

Editorial

Have UNCC students been short-changed?

At the dawn of a new year, we are faced with massive re-structuring of priorities, as evidenced by the budgets submitted by Chancellor Colvard. There are proposed new classroom facilities, laboratories, and numerous other major items that this blossoming campus needs to provide adequate student education.

But, less we forget, there are less important although quite personal areas for today's UNCC student that need to be dealt with -- either from administrative offices, student offices, or in some manner corrected.

For example, no one could believe the postal system on this campus. Out-going student mail must be posted in a lone, distant mailbox outside the University Center. Why not mailing locations in the dorms?

And the mail delivery. Inconsistent as to time during the weekdays and non-existent on Saturdays; this, again, for personal mail for dormitory students. Contact with home, with friends -- this is vital to a healthy adjustment to campus living; admittedly, the mail service needs some revamping.

And then there's this parking shortage. You don't need figures and statistics to see it. We need parking areas, and we need them now.

An interesting proposal: eliminate those "D" and "E" decals, and all separate designations for vehicles. Allow "free" parking on-campus to all University members. Some reserved slots for police, a few Administrative officials, and certain others may be needed. If every student pays his twelve dollars per year, why can't he park in any available location? Perhaps we should consider a flat fee--say, thirty or forty dollars-- for any staff or faculty member that wants a reserved parking place. Those "B" and "C" areas remain crowded but if the campus parking were "free" (first-come, first-served), wouldn't some of the confusion and hunting for the right place for your decal be alleviated? Whatever is decided, the Traffic Committee has plenty this year for responsible action and they will be watched for some effective proposals.

Just a glimpse then at some immediate concerns for current UNCC students. We can plan growth for tomorrow's students, but let's do our utmost not to short-change this generation. Their needs are important; their desires from the University must be given a high priority if we are not to make them feel "alienated" from expenditure of money, time, and resources.

You'll get more tangible results from a dorm mailbox today than ten new classrooms tomorrow. Both are needed. But which means more to any student on-campus today?

Ed. note: Editorial opinions expressed in this column reflect the views of the Journal staff.

Repercussions

Where is the end-the-war spirit?

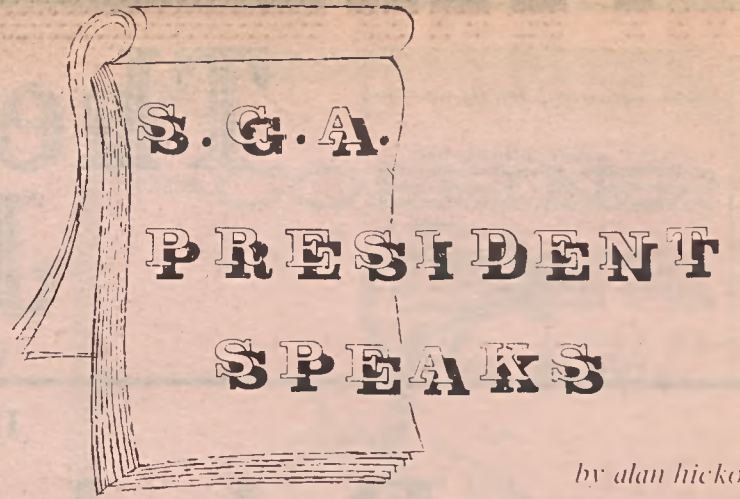
To The Editor:

The last issue of the 'Carolina Journal' printed a letter from the chairman of the National Strike for Peace Committee. In the letter Miss Feyer called for a conscientious demonstration against the war in Southeast Asia.

It is a general feeling among students at this time that strikes and moratoriums achieve nothing. It is the assumption that a lot of people get together from idealistic motivation to try to change what nobody really feels can be changed. Nixon brings 100,000 boys home and the war is over. But it IS NOT over. The fact is that there are still over 400,000 of our brothers still fighting and dying there, and these token withdrawals are not enough. But where has the spirit to end the war gone? Where is the motivation that brought half a million to the capital in November of '69 or 200,000 after Kent State and Cambodia..... The fire is smoldering and we must stir it into life once more before all is ashes. We should view this demonstration for October 15 as the Armageddon of the peace movement. For the most powerful and meaningful thrust yet, we must align ourselves against the forces that are destroying America.

The moratoriums and strikes of yesterday are memories. Whether they served any purpose is now irrelevant for their main purpose was not achieved. The burden of war still remains ours to bear. You cannot afford the luxury of being against the war and doing nothing. That makes you as guilty as if you yourself were pulling the trigger. In Vietnam 'America the right' was motivated by a sense of helping our fellow men against the threat of Communism. America has been in Vietnam 20 odd years and lost 40,000 men. Better dead than red is a cold reality for 40,000 men.

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Hickok & Colvard attended national SGA conference

On the weekend of September 25, 26, 27, Chancellor Colvard and I flew to Washington for the Association of Student Governments "President to President's Conference." The following are some of my impressions of the Conference.

The first session that we attended was a conference with Defense Secretary Melvin Laird. Upon entrance into the auditorium it became clearly evident that at least part of the conference's objective-to assemble student body and university presidents from across the nation to "communicate" with our national leaders- was a genuine success. The room was filled with over 700 students and administrators. Whether actual communication would take place remained to be seen.

We had not long to wait. Disappointment is the word that best describes my reaction to Secretary Laird's address. The Secretary first "talked at" his audience for about fifteen minutes. He then responded to questions from the floor. I used the word "respond" because it could not be said that he actually answered any question.

Fortunately, Secretary Laird turned out to be the exception to the rule. The conference with Walter Hickle, the Secretary of the Interior, marked the end of the political games and the beginning of serious discussions. Both Mr. Hickle's address and his answers to questions were enlightening, refreshing, and encouraging. In an Administration in which college students are often criticized and even ridiculed for their beliefs, it is somewhat reassuring to find some one who is sympathetic with your causes and will listen to what you have to say.

I was also impressed with Dr. Curtis Tarr, the Director of Selective Service. He was very open and honest, admitting that the idea of the draft left much to be desired, and expressing his wish for a "volunteer force" (to be implemented after the war).

A rather distressing and depressing piece of information obtained from Tarr was the absence of the use of date processing within the selective service system. Explained further this means that, with some exceptions, one local board doesn't know what another is doing, and the national office doesn't know what any of them are doing. Dr. Tarr hopes to implement data processing in the system as soon as possible.

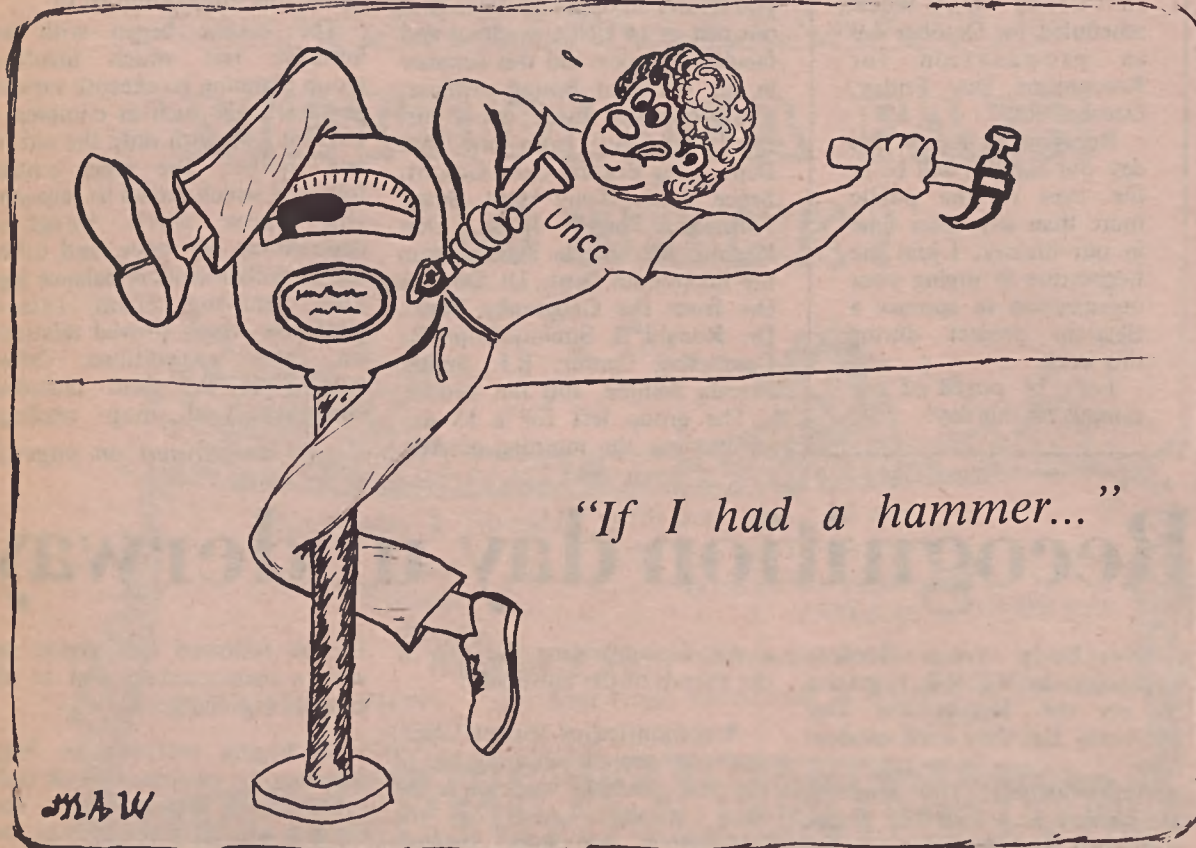
My reaction to Attorney-General John Mitchell could be contrasted with that of Secretary Laird in that, although I do not agree with many of Mitchell's policies, he answered each question put to him in a fair and honest manner. Furthermore Mr. Mitchell, along with Dr. Tarr, agreed to set up a panel of student presidents and meet with them regularly for advice on student opinion. This is perhaps the biggest single accomplishment of the conference.

Also of much value was the opportunity for extended discussions with the Chancellor on problems and affairs much closer home.

Overall, I believe the conference to be a success, with most of its objectives reached or surpassed, and consider my time there well spent.

Ed. note: When SGA president, Alan Hickok, deems it necessary, the Journal will allot him column space for the purpose of keeping students abreast of student government affairs.

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