

Editorial

Pep Pills?

"Got a big exam to pass? Got too far behind this semester? Term paper due tomorrow? Take a pep pill and your worries are over."

Many students seem to find the use of amphetamine, called "pep pills," "bennies," or "dex," to be the magic answer to all their worries as they discover that somewhere along the line they have gotten behind and now must catch up. Moreover, these students also "soup themselves up" before a quiz with the aid of these stimulants.

A Dr. Gene M. Smith at Harvard Medical Center recently conducted an experiment to find out how much pep pills really improve a person's performance on mental tests. A section of students were divided into two groups, one group given amphetamine sulfate and the other a placebo (sugar pill). The students were then given a calculus test. The results of this test? Students taking the "pep pills" had a statistically significant increase in judgment errors as compared with those not taking the drug.

Moreover use of the drugs may interfere with the normal protective symptoms of drowsiness and fatigue. According to the Food and Drug Administration, reserves of body energy are used up until a total and sudden collapse may occur.

Does that "pep pill" still sound so wonderful?

WESLEYAN: As I See It

By Duffie Monroe

It appears to be the time to speak on a subject which is vital to any college student, although the topic should be familiar to all and equally as important.

It is almost unbelievable that mature adults of college age would disregard the benefits of an education in favor of a life which offers few if any rewards.

College is perhaps the most important institution existing in today's world; one that should be approached in such a manner that will reap the most profit. It is not an uncommon fact that a college education is not only necessary to achieve a place in society today and of the future, but is a prerequisite if not further. A simple Bachelors degree in itself has almost reached the point where it is inadequate and a higher degree is required.

Knowing the situation as it exists, it would seem plausible that students in any college, not only Wesleyan, would be conscious of this fact and attempt to make the most of the education given to them. But this does not seem to be the situation that exists.

Education is not cheap and will never be. The money paid in tuition and general expenses goes to class time and educated instruction. Yet, students throw this to the wind.

Realizing the consequences of failing to achieve an education, emphasized recently by the government requirement that male students in college at the present time must maintain a 2.0 average or be subject to the draft even while in school, should press the point even further that an education is invaluable.

Realizing what exists on the "outside", it would seem more profitable to make the most of college. Certainly a life filled with a 9-5 week from the time you leave high school to the day you die does not sound very appetizing. Are you willing to throw away what is at college for a life like that now? I doubt it.

Yet, is there a solution? I think not. The only answer comes with knowing yourself what you want from college and being mature enough to accept the responsibility.

Just trash, you say. No, I'm afraid not. No matter how trite and worn-out the words may be, the meaning is still the same and increasing in importance as each day goes by.

You have heard, I'm sure, "Make the most of your college life". I will not say this to you, because the decision is yours and yours alone. But don't forget the facts, for it is the facts that will hang you.



Frye Speaks Out

By: Hal Lloyd

In a recent question-answer session held with Dean of Students, Dr. Donald L. Frye, the following was asked concerning the students at N.C.W.C. in comparison with other campuses and in general with the student as an individual here at Wesleyan.

QUESTION: Dean Frye, having about twelve years of academic study behind you, how do you feel about Wesleyan students as compared to your own student experience?

ANSWER: The first thing I think of is that they seem to be deliberately chasing down a good time, which my college group came by naturally. They seem to be straining to have a good time. The school I attended was like most North Eastern schools; kids worked hard and played hard but never simultaneously.

QUESTION: With this then established, how does our student body shape up as compared to other students that you have been an administrative official over?

ANSWER: The same desperation of chasing a good time appears to be prevalent in other campuses and I see this as a result of lack of imagination.

QUESTION: Dr. Frye, would you say that Wesleyan student life is a normal 1966 college existence? And would you please expound on your reasons for saying so.

ANSWER: Yes. On many campuses, students seem to be caught up in the same desperate seeking of a good time and to have the same indifference to the outside world. In an informal discussion with a student, just last night, I had this young man, whom I consider more serious than many, tell me that his existence revolved around his own small world, that he neither enjoyed reading a newspaper or news magazine nor did he do so and that too much was happening in his own little world to be concerned with what the rest of the world was doing. I believe that if the Russians were coming up Rt. 301 you'd have to phone the dorms to inform the students, and this is typical of most students, I'm afraid.

QUESTION: Dean, what are your opinions of student morals on campus? Do we drink excessively, indulge overly in sex-oriented activities, and are our sense of values averagely agreeable with other campuses?

ANSWER: I can't answer because I am not that close to the students, in that respect, but I imagine that they are carrying the same moral standings around as most other students on other college campuses.

Many people my age seem to imagine that the standard is not so high as those of their college years--I'm not just sure that this is the case.

Yes, their sense of values is average but this is not necessarily a recommendation.

QUESTION: In view of Wesleyan being a church-supported institution, do you think our students are more inclined or adverse to the Christian faith? Also, is the school's religious responsibilities accountable for this; example, Chapel?

ANSWER: No, our admissions procedure doesn't include a selection criterion involving a statement of intensity of Christian conviction.

No matter how interesting a Chapel is there will always be those people who wouldn't want to drag themselves out of bed by 8:30.

QUESTION: Dr. Frye, do you believe that the average Wesleyan student has above average or below average school pride and sense of belonging? Why?

ANSWER: That is a difficult question to answer. Naturally the people who bend my ear are usually those with complaints, and

certainly I get a dismal view from them, but although they are vociferous, their numbers are not many.

QUESTION: What are your opinions on Wesleyan's apathetic students? What do you think has caused this and what can be done about our increasing problem?

ANSWER: They are only apathetic about certain things, and this goes back to your question about their value systems. Some

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Potpourri

By: Doug Groseclose
As many of you know, next year some Wesleyan students will be living off campus, in Rocky Mount. By way of the grapevine it appears that many rules and unnecessary regulations will be imposed on those students living in town. Of course all these things cannot be confirmed, but this has no real bearing on my column.

We hear often the statement that Wesleyan students are acting like children. Of course we will act like children--if we are treated like them!

Most of the Juniors and Seniors at Wesleyan are 21 years old or older, and legally adults--except in the eyes of the administration. We are capable of making decisions on our own behalf but we are not given the chance at Wesleyan. We, the students, will never mature unless we are given some of the myriad responsibilities of adults. We cannot understand the mother-hen attitude of the administration, or what purpose they have in mind when they coddle us and hover over us. When many of Wesleyan's undergraduates they will not be ready for the shock of "life on the outside" as a direct result of this sheltering.

We need to be exposed friends; exposed to responsibility, exposed to decision-making, exposed to the chance to live our lives. We cannot hope to survive in the world of business or industry or most important, in the world of adulthood. Adolescents do not mature at a certain, exact hour--some time after graduation--we need to be given a chance to become mature; we are not getting it at this time.

Does not the administration think we are capable of responsibly governing our own actions?

Ed. Note: The reader must keep in mind that decision on off-campus living next year have not been made as of yet. Dr. Frye, Dean of Students, stated on the subject that a meeting concerning the matter will not be held until February.

The Decree recommends to those involved in the decision making on this issue to keep in mind the opinions and wants of the students. The students are Wesleyan and it should primarily be their duty to make suggestions and decisions on matters such as this.

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