

## Climbing The "Ivory Tower"

The St. Andrews campus is composed of many landmarks. One of these, the bell tower, has failed to do its job for a few months now. The bell tower's job is to let people know what time it is, but it no longer communicates this information to us as a community. Thus, the bell tower's presence on campus would appear to be nonfunctional despite its aesthetic appeal.

The bell tower is not, however, the only non-communicative figure at St. Andrews. Particular members of the administration seem to be following the exact same course of action (or the lack of...).

This academic year has been plagued with communication problems. Utilizing various channels, students have attempted to question, understand and become utilized as a part of the administrative process. Many of these attempts have fallen on seemingly dead ears, however, as students continually are kept in the dark about decisions that affect their daily lives. The closing of Mecklenburg dorm during the summer months is a perfect example of this lack of student information and "after the fact" communication.

"The Lance," for example, has published many items that blatantly question some of the major administrative decisions regarding student life, only to receive no reply. The questions have always been well placed with the offering of feasible solutions. The administration, on the other hand has chosen not to respond to these issues in public forum.

Members of the administration cannot absorb all the blame however. It is the students' responsibility to continue to question, in a mature manner, the decisions that affect their lives. This rule of questioning and offering a possible solution must continue if any measure of compromise is ever to be reached.

Administrators must not reside in their ivory tower apart from the rest of us. If this were the case, the need for students at St. Andrews would cease to exist. There must be a sense of community (constantly harped on in college publications) in decision-making and in the day to day experience of each and every one of us who lives and works here.

The students are not seeking to obtaining more than their share in control of the school. This would be ludicrous. Rather they want and deserve to be informed and take an active hand in such pertinent decisions as the complete renovation of their graduation ceremony.

Thus, it appears as if the students must continue their never ending climb to the top of the administration's ivory tower. Hopefully, in this manner, if the questions are not answered at least they will be granted a mature and deserved discussion on administrative decisions. Change is not always a necessity for the students, but information and knowledge is. And perhaps, when the students reach the top of the tower, they can repair these silent bells.

Rick Hanna  
(for the editorial staff)

## Fighting Policy Established

By Corey Ingold

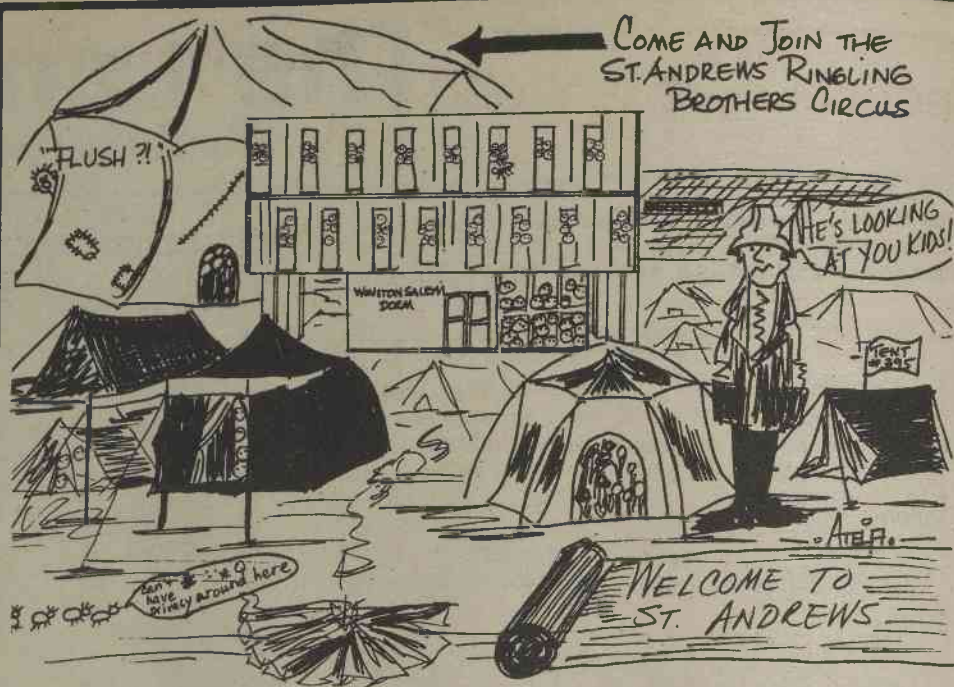
It has come to the attention of the Attorney General's office that there have been problems with students fighting one another in recent weeks. Dean Loftus has established a policy in response to this problem and has my full support in implementing this policy. Henceforth, any St. Andrews' student who initiates

a fight i.e., anyone who throws a "first punch" will face expulsion from the college.

It seems evident to me that college students are too old to be party to acts of violent aggression. Part of one's becoming an educated person demands that they be able to settle disputes rationally and diplomatically.

Corey Ingold,  
Attorney General

P.S. Any comments you might have are welcomed. My box is 455.



A Student's Perspective of Next Fall's Prospective Students; Over Four Hundred Freshmen and Transfers Admitted

## Student Association And Accountability

By David Suanier

Accountability...General Student Association Officers on most all levels have never had to worry about it. At least during the past three years while I've been here, the Student Association has not been held accountable by the student body for their actions (or inaction).

What brings this fact to the forefront of my mind is the Student Association has gotten a bit slack in the carrying out of some of our most basic duties. The real disturbing thing is not that we slackened up. What's disturbing is that when we did nobody spoke up.

For example, minutes from the Student Association Cabinet and Senate really

should be posted on the new bulletin boards. Due to several reasons, which I have not yet had to explain, we have failed to do this in a consistent manner.

Minutes are fundamental. They are how one looks in and sees what's going on within a committee or group of people meeting in some form or another, and keep records.

It would have been good for us to have made sure that the minutes were posted because we feel good things are going on and you should know about them. You have a right to see those minutes because we are elected students who are responsible

for some of your money and whose purpose is to serve you.

The lack of accountability that exists has let me, a president who talks so much about the importance of communication, actually stop communicating.

The bulletin boards are there for a purpose. If you are going to be a responsible member of this community you must be informed as to what is actually going on. It's your job to make sure that we provide you with that information.

Student governments can be good and bad, but you must remember they will only be as bad as you allow them to be.

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