

Let's Look Ahead

Now that the shouting and back-slapping of the campaign is over, perhaps we can look ahead.

This year will see a great falling-off in the number of veterans enrolled. This means that the school will have a more or less stable number of high school graduates constituting the student body; steps should be taken by the students themselves to keep the spirit and the standards of the school up to the high post-war level.

The administration has accomplished the full accreditation of the University; it is up to the students to keep scholarship on a high level. The administration has done a great deal to make Mercer more beautiful, more commodious, and more convenient; it is up to the students to keep Mercer spirit soaring.

There are many projects which we would like to see undertaken by the administration, many of which are on the slate. Such things as a swimming pool, a new baseball diamond, a new Christianity building, further beautification of the campus, and others, are greatly desirable. But our immediate concern is that we, the students, under the new Student Government, can do.

A great responsibility will fall on the new slate of officers to continue the fine work which those in office now have done. Especially will we look for a continuation and enlargement of Bear Day, and the completion of the statue of Toby, the Mercer Bear. There are numerous other projects which we hope will be undertaken by the new officers: more get-together programs, such as parades and faculty frolics; more pep rallies; a faculty rating system; better chapel programs; and many other ideas which will pop up next year.

The new officers, no matter who they may be, deserve our wholehearted support. Here's wishing them the best of luck.

—J.P.

Improve Chapel Programs

A recent issue of The Red and Black, student newspaper of the University of Georgia, carries an account of the scheduled chapel address of Robert Frost, noted American poet and one of the most outstanding literary figures of our time.

It is indeed unfortunate the Mercer students in the past have been denied the privilege of hearing men of Mr. Frost's distinction. Our chapel programs last year, and for many years past, were by far overbalanced with the administration's menu of visiting ministers from neighboring churches and the students' steady diet of silly, slapstick programs of low comedy sponsored by various campus organizations.

It is to be hoped, now that the chapel building will be in use again after extensive alterations, that those in charge of both administration and student chapel programs will make an effort to secure speakers of more than local talent in as many varied fields as possible.

—J.C.

Cluster Not In Error

A recent bulletin of the Progressive Party says that The Cluster was in error in reporting Paul Bobbitt to be an unopposed candidate for the post of Freshman Advisor in the recent student body elections.

The Cluster was not in error. Paul Bobbitt registered on the Representative Party ticket and not until the appearance of the Progressive Party bulletin ten days later was it officially revealed that the Progressives had added their support to his race for the office. But even with this turn of events, Bobbitt remained an unopposed Representative candidate.

—J.C.

Good Grades Of 2 Types

Just how important are grades? It cannot be denied that grades mean quite a bit to homefolks and people not directly connected with the school.

Good grades are often instrumental in landing jobs, especially if the student records are looked over before the actual interview takes place.

On the other hand, how long will good grades stick with you? There are two types of good grades—the kind gained by spotting exam questions, "brown-nosin", and mild cheating, and the legitimate type earned by actual study. The first type may be omitted because nothing will remain of these except some bad habits.

Knowledge picked up in actual studying may in time prove valuable, but much of this will have served its purpose when it is written on some exam paper.

However, the value of studying is great. Its reward is not found on the report card. The reward comes in later years when the ambition gained from studying has pushed the individual to success. No, grades in themselves aren't too important.

—The Auburn Plainman.



This is One Bear Skin we ain't gonna 'abolish'

Tobby

Ray Brewster Did Outstanding Work As President of the Student Body

by Jim Cowan

May I, at this time call attention to the very fine work done in the past year by Ray Brewster as president of the student body. Little over a year ago, he and I were on opposite sides of the campus political fence. We still are. But in spite of this fact and although I supported his opponent, I was well aware that Brewster could and would make a good president. My faith in him as a genuine campus leader who has the welfare of the students sincerely at heart, based then upon only a casual acquaintance, has grown constantly during the past year as I have worked with him in Student Government.

I have seen his zealous enthusiasm burn in a real desire, to contribute to the betterment of Mercer school spirit in the Bear Day project, which he took as only an idea and worked into the biggest individual Mercer pageant that has been produced in years, and in numerous smaller projects which, though beneficial to the students, were never highly pub-

licized.

I have seen his keen sense of fair play in his impartial manner of conducting all Student Government affairs with no favoritism whatsoever shown to, or discrimination against, any party, organization, or special interest.

I have seen his high sense of duty in the seriousness of purpose with which he has conducted all Student Government activities.

And I have seen and come to know the man himself as one of those very rare individuals who, because of their integrity, reliability, and, even more important, genuine love of humanity, can command one's complete respect and sincere admiration.

This is the Brewster over a thousand students have known and loved. This is the Brewster that in my estimation is irreplaceable not so much as an administrative officer but as a friend to all who know him.

'THAT'S ALL BROTHER'

Headline Scoop—'Crowe Flew Coop'

by Jim Young

Oh, Oh, Oh! What are the papers of the nation coming to? Banker Richard Crowe skedaddles with 800 grand and there is nary a headline to read, "Crowe Flew Coop."

Wherefore the headline on this story.

News editors weren't the only ones embarrassed by the robbery. Bank officials who had trusted their "travelling" treasurer are also eating crow.

Throughout all of this, rich Richard was merely another bank robber. Until he admitted stealing

nearly \$700,000 in bonds and throwing same in the ocean just "to make the bank officials mad." That was almost enough to make Richard a national hero.

But the chance to become a hero was lost when the bonds turned up in the banker's attic. It seems that Crowe had laid them aside as a little nest egg.

It all proves you can't fool the FBI. When told of dunking the bonds in the briny depths they said, "Humph. Dropping securities in the sea may be one way of salting them away but it isn't the only way."

Personal Article Reveals Facts On 1949 Cluster

by Jim Cowan
Editor, The Cluster

(Editor's Note: The following article is in the form of a personal column addressed to the student body, the faculty, the Cluster staff, and all readers of the Cluster from the Editor-in-Chief. It is not to be taken as in any way reflecting any except personal opinions nor is it in any way a statement of Cluster policy.)

For some time there have been several things that I have wished to say but which, because of my position as editor and the peculiar campus political situation of the past months, I have felt neither competent nor free to say. A new Cluster editor has been elected to begin serving in my capacity with the next issue. Although he or she is announced on the front page of this issue, it is without the knowledge of this person's identity or that of any of the new Student Government officers that I write this on Saturday, April 9, 1949 — three days before the election. Therefore, I take this to be the most opportune time of presenting to you several of my most sincere personal opinions on public issues which I have hitherto left unpublished for one reason or another.

Thanks to the Staff

First, permit me to express my thanks to the members of the Cluster staff for co-operating with me in giving the campus the best newspaper they and I have known how to produce. Without their help the paper would not have been possible. Although most of the established editorial policies and the forms of style peculiar to this volume of The Cluster have been mine, the routine work, the uncredited responsibility of seeing that each of the many detailed jobs which go to make up a newspaper are done have been theirs. They have worked as non-professionals, but they have worked consistently, dependably, and well. For that they have all earned the highest praise.

The Cluster staff itself this year will be rated by the Associated Collegiate Press from a journalistic standpoint. But even more important, and a more important fact which I myself have not always recognized, it is constantly being rated by the students themselves.

Can't Please Everyone

Realizing the complete impossibility of pleasing everyone, we have honestly tried, and have failed, to do just that. Try as we have to give the campus an impartial newspaper, we have succeeded more in the spirit than in the letter of the law. For our shortcomings then, I apologize with the sincere, true statement that any injustice ever done to any campus group or individual through insufficient coverage or any other means has been through the oversight of the imperfect, human members of our staff and not through the malicious intentions of the editor or any Cluster staff member.

The small size of The Cluster this year — four pages as compared with a previous, and we hope, a future six — has been due not to a lack of interest or ability on the part of the editorial staff, but to a lack of funds. Recent proposals to add the Student Activities Fee allotment given to the Bear Skin to The Cluster funds have seemed ridiculous to me in view of the fact that business managers in the past have been able to supply adequate funds for the Cluster from the same allotment the newspaper has received this year with a supplement of a large amount of advertising funds. It is without malice toward Herman Bowers, the business manager, or his staff that I must lay the responsibility for the Cluster's lack of sufficient funds to publish a six page paper with adequate picture coverage where that responsibility actually lies—in their hands.

Thanks to the Readers

And last, may I express my appreciation to all of those readers who have been kind enough to praise our publication's good points and to overlook its bad ones. There is no need, now, to discuss this past year's Cluster any further.

We did our best; now may we request the present members of the staff and the permanent readers, the students of Mercer, to give the new Editor-in-Chief, whomever the voters may have chosen, the same splendid support and co-operation that they have given me.

And to the new editor may I offer my sympathies and express my congratulations with the sincere wishes that, with a good business staff and a good editorial staff as well, she or he will produce a paper that is a credit to the University and of interest to the students.

The Mercer Cluster

Jim Cowan	Editor-in-Chief
Herman Bowers	Business Manager
John Hyde	Associate Editor
Jack Perry	Managing Editor
Marion Barfield	News Editor
Bobby Bonner	Sports Editor
Sybil Hartley	Society Editor
Charles Weaver	Make-Up Editor

Copy Editor—Russell Wilson. News—John Ward, June Brinkley, Emory Clay, June Smalley. Sports—Bobby Ivey. Society—Nat Blossom, Becky Watson, Joan Mills, Peggy Wood. Features—Jim Young, Ellen Willis, Eugene Hall. Make-Up—Jim Christian, Reginald Hicks. Cartoonists—Archer Moore, J. W. Holland. Secretary—Sally Brown.

Assistant Bus. Mgr.—Frank Smith. Circulation—George Mau, Bob Ponder. Advertising—Jule Greene, Wendell Sears.

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