

Opinion

The solution to The Clarion's liberal bias: IT'S ALL UP TO YOU

by Joseph Chilton
Editor in Chief

On the second floor of MG there is a bulletin board covered with clips from last year's issues of *The Clarion*. The bulletin board, fittingly, is near the *Clarion* office, and so I have to walk by it several times a week in order to go to work. Last Friday as I passed by I noticed that something was scrawled in pen across the clippings on the board.

Upon second glance, I discovered that somebody had penned the words "liberal crap" across several of the issues. I was a little disturbed by this, obviously. The act of vandalism didn't really bother me (although I'm sure whoever spent the time to arrange that bulletin board probably didn't appreciate it being defaced). What bothered me, instead, was the sentiment expressed.

I am not delusional enough to believe that many articles in the *Clarion* don't have a distinct left-wing slant. I would even go so far to say that most issues of our paper do, in fact, have a liberal bias—especially in the opinion section. But I would also like to point out that *The Clarion* is a paper composed exclusively of submissions from members of the campus community, and that each issue features information as to how to submit to our paper.

In fact, I cannot recall receiving a single opinion piece in the *Clarion's* e-mail box this year and then refusing to print it. Most weeks we scramble to find enough content to fill eight pages. We do not have the luxury of having a political agenda.

The liberal stance that our opinion section takes on most issues is a result of the fact that the more vocal members of the student body, when it comes to submitting their opinions for print, tend to be more *Daily Show* and less *Fox News*.

In discussions with some of my more conservative friends, I have been chastised for the abuse our paper dealt out to Sarah Palin (and I in no way deny the maliciousness with which we went after her). But I would also point out that we received several pro-Palin submissions from one student

last semester, and we printed them all. But that one person is the only conservative-leaning pundit that has submitted work to us all year.

The Clarion is the Brevard College newspaper. Each week we publish what students submit to our mailbox. If there is a bias present, it is there because that bias exists in the student body, so far as I can tell judging by what students turn in to us to publish.

So will *The Clarion* continue to have a liberal bias? That remains to be seen. The writing on the wall suggests that there is a conservative base on campus, so I guess the whole matter depends on whether that base continues to express their opinions through graffiti vandalism, or if they choose to expand their opinions beyond two-word sentiments and voice their opinion by utilizing a medium that was designed to give them a platform to be heard.

Cartoon by Karam Boeshaar

NEXT YEAR'S new housing arrangement



GOT AN OPINION?

Submit your views on politics, campus events, sports...
basically, whatever you feel strongly about —
to Clarion@brevard.edu by Wednesday at 5 p.m.
to have that opinion published in *The Clarion*.