



"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

Interesting to Boot

Reid Mosher

If you're like me, you love music. It is all around us. It is so powerful that the appropriate song can actually make you get out of bed after a rock star weekend triple header and be glad to do it. No matter what your state of mind, music has the power to move us. My question to you is, where does your music move you? Does it take you to that warm place of summer days, or to that cold heavy pity of depression era times?

What's your music? Why do you like it? Have you ever really thought about what your music is saying? Have you been listening to the new Chili Peppers or have you dug into the old school tunes of back in the day?

As a random aside, The symbol of Scotland County, the crest, bears the blindfolded maiden of liberty, bearing a sword in one hand and a scale of balance in the other. In this comparative scenario, Rock music is obviously the sword, and country and R&B are the scale. Personally, the warriors of rock have always inspired me ... the tempo, the sound, the words. This has been my butter and my bread for years. And a band like Linkin Park can certainly get you out of bed, but when they leave you with "find another place to feed your greed, while I find a place to rest", I find myself wondering who they're talking to. Common sense tells me they are sticking it to the man...as it were. These lyrics, however tell me that society is greedy, or my peers are greedy, or "the system", whatever that is.

I find myself revisiting some of the rock songs that built my basic credos, and lyrics that I have hummed unknowingly a hundred times, and realize that they are significantly out of line with what my point of view has become. Why has Metallica slowed down you might ask a knowledgeable "Metal-head", and they would say it's that they got old, that they were starting to get headaches. One of the most attractive things about rock and roll is that it is raw energy. Whether or not that energy is the type of energy you need is another question. Krispie Krems are also raw energy, but I dare you to live on them for more than a day or two. From when The Beatles started touring till the time Taking Back Sunday's latest video was linked to your Myspace page, modern music has been important to us. I think it's time we start looking very closely at what we want, and adjust our Mp3 players and Ipods to suit; time to re-evaluate the music we're listening to, and look for those undiscovered gems that have a good message and are interesting to boot.

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Needed!

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Independence

Christina Kalinski

Although it has been the philosophy of St. Andrews to create an atmosphere of comfort and togetherness on the living side of the lake, perhaps it is time for administration to re-evaluate its original principles.

St. Andrews has prided itself on this unique type of living arraignment: all students on campus. It is part of the philosophy at this school "St. Andrews is a residential, liberal arts college where the daily living environment plays as important a role in student learning and development as the academic experience does... Students living off campus without permission risk loss of financial aid and disciplinary action" (The Saltire 23). It is also a commitment each student makes after reading the Saltire and signing their submission. Something that is perhaps necessary for an inexperienced freshman, but more limiting to a budding upperclassman.

With the capability to house approximately 850 students at maximum capacity, there isn't really much of a need for optional methods of housing. At the current enrollment of roughly 750, St. Andrews can still comfortably house all students in any of the six moderately-sized dormitories on campus.

In a search of variety and more independence, students (more specifically juniors and seniors) look to their living arrangements as constrictive and limiting, not conducive for learning the workings of the world. It has been 48 years since St. Andrews opened its doors for service. The growing demand for independence at an earlier age is certainly becoming more evident. The best path for preparation is experience.

However, living off campus is an option that administration has closed the door on. With a projected increase in enrollment for the 2008-2009 academic year, it seems to make a great deal of sense to allow the overflow of upperclassmen to make less restrictive living choices and be allowed the option of off-campus housing. Not only will this provide St. Andrews with more room for incoming freshman, but also generate more income for the community.

Fighting is not Appropriate

Jordan Copp

Engaging in a physical altercation is a crime punishable by the law. A handful of you reading this might scoff at this since you have been in a fight on campus and received a punishment that hardly made you blink an eye. Well the days of "Camp St. Andrews" as many students like to call this school are over. The administration, the Student Government, and much of the student body itself are fed up with the almost weekly fights that occur both on and off campus. Fighting simply will not be tolerated any more.

The administration, security, and resident assistants will be cracking down not only on fighting, but on underage and dry-dorm drinking which seems to be a primary cause of these fights. The time for warnings has past, and many individuals have taken advantage of the consideration given in handing out discipline. Certain students underestimate the levity of fighting, and now they will be reminded. So unless you want to suffer consequences as serious as suspension and even expulsion, I

suggest putting your fists down. The fighting around campus is a greater problem than just the danger to the students directly involved. It is more than just breaking the rules and getting punished by the administration. St. Andrews used to be a peaceful, light hearted campus on the weekends. One professor noted that in his many, many years at St. Andrews, he could count on one hand how many fights that occurred. This year, however, more fights have taken place over the course of six months than in the past twenty or more years. As both the Campus Judicial Representative and as a member of the St. Andrews community, this is very disheartening to me. Despite the attitudes that certain students may hold, this campus belongs equally to every person on it. When you choose to engage in a fight, you are ruining the night or weekend for everyone else. Fighting, therefore, tells the rest of the students that you do not care at all for their rights or happiness. Is that the kind of person that you want to be? Hopefully the answer is no.

SGA? What in the World is That?

Alicia Toke

SGA is the "Student Government Association", question is what exactly is it and what do they do? Some of the student population does not know what SGA is or their function. The random people I have asked about SGA do not know who is in it, or when the voting has taken place. The students of SGA try to get people to vote in the elections, but how many people truly know the ones that they are voting in. Freshmen hardly know any of the names of the people in SGA.

Since the SGA is a student government, you would think that they discuss issues that involve the students. What are the issues that they discuss? Are the issues that SGA talk about that important? If SGA discusses issues that are important to the student body then why do we the students know nothing about it? There should be forums discussing what SGA is doing, and what they are talking about.

The ways for SGA can let students know what they are

discussing or deciding is to send out emails about what is going on. Also, SGA can send out an email explaining what SGA does and why they are so important to the college and the student body. For the SGA president and the rest of the cabinet, it would be helpful if they introduced themselves at lunch or dinner by randomly going up to people and talking to them.

A student government is important to any college, but it is also important for the students of the college to know why it is important. When students do not know what is going on, or why they have a student government, then something is missing and people should make it their duty to let the students know.