

Free Expression?

By Stormy Ingold

The St. Andrews community is provided with a unique outlet for communication in the form of the free expression wall. During my first trip to the college three years ago, I remember being very impressed by the wall. It was covered with political comments, abstract ideas, meaningful quotes, and truthful humor. At the time I thought it was wonderful for students to be given the privilege of "wall writing."

Since I have attended St. Andrews for the past year, I have become very disappointed with the graphics on the wall. It mostly consists of vulgar language and embarrassing personal messages. There's nothing wrong with wishing a friend "Happy Birthday," but there's no need to make a public statement about someone's late night habits. I believe that the writing that now clutters the

wall illustrates the average student's apathy toward the events in the world around him or her.

I realize that part of this problem lies in the hands of whoever is responsible in the staff for making sure the wall is repainted frequently. My roommate and I have had a list of verses we want to paint on the wall for over four weeks, but there has been no room. We plan to make time to do some painting as soon as the wall is covered with fresh paint.

I also realize that there is no sort of enforcement to keep the wall tasteful. I'm glad this is so because I feel it is important for St. Andrews students to want to make this change rather than be forced to make it. Several students with whom I have discussed this matter would also like to see a change; however, this is a change that cannot take place by mere talk. We must choose to take action the next time we get our paint cans and brushes.

Escapism in Scotland

By Bevin Wall

Four St. Andrews students took the challenge this fall to participate in a once in a lifetime experience, the experience to travel and to study in an unique new environment surrounded by Scots and everything Scottish. These four students James Farmer, Rita Phillips, Pam and Bevin Wall, are participants in the St. Andrews to Stirling University, Scotland exchange program. Each of these students started their journey in early September by traveling extensively in the United

Kingdom, and in doing so became familiar with some of the cultural and scenic aspects of this historic area of the world. Starting about halfway through September the students arrived in Stirling, which is located equidistantly between Glasgow and Edinburgh, and began the traditional orientation and registration procedures that are common to all schools. We all found that friends are easy to come by here in Scotland, friends of foreign nationalities and friends of the native variety.

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Career Planning and Placement

Ronnie Newman, Director of the Career Planning and Placement office (located in Student Life), was interviewed by Kim Carter concerning what function her office plays in student preparation for the job market and post-graduate planning.

By Kim Carter

Carter: You have many students come to you seeking advice on how to prepare for getting a job after graduation. What advice do you give college freshmen that will enable them to prepare for the job market?

Newman: If they are freshmen it will probably be their first visit to the career office. My advice to them is to prepare for at least two careers and if possible three. In a liberal arts college such as St. Andrews, various courses are extended to them and they can prepare for business in conjunction with science or business in conjunction with arts and so on.

Carter: How does your advice differ for sophomores and juniors?

Newman: If they are in their second or third year I would suggest they pursue an internship or summer job in the field they anticipate entering upon graduation. It will give them a feel for that kind of job. It will also usually tell their decision, whether or not it's something they want to do for the next 10 years.

Carter: Senior year is usually a time when students feel the most pressure to find a job. What steps should be taken towards this?

Newman: I think what they have to prepare for then is the campaign. They must get their resumes in order and get their interview techniques down pat. They need to learn how to communicate with the different companies that they're interested in. Consequently, my advice is that they begin the workshops as

early as possible. If it's early part of the fall I would suggest they pursue an internship during winter term in their field of interest.

Carter: Suppose a senior is still not sure what his career interests are.

Newman: If by this time they are not ready, if they are not quite sure where they want to live and work on a permanent basis then they should get a short range summer job upon graduation. That job should be in places like New York, Atlanta and Charlotte. If it works out then they can decide, okay, this is where I want to be. They should also communicate with members of the Alumni Association to find out what living costs and job prospects are in a certain area.

Carter: What does the workshop you referred to consist of?

Newman: It is a resume, letter writing and interview technique workshop.

Carter: Do most colleges have a workshop program of this type?

Newman: Not at all, this is a service that I am finding has been put on the backburner in most colleges. St. Andrews is way ahead in as much as they saw a need and they answered that need two years before most colleges did. There were times when recruiters were knocking down doors at colleges to get their top graduates. Today these roles have been reversed, the students are the ones knocking down doors. As a result our role is becoming very important, it's something that is necessary on campus and a lot of col-

leges who didn't think so before are not beginning to awaken to that fact.

Carter: Many people think a college degree is not worth much anymore, do you agree?

Newman: "I don't think you will find a job today in the want ads without the little one liner, bachelors degree required. It's the key to the interview. It has become harder and harder for a young student who has just graduated from high school to find a job, even in the blue collar industry. I think there is very little hope for a student who does not go to college.

Carter: Do you believe that a liberal arts degree adequately prepares one to compete in the working world?

Newman: You have to be more diverse, to specialize today is not the name of the game. Roger Smith, chairman and chief executive officer of General Motors, announces that he is going to recruit the best liberal arts graduate that can be found. He said, "A young person with a liberal arts education is of considerable greater value to the company and functions more effectively as a member of the community. It (industry) must continue to compete in the traditional marketplace where goods and services are sold but it must also enter a new marketplace, a marketplace of ideas. Only leadership with many and varied talents can hope to compete in such a marketplace."

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Ragan Awards Presented

Poets Book Launched

By Molly Nolan

On October 20 the Writer's Forum, under the direction of Ron Bayes, celebrated the Sam Ragan Awards Night. The "Samuel Talmadge Ragan Award for Sustained Contributions to the Literary and Fine Arts" were presented by President A.P. Perkinson to Roy Parker, Editor of the Fayetteville Times and to Nicholas Bragg, Executive Director of

the Reynolda House in Winston-Salem.

Following the Awards Ceremony, Stephen Smith and Peg Campbell were featured poets at the regular Thursday evening reading. Smith shared a humorous long narrative about the Civil War. Campbell, on the other hand, read a wide variety of poems from those of a lighter nature to those of a deeper response. As a special treat, Ragan shared selections from his own

poetry collection.

The following week of October 27 featured Shelby Stevenson who read an excerpt from an epic poem and Harriet Doar whose reading was only capped by one laughing of her book which revealed powerful feelings and emotional responses.

On November 10, Molly Nolan and Therese Beebe will be the keystone poets at the weekly Thursday night reading.