

# NEW COLLEGE NEWS RELEASE

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NEW COLLEGE, SARASOTA, FLORIDA  
FURMAN C. ARTHUR — INFORMATION

FOR RELEASE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1966

Friday is an important day on the New College campus, not because it is the end of the week but because it is the day the college newspaper appears.

In its third year, The Catalyst has grown to be one of the mainstays of campus life. Credit for it goes to student initiative and enthusiasm.

Started as a mimeographed weekly with borrowed equipment and supplies and a small staff, the newspaper now is commercially printed, owns its own office, art, and photography equipment, and lists 22 students on its staff.

The newspaper is solely a student enterprise. Its editorial staff is even considering incorporation to emphasize this independent role. But conscientious editorial and business management have earned it a reputation of using this freedom without abusing it.

Tom Todd is now in his second year as editor of the weekly. He took over in 1965 from founding editor Laura Rawson, with whom he had shared editorial duties during the initial year.

In one of his first moves as editor, Todd worked with his business manager, Jerry Neugarten, to commercially print the paper. With little expectation of immediate help from the student activities fund or from the college, Todd and his staff turned out the first issue one year ago and have continued to grow stronger with each week.

Neugarten combed the area soliciting ads with so much success that the newspaper was able to put out a number of multi-page issues, edding the year with a 16-page number that strained their production facilities to the limit.

Todd found help forthcoming from people like Guy Paschal, radio forum moderator and former publisher, who loaned equipment to help The Catalyst.

He also found Kenji Oda, a heavily science-oriented student, who took to searching out news like a veteran journalist and quickly became news editor of the paper.

Bursting with energy, Todd and his staff expanded operations in several directions. Noting that campus literary enthusaism lacked a proper outlet, The Catalyst first sponsored a literary contest and this year created a special supplement to carry student writings every few weeks.

Student government, which had been operating without much fanfare, came under the scrutiny of The Catalyst. The editors began a minute examination of various issues and pushed for more student participation, and urged streamlining of the government machinery for more effectiveness. The result was greater student interest and a more effective government.

Letters to the editor showed the newspaper's readership. A mixture of student scorn, accusations of pro-administration bias, and huzzahs were carried impartially. Editor Todd felt that even critical letters showed students and others were reading and reacting.

Pushing its concern for campus affairs even further this year, Todd and his staff are examining the possibility of assisting in the founding of a campus radio station and a yearbook.

Small size of the college, with its total community of about 400, is no deterrent to the newspaper staff. They make sure that all members of the college community receive each issue of the newspaper. They also have been successful in obtaining subscriptions from among citizens in the area and parents of students.

Part of his success is due to the independent course that Todd and his editorial staff have followed. Moving in their own direction, which has been primarily to report and comment on campus events, they have run into criticism for not doing more about off-campus issues. They have also been censored for taking stands which are too strong, too weak, or too wishy-washy.

Little of this bothers Editor Todd and his staff. As long as the newspaper continues to stir comment and as long as they feel that they are serving the campus community, they intend to pursue their current policies which continue to turn Friday afternoons into a time when students eagerly await their campus newspaper.