

The Lance

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The opinions expressed in THE LANCE are not necessarily those of St. Andrews Presbyterian College.

Conerly On The Claytor-Loftus Statement

Dear Editor:

Doctors Claytor and Loftus, in a statement published in last week's "Lance" have accused some soccer fans of making "insulting, vulgar and derogatory remarks" toward referees and the opposing team. It is, of course, not inconsistent with the Natural Order of Things for administrators to dream of well-behaved students, just as the same order puts students into a rowdy mood. Had their statement been a simple plea for decorum, it would have been altogether appropriate and no doubt futile, though amusing. The matter is, however, quite serious. Their statement is grossly inconsistent with official St. Andrews policy and is destructive to an atmosphere of freedom, personal growth, and self-discipline.

The threat of suspension in their statement is justified by nothing in the "Saltire," except perhaps the last paragraph on pages 59-60: "Each person has a right... to freedom from offensive, riotous, unruly or disruptive behavior." The soccer fans I have seen are neither riotous nor disruptive in the strict sense of those terms. "Unruly" is so vague that either everything that is not specifically required is prohibited, or else anything goes. "Offensive" is similarly vague. I am offended by the Claytor-Loftus statement. The fans in question did not seem to be offending themselves, or they would have stopped.

"Offensive" is, in this context, too vague to be a rule regulating behavior. Furthermore, that sentence is imbedded in a section dealing with residence hall matters, so probably was not intended to apply to the soccer field. I conclude that the last paragraph of p.59-60 doesn't justify the Claytor and Loftus threat, and I have found nothing else in the "Saltire" which even comes close to a justification.

So we have a new regulation. Just what kind of behavior is now prohibited? The statement is vague, mentioning "such behavior apparently a reference to their first paragraph. The charges in that paragraph are 1) "Insulting, vulgar and derogatory remarks were made... toward Christopher-Newport players and referees, remarks that far exceeded... good taste...;" 2) "...the music being played... was so loud it interfered with the coaches' ability to call out instructions to players on the field...;" 3) "too, one record played as an affront to many who were subjected to its vulgar taste and language..."(sic)

Concerning Charge 1, would this apply only to remarks made at Christopher-Newport games, or is the threat broader than the charges? Does it include all insulting and derogatory remarks? Is it an insult to claim "Our team is better," therefore implying the other team is inferior? What is vulgar?

William O. Doulgas has pointed out that the history of the Supreme Court demonstrates the impossibility of defining obscenity. How do Drs. Claytor and Loftus propose to define vulgarity? The word actually means "common" or of the common people. What could be more vulgar than "Go Team!" Finally, how will the question of "good taste" be arbitrated? I heard many cheers, but none violated my standards of taste (which are, admittedly, low). To whose taste must students' remarks conform? Judging by what I have heard from students, faculty, and administrators, much of our community finds acceptable the use of four-letter words, scatological and genealogical speculations, anatomical impossibilities, and crude sexual references.

If the third charge pertains to one song in particular, that song should be named. If it applies to all songs characterized by "vulgar taste and language," further problems of ambiguity arise. After all, what could possibly be more irritating and offensive than bagpipes? Perhaps a blacklist would solve this problem.

The Claytor-Loftus threat is not only vague, it violates the "Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students." The Joint Statement, printed in the "Saltire" and the "Faculty Handbook," represents official policy. Section VI.A states:

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Editorial

Thanks For Returning It

A note from Betty Holmes, Librarian reveals that someone returned "The Ascent Of Man" to library, Thanks. Now how about digging up the rest of the five thousand dollars in books and returning them.

If we all look around our rooms, we might be able to find some more of the missing books. These books may have become mixed in with our own books. Simply, drop them by the library or put them in the book shoot if you wish to remain anonymous. Once again, thanks for your cooperation.

Watch Out For Pies!

Dear Editor,

Plans are now well underway for the Second Annual St. Andrews Carnival against Muscular Dystrophy. This year's Carnival is being dedicated to Teresa Staley, a St. Andrews junior who has a neuromuscular disease covered under the auspices of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

This year something new has been added to the Carnival: a pie-hit. From November 6-10 "Mafia" hitmen will be sneaking through the cafeteria to shove whipped cream pies into the face of unsuspecting victims, all to raise money to fight against muscular dystrophy. The victims are those who have had contracts taken out against them through one of the Godfathers. (See the ad in this issue of the Lance for the names of the Godfathers.)

Anybody can take out a contract rather easily. These contracts are being sold at \$2 apiece, or 3 for \$5. Contracts can be completed by giving any Godfather the victims name, the money for the contract, and one's own name and box number. Checks should be made out to Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). The Godfathers will then put their hitmen on the job. All contracts will be kept strictly confidential, on pain of falling out of the "Family's" good graces. No contracts will be accepted after Thursday, November 9.

The Godfathers will also sell protection in the form of insurance policies to any person who does not want to get hit. Each insurance policy will protect its purchaser from exactly one hit. In addition, blanket insurance can be bought to protect any person from any number of contracts taken out against him. In-

urance policies cost \$1 apiece, while blanket insurance will be sold for \$10. Once again, checks should be made payable to MDA. Insurance is now on sale.

The faculty and administration have been asked to participate in the pie-hit, too. To make it more convenient for them, the days of their involvement will be limited to Thursday and Friday, November 9 and 10. Contracts will be accepted on only those professors and administrators who have agreed to participate. No assurances can be given as to when marked professors or administrators will be hit.

We would like to thank all the pie-hit participants, including those who take out contracts and those who are hit. Through this participation, necessary services can be provided for people with muscular dystrophy and research can be funded to overcome this critical disease. For instance, it was events like the St. Andrews Carnival that provided the money needed for the research at the University of Virginia where a new test was discovered recently to detect carriers of muscular dystrophy.

Finally, we would like to invite you to the Second Annual St. Andrews Carnival Against Muscular Dystrophy on Saturday, November 11 from 1:30-5:00 p. m. in front of the PE building. In case of rain the Carnival will be in the small gym. At the Carnival you can expect games, prizes, balloons, clowns, food and lots of fun. Don't disappoint the "Family" by not coming to the Carnival; or else they might smash your fun.

Sincerely,
 Terri Jones and Joey Sherr

PIE-HIT FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

November 6 - 10

Don't get mad; get revenge! Contract with a Godfather to have friends and enemies hit in the face with a pie.

NOW ON SALE. No contracts accepted after November 9. All contracts strictly confidential.

1 Contract: \$2.00

3 Contracts: \$5.00

Insurance Policy: \$1.00

Blanket Insurance: \$10.00

GODFATHERS:

Dawn Clark, Box 904 Terri Jones, Box 94
 Robert Poston, Box 590 Mike Herculson, Box 722
 Dick Prust Susan Russell, Box 409
 Steven Kunkle, Bx. 257 Craig Withrow, Box 362
 Jonnie Heiser - R.D. - Orange