

Editorial Opinion

Float Parade Issue Must Be Resolved

The Panhellenic Council voted last night to support the establishment of a float parade for Homecoming Weekend.

After viewing the pros and cons of a float parade at that time, we wholeheartedly endorse Panhel's action in supporting this new and worthwhile addition to a presently bland Homecoming procedure.

This action by the Panhellenic Council has caused, however, a definite controversy because the Interfraternity Council voted Monday night not to support a Homecoming Parade.

Since the support of both groups is absolutely necessary for such a project to be successful, we urge that Panhel's second recommendation—that members of IFC and Panhel meet jointly to discuss this controversy—be followed up with great haste.

For these reasons we feel that the decision of this meeting should support a Homecoming float parade:

•Homecoming Weekend, in the past has lacked school spirit in spite of the fact that this should be a weekend when school spirit should be at its highest. We feel the healthy competition provided by a float parade would add to the spirit and enjoyment of the weekend.

•If such a float parade were held on Friday night of Homecoming Weekend, floats could be used as lawn displays for the remainder of the weekend. We feel this would tend to raise the quality of the oft-times "thrown together" displays.

•Although many alumni would not arrive at the University for a Friday night float parade, Ernest B. McCoy, dean of the College of Physical Education, has granted permission for the nine winning floats to be displayed on the football field prior to game time on Saturday. This event would definitely be viewed by alumni.

•Fraternities have expressed the view that they would not have time to prepare a float in addition to getting ready to receive their alumni. We feel that with good planning, fraternities and sororities could complete all but the finishing touches on their floats before Friday so that they would have ample time to prepare to receive alums.

•The question of the hardships which building a float would impose on the academic aspect of students' lives has been raised. We feel this could be alleviated by moving Greek Week to the winter term as suggested by Panhel. As the calendar now stands, the winter term has relatively few scheduled activities. Without Greek Week activities to prepare for in the fall, fraternities and sororities could devote their complete efforts to the float parade.

•The float parade is a definite factor in insuring better town-University relations. We are certain that a plan to alleviate traffic problems could be worked out with State College and University police for the duration of a parade.

In view of Panhel's decision last night and because of the strong arguments favoring a Homecoming Float Parade, we strongly urge that IFC reverse its stand on this issue.

For next year's program, which would involve IFC, Panhel and all independent groups, to be successful, this issue must be resolved immediately.

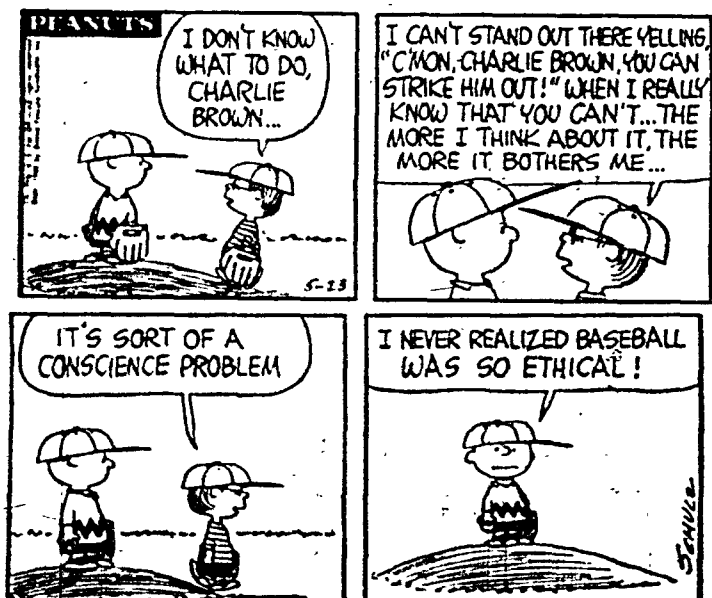
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ANN PALMER Editor

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kaleidoscope

Remember Last Fall

by kay mills

The other day when I was looking through a copy of the 1962 La Vie, I began tracing outlines of my own reminiscences of the last year. The thoughts occasionally bordered on sticky sentimentality but more often were random reflections of those little things which stay in your mind.

The highlights for each individual are easily remembered. It's the obscure little tidbits, however, that add body to this bare skeleton.

For example, last September 25 was a big day for many of us. Freshmen were getting their first taste of college classes. Everyone except the summer "veterans" were snatching a speedy look at the University's contribution to academia — the term system.

And a quick glimpse it was, too. Many professors who did not yet know the value of the term system time dismissed their first-day classes after about 15 minutes. Never again!

Since that day last fall, many words have been said about the new program, but like it or not, it's apparently here to stay. The key words now are "adjust... learn to expand your capacities to meet new challenges." Et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

As turkey time drew near, the student body was confronted with the towering moral issue of whether or not to demonstrate for a Thanksgiving vacation. Oh, these crises in human life, I believe—and here the sentimentality shows through—that students should be able to spend such holidays as Thanksgiving with their parents if they wish, and I probably was ready to wave the banner of rebellion last fall myself.

Using that invaluable tool of retrospect, however, I would like to see us orient toward less selfish ends whatever "vigorous demonstrations" we could ever muster.

Then there was the day this newspaper carried the colorful headline about "Foianini Hits Old Main." With all due respect to our former USG president and to whoever created that journalistic gem, I never cease to chuckle when reminded how strangers to campus politics might interpret the headline: "Sports Car Crashes into Fire Hydrant."

So it goes through the year, each year. At this rate, I have a head start on mastering my role for next spring as the traditional graduate—a senior full of goey little memories about things that give meaning to that ol' diploma on the wall.



MISS MILLS

for the record

Medicare Discussed

by carol kunkleman

The Kennedy Administration's latest hassle, this time with the American Medical Association over a proposed medical care for the aged program, emphasizes an important decision we must all make in deciding what we want from government.

That decision is whether or not we want government to provide additional benefits to us to compensate for the new changes and problems that confront our modern society.

Kennedy's duel with the AMA exemplifies by its very nature the importance of this decision. The President strongly favors the passage of the King-Anderson bill, which would force an immediate 17 per cent payroll tax increase on workers, earning \$5,200 or more, and their employers.

In vigorously opposing the measure, the AMA has denounced the President's plan as a "cruel hoax" that would "heartlessly ignore" millions of aged persons who need coverage.

The medical group, instead, favors retention of the present Kerr-Mills law, which provides for federal assistance to states but leaves administration of such a program for individuals over 65 to the states.

Much of the controversy seems to have arisen in the fact that if such a measure were enacted, we would be placing too much importance in our government and not furthering the freedom of action in our economy that our country prides itself on.

This debate, which seems to be based mostly on misinterpretations by both sides, is weighted on one side by Kennedy's observations that Britain adopted such a plan 30 years ago and on the other by the fact that doctors think the quality of their practice is being questioned.

Both observations merit consideration. Britain has been moving more and more toward a socialistic form of government in that the government provides many of the services. The AMA, in complaining that the quality of practice of its members is being threatened, seems to be worried that government will soon provide too many services and practitioners will no longer be able to perform their services at their own discretion.

Both sides have some grounds for their arguments. Kennedy's administration, in outlining its programs since it took office, admittedly wants to expand the functions of government to provide more services. It feels government action is necessary to provide adequate services in such fields as medicine and education.

The AMA, though it seems to be clouding the issue by insisting that quality in medical practice is being questioned, has a point too in that this country, while moving toward government control in some areas, is still in theory a free enterprise society which leaves it up to the individual to further himself or provide human service economically, socially and politically. Any program such as this could be a radical departure from this ideal if it were made too comprehensive and strict.

On the other hand, such a program could be worked out with the federal government. Kennedy's main concern is to have government supervise hospital fees, not individual doctor fees. This means that doctors could still set their own rates for individual services.

The federal government, while taking on an added responsibility for the supervision of such a program, may be able to provide the qualified administrative personnel necessary to effectively carry out such a program.

Because of this factor, the aged persons in our society, who have increased in number with advancement in medical science, may receive more beneficial aid than they are now getting under archaic forms of state administrations or those that are influenced by politicians when they make supervisory appointments.

This plan could also take the burden of responsibility off the sometimes overburdened state functions. On the other hand, the state is again losing some of its individuality and separation from the larger, massive federal government.

Probably a compromise plan could be worked out. In the long run, however, not only in this decision but in others that will be following, we must clarify in our own minds now what we will expect of our state and federal governments in relation to ourselves and our changing society as a whole—then, support or denounce proposals such as this medical plan.



KUNKLEMAN

Letters

Parade Spectators Criticized

TO THE EDITOR: On Thursday last, during the Armed Forces Day Parade the men of State College's Engineering unit were mocked and jeered and were required to dip the National Standard before a mob of adolescents banded together and calling themselves Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

The fact that this was not only permitted but calmly observed all the while by a regular uniformed member of the University Police, who is himself a Major in the United States Air Force Reserve, was unthinkable.

Although the act was surely initiated in a spirit of "fun", its gravity should be recognized. If in fact this act of degrading the flag and those who defend it had been committed during time of actual war, the members of the fraternity would have suffered immediate arrest and incarceration.

The seriousness of this matter will be recognized by all who believe that our flag and our soldiers are what we have between our very freedom and slavery.

It would be interesting if the men of the State College Air National Guard unit, who have been separated from their families for the past seven months, could have witnessed what their service and sacrifice means to some of the "folks" back home.

This letter should not be taken as merely an indictment of a group of childish college boys or a negligent policeman but is perhaps more an indictment of a society where patriots and flag wavers are scorned as cranks, and draft dodging is considered to be very clever behavior.

—M. J. Ebert Grad Student

WDFM Schedule WEDNESDAY

- 6:00 Mostly Music
6:00 News
6:05 Dinner Date
6:55 Weatherscope
7:00 Washington Reports to the People
7:15 Album Review
7:30 What's the Problem
8:00 News Headlines
8:05 Jazz Panorama
8:00 USG Report
8:05 Waxworks
8:30 The Spoken Word or Insight
9:45 News, Weather & Sports
10:00 Virtuoso
12:00 Sign-Off