



staff photo by Ward Lowrance

Charlie Jones gazes at the moon through a telescope he brought from the physics building.

Physics Major Has Astronomy As Hobby

During a recent full moon, a Mercer student dragged a telescope from the physics building and viewed the orb near the administration building.

This student turned out to be Charlie Jones, Mercer's only physics major. Jones is from Macon.

While his main interest is in nuclear physics, Charlie's interest in astronomy might possibly develop into a hobby. He has already had the refracting telescope out twice to view the heavens.

He says the new moon phase is the best time to use a telescope because not as much light is reflecting down on earth.

So far the physics major has taken all but two or three of the physics courses offered by Mercer. By the time he is a senior, he will have completed some 10 courses. He is the only person in his vector analysis class, a mathematical physics course.

Actually Charlie is not just a physics major, but rather a physics-math double major.

After graduation Charlie plans

to attend Vanderbilt to do graduate work in nuclear physics. Then he would like to work for the government or for a private corporation in the missile field.

This year he and Gordon Wood, another Mercer student, are working toward a project of making a cyclotron, an instrument used for bombarding elements with charged particles.

When not in class, Charlie works part-time at a retail credit company and coaches math students.

Memorial Service Set Wednesday

A pulpit Bible, given by the freshman class in memory of Hugh Burke, will be presented to the university in services-Wednesday during chapel. Charles Brownlee will preside and the Rev. J. Robert Smith, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Statesboro, will speak.

Also on the week's schedule are the Messiah soloists who will be featured in the annual secular concert on Tuesday following the last presentation of the Messiah on Monday night.

Friday's program will consist of a special Christmas music program under the direction of Dr. Arthur Rich.

Students Sing Carols Friday

The annual BSU Christmas carolling will be held Friday evening December 9, at 6:45. The group will leave from the front of MEP and will return to the student center for hot chocolate after about an hour.

Everyone is urged to participate in this, the only organized carolling sponsored at Mercer. The Religious Education Association is in charge of the music and YWA is in charge of the refreshments.

The carolers will either walk around the Mercer neighborhood or will be transported by bus from place to place, according to the crowd.

Last year a large group went via the BSU bus to several homes in Macon for the singing. All Mercer students are invited.

Harris Addresses Bar On Lawyer Education

Dr. Rufus C. Harris, President of Mercer, recently called on Macon lawyers, as representatives of the "largest single group of leaders in our nation," to see that the challenge is met in the "coming explosion of knowledge and population."

"Ignorance never posed so grave a threat as now," said Dr. Rufus C. Harris, himself a lawyer, in an address before the Macon Bar Association.

"All of us would like to live in a sporting, safe, orderly, predictable and organized world which we can count on . . ." he said. "But such a world no longer exists."

In a confused, turbulent time, the college president looks to education as the chief hope in handling domestic and worldwide problems.

And, in a test of the very best in every level of society and the professions, he foresees the "growing magnitude" of the part played by the lawyer, . . . if we escape revolutionary extremes."

Dr. Harris elaborated, "Power centers in any society are never completely static. Sometimes . . . slow . . . occasionally it is sudden or accelerated, and this we call revolution. If our social change is not revolutionary, it will largely be the lawyer who averts it . . . lawyers are able to foresee impending social changes, and possibly to guide them, if we have brains enough to respond."

As an example of change, he noted a shift from an economic system of possessory property into an economic system of administered power.

"The self-employed enterpriser of an earlier era . . . was once master of a domain—small, perhaps, but his own and tangible—he now looks to a complex of contracts, equities and expectancies over which he has very little control."

Although man today lives in comfort beyond the dream of his forbears, by their standards, "he would be considered poor," said Dr. Harris.

Another seeming contradiction is the "possession of unimagined power on one hand and apparent human helplessness on the other, existing side by side," he said.

"Man has conquered atomic energy as a physical fact, but it has not been conquered as a sociological one," and said Dr. Harris, "it may well be doubted that anything can eliminate the trouble of these times as long as that basic contradiction remains."

This is "the great task of education," he feels, and to this end, "the help of the lawyer and everyone in the community is severely needed."

The Mercer president then pinpointed the inadequate number of linguists, mathematicians, physicists, chemists and teachers and raised the question of correcting these deficiencies.

Dr. Spiro Announces Probation Changes

The rules of academic probation and dismissal have been released by Dean Robert Spiro, dean of the liberal arts college.

Dean Spiro also noted that some 177 students, including 21 transfer students, have been placed on academic probation for this quarter.

The dean noted the following rules now in force:

1. Any student, except a first and second quarter freshman, failing to earn five hours in any quarter will be subject to dismissal from the University.

2. Any student failing to earn fifteen hours and an honor point average of .80 for the hours attempted in one quarter will be placed on probation.

3. Any student on probation, except a first and second quarter freshman, earning less than ten hours or making an honor point average of less than .80 for the hours attempted in one quarter will be subject to dismissal.

4. A probationer qualifying to remain in college will remain on probation until honor points equals hours attempted.

5. When a student reaches 96 hours he automatically becomes an upper division student regardless of his deficiency in lower division requirements. A surplus in lower division honor points will not make up deficiencies for the last two years.

Transfer students begin with

no excess or deficiency in honor points, but any transfer student whose record at the last college he attended is less than "C" will be placed on probation during his first quarter here.

Dean Spiro said, "In administering these regulations, unusual situations, such as personal illness and death or serious illness in the home will be taken into consideration."

In determining term averages, eligibility for graduation and graduation honors, the number of hours taken, including those not passed, will be divided into the number of honor points earned. The minimum quotient required for graduation and for work taken in the major field shall be 1.00. Hours taken will be interpreted to include those courses in which the grade of "WF" was assigned.

Also, he added, it should be emphasized that to qualify for graduation, a student must possess a "C" average in all work done at Mercer, all work done his senior year and all his major course work.

OPPORTUNITIES

Oral Literature Contest

The opportunity to win a \$500 cash award is available to all students of graduate or undergraduate standing through the 1960 National Inter-Collegiate Contest in the Oral Interpretation of Literature.

This contest made possible by Webeon Inc., manufacturers of tape recorders, is sponsored by the speech department of Southern Illinois University.

The selection to be taped is Edna St. Vincent Millay's "Renaissance" in the unbridged form. The selection should be recorded on a 5 inch reel at a fast speed and must be approved by the chairman of the speech department.

Information concerning participant's name, college, city and state in which the college is located, should be added at the conclusion of the recording. No identification is needed on the box containing the tape except the return address of the participant. Not more than four recordings may be submitted from any one institution. The deadline for entering is March 1, 1961. Two recordings will be selected from colleges and universities in each of the 50 states. The 100 best tapes will be reviewed by a competition committee. The winner will be notified not later than May 2, 1961, and the award will be presented at an awards convocation.

The readings will be judged according to modern standards in the techniques of oral interpretation of literature.

Tapes should be addressed to: Mr. Law Inola, Contest Director; Speech Department, Southern Illinois Univ., Carbondale, Illinois.

JAZZ CONTEST

The second annual Intercollegiate Jazz Festival will be held at Georgetown University on May 8, 1961. This will be the finale of a nationwide competition among college groups from American colleges and universities.

The winner of the finals will be chosen by a board of judges consisting of Dave Ruback, Paul Desmond, John Hammond, and George Hoesfer. Prizes are a recording contract with a major company and a scholarship for the best individual musician. Other prizes are being considered.

Groups may enter by submitting an application form accompanied by a tape recording. The tape need not be of professional technical quality but should represent a sample of the group's playing ability. Five finalists will be selected from the tapes to appear at Georgetown on May 6. All tapes should be postmarked January 31, 1961.

The group does not have to be officially affiliated with the university, nor do all members of the group have to be currently attending the school. There is no cost to applicants, and tapes will be returned on request. There is a \$25.00 award to anyone responsible for the entry of a band that comes a finalist.

Application forms may be obtained from the Intercollegiate Jazz Festival, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.



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