

Editorial

From the Editor's Desk: Use of Caution is Advised for Holiday Season



Heather Lyn Gupton
Editor

A week or so ago I returned from my morning class, dropped my back pack off at The Lance office and blithely went off to take a photograph. I returned ten minutes later to find my back pack open and money missing from my wallet. I don't remember whether I left the door open or not but I do know that the door

was unlocked. I had never actually thought about the possibility of someone stealing here at St. Andrews. Call me naive, but I assumed that that was the sort of thing that happened in my former home, South Florida, or cities somewhat larger than Laurinburg, N.C.

I should have thought about it though. Just this summer, my car was broken in to while it sat directly front of the apartment I lived at in Chapel Hill. That time I was more angry than upset, especially when the officer who came to make the report suggested that I had invited the theft by (perhaps) having left one of my doors unlocked. Both of us, that is, the officer and I, knew that there was little to no chance that I could ever recover what had been stolen. But I didn't want to

be one of those unreported statistics. I knew that my things were gone for good, but that by reporting the incident, others could be aware and thus more cautious.

Did I "invite" theft again? Does a thief really need an "invitation?" I figure that those who are going to steal need no motivation save their own greed. Herein lies the problem.

According to the "Campus Security Blotter," which is distributed on a monthly basis by campus security, there were five reported cases of burglary/larceny on campus. In all of these reported incidents money was the sole item which was reported to have been taken. Unfortunately though, doors were left unlocked in four of these cases. Now

one must question whether these incidents would have occurred had students locked their doors.

After the particular incident in the Lance office, I became overly cautious, constantly locking the office door even when I was only leaving for a minute. This began to become a great inconvenience for all involved, especially when we were constantly worrying about whether or not we were going to inadvertently lock someone out.

I began to wonder whether or not it was worth it to lock the door when it became such a hassle. But the fact is that people do steal on the St. Andrews campus, and a look at the "Campus Security Blotter" will indicate that the majority of these thefts are "inside jobs."

Cases like these, which involve cash, may remain "open" on the security blotter, but the fact is that that money is gone for good. It is also probable that incidents of theft like this will increase as the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are approaching. I say this because there was only one reported incident of burglary in September, and then five reported cases in October, and there are probably many more cases than are ever reported.

I would suggest that students exercise caution, no matter how inconvenient it may be. I only lost \$15. I consider myself lucky. But don't be lucky — be careful. And report theft when it happens so that others can at least be forewarned.

With Primaries Looming, It's Time to Make Some Real Choices

Melissa Reece
Guest Editorialist

"The broadest and most prevalent error requires the most disinterested to sustain it." H.D. Thoreau

Was anybody out there really surprised that Clarence Thomas turned out to be a seething leech? (alleged seething leech?) Was anybody actually shocked and dismayed that one of our boys would exhibit behavior less than meritorious in nature?

'Fess-up, now, who among you expects our Chosen Ones to be paragons of virtue?

These are the Nineties after all, and we are wise beyond our

Causewalk Comments:

"How do you feel about the way the Meditation Room is decorated?"

John McClamroch
Compiler

► "I believe that Chaplain Thornton has tried to give the Meditation Room an environment better-suited for worship. I think that the banners on the wall add a lot of atmosphere and make this room look like a little chapel. I also think that this will add to the religious life of the students who use it." *Scott Blue, Senior*

► I like the way the Meditation Room looks! The cross and the banners on the wall give it a real Christian look. I believe that this will make a good impression and show what our school is about." *Kevin Greene, Senior*

► "I really like the way the Meditation Room is decorated! I really don't have anything to say about it. I do believe that the way the room looks is just fine." *Greg Phillips, Freshman*

years: each and every hip and jaded, shrewd and timely, omnipotent omnivore among us. We all know the score. We know better than to take sides in earnest, because all sides are at worst, evil, and, at best unworthy.

They're all scum. And we should be ashamed of ourselves for knowing and not doing anything about it. We're a feckless faceless mob of pansies. No. We're not even a mob — we haven't a collective will or frenzy. We're powerless because we assume we are. We accept the right to choose from among the fields of contenders we are shown. We do not acknowledge the power to choose from among our ranks a candidate we can respect.

We no longer have leaders, we have professional politicians. Public relations experts. They're Company Boys. SCABS. Each and everyone of them. Instead of being representative of the people, they're the powers with the people must negotiate to get anything done.

Although there is a great deal of diversity of political philosophies in this country and each of us holds dear our own Hermeneutic (the right to which we are constitutionally guaranteed). There is, or should be, some underlying solidarity of thought, and hope, and ethical standard among the general populous. We should be able to come up with an honest being or two that we could deem worthy of our collective confidence.

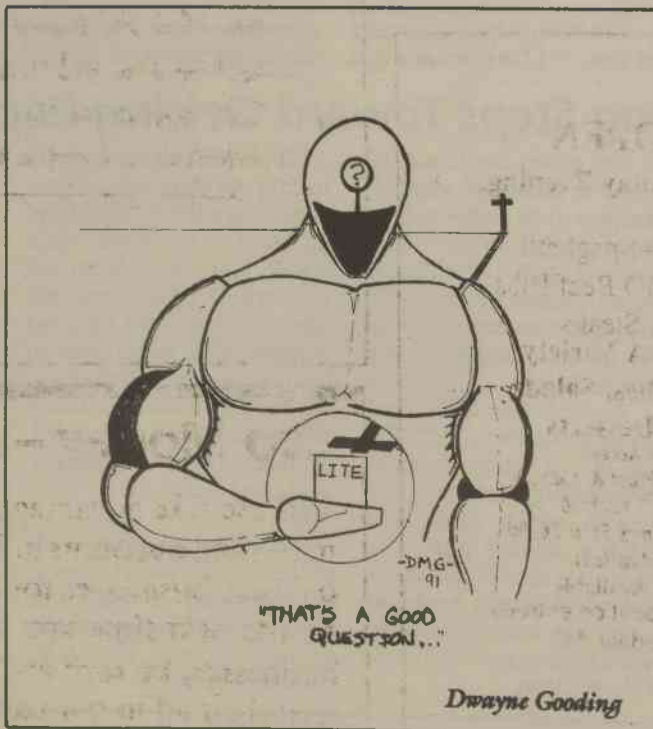
AS the Main Ingredient so aptly noted, "everybody plays the fool." Fear of playing the fool has driven us to a dereliction of duty. It's time to risk our cool. To invest in our future all of our own ideals, what time we can, maybe a little money, (possessions of which, by the way, have been given far too much importance as a political plus) and as much faith as we can muster in the people we choose.

It's time we made some real choices. From scratch. Perhaps start skimming from the top rather than degrading the bot-

tom of our prospects, and look towards those who are decidedly less "weaselesque" than past and present selectmen (and women). After all, we create our heroes in our own image. We pour our leaders into the mold of the Great American, steel them, supposedly, in the fire of our pure and ardent lust for the just and righteous, and present them to the world as the embodiment of all that is real and good in us. So, how do we see ourselves? If we give as our

representatives to the world images that we know are hollow, people that we neither like, nor respect, or even feel we know, is that the accumulative impression we have of ourselves?

Primaries are looming. The search is hereby on. Frank Zappa, the only real choice thus far. I am, however, open to suggestions.



The Lance

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