

Shall We Dialogue?

April Link
The Lance

First and second year students, do you wonder what the white boxes with Greek writing on them in Belk, MJ, Vardell and LA are for? Do you remember "The Dialogues", juniors and seniors?

In the 60s, there was plenty to talk about: the Vietnam War, drug laws, civil rights, etc. Back then, St. Andrews students used to frequent Jim's Bar across the border, in SC (Scotland county was dry). It was segregated. Well, SA students, faculty and administration decided that that just wasn't acceptable. So, they started a forum on campus called "The Dialogues" (a nod to the Greeks) to voice their opposition. It was used as a medium to rally a boycott of Jim's. It worked; Jim's desegregated.

Ever since then, "The Dialogues" have dipped in and out of activity, but keep springing up. At times of peak interest, several issues were being written and distributed across campus every week. My first year here people from Aaron Gatten to Bobby Dzewulski to Speedo wrote them. It has always been open to absolutely everyone on campus to participate. That includes faculty such as Ron Bayes and administration like Cynthia Robinson. The college pastor originally started it. Anyone with an opinion, criticism, question, debate or idea can write one.

In 2004, we again have much to talk about: the Iraq War, drug laws (the anti-marijuana campaign in the US and decrimi-

nalization in other countries), civil rights (same sex marriage, the Patriot Act's infringement on basic rights), etc. Or we can look closer to home at the St. Andrews campus and Laurinburg. One great thing about our college is that we are given opportunities to let the people running things know what we think and want. What they do with that, if anything, is another issue, but it is supremely important that we not let this chance for a hand in the control of our lives here and the ability to raise our voices fall away.

So, let's pick up this St. Andrews tradition of free speech and open dialogue again. This is what you do:

1) Write up a page or two on changes that you'd like to see happen, a gripe you that have, an opinion that you think needs publicity or anything else you want the campus to read. Just stay away from slander and overly vulgar stuff. We won't edit your content, just proof the writing and distribute.

2) Sign it! This gives the piece credibility.

3) Save it to disk if at all possible and stick it in the slot in one of the white boxes in LA, MJ, Vardell or Belk.

Not long afterwards, unless we need to contact you, you're piece will be in stacks on the tops of the dialogue boxes and possibly on cafeteria tables and such.

SO SAY SOMETHING!

If you want to help put this out, contact me, April at linkad@sapc.edu or ext. 5382.

Bible Bans Boy Brides

Chuck Bond
The Lance

First of all, let me just say that I honestly don't care what you think about homosexuality. I don't care if your God says it's wrong, and I don't care if your President says it's wrong; the simple truth is that there is absolutely no legal reason to oppose same-sex marriage, or at least there wasn't before the Defense of Marriage act of 1996. I understand the churches not wanting to marry same-sex couples as it is expressly forbidden in the book of Leviticus (Lev. 18:22). Of course the Book of Leviticus is the book that gave us such all time classic hits as: you can only have one species of animal hooked up to a cart at a time (Lev. 19:19), and you may not lay with a women during her menstrual cycle (Lev.18:19), but I digress. So the Bible is against homosexuality for the most part, I'm fine with that, the Bible is against a lot of things that I find not only quite fun, but also quite fulfilling.

So why is our government against

same-sex marriage? To answer this question I turned to an old friend of mine, the Bill of Rights. I know many of you out there in post 9/11 America have forgotten ol' Bill, but I for one haven't. Oddly enough Bill didn't say anything about outlawing marriage amongst homosexuals. As I was reading it I was taken aback by certain things which I found appalling, like the fact that it guarantees freedom and a say in the government only to a select number of white male landowners. Barring these glaring faults, I would have to say that the constitution is overall a big fan of freedom. Our society today at least pretends to be big fans of freedom, with big American flags on the back of each car. I mean we are even such fans of freedom we have taken the whole freedom thing on the road, first we freed Afghanistan, then Iraq, soon maybe the whole world will be free, including America. The fact is we just now made it legally ok for people to have sex in a non-traditional way (sodomy), and Virginia still has issues with

that. Let's look at the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996. The DOMA defined marriage as a legal union of man and woman as husband and wife. It goes on to define spouse as someone of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife. So there you go, finally we find some legal reason to oppose gay marriage. The problem is, someone just made it up. There is no historical backing. There is no reason to define the parameters of marriage this way, unless of course you want to make it certain that same-sex marriage doesn't become legal. The act jumps right off the bat by saying that no state has to recognize any other definition of marriage. So if I get married to a lovely young man in Amsterdam, whom my parents love by the way, and move back to the States to be closer to the aforementioned parents, the state I move to does not have to recognize us as married.

President Bush recently made mention of the Defense of Marriage Act in his

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A Yankee's Perspective on Winter Headwear

Peter Galan
The Lance

Where I'm from (Rochester, New York) it is essentially winter 6 months of the year: October until April. Yes, I have had snow on Easter Sunday. So whenever I went out somewhere, it was always, "Peter, do you have a hat?" And of course I would say, "Yes, Mother, I have a hat." But that's all it was. A hat. And then I came to St Andrews. When I first heard people talking about getting this "Really Cool Toboggan" at American Eagle or Aeropostale or whatever is "cool" in that moment, I said, "You bought a sled at American Eagle? Why would you do a silly thing like that?" Of course I got some really weird looks for saying that - silly me for being an ignorant

Yankee - as people told me that a toboggan was something that you wear on your head. The "hat" to which I referred as a New Yorker was, to you Southerners (sorry, "y'all") a toboggan. I thought that was pretty goofy. I mean seriously, who wears a sled on their head??

And then there are the Canadians. Boy are there some Canadians here. It seems like every other person here is from our "Neighbors to the North". Don't get me wrong, I love 'em all to death, but even they don't know how to talk (don't get me started on the whole aBOOT thing. Silly Canuckleheads© [Joe Harris, Spring 2003]). Remember the "hat" I was talking about? Sorry, the "toboggan"? No no no, it's not a toboggan; it's not even a hat. To them, it's a toque, eh? Now, I will

be honest for a minute here. If I don't call it a hat, then I am going to call it a toque. But still. Why would you create a new word just to describe something that already exists as a "hat"???? Toque isn't even French, which, if it was, would make complete sense, considering most Canadians speak French. No, they have to go and throw a big ol' monkey wrench into the works, make up a new word, and call it a toque.

Beanie. No, I am not talking about the catatonic friend of Patch Adams, who perpetually was raising his hand, telling the world which way heaven is, where the birds fly, and how you say hello to Hitler (to name but a few of the questions asked by Patch; see the movie, it's a classic). No, I am talking about another name for that God-forsaken hat-toque-toboggan.

I have heard the term bandied about a bit, but I would have to say that it is the least popular of the names. However, this is what I think a beanie to be:



Yes, that's right. A baseball-cap-ish hat with a propeller on top of it. Is it a hat? A toque? Toboggan? Beanie? Knit Cap (which I didn't even get into; it sounds way too formal and antiquated to even warrant discussion)?? Who knows, and in the grand scheme of things, who cares? All I know is that when it is cold outside, I've got my hat, and my head will be warm.