



Illuminations

R. Shawn Lewis
Editor-in-Chief

The more things change, the more they stay the same. The Student Entertainment Association is working harder than ever before, yet you the students still seem unpleased and complain more than ever. Why? Have you ever stopped to ask yourself that question?

Perhaps you should. The activities planned by the Student Entertainment Association are geared toward pleasing as many students as possible (is this even possible?). Granted, some students are never going to be pleased; this is a fundamental law of human nature. However, how can one be pleased if he/she does not take the time to attend a SEA-sponsored event? An example of this is the recent DeGarmo and Key concert.

This event had been in the making since the spring of this year. It was very well publicized, yet out of the total attendance of 1,350 people, I would dare say that not even 50% were Gardner-Webb students or staff. Counting commuters, the total enrollment of Gardner-Webb College is in the neighborhood of 2,200; add faculty and staff and that total is around 2,400. 50% of that figure is 1,200. If 50% of the Gardner-Webb College would support the college at every event, not just student activities, but also theatre productions, athletic contests, etc., this place would become alive and full of vitality.

Is this so much to ask? Most activities last about 2 hours and are well worth that small amount of time. Student body: You want the big-name bands, DJs, movies... but when you get them, you don't go. That makes a lot of sense, doesn't it? You want your athletic teams to win... but when you do happen to attend a contest, you don't cheer. Ladies, football games are not fashion shows! Football games are one of the few times in life when it is acceptable to look, act, and sound like a barbarian. Take advantage of the situation!

All I am trying to say is this: the activities are there in surplus. YOU hold your own fate in your hands. If you want to sit on the bench while the game of life is being played by your peers, don't expect us to listen to your coaching. Get in the game before time runs out and you're left on the bench. Let's get busy!

Oval Office Memoirs

Chris C. Vaughn, SGA President

Those of your from big families may be able to sympathize with me. My parents had four girls, and although we were not poor, we still had to do without some of the common luxuries that many people take for granted. Take tomatoes and cheese on hamburgers for example. My dad believed in three things: that golf was the ultimate sport of skill and precision; that preachers should be finished and church let out by 12:00 noon; and that tomatoes and cheese do not belong on hamburgers if they cost extra.

One night about eight years ago, my family stopped by Wendy's to pick up some dinner. As he pulled to the drive-thru, Dad informed us that we were not getting drinks because we had tea at home. We girls were a little disappointed, but didn't complain because we knew he would not have hesitated to head on home where we could eat bologna sandwiches.

After Dad ordered our dinner, the woman at the window asked if he wanted any drinks.

"No, thank you," he firmly, yet politely said.

"Would you like tomatoes or cheese on your hamburgers?"

"No, thank you," he replied, emphasizing each word.

"Are you sure?" she dared to question.

A hushed tension froze all activity in the station wagon as my dad's neck burned and his nostrils flared. He deliberately stuck his head out of the window, covered the speaker with his mouth, and yelled, "If it's free, put it on. If it ain't, I don't want it!"

I now laugh when I remember that night, but I am not as amused when I notice people here who have the same attitude about

Gardner-Webb. I see students everyday who want more dances, concerts, movies, and activities, yet they resent being asked to help decorate or set up for these events. They want their clubs to do things, but they don't want to initiate or take charge. They complain about everything from food to activities to school spirit, but they want someone else to take the time and effort to change these things. They want to take but not give. If it's free, put it on it. If it ain't, they don't want it.

Don't be a moocher! If you find that you are a moocher, it is not too late to change. In fact, Homecoming is coming up in less than two weeks, and it is the perfect opportunity for you to become a MAKER and not just a TAKER. Help your class or organization make banners and floats or give your residence hall officers a hand in decorating your dorm for the Homecoming Float, Banner, and Residence Hall Contests. Not only could you help your organization win a cash prize or get the glory for a job well done, but you could raise school spirit and help our Runnin' Bulldogs beat Lenoir-Rhyne on Saturday, October 7.

But don't stop with Homecoming; give throughout the year. Back the SEA by coming to the events and helping with the activities. Support our athletes by coming to their games. Get involved in a group or organization. If you see something that needs to be done, then do it! Don't wait for things to happen; MAKE them happen!

Hamburgers are great with tomatoes and cheese, and your four years in college will be great, too, if you get INVOLVED! Make it Great!

To the Editor,

For 3 years now, we have supported our athletic program by attending games and buying programs and what do we get for it? Nothing, but these athletes have compelled us to write. We just do not understand why they cannot wait in the long 5:00 dinner line like the rest of us. Instead, they gather in a mass, cut in front of people smaller than them, which is half the GWC students! These are the students who support them by attending games and who are paying for their scholarships to attend this school.

They'll (the athletes) read this and think nothing of it, but we urge anyone just to tell them to get in line or stand in their way so they do not cut in front of you! We hope that it will not have to end up with a cafeteria worker standing outside to stop this behavior, but as it stands now, what else can be done? Just a last thought for the athletes, we show you respect, why can't you show us any?

GWC students tired of being intimidated.

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THE PILOT

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