

Faculty reflect on U. S. foreign policy

By Dennis Brown

Fire may have been worse

To Suzon Franzske, Becky McGrady and Anne Tuttle Brevard College and Community owes a sincere "Thank you." At about 12:00 Tuesday night Suzon walked to the trash cans at the end of the hall in the basement to find smoke pouring from one of the overflowing cans.

Suzon, staying calm, swung Becky's door open for help and then grabbed the fire extinguisher. Becky pulled the fire alarm and began throwing the cans into the hall. As the smoke thickened, Suzon's extinguisher jammed and Becky took off to get one from another floor. Anne Tuttle helped Becky free the extinguisher from the glass case on first floor.

Back in basement Suzon had scattered the burning debris well enough to be doused a second and third time.

Beam girls (and an intelligent few men) should be commended for their calm clearing of the building. If the fire had not been discovered when it was, the boiler room would have been one of the first rooms engulfed in the path of the fire. Panic can be deadly. Needless to say what losses could have been suffered.

As a Beam basement resident, it's almost impossible to describe the sick, nauseous pain I felt as a boy screamed out his window, "Burn, Baby, burn!" My friends were still in the basement.

The fire was completely out when the firemen arrived, though the smoke had traveled up the stairwell and could still be seen rolling down second and third floor halls. Suzon made a brief trip to the infirmary because of smoke inhalation, but that was the only casualty besides the cremation of one trash can. A still smoldering cigarette, tossed in a waste basket was probably the cause of the blaze. Hopefully this will prove a cheap lesson in carelessness.

The Beam boys who realize the seriousness of the alarm and made their way to the basement were greatly appreciated — especially for their genuine concern. To Anne, Becky, and Suzon a sincere "Thanks" for perhaps preventing Brevard College from being Wednesday morning's tragic headlines. —P.B.

Convocation is one of best

Brevard finally came up with the type of Convocation the students want. The Reverend Ed Kilbourne succeeded in unifying the student body in what was definitely the most meaningful assembly at Brevard College in the past two years.

This is the type of Convocation that students do not have to be forced to attend. Kilbourne's easy-going, unimposing style provided a much more pleasant atmosphere than most of our Convocations, which are usually marked by a rigidity that often proves uncomfortable.

If the remaining Staley Distinguished Christian speakers prove to be as delightful as the first, there will be little need for required attendance.

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As the presidential campaign moves into high gear and President Nixon's trip to China has materialized, the *Clarion* has decided to run a series of two interviews with students and faculty. This week's interviews will cover the opinion of faculty members, and next week the students' ideas will appear.

The interview questions, in the order they were asked are:

1. What do you feel is the major reason for President Nixon's trip to China? Is it mainly just a good political move in an election year or are there other reasons?

2. What do you see as the relationship between the U.S., U.S.S.R., and Communist China in the next 10-20 years?

3. Do you feel that the U. S. is being presented with a competent slate of presidential contenders in 1972? Why?

4. What do you see as the major issue in the 1972 presidential campaign? Why?

5. Do you have hope for the future of the U. S.? Why?

The following faculty members expressed their opinions about these questions.

Mr. Holcombe

1. President Nixon has conducted a basic change in American foreign policy, a change from isolation and non-recognition of China to the opening of avenues for some co-operation. Only Nixon, with a firm anti-communist background and the support of the major conservatives in the U.S., could have accomplished this without internal turmoil. Many people, including myself, feel that non-recognition has been a mistake for many years. We applaud the President's willingness to talk. And Mr. Nixon is skillful enough to recognize that that's good politics.

2. I'm no prophet, but some things are apparent. The People's Republic of China is not and cannot be the major market that Americans have envisioned it for over a century; the country's just too poor. China must industrialize, and we can provide the machinery and/or technical knowledge that they need. If they don't industrialize, they will have to expand the acreage of their agricultural base, and that means conflict with the U.S.S.R. in the heartland of Asia. Neither the Russians nor the Americans

want such a conflict.

3. North Carolinians will have the first Presidential Preference Primary in our history, and this morning I read the list of candidates. They include everyone from George McGovern to Terry Sanford to George Wallace; and that's some choice. These men (and Shirley Chisholm) are qualified by experience

in any Presidential candidate ever has been. Of course, I have my choice, but the American system gives us the right to disagree.

This should not imply that I feel the convention system isn't out of balance. Many minorities are simply not represented there, including the aged, the blacks, the youth, and others. The candidates at this stage are qualified, diverse, and some look promising. I wonder who will be nominated by the conventions.

4. With only a couple of exceptions, presidential campaigns have been fought over domestic issues. Vietnam is almost dead as a vital question, and the newest draft calls show that. No candidate has anything different to say about Vietnam except differing speeds for troop withdrawal.

As I see it, the major issue will be the state of the economy, including inflation, farm production, the job market, and other aspects. This is the bread and butter of the country. Second will be the "social issue,"

centering around bussing, minority representation, and similar issues. There's a lot of ground for improvement in these fields. Third, watch for the tax sharing proposal to relieve property owners in their support of the public school system; that's the next major tax reform in sight.

5. How can one not hope for the future of a young, dynamic country like this? As I've been watching the news from China, I've been most depressed by the lack of open spaces, by the intense cultivation of every available bit of land that can produce anything edible. Compare this with our country, which has only one fourth the population. Yes, we have problems, but not like we had seventy years ago. We licked those, and we can take care of these. What we need is education and involvement, at every level. We need schools, for things other than baby-sitting agencies and need to make them the centers of education that they should be. We need to slow up our college years and start turning out truly educated people, not just technicians. And we need to spread industrial training to turn the poorly educated into technicians.

That's a ladder we're starting to climb. We need to do more of it.

Dean Ferree

1) I believe that the basic season for the China trip is an

—Turn to Page Four

Letter To The Editor...

Dear Editor:

Even though not too many people have found girls basketball interesting enough to come to support the team here at Brevard, there are a few that have. On behalf of the girls basketball team, we would like to extend a "special thanks" to the following: Grey (Kentucky) Hart, Dennis Brown, and Jim Holmes. These guys were willing to give up their time to be at our practices and to help out in any way possible. We feel

that they have contributed much in helping to improve the team.

On Friday and Saturday, February 25-26, there will be a girls basketball tournament here. We would appreciate some support from the student body. Also "thanks" to the interested students who have come to our games throughout the season.

Co-captains
Helen Walker and
Debra Hinson

VIEWPOINT

By — JOHN WARLICK

A college is a place where students are supposedly prepared academically and socially to cope with the world they live in. It seems strange to me that a committee for Brevard College would cancel films because of their nature. If this school were a kindergarten full of six year olds I would see why this movie should be banned. If the people of Brevard College want to isolate the students from the "cruel world" why don't they build a 12 foot fence around the campus. Or the best idea yet would be to move this college right smack down in the middle of the Himalayan Mountains, where we would have no contact with other intelligent life.

Now let's look at it realistically. Why should 19 and 20 year-olds not be shown R-rated movies? Most of the students on the Brevard College campus know exactly what's happening, so why shelter them?

Why can't the students have enlightened films? These films would make the students think and might solve some problems. I would much rather see a movie of this kind instead of *Bambi* by Walt Disney.

Test fee abolished by SUL

A meeting of the Student Union Legislature was held on February 16. It was reported that the \$5.00 test fee has been abolished. This includes weekly tests and mid-term examinations, but not final examinations. However, teachers are not required to reschedule tests at a student's request.

A women's basketball tournament will be held at Brevard on February 25-26. Visiting players will be staying in Jones and West Beam.