

THE MERCER CLUSTER

FEATURES • SPORTS • SOCIETY • THE ARTS

The Social Set



By Mary Jane Carter

An interesting topic of discussion around Mercer for the past week has been on the subject of social activities. Mercer has been accused of being a suitcase college. This is to a certain extent true. However, most of the suitcases are packed to go to other schools for their social activities. This is not good. Something should be done about the question is what?

Several suggestions have been made. Some are: dancing on campus, open houses on the weekends in the dormitories, some places on campus for students to walk or sit and talk, and many, many more. You, as students living here, could offer many more suggestions for new activities or improvements on the old.

The Mercer Cluster would very much like to hear your opinions on the subject. A letter to the Editor or to me would be greatly appreciated... and we will do what we can to see that some changes are made.

Speaking strictly from a Social Editor's viewpoint, some new social life around here would make my job easier and more interesting.

Greek Sisters Start Volleys

The women's intramural volleyball got under way last Monday night with a double-header. In the first set, Chi O took ADPi in the first two games. Immediately following, MICA beat Alpha Gam in their first two games.

Tuesday afternoon brought another double-header. This time Phi Mu made their first appearance by defeating ADPi. In the second set, Alpha Gam defeated Chi O in a thrilling three-game play.

The schedule for the remaining games is as follows:

- Monday, Nov. 12
 - 7:00 ADPi—Chi O
 - 7:30 MICA—Alpha Gam
- Tuesday, Nov. 13
 - 7:00 Phi Mu—MICA
 - 7:30 ADPi—Alpha Gam
- Thursday, Nov. 15
 - 3:15 MICA—ADPi
 - 3:45 Phi Mu—Chi O
- Monday, Nov. 19
 - 4:15 ADPi—Phi Mu
 - 4:45 Chi O—Alpha Gam
- Tuesday, Nov. 27
 - 7:00 Chi O—MICA
 - 7:30 Phi Mu—Alpha Gam
- Wednesday, Nov. 28
 - 3:15 MICA—ADPi
 - 3:45 Chi O—Phi Mu
- Thursday, Nov. 29
 - 3:15 MICA—Phi Mu
 - 4:45 ADPi—Alpha Gam



Mercer Players Present 'Ring Around The Moon'

By William Dayton

The Mercer Players' first production for 1962-1963, will be a comedy, "Ring Around The Moon", by the French playwright, Jean Anouilh; translated by the British dramatist, Christopher Fry.

The play depicts a series of interesting and amusing situations which arise out of a complicated mesh of plots, counterplots, subplots, and counter sub-plots, taking place during an aristocratic social gathering in the mid 1920's. The fact that the two main characters are identical twins, 'as alike in appearance as they are different in character', increases the confusion considerably. Like all great comedy, "Ring Around the Moon" contains touches of pathos and philosophy interspersed within the humor and the flashes of the author's wit. Fry's translation has lost none of the distinct French flavor in the attitudes of the characters toward each other, yet the play's humor is in no way 'foreign' to an American audience.

"Ring Around The Moon" will be presented in Willingham Chapel November 15 and 16, at 8:15 in the evening.

Text of Statement On Elliott's Dismissal

The administration and faculty of Midwestern Baptist Seminary appear to be challenged by a faction in the Southern Baptist Convention which insists, among other things, that the Bible requires the protection of human interventions and institutions, and that it can be so protected through the adoption and promulgation of an official statement by some agency of the Southern Baptist Convention concerning how the Scriptures ought to be studied, and what must be the final conclusions of that study.

As Baptists, we hold the following views on this issue:

The Bible is not, and never has been, dependent upon any human personality, group, or agency for its authority. The authority of the Bible can only be confessed and obeyed by men. Its authority cannot now, or ever, be secured, guaranteed, confirmed, or deposed, by any human agency, ecclesiastical or secular. The authority of the Bible is established by divine, not human, action.

Consequently, for any human agency to prescribe or reject certain methods for the study of the Bible, to pre-determine certain conclusions for Biblical study, or to refuse—implicitly or explicitly—to listen to the voices of other interpreters who confess the authority of Scripture, is to arrogate to itself and for its views the supreme and final authority on matters of faith and life, and thereby refuse and deny the authority of the Scriptures as the authority of God's Word to man on matters of faith and life. Such arrogation is dangerously parallel to certain well-known ventures of the Christian churches to superimpose the authority of man and his agencies upon the authority of God and His Scriptures.

With the 1925 Statement of Faith and Message of the Southern Baptist Convention, we affirm that the Holy Bible "is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried." We believe, therefore, that each and every action and statement by individuals, officials, agencies, associations, and conventions of the Southern Baptist Convention must be a response, not to itself, or its "historic tradition," or "expressions" of assembled convention, or its agencies, or any faction or personality within the Convention, but rather to the authority of Scripture.

We believe that God's intervention for individual men in Jesus Christ demands that individual men be free to hear His Word in Scripture apart from any human intervention which seeks to determine or circumscribe that Scripture. We believe that because this gift of Scripture is an expression of the freedom and love of God for sinful men, these men may likewise study and obey this Scripture in freedom and love. We believe that the Baptist confession of faith requires the affirmation that the individual ought to study and obey God's Word in Scripture only in this freedom, and apart from the interposition of ill-considered and high-strung efforts of certain factions to impose their own authority on the details and the content of that study of and obedience to God's Word.

We believe that the freedom to study and listen, and to confess and obey, the authority of Scripture is a gift from God, not a prerogative of any man or men, and that the endeavor to circumscribe or restrict this freedom and this authority is fraught with heresy.

MIDWESTERN'S STATEMENT

After announcing the dismissal of Ralph Elliott from the Midwestern Seminary faculty, Midwestern trustees issued a nine-page statement dealing with the entire controversy and an explanation of their decision to fire Elliott.

The first half of the statement reviews the controversy leading up to their meetings with the Elliott. The following are the main points of the second half of the statement:

"Regarding the 'Bible' the trustees affirm their belief as expressed in the words of Dr. E. Y. Mullins, that 'The Bible remains in its place of authority for Christians. It is a vital and living authority, not a mechanical and ecclesiastical one.'"

"On the other hand, the trustees finding themselves and among Southern Baptists some divergence of views regarding interpretation of different passages in the Bible. We recognize that Baptists have not in the past and do not now make identical understanding of all passages in the Bible a test of fellowship." "It is recognized that each sem-

inary teacher has the obligation to carry on his work within the framework of the fundamentals of Baptist doctrine. On the other hand, the task of the teacher is to continue the task of the search for a fuller understanding of divine truth and to declare that truth."

The nine points on which the committee and Dr. Elliott agreed were:

1. The literary, critical and historical approach is valid in Old Testament studies.
2. There are differences of opinion on interpreting Bible passages.
3. The seminary teacher is to approach his work from the viewpoint of a firm belief in the Bible and all parts thereof to be inspired.
5. The task of the teacher is not to proclaim what he doesn't know about the Bible nor to seek by shock methods to startle the students with a negative approach to the Bible His task is to strengthen the faith of students and help them to present its message.

(Continued on page 6)

SPORTS



Tatnall Tech Tumbles Too

By Charles Grant

Looks easy doesn't it? If you think so, I challenge you to try it. Oh, no guts? Well, we start off for people like you and me most gently with the forward roll, backward roll, head stand (standing on your head), and the cartwheel, all of which most people have done at one time or another.

After the basic fundamentals is the commencement of the goodies like the front hand spring, back hand spring, elbow stands, the round off, diving, and the knee-shoulder balance. Then you go out on the town, "high class" fashion, with stunts like the hand stand,

Sherry Barlow demonstrates the knee shoulder balance on Brenda Sims under the attentive vigil of Amelia Armstrong.

cartwheel—round off—back hand spring, the cartwheel—round off—back flip, not precluding the front and back full flip.

Sound intriguing? Just sign up for Coach Bobby Wilder's next tumbling class and have fun too. This quarters class is comprised of the following students: Amelia Armstrong; Lynda Barfield; Cherry Barlow; Carol Chappell; Carol Davis; Peggy Ann Entekin; Carol Etheridge; Charles Grant; Carol Ann Holcomb; Ginger Hughes; Susan Hunt; Susan Jones; Katie Koellner; Mack Lowrey; Peggy O'Halloman; Brenda Sims; Anne Stieglitz; David Thaxton; and Ann Walker.

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