



Mercer Cluster

New Course Suggestions See Page 3

Volume I

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President of the sophomore class, Jinx Schwencke, and President of the junior class, Linn Dillard.

Class Presidents State Objectives for New SGA

As the new SGA Senators begin their administration, many ideas about the possibilities which are open to the SGA seem to be floating around. Last week, the Cluster asked the rising sophomore, junior, and senior class presidents to make a statement concerning their outlook for next year and any future plans for the SGA which might be coagulating in their

"The other responsibility is a long-range one and it is one that is vital for superior education. We have witnessed during our freshman year many advances made by the SGA and the RWGA in making Mercer a 'communiversity', which is a community of individuals in an unrestricted pursuit of an education that will free them from their limited scope. Both the SGA and the RWGA have begun to eliminate the obstacles that prevent us from reaching the 'communiversity'. The position paper of the Student Steering Committee of the College Study and the proposed Code of Conduct, Bill of Rights and Student Judiciary System of the Judicial Systems Study Committee are two excellent examples of the work being done by responsible students who are concerned about their education. A great many students are "concerned" but they don't know what to do about it. SGA meetings are open to everyone and the Senate welcomes and needs your opinions."



Blanche Smith, President of the senior class.

cluttered craniums. Here is what they said.

Jinx Schwencke, representing the rising sophomore class said this:

"Our sophomore class has two primary responsibilities in the coming years. The most immediate one is to help the incoming freshmen not only to adjust to Mercer life but to become an active member of this university. We must show them the many areas in which their participation would enrich their education. Because of our awareness of the problems of a Mercer freshman, we must be one of the first to extend a warm welcome to them and to encourage their involvement in campus life."

"Something is happening at Mercer. We are becoming involved in our education. We are acting as responsible adults in search of a meaningful education rather than playful children looking for a good time. This trend must continue and our class must take this dream of

Draft Information

A draft information center for the Mercer-Macon area will be operated in the co-op on Mondays from two to three P.M. and on Wednesdays from twelve to three P.M. If you are interested, see Jo Clifton in the co-op at the announced times or make an appointment.

a 'communiversity' and make it a reality."

Linn Dillard, of the rising junior class said this:

"The past year's SGA has (Con't. on page 3)

Appointments Made To Honor Council

The new members of the Mercer Honor Council have been selected. They are Frances Anderson, Charles Bowen, and Anne Longman. Frances, an upcoming senior, and Charles, a future junior, have both served for the past year on the Honor Committee. Anne, Frances, and Charles will be filling vacancies left by Martiel Babbitt, Bob Collins, and John Winkle.

To become an Honor Council member, a student must first fill out an application, made available by the Council. Then he is interviewed by a student-faculty committee of three faculty members appointed by President Harris, the Chief Justice and the Clerk of the Honor Council, and the President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer of SGA, President of the Senior Class, and chairman of the Honor Committee.

Not only are the student members of the council changing, but also new advisors are taking over. Winter quarter Dr. Platt received the position left by Dr. Glover. This spring Dr. Hendricks leaves her post to Dr. Sheppard as a faculty advisor.

The new Mercer SGA constitution has three effects on the Honor Council. Applicants may now have an overall C average rather than the formerly required B standard. Also the election committee who made this year's selections functioned

Spring Cleanup Planned Mercer's Help Needed

Saturday May 10, will see the beginning of a long-range plan of slum cleanup in Macon. The help of all hands at Mercer is needed.

The plan, sponsored by the C & S Bank, has as its goal to enable slum dwellers to buy their own property, to free themselves from the arbitrary power of the landlord, to improve and remodel their homes, and to set up small businesses. For this purpose the bank has invested ten million dollars in the Community Development Corporation. Slum dwellers will be able to borrow at very low interest rates to make down payments, mortgages, etc. The plan is already working with striking success in Savannah.

This is a self-help program and not the sort of welfare handout that has become so damaging to the self-respect of the poor, white and black.

The opening cleanup day, May 10, is just the kickoff for this long-range plan. It will not be just a one-shot token gesture.

A single 70-block slum area has been selected for the opening cleanup. This is the

worst slum area in Macon, almost entirely black, and is known as Tybee. Its borders are Broadway on the west, 7th St. and Waterville Road on the east, Bay St. at the north, and Raines St. at the south. The Southern Railway freight yards run through the center of it. All of it is within a mile of the Mercer campus.

There are over 500 homes in Tybee, in all stages of disrepair. The area is covered with trash and litter of all kinds. Some 300 abandoned junk automobiles, most of them propped shakily on concrete blocks, are standing around in back yards and vacant lots, a danger to children. Refrigerators, washing machines, and other junk, too heavy for people to move without expense, are all over the area. Fences of jagged tin and scrap iron run crookedly between lots. Smaller litter attracts rats and other pests.

On Saturday May 10, rain or shine—all volunteer help will be needed to help the residents clean up this area. Trucks and cranes from Warner Robins will be there to remove automobiles and other heavy junk. Fences will be torn down. Rakes, shovels, and hoes will be plentifully supplied for the residents and teams helping to clean up the yards. Trucks loaned by local businesses will be there to pick up trash. Garbage cans with lids will be given to every resident who does anything to improve his lot. Church groups and women's

clubs will be there to supply lunch. There will be first-aid stations for any minor injuries, and girls are needed to staff them.

Macon high school students will be turning out en masse to help. The high school which provides the largest percentage of its student body will win a \$3000 first prize. The Macon Jaycees and other civic groups will be organizing the work on each block.

This cleanup job in Tybee can't be done without the consent and co-operation of the residents. Fences cannot be torn down or anything removed unless the owners permit it. So individuals and teams have visited homes in the area, to survey what needs to be done, to find out who the landlords are, and to get the tenant's consent for the cleanup. Two such surveys have been conducted.

If you are willing to volunteer for The Cleanup Date, please go to see Peggy Gough at Commonwealth in the Student Personnel Office. She will give you an assignment.

The Spring Cleaning headquarters is on Third St. next to the Dempsey Hotel.

Please give a hand with Spring Cleaning '69.

ARMED
FORCES
DAY
MAY 17

Bill of Rights Proposed Senate Reports

Following several months of extensive investigation, comparison, and formulation, the report of the Judicial Review Committee was presented to the Senate by Jacob Beil on April 28th. Suggestions for providing Mercer with a system of uniform rules and penalties administered by students were made. Some of the work was influenced by a recent Supreme Court Ruling stating that students have similar rights in the university as citizens in the states.

First among the suggestions is a nine point student Bill of Rights for possible amendment to the SGA Constitution. The proposed Judicial System includes a Code of Conduct designed to clearly illuminate the infractions considered liable to penalty.

The system would be composed of students acting to judge their peers. The present system, as Jacob reviewed it, consists of a faculty committee that only recently admitted two

students. Procedure is not written, making for no uniform assurity that due process will be executed. (cont. on page 6)



Mercer students, in cooperation with the C & S Bank are organizing groups to help cleanup areas such as the above in a city-wide campaign.