

Point Blank By Larry Keith

Garner Versus Gaither, A Choice, Not An Echo

Garner versus Gaither presents a choice, not an echo. The two candidates for student government president aren't much alike.

Their background, their ideas, even their methods of campaigning are vastly dissimilar. For this reason, I sat them down before me last week, Larry Garner on Thursday and John Gaither on Friday. Both talked like they were after votes, which is good. First, Mr. Garner.

Larry Garner is the candidate of the people, he says, without party affiliation. He has redecorated the campus with a display of campaign material. It is, one is expected to assume, a symbol of deep rooted support. Then, Mr. Gaither.

John Gaither is the candidate of the University Party, which has replaced the Student Party as the primary political body on campus. He does not believe in "one upmanship" campaigning -- the can-you-top-the-size-of-this-poster method. It is, one is expected to assume, a symbol of tact and maturity.

Has Experience

Garner is in his third year as a student government official. Last spring he was elected president of the junior class with an impressive 78% of the vote. This year, he served as chairman of the Freshman Advisory Council and, as a member of the legislature, was chairman of the finance committee.

"Experience is very important," he says, "and for this reason I think I am well qualified. This working knowledge I have means a lot. And too, as an independent candidate, my only obligation is to the student body. I'm not saying that John would put his party first if he were elected but it is obvious that he would have certain obligations to fulfill."

Garner is quick to point out his opponent's lack of experience. He says, "Because John does not have very much experience in an elective office he hasn't been in a position where he could make people unhappy. A lot of people see John as a nice guy, which he is. But after that, not too much is really known as far as his ability as president is concerned."

Wants To Serve

Despite his lack of party backing, Garner is confident, very confident. "I have had so many promises of support that I can't help but feel this way," he says. "I think a strong indication of my support is the large number of banners and signs you see around. Now realize that they are all hand made and it takes hours to construct them, too."

Garner feels also that he would be more dedicated to the job. "I guess the main reason I'm running is my desire to serve this school. It's my second home and, very seriously, I love it. I know that by being elected president I could do a great deal to help make this a great university."

Such as? Garner supports a mid day break on Tuesday and Thursday instead of the traditional one on Wednesday, a continuation of legislative control on the student activity fees and more communication between the student body and the faculty and administration.

Of the latter he says, "I would like to see a student on all faculty and administrative com-

mittees and a faculty or administrative member on all student committees. Many of the troubles which often arise could be solved through more efficient means of communication."

Not A Charmer

Garner does not look much like a presidential candidate. He has neither the charm of Gus Psomadakis (65-66) nor the business-like quality of a Tim Britton (66-67). He does have a background of experience and success. Freshman orientation and student registration were never smoother than when under his direction. As chairman of the finance committee he did much to straighten out a messy situation which had seen almost every campus organization with an overexpenditure when the year began.

It is ironic that Gaither is opposing Garner, his good friend and the person who has much to do with his involvement with campus politics.

"Larry is one of the first friends I made out here," says Gaither, at 25 a year older than Garner. "It was he who asked me to serve as vice president of the

junior class to fill the vacancy when it occurred and it was he also who asked me to serve on his finance committee. Now I'm running against him for president. It's rather ironic."

This is Gaither's first try for elective office, although his campus background also includes two years as a member of the student court (by presidential appointment), where he is in his second year as chief justice.

It is an interesting turn of events that prompted Gaither's decision to run for president.

Petition Helped

"Last fall," he explains, "several students asked me if I would consider running in opposition to Larry since it was generally accepted that he would make himself a candidate. Then I began some soul searching as to whether I was capable and qualified. When it became apparent that Larry would indeed be the only candidate, I thought about it even more seriously. The clincher came when 25 students in various leadership positions on campus signed a petition asking me to run. I agreed."

So Gaither, too, has a "mandate from the people" of sorts, one which represents an impressive list of backers. In fact, Garner was rather disturbed with some of those who spoke out in favor of Gaither. He had been counting on them, himself.

"I know that I don't have as much experience as Larry," Gaither freely admits. "I recognize also that as FAC chairman he was very close to the largest group of students on campus -- the freshmen. Still, I feel confident that with effective campaigning and wise deliberation on the part of the students, I can win."

Has 'More Tact'

Gaither feels that he learned a lot in his one year on the legislature, enough to merit his election. Also he holds that "I see myself as having more tact than my opponent, who tends to be too argumentative. In a position such as student government president where image is so important, I feel that I could best represent the students."

Gaither, recognizing that he is not as well known as his opponent, has relied on pictorial posters, an idea used to success last spring by student government vice president Bud Stokely, a strong supporter.

"We decided to stay away from flamboyant campaigning tactics," says Gaither. "We aren't going to make any attempt to match the size or number of our opponent's banners. We are counting on personal communication with the voters."

Lacks Platform

"Maybe I'm cutting my own throat by seeking a very large voter turnout but I see this as one way of eliminating a problem of major concern to me, student

apathy. Personally, I am a little tired of students' not getting involved with any of our activities."

Unlike Garner, Gaither did not have a platform at the time of our discussion.

"Suggestions from the legislature and student body are more important than anything I might want," says Gaither. "I feel that the job of the president is representing the ideas and wishes of the students."

Wants Interest

However, he too lends support to the Tuesday-Thursday break suggestion.

One idea, which he does not claim to be entirely his own, would represent his platform if he had one.

Letters To The Editor

Lack Of Knowledge And Violations Are Problems

Mr. Editor:

Since my appointment as Publicity Chairman two weeks ago, I have become aware of the problems this position faces.

Of primary importance is the lack of knowledge of publicity rules and the consequent violations of these rules. I realize that my appointment came late in the semester. However, I am endeavoring to make these rules available to all persons involved in publicity of any kind. Because of an incomplete listing of clubs and their Presidents, I have been unable to get these rules to the proper authorities. I should like to ask all candidates for any Student Government office and all presidents and chairmen of campus clubs and functions to stop at the Union desk and pick up a copy of these rules. They may also pick up those posters which have been taken down because of a violation or because they are outdated.

Posters which have been left at the Union desk will remain there for one week. If they are not claimed within that time, they will be

discarded.

It is my hope that this letter will serve to clear up some of the confusion about publicity. If there are further questions as to

the interpretation of various publicity rules, I will be more than happy to clarify them to the best of my ability.

Nita Brown
Chairman, Publicity Committee

Students Sign Endorsement

Letter For John Gaither

Mr. Editor:

We the following students endorse John Gaither for President of the Student Body:

- Tim Britton, President, Student Body.
- Bud Stokely, Vice-President, Student Body.
- Frank Jones, Chairman, Union
- Ann Mashburn: Student Court Judge
- Robbie Snipes, Co-Captain, Basketball Team.
- Frank Caton, Chairman, Student Defense Agency.
- Sam Scott, Student Court Judge.
- Bill Shuford, Chairman, Student

Party.

- Charleen Crumpley, Vice-Chairman, Student Party
- Larry McAfee, Chairman, University Party.
- Pat McNeely, President, Barnstormers.
- Hank Rivers, Junior Representative.
- John Lafferty, Sophomore Representative, Vice-Chairman Elect, Union
- Earleen Mabry, Junior Representative, Miss UNC-C.
- Bill Billups, Vice-President, Sophomore Class.

- Dwayne Spitzer, Sophomore Representative, Chairman Elect Union.
- Perry Moser, Student Court Judge
- Cindy Trexler, Sophomore Representative.
- Paul Boswell, Legislative Representative to Publications Board.
- Jean Hudspeth, Senior Representative.
- Gerri Vest, Secretary, SNEA.

- George Elam, Past Vice-President, Senior Class
- Susan Osborne, Student Court Judge
- Kay Troutman
- Lane Hurley
- Corny Stillwell
- Barbara Babits
- Brenda Schaeffer, Senior Representative.
- Bob Giddings, Treasurer, U.P.
- Marilou Ingram
- Janice Hagood

University Party Solicits Support For Its Candidates

Mr. Editor:

Today, tomorrow, and Friday, you will vote to choose the future leaders of your student government. We of the University Party have made a conscientious effort to recruit the finest possible candidates available to fill these positions, for this, along with stimulating interest in student government, is the purpose of the University Party. During the past week, I am sure you have read and heard slogans like "DON'T VOTE THE PARTY -- VOTE THE MAN."

the fact that not once in the past year did the members of the University Party "block vote" in the Student Legislature.

In behalf of John Gaither, Perry Moser, and all the other U. P. candidates we hope that you will vote U. P. -- but regardless of whom you vote for, DO VOTE.

- Larry McAfee
Chairman of the University Party
- Bud Stokely
Vice - chairman of the University Party

We of the University Party agree! All students who are interested in student government agree! That is the reason we are so proud of our candidates, because we are sure that after you, the voter, have considered all the candidates individually, you will agree that your U. P. candidates are worthy of your support. And you may rest assured that they will represent you as individuals. Indicative of this is

Wilson Can't Run So UP Backs Keith For Pub Board

Mr. Editor:

It has come to my attention that the University Party's candidate for Student Representative to the Publications Board, Phil Wilson, will be ineligible to hold this position. Mr. Wilson has decided to

accept the job of Business Manager for the annual and therefore cannot sever in body capacities. The U. P.'s candidate for this position is Larry Keith.

Dwayne Spitzer
Chairman, Elections Committee