

The Lance

VOL. 6 NO. 10

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, LAURINBURG, N.C.

MARCH 11, 1966

Candidates Seeking Election

President



BOB ANDERSON

A year ago I applied for a position in student government, yet there was one important difference - I ran unchallenged and unopposed for this major office.

The statement "apathy reigns supreme" became the byword of the day. The blame for lack of interest and participation was placed upon an apathetic student body, too wrapped up in individual interest and academic problems to care who was elected to lead.

But now, in retrospect, maybe this position on the part of many students, can be understood, for students had every right to ask "lead to what?" for what did student government symbolize and how vital was it one's total college experience?"

I believe many of the answers to these questions have been found as we have gone through the first year under the new Constitution, for at least, functions of organizations have been defined, and obligations of leaders stated.

I'll not take this space to make a list of all the various items that need to be accomplished by Student Government next year because many of the problems we are now wrestling with will be resolved by the current student government.

What I would like to do is present a basic outline for action into which certain areas of concern may be inserted this year, or next, as the problems arise.

It involves four main points: Better Communication, Re-evaluation and Revitalization of organizations which perform various duties and owe certain obligations to students, and continued Vulnerability to student suggestions for improvement and further development in all areas of campus life.

This leads me into my first major area of concern - Better Communication. One of the basic defects which we have found this year is the manner in which opinions are conveyed to student leaders and likewise, the manner in which student government innovations and accomplishments have been conveyed back to the

students.

This results from a partial breakdown of communication in several areas of student life - student to student, student to student leaders, and student to faculty-administration.

The student to student communication, the key to progress, is found on the dormitory and suite level. But one of the biggest gaps in communication is found in student to student government relationships. Though the basic element of communication in this relationship should be the dorm senator, concern for better communications should also be expressed by the Cabinet, S.C.B., C.C., and other organizations.

Next year the Cabinet should work for better coverage of student government affairs in THE LANCE, dorm meeting at which student association leaders should be present, continued student body meeting, which provide an open forum for direct communication between student association leaders and the student body, a weekly radio program on WSAP, at which time various members of student government will present new programs or a summary of student government activities, and possibly the issuing of a monthly student government newsletter which could provide a concise written summary of student government action.

The third area within the realm of communication is student to faculty and administration. A very good example of a breakdown in this area is the new calendar. We must further stress our desires to be a greater part in helping to formulate policies which vitally affect us. One way to strengthen this communication is through continued joint Administration-faculty and student government meetings.

The next point I would like to emphasize is a re-evaluation of certain areas of student life. Already Cabinet committees are studying the demerit system and an honor code. It is also imperative that the Cabinet continue to try to impress upon the Administration the need to further revise the calendar established for next year.

All of us realize that THE LANCE has had problems with staff and printing this year; therefore, it might be good to further evaluate these problems and if the situation demands it, suggest to the publication board that students have a more direct influence upon policies regarding THE LANCE.

It has also been increasingly evident that student leaders should take an interest in affairs across the lake, referring specifically to problems facing the library. A right step in this direction might be the establishment of a joint Administration, faculty and student committee, in which viewpoints from all areas of campus life will be represented.

SUSGA is another area which

should be studied with care, for, as of yet, we have not taken advantage of the services offered to aid in solving many campus problems.

My third point is Revitalization. Though many student organizations are working at peak performance, most are dragging far behind their potential capabilities. Some organizations need to rework their programs to attract a wider campus participation; the Cabinet and Senate need to work in closer communication to avoid needless repetition; and a new bookkeeping system needs to be established for student government funds and minutes.

My last point is a carry over from the program of Tommy Beason. It's Vulnerability - Openness on the part of student government to criticism, with an always interested search to minor student feelings and opinions. Vulnerability to the extent of always realizing the value of compromise and the need of humility in student government.

We are in a unique situation at St. Andrews. Where other colleges can only amend or add too, we can shape a tradition of standards and attitudes which will be remembered long after we leave, and far beyond the gates of St. Andrews.

It can be a tradition of an "apathetic acceptance of an attitude of "I don't give a damn", or it can be one of creative student participation, tempered by a willingness to know the value of compromise and the insight of to view our accomplishments with humility.

The more we put into St. Andrews, the more we will leave for others to draw upon in the future.

In conclusion, I'd like to quote a fellow student who said, "This school is over-priced and over-rated, but it does have potential unlimited, and that potential is found in the 940 students who form the student body." He's right.

No amount of money, no reputation, no official policy can build a strong school. It takes people, all kinds of people, and for anyone to represent such a varied mass, he must be able to communicate.

It is not what a student leader can offer and say that determines whether he will be a success or not, but how he can listen and represent. This is the important thing I've already learned from this campaign, the continued need to listen to you, so that what I do will better reflect your desired and opinions concerning student government.

Communication, revitalization, re-evaluation, and continued vulnerability - these are the key areas in which I will work with you if you elect me to lead the Student Association next year.

Bob Anderson

there to transform that concern and obligation into meaningful and active results.

Brenda Keel

Vice-President

I am a candidate for the office of Vice President of the Student Association. The Vice President serves as the President of the Senate and as a member of the Cabinet.

I have a definite program which I think should be brought to your attention and consideration.

1) There must be a definite improvement in the character, attitude, and quality in our student newspaper, THE LANCE.

2) There should be a strengthening of the responsibilities functions of the dormitory councils. An increase in the function and power of the dormitory councils in their judiciary capacities would facilitate such a strengthening.

3) In order to increase the effectiveness of the student body, through student government, I would like to see increased participation on the part of the senators in the life of the dormitories and in the roles as student representatives.

4) I would like to see a greater role of activity and responsibility placed upon the suite leaders in such a way that greater suite, dormitory, and campus cohesiveness would result.

5) A serious consideration must be given to a re-evaluation of the requirements for Student Association offices, in the light of the decreasing number constitutionally qualified candidates and the decreasing interest on the part of the student body in organized student government.

6) I believe, that because of the complexities and responsibilities of the office of Student Association Treasurer, that the office of Treasurer be changed in name and function to that of Comptroller.

7) There should be a greater more positive participation in the life of our campus, not only by the students, but also by the administration and the faculty, and other members of our academic community.

8) In regard to our academic community, there is one point of vital concern to me. I am speaking of the library and its facilities. All are aware of the inadequacies present in what should be one of the finest examples and strong points of our college. Few are aware of the devastating effect these inadequacies can have on our college's ability to retain its accreditation in the Southern Association. I would do all that is within my power as a Student Association officer to see that this situation is corrected.

In view of this..my program.. I would greatly appreciate your consideration for the office of Vice President of the Student Association.

Joe Overton



BRENDA KEEL

This year through the four following positions:

1. President of the Student Christian Council
2. Member of the Cabinet
3. Resident Assistant, Granville Dorm
4. Vice-Moderator of the W.F. Synod of North Carolina

I have come face to face with almost all phases of the academic society -- religious, social and political. In each instance the responsibility has been different and the experience has been invaluable. Having seen plans succeed, I have collected a practical reservoir of methods and creative ideas; and on the other hand, having witnessed others successfully flop, I have collected a mental first aid kit that goes beyond mere band-aids and is capable of project surgery. For instance, the enthusiasm demonstrated at the Student Body Meetings and the effectiveness of this method to communicate issues and activities has resulted from the added color of entertainment, supplied for the most part by the Cabinet. Now here was a real tonic! With additional creativeness next year and a responsive audience, the Student Body Meetings have the potential to develop even more. Yet, when it came to the New Calendar Issue, well, here was for many students a real pill with nothing to help wash it down. In fact, the majority of the students did not even realize that the old calendar was sick and that a Calendar Committee with student members even existed. Of course, the actual format of the new calendar may be debatable on several points, however, the breakdown in communication is a blanket statement of poor diplomacy, if not poor leadership on someones part.

Aside from project ideas or realistic solutions to problems that have already reared their ugly head, these previous positions of responsibility and leadership have instilled a concern as well as a sense of obligation, on my part, for student government work at St. Andrews. As president of the Student Association, the opportunity will be