

Upper Left Hand Corner Column

By Jerry Scannell

"We need some changes around here." This is a familiar line that all of us have heard many times, and we will undoubtedly hear many more times. But how many of us have done any serious thinking about this line. For example, when one hears this line he should ask himself these questions: What are the changes proposed? Is the change worthwhile or in fact needed? And how is the change to come about?

The first question what are the changes proposed? Will it enable a person to distinguish between the present situation and how the situation will change after the proposed change is put into effect.

If for example, this question was asked in reference to our present study hall system and its proposed change, one would have to ask himself: What is our present study hall situation? And what will be the situation after the changes are incorporated? Therefore, one is asking himself in short: What are the differences between the two alternatives.

The answer to this question leads into the second question: Is the change worthwhile? To answer this question a person must investigate each aspect of the present situation and each aspect of the situation after the new change were put into effect.

Again, if this question were asked in reference to our present study hall system and its proposed changes, one would have to ask himself: What are some of the details of the present situation? And what are some of the details of the proposed change? These questions cause a person to answer the second major question: Is the change worthwhile. After this has been done a decision must be made as to whether the change is going to be an improvement or a better alternative to the status quo.

The last question, and probably the most important is the third which asks: How is the change to come about? If after answering the first two questions a person decides the change is worthwhile and should be implemented, he must decide how the change is going to be incorporated into or in place of the present situation. This question causes the person to investigate all the aspects of incorporating the change and the methods by which it will be implemented.

And once again if this question was asked concerning our present study hall system and the new plan for the proposed change one would have to ask, how will we put this change into effect?

One must keep in mind these questions and his final judgement should be based upon how he answered the questions.

Student Says That Council Should Amend Constitution

By Larry Taylor

Student government as it is presently constituted is a fraud, a sham, and a hoax. The student council hasn't even a working degree of autonomy. Yet this is not in violation of the Constitution of the Associated Student Body; it is in direct accordance with it.

Article XII states that, "...the principal has the right to veto any act of the student council." However, Mr. Smith is not the only person the council has to contend with. Article XIII provides "...that no amendment (to the A.S.B. Constitution) shall become operable until sanctioned by the faculty." Not only does this latter provision abridge the power of the student council, but it is sufficiently vague to hamper workability. It does not tell how much of the faculty must sanction an amendment; whether it is to be a majority, two-thirds, or the entire faculty. Also, it does not require that the faculty even consider sanctioning an amendment. Presumably, an amendment could die from inaction on the part of the faculty.

Both of these articles give the power of student government to people who are not required to answer to the students. This weakens the students' faith in their government, and renders that government impotent.

It is up to the officers of the Associated Student Body to do something about this misplacement of power. If they truly represent the students of Ashland High School, they should call for the immediate repeal of Article XII and the necessary amending of Article XIII. If student government is to belong to the students, as our A.S.B. President states, then it is up to him and his colleagues to make it so.



Loyalty Of Alumni Possible Reason For After-Game Brawls

By Connie Bulkley & Kathy Nidever

Unless something is done about behavior at games, the students of AHS could find themselves in a difficult position. Ashland has fast become known as the worst school in the conference for fighting.

One might ask so what if the school has such a reputation without being aware of the consequences which might follow. Rumor has it that if similar behavior continues during basketball season the school will be in serious trouble. Two courses of action are thought to be pending. First, the school could be censured, or severely reprimanded, and second, suspended from athletics for a time period.

The preceding punishments could be seen as justifiable in light of the occurrences of the past season. The fight at the Roseburg game resulted in an Ashland student's suspension. After the Crater game the riot was said to have led to complaints by the referees, and perhaps refusal to referee any more games.

While it is agreed that part of the problem rests with non-students, Ashland High is still held responsible, and can be punished for that. Many of the graduate students still feel a great deal of loyalty towards the school, and while it is appreciated, it is not worth the ensuing consequences.

Before the problem can be

resolved, the students will have to be aware of the serious jeopardy that they are getting themselves into. They must know that when getting in a fight they are hurting the whole student body and athletic program. Since drinking and fighting go hand in hand it would be better for everyone if during the basketball season drinking was saved until after the game.

It is imperative to note that fighting has gone past the stage of typical high school problems into a major threat. Behavior must be improved during basketball season or the students will find themselves in a situation that they won't be able to fight their way out of.



To the Editor:

Are the morals of the younger generation beyond redemption? To hear many people tell it, our morals are not only beyond redemption, but so are we. Individually and collectively. Supposedly we lack both sexual virtuosity and the sense of right conduct which covers all moral grounds.

The nebulous "they" which puts down this generation will point out that there is a rising rate of illegitimacy; that on college campuses and almost any other gathering place of large and varied groups of youth, there is "vagrant disregard for laws pertaining to drugs. And what about the Weathermen and Black Panthers? Are the majority of them mature, older people? No. It's the youth.

All that I can say, is that I feel very sorry for "they" who are so narrow minded that they stereotype all of this country's youth as hippie revolutionists and who are so smug that "they" can afford to condemn anyone's morals—let alone a whole generation. The stereotyped "free love" advocate is as ridiculous as assuming that the characters in *Peyton Place* and *The Group* are totally representative of all the older generation.

The accusation of being sexually immoral can be dismissed as being ridiculous and irrelevant. After all, who is to say what is sexual immorality?

However, what of the other charge? Does this generation truly lack a sense of right and wrong?

Although it is true that we have our Black Panthers and our Weathermen, these people are only a small minority of our generation. Also, although it can only be estimated, it is believed that over seventy percent of the students who are attending college have tried pot at least once. But that doesn't mean that

they are all heroin addicts. Again, only a small minority are actually drug "users."

Since only a small minority of our generation is doing the awful things which I have just mentioned, what are the rest of us doing? Well, just like our society, our generation has a large silent majority, or dead group. These people either do not care at all or for reasons of their own won't admit that they care. However, we'll never know because they never make their feelings known.

Then there is the rest of the so-called "now generation." The youth who are now and do know where it's at. These are probably the most well-informed youth ever and they show it. It was these people who banned homecoming bonfires at nine high schools in the Portland area to do their part against pollution. It is these people who are the "Nader's Raiders." These are the people who helped push Go-19 in Oregon and the 18-year old vote all across the nation. They are also the people who went door-to-door for Eugene McCarthy and Bobby Kennedy. We are the Vista Volunteers and the Peace Corp Volunteers.

Does this sound like our generation is past redemption. I think not.

Betsy Hester

To the Editors:

Working on a school newspaper is not easy—I think many students who are not involved in the paper do not realize this. One must not only present the usual news, but interesting variety articles. And working on the usual news isn't easy, because since it is already known, (likely), it must be presented in an interesting way. Nobody wants to read a dull re-hash.

The present paper is not perfect (a cartoon would certainly brighten it) but does show the effort of the individuals behind its production.

Dale Nelson

To the Editor:

I think that the Ashland Senior High School should be on a schedule similar to college because it gives the student many more opportunities, and also prepares them for college.

The system that the high school is on now is very elementary and after a while, the hum-drum schedule becomes very boring. To be on a college schedule would answer the problem of being bored, and also give the student a chance to be more independent with his time. The college plan allows students to attend some classes for three hours each week. This can be in blocks of time of one, or one and one-half hours spread out on different days. Some classes, such as science, shop or home economics would have an additional hour for laboratory period.

There would also be many more opportunities for the high school student. Instead of going to a class just because it is scheduled daily, why not do something that is more worthwhile? The student might be able to take on a part-time job, or get involved with volunteer social work of some sort. People should realize that high school students are not children any more. They must be prepared to take on many responsibilities. Putting the high school on a college type of schedule might be one way in which to prepare students for this task.

Sincerely,
Carol Christlieb



Plan Ahead
for College