



### CAMPAIGN '85



Meet the presidential candidates, Teresa Lennon and Martin Rayner. (Not pictured is Louise Driver)  
Photo by John B. Henderson.

## Presidential Candidates Express Their Views

By Genevieve M. Wilson

There are three individuals seeking election as President of the Student Government Association, 1985-1986 to represent the students of Fayetteville State University. The candidates are Louise Driver, Teresa Lennon, and Martin Rayner.

"The Voice" interviewed them for the benefit of the students to have a better perspective of their chosen candidate.

**What are four major goals you want your administration to accomplish?**

**Driver:** The four major goals I want the SGA administration to accomplish include: 1) Making the necessary changes to improve the overall academic environment, 2) establishing positive, progressive programs to improve the university family's self-esteem, 3) implementing programs to improve the student-vs-faculty rapport, and 4) representing, aiding and/or assisting all people concerned with any restoration or future growth projects on and off campus.

**Lennon:** My mission calls for an articulation of the future that will ensure fulfillment of not only four but five important goals: 1) academic excellence, 2) unification of the student body, 3) a caring environment, 4) an enrichment of culture, and 5) last but not least to instill among students self pride as well as institutional pride (FSU).

**Rayner:** First and foremost, a reduction in the rate of academic suspension, meaning a boost to student morale, this can only occur with the help of the upper-classmen and incoming freshmen; 2) a closer look at the administration of the university. For example, why do all activities have to go all the way to the Chancellor? Are we (students) to assume he is the only man for the job? and 3) relating to the second, is a look at why a college/university allows the dormitories to run out of oil during the semester? Is there a breakdown of communication between the dorm directors and the heads of the university's housing division; and 4) finally, I want to aid improving the relationships between students, faculty, and administrators. We have to realize that these people are here for us and we have created their jobs by just being here. As you can see, these goals mean nothing without the help of the student body. The student is what can make or break a university. Let's pull together and make something positive happen.

**How will you go about changing the "morale" on campus? What programs will be of interest to the university family?**

**Driver:** I would make an effort to improve the "morale" on campus through direct positive, motivating interaction programs involving the students as well as the faculty, staff and administrators. I would implement the following programs that would be of interest to the university family: 1) self awareness educational classes and 2) career awareness programs.

**Lennon:** I would try to encourage the students to become more involved in the ideas and changes that "we" would like to see implemented. If we worked together, there would be a feeling of self-accomplishment among each student as well as more realization as to what "we" as students can do as a whole.

**Rayner:** Changing the morale is no easy task because that involves pleasing most of the people all of the time. Hopefully, on our campus, Greeks will become more involved on weekends, but for morale to improve, grades have to improve so that students will feel better about themselves. Programs that I would like to see implemented are: 1) a poetry interpretation group that travels around Fayetteville to the primary and secondary schools performing; 2) an FSU speech team; 3) the NAACP on the campus; 4) also for students short of aid, the paperback books used during the semester could be on reserve until students can obtain the money to purchase them.

**On the basis of your observations and experiences, what factors are particularly favorable to the introduction and expansion of student participation? What factors are particularly unfavorable-operating as obstacles?**

**Driver:** On the basis of my observations and experiences, I can favorably attest to the growth potential of all FSU students.

The introduction and expansion of student participation with campus related activities is a direct reflection of the university's leadership. A deficiency of positive leadership among the university family is a noted unfavorable-operating obstacle at FSU.

**Lennon:** I would say one of the most important factors favorable to the introduction and expansion of student participation is that every student here has the potential and "spunk" to excel in whatever task attempted. The unfavorable factors are the lack of self pride and confidence to believe that no matter whether or not you win or lose, you have worked and strived to the best of your ability and despite what others have to say, you can at least say I've tried.

**Rayner:** For student participation, from my observation, entertainment is a must. People at our university must have a little school spirit. Someone with a lot of school spirit will have to be at the head of any project started. STUDENT APATHY on this campus is unbelievable. Everyone's philosophy is to take care of number one.

**What should the relationship be between the SGA President and University administrators?**

**Driver:** The SGA President and university administrators should maintain a mutual, respectable relationship to achieve prospective goals while effectively representing the university family.

**Lennon:** I think the relationship between the SGA President and university administrators should be one that is open minded to all suggestions.

**Rayner:** A relationship of business, where the president and administrators can work hand in hand to go to bat for the same causes.

**What kind of grassroots input will you have in selecting main attractions to appear on campus?**

**Driver:** The kind of grassroots input I will have in selecting main attractions to appear on campus will be based on the ability of the person and/or group to fulfill a variety of acceptable educational, social and ethnic voids.

**Lennon:** I would hope to have many ideas that I know could be instrumental in obtaining these main attractions.

**Rayner:** My selection will be made by going the route of past SGA presidents and then venturing out toward new roads and discussing with other college SGA presidents how they attract the "name" groups. Cooperation and knowing people in the right places will help in selecting and obtaining name groups for our campus.

**Why do you want to be SGA President?**

**Driver:** I would like to become the next SGA president because I can effectively represent the university family through acceptable interactions and communications with society's diverse population of individuals.

**Lennon:** I wish to be SGA president so that I, along with the student body, might be able to promote growth and encouragement. Also, I feel that I am a leader and a true leader has not only academic excellence but courage to try despite the outcome. Academic excellence is hard to find but courage is even a more difficult task.

**Rayner:** I would be a strong SGA president because Fayetteville State University has helped me to obtain a life-long goal of a college education. I would like to give myself back to the university by serving the fellow students of Fayetteville State University as SGA President.