

# From the Editor

Dear Readers,

If you are surprised to see another issue of THE LANCE come out so quickly then you can imagine how I felt when so many students began turning in articles. It is very exciting to see our newspaper growing stronger every day!

Rather than give the ordinary pep talk about our organization I would just like to say that THE LANCE is your newspaper, paid for by student funds. Therefore, if you have something to share with the student body why not use THE LANCE as your means of communication. You do not have to become a permanent member of the staff in order to submit an article.

However, you may want to consider the benefits of becoming a staff member. First of all, when the time comes to look for employment think how nice it would look on your resume that you were an active member of a college organization. Experience is not easy to come by these days, and the newspaper gives you an opportunity to apply the things you have learned. Secondly, it is possible to receive academic credits for the work you do on the newspaper. Internships and GIS's

may be worked out between students, faculty advisors, and on-site supervisors. You are not limited to a particular field or study either. Business majors may wish to consider an internship as a business manager or advertising coordinator. Health and science majors may wish to design advice columns for the paper. Art majors may want to explore the world of political cartoons or art in advertising. There is really no limit. Finally, if you are a member of THE LANCE you get to have lots of FUN! It is really exciting to see all of your hard work pay off as the first paper rolls off the press.

If you are interested in joining THE LANCE staff please stop by our office in the Liberal Arts Building (Room 183 next to ASC) or call me at Ext. 485 in the evening. Letters may be sent to campus Box No. 79 or 757.

Sincerely yours,

Heidi Jernigan  
Editor

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The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of THE LANCE, the college, or the student body, but are of the signed individuals. THE LANCE welcomes and encourages responses to the material in this publication, but reserves the right of editorial freedom as governed by responsible journalism.

### WE GOOFED!

In the last issue of THE LANCE we inadvertently left off Buck Tredway's by-line on the OPI/ED piece entitled "Capital Punishment Sends Mixed Signals." The article did not reflect the opinions of THE LANCE, the college, the student body or the editors but those of the author.

And finally, we did not give photo credits to the following: Cover Photo--Rooney Coffman; Photos of Dean Benson--Jamie Reynolds; and photos of the Japanese-American Festival were taken by the Photography Department.

## Opinions/Editorials

### Students, Don't Be Partner In Murder -- Reject Drugs

The following OPI/ED piece appeared in the CHARLOTTE OBSERVER on October 23rd and has been reprinted by permission of its author.

During the last 18 months there has been considerable action by students across the country in attempts to get colleges to divest themselves of any interest in companies doing business in South Africa. Clearly, the most prominent theme has been that it is morally wrong for the colleges (and the nation) to be supporting the government of South Africa in any manner. It is a credit to the students that they have the moral convictions to take a stand.

At this time, while this movement is still a warm issue, there is an excellent opportunity for the students to be consistent in their views and action and carry that conviction to a parallel situation--organized crime! Illegal drug traffic exists in this country only because there are millions of investors in the business. And guess who those investors are: College students? Yes! High school students? Yes! Housewives? Yes! Professionals? Yes! Working people? Yes!

What is this "government" (organized drug peddling) guilty of doing? Consider these as a start: murder, assaults, bribery of law enforcement officers, bribery of public officials, corruption of governments, violation of civil rights, and in general causing millions of persons to live in constant fear in drug-infested neighborhoods. And this does not even consider the millions of lives which are daily affected by persons involved in the use of illegal drugs--including those thousands of victims of robberies by users in search of money to buy drugs.

It is likely true that few towns in the United States have escaped having one or more drug-related murders. Consider how many thousands of murders have probably been carried out since the creation of one of our largest "corporations" -- organized trafficking of drugs. Consider how many of these murders you have paid for. One cannot escape the fact that out of every dollar you spend on illegal drugs, a certain percentage goes for paying for a murder, assaults and bribery. You are a critical partner in this organization. It cannot exist without your help.

This country has a heritage of young people being willing to stand up for their convictions. The collective effort of young people does not go unnoticed -- the impact in the past has been significant. I challenge you to be consistent in your views and action and divest your interest in this cruel and faceless organization.

Why continue being a partner in murder?

**Dr. Bill Morgan**  
Associate Professor of Mathematics  
St. Andrews

### Student doubts validity of "drug war"

It never ceases to amaze me what Ronald Reagan and his band of conservative cohorts can get away with. Ron says that the Sandanist government in Nicaragua is the most dangerous thing to hit Central America since the killer bee and everyone believes him. He says that we need a lazerized defense system in space, which is only theoretically possible in the first place. Then he throws away a potential arms agreement with the Soviet Union because he doesn't want to give up his science fiction fantasy and the Arthur C. Clarke in all of us says "Bravo, Ron". Attorney general Edwin Meese comes out with a statement that supreme court decisions are not necessarily binding on the executive branch and the public reaction is more like elevator conversation than outrage.

Why are Reagan and his associates allowed to completely ignore the constitution of the United States and play fast and loose with the facts?

Particularly disturbing is the so called "drug war". Manufactured during an election year as a campaign issue, this anti-drug push conspires to erode the basic constitutional rights of every American.

Who do you do as a republican incumbent, fighting for re-election, with nothing to your credit except wagging your head up and down after the president says? You would invent an emotional campaign issue, of course. Despite the fact that drug use has been declining since the late 1960s, if you listen to the republicans, this country is in the midst of a national crisis of major proportions.

Let's discuss a real national crisis. Republican senator Jim Broyhill, in a current campaign commercial, says he doesn't want to go back to the "old ways" of taxing people to give the politicians more money to spend. The Republican solution is to preside over the largest budget deficit in the Nation's history, resulting in an astounding debt which we and our children will have to struggle to pay. I'm no economist, but it seems to me that a more sound fiscal policy would be to only spend the money you have. Abraham Lincoln said that you cannot establish security on borrowed money or keep out of trouble by spending more than your income. Why do Lincoln's fellow republicans choose to ignore his advice. Maybe a good way to reduce the deficit would be to eliminate the 2.1 billion dollar drug enforcement building.

The November 1986 issue of Harper's Magazine reported that 1190 gallons of urine were analyzed for illegal drug use. Mr. Reagan requested and received legislation requiring all federal employees to take drug tests. how long will it be before all recipients of federal funds, such as college Pell grants and social security, are made to submit to urinalysis as well?

ABC News reported on October 19, the results of a survey concerning the drug war. In 1985, 450,000 deaths could be directly attributed to cigarette smoking. 100,000 deaths were alcohol related. By comparison, only 4500 dates could be blamed on drugs. It doesn't seem exactly like the national