

Crisis In The College II

"Tell me something," Judge Julius J. Hoffman said when I called him that September for press credentials, "do you think this is going to be the trial of the century?" Our most recent trial of Sept. 29, though not quite equal in scope to the Chicago Seven Trial, was in many respects similar.

It was both a political and social challenge to the system. In terms of politics, it was a power and structure battle. Students felt that the power of Student Court was in name only, that the system was there only for show. In other words, Student Court was the most farcical instrument on campus. Many students failed to remember Dr. Bentley's statement concerning possession of narcotics. They saw Bentley's action as an act of repression, when in fact it was the only course of action open to him.

I do not see that Bentley's action has cost the court any loss of power or prestige, as Dr. Bentley was only fulfilling his obligation as guardian of the college. Had he backed down on the college's policy on drugs, he would have opened the door to even greater problems, at a time when some sort of definite action was needed.

However, this is not to say that the entire administration should be vindicated. It is my impression, through investigation, that the core of the problem lies behind the door of the Dean of Students. There seems to be no evidence that Dr. Gehring informed Student Court that this was not an ordinary trial. Both the defense, and prosecution staffs, and the justices entered into the trial with the impression that they were to 1) determine guilt or innocence and 2) pass sentence if necessary. Clarification of procedure should have come from the Dean's office and all evidence points out that it did not.

So it wasn't a question of power, it was a question misinterpretation of school policy and ignorance.

In terms of the social aspect, the question arose of the morality of the marijuana. Many students feel that "grass" should be legalized or that the punishment for possession is too harsh. Perhaps the decision of the Court was a social comment in accordance with this fact. It has been said that a jury represents the conscience of a community. And this may be the case here, but it brings about the question as to whether or not this was the time for a social comment.

We need to reinstate the Appeals Board. If we had had one in the first place this whole hassle might have been avoided. The lack of an Appeals Board places all in unfortunate, awkward position. I hope the senate will re-examine their decision and change their stand on the issue. If they don't I feel that they are in for more confusion and many more headaches. A political end to a political trial.

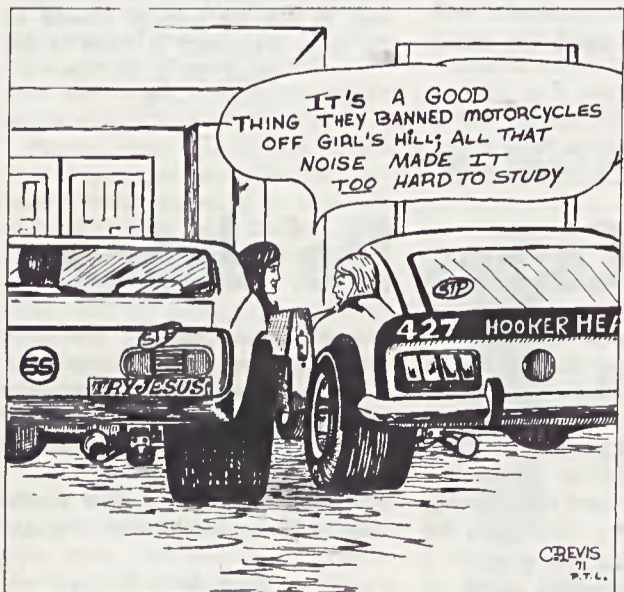
This college, in too many instances, has communication problems. I am beginning to think this is a pat excuse for lack of concern and/or ignorance. It is not as though we are a gigantic university with a complex communication system. Our isolation is artificially induced.

So we have witnessed a fiasco of our own making. What we do to remedy this "lack of communication" as some prefer to call it will definitely affect the future of this college. It will test the wisdom of SGA, the student body, the administration.

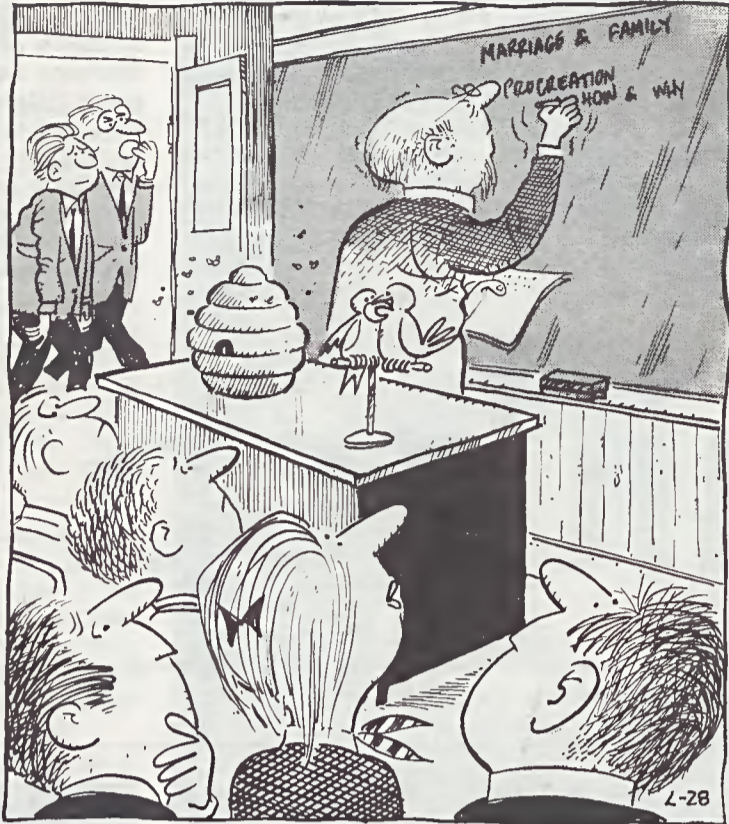
In the words of the late Robert Kennedy, "The future will belong to those who can see that wisdom can only emerge from the clash of contending views, the passionate expression of deep and hostile beliefs."

Laine Calloway

"For it is easy enough to maintain due process and constitutional rights in ordinary times and ordinary cases. It is precisely in extraordinary circumstances like these that the court system is put to its ultimate test. Institutions, like people, must be judged on how they react to pressure."
— J. Anthony Lukas



LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



"HE'S UP FOR RETIREMENT — AND A GOOD THING TOO — 'TH' PROGRAM IS ABOUT SHOT."

Sounds of the Times

Dear Editor,

In approaching our fourth year here at Mars Hill, it has occurred to us that there are many issues, questions, and few answers to be considered by our student body.

After having heard the gripes and grievances of a few concerned classmates for sometime, we have decided to take our turn with the pen, and express a few thoughts for our "great little big town" to chew on.

Probably the biggest gripe we have heard from the students is the policy of the bookstore in buying and selling of books. The question that comes into our minds is why is it that when we attempt to sell our books back at the close of the semester, Mr. Caldwell informs us that the professors have decided to use new books the following semester — but in several cases, when we return the next semester, we are amazed to find them using the same books?

On the other hand, if and when the "book monopoly company" finally does agree to buy a book from you, they give you less than 50% of the actual price you paid for it, and when resale time roles around, they mark it up 50%.

We are sure it would be quite an interesting move to compare our bookstore prices with those of other campuses.

However, we can not, in all due fairness, give all the credit to the bookstore for this state of mass confusion, and deceit. The professors and department heads have contributed greatly to the situation. But, in reality, we can overlook many of the blunders, considering that a few of them have yet to successfully master the English language.

As long as we are on the subject of man's best friend, money, there's still another point to bring out. How about some of these majors' clubs, that require membership, vast dues, and, if one has the audacity to refuse membership, your recommendation has as much of a chance as would a student trying to keep the student center open during Dr. Bentley's convocation.

By the way, did you know that the stores in downtown Asheville did not close for Dr. B's annual convocation? What blasphemy!!

Those students who were sitting in the student center as the hour approached, found themselves thrown out on their tails, while "King B."

(cont. on p. 4)

the Mars Hill College hilltop

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Fate Over R

by Ed Sams

It is time for spreading the Tarot pack and over the eight of swords, the card of slander and for the HILLTOP comes out today. Please, please rioting in the streets. It could turn out to be worthy.

A new addition to Memorial Library is a late return receptacle for books that are due on a day but are returned after library hours. It is located in the corner of the sidewalk that goes up to Myers. If you drop the book in on the correct day, even if you drop it a week later. Also, if by some chance or sudden shower you find yourself in the library and see Mrs. David Knisley with a brood of children around her, don't think it is because she has not read **The Population Bomb**; these children are the guests of Mars Hill College from the town's school for the handicapped. Local Civitan members are selling nuts at ball games to raise money for the school. I am sure any practical application of remedying student snack hunger along this line would be greatly appreciated.

If you enjoyed last night's **Paint Your Wagon** and week's **The Great White Hope**, movie buffs take note. For those happy people who brought such things as **Peter Pan** and **Boatniks** last year, will be showing such **freaky flicks** as **Sweet Charity** and **Waterhole** all through the season. Speaking of movies, did you get to **His Land** and **The Lost Generation**?

Junior biology major, Benjamin Jolley of Mars Hill has been selected as moderator and a speaker at a student forum at the second national biological congress of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). The four-day congress will start Saturday, Oct. 17 in Miami Beach, Fla., with the theme of "Man and his environment." The forum will delve into measures to solve environmental problems. Jolley, one of five forum speakers, will present a paper on population.

The International Club has set aside their trip to New York City this semester and have started a raffle which the proceeds will go into a newly created Roman Gorski Memorial Fund. By relinquishing your person one silver-coated quarter you not only make a philanthropic gesture but you also have a crack at a portable television set.

Palmistry tip No. 348: Look underneath your left finger on your left hand and if you find "the sign of the trident", a marking of a three-pronged stick, it means that riches and fortunes are assured in your life.

Do not be surprised if you find a change in the upstairs and downstairs of the Owen Bull building. Those busy C.S.M.'ers are at it again trying to make a hole into a coffee house. Actually they have done a pretty good job of decorating, including the parading their snack bar area. Rumor has it that it was used last by Mad Joe Franklin, editor of the **Lane** when he jumped out of the window on second floor. Gibson due to a false fire alarm. The upstairs will be taken care of by the MHC drama people who seem to have some great ideas in mind for it.

Richard Cryder and William Thomas, the two members of the music department, will team up for a recital at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, in Moore Auditorium. Cryder, a trombonist, will perform a baroque sonata by Marcello and contemporary compositions by Giacchino Puccini, Eugene Bozza and Kazimierz Serocki. Thomas, a baritone and a 1968 graduate of Mars Hill, will perform contemporary songs by Rubbra and Wyner. The recital will be led by Wolf and Ravel's "Don Quichotte a Dulcinea."

One new and refreshing addition to halftime proceedings is the newly formed flag corps under the direction of Miss Susan Threatt, Captain. The girls in the corps who have worked so long and hard to put on such a fine performance are Dee Godshall, Pam Threatt, Rose Lind Pendergraft, Nan Richards, Donna Right, and Turpentine, and Debby Elrod.

Fall Break will be coming a little earlier this year, one day earlier in fact. Those wonderful people in the registrar's office fixed the school calendar so that the students get Thursday besides Friday off for a well-deserved rest.

"The worst vice of a fanatic is his sincerity," Oscar Wilde

This week's NoDoz Service Award goes to majorette Patty Morgan and her girls in the skimpy suits for their great exhibition of twirldom and griddom choreography this year.

INTERVIEW from pg. 1
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