

Student Leaves College, Makes Critical Appraisal

Pat Tarr, a member of the first-year class, left New College recently for another school. At the request of President John Elmendorf, Tarr prepared a statement of his reasons for leaving.

President Elmendorf has released this statement to The Catalyst with an introduction expressing his views. The President's introduction follows:

Introduction by the President

"A New College student of great promise has just left school. He left reluctantly, disappointed in what had been an opportunity which seemed to him fitted to his abilities and his needs. At the time of his departure, he made a thoughtful statement of his reasons for so doing. It is critical of both students and administration, but his leaving is a fact and his reasons are facts.

As president of New College, I am concerned that we evaluate facts, both pleasant ones and unpleasant ones. There is much to weigh in what Pat Tarr has said. We exist for high purposes, but we can never attain our ends if we are afflicted by disease, either intellectual or social. I hope the entire New College community will read well what follows, consider

See Editorial p. 2

its source and its implications, and then join together in whatever effort is needed to remedy such ills as may be diagnosed. The measure of a healthy body is its resistance to disease. If we are so ill that students such as Pat Tarr cannot survive, it is time we sought a cure."

A Statement by Pat Tarr

"My current decision to withdraw from New College has been based on a number of factors. It is important that no one factor prompted my decision. I will try to be complete in citing my reasons.

1. I do not like the general academic atmosphere at New College. There does not seem to be any real concern on the part of the students to learn what the professors have to offer.

2. Contrary to popular opinion here, I do not believe freedom means the establishment of no rules. For me freedom is partly the responsibility of adhering to certain rules. I feel the rebellion against any rule is turning one's back on responsibility.

3. I do not agree with the administration's policy concerning dorm life. The atmosphere in which public laws can be broken is obviously provided for the students. I feel the administration has not significantly discouraged this practice.

4. I feel a traditional school has more to offer to my personal preferences. More precisely--structure, more frequent testing, school spirit, etc.

5. I would prefer to work summers--putting myself through college as much as possible.

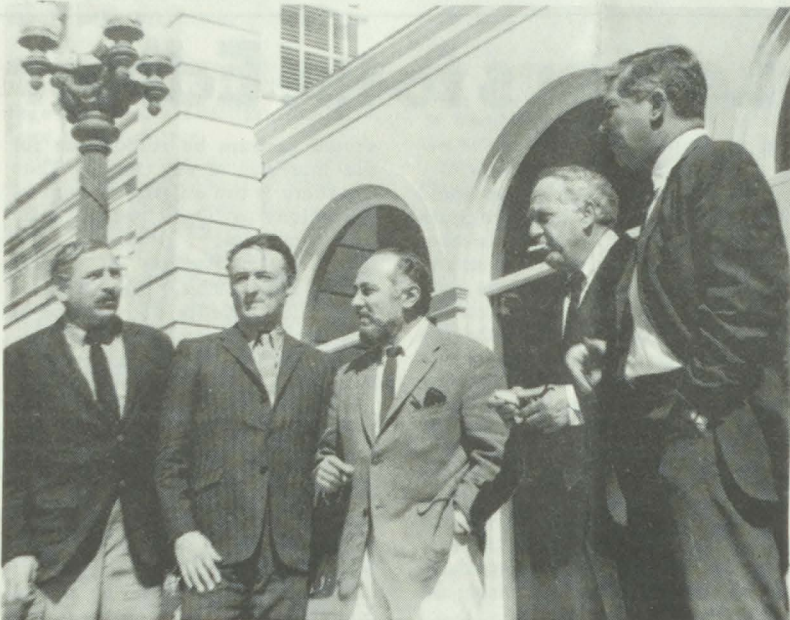
6. I experienced minor scheduling difficulties.

7. I would prefer a school closer to home.

8. Since I haven't had any tests I don't really know if my self-discipline is adequate in New College. (Continued on page 3, column 2)



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Members of the New College Fine Arts Institute faculty visit New College. President John Elmendorf, far right, serves as host. The faculty members are, left to right: Syd Solomon, Larry Rivers, Conrad Marca-Relli, and Philip Guston.

Artists Lecture At Asolo Theater

Works of Larry Rivers and Philip Guston were featured in slide-showings presented today and yesterday, respectively, at the Asolo Theater. Both artists are members of the New College Fine Arts Institute faculty.

Mr. Guston, who achieved his success originally as a figurative painter, is now considered to be a leading abstract expressionist. He has won the Prix de Rome, a grant from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a \$10,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. Guston has taught at the University of Iowa, Washington University, New York University, and the Pratt Institute.

Rivers, too, paints in abstract. He has done much experimenting with form and is known as an "action painter." Rivers is a former jazz musician who turned to the pictorial arts in 1945. He has designed play sets, worked in welded metal sculpture, and has also done lithographs.

Mr. Guston's term for this year as instructor at the Fine Arts Institute ends this week, and Mr. Rivers is scheduled to begin the next. The

two slide programs were therefore special "classes" for students at the institute. The public, however, was invited.

Other members of the institute's faculty are: Afro, James Brooks, Conrad Marca-Relli, and Syd Solomon.

The Fine Arts Institute was created by New College as an adjunct to its own program of undergraduate liberal arts and sciences. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for advanced painters to work in class situations with today's leading contemporary painters.

Was Shakespeare Really Marlowe?; Scholar To Speak At Forum Tonight

Tonight's Forum speaker will be Mr. Calvin Hoffman, who will present a case for Christopher Marlowe as author of "Shakespeare's" plays.

Mr. Hoffman, a resident of Sarasota, is renowned for his research into the background of Marlowe, a near-contemporary of Shakespeare. Hoffman believes that Marlowe actually wrote the so-called Shakespearean dramas, and he has data to document his beliefs.

Students, faculty, and guests are invited to the Forum (which will begin at 7 p.m. due to the later dinner hour) to listen and to refute or reaffirm Mr. Hoffman's conclusions. Mr. Hoffman has written a book, now published, which explains his findings in greater detail.

No specifics were given, but Dr. Arthur R. Borden hinted that the forum topic "promises to be a very interesting debate."

Neuschatz Wins 1st In Literary Contest

Cimino 2nd; Salisbury 3rd

First-year student Michael Neuschatz is the winner of \$40 first prize in The Catalyst-sponsored literary contest for his one act play *God of Limbo*.

Glenda Cimino, second-year student, was awarded \$20 for her poem "The Sower." Luke Salisbury's short story "Cold Pastoral,"

won the \$10 third prize. Miss Cimino also entered another poem, "In the Glare of Rationality," which the judges felt should be awarded honorable mention.

Contest judges Dr. Arthur R. Borden, Dr. Robert Knox, Sam Treynor, Thomas Lawson and Charles Raeburn extend their congratulations to the winners, as do the editors and staff of The Catalyst.

Neuschatz's play was the culmination of work done during the recent independent study period. Salisbury, who is a first-year student, also worked on his entry during the study period.

According to Raeburn, who coordinated the contest for The Catalyst, "Final decisions of the judges were made quite difficult due to



Cimino Salisbury the really high quality of many of the more than thirty entries submitted in the contest. This quality certainly indicates that an annual literary contest will be an exciting and worthwhile tradition at New College."

Synopses of the first and third prize winning entries and Miss Cimino's poems are printed on page 3. The length of the play and the short story unfortunately prohibits printing them in their entirety.

Gorfein To Present Psychology Study

Dr. David Gorfein, Assistant Professor of Psychology, will read two of his papers before the members of the Southeastern Psychological Association at their convention in New Orleans March 31 and April 1.

One paper is on methodological study in attitude change. The study for this paper was conducted under a government grant while Dr. Gorfein was at East Michigan. The other paper to be presented is on "Meaningfulness in Serial Verbal Learning with Pronunciation Controlled." Sixty four New College students were subjects for research in this area.

Results of the test indicate that the part played by meaningfulness in serial learning is reduced when the effects of pronunciation are considered.

Art Institute To Fete Staff

New College's Fine Arts Institute will hold a reception for its staff of instructors this evening at the John Ringling Towers, headquarters of the institute, beginning at 5 pm.

The faculty includes: Afro, James Brooks, Philip Guston, Conrad Marca-Relli, Larry Rivers, and Syd Solomon.

Mr. Herbert Stoddard, instructor of painting at New College, spoke of the reception as a "champagne-opening party."

Marking the reception will be exhibits of works of each of the faculty members. The public is invited to view these paintings.

The Fine Arts Institute student body consists of advanced painters who seek the opportunity to study with leading contemporary artists. In addition to weekly painting classes, students of the institute may attend a series of lectures, slide-showings, and exhibitions.

69ers Tumble To Slick Foe

by Phil Bunning

The 69ers bit the dust, but will roar back next week looking for blood. Due to a brilliant New College defensive effort, American Oil was held to only 52 points last Wednesday night. Through an oversight, however, the 69ers scored only 44. A twinkling performance was given by ubiquitous John Cranor who was virtually all over the court stealing passes and making baskets. After the game American Oil voted Cranor the most valuable player of the game.

Leaping Larry Alexander scored 24 points in the melee; the other four players combined to score 20 points whenever Alexander saw fit to let them shoot (as a matter of statistical interest, Alexander shot 27 of the 56 times the team shot). Cheering was unusually boisterous for a New College game, the spectator being joined by the four players on the bench. Coach Peter Odell, when questioned after the game, had this to say, "The movies at the Flying Club were great!"

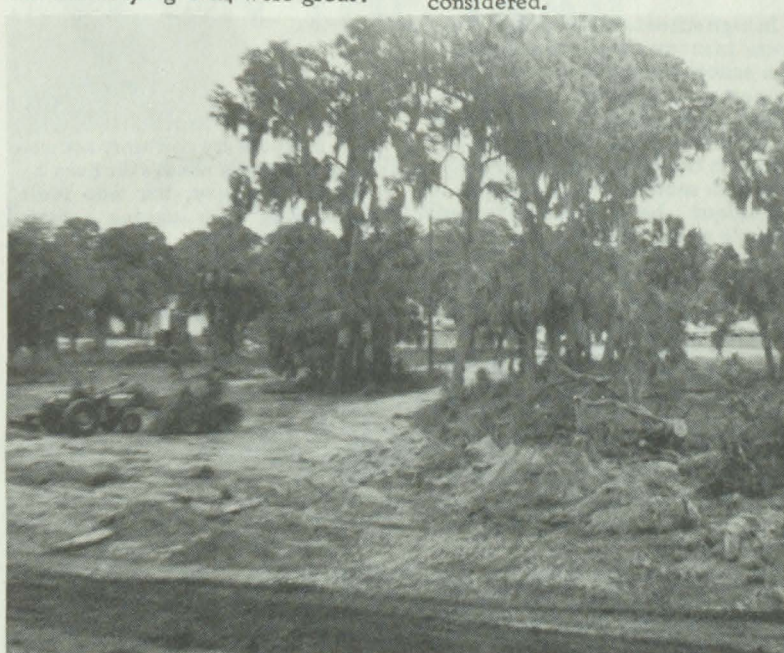


Student payroll checks, which will be issued Monday, are symbols of the Business Office's new accounting system which has been made possible by the purchase of a Burroughs 1500 accounting machine.

Jane Garman, shown at the machine, is being trained in the many operations it performs.

According to Mr. Charles C. Harra, Controller, all college accounting functions will be programmed on the machine by March.

Mr. Harra praised Jane's ability with the machine saying, "She seems to have a real flair for it."



A WHOLE NEW LANDSCAPE unfolds as construction crews began work in earnest this week on Phases II and II 1/2. A great number of trees were uprooted to make way for Hamilton Court, the planned student activities center. Several trees were saved when the construction area was moved some eighteen feet.

Editorially Speaking

A Student Goes—Will We Learn?

Pat Tarr's evaluation of New College, for in effect that is what it is, touches nearly every segment of the college: administration, faculty, students. President Elmendorf has stated what must be the thoughts of everyone genuinely interested in the welfare of New College. "I hope the entire New College community will read well what follows, consider its sources and its implications, and then join together in whatever effort is needed to remedy such ills as may be diagnosed."

Students should take special notice of the first two points of Pat's criticism. He is not completely correct. Most students do have a real concern to learn what the professors have to offer. Perhaps they do not always perform at their maximum level of capability, but they do want and work to learn. Similarly, not all students believe that freedom means establishing no rules. Most are willing to fulfill the responsibility that is necessary for a meaningful college career.

However, the fact remains that these attitudes which Pat points out are sufficiently represented here to cause him to leave. From Pat's profile, it is obvious that he could have been a very valuable asset to the college community. We all regret his going. But the real misfortune will come if we, the students, and the other segments of the college as well, do not move immediately to correct these unquestionably undesirable aspects of our community. These attitudes of unconcern and irresponsibility may prove to be the cancers which slowly destroy the value of New College.

The academic atmosphere is largely the responsibility of students. Even teachers of greatest quality cannot create a positive atmosphere without students who devote nearly maximum effort to the learning process. Even more so is the ever-prominent question of freedom and responsibility. The SEC has made several appeals to the students to cooperate in the maintenance of discipline as a student concern. But these appeals, made by the students' elected representatives have gone largely undeeded. Drinking and other flagrant violations continue and increase despite these appeals and despite some rather unsubtle hints and warnings from the administration about the consequences of continued violation.

Whereas only a few students ultimately may be directly affected by dismissal from college for disciplinary infractions, all students will suffer if this is allowed to happen. We must act and act now to repair the damage already done and to prevent further damage to the ideal of student responsibility. The most obvious and direct action is simply to cooperate with the SEC in the observance of those few rules we have. And once this step is taken, we can then finally accept, fully and actively, all the personal responsibility we are offered -- and we can demonstrate all the maturity which is expected from us, indeed, which we must expect from ourselves.

Needed:

A Place To Practice

The first love of every musician is, of course, to play. There's nothing quite like getting together with a bunch of other cats and then stomping away.

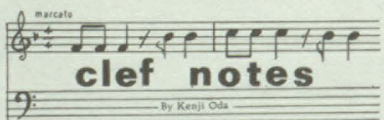
Sadly, the opportunity to jam is one of those things that are scarce if not nonexistent here at New College.

In high school (mine at least) kids were in many cases allowed to join the school band after as little as a semester's playing experience. These were novices, certainly not ready for concert, but playing in a group is the best way to develop a musical sense once the basics of technique have been learned. What's more, it's fun.

Many New College students play, or are interested in learning to play, musical instruments. Several play with such organizations as the Florida West Coast Symphony; but what of those who lack either the time or experience to play in such formal company?

At home, it seemed relatively easy to find a few kids who wanted to play and a place to go. Here, it's difficult.

The rooms in the residence hall are not soundproof enough to allow for jam sessions, even in the third court. Noise thunders out and someone is bound to be interrupted from studies or sleep. The problem will be compounded by the addition of 100 students next fall.



Oda

The barracks are certainly not inviting. There's always the Barn across the highway, but who feels like playing after lugging a drum set a half mile?

Apparently there has been no provision for a music practice room in the planned Hamilton Court. This is supposed to be a student activities center; perhaps one answer would be to install such a room. If this isn't possible (I don't see why it shouldn't be), then perhaps a very near barracks building could be fixed up for such a purpose. This would mean driving out the rats, setting up lights, putting in a piano and some furniture, providing basic security measures (a lock on the door), etc.

Something should be done. Perhaps the problem will somehow solve itself, but more likely some students will continue playing and some will keep on complaining about the noise.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Although many among us would no doubt like to accept the myth that any type of evaluations other than the comprehensive exams at the end of the year should be non-existent at New College, I think the majority of us realize that evaluations represent a necessary development in the structuring of the community. In addition to letting the administration know how each student is progressing, these end-of-the-term exams could possibly give the student a taste (perhaps a bitter one) of comprehensives and make him realize that such awesome obligations do exist--perhaps he may even begin preparing for this eventuality.

This is certainly not to say, however, that the evaluations are infallible and represent the quintessence of perfection. It would have been a trifle more gentle and sympathetic of the faculty and administration, for instance, to have developed the idea of evaluations at least a week before presenting them to the unsuspecting students (although the conscientious student

should perhaps be responsible for the material at any time). Then too there is the enigma of such evaluations as "Questions for Study and Response." Bestowed upon the cowering students enrolled in Basic Humanities, these "Questions" demanded a study period of one week and, paradoxically a response as long as or longer than Independent Study Project papers.

Perhaps such atrocities may be somehow justified. However, one evaluative procedure for which I can discern no justification is that of a grading system, which is definitely in existence here although the New College Bulletin for 1966-1967 states that "New College omits credits and grades from its assessment of students." It seems to me that a short paragraph of comments by each faculty member for the students in his class would suffice and accomplish the same task sans grading. Furthermore, the argument that grades are needed for transfer students and (someday?) graduate students lacks validity. Since we receive no actual course credits and since the college itself lacks accreditation, transfer stu-

Letters submitted with the writer's signature will be considered for publication. Names will be withheld upon request. Letters will not be returned and are subject to editing.

dents from our college are virtually assured of gaining no credits elsewhere (other than by A.P. exams). Prospective graduate students would likewise be needless of letter grades since a combination of test scores and professor evaluations should supply sufficient information for acceptance or rejection.

I am unable to perceive any valid reason for letter grades at New College, and in fact cannot fathom their existence here in the first place unless the faculty and administration have been too timid or conservative to institute an ungraded system (which, I believe, is certainly not the case). Therefore, perhaps, a re-evaluation of evaluations is in order.

Signed,
John Hart

P.S. I include in my conscientious objection such abysmal absurdities as grades on papers during each term, for similar reasons.

on campus

with Laurie Paulson

Cruel To Be Convenient

There's something very wonderful about an independent study period, about making your own hours and devoting all your attention to one subject. A certain freedom in action and thought, an experiment in planning, an idea, a glimpse of what New College is all about, a knowledge which is hard to come by at any time, so we may be grateful for whatever assistance we receive. Because it may be that this will be the only glimpse we will ever have, the only idea of a concept we have rejected.

There is no question that whatever we do, we do for the sake of convenience. It's certainly easier on everyone if we evaluate at every opportunity, give grades on evaluations, divide the day into periods (and how about a bell system?), and "separate marginal students" as soon as possible. If we shorten independent study periods, because they're rather unwieldy. Perhaps it is best if we commit all our cruelties at once. We will have become more efficient, have made things easier for ourselves, have streamlined and pared and oiled and smoothed, so the hum is steadier, quieter, less obtrusive in our machine.

But when we have finished making things convenient, I am afraid of what we will have. Afraid that the only reminder we will have of New College as all of us have envisioned it will be the name and a certain laxity in our conduct and a facade of liberality and many glorious words in our publicity. Perhaps, (and this is not meant to be entirely facetious) there should be an Ideological Committee with veto power and an eye on those statements that, after all, brought us here, on the vision (and surely there was a vision, even if this sounds strangely inappropriate) of those who founded the college and gave the catalogue writers their in-

spiration in the first place. How long will it be possible to pretend that there are no marks here, that subjects are flexible, papers and tests are voluntary, that the only evaluations are the finals and no one is in danger of "separation" until then, that there are no pressures and students can proceed at their own speed, when all of this is becoming so patently untrue? And how long can we keep fooling ourselves?

There are tried and dependable ways of running a college. Harvard has gotten along fairly well for three hundred years, and there is a pattern for institutions that wish to make things easy on themselves. But New College was never intended to be easy for anyone. It was meant to be new and different and exciting and challenging and never staid or stale or conventional. If things do not all work out, they can hardly be expected to. We can then, with our original intentions in mind, stumble and try and reject and perfect. But we should never allow ourselves the luxury of taking a conventional and "cruel" route. The destination is likely to turn out to be very different.

We will not be able to continue much longer with only names. If we call a testing procedure or a mark an "evaluation," is it any less a test or a mark? If we call flunking out "separation," will it be any more comfort to those separated? Perhaps, by means of these empty euphemisms, we can continue to draw worthy students interested in something better than the usual in higher education. But when it finally becomes clear that we don't, in reality, mean what we say, then New College must be prepared to accept a new and highly disappointing image of itself.

Ballet Begins Monday Night

Second term ballet classes will begin Monday night. Yesterday was the deadline for joining this term's classes.

Cost of the lessons is thirty dollars per student per term.

Gardens To Open Again to Students

Admittance to the Sarasota Jungle Gardens will again be free this weekend for New College students. The Gardens will be open from 9am to 5 pm Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

This same offer was made to students last weekend, but many could not take advantage of it due to the bad weather. Dr. George Baughman, president of the New College Foundation and owner of the Jungle Gardens, has extended his invitation for the benefit of these students.

Dr. Baughman recently purchased the Jungle Gardens as a private investment.



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U.S. 41 ACROSS FROM THE AIRPORT

Algunos Juegos de Niños



(Photos by Betsy Olsen)



Recently six New College students returned from a one-month visit with Peace Corps volunteers in Guatemala; among them was Betsy Olsen.

What begins as child's play (upper left) turns into a daily task (lower left) of the Cacchiquel Indians of Patzun, Guatemala. Much of the women's time is taken up by carrying water from the village wells to their homes.

Above, three cousins live together as part of one of the traditional extended families.

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