

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor of the N.C. Essay

In regard to the review of the last North Carolina School of the Arts Orchestra Concert, we the elected representatives of the orchestra, would like to offer the following response:

We realize that the review was written with best intentions, and we also accept the fact that many of its points contained some degree of validity. However, we contend that a review of any performance, and particularly a student performance, is for the purpose of offering constructive criticisms which can have a positive effect on improving the level of performance.

We strongly feel that such derogatory and openly insulting generalizations as made up a large part of the review in question belong to an editorial opinion rather than a review. We further feel that these statements serve no purpose other than to anger the performers and that they are detrimental to the morale and general atmosphere of the school as a whole.

In order to insure constructive, educational reviews in the future, we suggest that the Essay staff make use of any of the qualified personnel found on our faculty to offer their criticisms of performances in the

form of reviews, and that the opinions of students be confined to the editorial.

The N.C. School of the Arts
Orchestra Committee

John Sizemore, Jr. Debbie Henry
Jerry A. Folsom Cathy Tait
Lynn R. Bernhardt, Jr.
Phil Wachowski

REPLY

Let me first thank you for your letter to the Editor and, as our policy has always been, we welcome students' letters and opinions. However, there are a few points which I would like to make.

First, the article to which you are referring (N.C. Essay, Vol. 4, No. 4, pg. 4, "Orchestra Reflects Apathy") was contributed to the paper by a student who is not a member of the Essay staff; furthermore, the Editorial Board could not accept the responsibility of printing the article as an editorial. Reviews contributed to the paper by students are welcomed and if they are to be relabeled, they would be marked "letters to the editor."

(con't. on page 4)

(Cont. from page 1)
somewhere is of no use. A message that there is a sharp pain at the tip of the left index finger or a dull pain in the upper abdomen offers the possibility, though not the certainty, of relieving the pain or eliminating the cause. Many of our ills have little immediate possibility of cure because the cure would require a mammoth transfusion of plasma in the form of dollar bills.

Nevertheless, many ills and agonies would be relieved if we would all try a little harder to communicate rather than attack. A head with an Excedrin ache can give very little attention to a pain in the backside.

Congratulations to the Student Government for beginning to dissect themselves. Let us hope they can put themselves back together again.

Congratulations to the Essay for moving toward a more constructive editorial policy. Keep it up.

Congratulations to those people who are beginning to actively struggle with the problems of feeding an active body on two dollars a day. Good luck to you.

Congratulations to student spokesmen who are trying to be constructive. Try to be accurate as well.

Congratulations to everyone who has been a part of this proud dream and noble experiment. Yes, I am impatient too, but let us all balance our impatience with an equal quantity of realism.

Here's to a healthy body corporate.

Mens sana in corpore sano.

Ronald Pollock

Homesick for Winston-Salem

I've been away from Winston-Salem for almost five months and I feel the absence of several good friends which I have there.

In the second order of priority, I feel very reminiscent for the North Carolina School of the Arts. It was (and still is, I hope) the refined addition to life which distinguished (distinguishes) Winston-Salem auspiciously from most other American cities. It was pleasing to me to be able to live near a place where productivity in the dance, music and drama was thriving. There were many public performances at the N.C. School of the Arts that were of high professional standards.

When I arrived in Ames, I asked about modern dance and ballet. I was told that such things can be found in Chicago (350 miles away). I wish there were an Iowa School of the Arts in Ames, but if there were, it would have to be excellent to compare favorably to the North Carolina School of the Arts.

David R. Eckroth
Ames, Iowa



Tony Senter- Editor
Mike Ferguson
Tom Cavano
Ruth Rendleman
Gwen Spear
Sandra Williams
Kathleen Fitzgerald
David Wood
Sam Barcelona
Valerie Parker - Typist
Anthony Fragola - Advisor