

The Editor's Desk



Jennifer Woodward

A college newspaper's purpose is to publicize the voice of the students, faculty and staff. As editor, I felt this was the perfect opportunity to really push the concerns of the campus community. Each member of the Board of Trustees receives every issue of the *Lance*. Therefore, I felt that this particular issue came at an appropriate time, considering the trustees will be visiting the campus next weekend for their annual fall meeting. My main goal is not to complain about St. Andrews and point fingers at the administration. What I asked, and what I received, are legitimate concerns - concerns that we see daily and feel can be handled efficiently.

The biggest concern, as seen by the students and even some faculty, is the lack of communication with the administration. The students feel that their concerns are not respectfully handled. This is a serious problem, a problem I must agree with. Why do I so firmly believe this? Simply because I experienced this sad tale for myself.

A little background history: For the past two years, I worked as a live-in student aide for a handicapped student. Through my work, I was able to learn first hand the many problems that were generated at the Burris Rehabilitation Center. Such problems as the lack of attendant care, lack of staff, overcrowding, etc. These problems were largely due to the lack of direction by the Burris Center administration.

As a member of the St. Andrews admissions staff and a former student aide, I honestly felt we had been misrepresenting our rehabilitation program to the many handicapped students. I felt the time was now to approach the administration with the many problems. A new year was beginning and a new director was soon to arrive on campus. I felt it was important that the administration be aware of the problems, so that they may have some positive influence.

I first met with Dean Greer and Wayne Johnson. In meeting with the two, I spoke of my own experiences and that of others who had lived or worked in the Burris Center. All in all, I felt the meeting was quite productive and was rather positive. Each of us were open and honest to the other. So honest were we, that I was even taken off guard by a comment that Dean Greer had said to me, "If you had come to me last Spring with this, I probably would not have believed you - I would have thought you were overexaggerating. But after what we discovered over the summer, I must agree."

Granted I appreciate the honesty Dean Greer had displayed but, I must admit I was somewhat disappointed with this comment. Before, I had been told by many of the handicapped students that they had approached

Student Life with their concerns, but were treated in this manner. I understand now - You've got to see it, to believe it.

Soon afterwards I had a meeting with President Reuschling. The meeting was concerning the *Lance* and the upcoming year. However, due to my involvement with the Burris Center, I decided to take the opportunity and tell him basically what I had discussed previously with Dean Greer and Wayne Johnson.

This was a very different story!

Unlike my previous meeting that was filled with honesty and openness, all I managed to receive from President Reuschling was the run-around. When I spoke of the problems in regard to the lack of personal care of the students who lived in Burris, President Reuschling basically dismissed my concerns. Like a true politician, all he could say was the fact that St. Andrews was probably the best school in the entire country for handicapped students. He pointed out the painted hallways, the new roof on Burris, and the new ADL Units that were recently built. On the contrary, he dismissed the fact that the students' needs were not being met.

I tried in vain to point this out to him. That it was the human level that mattered most. It was the inside of Burris, not the outside, that makes the program what it is. I wanted to him to be honest and tell me that we were misrepresenting the program and change was definitely needed and he was going to at least try and oversee it with the new director.

But it was absolutely hopeless with this man. I finally left his office belittled and dismayed.

I understand that as president of this college he has much to worry about and can not deal with every single problem that may arise. I know that he is a busy man and I do not expect him to be perfect. However, I do feel that it is vital for him to look at a very important program within the college and realize the problems. I came into both my meetings with a list of problems and a list of solutions. I was hoping that just maybe, something productive could come out of our conversations.

As a student, I must say this to our administration. Listen to the students! Don't wait till it's too late and you have to find out for yourself. As in this case, Dean Greer admitted I was correct simply because they, too, had come to realize on their own the problems at the Burris Center.

To President Reuschling, you must remember the little guy. It is because of the little guy that this school still exists. It's not the paint on the walls and the new lights or paved roads that keeps a school going strong.

I feel that we have a great student body filled with students who are genuinely concerned for the good of the school. Take advantage of that and let's work together. Because if we can work together as one, maybe then, we could progress and reach the goals we all desire.



"Senioritis"

By Bill Cox
Student Government President

There comes a time in the life of a senior, when the reality of graduation slams him or her in the face. When the prospects of facing the real world suddenly come crashing in and one is forced to ask "What is the point?" Life for a senior in this situation becomes a series of swings from high to low, from love to hate, from seriousness to frivolity and seldom if ever is there a middle ground to be found. When an individual reaches this state let it be know to all around that a classic case of Senioritis has developed and all those who are not seniors should keep their distance and not pretend to understand, because you cannot.

I was recently discussing this phenomena with a distinguished member of the faculty and learned to my relief that this is not an abnormal condition. Further, I was informed that the symptoms are even more far-reaching. There are in fact several stages in the classic case of Senioritis. These I will attempt to describe to the best of my ability.

As the Fall begins seniors return with a sense of purpose and drive to make the final year of college the best ever, in fact to make their senior class the most memorable and recognized

to have ever existed in the history of the college. Some students never lose this underlying drive. Most, however, lose this initial mission and become impatient with being here. We are ready to graduate and get on with our lives. Yet there is a barrier in the form of time and work. During this phase of Senioritis, an individual may come to hate being here, to hate living on campus, and in fact, to hate being around some of his or her closest friends. This symptom usually passes quickly, or is manifest in the form of radical mood swings. Toward the end of the fall term the senior will become reflective and quite serious about working because there is only one semester left. Thus the contempt and impatience slowly give way to a brief return to normality.

The Spring represents another renewed period of energy, and the cycle begins again. Usually, seniors will try to party at every given opportunity and only do what work is necessary to get by, I realize of course, that some students spend their entire college career in this fashion. The phenomena which I am describing, however, is something which would, ordinarily unexpected from a particular student. This is something which continues classically until after

GANZA weekend.

At this time seniors become quite nostalgic and even enter a mild state of depression because they realize that there is no turning back. Mood swings become hourly things and life-long goals are changed within a matter of hours or days. Anticipation and anxiety build to a momentous proportion which finally explodes on the night before the graduation ceremony, as was typified by the spontaneous celebration at Granville last year. It all ends after the walk across the stage on Sunday morning in the presence of family and friends. There and only there can the spell of Senioritis be broken once and for all.

Now you know when one of your

senior suite mates gets the "wander lust" or yells at you for no reason in particular or simply wants to have a mid-week party just to do it. You are seeing the outward signs of Senioritis. My advice to those of you who are not seniors is to be tolerant and understanding, this as all things will eventually pass; you will have your turn all too soon. For my comrades who are seniors - just remember you are not alone. Enjoy your senior year and keep it in mind that a reality check is often a good thing.

Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

It is an occurrence happening far too much in our institutions of higher learning. What may seem to be a change for the future, an attempt to disrobe a college or university of an image problem, is actually a tell-tale sign of the humanistic deterioration of this society we're now living in. Rather than inferring that institutions are harmed and don't deserve the label of a "church school," we should call a spade a spade and state the fact that colleges stuck in an identity crisis should not bring defamation on the ideals to which they are affiliated.

We now find, at last, that the students and faculty of our esteemed St. Andrews have embarked on a debate long overdue. The question of whether the word "Presbyterian" should remain in the school's name is a valid one. After reading the early responses, I must admit that I was appalled at the notion of shedding the only external evidence of St. Andrews even being related in any way with the Christian religion. But upon examining the "big picture," I have come to the conclusion that the incorporation of a religious affiliation in this college's name is both misleading and an injustice.

Let's examine the controversy from a view not voiced. When St. Andrews was founded in the late 1950's the college was not what it is today. Anyone glancing at the early *Lamp and Shields* would no doubt find that St. Andrews was a true "church school." This is evident by the number of Presbytery candidates, church music directors, and other Christian graduates leaving this campus. But over the years, the Presbyterian church has become liberalized and the students entering St.

Andrews less interested in the Christian faith. It is only reasonable that now when the true Christian is a minority at this campus that any relation to the Christian faith should also be put in its proper place. The word Christian simply stated means "Christ-like." If St. Andrews College is not reflective of this assertion, then by all means there needs to be a change either in the students and faculty or the college's name.

To answer those who would state that the idea of a church related school is an injustice to St. Andrews, may be corrected by reversing their reasoning and concluding that this college does not deserve to be held in the same breath as Christ. It is a shame that we have become so hardened and self-serving that we refuse to be thankful to Him for giving us the tools with which we survive daily. In this same light, one swooping policy should rain down and erase any mention of the Christian faith in our college's name. At the same time we erase "Presbyterian" why not replace "Excellence for Christ" with "One Man One Keg."

The further assertion that St. Andrews' recruiting efforts are entirely to blame on the school's name are not only shallow, but underbred. These individuals would be better informed to know that the pool of qualified high school seniors has decreased substantially. Also, one should remember that removing "Presbyterian" might also reduce the funding of St. Andrews, thereby increasing costs, and lowering the number of admitted students.

Are there advantages in changing this college's name? Well the time spent pronouncing St. Andrews Col-

lege would be less than if Presbyterian remained, and possibly enrollment may increase. But, the principle

gain would be a true representation of the environment and social atmosphere of this college. If a true majority of students and faculty can not adhere to the conditions of the one real "calling" then we should not have the honor of being called by His name.

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so."

Scott A. Blue

To the editor:

Congratulations on two good issues of *The Lance*. You are off to a great start.

I do wish to correct an assumption that showed up in both your editorial and in the letter from Mr. Kevin Gullette. The Laurinburg police were never called to a rugby match. I did notice them at the match and presumed they were there for a few minutes to watch the game.

We do use *off duty* Laurinburg police to spell our own security for some weekend shifts. Thus, it is not unusual to see a security person in a Laurinburg City uniform on the campus.

I did notice a Laurinburg police car at the game for a brief period. I presume they were there out of curiosity about the rugby match.

Thanks for letting me make this clarification.

Sincerely,
Thomas L. Reuschling
President