Editorial

Rules and Honor

The Student Government Association has for many years enforced an honor code which covered all areas of social and academic life. It was a mark of distinction that the code relied upon the individual student's sense of honor rather than on any obligation to tattle. The change in the honor code which comes up before the student body April 9 will not alter this basic distinction. We seem not to want to change our concept of community honor but to dodge social regulations which are impossible for us to

The proposed honor code would govern no social or dormitory regulations. Violations would include theft, bodily or psychological harm to another person, possession of illegal substances or drugs, falsification of college records, and academic dishonesty such as cheating.

The proposed change is important because it recognizes how differently students live from the rules which are imposed upon

differently students live from the rules which are imposed upon them at Meredith. But the basic problem with the change is its nature of enforcing regulations: If the honor code rests on a student's personal responsibility and sense of honor in following the regulations, how can she honorably break certain of the college regulations?

It is a fact of society that as values change, the codes of morality change. Even in the last five years, Meredith has moved a great deal away from regarding dating or leaving the campus as a privilege to seeing it as a right. Our signout procedure now reflects this: we are free to come and go as we please without reporting our whereabouts. There will be very few people who will come before interdormitory board for abusing the signout procedure as it now exists.

The only other policy not covered by the honor code would be the alcohol policy which, for reasons of politics, cannot be

changed as we changed the signout procedure.

If the alcohol policy is removed from the honor code, one of two things may happen. Since student officials will no longer expect students to "turn themselves in", room searches and informing may give an ardent interdormitory board information with which to prosecute offenders.

Again, this first possibility is highly unlikely, mainly because no one wants to enforce the drinking policy. The second possibility is almost sure to take place: the policy which forbids the use of alcohol on campus would be forgotten. We would be more comfortable with nonenforcement, since the numbers of students who do drink would no longer be violeting competitions as the state of the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility is allowed to be supported by the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost supported by the second possibility in the second possibility is almost sup do drink would no longer be violating something so sacred as the Meredith honor code.

We are talking about strengthening the honor code. But is it strengthened when students are no longer expected to regard social regulations seriously? Or is it strengthened when the government itself neglects enforcing these regulations?

It seems that the student government would be acting more honorably if it were to say, "Our values concerning alcohol have changed. We no longer think it is immoral to drink in the dormitories; therefore we can no longer enforce a policy which we have inherited from our mothers and grandmothers."

It must be acknowledged that we are bucking against an

impossible situation. Making a change in our alcohol policy would be more impossible than ridding North Carolina of its Baptists.

But we are talking about honor and integrity-of our government as well as of our students. It seems that avoiding such hot issues as unpopular social regulations will only weaken our honor code, not strengthen it. It may be possible for a student to feel honorable drinking beer in the dorm when she knows she has never lied, cheated, or stolen. But can a government feel honorable when it has not dealt with the issues at hand?

College food gets zip

Binghamton, N.Y.-(I.P.) Since coming to SUNY-Binghamton from Yale University two years ago, William J. Hickey, director of Auxiliary Campus Enterprises and head of campus dining services, has put new zip into institutional eating, which he says "has come a long way since the early 1960's."

Mr. Hickey is in charge of buying for more than 3,000 students who have contracted with ACE for 15 or 19 meals a week. Two recent national awards for menus proved that Mr. Hickey's meals aren't humdrum or restricted to hamburgers or hot dogs. His secret ingredient is planning. During last summer the menu committee, composed of the dietitian, students, and dining hall managers, set up meals for the current 30-week school

Six cycles of five weeks each were planned, keeping in mind last year's most popular entrees, and considering, too, new foods on the market and fruits and vegetables in season. Throughout the year at weekly meetings, the committee evaluates each previous week's menus, changing meals as needed.

Several years ago he discovered that the traditional hot lunch was unpopular with most students. They preferred sandwiches, he found, because that is what they have been served all their lives. The "quick way" lunch-soups, salads, sandwiches-resulted and is now in all college dining halls.

Health foods vegetarian meals are served in Dickinson dining hall. Here, in addition to cottage cheese and tossed salad at lunch and dinner, wheat germ, honey and peanut butter are offered at all meals. Students in the four college dining halls can have unlimited second helpings of all foods, except steak.

Mr. Hickey is proud that 95 per cent of all baked goods served is made on campus in the University's bake shop. This includes such mouthwatering fare as tortes, fruit cobblers, pies, doughnuts, and French, Italian, rye, and pumpernickel breads. Also created on campus are the huge birthday cakes, elaborately decorated and big enough to feed 1,000, which are served each month in the college dining halls to honor all the students having birthdays that month.

The TWIG congratulates the 1976-77 officers. New officers will be initiated Friday, April 9 at 10:00 a.m. in Jones Auditorium.

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