

Vermillion: 'UNCC a Super- versity'

a journal interview

by charlie herndon
(The Below interview was held with Dr. Robert E. Vermillion, Associate Professor of Physics, the '70-'71 president of the UNCC Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).)

Late Thursday afternoon, Sept. 2, I rushed into an interview with Dr. Vermillion with some hastily-thrown-together questions concerning "academic freedom." At that time, I had no impression of who I would be facing, save the fact that he was a member of the UNCC faculty -- not a wholly complimentary circumstance.

When I left his office two hours later, I had an impression--that of a man dedicated to his profession and to those people it involves. He is a

man with revealing viewpoints and was not afraid to issue some harsh criticisms of the University.

Dr. Vermillion strongly supports the view that the fulfillment of the University's function necessarily rests upon the preservation of the intellectual freedoms of teaching, expression, research, and debate. He also constantly emphasizes the importance of "due process" concerning any action taken within the University community. He stated that, in his opinion, there is general agreement and support of this view of 'academic freedom' among the UNCC faculty; concerning UNCC's administration and the same question, he replied, "I don't know. I wouldn't want to speak

for those whose opinions I am not sure of."

Dr. Vermillion is a strong proponent of student's rights as citizens in the academic community and feels that there are several instances where these rights have been or are being violated. In one of his most violent criticisms during our talk, he blasted UNCC's policy of expansion:

"The emphasis seems to be on creating some sort of 'super-university' for the future while the rights, privileges, and well-being of today's University members are being flagrantly disregarded. For example, where is there a mere park bench on this campus where someone may sit outside? The faculty is being overloaded with the University's building chores; I know of a faculty member who is on 22 committees! This emphasis on building and fast expansion is neglecting the main purpose of the University, resulting in the loss of quality education."

Considering solutions, Vermillion went on. "The solution to this problem must come from the students and faculty -- the administration doesn't seem to agree with us on this matter. Maybe the best course of action for the faculty is simply to refuse to perform the building chore. The students certainly have a legitimate gripe. Concerning their input into the solution, I would suggest that student agitation is definitely a viable option."

We went on to talk about the exclusion of six students from the dorms last spring. Dr. Vermillion commented on that incident: "I don't know the facts; I wonder what the situation actually was. On the surface, it seems that the procedure for 'due process' was violated and that worries me. I do not agree with and certainly can not support an arbitrary decision by anyone."

In reference to this situation, Dr. Vermillion indicated that the UNCC-AAUP has a committee -- the Committee for Student Rights--which he feels should have investigated this action taken by the University but, for some reason, did not.

(continued on page 9)

When the Hurlyburly's
done by charlie peek

Death-machines

I work in the newsroom of the Charlotte Observer. You have to get hardened to a lot of things. Like news editors mulling over whether "Draft may be extended two more years" or "East Pakistani refugees left without food" should be the front page lead story. You can't stop to think much about the stories themselves or you might go insane.

But some things are impossible to ignore. They're too horrible and too ridiculous at the same time--like holiday traffic death tolls.

A very close friend of mine was travelling cross-country over the July 4th weekend. Bad scene already. I was at my job tearing stories from the wire service machines. Fascinating how the heart kind of stood still each time the machine started its impersonal clicking and deaths started spewing out of its mouth. Every five minutes-- for hours on end. Each time ten to twenty more human beings did not exist anymore. Each time I wondered if it was THAT person. It wasn't very long before I wanted to take an axe and shatter that metallic god into a million pieces. It was killing my friends.

It happened again this past weekend. That same gray box, with its incessant pecking, played god again and murdered more people.

And everyone has someone to blame. "It's all those drunk drivers with their holiday spirits. It's all those teen-age hippie types high on pot. Those slow drivers that make a hazard of themselves are to blame." It seems, however, that anyone with a scratch of logical form in his head would ask, "Why do we have so many, powerful, suicidal automobiles? It's like giving a group of chimpanzees a box of grenades."

Ah, Detroit has the answer. How else can a successful businessman prove he's successful unless he has a \$6,000 combination living-room and office with 350 horsepower? How else can a 16-year-old boy get the girls without a "play-purty" that will do better than 120 mph? And what would a young, attractive, jet-set hopeful, female do without a competition-built, daddy-paid for machine. "I don't know how it works but it gets me to the beach in 2 hours."

Detroit and Madison Ave. have struck again. They have brainwashed the American to such an extent that the old cliché must be paraphrased--"Automobiles make the man." A man can no longer be masculine any longer unless he can "lay rubber" at least 30 yards. A young girl can't be chic anymore without a 3000 lb. sex symbol. Cars are now synonymous with success whether it be plateaus reached in business, sex, influence or whatever. The more horsepower you have the better.

If so many people find so much pleasure in this sort of thing, i.e. passing 12 cars at one time, having cars that automatically do everything except feed parking meters, then something must be sadly lacking somewhere else. Society and the rat-race world evidently is stripping everyone so thoroughly that the only way one can beat his identity crisis is to refer to his auto registration card. If the super sport murderers are the only thing these people have to show for their efforts in this life then how can modern man be sold to be even remotely happy. And if this idiocy doesn't stop what will be the ultimate. Someone has to beg for mercy. Excuse me for a moment, the machines are killing my friends again.

Is anybody listening? If so, drop me a comment in the Journal box behind the info desk in the University Center. I want to know your feelings about my ramblings. Besides, mail makes me feel important.

NEWSSCOPE
edited from various sources by Journal staffers

'Renaissance Man' lectures Sept. 24

A former associate of such notable literary figures as James Joyce, W.B. Yeats and George B. Shaw will speak at UNCC Sept. 24.

Dr. William Starkie, a noted lecturer and writer with a range of interests "impressive enough to suggest a Renaissance man" will present his lecture on *The Gypsy Culture*.

Dr. Starkie, of Dublin, is also schooled in Spanish and Italian literature and music, and was involved in the Irish Literary Movement.

He has lectured in numerous universities in Europe and North and South America, and has been Distinguished Professor in Residence at UCLA.

He has been honored with several high European awards including Knighthood, bestowed by the King of Spain, and election to France's Legion of Honor.

During his stay at UNCC he will meet with classes in various disciplines.

Midwest mary jane out?

Intent on appearing to do something about the drug problem, the U. S. Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs has pumped an \$85,000 grant into the Agriculture Department for a subsidy program designed to eradicate marijuana plants in ten Midwestern States.

Since the five to ten million Midwestern acres which hosts mary jane includes some of the best game and song bird habitat in the country, conservationists are concerned with the eradication program's outcome. The plants--they average seven to ten feet in height, some rocket to sixteen--are scattered throughout other weeds and grasses which provide essential bird food and cover.

The broad application of chemicals, according to C. Philip Agee, of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, "would result in the control of a broad array of plants. Among these would be ragweed, nettle and fruit-bearing shrubs on streambottom sites, fireweed, pigweed, lamb's-quarter, partridge pea, and sunflower on upland sites. The net result would be to shift the composition of the plant community from its present grassy-weedy complex toward a grass-only complex." In other words, "The destruction of a species such as wild hemp with herbicides is to the ecologist the removal of from one to several components of a dynamic wild community."

According to a Missouri Conservation Agent quoted in a recent "Outdoor Life" article by Joel Vance, "The stuff is all over the place. There's no way you could get rid of it without doing-in a heck of a lot of wildlife cover."

Should the program flop, conservationists will call for careful consideration of the next step. Scattered marijuana plants may be a problem; but ten million acres of valuable wildlife habitat deserve something other than a hard lacing of 2,4-D.

\$450 in 1968

Out-of-state tuition raised by Legislature

(reprinted from the N.C. State Technician, August 27, 1971. The article has equal interest to UNCC students who are from out-of-state. They were notified of the increase on July 20, 1971 in a letter from Chancellor Colvard.)

Out-of-state students at State had their summer vacations jolted by a surprise from the North Carolina General Assembly.

Their tuition was raised from \$950 to \$1,300 by the Assembly. The first official notification came with their bills in July.

Next year a further raise in tuition from \$1,300 to \$1,800 will be put into effect. This represented a compromise in that the original legislative proposal called for the entire raise to go into effect this year rather than being spread out over the next two years.

The rate hikes could mean an additional \$16 million during the 1971-73 biennium. The additional funds, however, ended up being used to increase employment for public school teachers without any direct benefit to the budgets of the public universities.

In fact the idea of a tuition increase came up only after the Legislature began working with the state budget and realized there would be a shortage of funds for new state programs.

During hearings on the bill,

college officials warned the hikes could be disastrous for graduate level programs, which rely heavily on out-of-state students because of the traditional practice of students to do graduate work at a different institution from where they studied as undergraduates.

To accomodate this argument, the Senate Finance Committee added a provision to entend the in-state rates to an out-of-state student if he is on scholarship, working under a regional or federally funded program, or is a student specifically solicited by the college because of the student's talent or aptitude in an academic or athletic field.

As a result, out-of-state athletes on scholarship are now attending on in-state tuition in addition to those in non-athletic fields.

In the past month, cancellations have been reported from out-of-state students who are either unable or unwilling to pay the new rates. The rate has ranged up to 10 per cent at Western Carolina University.

In the past few years, the N.C. General Assembly has become increasingly hostile toward out-of-state students, arguing that they should pay more of the actual cost of their education.

This is the second time in two years that their tuition has been raised. In 1968, it was only \$450.

news in brief

Due to the increased number of applications from students desiring to enter UNCC, new cutoff dates have been placed into effect. They are as follows:

Term of Entry	File By	Complete By
1st S.S. '72	May 1	May 15
2nd S.S. '72	June 15	July 1
Fall '72	July 1*	July 15*
Spring '73	Dec. 1*	Dec. 15*
1st S.S. '73	May 1	May 15
2nd S.S. '73	June 15	July 1

*Denotes change from previous dates.