

THE LANCE

St. Andrews Presbyterian College

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Time For Action

It's about time for students to take the initiative. There is potential in student government if and only if it seizes the bases of power and with a united force attacks the roots of the problems students face.

Channels of communication have proved unwieldy and often have broken down entirely. Practically, students cannot avoid working with someone else unless they take over total control of the college from the trustees. Ideally, students could, however, deal directly with the President and through him with the Trustees, eliminating such groups as the Student Life Committee. Student government cannot afford to be merely a dormitory/academic decision-making body. By refusing to piddle about in the refuse of every other group on campus, by asserting aggressively the power of eight hundred students, the governing body of those students would have a very strong bargaining point. The details of running a campus could be handled efficiently by faculty, student, and student-faculty committees. All dormitory business would be handled in dormitories according to the much-vaunted concept of dorm autonomy which is little seen these days.

However, students must elect and then be prepared to support officers who will constantly and vocally exert pressure for a radical change in student government and in ways of looking at student government. It is the only way to prevent the bogging down and eventual collapse of the student government we now know.

Chapel Hill Retreat Features PARABLE

BY GARY MALLARD

Thirty-four people from St. Andrews went on the Christian Council retreat that was held Valentine's Day weekend at Camp New Yope, near Chapel Hill. The retreat was open to the whole campus.

The participants saw the movie "The Parable" which has no dialogue because it was first produced for an international audience at the 1965 World's Fair. One person commented that the film's silence could mean something more --

Freshman Psalm

A man is my teacher, I shall not pass. He maketh me sit in the classroom. He leadeth me to the blackboard. He handeth me the chalk. He guideth me in a straight path for my grade's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of knowledge I learneth not; for I am dense. My notebook and pencils accompany me. He maketh me to show my ignorance before my fellow students. He hath annointed my head with examples, my fountain pen runneth over. Surely C&C and math shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the freshman class forever.

perhaps it was saying that love needed to be shown in action, not just words. The main character of the film is a clown, dressed in white, who is seen helping a man water his elephants, taking the place of a black man sitting in a cage who gets dunked in water when the customer's ball hits the target, and finally, as he takes the place of people in a "living puppets" act in the main circus, is stabbed and beaten to death by people he has offended in helping others. The movie symbolized Christ and how he bears our sins and showed forth suffering love.

The discussion that followed was sparked by a person's plea for action--that we open up and start acting in love. All the discussions were open and lively, but with little argument. "The Polarities of the Christian Faith", the title of the conference, were not too evident.

All in all, it was a great weekend. We had plenty of free time and we really got to know new people better. We felt that the foundation was laid for a very real Christian unity. The program ended, symbolically, with communion Sunday, out doors, and overlooking a beautiful lake.

Hayden Calls For Work On Image

BY WILBURN HAYDEN

After attending various meetings concerning open dorms, drugs and other campus issues, St. Andrews community should seriously consider the image that it is presenting to the Laurinburg community and other areas. It appears that drugs and our not too many campus restricting regulations are causing unfavorable repercussions that could discourage potential St. Andrews students.

I have never been too concerned about image. The campus image for example has never worried me even though I know it dropped somewhat when I and other blacks were enrolled here. In such a situation, I think that the campus image should be placed second. There are times, however, when we need to examine our image and work toward presenting it truthfully to the outside community.

Some people outside the SA community blame the school for much of the Laurinburg drug problem. In essence, however, SA, as well as other

colleges, plays only a small part in the national drug situation. I find it hard to believe that colleges are the only source contributing to the national billion dollar illegal drug industry.

There are people in the outside community who believe that open dorms mean a breakdown in morals and that realistic drinking regulations are contributing to alcoholism on the campus. Some people even believe that we don't bathe. As a campus community, should we worry about these people? Yes. If we let this image continue to grow, we will remain scapegoats of this society (just as my people have been and still are). As a campus we can do something about it and we must. Many people outside of SA are just waiting for a bust, a drinking incident or a major infraction of the open dorm policy.

This is why we need to show concern about our image. It is up to us, as a community, to make some attempt to prevent the drug situation on campus

from becoming an excuse for people to condemn us. It is up to us to convince these people that we aren't alcoholics, and we do look upon personal hygiene as they do. It is up to us to show how open dorms really are. If our image is allowed to destroy us and the good that is happening here, then we will be the ones to suffer.

The issue of drugs has been distorted and discussed more than any other campus issue. Every member of our campus community realizes or should realize that the widespread use, possession, and sale of medically unsupervised drugs is illegal and violates a campus regulation. Any member of the campus found guilty by our judiciary system of violating this regulation will be punished. If any member of the campus or the outside community has a more realistic means of controlling the situation that would not endanger the rights of students, it will be welcomed in my office.

Response To The Laos Invasion; Why Isn't The Nation Reacting?

BY MARSHALL GRAVELY

The recent events of the war in Indochina and the corresponding lack of response among protest groups here at home seems to point to a new, very dangerous phase of anti-war movement in the United States.

The South Vietnamese army has recently sent a large strike force into the Southern panhandle of Laos, its supposedly neutral neighbor to the west. This is one with full U. S. air and logistical support, and there are some accounts of troops sent in as well. The much-vaunted Cooper-Church amendment has supposedly prohibited this action, but the U. S. policies are testing it to extreme limits.

What seems more worrisome than the new invasion, however, is the response back home among anti-war groups. That

Nixon still seeks a military solution in Indochina is of little doubt, but the role of protest has been to limit his plans. For example, the uproar after the Cambodian invasion last spring caused him to accept the Senate's ruling limiting his power in making new war. There has been no such action after this latest Laotian escalation of the already protracted war.

Have we as students finally become isolated from the events of the war? The nationwide campus mood towards the war seems now to be one of numbness or apathy. So protest cannot effectively respond to the Laos invasion.

The danger in this numbness is the possibility that Nixon may judge the silence to be acquiescence--which in fact it may be. The nation, and especially most students are weary and drained of emotion

toward it. But Nixon isn't. We, by not protesting, may provide the opportunity for him to expand the war further.

Then what response is open to us? Part of the numbness was caused by the government's tacit refusal to respond to the mass protest of the last two years. Perhaps political action may succeed. But some new determination of purpose is needed. The students who promised involvement in the system for last year's elections and then did not work must renew their collective drive.

Perhaps protest to Nixon's war policy, then, should turn away from marching toward hard work. Whatever form is taken, though, some protest is necessary. Otherwise we may just be beginning a large war rather than witnessing the final moves of a smaller one.

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