

Dust in the Corner

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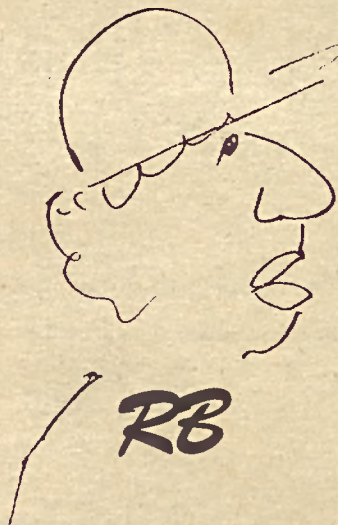
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Will elections bring change?



As the outgoing President of the freshman class, I have faced many issues that presently concern us, such as the re-evaluation of the system in the SGA, by a collective body of students and the planning of a conference which has recently been cancelled.

The Student Government Association is our representative body. As we define the word "government", we find it is for the people and by the people, and when a person is elected, he should have the responsibility and the leadership to represent the students at Montreat-Anderson College.

The government should not be run by one faction, be it

United States or Montreat-Anderson College, There should be no secrets kept from the electors. The electors should at anytime be able to evaluate their government.

I believe in the student government, but also I believe that students are the ultimate in our student government.

That is the same now that was true yesterday and it will be true tomorrow. The right to petition any government which calls itself a government should not be denied, abridged or hampered.

I have been honored to represent the freshman class in the SGA and I hope my successor will continue to speak for the students.

Students petition Honor Council

by RHETT TABER

Student Problems Editor

As the student problems editor it is my duty to investigate issues that concern the student body. This article will deal with the topic of the recent controversy concerning the Honor Council. In order to present this article objectively, I have decided to give both parties involved a

chance to voice their opinion. I feel that this way you the student can decide for your self what is right or wrong.

The following is a copy of the petition concerning the possible impeachment of the Honor Council:

"We the following students of Montreat-Anderson College hereby use the right of petition to bring about the knowledge of bias and prejudiced judgement to bring about equal justice amongst all of the student body. This we feel should enable a better understanding and relationship with the student body and faculty. We will pursue the matter to extreme change and review of the Honor Council by the student body to the point of impeachment if necessary."

The general feeling of the petitioners is that the Honor Council is not being fair in it's judgements concerning some students. The key word in their petition is "REVIEW". They feel in some instances the Honor Council has acted in a prejudiced manner, and is not judging some people fairly.

Another issue that the petitioners wish to bring out is that according to the constitution there are certain duties that the Honor Council should perform, but for some reason has not performed. Due to the fact that these neglected duties are important issues of the proceedings, I can not mention what they are at this time but hopefully will be able to report on them at a later date.

In an attempt to keep this article as unbiased as possible I went to the President of the Honor Council and asked for a statement from him on this matter.

The Honor Council is composed of student elected officers and representatives and faculty advisors who work together to uphold the rules and ideals of Montreat-Anderson College. The Council's duties as outlined in the Student Handbook are to hear evidence concerning and to take action on all cases referred to it by the the Dean of Students or involving serious violations of school rules and all violations of the

Honor Code.

It also views cases from other courts regarding disciplinary probation, suspension, expulsion or request to withdraw. Honor Council is also given the authority to decide all questions involving interpretation of the SGA constitution and of college regulations. It's interpretation of college regulations are subject to review by the Administrative Committee.

In viewing cases, Honor Council attempts to judge each case on all the evidence it can gather along with the testimony of the defendant and witnesses. After hearing the defendant's testimony privately and in confidence, the Honor Council weighs the facts in relation to the situation and reaches a decision as to the defendant's innocence, or guilt, and his punishment if found to be guilty, by a vote of its members. Any defendant has the right to appeal a decision of Honor Council by following the proper procedures as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Because Honor Council meetings are held confidentially only those involved directly in the case know exactly what happened at the meeting or why a certain decision was made. Often a great deal of hearsay and unfounded opinions about Honor Council proceedings are circulated by students who know only a few facts. It is the responsibility of the individual student to distinguish between fact and rumor and to assure himself that the judgement he makes about the Honor Council is based on fact and not hearsay.

In closing, I hope that his article has been of some help to you the individual student. I hope that it cleared up some things in your mind so that you can now understand what the petition is all about.

I am interested in your comments on this issue. If you have a view please let me know. I hope to do a follow-up article on the results of the proceedings and your opinion would be very helpful. Once again, here are the facts, YOU decide for yourself who is right or who is wrong.

A matter of principle by Robert Heeth

I wish that everyone could have seen our Greybeard Players' production of "Ten Little Indians." Everything was superb; of course, you never hear anything but raves about a Greybeard play. (I was seated in the midst of an island of people who were putting on another production—namely, a running debate over who murdered whom. I didn't think it could have been anybody, and I still don't. Who could have put the knife in General MacKenzie's back, uh?)

Dr. C. C. Kinnison is to be wholeheartedly congratulated for putting together a drama program as successful as ours. I'm sure it takes unbelievable energy to prepare costume, makeup, sets, lights and sound, plus whip the actors into shape and find the money to do it all. Such time and such energy, I fear, that a teacher and a director might have trouble separating his responsibilities to each in his mind.

A case in point: Dr. Kinnison has repeatedly used his speech class to perform errands and services for the drama program. He told each of the members of his speech class to sell five \$1.00 patron's certificates, for which the patrons would get their names printed on the backs of the play programs. He also had his class members distributing leaflets advertising the recent play.

Last Tuesday, Dr. Kinnison's speech class waited the prescribed 15 minutes for their teacher to show up. As they were walking back to their dorms, a member of the drama club drove up to tell them that "Doc" wanted them to help move furniture from set of the recent play at Assembly Inn.

Someone asked why the speech class had to move furniture for the drama department. They were told, in so many words, that if they didn't, they would receive an 'F' for the day.

Perhaps if this request had been put to the class as a request—surrounded by "if you please" and "would you mind"—it would have been more palatable. But there was nothing to suggest to the students that they had any choice but to obey.

Teachers should be sensitive to the power they hold over students. Naturally students want to please their teachers, and fear that if they displease a teacher it will affect their final grade. Though they are not likely to deny a teacher's request, they will quickly lose respect for a teacher they feel is practicing favoritism or use grading criteria other than course work.

Of course, students should do favors for their professors as they would for any Christian brothers. But responsible instructors will take special care to let the student know that he does not have to run errands for the teacher, and that what he does or does not do for the teacher will not be reflected in his grade.

For Dr. Kinnison or any other faculty member to give students any other impression is to promote an atmosphere of dishonesty and disrespect between the faculty and the student body. We certainly don't need that kind of atmosphere at Montreat-Anderson College.

Letter to the editor

EDITOR'S NOTE: We appreciate and solicit all letters and comments. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. We must retain supreme editorial power over whatever we publish. Put your letters in the "Newspaper" box in Gaither's front office.

Due to the recent events in our own Davis Hall:

The mighty dorm council

pulled the old switcharoo trick in Davis Dorm just before the break. Yes its true—without the consent of the students and without prior notice of such an upcoming overhaul, Ron Mabrey and his mighty mice moved the militant monsters from the first floor to the third floor, even isolating some of the worst characters. And the change was already apparently taking effect the last day before the break. The first floor hall was actually quieted down by 2:30 A.M.—a new record that we are all sure to

remember.

I personally think that it is really great the way our exalted leaders have tried to help these poor misguided creatures. I would also like to commend them for the way they have shown so much concern for the individual with little regard for any system. I'm sure that they would agree that people are more important than systems or organizations.

by TIM PEELER

