

Welcome Back The Highland Cavalier

Clinch Valley College

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Photo by Carol Thomson

"When It Rained It Poured"

"When it rained it poured", and so it was three weeks ago at Clinch Valley College, when the Highland Players presented (a poorly publicized but well attended play) "Rain" to seven very enthused audiences, who had actually just come in from the rain.

"Rain", a play by Colton and Randolph based on the story "Miss Thompson" by Somerset Maugham, was a Highland Player Production designed and directed by C. W. Lewis.

The plot of the play revolved around the "conversion" and "seduction" of Miss Sadie Thompson by the Reverend Alfred Davidson. Miss Thompson was portrayed by Miss Sherry Wagner and Reverend Davidson was portrayed by Charles Willard. The principal actors, although somewhat over-anxious in the beginning, did get into the groove and put on several excellent performances. Miss Chris Evans, who is an accomplished actress, gave some superb performances as Mrs. Davidson. Landon Robbins and Ron McMurray, also veteran actors, gave excellent performances as Dr. McPhail and Joe Horn. (Mr. Horn's store is the one in which most of the

action took place.)

There were some new faces in "Rain", up and coming Miss Joan Cox, who did consistently excellent performances of Mrs. McPhail, and also, Rickey Lawson, who did a very consistent Quartermaster Bates. Paul Dery, one of C.W.'s promising young actors, did a very fine job as Miss Thompson's seaman in shining armor.

Other new actors: some very healthy natives, Andy Kersey (who was also the policeman), Debbie Price, Doug Miles, Anthony Fields, some "high school" type sailors, Jim Bettendorf, Rob Widener, pleasingly plump store owner's wife, Jannet Rose. These "bit" actors' performances were very consistent throughout the week, this is indicative of excellent directorship.

Mr. Lewis, who is well-known for his elaborate sets, displayed again his skill and artistry at set designing. The set was very effective as a mood setter, one was instantly transported away to the island paradise of Pago Pago when the cool breeze began to blow as soon as the curtain was raised. This tropical illusion was then extended by the rain that one could see and hear falling

throughout the play. Mr. Lewis, with his eye for detail, came up with some realistically foreboding lightning and thunder. Even the minutest details were taken care of with wooden matchsticks and original liquor bottles.

There are in every play those backstage people who are as busy as ants. Some of those behind the scenes people were:

Stage Manager-Frankie Zickaloose; Set Construction-Yanez, Kiser, Lewis; Properties-Debbie Price, Maggie Steele; House Manager-Chester Dingus; Prompter-Theresa Steffey; Costuming-Nancy Slomp; Lighting-Landon Robbins; Lighting Control-Gary Slomp; Sound-Gary Slomp; Sound Control-Pam Minor; Make-up-Jewel Worley; House Assistants-Kathy Mullins, Lana Sauterne, Edward Dotson, Mona Freeman; Special Effects-Ron McMurray; Publicity-Jim Hamilton, Harry Clary, Roy Baker; Painting-Anthony Fields, Douglas Miles, James Bettendorf, Rob Widener; Programs-Wanda Mullins.

The Highland Players showed an excellent effort at presenting "Rain". "Rain" is a play with one main problem, the lack of itself. The play, due to lack of real motivation (for conversion) presented on stage, lost some of its credibility in the end. The transformations, that one must keep in mind, that have happened offstage created some difficulty and strained the play's validity.

Notice

Former Lt. Governor Henry E. Howell, Jr. of Norfolk will be speaking with Young Democrats, Saturday, April 5th, 7:30 p.m. at the Copper Kettle. Howell is expected to run for Governor as a Democrat in '77. Students and faculty are invited to attend.

"Southern Appalachia: The Area With The Too-Usable Past"

The Darden Society of Clinch Valley College will sponsor a lecture by Edward L. Henson on Wednesday, April 2 at 3:30 p.m. The topic of Mr. Henson's lecture will be "Southern Appalachia: The Area With the Too-Usable Past".

Mr. Henson received his BA degree in history at Virginia Military Institute and his MA and Ph. D. from the University of Virginia. He was a DuPont Fellow and studied diplomatic history at the London School of Economics under a Fulbright Scholarship. He was an infantry officer during the Second World War and served as commandant of cadets at Fishburne Military School before joining the Clinch Valley College faculty in 1958.

He is vice-president of the Historical Society of Southwest Virginia and is the author of a dozen articles on Appalachian and American diplomatic history. He is a member of the Board of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.

The lecture will be held in Room A100 of the Administration Building. The public is cordially invited to attend.



Photo by Carol Thomson



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Intramural Table Tennis

An Intramural Table Tennis Tournament is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, April 2, in the Greer Gymnasium. It will begin with a men's tournament which will be single elimination (best of three games) until only eight players are remaining. These eight remaining men will continue in a double elimination (best of five games) tournament the following week, at which time the women's double elimination tournament will also be conducted.

All matches must be played when scheduled unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by the Director of Intramurals. The rules of play (Laws of Table Tennis) will be posted in the playing area and will be referred to in case of disagreements of the rules. Table tennis bats and balls will be supplied for the players' convenience but substitutes may be used in accordance with the Laws of Table Tennis. Intramural awards will be presented to champions.

Spectators are invited to all matches and will find the competition, especially the semi-finals and finals, extremely interesting.

Coal Company Contributes To C.V.C. Programs

Cumberland Collieries, Inc. whose President is Jack Thompson, has contributed \$13,400 to three Clinch Valley College projects. Mr. Don Artrip of the Cumberland Collieries, Inc., Norton Virginia delivered the check to the College this past week. \$10,000 of this contribution is to be used to endow the Science Fair that is held at the College every spring. These funds will be used to send the winners to the National Fair. Also, \$1,000 was given to the scholarship fund to be awarded to the College's tennis program. The additional \$2,400 is to be used to purchase biology laboratory supplies.

The administration, students, and faculty would like to express their appreciation to Mr. Jack Thompson and Mr. Don Artrip for their generosity.



Photo by Carol Thomson

Today Is . . .

Today is March 31. Happy Birthday to Rene Descartes, who is 370 years old today, and who once said that "a good man has no need to have read every book, nor to have carefully learned all that which is taught in the schools, but that the Search after Truth by means of the Light of Nature alone, and without the assistance of Religion or Philosophy determines what are the opinions

which a good man should hold on all matters which should occupy his thoughts." Hoping that Cartesian musings are not entirely outdated during these hectic days of pursuing academic excellence, this is the illumination-by-natural-light Highland Cavalier, published at Clinch Valley College, where we also are because we think.

Cartesian Duality And Coal

In attempting to remove all preconceived notions from his mind, Descartes proceeded to doubt all that he had previously held as certain, while still maintaining, in order to exist as a material being in a material world, what Castaneda has labeled "controlled folly". This, then, entails a separation of mind and body, or spirit and matter. This separation is excruciatingly obvious here in the coalfields of Southwest Virginia, where the workings of the mind of man are nowhere evident amid the demonic devastation caused by the indeed mindless workings of the body. Folly is out of control. We can only wonder if the strip-miner feels any pangs of conscience as he toils his new Mercedes through the rotting apple cores that were once living mountains. Perhaps the mind's mountains of truth have also been stripped, the once vital streams of consciousness now polluted.

The separation of the spiritual and physical worlds is, at best, a fine, thin line between the mind and the brain, not unlike the imaginary border existing between two adjoining countries. We cannot merge the body with the mind, we can merely, and should strive to, make the

borderline infinitely small, and perhaps have them speak the same language (like the United States and Canada), with no passport needed and no customs red-tape. But here within the ignorance of exploitation the separation attains continental proportions. There are oceans of ugly reality between matter and spirit.

As the bumper sticker says (words inside an outline of the United States), "coal makes it run". Indeed it does, but the time quickly approaches when this country will no longer be walking, let alone running, for America will be but a vast panorama of physical deformities.

We hope the recent legislation by Congress concerning surface mining and reclamation will do much toward relieving the cancerous conditions of the physical world, but what of the spiritual world? A recent statement by the executive director of the Virginia Surface Mining and Reclamation Association, Mr. B. V. Cooper, calls the new bill "a zenith of environmental lunacy." We therefore also hope that the lunatic population will increase before the environment is no longer able to support life.

Robert Kuhlken

B.C.F. And Other Non-Subjects

Instead of a regular editorial, this week's column consists of two shorter articles.

Recently our dynamic Student Council was presented with a request from Dr. S. asking for suggestions as to how the curriculum could be expanded. This writer should like to make a suggestion that next year's schedule add to itself: Physics X01 Basic Commode Flushing. At first, this might seem to be a bit odd to an outsider but should he ever pay a visit to any of the campus Johns, he would at once see (or smell) the reason for this course. Physics X01 would include such provocative and stimulating topics as: the flushing theory, mechanical aspects and practical applications of flushing. Also included would be a lecture on instructions from which I quote the textbook - "Campus com-

modes come equipped with shiny, big handles conspicuously located (not like the ones in your home with the little handle on the side, these are death with in the upper level course). Grasp handle and push down firmly. Commode will then begin to operate automatically. (note: rolls of tissue, towels, shoes, etc. may cause commode to operate in a retro-grade manner so please do not put such articles in bowl.")

Recently much has been said and written about the situation in the dorm; so much in fact that it has become an overkill subject. Mere mention of the dorm serves to trigger a Pavlovian response to say "oh Hell" and turn a deaf ear. There seems to be a common consensus among all parties

concerned that absolutely nothing a) can b) is going to c) will d) should e) is able to f) is even wanted to be done about the degenerate situation (check one, a combination of or all of the above as you wish); in short, no one gives a big d. . . The matter has been bush-beaten, snowjobbed, sand-bagged, stonewalled, backstabbed, slpalked, buck-passed and just plain ignored to death. The latest fad appears to be the line of "all complaints, no solutions." Anyone wishing to discover both the reason and the solution to the problem should do well to read chapter two of the "little red book."

It should be noted that as a consequence of the above situations there will likely be no more articles appearing in this column dealing with this non-subject.

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CIA Scandal Growing In Public View

Startling revelations concerning CIA attempts to assassinate foreign leaders and Congresswomen Bella Abzug's dossier released by CIA Director William Colby have put more pressure on the Administration's Rockefeller Commission and the Senate Select Committee to set the record straight on previous actions of the agency.

Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller's Commission thus far has appeared to be a "whitewash" for the Administration. Rockefeller's Commission has not dug completely into the allegations against the secretive agency. And what little action the Commission has taken has been hush-hush to the news media and the public.

However, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence,

similar to the recent disbanded Watergate Committee, is staffing-up, preparing to call more witnesses and introducing new startling evidence.

The Senate Select Committee, with Chairman Frank Church of Idaho, has asked President Ford to deliver a summary of a conversation that President Ford had with CIA Director William Colby in which it is believed that the two discussed CIA attempts to assassinate foreign leaders. There will be no "White House tapes" to confirm the actuality of this conversation as there was with Richard Nixon's scandal!

The Senate Committee is planning to conduct public hearings into the allegations against the CIA operations in the months ahead. It is this writer's opinion that we are on the brink of yet another

historical scandal that will rock our nation as big or if not bigger than the most current Watergate scandal. The pieces of the puzzle will soon fit together. The mounting evidence in retrospect will reveal a great many things from America's past that many thought were not possible and too extreme to be true. This investigation is long overdue, and the biggest surprises are yet to come.

CIA Director Colby has charged that the Senate investigation is compromising the intelligence-gathering agency and that the investigation might reveal secrets vital to U.S. security. Senate Committee member Gary Hart in recent correspondence called this charge "groundless".

T.T.K.

Weekly Words Of Wisdom

As we have once upon a time been children and have judged of the things presented to our senses in various ways, while as yet we had not the entire use of our reason, many judgments thus precipitately formed prevent us from arriving at the knowledge of the truth, and apparently there seems no way in which we can deliver ourselves from these, unless we undertake once in our lives to doubt all things in which the slightest trace of incertitude can be found. But in the meantime it is to be observed that we are to make use of this

doubt only when we are engaged in contemplating the truth. For, as regards the conduct of our life, we are frequently obliged to follow opinions which are merely probable, because the opportunities for action would in most cases pass away before we could deliver ourselves from our doubts. And when, as frequently happens with two courses of action, we do not perceive the probability of the one more than the other, we must yet select one of them.

-Descartes

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Table Tennis Tournament

Table with columns for dates (Wednesday, April 7; Thursday, April 8; Friday, April 9) and lists of participants and their scores in various matches.

Cartoon strip titled 'Gort' featuring a character named Gort and dialogue about a 'Polysyllabic Contest'.