



Stewart talks

From the President's Desk

All of us have been lured by those famous "special deals" and come-ons of "SAVE, SAVE," but only rarely does a genuine offer with real savings to be had in it come along. Such an offer has now been made to the students of UNCC, and it comes to us through our membership in the Association of Student Governments.

Every student, full or part-time, is now entitled to a special Student Rate Card, effective at all Sheraton Hotels and Motor Inns. These can be used on all weekends and during major holiday periods, and as such can provide you with real savings on vacation accommodations. To get your card, stop by the Union Desk and ask for yours, then just fill it in and present it whenever you register at a Sheraton Hotel. Advanced reservations may be made with the card.

As an example, the Princess Kaiulani Hotel in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii has reduced its rate to as little as \$7.50 per night.

SGA President interviewed

The following is an interview with Bud Stewart, President of the Student Government Association.

Question: As president of the S.G.A. how do you feel the Student Legislature has performed this year?

Answer: They've been slow, sluggish and often incomplete. They often act on emotion instead of reason.

Question: Do you feel that the legislature has deviated from its traditional duties this year with the various resolutions it has passed concerning the Vietnam war?

Answer: I think the answer to that is obvious. Yes.

Question: In your opinion what is the purpose of the Student Legislature?

Answer: It's there to represent the feelings and desires of the student body to other entities of the university and to provide in every way that it can for the welfare of the student body.

Question: Do you feel that the legislature perhaps has too much power in that they control the Student Activities Fees?

Answer: No. The Student Legislature does not actually control the activities fees. They only make suggestions that go to the Student Activities Fees Committee comprised of Miss Bonnie Cone and several students.

Question: Do you think they should have final word on the activities fees?

Answer: No. They tried it once before and didn't do a good job of it.

Question: What are some of the major projects you are currently working on as President of S.G.A.?

Answer: We're working on grade evaluation systems and teacher evaluation systems. We're formulating our plans on environmental control study. We're quite involved in community relations programs and their implementation. We're concerned with setting up a student loan fund where kids can borrow up to \$100 at a small 4% interest.

We'll be working closely with a Great Letter Council that will serve to correlate the activities of fraternities and sororities. We're also working on a Tap Room-beer on campus.

Question: I understand that you recently attended a conference in Reidsville, N. C. called Operation Interface. Our delegates felt that it was beneficial. What did it concern?

Answer: O.I. was a gathering of education, religious and business leaders from across North Carolina. We were trying to find out what we each were and could be doing to help one another.

Question: Do you have any plans for such a conference here at UNCC?

Answer: We did have plans for one in Charlotte. However, to carry out this thing in this area, it is presently outside the capacity of this administration in both time and money. One that is needed here would require a great deal of planning and preparation. I don't have the manpower. The SGA doesn't have the money. It is now tabled by this administration with hopes that sometime in the future it will be picked up and enacted. Part of what we gained from Operation Interface will be employed in the environmental studies program.

Question: Many people have said that UNCC just is not a part of the Charlotte community. What kind of a role do you think the school should play in the community?

Answer: There are many different phases to that. You can't pick out one specific thing and say this is what we can do. We should complement the community. We should prod, encourage, and work with it.

Historically, all good universities have been the center of radicalism, new thought, new goals, innovation and the like ... we're to constantly prod the community, challenge it and move it. We learn from them, of course, but they as well can and should learn from us as the newer critics and workers.

Conferences, classes, politics turn to ecology

By Bill Sievert
College Press Service

WASHINGTON—(CPS)—The predominant theme of campus conferences, conventions, dialogues and teach-ins is shifting from "campus unrest" to "the environmental crisis."

The shift does not indicate the solution of the problems that still put students at odds with administrators, regents and politicians as much as it indicates the discovery that no students, administrators, or politicians will remain to tangle if American de-natures itself out of existence.

The largest nationwide effort planned so far is the "Environmental Teach-In" originated by Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.) for April 22. The teach-in is being coordinated by law, medical and other professional school students here.

Another conference, this one to put together student-faculty teams to develop strategies for solving ecological problems in their own communities, is being organized by former National Student Association (NSA) staff members. About 200 persons are expected to participate at Buckhill Inn, Pa. in February. Buckminster Fuller, writer and inventor of the geodesic dome, will be among the invited participants at the session sponsored by the Methodist Church Population Institute.

A number of similar conferences have taken place in recent months. At one meeting at Stanford University, a Student Environmental Confederation was formed by 200 students at 40 colleges. The confederation is to coordinate campus efforts and serve as an information clearinghouse on ecological problems.

At some California campuses there already are more than half-a-dozen environmental action organizations. For several years, students in the San Francisco Bay area have been aware of their natural environment as they have fought to save the Redwoods and to stop the filling of San Francisco Bay. Southern California students likewise have had to

deal with oil pollution of the Pacific around Santa Barbara and Los Angeles' smog.

The plan is for students on individual campuses to develop their own programs for studying, exchanging ideas, and initiating action on environmental problems, particularly those facing their own community. Like the Vietnam Moratoria, the teach-in is a national idea developed on the local level.

Other conferences on the environment will precede the April teach-in. The U.S. Student Press Association's (USSPA) annual college editors' conference will consider ecology in the light of "What's the Difference if We Don't Wake Up?" as it offers editors and other interested students "a death trip" in Washington Feb. 27-March 2. Conservation experts and ecology promoters will join political pros such as New York Mayor John Lindsay, Sen. Edmund Muskie, and Teach-In originator Nelson, as well as Secretary of Interior Walter Hickel and NBC News Commentator Chet Huntley. Mixed media presentations will be used to demonstrate the country's ecological plight.

Currently, California ecology crusaders are planning a 500-mile walk from Sacramento to Los Angeles to exhibit models of ecologically sound life-styles. Two-hundred walkers are expected to take part from March 21 to May 1.

The walkers will be aided by a mobile library teaching unit, smog free propane-converted vehicles, solar energized cooking utensils, a street theater company, and carnival-type exhibits. The hike, which will average 15 to 20 miles a day, is being organized by Ecology Action in Berkeley.

Meanwhile, students on other states are discovering what air, water, earth and countless other forms of pollution (including animal destruction) mean to them and their futures, as environmental courses have become the most sought

after classes on campus upon campus.

A record enrollment class of 6,000 is taking a course entitled "Can Man Survive?" at the University of Oregon. The class is held in the basketball arena. At the University of Montana 100 students were turned away from a new ecology course into which 300 students were admitted.

Three North Carolina Universities, Duke, North Carolina State, and North Carolina at Chapel Hill, are forming a consortium to study ecological problems with federal funds.

Almost every university in the country is becoming involved in some way, according to Everett M. Hafner, dean of Hampshire College's School of Natural Science. Hafner has been gathering facts on ecological education and plans to publish a directory of environmental study programs this year.

Politicians are also becoming more concerned with ecology (at least due in part to the excitement being generated on the campuses), and numerous Congressmen, liberals and conservatives alike, are calling the environment the most crucial issue for Congress to act on in the new year.

Some students have expressed concern that too great and too quick an acceptance of ecological problems by conservatives and the "silent majority" brand of Americans could result in little being accomplished. Once people accept the validity of an issue on a large scale, they often become lethargic about it.

In this issue, gaining approving nods from the public is not enough. Drastic action must come quickly, they say.

An ecology group organizer in Minnesota maintains, "The problem is so great that you need activists to get anything done, but a lot of the people coming into our group now would oppose dramatic things like the burying of the automobile engine."

Al Record, formerly with NSA and a

planner of the Buckhill, Pa. conference says, "The danger is that they (ecology supporters) may forget about long-range goals, that they will forget about race and war as basic issues." Forcing minority groups to poverty stricken lives in ghetto and continuing to develop bombs to carry the world to fail-safe will destroy man just as quickly as the continued destruction of nature. And vice versa.

One of the first Congressional moves on ecology since the increased interest in the issue comes this winter as Rep. John Brademas (D-Ind.) opens hearings on legislation aimed at helping elementary and secondary schools teach about conservation, pollution control, and other environmental problems. Brademas, sponsor of the Environmental Quality Education Act, says he plans to call "top experts and knowledgeable citizens from across the country" to testify on the proposal before the House Select Education Subcommittee of which he is chairman.

In the Senate, the bill is sponsored by Gaylord Nelson, organizer of the April teach-in. Two Republicans and another Democrat are co-sponsoring the bill with Brademas in the House.

The measure would provide federal grants for developing teaching materials and teachers in environmental studies and aid to elementary schools for courses on ecology, pollution control and natural resources. The bill also would authorize environmental study courses for community and industrial leaders and state and local government officials.

Day by day support from all ages and political arenas continues to surround the issue of saving the environment. But whether the new support is serious enough, whether enough support can be garnered from industry which is such a major contributor to the crisis and whether the last inning effort is in time remains to be seen.