

Authority overrides human dignity?

an editorial by Chad Delzell

With the passing of Princess Diana and Mother Theresa, I can only hope to turn on the nightly news and see something good on for once.

Sadly, I cannot.

More and more examples of corruption surface, leaving sores and blemishes on humanity.

From past events of Marion Barry's crack/cocaine use to current footage of Marv Albert and President Clinton, I grow more discontent with the downward spiral that our heroes and politicians are sinking into.

To express my disdain with Marv Albert is to feel like those who witnessed Pete Rose's gambling or even The Chicago Black Sox's losing the World Series.

These athletes know of and thrive off their fan-club hysteria, and they must fulfill a certain dignity and morality while excelling at our amazement.

If the few greats in our sports world have so little backbone and sportsmanship has so little meaning, how probable is an increase in etiquette?

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Not as shocking as the dehumanization in athletics, but well worth note, is the disgusting downward spiral of politicians and the subsequent abuse of authority.

In this passing month our President admitted to participating in illegal fundraising on national television, yet he still sits pompously in his cushion of "above the law."

Why is it that when members of society climb higher up the ladder of responsibility, they slovenly forget about common law?

As part of a younger generation with a smidgeon more of decency and innocence than our present examples, I am flatly ashamed to be a part of it all.

If I cannot look up to my leaders and superiors for guidance in doing the right, then where might the rest of my peers seek their upholding mortar? If nothing exists to console the simple void of accountability and consequence, then why should I stay within the same confines?

I wish I had more than questions to offer, but I haven't found many people who I would walk with in an example of good and decent behavior. I might be cynical -- for I already lost my trust in the system; I just hope I don't lose my faith, too.

Year of the Scholar has exciting plans

by Megan Setzer
staff writer

The idea of the Year of the Scholar (YOTS) emerged two years ago, in October, 1995, during the "Writing Across the Curriculum" conference, a retreat with the purpose of teaching people through writing.

Dr. Les Brown is the starter of YOTS. YOTS planners want to push scholarship and academic participation throughout the Gardner-Webb campus.

"The purpose of YOTS is to create dialogue and intellectual discussion on any level," stated Brown.

Although YOTS has only been active for one year, it has already made many accomplishments.

The film festival is sponsored by YOTS and the department of communication studies.

The films chosen for academic growth, and most of them have received various awards.

YOTS has also published the *Gardner-Webb Review*, the first scholarly publication of the university.

The papers included in the *Review* are the scholarly works of students. They are screened for quality and are selected as the best works of the campus.

Another YOTS accomplishment is the 100 Books List. This list consists of 100 scholarly books chosen by the faculty.

Some of the books on the list are *The Holy Bible*, *Silent Springs* by Rachel Carson, *The Prince* by Machiavelli and *1984* by George Orwell.

Another YOTS activity is the Scholarship Showcase and Colloquium. This consists of scholarly work by students and faculty that is put on display or presented to an audience.

The coffeehouse is still a dream for YOTS planners. This will be an area to eat, drink and discuss scholarly topics.

Unfortunately, the cost of renovating the Morgue in Royster Hall is higher than YOTS had anticipated. YOTS is still trying hard to find a way to fund this renovation in order to start the coffeehouse.

You will find fliers in your mailbox on the upcoming events of YOTS.

Planners hope that YOTS will soon come under the control of students.

"I would love to see the students take over Year of the Scholar," Brown said.

Students experience outdoor adventures

by Angela Flanagan
staff writer

Are you the type of person who seeks adventure? Do you thrive on edge-of-life experiences?

Do you love to shoot rapids, go rock climbing, hike, camp, canoe or simply interact with nature?

The Outdoor Adventure class is taught by Mr. Thomas Coates, and offers outdoor lovers the chance to learn

more about activities they love.

The course is an exciting class that teaches the fundamentals of different outdoor activities. The course is designed not only to teach skills, but also to stress safety.

For example, the Outdoor Adventure class is currently studying canoeing.

The students are graded on their ability to steer the canoe using proper strokes and students must also complete a written evaluation on safety and other procedures.

The class takes part in hands-on exercises that allow them to fully experience the sport. Outdoor Adventure takes several trips during the course.

Outdoor Adventure practices canoeing in Lake Hollifield and is planning on taking a trip to Broad River and an additional rafting trip.

The class offers a chance to enjoy nature to its fullest and at the same time learn the basic concepts and safety regulations that are also a valuable part of outdoor activities.

Students enjoy Reflections poetry reading

by Nic Floyd
staff writer

Dramatic, invigorating and eclectic are only a few words that were used to describe the first Reflections poetry reading which was held in Stroup lobby on Sept. 30 at 8 p.m.

Ms. Jennifer Carlile, Instruction of English, opened the reading with an untitled poem by Frank O'Hara.

Mark Harrison, Rich Cox, Karen

Brower, Nic Floyd, Star Gist, Jenny Rogers, Lori Moore, Mike Stimpson, Takiya Patrick, Shannon Spencer and Matt Norman read poetry.

Also, Matt Norman, along with Jacob Norris, performed music with their acoustic guitars.

"It was intriguing and I am anticipating the next one," said Angela Flanagan.

"I saw it as a celebration of beauty and the artist that is inside all of us," said Jenny Rogers.

Karen Brower, long-time supporter of

the Reflections readings, summed up the night best when she said, "It was great to find out that other students are so involved in writing poetry, and it was interesting to hear their work."

With 42 people in attendance, the poetry reading was deemed a success. Carlile is planning another reading either at the end of October or the beginning of November.

If you are interested in participating or attending the next reading, look for postings or contact Carlile at ext. 3913.

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

WCW and Nitro Wrestling take over campus

an editorial by Justin Hutto

An old cult has found new life on the campus of Gardner-Webb University and in the surrounding areas of Boiling Springs and Shelby.

This cult meets Monday and Saturday nights, painting themselves, screaming chants and reveling in violence and spandex sadism.

A person can spot these cultists in public, showing their vile hand signs and reciting excerpts from their unsavory chants.

A high priest even chided Spooky Tuesday for not claiming association with this international nuisance.

However, this cult is not fully united. Within each sect there are subgroups that give their allegiance to different gods -- gods who battle one another for a claim to the throne of this international cult.

Many of these cultists are spiritual and political leaders of this region.

Many are religion majors and ordained ministers, strongly respected in the Christian community of Gardner-Webb. This cult is not at all secretive, and we are all familiar with it.

Some worship the revered and supposedly righteous Four Horsemen, while others worship the feared and presumably evil NWO. They have no name for themselves, so I shall

name these devout followers of the WCW, calling them the Nitrites.

This satire is not to be taken as an attack, but the Nitrites should beware of its reality.

"Professional wrestling" is not a self-made social evil, but like any pastime, it can become an obsession and pervert one's priorities.

I am offering a challenge to the Nitrites: For one month, do not watch it, do not tape it, and do not talk about it. Do not even wear your Wrestling paraphernalia.

Use the time, money and thought usually used on wrestling for a more constructive and beneficial occupation.