

The Editor Speaks

Editorial

This is the small, but vitally significant story about a friend of mine named Jack, and his lengthy, traumatic battle with the sometimes deadly, often fatal, but always enriching disease: collegeemia.

Jack used to travel to college campuses across the United States and lecture to students about this disease that nearly cost him his life. He hopes that through his testimony, he may have been able to spare thousands of potential collegeemics some of the same pain and suffering he himself had to go through. To receive a better understanding of collegeemia, I asked Jack to describe to me his ordeal with the disease. He told me his entire story.

"The dreaded disease began unexpectedly, and slowly developed like an undetected cancer. I felt something weird in my brain; almost like an itch deep inside of my skull, that I couldn't get at to scratch. It was driving me crazy, so I finally drag myself to the doctors office, fearing that part of my head would have to be surgically removed, and after several hours of intense examination the old doctor finally announced his diagnoses."

"You're a collegeemic," he said calmly.

New Visitors Center...

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the new building was to be used as a public visitor's center, open to anyone wishing to take part in the glorious beauty of the WCC flower gardens. Mr. Townes went on to say that the newly constructed center should be a source by which the gardens gain additional recognition, thereby developing tourism not only in this community, but across the state as well. "This will give the people a reason to stop now," he said, regarding those travelers who might otherwise pass by without realizing they were in the midst of one of the state's greatest wonders. "B" also stated that the new Visitors Center provides the cornerstone to the continuous growth of the gardens of the future. B's "visions" of the garden are now only partially fulfilled, as he hopes to add a formal garden for the blind along with future development of the existing gardens.

Dr. Daniel followed with his presentation on the dedication of the center, and the unveiling of the plaque. After making several gratuitous acknowledgements to those that had a hand in the building of the center, Dr. Daniel introduced the principle donor, Ed McEntire. Mr. McEntire is a retired executive from Holly Farms who has served, and continues to serve the community well.

Mr. McEntire dedicated the new Visitors Center to his wife Maggie. The formal inscription reads, "To my wife Maggie, and her love for flowers."

Dr. Howard E. Thompson climaxed the ceremonies as he snapped the yellow ribbon, symbolizing the completion of much hard labor, and the beginning of a new era in growth and excellence at Wilkes Community College.

Matt Cashion

"Is that good?" I asked.

"It's good that I caught it when I did, or you could very well be in that great doctor's office in the sky right now."

"What is it, doc?"

"Heaven, boy heaven!"

"No, I mean what have I got?"

"Collegeemia! It's a complex disease that is caused by overexposure to classrooms, books, teachers, tests, and work without sufficient periods of rest and relaxation. If a person continues under these conditions for a lengthy duration, the damage can be unpredictable. The overwhelming pressure that is created by this process builds and builds upon itself, until the one day that the stress is so enormous . . . you just lose it."

"Lose what doc?"

"Your sanity boy, your sanity!"

"What I suggest, Jack, is that you take time out of each day, a minimum of two to three hours to do the things you enjoy the most, and be sure that you get some sleep every night. No matter what big test you have or overdue assignment, the brain box just can't function properly without sleep. Most importantly, Jack, if you don't learn anything else, realize that if you continue to work at this pace, without taking time for leisure activity, you are going to grow up a very dull man!"

So, Jack has learned a lot from his order with collegeemia, and is now recuperating in sunny Palm Springs. As an after effect from his energy draining boot with the disease, Jack seems to have developed a rare form of work phobia (fear of working). His brief college education did prove to be an enriching experience however, Jack plans to turn his traveling lecture program into a psychological practice, where he will counsel other collegeemics on a one-to-one basis for a healthy sum of money.

Jack's case is rare, 98.6% of all collegeemics do not meet the exception, and experience inescapable abnormalities throughout their ill-stricken lives. About one-half of all collegeemics go on to serve as public officials in Washington, while the other half can only find work exploiting their "what could have been greatness" as guinea pigs in psychological experiments.

Collegeemia is a serious disease, but it can be avoided. If you need help, or know someone that does, call now for more information about this terrible, mind altering disease. 1-800-555-JACK.

Matt Cashion

The Garden Spot

Hi, and welcome to "GARDEN SPOT." Today we will be discussing houseplants. Just what is a houseplant? It is a plant or plants grown indoors for their ornamental foliage or flowers or both.

The idea of growing plants indoors or in pots close to the house is by no means a new one. The Chinese were appreciating plants' aesthetic beauty more than five thousand years ago. There is also evidence that the Egyptians collected plants. Some of the most widely appreciated gardens, the Hanging Gardens of Babylonia,

were made up of plants grown in pots on terraces.

But the idea of busy students growing plants is another thing. The beauty that a plant adds to the average home is rewarding in itself. Many plants can lower the level of pollution in the home. These plants also produce oxygen as they carry on their life processes. As far as hobbies go, raising plants and caring for them ranks as one of the most relaxing and has been proven to have a calming effect in the people that work with them.

Listed below are ten plants that even college lifestyles can't kill:

Ten Plants That Even Campus Lifestyles Can't Kill

Everyone likes green plants around, but with only one small window that gets sun and with a crazy schedule that makes it hard to water regularly and easy to forget your plants, raising greenery on campus can be tough.

So here are ten plants that are tougher than college. They will live and bloom almost in spite of you:

1. *Aglaonema commutatum*. Doesn't need much sun at all. Can survive on a dingy window sill. Dark, shiny leaves with white flowers that produce red balls. Water it weekly.

2. *Aloe*. A succulent, with lily-like leaves sprouting from a central core. Green with silver to white spots or stripes. Likes sun and a little warmth but is hardy enough to withstand shade. Water moderately, then let soil dry out before rewatering.

3. *Aspidistra*. Also known as the "cast-iron plant." Lives up to its name, too. Can stand heat, dust, darkness, dryness. Striped leaves and blossoms near the bottom. Prefers dim light, indirect sun. Saturate with water, then let soil dry out before rewatering.

4. *Coleus*. Lots of different varieties with leaves varying from gray to pink. The more sun the brighter the colors, but will survive chills and drowning by you. If you pinch and replant the branches the plant will be thick and fluffy-looking. May have to spray for bugs occasionally.

5. *Ficus*. A family of plants that includes the rubber plant and the fiddle-leaf fig. Ignore it and it will grow anyway. Tend to be rather vertical plants, may get pretty tall. Bottom leaves drop off as the plant grows.

6. *Palms*. Come in all shapes and styles down to a couple of feet tall. Dim light doesn't bother them. Stick one in your bedroom for that Tarzan effect. Likes to be warm; water it fairly often.

7. *Philodendron*. A climbing plant that comes in dozens of varieties. Water it once a week and spray the leaves at the same time and it will grow forever.

8. *Sansevieria*. The snake plant. Dark green with yellow stripes. Virtually pest-free and will grow under almost any conditions.

9. *Spathiphyllum*. A lily. Give it sun and it will produce white flowers all the time. Does okay in dim sun but then produces flowers only every three months.

10. *Wandering Jew*. Pointed leaves striped on top in different colors. If you snip and replant stems, will become bushy. Grows fast and can survive torture. Sprouts in water very well.

Just remember absence makes the plant grow browner, so keep these plants sufficiently watered and they will perform well for you.

Report to the Staff

Is this really the end of the long hot summer when everything happened
But still I wouldn't call it a **bummer**
First the state auditors camped out with us for 8 long weeks
Causing pain and discomfort and hair of gray streaks

The summer began in April with a thunderous **roar**
A compressor in the Walker Center failed and the budget it **tore**
No sooner the repair than another one **blew**
Before the season had started I was in a **stew**

Then wants began to pile up, requisitions, renovations and things to **repair**
But the budget makers are still in Raleigh at \$53,000 per day - I do **declare!**

The other things are important too, some need **fixing**
Tricycles, shades, toilet seats and the wallpaper needs **sticking**
Parking lots need patching, sealing and it shall be **done**
If you'll just wait a dad-burn minute,
Cause all the other stuff keeps us on the **run**

Some said let's build an art studio
With what I don't **know**
Better hold the money, another compressor might **blow**
Later, sure enough it did, in the building the **Tech**
The faculty's burning up, says Pete Mann; replace it, pay later, what the **heck**

Now it's on Dwight, Scott, Mike, Jon and **all**
Make way in the Walker basement with walls, doors, paint, lights and windows too for Tamera **Call**
At last it is finished, a nice outside door for Bud, I **figure**
And then he says, for \$500 more Dr. Shaw the door could be **bigger**

But the studio is a beauty, all bright, shiny and **new**
Of the planners, workers and lookers there were quite a **few**
Painted walls, first class furniture and ceiling of **black**
Just shows you what a dungeon can be, if you are willing to **attack**

The visitors' center was started, we had finally **begun**
Pouring concrete, erecting steel in 95 degree **sun**
Toiling and sweating with some help of other **forces**
We'll dedicate it in September and reveal the financial **sources**

Well, the campus looks great, all the flowers and **twigs**
"B" had done well with the help of Karen **Griggs**
The kids worked in the rain and the hot sun **too**
Producing the most beautiful sight you'll ever **view**

With Tray, Gordon and others helping with every **rock**
Moving, lifting and scattering never looking at the clock
James mowing grass and keeping vehicles in **shape**
Using bailing wire and rope along with electricians **tape**

June close-out of budget and finances was a heck of a **fight**
Too many invoices, not enough money in **sight**
But we satisfied the auditors and others who **stare**
Priscilla, Norma and Anita, built comp-time to **spare**

Then it was payroll time with increases of five **per cent**
The computer had its own way of figuring what Raleigh had **sent**
Again they worked at night, still exceeding their **best**
Dedication, love of work, whatever, they stand the **test**

Now, in your opinion, and goodness knows you are **entitled**
If a pet project is not yet done, lets get it **bridled**
Send your request for scheduling to the business office **you'll**
And don't hail Frank, Clyde and Gene while walking in the **hall**

Now for the rest of you dedicated souls whose name I **didn't mention**
Please forgive me now; it was not my **intention**
It's like an extremely fine machine and no part **missing**
Takes us all to do the job right - just to keep it from **hissing**

Well, what is life anyhow if it isn't to help my fellowman
"To do unto others as you would have them do unto you" - that's the **plan!**

Now it's time for classes - to do all the things you're 'suppose' to
Have a good year and adios -
I'm off to Nova **Scotia!**

Conrad Shaw

