

## Highlights of a Year at Mercer . . .



Registration . . .



Rat Week . . .



and Basketball . . .

BY DEAN

# Curriculum Revisions Announced

A revised lower division program affecting entering freshmen has been announced by Dean Malcolm Lester. The new program affects only first quarter freshmen entering after June, 1955.

The new lower division curriculum includes English 11, 12, 51, and 52; History 11 and 12; Math 10, 11, or 12 (one course, depending upon the student's high school achievement); Christianity 11 and 50; Natural Science (Biology, Chemistry, or Physics) 11 and 12.

Also included in the program is a revised language requirement. If a student has had two years language in high school, he may continue that language with only two courses—51 and 52—required. If he has had no language or chooses another language, 11, 12, 51 and 52 are required.

There is also a two course choice from a list of five in the social studies field. The student may then choose enough electives to complete 18 courses a year from a list of four courses. The revision of the lower division program was made by the faculty in May and went into effect during the summer session.

Dean Lester pointed out that "These changes are in line with a national trend in Liberal arts colleges to narrow the range of election and to re-emphasize the traditional liberal disciplines, such as language study, history, math, natural science and literature.

"These curriculum changes are based on the conviction that the first two years at Mercer should be devoted to an emphasis on the student's general education which is used to indicate that portion of a student's whole education which looks, first of all, to his life as a responsible human being and citizen. It differs in purpose from specialized education which is directed to mastering a particular field of vocation. The essential elements which go to make up general education are cultivation of a sense of values, the development of clear thinking, the understanding of the physical and cultural world in which we live and an appreciation of the western heritage," he emphasized.

The new program will affect all students, new or transfer, after June, 1956.

## Freshmen Plan Chapel Program

The freshman class met in Wilingham Chapel at 4:30 Wednesday afternoon and decided to have a chapel program in the near future. A committee of 40 was set up to work on the program, and five script writers chosen. The five are: Jerry Dodd, Haywood Day, Wayne Coleman, Romelle Martin and Jay Freeman. Secretary for the committee is Beverly Ann Burgin. Joe Dukes, sophomore, presided.

The Cluster, after yesterday afternoon's tragic incident in MEP, strongly recommends that the Pan-Hellenic Council post-pone formal rushing until the winter quarter.

With the ADPI suite gutted and the Phi Mu suite damaged badly by smoke and water, it would be unfair to both the sororities involved and the girls rushing to have official rush activities at this time.

# Socially Speaking

By Alice Tate

MERCER IS MY BEAT!

This is the campus . . . . my beat. I was working the day watch, society squad, when it happened - I was struck with laryngitis. My job is to get the facts, all the facts; and though it is difficult to get 'em all when your informants can't understand a word you're croaking and suite phones are still disconnected, here is my report. My partner is Dinah Cutter; my name's Tate.

Our informants gave us the word that many ex-Mercerians were back. Phi Delt's Bobby Spears, Freddie Williams, James Clary, Don Lewis, Joe Stallworth, Henry Heflin and Lynwood Zollar have rejoined the gang. The Chi O's welcomed back Mary McClesky, and Paul Brigman, Curt Ingram, Roy Johnson and Bobby Graham are back with the Kappa Sigs. These are in addition to the multitude of new students that we're all so glad to see.

We dialed again and found that quite a number of the citizenry took the Long Walk this summer. Newlyweds Bo Atkinson and Sonny Vaughn are the latest to follow the example set by Joan Simpson and Maurice Hilliard, Elaine Davis and Max Kent, Betty Holland and Dan Dubberly, Beverly Johnson and Bill Fillingim, Frances Black and Jim Newton, Barbara Eubanks and Theo Burrell, Barbara Broderick and Paul Rogers, Ann Parson and Wally Odom, Ann Atkinson and Sam Wilburn, Eugenia Fleetwood and Delano Maurice, and Switzer Murphy and Percy Toney.

Patsy Hall and Avon Buice, Ellen Fowler and Richard Reid, Mary Frances Swatts and Dick Mitchell, and Monty Pope and Bobby Green will also wed in the near future. Not to mention Jackie Storey and Charles Hardy, and Pauline Mann and John Mancin, who are pinned.

Be on the lookout for the rush parties coming up. All the sororities will hold open house for the rushees Sunday afternoon, and the ADPI-rate party fellows on Monday night. The Phi Mu's will greet the girls with a Showboat party on Tuesday, while the Chi O's get ready for their Old South party Wednesday. The cycle will start over again with the formal parties coming on the next three nights, with pledging climaxing the rush week on October 2.

Not to be outdone, the fraternities will have their parties starting with the Sigma Nu party September 30. The Lambda Chi's will have a ball at Baconsfield October 1, and the KA's have set their fete for October 3. The annual Phi Delt Shipwreck Ball will take place on the 4th, and the ATO chuck wagon will roll October 5. The SAE's will open their gambling casino October 6. Pi Kap's are making plans for October 7, and Kappa Sig will close out rush week on the 8th.

Assorted bits of information . . . . Fred Hasty and Morton Boyette went to the University of Colorado this summer for an ATO convention . . . . The ADPI's have re-decorated their suite . . . . So did the Sigma Nu's . . . . The Macon alums gave the SAE's a dance September 3 . . . . Sanders Franklin joined the navy . . . .

The outcome of this investigation will be announced in following editions of the Cluster. Keep up with the news of the day. READ YOUR CLUSTER AND DON'T FORGET — you'll get a lighter sentence (a pun) for giving us information!

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