

THE LANCE

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Blessings . . . Pope

I must confess.
 I broke a "Blue-Card" rule this week.
 It wasn't really my fault. I had to do it.
 Maybe I had better explain the crime first.
 When I got back to campus this year I found my room minus air conditioning. Being the rule-follower that I am, I immediately went to my dorm manager, who reported the malfunctioning equipment to the stellar maintenance crew.
 Nothing. My air conditioner was still putting out heat.
 So, I complained again.
 Still nothing.
 This went on for several days. I then called maintenance myself, the man who answered the phone said he would make a note and get to it the next day.

You guessed it, nothing.
 After ten days, a cold and impending pneumonia, I made my death-bed decision - I would ask someone in my suite to check the little knob in the ceiling. (It has a hot and cold direction on it or something mechanical like that and I could not picture myself being mechanical.)
 Also, my room mate is against breaking the RULES on this campus, so I had to chose a time when he was out of the room.
 Anyway, by having someone else do it I could always plead innocent if I am called up before the Blue-Card-Rules Committee.

I mean, how could I lie. There I was in the arms of almost death and could not recognize anyone in the room. (Well, that sounds dramatic anyway.)
 The system was fixed. The knob wasn't on cold. Lord knows where it was.
 Now my room is air conditioned, and I am almost cured of the terrible disease brought on by this whole event.
 I told my room mate that maintenance had fixed it. It makes me feel better to be able to keep someone's faith going.
 Of course I am now living in fear of being caught. Who knows what horrible punishment is in store for me. They could torture me by taking away my meal card.

Speaking of the cafeteria, I would like to inform the food service people that the correct spelling for dessert is D-E-S-S-E-R-T.
 On their fancy new sign they have it spelled D-E-S-E-R-T. Which we all know spells desert. Maybe it isn't a mistake, their Jello is a bit grainy.

I had a fantastic idea about the Blue Cards. Everytime we see a violation why not call the Student Personnel Services Office.
 Just think how many times a day you see someone flicking a cigarette butt on the floor, hammering nails in the wall, shooting suite mates, etc.

I absolutely refuse to turn this into a gossip column. I will not print anything about a professor using the wrong rest room at a certain new theatre at a new shopping center in town. I don't run that kind of column.

Oh yeah, to the cafeteria people again. Thank is spelled with an "N." T-H-N-A-K.

What if they gave a party and no one shows up?
 It happened here. The Laurinburg Chamber of Commerce gave a party for us and no one showed up.
 The band cost about \$100 an hour.
 I cost less, and when I sing I guarantee no one will show up. And it doesn't cost as much that way.

Maybe I shouldn't have fixed the air conditioning.
 I think I will turn the little knob back and wait for maintenance to fix it. Wonder what air conditioning feels like in January? Have a feeling I'll find out.

Don't think that the only thing I can do well is complain. There are times when I really like something.
 I loved the Christmas chapel of 1969.

Don't call Student Personnel Services. (I remember them when they were called Student Affairs and I kept applying with no affairs given.) They have an unlisted number.

**Some Foresight Is Needed
 By Senate And Leaders**

BY JEFF NEILL

During the spring of each year a group of self-nominated students contest for elected offices. Last spring the contesting for elected positions did not amount to much. Perhaps it was a reflection of the apathy that prevailed among us at the time, a sign of our inability or unwillingness to live outside of the present and near future. But our preference to live day by day does not mean the external forces about us practice the same. It merely means we drift aimlessly as a community until a situation arises that we must react to.

Last year when there was a building interest in some quarters to limit 24-hour open dorms, the Senate and Ken Watkins acted realistically and effectively to minimize the num-

ber of closed hours.

But, as a community, can we afford to continue in this way?

Should not some effort be taken by the Senate and especially by Ken Watkins to co-ordinate the various aspects of student interests and influence and begin planning a direction in which to move?

For examples: In consideration of the general opinion toward the new food service perhaps Ken should file a request, through the Red Cross to Korea for CARE packages. Should the request be denied it might be feasible to establish a vending machine snack bar modeled after the one at Davidson. At Davidson a variety of machines with coffee, hot and cold sandwiches, ice cream and desserts is open 24 hours. This allows not only for an alter-

native to cafeteria food but also a convenient place for late night students to fill up. Profits of course will go to the Student Association.

Academically there are two possibilities that stand out. First, the grading of P. E. courses could be on a Pass-Fail basis. Secondly, a procedure could be formed by which students would evaluate the faculty members and courses they had each semester. A pamphlet of the compiled opinions could then be distributed to help students select professors and courses for the next semester.

Whether or not these few ideas are accepted and put forth along with others is ultimately the responsibility of Ken and the Senate. At present we can only wait and look for indications of which way we are moving.

News Analysis

On The Nixon China Plan

BY MARSHALL GRAVELY

Perhaps the most significant foreign policy development during the summer of this year was President Nixon's announcement of his plan to visit the People's Republic of China, on invitation of its Premier, Chou-en-Lai. The country was stunned by this announcement, and the speculation on the effects it will have is only beginning. There are a number of questions about its implications that will be answered only later after the trip. Any speculation, however, is valuable if only to alert the public to some of these questions.

The biggest question is the reason why China decided to invite Mr. Nixon to visit. It has been isolated from the U.S. since 1949, and considerable hostility has grown up during the Cold War period. The key to America's Asia policy has been the containment of the much-feared Chinese expansion. This fear was one of the chief reasons for our involvement in Southeast Asia. Now,

apparently, a change has come about in Chinese policy toward the West which directly affects our future in the Pacific. The Chinese leaders have decided to attempt a normalization of relations, but their reasoning is unclear.

Several suggestions can be made as to their logic. It could be that the revolution in China has died out and that it is attempting to take a place as a world power among the other nations. The move could also be economic, made to increase foreign trade and challenge Japan for complete domination of Asia. Or, it could simply be a move to hasten the U.S. withdrawal from the Pacific and especially Vietnam.

One great hope for Mr. Nixon's visit is that it will lead to some progress on the Vietnam issue. China is in a position to act as a mediator between the U.S. and North Vietnam on the prisoner issue and on a final settlement, if one can be reached, of the Indochina debacle. Whether this is a purpose of the invitation can only be guessed at.

Another gain that could be made from this detente with mainland China would be its admission to the United Nations. Representation in the UN would make the needs of China and its opinions of world issues more easily known. This move would also make the UN a more credible body, since the People's Republic has more than 1/4 of the world's population as its citizens.

One serious block to the admission of China to the UN is the present U.S. "two-China" policy. Although the State Department announced that the U.S. would support the admission of the People's Republic when it next came to a vote, we also continue to support Nationalist China (Taiwan). If Premier Chou and Mr. Nixon can reach a solution to this problem through discussion, the way will be clear for China's admission.

Thus it is that Mr. Nixon's announcement of his plan to visit China raises both questions and hopes. These issues can be resolved by negotiation, and, hopefully, they will be.

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