

The Coming Debate Over A Revised Constitution

With characteristic optimism, student legislators have endorsed some major revisions to the student Constitution. And, although the revisions seem sound from a student viewpoint, a long student debate with South Building and the faculty is certain to begin soon.

The most sweeping change the constitutional revisionists have come up with is the merger of all appellate jurisdiction into one court composed of students and faculty. That will mean, if the student plan is accepted, that students offenders of the Honor System and Campus Code will be tried by a student court; then, all appeals must be made to the new Faculty-Student Judicial Council.

It sounds like a workable idea, a venture into student-faculty partnership. But the faculty has a responsibility, and that is where the debate will begin.

Currently, any major student government action is subject to review by the faculty and administration. Their reason for this is apparently valid and logical: Since they are ultimately responsible for student discipline, they must have a voice in major student actions. This means that offenders of campus laws can now appeal to the faculty—even if student courts have pronounced them guilty.

But students see things another

way—because their belief in student government is one of absolute government. They are faced, on one hand, with administrators who speak in idealistic terms about student self-government. Then, after a crucial act, students are reminded of faculty responsibility to review student action.

Even the students who seek a revised Constitution have readily recognized this higher authority, because they seek trustee approval of the new document—and that means they must first have local approval.

We hope student leaders obtain the approval they seek, but it is evident already that there is going to be considerable debate first. Some of the faculty has already indicated that it can't accept sitting on a student-faculty appeal court as their final responsibility.

Before this great debate is finished, we suspect some students will wonder why they even sought trustee approval of their Constitution in the first place. Student government has moved along, with varied progress, under an unapproved old document.

Trustee approval of a piece of paper will not necessarily stimulate better government. But perhaps student thinking in the coming debate will.

THE GREAT AMERICAN DILEMMA

Breaking The Color Barrier At UNC

By Bill Woestendiek
In Newsday

Segregation has ended quietly and painlessly on the campus of the University of North Carolina.

Five years ago some of the university's more vocal trustees sounded the usual warning that the admission of one Negro to the traditionally white campus in Chapel Hill would "break down white supremacy in North Carolina" and "cause bloodshed in the state."

Despite these warnings, the admission of Negroes to the University of North Carolina has caused nothing more than talk. In the words of one student leader:

"It may have exploded in Alabama, but as an issue here it's pretty much of a dud."

His sentiments are shared by the majority of his fellow students on this historic, naturally-beautiful campus. Chapel Hill is a friendly little college town whose only real business is education. There are no grand or fancy buildings on the campus, but there are many big trees and green grass. The feeling one gets in Chapel Hill was aptly expressed by a recent visitor who said coming to Chapel Hill from elsewhere was "just like getting out of a pair of patent leather shoes and being able to wiggle your toes."

The presence of Negro students on the campus has made no noticeable difference in this "toe wiggling" atmosphere. There is no tenseness, no feeling of anything unusual going on. And the Tar Heel students are proud of this.

"We sure don't want to be like those fellows in Alabama," they say. "We're right proud of the way things are going here."

The "way things are going" has been good. North Carolina broke its undergraduate color line last September, broke it so quietly that even some of the people in the state were unaware of it until the incident generated by the Lucy incident focused the spotlight on a school where integration is an accomplished fact.

Three Negro freshmen—the first at any Southern state university undergraduate school—have been accepted as part of the 6,500 member student body with no more violent reaction than a few turned heads, raised eyebrows and guarded whispers.

The three undergraduate Negroes are Leroy, 17, and Ralph Frasier, 18, brothers, and John Lewis Brandon, 18. All are from a Negro high school in Durham—only 12 miles away.

COURT ACTION

But it took the boys a long time to travel those 12 short miles. Integration has been accomplished at North Carolina, but not because the university administration wanted it. Like other schools in the South, North Carolina rejected the first applications from the three Negroes and the case went to the courts. A special three-judge Federal Court ordered the university to process the boys' application papers Sept. 10, 1955.

Once the court announced its decision, however, the university immediately "proceeded to admit" the three youths—opening its doors, if not its arms.

The university is still fighting the decision and has appealed it to the Supreme Court. The appeal, which asks the Supreme Court to reverse its 1954 decision, is certain to be rejected and is regarded by many as having been made only because it was the politically feasible thing to do.

The university acted fast. The boys met all entrance requirements and the same week the three young Negroes, well-groomed, neatly dressed and slightly nervous, began attending classes at the university. Like administration officials, student leaders and people everywhere, the youths weren't sure what would happen. They soon had the answer—nothing. They were just three confused—and happy—freshmen starting their college lives on a strange campus.

The way had been paved for the three freshmen by a slow but steady flow of graduate students at the university. Today, including the undergraduates, there are 10 Negroes on the campus.

North Carolina first opened its doors to Negroes in 1951 after its board of trustees voted to do so by a 61-to-14 margin. Although the university includes a college for women in Greensboro and an engineering and agricultural college (North Carolina State) in Raleigh, the Negroes have come only to Chapel Hill.

FIRST GRADUATE

J. Kenneth Lee of Greensboro, the first Negro to be graduated from the university law school, had this advice for the three Durham freshmen:

"I did not undergo a single unpleasant experience insofar as the student body was concerned and I am certain these boys will meet with the same treatment... the bark of integration is worse than its bite."

Like the graduate students before them, this year's Negro students at Chapel Hill also have found the

"The big thing is that they (the Negroes) are here and accepted. There is no point in fussing over comparatively little things while progress is being made."

The people who have guided the university through this difficult phase of its history are capable administrators who have been able to ignore



YMCA SECRETARY Claude Shotts consults student Frasier. The University's other two Negro undergraduates are Leroy Frasier and John Lewis Brandon. Fred Powledge photo

bark of integration to be much worse than its bite. What has it been like to come from an all-Negro school to a suddenly desegregated campus?

"I hadn't expected any conflict," said Ralph Frasier, a wiry, good-looking boy, "but I didn't expect things to be as easy as they have been. The friendliness of all the students has been the big thing that impressed me."

His brother, Leroy, said: "You don't feel it unless you make yourself feel it. You have to look at it positively."

Ralph and Leroy Frasier are studying business administration. Brandon is majoring in chemistry. The Frasier brothers went out for the freshman swimming team ("the coach and everybody was wonderful") but dropped out because of schedule conflicts. All the Negro students participate in intramural sports. And without incident.

The other students go out of their way to be nice." Rudolph Flythe, first-year law student said, "They let me play the whole game, never substitute for me and throw me the ball all the time. I get kind of tired."

RECEPTION

David Stephens, another law student, added: "And when they foul you, they slap you on the back and say sorry and all that. I expected a much less cordial atmosphere and thought I'd be shunned and the professors might be antagonistic. But we drink coffee and have bull sessions with other students. It's beginning to feel just like a Negro college."

The Negroes use the college swimming pool, eat in the dining hall, attend performances at Memorial Hall, the college auditorium, and sit in the student section at sporting events. The one thing the university has not permitted is mixed social functions—on university property. In several cases, however, white students have voted to hold their dances off campus so the Negroes could attend.

The one spot where segregation continues on the campus is in the dormitory. The Frasier brothers commute from Durham, but Brandon and the graduate students all live on one floor of one section of Steele Dormitory. This is not an accident. Both the boys and university officials realize this, know that it probably would not stand up in court and hope to do away with it eventually.

SLOW PROGRESS

But the temper of the times is such that progress, of necessity, has to be slow. In the words of one faculty member:

any personal prejudices or feelings and do what is best for the university. Although some of them are inwardly disturbed by integration, they are outwardly carrying out the law of the land.

Chancellor Robert House best sums up the official attitude:

"We have not discriminated for or against these boys since they enrolled at the university."

Acting President William Friday says: "They came here as students and we shall treat them as students."

Dean of Students Fred Weaver is a serious, intense young man who works closely with student leaders and organizations on campus and is close to the campus pulse.

But Weaver, when asked recently by a visiting committee how many Negroes were on the campus, did not know. He had to find out. This shows the relative unconcern with which the officials have handled the situation.

NO NAACP

William Carmichael Jr., vice president and controller of the university, admits that the Negro students are of good quality, "even if they are all yoyo tops of the NAACP." (The boys all deny being handpicked by the NAACP. They claim the NAACP came to their aid during the legal fight.)

"The court told us to admit them and we admitted them," says Carmichael. "No sense putting snakes in their beds or anything like that."

The university has made mistakes, naturally. Probably the biggest was back in 1951 when the first five Negro law students failed to receive regular student passbooks to football games and were given tickets in the "colored" section.

White campus leaders from 14 different student organizations led the cry of protest at this action. The student legislature passed a resolution condemning it. The university changed its policy. The white students saw to it that the Negro students sat with them in the student section.

This does not mean that all has been peaches and cream on the North Carolina integration front. There has been nothing resembling an incident on the campus, but parents and politicians outside the campus have made a lot of noise. There are some who claim the admission of Negroes will lower the standard of the university, but President Friday emphasized that admission standards will remain high and students—Negro or white—will have to meet them to gain admittance.

What about the white students? Most of them have accepted or ignored the situation. A few of them are bitter, but it's difficult to find anyone who will voice any open opposition. Typical comments are:

SOUTHERNER

"I'm a Southerner, born and bred and I don't like the idea, but if that's what the court orders us to do, that's what we have to do."

And from a coed: "Coeds don't like the social implications, but we don't think much about it. It's the people at home who get all excited about the Negroes on the campus. And we hear so much about it, we can't help it."

If any definite evidence was needed that the Tar Heel students are not too concerned about integration, it presented itself this winter.

After a series of disastrous football campaigns, the university hired a new coach, Jim Tatum, a man with a reputation for turning out big-time football teams at any cost. The student editors of The Daily Tar Heel protested the appointment of Tatum. Win-hungry football fans demanded the recall of the editors. The campus was in an uproar.

For the past few months, at least, Jim Tatum and big-time football have been a bigger and more controversial issue on the campus than the Negroes who now walk, live and study on it have ever been.

Quarterly Distinguished But Financial Limp Shows

As usual, The Carolina Quarterly, now out for the spring and winter, represents a variety of accomplishment—some excellent, some good, some quite bad.

In the "excellent" area, Editor Bill Scarborough and his staff have given us an article on "Tragedy and Freedom," by Dr. William H. Poteat of the Philosophy Department. The ground covered in Dr. Poteat's article is hardly terra incognita, this reviewer having been a witness to the initial shaping of at least part of its content.

"Tragedy and Freedom" draws a contrast between tragedy growing out of the Greek ethos, the pre-Christian frame of reference, and the post-Christian, or what Dr. Poteat calls the "post Incarnation" period of tragedy. Dr. Poteat has thought profoundly and originally about man's tragic situation—for him man's existence itself is a tragic situation—as it relates to his options for action and attitude. No doubt, Dr. Poteat's attitudes toward tragedy had an evolutionary growth; but they were partly developed in this course, Philosophy 104—"Philosophy in Literature." The challenging substance of the article itself would be interesting to go into here, were there space. But I am limited to a brief examination of the article's structure—as an essay form.

I experienced certain hardships in reading the article, which I believe due to elementary faults in its construction. Considering even that a philosophic essay, unlike the critical or personal reminiscence essay, must force some elements of form upon the writer, having to read an "introduction" setting forth the intents, purposes, and pre-sup-

The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publications Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Monday and examination and vacation periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the Act of March 8, 1879. Subscription rates: mailed, \$4 per year, \$2.50 a semester; delivered, \$6 a year, \$3.50 a semester.

- Editors — LOUIS KRAAR, ED YODER
- Managing Editor — CHARLIE JOHNSON
- Business Manager — BILL BOB PEEL
- Sports Editor — WAYNE BISHOP
- Advertising Manager — Dick Sirkin
- Coed Editor — Peg Humphrey
- Subscription Manager — Jim Chamblee
- Staff Artist — Charlie Daniel
- BUSINESS STAFF — Fred Katzin, Star Bershaw, Rosa Moore, Charlotte Lilly, Ted Wainer, Daryl Chasen, Johnny Wittaker.
- Night Editor — Dan Fowler

positions of the author is trying. With a bit more consideration for form, these might be worked into the fabric of the article at later points; and the article itself might begin in *medias res*—or at least where the writer begins—to set forth his own thesis.

The reader's interest comes liveliest when the meat of particulars is offered first, and the general conclusions from those particulars follow.

In substance and in literary dash, "Tragedy and Freedom" has more merit than the rest of the Quarterly's prose put together. The short story offerings, I think, show a marked plunge from the fall issue's short stories by Doris Belts and J.A.C. Dunn.

Dean Cadle's "Cry In The Wilderness," with some stylistic grace, has none as a short story. Mr. Cadle writes here a contrived, pseudo-backwoods story of religious revival, involving an alcoholic with a peg-leg named Birdie Walker. Birdie is the focal point; but oddly enough, I couldn't decide what he had to do with the episode other than that he was an inconvertible reprobate—which is not enough for a story. The climax comes as Birdie spits a mouthful of water at a tomato plant and his narrative companion says "... It'll be the end of the world when you get religion." I was a bit amused, a bit disappointed...

Actually, The Quarterly has two episodes; Ralph E. Grimes' "Fast Flight" is the other. "Fast Flight" is a brief dialogue between a windy old father and a bored son. It begins as the old man contemplates a weather vane and thinks of Heraclitus and flux; it ends as a B-47 flies overhead, the old man looks again at the weathervane, and the son announces that he has millions of cigarettes.

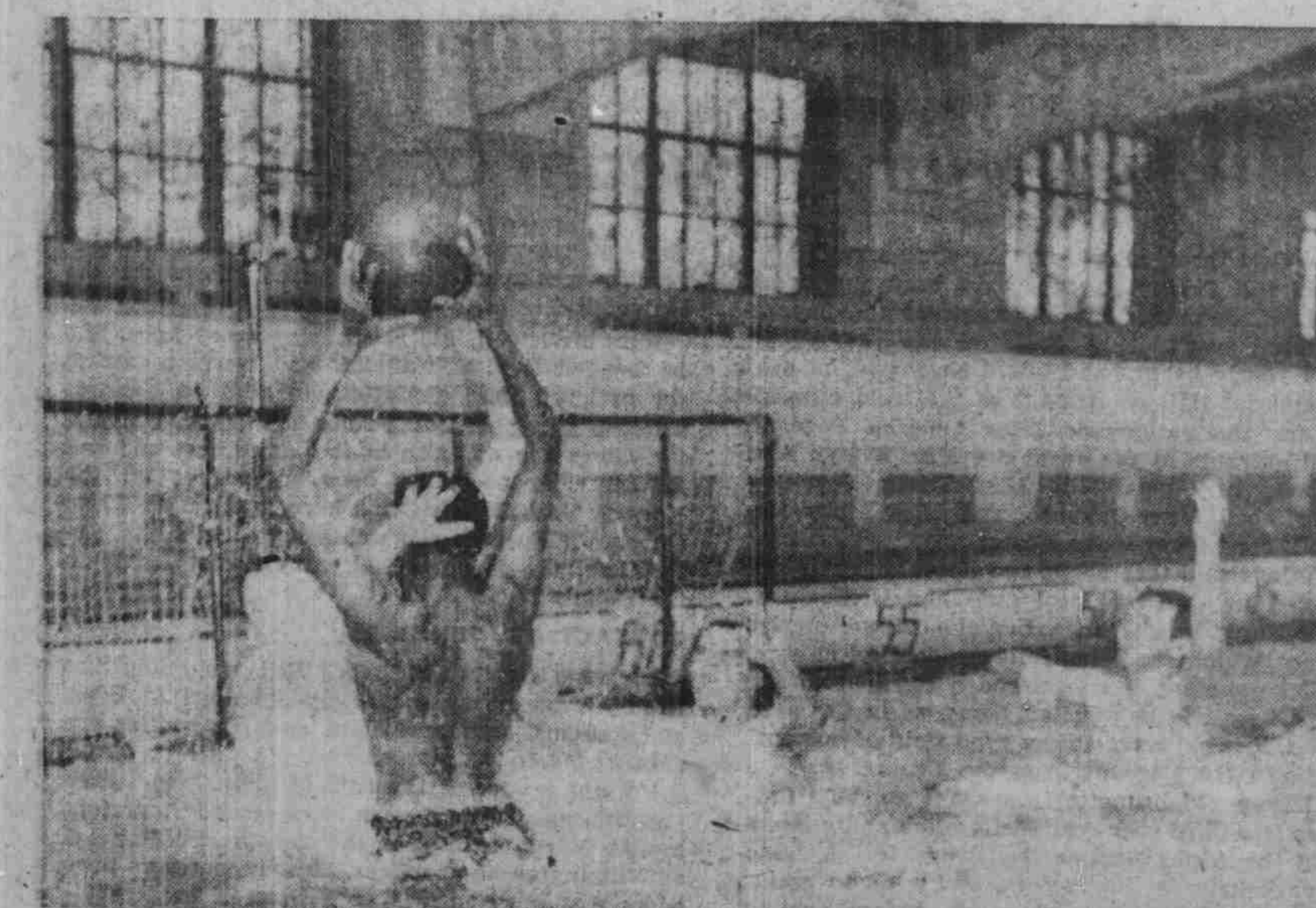
Ona C. Evers' "I think That I Shall Never See" is about neurotics in Carmel, California. It is a short story, not an episode, since it involves conflict and makes the reader wonder how it will end. It is weak.

Ah, the authors will say, what a capricious reviewer! That is true—and so much the worse for them. I am the reader. And I have the typewriter.

The poetry is good—particularly John Mahoney's translation from The Black Book of Carmarthen entitled "Winter." The book review section is distinguished.

Overall, the efforts add up to a fine Quarterly. But The Quarterly, while as good as its editors can make it within their budget, needs the stimulus of a bit more of the folding stuff.

The Writer's Digest designated The Carolina Quarterly right at the top with Atlantic, Hudson, Partisan, Harper's as one of 25 distinguished reviews in the United States. The Quarterly has won recognition in quarters outside the campus, and it is unfortunate that we at close range don't see that and choose to give it a financial leg pegged and wooden like that of its short-story character Birdie Walker.—EY



COLOR IS no barrier as Leroy Frasier, Negro freshman at the University, joins white students in water polo. Fred Powledge photo

GOP & Primaries

By Doris Fleeson

WASHINGTON — The political preference primaries this week as mere formality far as they are concerned.

Actually they will count the returns with accuracy for these returns after a really solid close to the voter, safe and secret voting booth, feels about the of President Eisenhower.

Of course, the GOP will be a "sweep" for the president. Should the sweep be to be something less than ing, it can be claimed as apathy in the face of things.

FALLING OFF

Nevertheless, any falling off in places where Eisenhower was so common years ago will call for the nation. The comparative of the two parties, as the primaries, will be meaning.

The primaries may be that the Eisenhower magic. This would be the possible news for Vice-Richard M. Nixon. The about him in his party personal; they are rather, that he will ticket in a close election.

That is all a vote normally means to a ticket. Nobody votes in because he loves and the candidate for Vice-President except the candidate's family and friends. But it is believed at least that a serious candidate in the slot can lose votes for

IMPRESSIONS

These impressions, as politicians share, explain they are so casual and Vice-President should avoid controversy and some geographical bias year the GOP picture because of the President's condition and Nixon's sonality.

There is not much to do about the primaries to urge his supporters states concerned to get the vote there for the President. The Vice-President has in an anomalous position. President's admission have asked him to start own course.

There are no existing posts to voter reaction. The candidate would be "side to" enjoys his former health but that the job another four years is willing to do so if he wants him.

ESTEEM

The general public him personally is he can win all the contests. The question much more than that the attach to the President.

Within the last few the office has been hanced. People expect ton, including the Chief, to do more than they. They have ceased to get much from the states, governors frankly, congress has increasing its powers to the branch.

In foreign affairs, the Presidency has been dized. Most experts to the nature of the world and the Communist. Those who don't want the trend halted behind the Bricker Amendment, which is back again in form.

CAMPAIGN

The campaign with great deal of talk about of the President's times. Maybe the voters to it; maybe not.

Because of the tones, they are not a lot about it, even the Democratic interest. That is why even the Republican chairman, W. Hall, will study clues, including the primaries, in voter the unusual 1956 election.