

Speedball ... The "Feminine" Sport!

By CYNTHY McALISTER

Ouch! Oh! Ah! These are the sounds most frequently heard on the athletic field as the Sigmas and the Mus battle for the title of speedball champions. Have you ever witnessed the actual mass-aging of many of your Senior counselors, your upper-class friends, your friends on your hall, or even your own roommate? If the thought interests you, then you should attend one of the exciting speedball games! As the audience noisily cheers for its team, we see injuries of many different kinds. If you've ever had a twisted knee, I'm sure you'll be able to sympathize with Lu Dixon, who was helped off the field in Monday's game as Sue Willingham played Florence Nightingale by running to Lu's rescue with the stretcher from the infirmary! If you'd like to know what a sprained finger feels like, just ask Kaye Lasater. She is now an authority in this area — after her injury in the game played November 1. When you see someone walking around with a smashed face, look closer and I believe you'll recognize Jessica Gillespie! Poor Jessica was given this facial in Monday's game. There's something odd about all these accidents — they all seem to happen to the Sigma team! Could it be that the Mus are rougher? Oh well, the Sigmas will have their revenge!!

As we watch these girls run down the field kicking madly at anything and everything — be it the ball, the ground, the referee, or an opponent — we see the stiff competition between the two teams. The Sigmas and the Mus both have many big, strong girls who do a splendid job of keeping the ball away from their opponents. We see many skills that weren't even invented before the 1967-68 Sigma-Mu teams began their season a few weeks ago. We watch as ground balls are converted to aerial balls in the strangest ways and we learn how the entire body can be of use in "bouncing" the ball to a teammate. Marty Eskridge certainly "uses her head" to keep the ball in the air!

The cheerleaders do a very good job as they stand on the sidelines cheering their team on. The audience keeps up a steady battle to see who can outcheer her neighbor, so that by the end of the game everyone is standing and yelling madly. St. Mary's girls are not the only fans — the children often peep thru the fence to watch the agile girls in their blue tunics, and even some of the workers in the dining room have been seen looking out the windows!

These games are very exciting, and more Sigmas and Mus should come out to support their team. The future sports should provide more of the same competition — if the infirmary door will re-

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SYMPATHY WITH CRIMINALS MARKS "BONNIE AND CLYDE"

(Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from THE DAILY TAR HEEL, Oct. 27, 1967.)

"Bonnie and Clyde" is perhaps the best gangster movie to ever come from Hollywood.

It is the story of Bonnie Parker, a young bored waitress, and Clyde Barrow, an ex-con, who met in a little dusty town in northern Texas. For three years during the Depression they terrorized the dust bowl country with their gas station, grocery store, and bank robberies and their murders of eighteen people. In 1934 their careers were ended finally when they were ambushed and literally shot down in "cold blood" at Arcadia, La.

Directed by Arthur Penn, the film has stirred up more controversy than any film released in quite some time. After being attacked three times by Bosley Crowther of the New York Times for excessive violence, historical inaccuracy, and immorality, the movie was strongly defended by angry viewers who sent Crowther a deluge of mail.

The purpose of the fast-paced film, according to Director Penn, was "first to engage the audience with the comedy and then to snap them around quickly, with the effect of heightening and distilling the violence, of making it more acute."

The viewer laughs at Bonnie and Clyde's getaways in a succession of stolen cars at breakneck speeds accompanied by the twangy music of Flatt and Scrugg. However, when Clyde shoots a bank teller in the face as he jumps on the car's running

board during a getaway, the viewer receives a sudden violent jolt from his comic mood.

But even more sobering is the scene in which the police ambush the Barrow gang in a clearing in the woods after having attacked the gang's hideout earlier and wounding Clyde's brother and sister-in-law. The officers stand in a circle around Buck, Clyde's brother, and watch him writhing on the ground like a wild, hunted animal until he dies while Blanche, his wife, tries to escape but is unsuccessful because she has been blinded in the previous assault at the hideout.

The ending isn't pretty either as Bonnie and Clyde are ambushed by numerous police with machine guns and their bodies riddled with bullets.

But the violence is tempered with touches of comedy in the first part of the movie. When Bonnie remarks, as the pair is leaving a restaurant, that the car Clyde gets into is not the same car they came in Clyde answers, "Just because you come in one car doesn't mean you have to leave in it."

Throughout the film the viewer feels sympathetic towards the two and he genuinely regrets their being killed. In fact, the police seem almost like real villains for ambushing them.

Bonnie and Clyde are real people with a naive outlook on life who are alone with a tragic destiny. At times they even seem like two children just out to have a good time and the violence which accompanies their escapades appears mindless and childlike.

COULD IT BE "SOPHOMORE SLUMP?"

By Jess Gillespie

Tears drop, eyelids droop, and spirits fall endlessly. Rules breed discontent, teachers downgrade, and everybody feels like giving up. All of these are symptoms of "sophomore slump," which is applicable to St. Mary's seniors.

The initial excitement of college is gone for seniors. Everything is in a little groove which is characterized by long weeks, late nights, and short weekends. There isn't much to offer enjoyment, relaxation, or stimulation. Things are bad when trips to the Village or PR come but once a quarter.

A college sophomore has many decisions which need contemplation. Contemplation brings self-analysis, which in many cases means discontent. One begins to think what she will do with her life. Will it be marriage, work, or service of some kind? Making decisions can be very frustrating, and who needs more frustration?

And then there's stress. Four tests in a row are fun, especially when three of them fall on the same day. After they're finished, one thinks that the pressure is over for a few days. Then comes the announcement at dinner that the announcement is due tomorrow. Won't it ever end?

And then there's sleep. Or

should we say lack of it? Wake up! It's 7:30. You've been asleep for five hours. That's a record high for the week. Seniors do like to sleep. Most just have to leave their lights on in order to find their way to the bed at 2:00 A.M.

Then it's Saturday night and a great party. But while the band takes a break, the thought hits, "What am I doing here? I have two tests Monday and a book report for Tuesday!" The night is spoiled, and one wishes that Sunday morning would never come.

Confidence vanishes quickly for most girls when they see the first questions on a test. Have you blanked it, or have you never heard of it before? Oh yes, it was on the bottom of that page that the teacher said not to worry about. Oh well, it's only a five point question. You'll just have to study for three days instead of two for the next test.

Someday "sophomore slump" will be humorous. Everyone will remember it and think how silly and petty it was. Right now it's not. For seniors it's now or never in terms of graduation and transfer. Endurance seems to be only one solution. To quote a mother we know: "Buck up; it will all be over in seven months."

VIETNAM ... Right or Wrong?

By Susan Taylor

The situation in Viet Nam has caused much controversy on many American campuses. We at St. Mary's are no exception.

The majority of students feel that an end should be put to the war as soon as possible, not by bombing, but by negotiating. Many feel that the United Nations is the place for this negotiation, and that whatever the decision reached, each country should participate.

Beverly Lett, junior, sums up the general feeling. "I think that the United States should do everything in its power to stop the war. This includes stopping the policy of 'creeping escalation' which might very likely lead to a third World War. The U. S. should turn the Viet Nam problem over to the U. N. and give the U. N. support in whatever it decides to do."

A minority believe that the United States should withdraw from Viet Nam immediately. One student observes, "If we pull out of Viet Nam as France did from Algeria, there would be no problems."

Sally Woodleaf, junior, strongly believes that the U. S. has no definite place in Viet Nam. She said that the **main enemy in Viet Nam, Communism, cannot be fought by force.** Communism has to be stopped in the minds of men who decide their ideological beliefs for themselves. Our beliefs cannot be forced on someone else since this detracts from our role as a democratic nation and puts us on a level with Communism.

Many students declined to comment when asked for their opinion on Viet Nam. This refusal shows a definite lack of knowledge concerning the war and in many cases a lack of support. Do such ignorance and apathy have any effect on the men in Viet Nam?

The following is an excerpt from a letter from a marine in Viet Nam who re-enlisted after a two-week leave in the States.

"Even more disturbing was the definite lack of 100% 'all the way' type support from the American people which I learned to my sadness during my two weeks in the States. Most people back there really have no comprehension of what is actually going on over here and what would happen if we would turn our backs on the people of South Viet Nam. . . ."

Several students voiced their opinions on support for the war and the men.

Pridie Clark, junior, feels "the American people ought to support the men fighting over there by supporting the government policies over here."

Another junior, Bradley Matthews, said, "Personally, I'd like to see the war somewhat stepped up and ended. However, I think it is most important that we support our nation and armed forces in this battle, because I think it would be disastrous to pull out."

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