

### Letters to the editor . . .

In your last issue you quoted an editorial entitled "Education Defeated." The author tries to put the blame on the professors, so perhaps it is in order for a professor to reply.

I agree that education is widely defeated on college and university campuses in the United States and I do not exempt professors from blame. Administrations admit many undergraduates who are not students and professors tolerate their presence in classes and give them passing grades. Such conduct is blameworthy. Probably no English word is more widely used more dishonestly than the appellation students to most undergraduates. The non-students among the undergraduates do not acquire an education, not even those who get diplomas.

A student has initiative and desires knowledge. His texts and the lectures of his professors only whet his desire. He is intelligent enough to avoid the classes presided over by outdated fuddy-duddies and others who are lazy, incompetent, or indifferent to students' needs. He comes to each class with a full knowledge of his study assignments and with questions which reveal that he has explored implications and applications of the author's assertions. He has challenged the soundness of the author's views by visualizing situations in which they operate.

In his texts and in his professors' lectures he finds topics or allusions which whet his intellectual curiosity. He satisfies this by undirected trips to the library or to other sources of additional information.

A student gives little attention or thought to examinations or grades or diplomas. The only educational expenditures I begrudge are the dollars I have spent for diplomas. I have never displayed them or shown them to anyone. I don't know where they are.

A student enjoys study, so his study effort is pleasurable and untiring. He expends less time and energy acquiring more knowledge than is needed for an "A" than his uninterested classmates expend in getting a "C" or a "D".

For example: in the school where I studied business law, two lawyers taught the same course the same semester at different times. They used the same text, the same course outline, and the same study assignments. I attended both classes, one as an auditor and one for credit though I was not seeking a degree. I just wanted to learn all I could about business law and did not care whether I made an "A" or an "F". Because each taught from the background of his own experience their lectures and emphases were almost wholly different and they contradicted one another on some points. I learned nearly twice as much about business law as I could have learned from either separately. On the final examination I had some difficulty remembering which of the opposing views was taken by the professor who gave the examination, but I received an "A".

Until an undergraduate develops the attitude I have described, he is not a student, no matter what he may be called in the handbook or the catalogue or the Registrar's office. When he does develop this attitude he will be unconcerned about his professors' choices of questions and the grades will take care of themselves. Education is defeated because education is as unattainable by undergraduates who do not desire knowledge as is skill at tennis or piano playing by persons who do not want to play. Many diplomas are handed out to persons who have not acquired a college or university education.

Get wise, numbskulls. Become students. Desire knowledge. Enjoy study. Learn more with less time and less energy. Succeed academically. Do these things and when you graduate you will find profitable doors of opportunity open to you and closed to your stupid classmates who have defeated their education by their unawareness of the power of knowledge and the joy of acquiring it. —William H. Whitney

I agree that the kind of person you have portrayed is indeed the true student, but I hasten to add that our whole educational system is one which tends to discourage our nation's youth from becoming just this kind of person. Your conclusion for the moment is mine. —Ed.

## the Mars Hill College **hilltop**

14 January 1967

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# Wins Become More Frequent

After losing their first four contests the Mars Hill Woodmen finally broke into the win column with a 77-74 overtime win against King College in Bristol, Tenn., 13 Dec. On 15 Dec. the Lions played at Asheville-Biltmore and were defeated 84-64, to end the pre-Christmas competition.

The Lion cagers came back from their three week Christmas layoff by revenging an earlier 105-67 loss to Tusculum College. On 6 Jan. Ray Randall and Bill Kenney, scoring 27 and 23 points respectively, led the Lions to a 101-99 victory over Tusculum.

On the following night, 7 Jan., it was a hapless St. Andrews five that went down to defeat 110-80 as a balanced Mars Hill attack led the entire game. Six players broke into double figures, with David Webster leading the Lions with 16 points. Other Mars Hillians in double figures were Bob Gibson 10; Kenney, 14; Don Suggs, 12; and Lionel Edwards, 11.

It was also a night for fouls with 34 being called against the Lions and 31 against the Knights. On the free throw line Mars Hill hit 28 of 44 while St. Andrews connected on 32 of 53. All fifteen Woodmen played in the game.

The Lions continued their win streak by defeating the Milligan Buffs, 11 Jan., 80-79 on a free throw by Bob Gibson with one second left in the game. The Lions now hold a 4-5 record.

Through last week's games the Lions had scored 655 points for an average of 81 points a game, while allowing opponents 732 points for an average of 91 a

game. As a team the Woodmen were averaging 41 per cent on field goals and 63 per cent on free throws. Edwards led individuals with 83 per cent on field goals. Barber, with 81 per cent, and Randall, with 75 per cent, led the free throw shooters.

In scoring Bob Gibson led with 124 points or an average of 15.5. He was followed by Randall at 12.6; Webster, 11.75; Kenney, 11.0; Edwards, 11.0; and Bill Gibson, 9.4.

The Mars Hill cagers have out-rebounded opponents 295-281 thus far. Leading rebounders were Bob Gibson, averaging 8.2,

and Bill Gibson at 7.5.

Randall holds the honor of most points in a single game, 20 against Tusculum. Bob Gibson got 20 rebounds against Milligan which is high for the season.

## the LION'S DEN

Soccer is one of the most popular sports in the world, but we in the United States have virtually ignored it for years.

Cheer up, soccer fans! Beginning in April, major-league soccer will appear in the United States. The recently founded National Professional Soccer League consists of ten teams in the United States and Canada. Backers of this league include owners of National Football League teams. In addition, the Atlanta Braves baseball team has acquired the franchise for an Atlanta soccer team. It looks as if America is about to recognize a new major sport.

## Gridders Cited

Belated congratulations are extended to footballers Doug Echols, Tommy Nix, Monty Vess, and Bill Dyar for recognition on the KNOXVILLE NEWS-SENTINEL All-Star Team.

Echols, senior defensive tackle, was named to the first team. Doug served as co-captain of the football team this past year. Doug was a starter three of his four years at Mars Hill.

Junior halfback Dyar, also a co-captain this year, made honorable mention. Bill was leading rusher for the Lions this season.

Defensive ends, Vess and Nix, also made honorable mention. Tommy, a junior, led the team in tackles and assists. Monty, who was among the leaders in many departments, is a senior.

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