

Syndicated Synthesis

There are, in the minds of many Mars Hillians, concerns for the leadership, policy, and direction of organized student communications. The editors of the Hilltop have reviewed the effectiveness of the communications boards of a number of colleges and universities in the southeast and now present a plan for such a board here.

It is our conviction that a communications board, consisting of WMHC's general manager and one assistant manager, the editor and one assistant editor of the Laurel, the editor-in-chief and one assistant editor of the Hilltop and Mr. Walter P. Smith, acting as an ex-officio member, should be established as an autonomous body 1) to act as publisher of the Laurel and the Hilltop and in a similar capacity to WMHC, 2) to review all policy and censorship questions presented by any member of the board or member of the student body, 3) to act as financial overseers, serving in an advisory and supervisory capacity and responsible for counseling in fiscal matters, and 3) to select by closed nomination, candidates (who meet certain stated qualifications) for all editorships and managerial positions, who would be chosen in open student elections. This last item would offer students the opportunity, which they do not now have, to elect persons to these positions. By using closed nominations by members of the communications board, students would be assured that all candidates were qualified for the designated positions.

We recommend that a portion of the activity fee go directly to the communications board and be distributed among WMHC, the Laurel, and the Hilltop, each year, as is done with monies for athletic programs. The board should have no affiliation with any organization or agency of Student Government Association. By including any SGA representative on the board, student communications risk having funds and/or policy decisions arbitrarily blocked by the student legislature. This is a basic violation of a free press.

WMHC, the Laurel, and the Hilltop, in order to be effective instruments of communications and capable of objective commentaries, must remain separate from the student government. By having open election of publications' editors and the radio station's managers, the communications board will be able to offer the student body at large a greater degree of participation in their communications systems without endangering those systems' freedom.

The Editorial Board

Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.

—Thomas Jefferson

Newspapers are the schoolmasters of the common people. That endless book, the newspaper, is our national glory.

Henry Ward Beecher

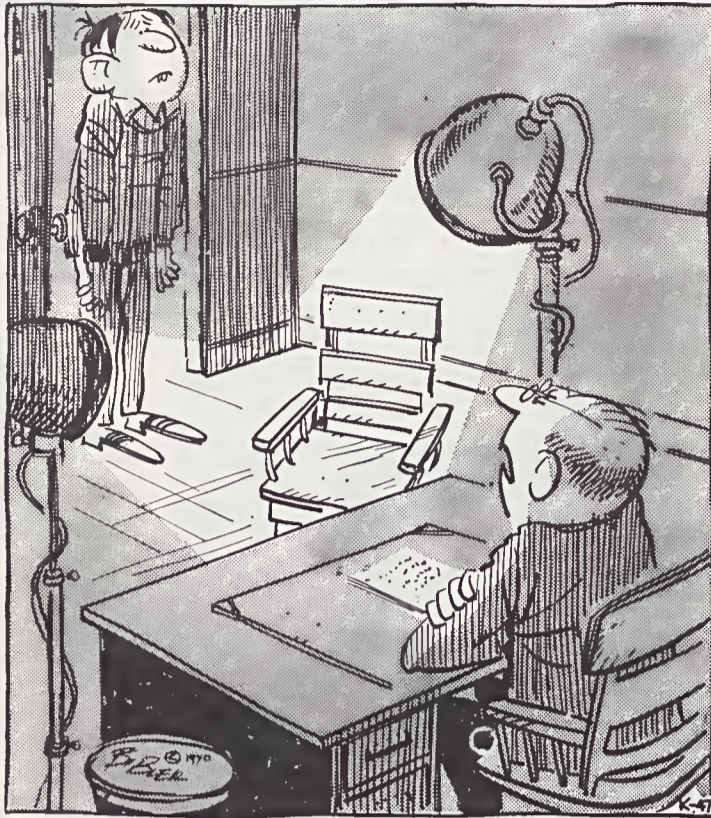
Word of Warning

The Hilltop has been notified by the Consumer Protection Division of the N. C. Attorney General's office that at least one questionable organization is now making solicitations for magazine subscriptions in colleges across the state. Young people are approaching students in their dormitory rooms, representing that they need a number of "points" from magazine sales in order to obtain scholarship funds. These solicitors then ask for payment by check, made payable to the individual solicitor. In some instances the student is advised that if he wishes to cancel the order, or stop payment on the check, the solicitor will still get his "points" and the student will have helped him to get his scholarship funds. The check is cashed immediately.

Students are warned to beware solicitations from strangers who request immediate payment of money.

Any student who learns of a suspected fraudulent solicitation should notify the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's office, P. O. Box 629, Raleigh, N. C. 27602.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"I'VE ASKED YOU IN TO DISCUSS WITH YOU THE CONTENT OF THIS ALLEGED ORIGINAL TERM PAPER YOU TURNED IN."

Sounds of the Times

sometimes silence is a lie

We Give at the Office

Rumor has it that the midnight marauders of the Rock Castle are not spending enough waking hours working. This grossly exaggerated falsehood was no doubt part of a master plan to discredit the eagerness, the faithfulness, and the spirit of sheer dedication that members of the Editorial Board possess. In order to rectify this shameful injustice the entire Editorial Board, Linda Baldwin and her humble serfs, the brilliantly blunt Laine Calloway, ever ready Frank Farrell, and eventual John Ulmer do hereby declare office hours.

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the Mars Hill College

hilltop

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HILLTOP

by Laine Calloway

When cold weather sets in in these here mountains everything freezes. I've been pondering whether or not we all are freezing from low temperatures or from apathy. Ye old Hilltop couldn't even get one letter to the editor, so Sounds of the Times doesn't amount to a whisper, much less a rumble this winter. Some things around here try to keep rolling despite the apparent freeze. I hear the Upward Bound bus broke down again. That poor bus reminds me of the little train that kept saying "I think I can. The mode of transportation offered to our "active" students is somewhat lacking and is not exactly safe. If we believed in fantasies and miracles maybe we could conjure up a money tree for problems like this.

The Committee on Admissions and Academic Standards has recently recommended that the number of absences allowed to students for each class be determined by the individual departments. The committee felt that the number of absences should be realistic to provide students the privilege of absences to represent the college in official activities and that students be informed in writing of requirements for class attendance at the beginning of each semester. This change in policy will go into effect in the fall of 1971.

Braving sleet, snow and treacherous curves, Baptist Student Fellowship slipped and slid on mountainous Hot Springs Road to attend a Catholic Mass at the Hot Springs Catholic Chapel. Attendees were guests of Father Jeff, the parish priest. Attendance mass is one of BSF's projects in their study of other religions. Are you ready for a little pun? You know they really made a mass of things.

As the cafeteria line grows, perhaps we can take this to mean that the food is improving. To keep students from having to stand in line for what seems like hours, the cafeteria is now open from 4:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

A Senate Joint Resolution naming the third week of April of each year "Earth Week" has been introduced by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson. The same measure has been introduced as a House Joint Resolution by California Congressman Paul N. McCloskey, Jr. The purpose of the annual Earth Week resolution is to give appropriate Congressional recognition to the need for a continuing nationwide effort to increase the awareness of environmental problems and how to deal with them.

You know, water pollution leaves a bad taste in your mouth.

Beginning this Tuesday, chapel will be held in a telephone booth on Main Street. Students wishing to receive attendance credit will have to arrive on time because seating will be on a first come first serve basis. (Please bring your chapel cards—just in case they decide to take them.)

This week's NoDoz Service Award is bestowed upon the "Avis" of student publications—the LAUREL and its wearied, worried workers. It seems they found out about a horrible, malignant staff disease called "deadline." This disease can be cured by hard work, sound planning, and tender loving care. Hilltop offers this remedy: try harder, you all are a nice bunch of kids and, with a little luck, you'll make it.

There are more Americans in South Viet Nam than there are in Alaska, Iowa, Wyoming, and Nevada. Maybe we should make it a state.

