

Across the Editor's Desk

Roberta L. Borden

Recently, two topics have been the subject of a fair number of conversations here at GW. The election of SGA officers and the possibility of a self-enforced Honor Code have each generated a plethora of opinions and predictions. Both of these will directly affect each and every one of us in one way or another whether or not we choose to concern ourselves with them.

Any election requires those who are voting to be committed to the outcome of that election and to the person who is elected. If a voter fails to educate him or herself about a candidate's qualifications and abilities then the voter must also take the responsibility if the person elected does not perform the job as he pledged to during the campaign. Each candidate should have been thoroughly considered prior to being voted into office. Ideally, elections should not become popularity contests but often this is the case. How many of us really thought about the outcome of this election or the ability of a particular candidate to do a particular job?

The other side of the election coin, the candidates, is probably even more important to the outcome than are the voters. Before accepting a nomination the potential candidate ought to seriously consider his or her ability to hold a specific office and the quality of the commitment he is about to make. Upon being elected each officer needs to remember that he is a representative of the

entire student body, not just himself or a select group of individuals.

The candidates in this year's election are to be commended for their sense of professionalism throughout the election. Congratulations to the winners! Speaking for the entire student body we wish each of you the best of luck in your new positions and challenge each of you to do the very best you can do!

The other topic which everyone should have at least heard about by this time is the possibility of an Honor Code being enacted here at GW. I have heard many different comments concerning this form of self-discipline. On March 11 a questionnaire dealing with the Honor Code was available to students during and after the Convocation period. The number of students who took the time to fill out one of these sheets, which merely asked students for their reactions to a variety of different situations pertaining to an Honor Code, ought to be fairly representative of how successful an Honor Code would be here. Let it be said that the majority of students are not responsible enough to attend class much less enforce an Honor Code. Perhaps the students of GW need to further examine their values and how an Honor Code would enhance or impose upon those values. I would like to receive some response dealing with this topic so, if you feel so inclined, write in and let me know how you feel about this topic.

Bill's Beef



Bill Lang

By Mandy Thomas

"Whudju motha raze ya, in a barn?" was the question running through my mind as I sat in Convocation this morning. Every week I'd thought the same think as the buzz in the LYCC got gradually louder. Two years ago, people talked before and after Convocation with a few whispers thrown in. Most people read or studied. Last year people whispered a lot and read less. This year I find it incredibly hard to listen to the speakers for all the dating lives, class reports and movie reviews that whirl around my auditory nerves. I think this is a good example of the disrespect that often runs rampant on Gardner-Webb campus. The newspaper has addressed the lack of respect the administration supposedly has for students, but what about the lack of respect you and I have for each other. This disrespect is not only shown to speakers that visit this campus, but especially to our fellow students. Frankly, I'm impressed with Monk's self-control and ability to put up with the rudeness he receives every week.

The incessant talking during Convocation is not the problem itself, but a symptom of the overall problem of disrespect evident on campus. Symptoms are also seen in the classroom when students conduct conversations over the lecture and in the dorm with general ignorance of the feelings and comfort of others. This seems to show

the tendency of our students to be concerned with only one thing: concerned with anything so vague as to be considered the "common good." I don't know about you, but I don't want outsiders to come to campus, sit in on Convocation or classes, and come away thinking that the average Gardner-Webb student is crass and discourteous. Unfortunately, that's what may be happening, and even more unfortunately, it may be becoming true.

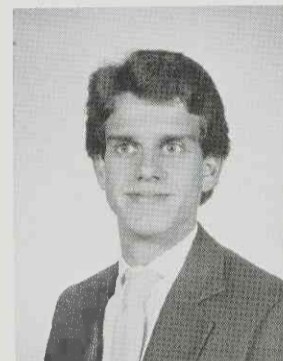
Getting back to Convocation itself, the complaint I hear too often is that "Convocation is boring. It shouldn't be required." Granted, sometimes it is boring. But I have two points to address on that. First, during my freshman year, I spent Convocation hour reading and doing my homework like 90 of the students used to (now they talk). Then I started listening and I made an amazing discovery: More often than not, Convocation has at least **something** to say, if you listen. Secondly, just as an athlete enjoys his or her sport but, understandably, dislikes practice, couldn't Convocation be considered "practice" in basic courtesy and respect? It may not be fun, as three hours on a baseball field isn't always fun, but it is necessary to the practice of fundamental consideration of others.

For those of you who still don't care, I have a bit of advice: If a husband, wife, friend, parent or sibling gets in the way of you achieving your desires, do anything you can to remove them from your path. Step on their feelings, cut them down verbally; you might even consider stooping to slander, etc. Don't let **anyone** at all stand in the way of your wants. When you reach the end of your life and find no

one left to manipulate and find yourself alone, look back and be happy. Just remember that you had everything you wanted.

Try to imagine looking through the "peep" hole of a mascot's "helmet." Picture, if you will, the faces who's attention is solely on you as the "spirit" of the show.

The execution of backhand springs and "break-dance" movements, the use of spirit promoters such as a toy machine gun and remote control car, and the attire of jerseys and jams were all a part of the Bulldog's image of school spirit.



Michael Rousseaux is the man to be credited for making the bulldog image come alive this year. According to Rousseaux, "cheerleaders play an important role, but the mascot symbolizes the school. The job of mascot cannot be taken lightly; you have to represent the school well."

Amy Tucker, captain of the Varsity Cheerleading squad, stated, "Michael did a very good job representing the school as the mascot and as a fellow Christian student."

But next year will be a different story for Michael. No longer will he be the Bulldog for Gardner-Webb College, but he will be the "Big-dog" as the president of the Student Government Association. When asked whether or not he thought the jobs might have similar characteristics, he replied "neither are just positions; there are jobs that need to be done on campus."

Since Rousseaux's election as SGA president, he has been meeting with the present SGA president, John Singleton, to discuss concerns of student affairs to be forwarded as prospective possibilities in the academic year 1986-87. In the upcoming year, Rousseaux would like to see "more student involvement in school activities, not only on weekdays but on weekends too." And he would like to see Gardner-Webb get away from the "suitcase college" stereotype.

The Pilot

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