

# SKANDALON

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Skandalon, a bi-weekly journal of news and opinion published by Campus Christian Council, invites articles, essays, poems, drawings on political, academic and theological questions. Contributions can be left at the Student Center, 166 Central Ave., or with Alan Minarcik, Guy McBride or Linda Van Buren.

## HISTORICAL EVENT SCHEDULED!

Tuesday at 8 p.m. an event unique in the history of Albany State will take place at First Lutheran Church (located, incidentally, on Western Avenue between Quail and Lake). A Christmas Vesper Service is scheduled for faculty and students.

This service, sponsored by Campus Christian Council, is intended to provide, through worship and song, a suitable means of expression for the overwhelming joy every Christian feels at the anniversary of the coming of his Lord. CCC hopes in this way to provide a more suitable form of Christian response than is possible in the "Christmas Sing", which obviously owes more to the Roman Saturnalia than to Christian tradition.

The service will include a wide array of prayer, music, and song as an expression of our gratitude for Christ, that most precious gift. A twelve member string ensemble, conducted by Mr. Christopher Weait of Albany Senior High School, will play Corelli's "Christmas Concerto." The choir, directed by Jan Dyckman, will sing "Fanfare for Christmas Day" by Shaw, "The Desert Shall Rejoice" by Wilson, "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" by Christiansen, and "Nowell" by Titcomb.

Elizabeth Honnet, Arthur Coles, Mr. Thomson Littfield, Douglas Ross, and the Reverend Frank Snow, Campus Minister, will participate in the reading of the prophecies and the Christmas story from the Old and New Testament.

## PUT YOUR SUMMER TO WORK! by Natalie Gillette

What is a "summer service project"? Let us define this often heard term. A summer service project is a chance to help not our white, middle-class friends who are determined not to need help, but people of all races, usually lower-class, who very openly need and accept the simplest forms of help. "Help" takes the form of dancing in old cellars, playing basketball on city playgrounds, painting old chairs, building schoolhouses in remote areas, and above all, being open and ready to cross the barriers that separate us from people so unfamiliar to us. Any attempts to preach, give money, or other traditional forms of help will be rejected along with the person offering them. Only basic human encounter works. It is precisely in this sharing that the benefit to the project participant is found, too, for we find ourselves fulfilled as we are reconciled with other men in simple jobs and pleasures. The participant in such a project cannot fail to understand himself better as a result of it, and I have yet to meet anyone who was anything but thankful that he had been able to go.

Any college student is probably qualified for some project. He may stay in America or go to some other continent. He may go on a study-tour, do physical labor on a work project, serve the families in a city slum, or work in a mental hospital or children's home. He may earn money, break even, or spend money, depending on the kind of project. He is guaranteed to feel useful and important and to become more fully a member of humanity.

Anyone can apply for a project. Money need not be a problem, and a feeling of fear or inadequacy is a universal problem and should not frighten anyone away. If you are interested, contact the Rev. Frank Snow in his office at 166 Central Avenue for information. Your summer will become a worthwhile adventure if you spend it on a summer service project.

OUR SYSTEM MUST BE PRESERVED!  
(A Conservative's Viewpoint)  
by Guy McBride

The recent Cuban crisis has effectively shown that we can preserve our way of life only by standing firm against communism and all of its manifestations (i.e., "creeping socialism). President Kennedy has said it will take "cost and commitment and risk" to maintain our way of life. This means that we, as loyal Americans, must be prepared to risk all (the world, for example) if our nation is to prevail.

We are truly lucky to be living in America. The preservation of its system should be paramount, as any John Birchler will tell you. It is the justification for his indignant cries of "communist" or "red sympathizer" against all those who wish to steer a liberal course of action. This is an extremely logical position. All communists want to change our system; all loyal Americans desire to preserve it. Therefore, anyone who agitates for reform is not only disloyal, but he is, at best, a "communist tool" or even a red agent. "Ole Miss" students are therefore to be applauded for their patriotic, red-blooded American efforts against the inroads of communist agitators. Freedom Riders are to be condemned; by putting the world spotlight on less laudable aspects of our way of life, their actions are actually subversive to American interests in the world as a whole.

Living standards in our ideal society are, as everyone knows, the highest in the world. According to government reports, the gain in living standards has been found to exceed that of price rises. Certainly no one could argue for any change in such a utopia. However, President Kennedy, whom his supporters have attempted to portray as a conservative, has done just this.

Last November our President proposed the establishment of a home Peace Corps to relieve the shortage of people who are working on "domestic social problems." Supposedly this would aid the 32,000,000 Americans the President claims are living below the national norms. Despite the President's good intentions, it is obvious that any public-spirited, flag-waving American would be justified in labelling him a "communist sympathizer". Our President's radical plea could result in change, which, as we know, is highly undesirable. Also, his reprehensible actions display a flagrant lack of confidence in our society, and they show an insidious susceptibility to communist criticisms of our fair nation.

Change is merely intolerable; lack of confidence is unforgivable.

Let us cry out against leftists, peace-marchers, pacifists, Freedom Riders, sit-in strikers, integrationists, liberals, middle-of-the-roaders, and others who would seek to undermine the very foundations of American liberty! The time for subtlety is past; open reaction is our only sensible course.

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The editors of Skandalon are pleased to present this guest article by Pat Jewell, Editor of The Newmanite.

That time is here again--in fact, has been here since before Thanksgiving--when Christmas lights glow along the streets downtown, Salvation Army bells jangle, Christmas carols play over loudspeakers, and cash registers ring triumphantly over purchases of the Christmas shoppers.

This is what has been termed the "commercialization of Christmas" and is often condemned as such; but it can be looked at in two ways. One is that this distorts the true spirit of Christmas--buying gifts becomes an obligation and gift-giving becomes almost a kind of barter. The modern Christmas trees of aluminum seem to symbolize how Christmas has somehow lost its spirit, its genuineness, in a frantic, modernistic world.

Yet the old Christmas carols along with the softly falling snow and the hustle and bustle start a glow in most people's hearts. Gift shopping often becomes more fun as they eagerly buy presents for loved ones, forgetting what THEY will receive in turn. Certainly this joy, this feeling of "good will toward men" cannot be condemned as distortion of the meaning of Christmas. Although this type of celebration is actually an outgrowth of the pagan festival of Saturnalia, this does not make it any less Christian. Giving is exemplified by God himself in giving his Son; and even the angels sang of "good will to men."

We tend to forget one thing during the Christmas season, however: Christ's birth is not an end in itself but a beginning. Both Catholics and Protestants should unite together as Christians to remember that the infant Christ represents only God's promise as yet unfulfilled, but that the Resurrection, at Easter, is the fulfillment.