

What Football De-emphasis Means

Mercer university has returned to amateur football and an emphasis on sports and physical education for the entire student body. The pendulum has swung the other way and once again this college assumes a more natural small school viewpoint.

The recently inaugurated plan of the board of trustees is vague and leaves much to the trustee committee that will be in charge of carrying out the plan. But the basic underlying idea is excellent and is what most Mercer students want. The Cluster believes.

The plan considers the average student first and foremost. The plan's points prove this.

The following outline of the new athletic set-up was released by the board of trustees. The Cluster has attempted to read between the lines and imagine the results if all of this plan is carried out.

(1) "More emphasis on physical education for the entire student body." In other words students will now get more than a season ticket to athletic contests for their \$12 athletic fee. Greater emphasis than ever before will be put on intra-mural sports and a physical education class will be something more than an hour of mass calisthenics.

(2) "The head of the department to be on the same salary basis as the professors." This should amount to a substantial saving in the appropriations given the athletic department. Also, according to The Macon Telegraph, Head Coach Lake Russell has told a member of The Knoxville Journal sports staff that de-emphasis of football and curtailment of salary probably will cause him to look for another job.

(3) "That in the matter of financing scholarships for athletic teams, all scholarships and financial aid must be approved by both the athletic committee of the faculty and special committee of the trustees appointed by the president." Which probably means that a great many part scholarships will be given and only a few, coveted full scholarships will be awarded. Both types probably will be harder to get.

(4) That Mercer in the future strive to play only such colleges as subscribe to this general idea." This is the objective of the whole program in a nut shell.

(5) "That the budget of this new Athletic department be included in the regular budget of the university and handled as are other budget items." The death toll for a separate athletic budget. The present athletic department is enormously in debt.— J. C.

DISHING THE DIRT

By Bette Co-ed

Hiya co-eds — and hell-o-o you great big handsome campus hennemen, you!

Did you know there are only 16 more shopping days 'til Christmas — and only 13 more days 'fore the holidays?

And speaking of Christmas, I wonder if Don McMannis still believes in Santa Claus. We understand it was only the other night that a certain other theory of his—concerning storks—was exploded.

And while on the subject of the SAE's (the innocent things), the grapevine has let me in on a secret I'd like to pass on to you gals. It seems that Fields Varner, Bainbridge's gift to the Mercer co-eds since the departure of "Torchy" Conger, has a Hit Parade of Women—featuring Ann Goolsby. To reach first place, females, you merely have to have the right "necktique".

However, we don't wish to seem too partial to the SAE's. The Phi Deltas have their sheiks, too. Take for instance Leon Garfield. 'Tis rumored that this B. M. O. C. has become a bit peeved with the queen of his heart (or should I say King) at Wesleyan, and is dating other girls. Rather convenient around Christmas, eh Leon? And as for bust-ups, how about Guy and Sarah.

MERCER MALADJUSTMENTS

DORIS DENT torn between two men while some co-eds can't even find one. What has that CASA-NOVA got? . . . Co-eds patronizing the Mercer Drug store; Ed's out at Wesleyan Pharm . . . DARNELL . . . BILL DAVIS' devotion . . . ALBERT HENDERSON and VIRGINIA FINCHER enjoying their romantic role in the coming play (Virginia confessed it to me privately) . . . ERNEST BASKIN not having a date since his entrance to Mercer.

Well, chillun, everyday brings Christmas that much closer and I've really got a little shopping to do.

Hoping you boys will be doing the same.

I'll be seein' ya,
BETTE

P. S.—Is it true DORSEY wants a sleeping bag for Christmas?—a double one?

Chorus Starts—

Continued from page 1

citus, The Trumpeter, and The Musical Trust.

The reorganized university orchestra under the direction of Bill Benton played several old favorites and popular numbers including Blueberry Hill. That's for Me. and Ferry Boat Serenade. The orchestra this year features 13 pieces. Charlie Rich is soloist with the band.

Herbert Mabry, Mercer's "King of Magic", entertained during intermission with a number of conjurer's tricks.

First Man: "Why do you call your wife Pegasus?"

Second Man: "Because Pegasus was an immortal horse and my wife is an eternal nag."

Break, break, break
On thy cold, grey stones, O Sea;
But I bet you could break for forty years
And not be as broke as me.

SMALL TALK

By HARRY GOLDGAR

(The opinions expressed by the writer of Small Talk are his own and do not necessarily agree with the editorial policy of The Cluster.)

MERCER MURALS

Papa Dowell thumbing a ride to the village the other Saturday noon, finally flagging down the bus,....the strident voice of Dr.

Wilbur Scott, shouting directions at the beleaguered thespians — a genuine Nawth Ca'lina twang,....a harassed Cluster ed, apologizing to sundry rubber-inners for a late last last week's Cluster,....Joe Hargrove and his suburn hair-ed be-dated performing the weird ceremonies of jitter-buggers in the Bowling Center... no less than eight Mercerians of both sexes, monopolizing the Cherry-Cotton avenue ride-

catching corner of a Friday six p. m.,....the entire faculty straggling into the law school for one of their mysterious meetings — most peculiar bunch of people ever assembled,....and Dr. Highsmith shouting thank-yous to Papa's ever-so-politely-worded directions,....Major Blair hush-hushing chapel abstainers in front of the building during a serious program,....ever-Jovial Evelyn Neel swearing to an awe-stricken group her intention of metamorphosing into a clinging vine, so people won't knock her down when they slap her on the back,....Orbin Howell's long flannel un-mentionables dangling from the ATO windows of a cold, cold morn,....and the serious, aloof clique of BMOC's sticking close together last Tuesday, waiting for word from the trustee meeting.

"Most beautiful things are quite useless—and that includes people." — Dr. Nancy Stewart, instructress, Frence 51.

CHRONOLOGY

This is gripe paragraph in the Shearer tradition, and those who dislike such are here given prefatory warning. But the amazing inaccuracy of the campus bells is especially irksome to one who, like me, live off the campus and follow correct, Western Union time. If the bells were late, I wouldn't mind, but since they ring consistently early—the 9:10 bell at 9:04, the 10:00 one at 9:53, etc—I, together with a sizeable group of other town students in the same predicament, am fast growing quite petulant over the situation. I am sure the clock must be set correctly at least occasionally, but with diabolical energy the mechanism constantly jumps back. It seems, Why not ever forward, I wonder? It's bad enough just to have to go to class,....

PERPLEXITIES

I wonder, what became of the co-op look organ,....and why some writers persist in spelling that word "juke",....what Ed Dorsey does with his time,....what the girl, not a Mercer student, who walks across upper campus at exactly 3:30 every p. m., is up to,....what a life story of Matthew (admin building janitor) would sound like,....what teams — if any — will appear on our football schedule next fall,....why Beakin reneges on letting us print the full story of his obstetric experiences,....why Red and Mickey have to go meet so many busses,....how many (or how few) books outside of curriculum requirements the average registrant digests per year,....if there is any foundation to the increasingly numerous rumors about sub-versive activities being harbored in the basement of Robert Hall,....and just what "Doctor Lee" would think about the whole gosh-darned thing.

PROFITEERS

The enormous illegitimate profit accruing to the editors and business managers of campus publications was under microscopic discussion and analysis in the apothecary's one afternoon recently. Wild, impossible tales of new cars and even weddings which in the past have followed hard on the heels of election to such fruitful offices were related. "Why, look at all the ads they have in their old paper (or magazine, or yearbook)—" so the indignant indictments ran. "They must knock down at least 50 bucks a week apiece. I know I could if I had my hands on that gravy train."

As for me, I can't even get the business department to give me stamp money. But as far as Couric, Neel, Garfield and Nolan are concerned, it's true, evvery word of it. Why, just look at those expensive, modish clothes Neel wears,....

WITH THE GREEKS

Entertainments

The KAPPA SIGMA's will start off the Christmas season with an open house Sunday at 99 Coleman Avenue. Pres. Eamar Sizemore, Miss Stella Cater, sponsor, and Mrs. M. C. Morgan will be hosts.

The KA's will entertain their dates and several guests with a steak supper Friday night at Camp Joycliff.

ALT's Return From Convention

John Thomas Dupree and Howard Derrick returned Sunday after attending the four day session of the ALPHA LAMBDA TAU convention held in Raleigh, N. C. Representatives from all over the South were there. Harry Maugons, alumnus of the local chapter, was elected executive secretary.

Short Talks

The rumors that the SAE's will give a formal this spring are getting thicker,....Pledges of ALPHA TAU OMEGA recently presented the chapter with a new record rack,....Congratulations to the KAPPA SIG's for being the first fraternity on the campus to have a house mother,....Plans are already under way for the PHI DELT formal which is held annually at Hotel Dempsey.

Letter to the Editor

Appreciation

Editor, The Cluster:

Most open letters to an editor of any publication present a complaint or criticism against so-called "individual pleasure or rights". Though we recognize personal benefits to us, we often fail to openly acknowledge our appreciation.

May I take this opportunity to thank the administration for its kindness in extending our Christmas holidays. Our students often "can't see the trees for the forest". They forget that we have no classes on Saturday, whereas colleges with long Spring and Christmas holidays usually hold classes every Saturday morning. We do not have to attend a certain number of classes each quarter, and I do think our administration has shown an excellent attitude of interest in the student body's Christmas on this issue. So I say to our student body and to the administration both alike, that school can always be made more pleasant when students and faculty show more consideration for each other.

May I voice the sentiments of all of us with "thanks, Dr. Dowell."

Yours very truly,
Harold Beaty.

Exchange

LITTLE WHITE LIES:
I'll be ready in a second.
Your hat is simply divine.
I guess we're outta gas.
But, Mother, we DID have a flat tire.
Sorry, I have a headache.
I had to work late, dear.
So glad to have met you.
Wish you could stay longer.
I'd rather go with you, but he asked me first.
This won't hurt you at all.
You're a marvelous dancer.
You haven't changed a bit.
I love you, too.
—The Watchtower

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