

Viewpoint

Safety Standards Too Often Compromised

Dear Editors:

It has been brought to my attention recently that my life may be in potential danger due to poor safety standards. I live in the apartments, which are flammable in themselves. The exposed heater coils are quite a threat to my safety, and the heater itself has already melted one cord and the back of the couch. I have also become aware of darkness--much more so because of the absence of lights. Perhaps the college could install lights beside the slick steps instead of paying men to plant ground cover outside our windows.

Now, do not misunderstand, I am all for beautifying the campus, but...I feel that the safety of the students is a much bigger priority. It seems a shame that we wait until fire drills to find that the alarms do not sound, or that the extinguishers are only half full. It would be tragic for a life to be taken because of someone's neglect. Safety is an utmost priority and I fail to understand why we cut corners in this area.

The apartment complexes are highly combustible due to the electric heaters, hot water tank, stove, refrigerator, yet the walls are made of sheet-rock. If an improvement can not be made in the materials used, certainly the college can provide better alarms and more extinguishers. The smoke detectors are fairly good for one apartment, but if we have only three minutes, what good does it do our neighbors?

After spending thirty minutes trapped in Fox elevator, I was disturbed--to say the least. I do not live in Fox nor did I know that the elevator would not make it to the attic, for someone had borrowed the sign. I was appalled to learn that the cables "just" needed oiling. I'm glad I don't have claustrophobia!

It is beyond all my understanding how the college can pass any safety regulations with hazards such as these few mentioned. Perhaps, each student should become educated as to their own safety and how it is being compromised.

Carolyn Adams

What Was That I Saw on the Couch?

Dear Editors,

We wish to express our concern to the student body over the extreme displays of public affection in the lounge of Wren College Union. We would be the first to admit that showing affection for the opposite sex is a very healthy pattern of behavior. We would not attempt to advise others in how to conduct themselves in public if it were not for the fact that many other students are being offended by this action. We feel it is our responsibility as students who feel their rights are being infringed upon to voice our opinion.

This problem has also brought to our attention the fact that students lack private dating facilities. Although we can not offer an alternative to the lounge of Wren College Union at this time, we will encourage the SGA to focus its attention upon arriving at a solution. In order to be effective in this endeavor, they will need the full support of you, the student body.

The house policy of Wren

College Union reads as follows "this is a place to relax--the privilege is not intended to permit undue display of affection, awkward lounging positions...or any other behavior that is not in good taste or which may be offensive to others." So, we trust your ability to interpret this house policy. It is our hope that we as a student body will make an honest effort to solve this problem ourselves.

Sincerely,

Buzzy Scott, Student Director,
Wren College Union
Patti Mills, President,
Student Government

Student Attorney Hired

The Student Government Association has retained William Arthur (Bill) Barnes, Jr. as student attorney. A graduate of the University of North Carolina Law School, He was admitted to the North Carolina bar in 1974, then worked with the State Department of Corrections and the National Association of Attorneys General. Now he has a private law practice in Weaverville. As the students' attorney he will be available on campus once a month to assist with any legal problems or questions that they might have concerning the college. In other words, students will have counsel free of charge for any reasonable actions they might wish to take against Mars Hill. Mr. Barnes is available at any time to give advice about personal legal problems and to proceed in active litigation, but in such matters must be contacted at his office in Weaverville. He will be on campus Wednesday, January 12, from 3 to 5pm in the Student Consulting Services. Students can call or sign up in the SGA office if they wish to see Mr. Barnes.



At this most special time of the year, the Co-editors would like to extend a very special "thank you" to all of those faithful souls who have spent their many hours helping out in the publication of the Hilltop, particularly to Assistant Editor Julia Storm, Copy Editor Ninette Humber, and ever-loyal photographer Kirk Hall (who took this picture). The complete Hilltop staff, pictured above (L-R): Cheryl Aldridge, Jill Adams, Janis Taylor, Joy Bridges, Julia Storm, Jonathan Riddle, Rex Best, Pat Huckabee, Martha Kimsey, Ninette Humber, Margaret Doult, Debbie Clary, Trudie Goodrich, and Debbie Queen.

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