

EDITORIAL COMMENT... ACTION ON CAMPUS

by Tim Haden

The time has come for students of Mars Hill College to abandon their seemingly "no position" tradition or at best, their status as mere armchair intellectuals. Sitting behind closed dorm doors, safely expressing token radical (or conservative) opinions, indignantly calling for some kind of drastic action on a given issue is not enough. Students must realize their ideas and ideals in outwardly visible, and effective action initiated by themselves. Delegating responsibility for effective change to other unknown actors in life when one clearly sees a problem and realizes the need for action, is hypocritical and perhaps immoral.

Have you ever speculated as why there have been no demonstrations at Mars Hill pertaining to such issues as the continued war in Indochina, pressing environmental problems or the political corruption that has been revealed this year. We just sit back and let the world pass by, that is, as long as we can continue to tumble (or stumble) up and down girls' or boys' hill and perhaps sneak a forbidden beer into our rooms.

Either Mars Hill College consists totally of mediocre, no opinion students, or else these students are basically afraid to take a potentially controversial stand on a particular issue. Afraid, yes, even intimidated they may be. Students are scared of being wrong, scared of antagonizing a given instructor by voicing views that conflict with the instructor's own views or scared of disapproving comments from "high administration sources."

One of the most common rebuttals to student opinions is,

"well, when you get older and more mature, you'll change your mind." Coming from an admired professor (or hated), this type of answer is intimidating to say the least because it reduces a student from a young adult status to a cringing innocent babe incapable of thinking for himself. Don't belinquinsh your budding ideas too quickly!

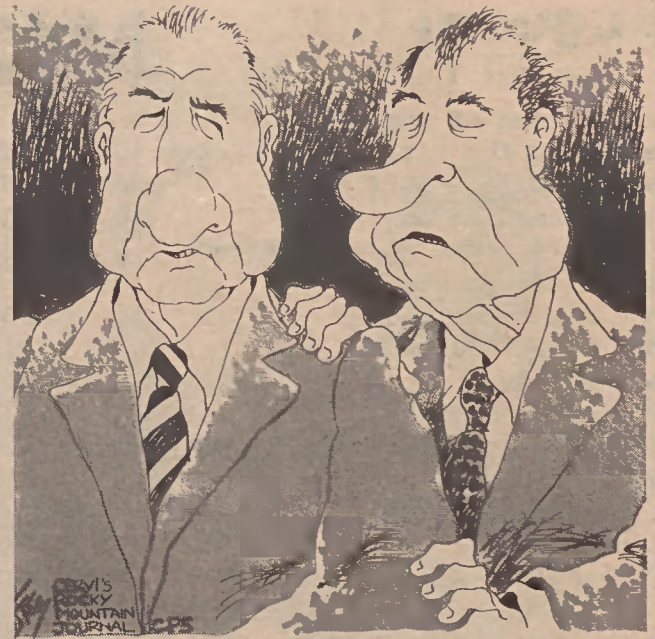
One professor told this writer, that by the end of his sophomore year, he had come to the conclusion that his opinions were as good as anyone else's and therefore, there was no reason not to express them "loud and clear." This was food for thought. Clearly our fine instructors at Mars Hill, because of their wide experience and training, will generally be able to successfully dispel a student's opinion if their opinions are in conflict. However, it is important to realize that you will more than likely, be able to find another teacher on campus who can substantially support your views. For example, I heard in one class that Christian theology provided the way to find truth and meaning in life while in the next class, I was told that this same theology so narrows and restricts a student's mind that the process of discovering truth and meaning in life is irredeemably impaired. In fact, professors, even more than students, seldomly agree on anything, so why be careful about whom you agree with. Obviously there needn't be any fear of being wrong in some persons view, particularly on issues similar to the ones mentioned above, for undoubtedly many others will support you. Beware particularly of behavioral and intellectual conditioning. Remember that the general designs of this college would not necessarily

be the same as those at UNC-A, Whittier or Harvard. Who is "right?"

Students need to dispell the seemingly entrenched idea, that open demonstrations, pamphlets or information tables, etc., are activities to be persued at Mars Hill. In a recent protest against Marine recruitment on campus, many students seemed upset, not by what the protestors had to say, but by the fact that an "audacious" open protest was actually taking place. A typical rebuke was, "Why are you picking on the Marines?" One football tarzan even threatened to turn over the protestors' information table! But it is precisely this kind of public activity, despite the dangers of irrational behavior mentioned above, that creates interest and thought among generally unaware students. It is clearly more effective than "barroom intellectualizing."

During the question and answer period after the Julian Bond speech, one student asked what could be done on a "politically apathetic campus." I suggest to this student, and others, that they seek out persons who are ideological fellow travelers and organize, write position papers and handouts, send letters to the editors and promote their views openly. Nothing can happen as long as students sit back and complain that nothing is happening. A few innovated persons could start what might possibly put Mars Hill back in touch with the world.

Aleksandr Solzheniksgn, famous Russian writer and political dissenter, asked the thoughtful question; "If one is forever cautious, can one remain a human being?" It is your world and your future--DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!



"I Just Want You To Know I'm Behind You, Spiro... One Thousand Per Cent."

FOOTBALL ... In Summary

by Eric Garner

There comes a time in every coaches career that he must take a deep breath and continue to fight despite difficult conditions. This is Coach Claude "Hoot" Gibson's first year as head of the Lion football team. It has had joys but also has come many disappointments.

The Lions have lost their last four ball games in a row, total of five. Three of those five have been losses by 4 pts. or less. That can be discouraging. Surely Coach Gibson has had many great moments this year. Presently, the Lions are twelvth in the nation in passing offense. Ronnie Reeves has twice been named Carolinas Conference Player of the Week and Jeff Conner was runner-up once also for the same award. Ronnie Capps is presently seventh in the nation in pass receiving. The Lion defense ranks top in the Carolinas Conference against the pass. Ronnie Reeves leads the conference in scoring. Tom Fisher is tied for fourth in the nation in punting. Surely the Lions have All-Conference players like Ray Kinney, Wayne Perryman, "Spike" Anderson, Dan Johnson and David Boschelli (remember his 3 interceptions last Saturday). With all these things going for him, a coach has to wonder why the record isn't better than 4-6.

Last weeks loss to Newberry 17-21 is nothing to be ashamed

about. Gibson has a young team with a majority of players who are freshmen or sophomores. There is the future to look for in our Lions. This week we take on Georgetown College at 2:00 in Meares Stadium. The Lions have a lot to be proud of. Let's support them as they close out this season. This is Parents Weekend and there are 9 seniors who deserve your support.

In tramurals

by Cole Harris

Next Monday and Tuesday are the dates set for the Intermural Football Playoffs. Only the top four teams will enter the play offs. Mondays games feature the Over the Hill Gang, 9-0, vs. Pika Katz, 6-4, and Mama Sue's Boys, 8-1 vs. Cottage Cheese, 7-2. Tuesday will host the winners of both games for the Championship. In 5th place in the standings was Pi Kapps, 5-5, followed by Semi-Tough 4-5, Sea Gulls 4-5 (tie for sixth place), Melrose P, 2-7 and tied for the bottom are Myers G. and G-men, both at 0-8.

Participation in intermural volleyball, 3-on-3 basketball, and doubles paddleball will begin Monday, Nov. 19. Intermural basketball teams are now being formed and all organizations should have their rosters in to the Intermural Office before the Christmas Holidays.



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by Ben S

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