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Flag Desecration Charged

By Joe H. McCorkle

Hank Parker, a 17-year-old high school junior, was arrested last Thursday on campus for "desecration of the American flag."

The flag, which was sewn on the back of Parker's jacket, had the peace symbol written on it along with the words "Give peace a chance."

UNCC Security Officer Lambert made the initial investigation and turned the boy over to Mecklenburg County Police who made the arrest.

Parker along with his brother and two other companions were visiting UNCC to attend a meeting sponsored by the Progressive Political Union, a campus organization.

After the meeting, they went into the Union T V lounge and were talking with two bus drivers when they were approached by Officer Lambert.

According to Johny Locke, one of the bus drivers, "We were just sitting around talking. He came and looked at me first. Then he asked to see one of the boy's hat because it looked like a policeman's hat. He looked at the boy's brother and saw the flag on his back and said, 'Boy, you know you're violating a federal law? Let me see some identification. We better go check this out.' He wasn't bothering anybody."

Parker was jailed for approximately one hour but was released upon recognition by the court until his May 5 trial.

Parker was charged with a North Carolina law which was enacted in 1917.

Federal statues concerning the flag impose no penalties except in the District of Columbia.

Hickok, Norton To Lead SGA

By Joe H. McCorkle

In the closest election ever held on this campus, junior Alan Hickok polled 4 per cent majority to win the Student Government Association presidential race, while dark horse candidate Rick Norton polled a similarly narrow majority to win the vice presidential race.

Student Party nominee Hickok received 404 votes to independent Don Stone's 289. Norton, a transfer student from Central Piedmont Community College, received 414 votes to narrowly

edge Student Party vice presidential candidate Ed Wayson. Wayson received 404 votes.

"It's been a hard fight," commented Hickok. "I'm glad we won. It's time to ammend any hard feelings that have arisen-- time to begin the work for next year."

Norton said he too was surprised about his victory.

"I would like to thank every person for their trust and support of me, and I hope that every student at UNCC will feel free to come directly to me with questions. This is what communication is all about," Norton said.

The outcome of the election is not without question, however.

Sam McGriff, who filed for the presidency, was found ineligible by the Elections Committee because he did not have the necessary grade point average.

McGriff questioned the interpretation of the S.G.A. Constitution and took his case to the Student Legislature. The motion to accept his quality point average as satisfactory was defeated by one vote cast by the presiding officer to break the legislative tie. (See McGriff story below.)

Students overwhelmingly approved of final exams being optional. The vote was 753 to 88 in favor of making all finals optional to students.

If the faculty and administration bow to the students' wishes as expressed in the yes-no referendum, a student will not have to take a final unless he feels it would benefit him to do so.

Students also approved of adding gold to the school colors.

The vote was 414 to 385 in favor of making gold the third school color. Green and white are presently UNCC colors.



President-elect Hickok



Vice President-elect Norton

Earth Day is April 22
-- see page 3

Coach Murphy says
'It's Been A Pleasure'
--see page 8

Vote Tally

Pres. Ballots 847	Vice Pres. Ballots 821
A. Hickok 404	E. Wayson 404
D. Stone 289	N. Norton 414
write-ins 48	write-ins 3

Exams: Should all final comprehensive exams be optional for a student?
Yes 753
No 88

Colors: Should gold be added as a third school color?
Yes 414
No 385

Talent Show May 7

The first UNCC talent award show will be held Thursday, May 7, 1970, in the Union Parquet room at 8:00 p.m.

Master of ceremonies for the event will be Dick Taylor, WBT disc jockey. Judges for the event will be Dr. Daily, of the UNCC music department; Mr. Delbert Bowles, of the CPCC music department; and Miss Peggee Lee, local president of the National Talent and Beauty Judges Association.

Prizes for the event will include cash awards of at least \$60, \$25, and \$20 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners respectively. Total cash and merchandise awards total over \$350. All prizes are donations from Metrolina merchants.

Participation is open to any student or faculty member of UNCC. The first rehearsal will be held on April 21 at 6:30 P.M. in room 209 of the Union building. Attendance at this rehearsal is mandantory for participation in the show. Accompanists should be provided by the participant. Any questions should be referred to Eddie Millis, 786-1868, Concord, or Jerry Hensley, 536-3950.

Admission is free. The program is open to the public.

Petition Pleads

McGriffs Cause

A petition bearing 789 names was presented to Chancellor Colvard Friday. The petition was presented by Sam McGriff, who was twice ruled as an ineligible presidential candidate. It asked that the Chancellor nullify the SGA presidential election and allow a student referendum to clarify section 1-d of the SGA By-laws.

McGriff Loses Battle

By Susan Sutton

McGriff prefaced his appeal with the fact that he was 26, an economics major, and that he works with IBM.

In his speech, he gave statistics on the mean scholastic average for UNCC students which showed that his UNCC average was higher than that of the average male junior student, and that gradewise, he was more eligible to run than the average student.

In closing, McGriff told the legislators, "your final word is law... I appeal to your sound rational thinking."

A noticeably tense legislature, with Jerry Hammond presiding for Alan Hickok, then set about making a decision. James Cuthbertson moved that the legislature rule McGriff's scholastic average acceptable, considering the loose interpretation of the by-laws. Barbara

Brenizer seconded.

When questioned about his average McGriff stated that he felt he could achieve a 2.0 average at the end of this semester and maintain it. The question was called, followed by a role call vote.

When the votes were tallied, a tie vote was announced. Jerry Hammond, as chairman announced he would cast the tie-breaking ballot.

Hammond then stated that, as a student here, McGriff is subject to the rules of this school, and "this university does not recognize him as having a 2.0, therefore, I had to vote against him."

Sammie L. McGriff lost his second battle for the right to run for the S.G.A. presidency on Wednesday, when the Student Legislature denied his request to

suspend the 2.0 scholastic average requirement to reinterpret the S.G.A. by-laws to make him an eligible candidate for S.G.A. office.

In the S.G.A. By-laws, Section 1-a., states that a candidate must have completed 45 hours at any accredited college or university at the time of his election. Section 1-d. states that he must have an overall scholastic average at the time of election.

McGriff, a transfer student from S. C. State, does not have a 2.0 average here; however, he had a 2.55 at his former school. When the two are averaged together, he does have a 2.0 average. S. C. State is recognized as an accredited college by UNCC.

He came before legislature with his

appeal, after Bud Stewart president of S. G. A. for 1969-70, upheld the elections committee ruling.

Joe Davidson, speaking for McGriff, told the legislators, that if they denied McGriff's candidacy on the grounds his quality point average was too low, they were discriminating against students who transfer from outside the Consolidated University. (When a student transfers here from any college or university outside the Consolidated University, he receives credits for his hours, but not for his quality points. Inside the system, hours and averages are both transferred. On using this criterion for determining eligibility, McGriff told the legislators, "you have not been screening candidates adequately."