

The Highland Cavalier

Clinch Valley College

Volume Twenty-Two - Number Six

Of The University of Virginia, Wise, Virginia

October 10, 1975



C.V.C. Theatre Presents: The Death And Life Of Sneaky Fitch

The Highland Players, under the direction of C. W. Lewis, will present a three act James L. Rosenberg play entitled *The Death and Life of Sneaky Fitch* on October fifth, sixth, and seventh.

The play is a parody on "Westerns". That is, it "pokes fun at", or feebly imitates western movies and plays.

In the beginning of the play, Sneaky Fitch, town drunkard and town coward of Gopher Gulch seemingly arises from the coffin to escape the enigma of the past. This supernatural interlude is shortlived however due to the effects of a well-aimed bullet.

The "stars" of the show feature accomplished Paul Dery as Sneaky Fitch, well-known Mrs. Nancy Slomp as Maroon the saloon girl, Rusty Eliot as Rackham, and aspiring Landon Robins as Jack Oglesby. Also featured in the play are the familiar personalities of Jewell Worley and Cheri Wagner as Mrs. Blackwood and Mrs. Vals respectively.

lively. Tickets for the play can be obtained at the Drama Building or may be reserved by calling Clinch Valley College, Humanities Dept., Extension 257. Admission is two dollars and the curtain is promptly at 8:00 p.m. Clinch Valley College Theatre welcomes everyone.

Individuals desiring to participate in the late fall Highland Player production of *HARVEY* - A comedy by Mary Chase - are invited to auditions which will be held in the classroom of the Theatre Building on Sunday, Oct. 12, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

One need not be a member of the Highland Players or enrolled in drama classes in order to participate in theatre at C.V.C. The auditions are open to all students, members of the faculty and staff.

The show will go into rehearsal immediately following the mid-semester break, and will open during the first week of December.

How To Get Your Name In The Paper

Do not have your ID made. After all, who wants to go swimming? Who needs to check a book out at the library? Why attend a dormitory open house? A ball game? A dance or concert? Or vote in a student election? Who cares if you are a student anyway?

Absolutely last chance: ID's made for those listed below: Thursday, October 9, 9:00 - 12:00 noon A235
Angel, Ronald
Arnold, Edward Franklin
Baber, Shirle Islay Smith
Baker, Barbara Susan

Walters
Baker, Mary Elizabeth
Mullins
Baker, Michael Keith
Banks, Peggy Low Winn
Banner, Mary Fayne Anderson
Barker, James Nicky
Bates, Charlie Ray
Bellamy, Penny Lee
Bellamy, Paul McKinley
Bolling, Carole Ann
Hathaway
Bolton, Mary Lynn
Booker, Gertrude Fern
Whitney
Branham, Ricky Lee

Breeding, Peggy Mariene
Bryant, John Fayette
Bush, Thomas Earl
Carrabba, Joseph Anthony
Coffey, Linda Helen
Collins, Rodger Dale
Colyer, Barbara Denise
Kennedy
Compton, Christopher Blake
Correll, Paul Kraft
Crawford, Gary L.
Crowe, Thomas James
Davies, Arthur Beverly
Davis, Billie Sue Bruce
Delp, Henry Carson
Dotson, Douglas Cliff
Elliott, Russell Mark
Elliott, Milton Alphus
Fall, Bobby Gene
Fienary, Madeline Kay
Fleming, Linda Lee Baker
Gardner, Suzanne Denise Ray
Gibson, Ronald S.
Gillenwater, Sue Sharpe
Gilliam, Thomas Girard
Gilliam, William Howard
Gober, Robert Clifton
Hamilton, Jimmy Ray
Hayes, Jerry Bruce
Heaberlin, Billy R.
Hodgson, Teresa Lynn
Hollyfield, Jerry Earl
Hopkins, Calvin Colledge
Hopkins, Judy Darlene
Hubbard, Dennis Larry
Hughes, Sandra Lee
Kennedy, J. Jack
Kilgore, William Tommy
Knight, John Edward
Lark, Gary Allen
Laster, Linda Sue Shoop
Livesay, Bobbie Jan Osborne
Long, Mary Lynn
McFaddin, Jeannie Karen
Patton
McReynolds, Glenda Darlene
Smith
Maggard, Janice Leigh
Withers
Miller, Steven K.
Morris, Johnny Ike
Mullins, Ernest
Mullins, Kathy Ann
Mullins, Mitchell Claude
Myers, Richard L.
Nunez, Patsy O. Barnett
O'Quinn, Patricia J.
Sutherland



Cavalier Class Pics

Class pictures will be taken from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 22 and 23. Cost per sitting is \$2. Photos will be taken in the area between the Zehner building and the Library. In the

event of bad weather, pictures will be taken in the lounge near the Post Office. Students are encouraged to "come as you are."

Student Nurses At CVC

The Clinch Valley College Chapter of the Student Nurses Association of Virginia has begun its activities for the current year. The newly-elected officers of the chapter are: Angela Stallard, President; Debbie Rogers, First Vice President; Cathryn Clark, Second Vice President; Vicki Sites, Corresponding Secretary; Barbara Gross, Recording Secretary; Patti Johnson, Treasurer; Karen Wren, Historian.

The chapter held their monthly program meeting at the Wesley Student Center on September 25. Cheryl Snyder of

Wise, an occupational therapist with the Dilenoisaco Title VIB program for handicapped children, and Kay Justice of Wise, home-center liaison worker for the Regional Child Development Center, showed slides and spoke about the work of the Center with handicapped children and a film, *Valley of Miracles*, about Camp Easter Seal for handicapped children and adults was shown. Refreshments were served.

The Chapter is holding a bake sale on the CVC campus Wednesday, October 1 and a dance is planned for October 16.



Leather Craft

The Special Services office is going to offer a mini-course in leather craft. The course will be offered for 3 weeks - one 2hr session a week.

Each person who takes the class will be able to make a key chain, an arm band, and a belt - all from leather.

The cost will be \$6 per person for the cost of the materials. Special Services students will be exempt from the fee.

If you are interested in the class, please come by Z113 and sign up. Leather makes good Christmas presents.

Free Hotdog Supper

Meet the candidates at a free hotdog supper sponsored by the Clinch Valley College Young Republicans on Wednesday, October 8, at 5:00 p.m., at the picnic grounds on campus.

Joe Wolfe, a candidate for the House of Delegates, a graduate of Clinch Valley College, and a recent graduate of the

University of Virginia Law School, along with Paul Varson, a candidate for Wise County Supervisor, Gladeville District, and a professor of Mathematics at Clinch Valley College, will be there along with other candidates for Wise County Offices. Everyone welcome.

Page, Kermit Lewis
Powers, Donna J. Davidson
Powers, Jo Ann Hill
Puckett, Carol L. Mullins
Qualls, Faye D. Stanley
Ratliff, Sandra G. Horne
Raynes, JoAnna
Richards, Ronald Lee
Richardson, William A.
Salyer, Preston Larry
Samuel, Tom
Sexton, Jimmy D.
Shelley, Ronald N.
Sluss, William Edward
Smith, Gerald Wayne
Stallard, Angela Lynn
Stanley, Connie D. Mullins
Stone, Vincent Kenneth
Sturgill, Mark
Swindall, Vickie L. Sturgill
Swiney, Linda Mariene
Thomson, Carol Orr
Tompkins, Mona Fay
Townes, Edna M. Woods
Trigg, Patsy L.
Ward, Charles Robert
White, Danny Lee
White, Michael Allen
Whited, Danny Wayne
Willis, Nancy Elizabeth
Wright, Rebecca Anne
Yates, Mamie

Whither Appalachia?

By: Robert Kuhlken
I shall not waste words in needless defense against the bitter implications contained in Mr. Kilgore's "Appalachian Notes" last week. Suffice to say that I neither "slink about", nor am I on any sort of "quest" for a niche of acceptance. I am only a human aware of my humanity and its worth - a mere drop in the ocean of mankind's historical context, and beyond mankind, the earth, air, all being. Therefore let us return "Appalachian Notes" to its original intention, and stop trying readers' patience with pretty character appraisals.

Change is a function of society. Nothing remains static, not even cultures, and whether or not social flux is for the better depends upon the ideas and feelings of the individual, the one person. Moral assessments of change are simply expressions of opinion. What should concern us is that change does occur, and that the individual is completely powerless to exert his influence upon it. The "great man" was just a fiction of history. When dealing with a society, we must

throw away those romantic concepts of the individual, and deal instead with groups of people.

Change, then, has occurred, continues to occur, here in the mountains. There is no stopping it. We've all become aware, I should hope, of the disastrous and tragic exploitation of the mountains' inhabitants by the "outside world". Corporate interests, first lumber, then (and still) coal, have prospered immensely from the economically sanctioned abuse of the land, while the native population has been treated, at best, with disparaging condescension. We know, or should know, the ugly consequences of terms like "mineral rights" and "absentee landownership". The exploitation continues. So does change. The lure of the almighty dollar has been felt even in these hills where there once lived a fine, independent sort of American, those mountain folk of high integrity, set apart from the crassness of the flatlands by the virtue of blessed geography, a breed apart. Granted, there

are people like this left, perhaps many. But the culture is in shreds. Greed has prescribed that the stereotyped shall be utilized. We can all, for example, go down to Coeburn and get some "hillbilly fried chicken" and go back to our room in the "mountainer motel" and stare at the flashing neon illuminating bare feet and count all the shiny new Mercedes tooling by - the result of over-compensation.

But in this age of social reform, of everyone seeking the coveted status of minority group, history's exploited ones have an outlet, a temporarily sympathetic ear. The mountain people of eastern United States are now bureaucratically classified as "Appalachian white". Outsiders have come into the mountains hell bent on preserving a culture totally alien to them. Now anybody who can inject "holles" into their vocabulary can suddenly become an exponent of Appalachian heritage.

So where does that leave the true mountain person amid all the confusion and mess, those yet strong-hearted, proud and independent ones? I'd not have the right to say, even if I thought I knew, though I want it made clear that I have the highest respect for them. They are to be admired.

But what about the totality of the mountain culture? Whither Appalachia?

By way of suggesting a direction, in conclusion I wish to quote a few passages concerning the immediate area from Charlton Ogburn's new book *The Southern Appalachians*:

"Except for being channeled and compressed by the topography, civilization in the Cumberlands does not appear as different from that elsewhere in the country as you might expect."

"The commercialism of those densely populated valleys - of automobile dealers, garages, lumberyards, corner groceries, hardware store, clothing stores, abandoned little attempts at drive-ins, eating places - was no more commercial than com-

mercialism elsewhere in America. But here - the realization came to me - it stood out like the bones of a emaciated cow and seems to be all life locally was about, except insofar as it was directed to the pursuit of ordinary individual ends, particularly those concerned with motorcars."

"And it is here in the Cumberlands that something emerges which elsewhere is more or less concealed under the lush material prosperity of our country. It is something at least that I have come to believe: that a society cannot possess a cultural force amid scenes of the destructive exploitation of nature, of the earth. It cannot deplete its natural setting without equally depleting its own cultural content and meaning. It does not and cannot exist independently of its matrix in nature, and to the extent that its treatment of that matrix is destructive rather than creative it will destroy its own inner life and become a zombie, richly apparelled, it may be, for a while, but nonetheless one of the walking dead."

Letter To
The Highland
Cavalier

Appalachian Notes:

Dear Mr. Martin,
I regret to learn that you have entirely misunderstood the point of my article. I was merely pointing to the sociological fact that the values and norms of all the extremely diverse groups of people which have traditionally made up American society are in a process of being systematically, and in a most sinister manner, undermined and homogenized toward the day when they shall all reach one big happy (note the irony, Mr. Martin) medium. Now, lest your apparently dubious ability to read between my lines be chronic, I am not referring to the various economic classes which comprise American society, and between which there shall always be tempestuous gusts, but rather to desires, the wants, the cravings, the obsessions of the American people. Our paragons have been established by Madison Ave. and all the other forms of the mysterious "they". Concerning mountain people in particular, there was not the faintest trace of pejorative language in my article. I have never nor will I ever, "complain of how bad mountain people are", to quote from your aspersions-filled letter. To conclude my answer with a question, Mr. Martin, just what are some of these "good mountain habits" that you are so keen on having me acquire? Sincerely,
Robert Kuhlken

By: Frank Kilgore
If you were asked to describe the most pressing problem in southwestern Virginia today, what would be your answer? Would you say the lack of medical and recreational facilities, the lack of an adequate road system, or would you get to the very root of the problem and note that the tax system in our coal counties is one of the most unjust in the country?

Taxes, a notoriously dull subject, requires a great deal of research in order to even form an opinion on the matter much less to make one capable of proffering a reasonable solution to the problems found within the system. But our local and state taxing systems are one of the major problems which tend to inhibit the coal counties from having the best schools, roads, and public recreational and medical facilities in the state, if not the entire nation.

For example, mineral lands in Wise and other Virginia coal counties were appraised last year at only 11.6 per cent of fair market value based on figures comparing those land assessments with total coal sales in excess of \$200 million. The result of this inequity is that the individual taxpayer in Virginia's coal counties must pay higher than necessary property taxes in order to meet the counties' basic needs - or, as in many

cases, the county does without. Since Pittston Coal Company recorded profits of 888 per cent in 1974, we the individual taxpayers of the coal field have almost directly subsidized that company's terrific wealth. The same holds true for the Westmoreland Coal Company which recorded profits of 408 per cent in 1974 - a year that saw many Virginia coal counties go begging for adequate schools, roads, and recreational and medical facilities.

This system of "take-and-give" on the part of the large coal companies has left our area in a position similar to that of an underdeveloped country. We are extracting and "exporting" our major natural resource and in return receiving only wages, which are used to purchase the "imports" from the more economically stabilized sections of the country.

To break this vicious cycle we must organize a group of concerned citizens whose main interest is in that of the community, instead of themselves. A step in that direction was taken on September 30, 1975, when a group of local citizens met at the United Student Union which is just about five-hundred yards from C.V.C. Perhaps the distance was too great, but for whatever reason only two C.V.C. students appeared at that meeting to discuss, in essence, the economic future of

our community. The remainder of those that were present at the meeting were area teachers, politicians, and spokesmen for area public interest groups.

This group of about twenty concerned citizens have chosen to pursue a very ambitious project. Their aim is to press for a sixfold increase in Virginia's share of our natural wealth is used locally. A future task of the group is to push for re-assessment of mineral property taxes in order to force prospering coal companies to pay their fair share of the tax burden; and they will work continuously on the hardest of all tasks - getting the people of

the coal counties more involved in the political and economic development of the community.

The following is the position paper prepared by this group. Incidentally, another meeting is scheduled at the United Student Union on October 14, 1975, at 7:30 p.m. All C.V.C. students, faculty, and the general public are encouraged to attend that is unless you are too busy sitting around griping about the way things ought to be. As far as federal, state, and local laws are concerned one does not have to have a college degree in order to be a concerned citizen, so don't wait!

Phrophylactized minds, all potent
And safe, Get into my heart
and
Take me all apart; then put
me
Back together, Graduate me;
with
A feather, And never, ever,
Let me see you again.
By: Jane Crowe

..Editor's Note
We at the Highland Cavalier feel that the English Language is an ever expanding body of terms. We don't think that it will explode with the addition of this "bastardized" word, prophylactized. It means "encased in an impermeable membrane."
Your're welcome Mr. Webster!

The Very Severe Degree Of Her College Ambition

Concerned Citizens For Fair Taxes: A Position Paper

Virginia's current 1/4 of 1 per cent severance license tax is less than her neighboring states: Kentucky - 4 percent of gross; West Virginia - equivalent to 3.36 per cent of gross; Tennessee - 20 cents per ton or roughly 1 per cent of gross. The Governor and citizens groups in Tennessee are working for a 4 per cent tax.

Wise, Buchanan, Dickenson and Tazewell collect this tax. (Wise county collects from \$90,000-\$100,000 per month from this tax which means roughly that \$1,000,000 per year is added to the county coffers.)

Most of these funds are used to support new elementary school construction.

There are many people in Virginia that feel that the present severance tax in Virginia is not high enough, is loosely defined, and leaves too much to the discretion of local politicians.

This paper proposes an increase in the present tax to at least 3 per cent of gross receipts which would mean approximately \$6,000,000 per year

for Wise County alone. The control question could be solved by stipulating that 1/2 of this money be spent toward education.

Now is the time to press for a new severance tax law. Elections for county seats and the State legislature are nearing and this can become a real issue if the public has its attention drawn to the facts.

The argument that such an increase would destroy the coal industry can be countered by the fact that Westmoreland survives in Montana with a severance tax of 30 per cent.

This effort to raise Virginia's severance tax from 1/4 of 1 per cent to 3 per cent is based on two understandings. One is the need in southwest Virginia for more revenue.

The most obvious need for this is in the field of education in the coal fields of Virginia. Most of the counties in southwest Virginia rank at, or near the very bottom in teachers' salaries and training. The reasons for this situation is the age-old policy of Richmond to practically ignore the needs of

Virginia's western counties, plus the fact that the counties themselves have failed to generate needed funds from their one major mineral-extraction industry.

The second understanding is just and fair taxing of the coal companies that are making great amounts of profits here in Southwest Virginia. For example two of the major coal producers in Virginia, Pittston and Westmoreland, increased their profits in the first half of 1974 868 per cent and 408 per cent respectively. (Coal miners and the Economy, a U.M.W.A. research report, September 30, 1974, Washington, D.C.)

The severance license tax has many advantages over most systems of taxation. It is simple and almost impossible to evade. An alternative would be to raise the assessment of minerals being held or developed by companies and individuals. As pointed out in Coal Taxes in Southwest Virginia (a report for the Senate subcommittee on inter governmental relations by Concerned Citizens for Fair Taxes, Appalachia, Virginia,

October, 1973) this is a very difficult task.

A severance tax, however, is a tax on mineral production. It is a depletion penalty which compensates the people for the loss of their natural resources. It is not a direct tax on minerals under development, since it does not apply to acreage being mined, but only to tonnage which has been mined. And it is certainly not a substitute for taxing undeveloped mineral reserves.

Presently the mineral property tax system is vaguely defined, under assessed and virtually uncontrolled by our local governments. The coal industry's shroud of secrecy concerning holdings, and the county's lack of power and experience to collect such data makes an increase severance tax the only reasonable and uncomplicated means of compensating for the loss of revenue which results from the short-comings of the mineral property tax system. Thus, the increased severance tax will not mean that the mineral properties should not be taxed, it will only serve as a partial substitute for the revenues

which ought to be collected from the property tax.

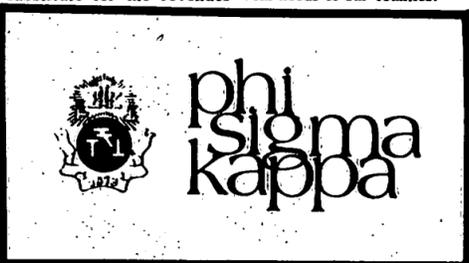
The problems we face in trying to get a new bill passed which would raise the severance tax, strengthen the penalty, and add control by specifying one half for education is similar to those faced by Wm. Cantrell.

This Spring (1975) Mr. Cantrell proposed to increase the severance tax rate from 1/4 of 1 per cent to 1/2 of 1 per cent then finally to a full 1 per cent of gross. This measure failed in committee due to lack of support from some of the coalfield legislators, coupled with the states reluctance to further strengthen the counties taxing power.

We need to work closely with our legislators, secure legal help to prepare the Bill, inform local citizens, build an information network, contact legislators and citizens throughout the state, possibly secure signatures to a petition, and financially support lobbying efforts by citizen groups, unions, professional organizations. We need to do all of this to bring about a Fair tax and to meet the real needs of our counties.



If You Have Something To Say, Write A Letter To The Editor,
If You Want To Find Out What's Happening Read
The Highland Cavalier



What Is A Fraternity?

This seems to be a question of great debatability here on the campus of Clinch Valley College. A Fraternity can be defined as a variety of things, but three which really stand out are experience, involvement, and development.

As an experience, a fraternity is the satisfaction of working with others toward common goals. Also it is the development of meaningful relationships with others, assuming responsibility, and most of all applying your educational knowledge in actual situations.

As an involvement, a fraternity is involvement in your chapter, your campus, your community, and your home. It is the expression of yourself to others through your actions, and committing yourself to excellence.

As a development, fraternity is the development of leadership traits. It is the application of social graces, building confidence and poise, creating and implementing new ideas and concepts, training in practical business principles, and most of all it is the development of an excellent comprehensive attitude of the world around us.

Phi Sigma Kappa offers opportunities for men to come together, to understand, to learn and to unite in a feeling of Brotherhood; a Brotherhood that goes much, much further than superficial amenities. Phi Sigma Kappa is a vehicle for the establishment of meaningful relationships; for the fostering of a deep sense of commitment to your fellow man and his needs.

Our purpose at Phi Sigma Kappa is excellence, and our bond is a deep and enduring Brotherhood.

Pursuit of scholastic excellence is now one of your goals as it is ours. The development of a positive attitude toward Scholarship is an integral part of Phi Sigma Kappa. Scholarship is the pursuit of truth, our application of academic, our striving for understanding, our working with others. The true scholar listens, evaluates, understands, perceives, acts, and Phi Sigma encourages each individual's scholastic achievement through chapter programs which stress free expression of ideas generated by interaction with others.

The world has always sought men of high character. Phi Sigma Kappa is a positive force in developing men of honor, integrity, and high moral purpose. This fraternity offers the opportunity for each of its members to develop more fully those traits that will identify him as a gentleman - a true Phi Sig.

The brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa nationwide have adopted the following saying as their motto:

Our idea is so old, it's coming back in style. . . .
Living together to help and understand one another
It should have never gone out. Phi Sigma Kappa.

Letter
From Editor



by R. Corbin Houchins
E & J Gallo Winery

The Highland Cavalier would like at this time to solicit articles or other materials, poems, pictures etc. from members of the student body.

It may not have been known until this time that the Highland Cavalier is a medium for the expression of student ideas and creativity. This article is to make it known.

If you have something that you think the world would be bettered by having come into contact with, for heavens sake, don't hold it out on us.

Sincerely,
Daina T. Reynolds

THE WINE SNOB DEBUNKED
or
You Can't Taste While Talking

Benjamin Franklin said, "Wine is constant proof that God loves us and loves to see us happy."

Unfortunately, some people aren't happy with wine unless they can reduce its appreciation to arguments akin to the number of angels that can be accommodated on the head of a pin.

To be sure, the glories of the grape are many and various.

The last thing we need, however, is another self-proclaimed pundit swirling a glass and talking about the Gay-Lussac equation while claiming to perceive Gregorian chants and the Rites of Dionysius in the wine.

Just as one need not be a botanist to appreciate a rose or a meteorologist to delight in a sunset, you need not be an enologist to enjoy a glass of wine.

It may be that wine snobs exist because table wine, the kind of wine that increases the pleasure of food (and hence the most important category from an aesthetic standpoint), is relatively new to America. For a long time, the pleasures of table wine have been taken for granted by American families with strong European heritages and by the upper class. But until relatively recently, only a minority of wines shipped in America were table wines. Only in 1969 did table wines make up the majority of shipments. Since then, the category has grown steadily both absolutely and relative to other types.

One of the by-products of the new popularity of fine wine was the wine snob, ready to dictate, pontificate, and obfuscate. There were special glasses to

consider, the appropriate wine with each dish, not to mention correct temperatures and serving procedures. And the wines themselves had to be from places with strange and confusing names.

Fortunately, the consumer has discovered that enjoyment of table wine is not complicated. In the marketplace, if a wine is priced right, looks good, smells good, and tastes good, that is sufficient cause to buy it.

What some wine drinkers haven't realized is that straightforward standards of what looks, smells, and tastes good are applicable to all wines. There is no compendium of tasting secrets known only to people who can say Grand Echezeaux five times fast. When the fundamentals are known, with a little practice you will discover that wines disdained by the snobs may stand very comfortably beside those famous European names. More importantly, you will find you are comfortable enough with good wines to share Ben Franklin's relaxed attitude - and that is the most important step toward real appreciation.

In my next three columns, we'll take a close look at tasting techniques.

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