

Students speak out on alcohol policy



April Lindley: "I think it's too strict now."



Becky Dockery: "I don't drink so it doesn't affect me."



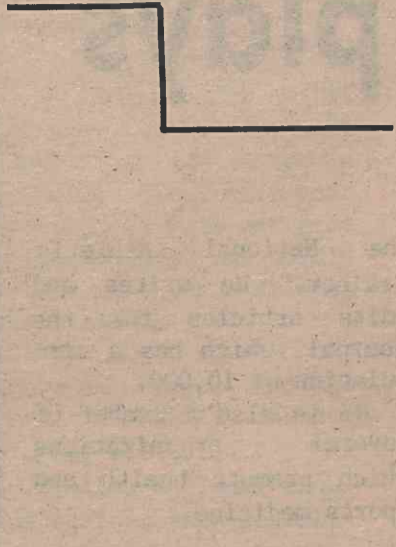
Martin Johnson: "I think it's ridiculous. It could possibly bring on depression because students are drinking more in their room instead of in a healthy atmosphere of social drinking."



Martin Schmidt: "I think it's good because I don't drink."



Tony Yarbrough: "I like the way it is right now because I don't drink. Drinking in the hall would interfere with everyone else's rights."



Staff photos by Sylvia Hawkins

By Anna Wilson

The Blue Banner asked several students to comment on the new alcohol policy implemented this semester.

An interesting pattern developed. The students who did not drink, favored the policy, while the students who drank found the rule too restricting.

Who enforces the policy of one 12 oz. beer, or one 4 oz. glass of wine per hour at a social event? Why was the policy changed without student input? Why can a student drink at the soccer field when athletic events aren't being held there?

By not allowing drinking on campus, is the university encouraging off-campus drinking? Are students drinking and driving more? Will a resident assistant write a student up because he forgot to put a beer down to go answer the phone?

Was there more trouble last year because of alcohol? Is the policy realistic and enforceable? Do drinkers infringe on the rights of non-drinkers?

Is there an effective compromise between students who drink and those who do not?

The Blue Banner does not attempt to solve these problems, but it feels those in charge should be aware of this controversy.



Cathy Powell: "It's kind of odd that people are in college and they can't drink when they want to. I thought it worked last year. It's too picky this year."



Sylvia Hicks: "I don't drink so I have no problem with the policy."



Melissa Beavers: "I don't drink, so I really can't say."



Patrick Lilly: "I think it's way too strict. People should be able to have keys in the dorms and carry around a beer--as long as they are of age."



Bill Kennedy: "I don't agree with it. If you're to do it, you shouldn't have to go up in your room. The time to crack down is when someone gets out of hand."