

The Daily Tar Heel

75 Years of Editorial Freedom

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The 'Peace' Rally: Looking Back

What the mass demonstration against the Vietnam war in Washington last weekend accomplished isn't worth comment. Mainly because it accomplished nothing, at least nothing constructive.

The reactions to the demonstration will be significant.

One of the most immediate reactions came from Hanoi in the form of praise for the demonstrators. The Hanoi propaganda was predictable however, so it has very little importance attached. We don't believe in the old bit about dissent at home demoralizing the troops in Vietnam. Quite the contrary. Saturday's

fiasco will strengthen the determination to win a military victory from the lowest Army recruit to the highest brassy general. And for that we will all pay.

During this week, it is likely that many Congressmen will rise in the two chambers and read editorials and articles condemning the "peace" rally, then duly file them in the Congressional Record in full.

And the legitimate dissenters to the Vietnam war will have suffered another setback. Those who channel their efforts in getting a negotiated settlement to the war will be saddened even more with the

cloak of kookiness that symbolized the latter stages of the Saturday rally.

Looking back, it would seem that everyone would benefit by forgetting the rally. It was a combination of bad acts, bad scenes and particularly bad actors.

The Army's apprehension that the war department was really going to be taken over upstaged everyone and everything. The tear gas was unnecessary. The squad drills in the South Parking lot (shades of Fort Bragg) were a little stupid, as were the bayonettes.

The massive traffic jams and blocked

off streets were a nightmare for the unconcerned motorists; a result of jittery nerves by the police officials.

Possibly the most senseless move by the officials was the placement of huge search lights on the hill by the Navy Annex. As the lights swept across the roof of the Pentagon they hit the motorist coming off 14th Street gridge squarely in the eye, blinding him long enough to cause him to plunge off the embankment if he didn't come almost to a full stop.

However, the demonstrators—or a militant segment of them—must get the prize for the most despicable behavior.

They singled out the Negro guards to chide about the slum conditions in this country. There's a good chance the Negro soldiers know more about slums in this country first-hand, than the peaceniks will ever read about in the newspaper, but in any event the demonstrators let the Negro soldiers know that they were betraying their black brethren.

They held a moment of silent vigil for Che Guevara. What that has to do with peace in Vietnam may tax your brain somewhat.

Baby Doctor Spock, realizing that pediatric minds abounded in the audience, proclaimed that he believed "in all sincerity, that the real enemy is Lyndon Johnson," and believed that many in the audience believed him. Many did.

Perhaps Dick Gregory set the tone by telling the rally this:

"We are trying to make democracy work in this country for the first time. . . If our way of doing things is so good, we shouldn't have to push it down peoples throats."

His followers promptly put democracy to work. They went to the Pentagon parking lot surrounded two dozen Nazis and sold them the peacenik brand of "peace."

They beat them, stomped them, and screamed "Kill the dirty Nazis."

Some democracy. Some peace. Some sales job.

Mobilization's Aftermath: More Harm Than Good

As demonstrations go, the National Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam didn't.

Sure, it was the biggest anti-war rally ever held in Washington—but then, how many anti-war rallies have been held in Washington.

And yes, it might have been a very deep personal experience for the 30,000 to 50,000 persons who participated, but then they were already against the war and didn't need a rally to convince themselves.

It even had all the ingredients to be a really good demonstration: articulate—even if radical—speakers, folk singers and the unifying excitement of a mass march on the Pentagon.

But it was nothing like the Civil Rights march in Washington in 1963. It didn't even come close.

It was, in a word, a flop.

Most of the leaders of the National Mobilization were radicals who were so far out that they repulsed many persons who feel very deeply opposed to the war.

The organization of the rally was so loose that participants began leaving just as soon as the march climaxed at the Pentagon mall. Relatively few stayed even for the legal part of the sit-in demonstration.

And the 250 or so who remained until Sunday midnight to be arrested as they sat in on the Pentagon steps were such a miserably small portion of the persons who had come to Washington for the Mobilization that their presence—and even their arrests—had little impact.

The tone of the demonstration—after the march, anyway—was also questionable. Speakers among the sit-in demonstrators shouted occasional obscenities through their

megaphones and bullhorns. Other protestors talked proudly about how they had been smoking marijuana on the Pentagon steps.

Now, admittedly, war and killing are more evil than either four-letter words or pot but the latter just don't seem to have a place in what was billed as a serious protest of the U.S. position in South Vietnam. All these things accomplished were to detract from the sincerity which may or may not have been in the hearts of those demonstrators who stuck it out.

Another disenchanting thing about the National Mobilization was that a "credibility gap"—the same kind that the Johnson administration has created with lies and half-truths about U.S. involvement in Vietnam—was developed by the demonstration's leaders.

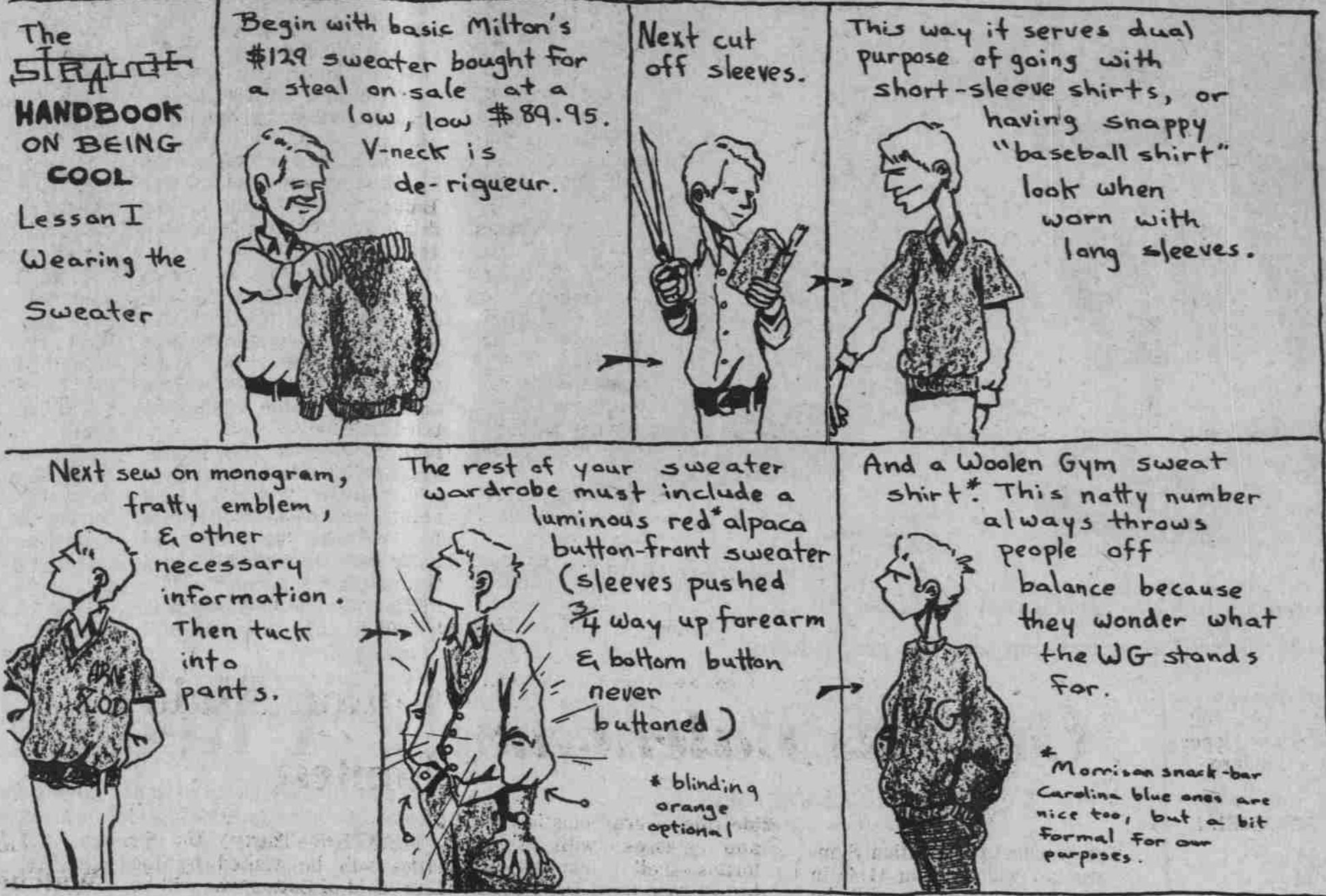
There was much talk from the speakers' rostrum at the Lincoln Memorial about how there were more than 150,000 persons there. To anybody observing the rally, it was clear that there could be no more than 50,000 tops—and probably fewer even than that.

The talk of brutality to protestors also seemed a little exaggerated, too. The troops on duty were being held too much in check for such blatant violence to have occurred except in the most isolated instances, if then.

But these were just a few of the things that were wrong with the National Mobilization to End the Vietnam War. There were so many that the list could go on for a long long while.

Perhaps the most serious thing it did was to harm the cause for peace. That, we are afraid, it did.

And this is the one thing we can't really forgive.



Letters To The Editor

Dr. Keller Sends His Regards

To The Editor: Last year I resigned from UNC's Spanish Department after seventeen years of teaching there at both undergraduate and graduate levels. With me, you will recall, resigned three associate professors; Dr. Daniel R. Reedy, Dr. William C. McCrary and Dr. Joseph R. Jones. All four of us accepted positions at the University of Kentucky in Lexington. I went to Kentucky as Chairman of the Spanish Department.

Since our resignations, twenty-five of Carolina's part-time instructors have left UNC to migrate to the Spanish Department at Kentucky to become graduate students and teaching assistants. It seemed appropriate, therefore, and friendly, to report to the Tar Heel the results of the exodus from Chapel Hill, for the Tar Heel had evidenced so much interest at the time we decided to leave.

As I stated before, we liked much of the work and the life in the Carolina Department of Romance Languages, but objected to a certain traditionalism and complacency and were attracted by the challenge offered by Kentucky. Here we have been allowed and encouraged to construct a new and vigorous program in Spanish which incorporates elements of modernity found in some of the best Spanish Departments in the country.

I believe that we all, professors and teaching assistants from UNC, regret sincerely the professional criticism of the department there, for having lost so many professors and graduate students, for this criticism has been very detrimental to Carolina. We cherish Carolina and many of us received our doctorates or master's degree from Carolina. We hope that the vacancies created by our departure have now been filled. Dr. Hardre, Chairman of the Department of Romance Languages there stated last year that the vacancies created by our departure could be filled, and we trust that he has by now filled them with comparable staff and professors of the same rank as those held by the professors who left. After all, as Dr. Hardre stated last year, such resignations are a fact and a part of academic life.

Anyway, let me report to the Tar Heel and to the community at UNC, among whom we have many friends that we are happily situated, that we are a large and active group with eight staff members ranked from assistant to full professor, that we have twenty teaching assistants or part-time instructors, and fifty graduate students in Spanish. It seems appropriate since so many of us taught students there, to send you the names of the former Carolina part-time instructors-graduate students who are now in Kentucky, or who are enrolled in our graduate program, since these people taught so many of Carolina's undergraduates last year.

Carole Almeida, M.A., University of North Carolina; Jose Rey-Barreau, M.A., University of North Carolina; Simon Ber-

grun, M.A., University of North Carolina; Keith J. Carlson, M.S., University of North Carolina; David H. Darst, M.A., University of North Carolina; Mary E. Davis, A.B., Judson College; William R. Davis, M.A., University of North Carolina; Chris Lee Dubs, M.S., University of North Carolina; Gaston Fernandez, M.A., University of North Carolina; Frederick Fornoff, M.A., University of North Carolina; Enrique Hoyos, M.S., University of North Carolina; William Johnson, M.A., University of North Carolina; Mary Beth Loud, M.A., University of North Carolina; Sharon Jane Knight, M.A., University of North Carolina; Norris MacKinnon, M.A., University of North Carolina; Frances Morgan, M.A., University of Tennessee; Robert J. Morris, M.A., University of North Carolina; R. Terry Mount, M.A., University of North Carolina; Ignacio Munoz, M.A., Stephen Austin State; Georgia Papanastos, M.A., University of North Carolina; Richard Reitz, M.A., University of Kansas; Daniel Rutledge, M.A., University of North Carolina; Julia Steanson, M.A., University of North Carolina; Odas Olden White, A.B., University of North Carolina; Lawrence Wolf, A.B., University of North Carolina.

We all wish the Department of Romance Languages there and our former friends and students at all levels—graduate and undergraduate—the best that Carolina can give them and we sincerely hope that we are remembered favorably.

Our Department here in Lexington will confer the Ph.D. within the next two years, upon most of the graduate students holding the M.A. from Carolina, who came with us to Kentucky. Hopefully, in the future we may be able to send students to Chapel Hill from Lexington and receive in return students from Carolina.

We see The Daily Tar Heel occasionally here and we send its editors and staff our kindest personal regards.

Cordially,
John E. Keller
Chairman

The Infection Of Totalitarianism

To The Editor: Comment on the DTH Editorial of 17 October 1967:

Secretary of State Dean Rusk last week pronounced the more or less official Democratic Party line for the 1968 campaign: Despite all criticism, the present Vietnam policy will continue. I.E., don't confuse me with facts and reason, because my mind is made up.

Which is more dangerous to America—criticism and dissent, or possible dictatorial methods in government?

Granted: The tactics of mass civil disobedience present a problem, to wit: the attempt to allow violence to become an accepted method of persuasion. Vocal tactics are better suited to Man; animals fight.

But! The vocal tactic used by the DTH is just as uncivilized: equating disenchantment with cancer. Continuing this medical tact, shouldn't it be said that disenchantment is rather white corpuscles, gathering around infection, and cleansing the American body of the disease of attempted totalitarianism?

Joseph E. Caldwell
Sophomore, UNC-C

Why Not Help The Americans First?

To The Editor:

I would like to congratulate the Daily Tar Heel for the fine column printed in Friday's issue under the title of "The Traitors in Our Midst." My immediate thought was that it was an excellent piece of satire on the war hawks in the country, but it is a little too thorough for that.

How then could the DTH print such a logically fallacious rambling article in the traditional Hearst style, defying all traditions of good journalism?

Then I remembered my own undergrated days when I was an editor of my school's newspaper. What I used to do when I was accused of coveringbut

Thus I was able to see the logic used War was to find some barely comprehensible war buff to write a letter to the editor condemning the campus demonstrations against the war. Invariably the obvious lack of reasoning and gross errors in perception used by the letter writer were obvious to all but the blind, and such an occasional article usually did more to align independent students with the anti-war side than 10 editorials condemning the administration.

Thus I was able to see the logic used by the DTH in printing Tom Benton's comment on traitors like myself. The article was wonderful. It never makes plain what the hell it is talking about by defining traitorous action. It manages to equate anyone who speaks out against the war with those who materially support the North Vietnamese government. It calls for suppression of constitutionally guaranteed rights in the alcoholic L. Mendell Rivers tradition. Finally, Benton states unequivocally that when "a majority of the voting public desires a change in policy," (such as the polls of the President's popularity?) "then that policy will be changed." Hear, Hear! Kill the Commie Bastards at Chapel Hill!

Benton also states that "In time of war or national emergency, the nation

should guard against actions deterring to the best interests of the nation. . . I wonder if it ever occurred to him that that is exactly what millions of responsible, draft-card holding, law abiding citizens are doing by protesting the expense of \$30 billion a year and the death or injury of over 100,000 young Americans in a pointless police action which has caused a halt or slowdown in most domestic improvement programs?

How much more nationalism or patriotism can one manifest than by demanding that the Federal Government help Americans before we support foreign dictators? Think it over, Benton, if you exist.

Martin D. Schwartz
Graduate Student.
(For your information, Schwartz, we have never covered only one side of an issue, we have never solicited a letter to The Daily Tar Heel, and if that was your practice as editor of your paper, it certainly speaks for itself.—the Editors)

2 Sides Required For Draft Debate

To The Editor:

Students presently enjoying a II-S deferment who complain about counselling to avoid the draft are manifest hypocrites; their whole existence as students is one such avoidance.

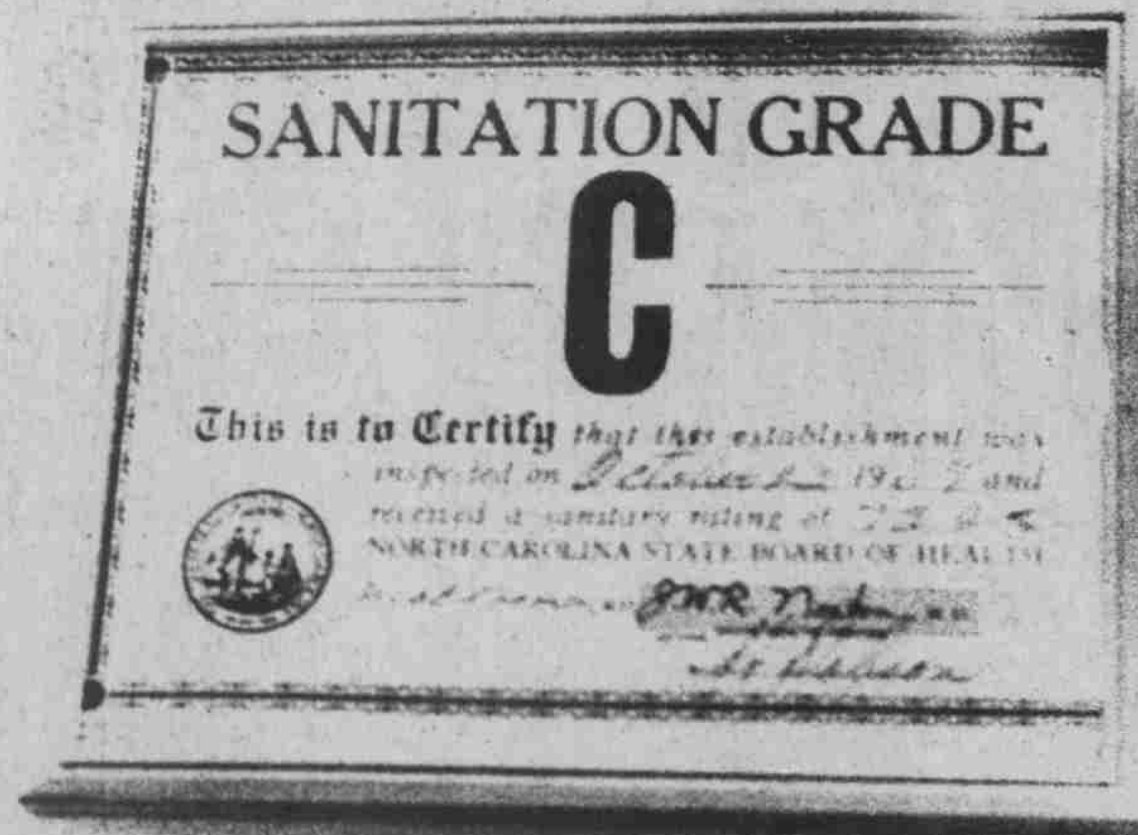
It would seem that those who babble the loudest about the war protestors should put their words into action by enlisting immediately. Those who cry for escalation of the war and at the same time hide behind their deferments are physical and moral cowards.

Since military recruitment teams (to say nothing about ROTC courses which carry college credit) are present on campus, it is only fitting that opposing points of view be aired. A dialogue of ideas requires two sides; to suppress one of those sides is to engage in flagrant censorship clearly out of keeping with an atmosphere of academic freedom.

Carter Lawson,
Graduate Student

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Chase: Spell It With A 'C'



This Is Chase's New Sanitation Rating . . . and none of the excuses really hold water

It is ironic that a cafeteria which was rated last year as one of the best on college campuses should receive a "C" sanitation rating, as Chase did on Monday.

Ironic perhaps, but not surprising.

The fact is we've never heard many good words about the place. First of all, it is difficult to find students at random who will admit that they eat at Chase. It is even more difficult to find a student who likes the food or the service there.

Therefore it is understandable that many students were elated when they heard that Chase was rated "C". It is also very serious. There is no excuse whatsoever for a modern cafeteria with so many workers employed to be rated so low.

One of the Chase managers blamed the rating on the "aftermath of the Saturday night dance." Our question is, why should any unsanitary "aftermath" of a Saturday dance still be present on Monday?

No, we won't buy that excuse. We won't buy it because the sanitation superintendent who graded Chase said the food and dishes were being handled in an unsanitary manner.

It is also serious because you don't get D's and F's in the rating business. When you drop below C, you close down.

You're at 73 Chase. Drop three more points and you fail.

It would be a little embarrassing for a modern, two-year-old, prize winning cafeteria to have to explain that.