

Opinion Censorship Rears Its Ugly Head

Laurinburg Not Nazi Germany

Glance Was Fun But...

On April 1, the Lance was proud to present our no-holds-barred edition, The Glance. Most stories were written for the sake of entertainment and were not meant to offend any individuals in particular. Everyone was under scrutiny and with good reason. The Glance targeted some of the real campus problems: potholes, t-shirt censorship, security, Farrago crowded with heaters, the housing shortage and prohibition of pets. Some of these crises may seem trivial to outsiders, but they do affect our community in some way.

The Lance, with the exception of editorials, covered less controversial subject by printing "fluff" and other fillers in addition to the usual newsworthy items. Is this due to the student fear of retribution from the administration for articles they have written? That may be the case, especially in sensitive areas that deal with the administration, honor court and financial matters. Regardless of the First Amendment, students unfortunately feel their boundaries.

The Lance is committed to being the student sounding board. Our publication is run solely by students and the money to do this, lest we forget, comes out of their pockets. Yet, only a few individuals have taken advantage to voice their views. Students have plenty of legitimate gripes. The Lance should be used to air these sources of discontent without mud-slinging or name calling. Staff members alone cannot cover all the campus interests. That is why student input is needed. Clubs and dorms have the perfect vehicle to advertise their causes, yet few choose to do so.

The Glance edition caught the attention of more people than the Lance does with its usual format. Sometimes fantasy borders reality. In this case, where do we draw the line?

Closed Doors A Battlefield?

To The Editor:

St. Andrews: "The Jigsaw Puzzle"
Science vs. Business
Academics vs. Athletics
Group Gathering vs. Individualization

Who wins? Who loses? Who really gives a damn?

St. Andrews, the liberal arts institution of Laurinburg, is once again engaged in silent controversy. The fighting goes on not in the open with student voices, but rather behind the wooden doors of our administration and faculty. It is a war, down-right dirty and even ugly. The battle lines are drawn, the leaders and players of both sides are assembled. As the battle draws near, bantering and provocation can clearly be seen. What awaits is the victor and to him go the spoils of war and money.

The change is evident, and a new Caesar rides in. What is our course, our new direction?

The stagnation of campus activities and student gatherings compared to

previous years can clearly be seen by those students who have been at St. Andrews for a few years. To you upcoming graduates I urge you to voice your opinions and open the faculty's eyes to legitimate ideas: mock protests, woodstock party, and student rallies. Anything to get life back on this campus.

Another problem we as students face is the effect of our grievances against the administration. Too long have we voiced our opinions and essentially nothing has been done. In essence, if our aims are not heard and complied with, then what is the purpose of student government? Give us a break and listen to our pleas for improvements, security, and ideas, rather than hear us as a bunch of cry-babies. WE, the students, are the body of this institution. To eliminate our voices and concerns is irrational.

So, to the 800 or so students who attend here, I ask you to get involved and get motivated!

Lane Moore

Fellow Students,

Recently around campus, fliers were posted that stated that 2 out of every 10 SACPC students are Gay/Bisexual. Within one day all of them had been torn down.

Censorship is an ugly thing and I am sorry to find it here at this institute of higher learning. Every member of the student body has the right to their own opinions. In The Saltire, under the section about student rights and responsibilities, it says, "Members of the academic community and college organization should be free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them, and to express opinions publicly and privately." Perhaps those there who fear free expression should also take a look at the

First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

This is Laurinburg, North Carolina in the United States of America — not Nazi Germany. Are we not here to open ourselves to new ideas and concepts, to learn about different things? Just because you disagree with something, doesn't give you the right to remove it and make others incapable of forming their own informed opinions. As a distinguished legislator once remarked, "I may disagree with what you are saying, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it."

Let's hear it for democracy!

Thank you,
Mary Griggs

Merton: Appetites And Disorder

To the one who blotted out this quote on the graffiti wall, Monday, April 18:

"Instead of hating the people you think are warmakers, hate the appetites and the disorder in your own soul, which are the causes of war." Thomas Merton

That statement means a lot to me because it is so applicable to any situation in which one finds people and their actions offensive. For this reason, I was puzzled to find that the quote itself was offensive to someone, and I would like to know why.

Merton's message says that one should not hate people, but the desires and confusions which exist in all of us and ultimately create conflict, and sometimes war.

Cannot we accept the people who have been raised to view war as a justifiable method of conflict resolution, even if we find their actions objectionable?

Thomas Merton, who was a Trappist, would never have condoned for the sake of war. No-one should. However, no-one has the right to condemn their fellow human beings because they have different values. Go on and hate the "appetites and disorder" and try to resolve your own conflicts peacefully and maturely, but look beyond the people and their actions and see their humanity.

Christina Sabia

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The Lance
St. Andrews Presbyterian College
P.O. Box 757
Laurinburg, NC 28352
(919) 276-3652, ext. 300