

# Editorial Comment

## Chapel?

The word chapel originated from the Latin word cappella meaning a short cloak or dim. The cloak belonging to St. Martin of Tours was preserved as a sacred relic in a oratory specially built for that purpose. Thus, the word has evolved to its present meaning of being a private place of worship used by members of a religious denomination or faith.

Does the required "chapel" that is held every Thursday fit this definition? In a sense yes; it is a place outside of Church where various religious denominations meet. But, is it a "place of worship"? This is rather dubious in light of the handling on stage of this "chapel" and the various things being done in the audience throughout the duration.

According to Chapter Six of Isaiah in the Old Testament, a worship service is characterized by five aspects; a praising of God, a confession of sin by the congregation, a forgiveness, followed by thanksgiving and a dedication which includes the lesson or sermon. Also, the Christian Church has as its basis the Old Testament, and holds that the main requirement for a chapel service is the receiving of Communion. Without it, it is not a true service. Our "chapel" does not contain these characteristics. There may be any combination of them, varying from one week to the next, but never all of the essentials. Thus, according to Isaiah and the early Christian Church, for example, Paul and the Didache, this "chapel" is not really a worship service.

Then, what is it? This question can be debated, but the most reasonable answer appears to be a religious assembly, where a speaker lectures to the students every week.

Other lecture assemblies held on this campus are followed by a question and answer period. Yet, in "chapel" under the present set-up, a speaker can make any statement he pleases without being openly questioned. This is exemplified by the speaker of March 2. During the course of his talk, he proceeded to single out the Roman Catholic Church and make some highly questionable statements concerning it. It is very poor taste for a speaker to single out one denomination and criticize it. This becomes even worse when there are members of many different denominations, sects, and other religions present at such an assembly of the student body, even though the school is Methodist affiliated. The speaker made several statements that deserved to be clarified. Also, the extreme emotionalism that he expressed seemed to alienate the audience rather than to interest them in his presentation.

Thus, it seems reasonable to establish a period for questions from the students. This would perhaps stimulate a little more interest on the part of the students and make the speakers more aware of checking the authenticity of some statements they may make.

It is hoped that some changes will be made in the future. Such changes are: calling "chapel" by its correct term assembly and having a question and answer period like other assemblies.

Thus, this "chapel" that we now have should be clarified as to its meaning--chapel or assembly--and be treated accordingly.

## One-Act Play In Second Week

The Louisburg Players are entering their second week of production on two brilliant one-act plays, "Overruled," by George Bernard Shaw, and "Something for Joe," a play written by Director Robert Versteeg. The plays have already been presented three nights last week, and were greeted with much audience enthusiasm. "Overruled" was presented two weeks ago at Campbell College, at the Carolina Dramatic Festival, where it was awarded a Distinguished Commendation, the highest award presented in the competition.

"Something for Joe," first, is a play concerning the late

President John F. Kennedy. It is a fantastic synthesis of cynicism and praise, of bitterness and hero-worship, with just a touch of the abstract. It would be a gross understatement to call this play thought-provoking. It is deeply moving, and will not soon be forgotten by those who see it.

Then, to lighten the mood somewhat, "Overruled" comes in at a laugh a minute. It has been said of Shaw that when he spoke seriously, he was joking; and when he said something in an amusing manner, he was serious. This is probably his secret by which he evades the scathing criticism which is usu-

Sir:

Your editorial in the last issue of The Columns was in my opinion somewhat unfair to the students of Louisburg College. I must agree with you in that the manners of our students could stand improvement. However, I feel that the student body is being given a "raw deal" concerning our past concerts.

To start with, these concerts are required attendance for all freshmen. For someone who is not truly interested in the type of performance given by the more cultural groups such as the Metropolitan Opera Concert, required attendance serves only to destroy what little interest that person may have. Then after being required to attend, the students were supposed to appear extremely interested. I think it is time that you, the administration, and others took note of the fact that Louisburg College does not present an audience for the more cultural entertainment and that required attendance is only going to provide a disinterested audience.

I think it would be hard to deny the fact that the students did not enjoy the opera concert in view of the quickness with which the students left the auditorium. This quick exit was not a discourtesy. The signal for a curtain call should come from the audience, and certainly there was no such signal at that particular concert.

Again I would like to say that I believe the manners of our students could be improved. Also, I hope in the future that the people responsible for selecting the entertainment for Louisburg will consider the student reaction to past concerts.

Sincerely,  
James P. Mobley

Letter to Editor -

I was glad to see the editorial in the February 24 issue of the Columns. It is rewarding to know that I don't stand alone in horror and disgust when my peers behave in a manner unbecoming to a well behaved six year old. I am referring to the conspicuous disturbances created by many of the "young adults" present at the concert given by the Metropolitan Opera Studio.

The typical reaction was, at best, apathetic. At worst (and most obvious) it created a stea-

ally heaped on a social reformer. If such is true, Shaw is, in "Overruled," giving an acid commentary on the foolishness of some aspects of current sexual morality.

The plays run for about an hour and a quarter, including a ten minute intermission. The Theater itself is its usual pleasant, informal self; the plays are presented on a proscenium type stage, however, instead of the usual three-quarters round motif.

The actors, with four exceptions, are Louisburg students. "Something for Joe" features John Pike, William Wagner, Bill Barrett, Barbara Nelson,

## Letters To The Editor

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Anyone wishing to express his views concerning the opinions found on this page, or any other matters is encouraged to do so. Address letters to: Columns --Box 712.

dy buzz and rustle that underscored the fidgeting and coughing. The laughing and blatant disinterest detracted both from the enjoyment of other audience members and from the reaction to Louisburg which the performers took away with them.

It is granted that the freshmen in the student body were required to attend the concert. However the idea behind this requirement is that the freshman student might have something to learn from fine music, as well as some enjoyment to gain from exposure to the classics. After all, we are students at a college and our purpose here is to know about music, art, and drama, those whose ex-

perience has given them a background from which they can objectively select their tastes, those who feel that their present preferences are the preferences which the mass of adult society will commend, and they still prefer chit-chat and disrespect to Wagner and Shakespeare, then let them break the rule and stay away so that those of us who feel that we still have something to learn and many things left to experience may have the opportunity to do so un-hampered by the lucky ones whose minds are made up before their first year in college is finished.

A Freshman Student.

Editor's note.

Plans are now in progress to select the LC Concert Series for next year. Faculty and students should make their suggestions to any of the Faculty Concert Committee or the Student Concert Committee. Comments are welcome. (The Cultural Activities Bulletin).

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The views expressed on this page are not necessarily those of the faculty or administration.



Rusty Odom, Forrest Stein, Sammy Swett, Ruth Thompson, Charlene West, and Kirk House, a Louisburg High School student. "Overruled" cast members are Daniel C. W. Freeman, Walter H. Williamson, Sonja Cooper, a Franklinton High School student, and Sandy Versteeg, a Louisburg High

School student. Both plays are directed by Robert Versteeg. After the plays complete their performances here, "Overruled" will be entered again in the Carolina Dramatic festival at Chapel Hill in hopes of winning honors against stiffer competition.