

## Student Not Pleased

Maybe I'm amazed (but by no means amused) that in less than the space of one year Mike Mason and his gallery of demerits, social misfits and charm school rejects have managed to plunge this institution and its students' population into an era which can only be likened to some prehistoric period.

The present Student Government Association president has deliberately broken a pattern of progress revealed first in the administration of Earl Hart and becoming more refined under each succeeding leader including Terry Howard, Mel Brown, Charles Zollicoffer and most recently Ray Williams. This is not surprising when considering Mr. Mason's record and the organizations with which he has chosen to become affiliated. He has proven himself repeatedly to be the upholder of the status quo and certainly cannot be expected to do anything to raise the wrath of those occupying Blair Hall.

From its inauguration, it has been all but too apparent that those who currently hold positions of power in the Student Government are little more than

prestige seekers whose singleminded purpose has been to isolate themselves from the rest of the student body. You will remember, during the fall semester, Mr. Mason (in his disguise of a low-budget Hollywood extra) was unavailable for conferences with students because he chose to concern himself with making a quick buck for his Philadelphia promoter friend.

Mr. Mason has surrounded himself with as staff of secretaries and office workers who have the social grace of sea-sick crocodiles. As if to add insult to injury he has enlisted a number of advisors who are as competent as snow is black.

It should be noted, however, that Mike Mason is one of the nicest persons you would ever want to meet. But experiences this year have proven that nice people do not necessarily make effective leaders.

With this in mind, let us now commit ourselves to be more conscientious voters in the next general student elections.

Jimmie F. McGachern

## SGA Supports Funding

by Falger Blackwell

There have been many discriminatory acts against the Black Universities of North Carolina, but perhaps the most prevalent one is the allocation of state funds.

The SGA here realized this at its December convention. The results of their discussion is a petition that is being circulated around school. The petition undoubtedly exemplifies our grievances. However, the issue also requires a lot of verbal support. You can verbally support it by telling your parents and any person you think who is not aware of the situation.

You can call the toll free number at the Governor's office and ask why this act is occurring and you can also write your state representatives. Letters may also be sent to the Board of Governors.

Mike Mason, SGA President, was selected as one of the representatives to appear before the Board of Governors' Budget and Finance Committee in February. About 80 per cent of all the Black universities are supporting the petition and it has also been endorsed by some predominately white universities.

This is a very important issue

affecting the Black universities. If we are to attract good students, we need better school facilities, such as more dormitories, which will decrease our already crowded housing situation.

We also need better curriculums to offer courses that can only be afforded by the white universities. We can only grow by offering our students better chances to learn and obtain better jobs.

Mike Mason stated that, "Black insurance of higher learning can never achieve equality in education unless there is equality in funding priorities."

The SGA can only add sparks to the issue, it's up to you to keep the fire burning. Think about it... money should go where it's needed! No other institution had the right to monopolize state fundings. If they continue, it will further weaken all Black universities in the eyesight of employment and hinder progress in Black education.

The following passages are excerpts from the petition on funding circulated:

We, the undersigned students, of the higher education system of North Carolina are extremely upset, severely displeased, and totally dissatisfied with the present allocations of state funds to the predominately non-white institutions of North Carolina. It is very difficult for us to understand the allocation of \$41,166,354 to North Carolina State University, whereas only \$23,156,655 was allocated to the collective six minority member institutions inclusive of Pembroke State University. And, it is indeed a travesty of justice to allocate only 13 per cent of the state funds to the aggregate minority institutions with an enrollment of 16.3 per cent of the University's (North Carolina system) students while 23 per cent of the State's allocation of funds went to North Carolina State University whose students enrollment constitutes only 15.8 per cent of the System's students.

When students at the predominately white institutions receive \$1887 per student while their counterparts at the predominately black institutions receive only \$1423 per student something is definitely wrong with the funding system of the North Carolina system. Evidently, business is being conducted under the reign of the Board of Governors exactly the same as it was many years ago under the reign of the Board of Higher Education-governed by racism.

## RAMS RAP

Do you believe in capital punishment?

Curtis Waters, senior: "No, I don't believe in it because I don't figure you accomplish anything by taking another person's life."

Doug Henderson, sophomore: "If he is willing to kill he ought to be willing to sacrifice his life. He knows the consequences when he commits a crime like that."

Deb Young, junior: "No. No crime is worth taking the life that God has given."

Lemeatrice Harris, senior: "No, I don't believe in capital punishment because it does not show the human dignity that human beings supposedly

## BOOK CORNER

A fascinating blend of literary and social criticism, together with biographical material, illuminates "officially" neglected authors, their works, and their influences on the "new consciousness" of the sixties in *Naked Angels: The Lives and Literature of the Beat Generation* by John Tytell (McGraw-Hill, \$10.00).

The first serious critical evaluation of the Beat writers, this book explores the origins and development of the Beat generation in the context of the fifties and the Cold War Hysteria. It examines such motivating forces as jazz, drugs, hipsterism, and the lures of illegality - the Beats' attempt to redefine traditional notions of sanity and normalcy - in the light of an all pervasive conformity which for them merely disguised the gradual transformation of American freedom and individuality into encroaching totalitarianism.

As Tytell shows, such experimentation with their own lives ultimately led the Beat writers to new forms of expression culminating in such works as *On the Road*, *Howl*, and *Naked Lunch*. The author uses numerous interviews and private correspondence to trace the lives that resulted in the substantial literary accomplishments which have become classics in our own time - from Kerouac's esthetic of spontaneity to Ginsberg's use of long line to Burrough's nightmarish comedy.

Associate Professor of English at Queens College, John Tytell was the editor of *The American Experience: A Radical Reader*, and has written for such publications as *Partisan Review*, *The American Scholar*, *Commonweal*, *Literature and Psychology*, and *Studies in the Novel*.

by Victor de Keserling

Vote  
On  
March 23

## STUDENT EDITORIAL

# On Capital Punishment

When the Supreme Court of the United States renders a decision on the issues of capital punishment, its ruling will be the law of the land.

The constitutional issues that will have to be decided upon is whether or not capital punishment is cruel and inhumane in its application toward the victims of crimes. Some throughout the country, say that capital punishment is being applied to those who do not have capital producing merchandise in local communities. This capital includes property, such as homes, stores, merchants retail industrial units, etc.

The Supreme Court should also look at the following conditions which raise questions about the judicated system of jurisprudence.

For example, the problems of representation on juries is complex. The number of convictions overturned by the Supreme Court in recent years indicates that there does exist a form of systematic exclusion of questions.

It tends to true that in the South and the North it is still commonly accepted that there exist different standards. There are four (4) standards of justice.

First, where white is against white there is equal protection of the law. Secondly, where Black is against Black, the common complaint is that southern courts and police are too lenient. Thirdly, where a white commits a crime against a Negro he will be punished lightly if at all, and the black complainant may expect reprisals.

Rape is a capital offense in all southern states, but no white has been executed for raping a black. With the fourth standard, a black commits a crime against a white, especially an offense against the person, retribution is swift and severe. The statistics on capital punishment are revealing. In Louisiana, between 1900 and 1950, no Louisiana born white man, and only two out of state whites were ever executed for rape, while 41 blacks were executed for raping white women.

Exclusion of Blacks from juries is still being practiced in some parts of the south, as well as the northern and eastern and western parts of the United States.

Undoubtedly, jury exclusion is much more prevalent than the number of cases reveals. Many lawyers apparently never raise the issue for fear of harm to their

clients or to themselves. Some states require jurors to be registered voters or freeholders, own taxable property, or have no criminal record. A large proportion of blacks than of whites are excluded by such qualifications as well as by the financial hardship of absence from work that jury service entails.

When blacks do appear on jury panels in cases where the defendant is of their race, they are almost removed by the prosecution through the use of peremptory challenges.

In the North Carolina prison system, there are more than 100 inmates on the death row. The means of their conviction could be vested upon the above mentioned and has led to the conviction of many poor, black people without careful constitutional challenges.

In the case of Jesse Flowers vs North Carolina, the poor and the underprivilege will see justice dualistic in scope or one sided. This test will affect every person on death row.

Especially the 55 percent that are black in N.C.

Johnny Wilson

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## Spring Break

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