

EDITORIALS

Academy Mentor Says Rules Are Fair

BY KELLAM PARKS

Recently, an editorial was run in the *Lance* attacking the St. Andrews Academy on many fronts. After reading this piece I felt an obligation to reply; to give a more informed account of the why's and wherefore's involved with this newly-established part of our college.

The Academy was founded in order to give high school students the chance to get ahead. It was believed that certain students were under-challenged by the curriculum in their schools and that St. Andrews could offer a more rigorous academic milieu, while offering an adjustment to college life.

The conditions necessary for the establishment of this program were hammered out by the administration of the school in conjunction with Neal Bushoven, the Headmaster. Some ideas tossed around (having been implemented by other schools with similar

programs) were a closed Residence Hall (prohibiting non-academy members), bed-checks and lock-ins. Such policies are wholly against the "free" spirit of St. Andrews and were summarily rejected. Yet, there remained a need for certain policies due to insurance and legal reasons.

What was put into place were the least restrictive policies possible for this sort of program. A look at those policies that were attacked would be helpful in clearing up any misconceptions about "tyranny" or "oppression" by the college.

The Academy students have a sign-in policy regarding curfew (11:30 p.m. weekdays and 12:30 a.m. on weekends), which states that students will not leave Granville after signing in. This procedure is not, as the editorial wrote, a testament of the lack of trust by the Resident Mentors (we are not Resident Assistants)

or administration. By signing in, the Academy students give their written word on certain behavior. Such a system requires trust in order to work-without it, one could not expect any of the conditions to be met. Accordingly, we as mentors do not check their rooms to make sure they are there, nor do we have a spy network on campus to ferret out misbehaviors. Their word is enough.

Another condition that was attacked in the editorial was that of the visitation policy. After curfew, non-Academy members are not allowed within rooms or residential suites of Granville; however, such guests are more than welcome in the main lounge and in the courtyard. This may be inconvenient, however it is a far cry from the penitentiary-style visitation with glass walls, phone conversations and armed guards monitoring every word and action.

The bottom line is that for a program such as the Academy, there must be more stringent conditions. The college is providing opportunities above and beyond what is available in high school, while also providing a transitional period for these accelerated students. Jumping straight into college is a big step, and many first-year students are overwhelmed and flounder in the new freedoms and responsibilities. Those students selected for the Academy were chosen not only because of high grades and scores but also because of their maturity—yet they are still a year younger than the regular first-year students. The Academy's policies

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Academy Student Rebuts

BY SUE LEWKE

As an Academy student I felt that I should reply to Spanky's editorial, and give the campus a different view of the rules and how the Academy students feel about them.

Several of the students do disagree with the rules, but we all know that they are necessary, and we are willing to abide by them, for the most part, because without them we would still be stuck in high school. I know from personal experience that the rules are very easy to break, simply because there are so many of them and some of them cover very minute offenses that most people don't think about, but the mentors and Neil all understand that we are trying very hard, and they have given us several breaks.

Living in the Academy or Granville, is not preventing us from receiving the full college experience. Non-Academy students are allowed in the main lounge and courtyard after curfew, and we can basically do anything we want at that time, except leave Granville. Yes, it is a pain to have to leave somewhere by a certain time in order to be back in time to sign in, but I don't see these rules as "ultra conservative," and they will all be lifted in a few months.

The Academy is a great experience for those of us involved, and I know that I would much rather put up with the rules for a few months than be back in high school!!

**Don't Forget
It's parents' weekend, so
it's time to clean your
room, do your laundry
and take a shower!!**

The Lance

The Lance is the student run publication of St. Andrews Presbyterian College. It is a forum for the ideas and opinions of St. Andrews students. The opinions published in this paper are not necessarily the opinions of the Lance. Although the Lance is a student newspaper, we accept editorials and other information from the community at large. Any response can be left at the Lance office or sent to box 5619.

Staff

Editor: Becky Stacy

Assistant Editor: Sue Lewke

Writers: Ruth Cook, Regina Harrington, Tashia Jones Michelle Melton, Aaron Selzer, Brandi Miss, Neil Davis

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