other words, the most populous state in the nation is sitting on rather shaky ground because of immense faults in its crust. While residents continue to pour in, building homesites on land liable to collapse almost any time, and hills vulnerable to mudslides or flash fires, the possibility of disaster remains.

When it will happen, no one can say.

The CLARION

The VOICE of Brevard College

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Letters To The Editor

The following items have been observed by the Sims Student Union employees:

1. The toilet roll holder in the second floor men's room was torn off the wall, and someone tried to flush it down the toilet.
2. There are at least nine cigarette burns in the second floor carpet. While we expect this to happen on occasion, we do feel that nine holes in one month reflects carelessness.
3. We have found evidence that people have walked across the tables and couches.
4. Although we have tried to confine food and drink to the Tornado Room, we have found an ice cream cone down the back of a couch, chocolate on several pieces of furniture, and drink "rings" and spills in many areas.
5. In what seems to be a juvenile "mini temper tantrum" over a bad shot, several students have been crashing their paddles down on the ping pong table.
7. Someone thought it was

cute to paste up stamp size papers that came in junk mail all over the mail room. Other students must have seen this happening but only expressed apathy. 8. Power does not make a good pool player though it seems several students think this is the case. Many balls have been bounced on the floor; several have found their way to the windows. 9. An adequate number of receptacles have been placed around the building for cigarettes and

trash, but many times the floor is used through desire, or laziness, or carelessness.

10. And we have even had the burning of ping pong balls in the ping pong room. Some fun!

As has been requested by the students, the hours for the Union have been extended and the lounge areas are now open at 8:00 a. m. Saturdays. I think the above will stand in answer to the request (Clarion Feb. 5) for unsupervised opening of the Sims Student Union.

Toby D. Ives

Apathy Is Often Overemphasized

By Susan Harrell

There is unnecessary guilt felt by most individuals toward the label - Apathetic. There is no need to search for a level of humanity on which to hang apathetic irresponsibility. To pin general disinterest on college students, teenagers, adults, just adds to the over-emphasized tendency of this decade and the past to categorize large social levels by degree of emotionalism toward progress. Students are not revolutionary maniacs, and the section of humanity over the age of 35 is not apathetic toward progress.

The social trend has been toward individualism and uncriticized freedom of choice, therefore, freedom of interest. There is no need to worry about in whom the apathetic wave lies. Everyone sets his own pace and should be aware that there are too many inevitable changes in world living to come, to identify emotionally with each. There is a need for a balance where there tends to exist an excess of emotional response.

Progress can not be stopped or delayed for long by the calm conservative human element, only brought down to earth.

Individuals for fear of being apathetic toward a world that needs direction often take steps in the progressive sequence too fast. It is easy today to become caught up in a wave of emotionalism that becomes destructive, labeling all that do not follow such a frantic pace as apathetic.

There has to be some apathetic, cautious, non-emotional approach to change in order to keep us all from running too fast away with our emotions and actually leaving the green fields of life behind. The slower paced individuals are not apathetic; they serve to balance those of us that move too fast.



"WEAKER SEX MY EYE"

OUTLOOK

By Mark Todd
 EDITOR

If the latest trend in pop music is any indication, Religion is finding new life with many of the under-30 generation. Particularly with the release of the albums, *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, and George Harrison's *All Things Must Pass*, we are seeing a new interest in the expression of religious beliefs. Although the new interpretations are perhaps strange to many, they are a healthy sign in our secularized society.

Since we can find value and relevancy through a modern interpretation of our religious beliefs, this seems to be better than sticking to the old, which we often find of little value for our own experiences. In former Beatle George Harrison's album, a landmark in itself, he relates his philosophies of life and religion in a way that strikes the keen listener right between the eyes. In relating his own struggle and his years of atheism, he then goes on to tell of the satisfaction he has gained from instituting his new interpretation into the issues of concern to him. His views on religion and death are perhaps the most interesting.

So through this new pathway of expression, the "Godrock" movement, there is hope for a revitalization of the Christian Religion by the young people of the world. Still, this and other new movements in religion are meeting mixed response by the "old guard" in Christianity, those who would cling to the old institutions and rituals till they collapse, much as can be seen to some degree today.

While it's true that the new interpretations arising at the present are probably not the complete answer by any means, this new train of thought seems to be capable of reaching young people and offering something of value.