

# The Sou'wester

southwestern at memphis

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## Elections Commission proposes constitution Ratification vote to be held on Wednesday

A new constitution for the Elections Commission will be presented to the student body for a ratification vote on Wednesday, 23 March, 1977; needed for ratification is a 2/3 majority of the votes cast. The constitution if approved will replace the old one. Comments, questions, or suggestions are welcome. See Commissioner Bart Spencer in 211 Townsend.

The proposed constitution:

### Article I

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Elections Commission of Southwestern At Memphis.

Section 2. The purpose of this Commission shall be to conduct and be responsible for all elections concerning the student body or a specific class and those specifically called by the President of the Student Government Association.

### Article II

Section 1. The officers of this Commission shall be Commissioner, Vice Commissioner and Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. The voting members of this Commission shall be the eight elected representatives, hereafter referred to as the Election Board, from the student body with each class electing two representatives.

Section 3. The Commissioner, Vice Commissioner and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the Election Board set forth in Section 2 of this Article. The election shall take place at the end of Term II of

the school year with the officers-elect taking office in time to prepare for the spring elections.

Section 4. (a) The Commissioner shall be the presiding officer of all elections and meetings. The Commissioner shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tied vote in matters of business of this Commission.

(b) The Vice Commissioner shall preside in the absence of the Commissioner and shall assume the duties in case of resignation or removal from office. Removal from office shall require a three-fourth vote of the Election Board.

(c) The Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for all records of the elections. This position shall also be responsible for all financial records.

(d) The Election Board shall vote in all matters of business. It shall also elect a vice commissioner in the event that the previous vice commissioner has risen to the office of commissioner, or resigned.

### Article III

Section 1. A meeting of the officers and the Election Board shall be held weekly or such determined by the Commissioner.

### Article IV

Section 1. The Commissioner shall decide and announce the date of election two weeks in advance with petitions available at that time. Petitions shall be required for all offices of the Student Government Association, Class Representatives to the Student Government Association and all Commissioners except Elections. Petitions shall be

returned to the Commissioner one week prior to the election. Twenty-five signatures shall be required for petition of the elections. For an office of a specific class only members of that class may sign a petition.

Section 2. Candidates may campaign one week prior to the election and must remove all campaign material one hour after the poll is closed. Campaigning expenses shall not exceed fifteen dollars per candidate in a general election and five dollars per candidate in a class election. Each candidate shall be informed of these rules by the Commissioner before campaigning begins; failure to comply shall be subject to penalty as decided by the Election Board and the Commissioner.

Section 3. An assembly shall be called by the Commissioner prior to the election in which candidates

may present their views and answer questions.

### Article V

Section 1. The poll shall be centrally located in the Student Center from eight o'clock a.m. until four o'clock p.m. on the day of election and attended by a member of the Commission during that time. Candidates may not sit poll duty.

Section 2. No campaigning shall take place in the Student Center Lobby on the day of elections.

### Article VI

Section 1. Candidates' names shall be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order.

Section 2. The election shall be by secret ballot; voting shall be preferential as described in Section 3 of this Article except in a yes or no election.

Section 3. Each voter shall be

instructed to mark on his ballot a "1" by the name of his first choice of nominees, a "2" by his second, and so assigning a number to each remaining nominee. If the preferential system is employed for any election in which there are "X" positions to be filled, "X" of each voters choices shall be counted as first place votes. If there is not a majority, the candidate having the least number of votes shall be eliminated. Each vote for this candidate shall be counted as a vote for candidate numbered X-1. Votes not numbered after "X", if that ballot has gone to X-1, shall go to abstention.

Section 4. Votes shall be counted following the election in a place decided by the Commissioner.

Section 5. Ballots and petitions shall be kept one week following the

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## Distinctive grads (and comps?) dwindle

by Terry Needham

Alas, with the advent of spring, blue skies, 70 degree temperatures and a profusion of halter tops, Southwestern witnesses yet another seasonal development — cramming for comprehensive exams. Everyone of course knows what "comps" are, but few know the warning signs of an approaching comp or what evasive actions should be taken if a comp is near.

In many respects the signs of an approaching comp are similar to those of an Arkansas tornado. For instance, both typically occur in early spring. At this time seniors

disappear behind locked doors, in a room stockpiled with food and other necessities, and cover their face and neck with a nearby shield, such as a book. In addition these people tend to be fearful and overly anxious and some have been known to overindulge in stimulants (both legal and illegal) before an approaching comp.

But seniors fear not! Come out of your closets and barricaded rooms, for comps no longer hold fear for you. Yes, early this spring the faculty unanimously passed a resolution which would bestow the title "Graduation with Distinction"

only upon those fortunate few whose cumulative GPA surpassed 3.5 (instead of the previous 3.0) and who make a B or better on comps. In effect, for those students unaffected by the epidemic outbreak of grade inflation, there is no need to worry. All that is now required is a D- or better on comps (parts of which can be taken again, incidently). We are given our toilet-paper diplomas, a \$20,000 ticket to the unemployment line, and are ushered out the hollowed gates of Southwestern, with much pomp and ceremony, to face the real world where we can

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## Tennessee Tuition Grant campaign begins

A major campaign has started this week on campus with the purpose of encouraging state legislators to vote in favor of increased funds for Tennessee Tuition Grants. The "headquarters" is in lobby of the Student Center where form letters that can be signed, addressed, and mailed to state legislators may be found as well as general petitions, additional stationery for personal letters, and a petition for out-of-state students.

President Daughdrill in an open letter states the purposes and arguments well:

Dear Southwestern Students from Tennessee,

Tennessee needs a better plan to enable needy students to go to the colleges best suited to their needs. The present program is inadequate and costly. Tennessee must not remain nearly last in the nation in student aid.

As President of one of Tennessee's private colleges I support maximum funding of the State's Student Assistance Program so that needy students can attend the Tennessee college of their choice. I am joining with presidents of the other 38 private colleges in Tennessee to attract attention and support for this program.

Does the state have the funds? Yes. This program is a very small

part of the state's budget for higher education. From 1966 to 1976, funding for public higher education has increased 300%, from \$50 million to \$195 million. Those tax funds are subsidizing students at the rate of \$1,877 per student in our public institutions. Thousands of those students are from affluent homes. It is an error to assume that the state has the money to subsidize wealthy students in public universities but does not have the money to subsidize students with demonstrated need to attend the Tennessee college that best fits their needs. If the state has funds for those who don't need it, it should have funds for those who do need it!

The state government's first responsibility is not to its public institutions, it is to the citizens of the state. That responsibility means making certain that a wide variety of educational opportunities are available to meet the variety of needs of the citizens. The state government should do this in the most economical way possible, by providing aid to needy students.

I applaud the many contributions of public higher education in Tennessee. My concern is not about the institutions, but about the manner in which higher education is financed.

In Tennessee taxation is compulsory. When you make a purchase, you pay a tax. Elementary

and secondary education is compulsory also, and no one argues against compulsory taxes' supporting compulsory education across-the-board. But since higher education is voluntary, a fresh approach is needed so that compulsory taxes will support voluntary higher education in the best possible way.

I do not think the people of this state mind paying taxes to aid a student who genuinely needs the funds to attend a college, but the people of this state resent having their taxes go to subsidize a student who drives around a government university campus in a \$6,000 sports car. Their tax funds subsidize that student to the tune of \$1,877 a year so he pays only \$313 tuition at a government university.

Because our tax system is compulsory and because the poor make less use of higher education facilities, we wind up with an irony. The poor are subsidizing many of the rich in our public universities.

It is possible to argue that the private colleges are subsidizing the state by voluntarily educating Tennesseans who would probably enroll in public universities if the private colleges did not exist. If the private colleges closed and their students went to public universities, taxpayers would have an additional \$30 million tax burden! It follows that the private sector is of immense

economic importance to the state and should not be driven out of business by unsympathetic public policies.

Let me illustrate the economic importance of the private sector. If I asked you whether Alabama or Massachusetts spends more per \$1,000 of personal income on higher education, which would you guess? You would probably guess Massachusetts, but it is Alabama. Alabama ranks 7th nationally and Massachusetts ranks 48th. There is a very simple explanation. In Alabama there are very few private colleges, so the state has to carry a large percentage of the educational burden. In Massachusetts, however, over 60% of the educational burden is carried by private colleges. If those students were enrolled in public colleges, the cost to the state would be exorbitant. This year, Massachusetts is appropriating \$240 million with a total enrollment of 350,000. Tennessee is appropriating \$200 million with a total enrollment of 170,000 students in

all institutions! The private colleges in Massachusetts are saving that state enormous sums. Tennessee's 39 private colleges and universities, enrolling 40,000 students, save our state over \$30 million a year. **Private Colleges Serve The Public, Save You Taxes.**

The University of Chattanooga was once a private college costing the state nothing, until it merged with the public sector. Siena College in Memphis closed a few years ago, a victim of financial and enrollment problems. Continued mergers and closings like these will produce a prohibitively expensive government monopoly in higher education!

Diversity in education is important. Freedom of college choice is important. The taxpayers of Tennessee are important—and they deserve the most for their educational tax dollar.

The best way to keep diversity and freedom of college choice while holding down taxes is to help needy

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# THE SOU'WESTER

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# The Great Oz speaks.....

By Steve Minor

"A mind is a terrible thing to waste!" That slogan, in case you do not recognize it, belongs to the United Negro College Fund. It is also applicable in the case of the Tennessee Tuition Grant legislation. I have printed Mr. Whitley's letter because it represents a valid opposing opinion. But that does not mean that this paper's editors agree with it—we don't.

The issue is not derivative of a guilt complex; nor does it serve as an absolution for success, which is good and commendable. It is derivative of something we generally take for granted, often mistakenly: equality of opportunity. If "the best" were able to be determined by financial status Mr. Whitley would be correct; unfortunately such a criterion is invalid. Money is not a determinate of "smarts"; money is an external quantitative feature, intelligence an internal qualitative feature.

However money is a determining feature of opportunity; those with the cash to spare are more able to do more things, whether or not they actually have the competence to do those things. Which is to say that "the best," while he "should always win," doesn't, especially when he comes from a lower class or now a middle class background. In plain terms, more often than not "the best" cannot afford to be "the best."

No, Mr. Whitley, you do not owe "them" anything—except an opportunity. The TTG will not cost you one precious penny more; in fact you stand to save a few, which should appeal to the middle-class economics and advantages you have enjoyed, not by the fruits of your own climb, but by those of your father, or maybe even of your grandfather.

who have to; it certainly is not the best type of reading material. And what is more, it says nothing! And where is the reform President Steve Wade promised last year? His term of office is over in three weeks; what can he do now?

And I love the timing of the elections: the first full week of Term III. No press coverage in this paper is possible with that date; and is one week enough to have an adequate campaign? I seriously doubt it. But we must have them soon because this year's officers go out at Term II, and during the time between April 7 and the verification of the elections there will be no SGA!

No SGA—is not that a great idea? What of actual importance have they done except shuffle around some money, which is done in the business office anyway, and promote some events, which are initiated by other groups, eg. the Student Center, the Social Commission, the Greeks . . . .

Well, it looks nice, the proposed constitution of the Elections Commission that is; and it certainly cannot be worse than the old one. In fact it looks a little better—a little. I mean two weeks of campaigning and the ability to spend some money is a step in the right direction. And that all possible candidates should attend this week's SGA meeting is also a good idea.

But is it enough? Are these half-measures of reform going to be sufficient or will they be swallowed up in the conditioned day-to-day functioning of those agencies that make up our "student government"?

How many students have actually read the constitution of the SGA? Not many I am sure—only those

What I am asking the students of Southwestern is this: Do you think the SGA, as it is now, is an organization that serves any unique, useful purpose in a coordinated, efficient, worthwhile manner? Or is it a sham, an empty assembly, that has done nothing significant in any fashion other than as a figurehead?

Why don't we start from scratch and redo the WHOLE THING before we allow anyone else to go sit on his arse and maintain the limbo? I therefore propose this: next Wednesday when we all go vote on the proposed constitution of the Election Commission, VOTE NO!! Not as a vote against the constitution *per se* but as a vote against perpetrating the cycle which I do not see ending as long as the present system remains operative.

## SGA to pass buck

By Jerry Heston

The March 13 meeting of the SGA was hit once again by poor attendance, and once again nothing definite was accomplished. Treasurer Francis Clevenger was not present to give a needed financial report; Religion Commissioner Bonnie Allen, Pub Board Commissioner John Benoist, Class Secretaries Marynell Branch, Gwen Jones, and Bess Shirley were all absent.

Major discussion concerned elections of new Officers and Commissioners which will begin after Spring Break on April 20. New election procedures will be in effect, but newly elected Elections Commissioner Bart Spenser was not informed of the SGA meeting, so was not available to explain the new election methods.

Present Officers and Commissioners will prepare statements concerning job duties and issues for next year for the next SGA meeting. Student representatives on faculty committees are also requested to prepare a statement and to attend the next SGA meeting. Anyone

interested in running for any SGA office also should attend this meeting: March 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the Student Center.

Other business ranged from the Tennessee Tuition Grant Bill to the Riverboat Dance. The lobby campaign for the Tennessee Tuition Grant Bill started this week. Form letter petitions and petitions circulated in the dorms will be used to promote this bill in the Tennessee Legislature.

The Faculty voted against sponsoring student evaluations of faculty and classes. However, the SGA voted to carry out the evaluations. The procedure will resemble that used for Term I classes.

Welfare Commissioner Annie Stein asked for volunteers to help with the Job Placement Board in the Student Center. Anyone willing the help should contact Annie Stein.

The Social Commission announced that the Spring Riverboat Dance scheduled for May 20 will be sponsored by the Sigma Nu Fraternity. The SN's will publish details at a later date.

## Letters to Oz.....

To the Student Body:

Due to the fact that Easter appears during Spring Break, the Easter Bunny will do his best to make an appearance on the Southwestern campus sometime before Finals. More on this later.

EB

To all tea and coffee drinkers:

The next time you can't get a coffee cup out of the refectory kitchen just ask your professor. The steady stream of glasses, silverware, and especially coffee cups flowing out of the refectory in the hands of professors, students, and security guards is an old story. Aside from any question about the Honor System, how can anyone justify moving a cup or glass from the dining hall and leaving it in his or her room or office for any interval of

time? The refectory continues to buy new mugs and they continue to dissipate across the campus. Everyone has seen a glass or mug lying around by the roofball court or in your friend's room. At least we can return those. But the most disgusting sight in a school which maintains an Honor System is the amount of SAGA dishware sitting in Clough and Palmer. We're paying for it.

Taylor Phillips

Dear World,

Why is America selling itself down the river? Why does white America have such an ingrained guilt complex toward those who are a different color from, less educated, or poorer than them? After all we are all capitalists and believe that all men have choices they are free to

make, such as life style (if we aren't capitalists, we are fooling ourselves or are trying to overthrow the government which is blatantly illegal).

I for one have no guilt and feel no obligation to the poor or blacks, seeing as they have had equal rights for longer than I have lived. Take for instance the letter being circulated about the Tennessee Tuition Program. It puts forth the idea that I am paying taxes to educate those who have demonstrated need (i. e. the poor) whereas I would like to believe that I would be educating the competent. Why, I suppose I would be a brute to say that I prefer educating the boy in the sports car if he had made a 28 on his A.C.T. rather than the poor innocent with a 12. Why even the Great Americans of the day like Aaron Henry believe that I owe the black man my place in the world because of white oppression. Damn if I haven't been careful in my climb to where I am not to step on other people. I've oppressed no one and I believe the best man should always win.

Tim Whitley

## Odds and ends.....

DON'T FORGET next week is the FOOLS' Edition. Need that copy by 7:00 pm Sunday, March 20. Pictures, poems, stories, and other paraphernalia accepted. Put your head on backwards and take a look up the other end; tell us what you see. Prove how foolish you can be.

If there is enough interest, sailing may be taught third term. There will be limited enrollment. Please check signs and/or contact Bobbo Jetmundsen or Tom Hutchings, the instructors. 1/2 hour credit.

Congratulations to the Llewellyns, parents last week of a baby boy. Southwestern baby scoreboard: Boys 2, Girls 2.

Southwestern's chapter of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship has selected the following students as its leaders for 1977-78: Steve Hatcher, president; Beth Deming, secretary; Carol Lee Collins, treasurer; Mack Stiles, missions director; Paul Renfroe, small group director; Mary Anderson, John Ivy, Dave Dunavant, Dave Volgas, and Tom Edmondson, small group leaders; and Diana Scarborough, foreign missions secretary. The new leaders will begin their work in Third Term.

## TTG campaign begins

Continued from page 1

Tennessee students attend the Tennessee colleges of their choice. The Tennessee Student Assistance Program does not favor the public or private sector at the expense of the other. It favors both, it favors needy Tennessee students, and it favors Tennessee taxpayers.

I hope you will participate in the campus campaign to urge the state legislators to support full funding of the Tennessee Student Assistance Program.

## Elections

Continued from page 1

election in case of question by a candidate. In case of controversy or question the Election Board shall decide as stated in Article II, section 4, paragraph d.

Article VII

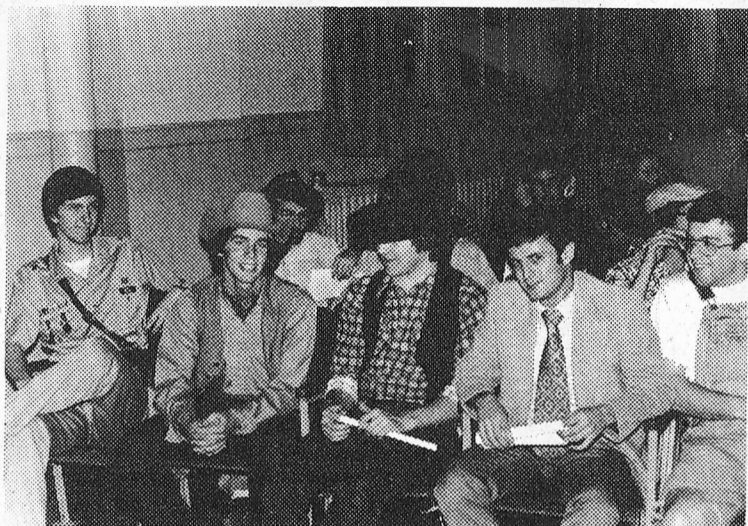
Section 1. This constitution may be amended by the consensus of six of the Election Board members.

Article VIII

This constitution shall be adopted as the constitution of the Elections Commission of Southwestern At Memphis subject to approval by the student body. Approval shall be by two-thirds of those votes cast in a general election. Article II section 3 shall take effect Term II, 1978.



# Parent's weekend: embraces, excitement, entertainment, escapades



## Action on gates still uncertain

by H. Scott Prosterman

Several weeks ago, you may recall, a petition was circulated, asking the college to change its policy of arbitrarily locking the gates on the east side of campus in the early evening. You might also recall the action taken by a small group of concerned students to begin enforcing the age-old ban on smoking in the classrooms. After many weeks of hot politicking and debate over these two controversial issues, I can now report that the Southwestern bureaucracy has taken another full turn, and is preparing for yet another one.

In short, the Community Life Committee agreed to enforce the existing rule prohibiting smoking in college classrooms, but it passed the question of the arbitrary security practices on to another committee (with an affirmative recommendation, at least). Both of these issues were referred to the Community Life Committee, and Professor Richard Gilliom was most helpful in insuring that these cases were heard.

However, the amiable reception by the committee was little consolation when I was finally told that my petition had been referred to the wrong committee. Thus, the wheels of the Southwestern bureaucracy continue to roll, as yet another issue has been well-chewed and spat out again for someone else to chew (the life out of).

It was somewhat encouraging, though, to hear from Dean Williford that the security issues petition was properly presented to the Administrative Cabinet, with the appropriate recommendations of the Community Life Committee. I was also told that they would get around to taking some affirmative action on the matter, around the beginning of Term III.

Well it's a good thing I'm patient. If Dean Williford had not been so sincerely accommodating, I might suspect that I'm being given the . . . (how you say) . . . "run around." For those of you who may be unfamiliar with bureaucratic decision-making, the "runaround" is where they pass a proposal from one committee or agency, to another, until the initiating forces of an issue become thoroughly exhausted, lose their

fire, and allow the matter to die. It has proven to be a very effective method throughout history. In fact, wars have been known to start because of the imperial "passing of the buck."

The decision-making process at Southwestern is much like that of the U.S. government or any institution which runs by a committee system. Without a strong ass-kicking executive in the middle of it all, such systems are generally ineffectual, as far as initiating new programs or policies. Why is this so?

For one thing, if the need for a specific action arises, no action can be taken until the proper committee meets. When the committee finally does meet, its members often debate all kinds of semi-relevant points, and lose sight of the basic needs, in doing so. We have seen in Congress how bills have been re-written, and taken out of context through their exhaustive and sometimes counter-productive debating procedures. In the end, a question might either die in sub-committee debate or be passed on to another committee for more treatment.

Another approach is to delay the action by needless rehashing, in

which time costs may rise and the effectiveness of the action be diminished. Every institution that runs by a system of committees has a variety of convenient port-holes built into its decision-making structure. How else could they weed out undesirable ideas, while making people think that they have a voice, than by placing them in an ineffectual committee?

If I appear to be pointing a finger at the Southwestern administration, I am also pointing one at the U.S. government and many other institutions. Lest I be accused of passing a judgement as Sam Ervin might, I would ask who doesn't claim a right to judge the decisions that effect his life directly; either those of the government, or the institution in which he lives and works? Judging another person's lifestyle or morals is another matter.

It must be pointed out that the security issues petition has not been completely thrown away; only passed on. Yet with every other BM (W)OC on a decision-making committee, of some sort, we wonder why we live by what Annie Stein called "a mandate handed down from the administration." We dwell in a cave.

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# Dormitory refund policy, communication problem cause concern

By Ron Sims

Next year campus-residing students will pay \$735 for singles or \$660 for doubles, and last week the cashier's office announce a change in policy concerning refunds of room fees. These new criteria have been set up:

a. The maximum refund in any case will be half of the yearly room fee.

b. No refunds after the end of Term I.

c. A student who withdraws from school in Term I because of illness will be refunded half the year's room fee. The same refund will be granted to seniors who graduate in Term I. Otherwise, there will be no refunds.

Interviews with cashier Sarah Bowlan, finance director Paul Hallock, and Dean Williford gleaned a variety of comments. Ms.

Bowlan emphasized that the new policy is actually an old policy which was suspended during the last two years due to conditions which allowed immediate occupancy of unforeseen vacancies.

Dean Williford declared the policy "fair if communicated to the students." The dean predicted that each request for refund would be individually considered, but that the student's financial matters would not be important as a criterion for the decision.

Paul Hallock expressed his confidence that the new policy would benefit students by keeping costs down. All three seemed confident that the policy is the best available solution to a difficult problem.

Mr. Hallock gave two reasons for the policy change. One compelling fact is that of 748 available places in

the dorms, only 680 are now filled, leaving 9% of the dorm capacity unused. The college, for the first time in years, lacks some of the dorm fees it had planned to receive. Mr. Hallock hopes that next year's refund policy will minimize the number of such surprises by influencing students not to move out of their rooms. Efforts by the admissions department to attract freshmen residents combined with a new freshman-financial-aid program are aimed at filling the empty beds next year.

The second major reason for limiting refunds is that arranging refunds and moving people into rooms is hard on the administration. Both Ms. Bowlan and Mr. Hallock emphasized the complications which plague Palmer Hall when one student moves out and another moves in.

An alternative to the new policy was suggested: give a moving-out student a partial refund if someone from the waiting list who wants his room will agree to pay the school the amount of the refund; such a deal would leave the college with just the amount it had expected to receive, no? Mr. Hallock's response: "It's not worth the time to handle all these things."

Commenting on the way the refund policies of the past have been handled, he observed, "This could be enforced more strictly than it has been." He explained that the college is small; it is not able to be as flexible as a larger school might be, where a hundred students comprise only one percent of the enrollment. *Commentary:* It is difficult to evaluate to what extent and in which matters the administration ought to cooperate with students in its decisions. There are, nevertheless, some general facts of the situation which indicate that student-administration cooperation is far from ideal.

Students are typically unaware of administrative decisions until the decision maker puts a note in the campus mailboxes. This state of ignorance persists even though there are lots of students on the faculty and administration committees. Having received the announcements, we students react, but our reactions accomplish little because they are late, weak, and poorly directed.

One problem is poor communication. Do the administrators really expect to discuss their decisions with students? In this year, the security, business, and finance administrators have acted

without student consultations to influence where we study, what we eat, and where we live. It was the cashier and not the S.G.A. who informed the student body of the policy change. Our student government is either uninformed or incommunicative; having been on the S.G.A. board of commissioners, I know that generally both conditions exist.

Another problem is the way the administrators approaches the student body. We are often treated as units of consumption and payment, as if we have desires which are to be indulged according to guidelines of fiscal responsibility, institutional development, and administrative efficiency. Students are not consumers of educational produce; financial policy ought not to be an effort merely to provide us what we pay for. The college is operated by the Presbyterian church, in theory, as a ministry to students. This year's catalog states, "The constant aim is a genuine community where rights, responsibilities, and powers will be properly divided and assigned, but where there will be no arbitrary exercise of authority . . ." Mr. Hallock's response that "It's not worth the time . . ." is not worthy of

these purposes.

Partial solutions are within students' grasps. The first step is what we all have heard before: we must be concerned, enough to want to know what's happening, enough to want to make things happen, enough to care about who represents us on the S.G.A. and in the faculty committees. We must earn the right to demand to be included in decisions because we are mature and knowledgeable.

The second step is that we must become effectively organized. Our student government is not set up for communication, representation, and responsive action. It is designed to maintain programs: dances, beer busts, convocations, senior graduation exercises, k.t.l.

The decisions about refund policy are not major decisions in that they do not affect the overall structure and direction of the school. But these decisions are representative of the current situation in Palmer Hall; they show how student input is generally lacking in the decision-making process. Will this example, the "new" policy on refunds, pass by as other examples have, unnoticed? What happens when a major decision must be made?

## Measles spotted on campus

Thursday, March 8: What do a leopard, a Kandiyohi leopard frog, a speckled trout, a stage, the sun, and Peter Christian have in common? Give up? You had better said "spots."

They are the result of a disease that has been easing through the Southwestern student ranks. I have just come down with it.

German measles is the disease, mild to us but extremely dangerous to women in early pregnancy because it causes severe birth defects. The high communicability of measles adds to the risk.

This article is a plea to those students who may catch the measles: GO TO THE INFIRMARY IMMEDIATELY! Do not nurse them in your room. If you have already had them and did not

go to the infirmary, please turn in a list of those with whom you did have contact to the infirmary. Some of those people may have had contact with women in early pregnancy (like professors with wives . . .). It is the least we can do to isolate and ends its pressure on comps, as well as ease the minds of those women expecting the miracle of new life.

Saturday, March 12: To date 32 Southwestern students have had the measles. We are happy to report that Peter is out again. The Health Department has been on campus taking blood tests to see if this really is German measles, or something else entirely, like dormant leprosy or contagious acne. The signs are swollen glands and a rash. If you get something suspect to this, be safe and go to the infirmary.

## Comps lose punch

Continued from page 1

become gainfully unemployed.

Thus in one swift and calculated move the S.W. faculty has abolished, for almost all practical purposes, the need for comprehensive examinations, though you can be sure this was not their intended purpose. All may not be lost for those graduating seniors with a GPA of 3.0-3.49, however, because of some vague wording in the resolution. This clause states that the new requirement should go into effect at the soonest possible date, which at least one person interpreted as meaning that the new regulation would go into effect next

year, at which time it could be stated in the catalogue. If this new regulation goes into effect this academic year, a notion John Turpin feels compelled to enforce, then this may be the first time in SW history, that the catalogue regulations were not followed.

If any of this really offends you, talk to somebody on the faculty or administration, but if Annie Stein's recent observations are correct, no one will listen anyway, so perhaps you can go to Alex's and drink beer, which is, by the way, the recommended evasive action for an approaching comp.

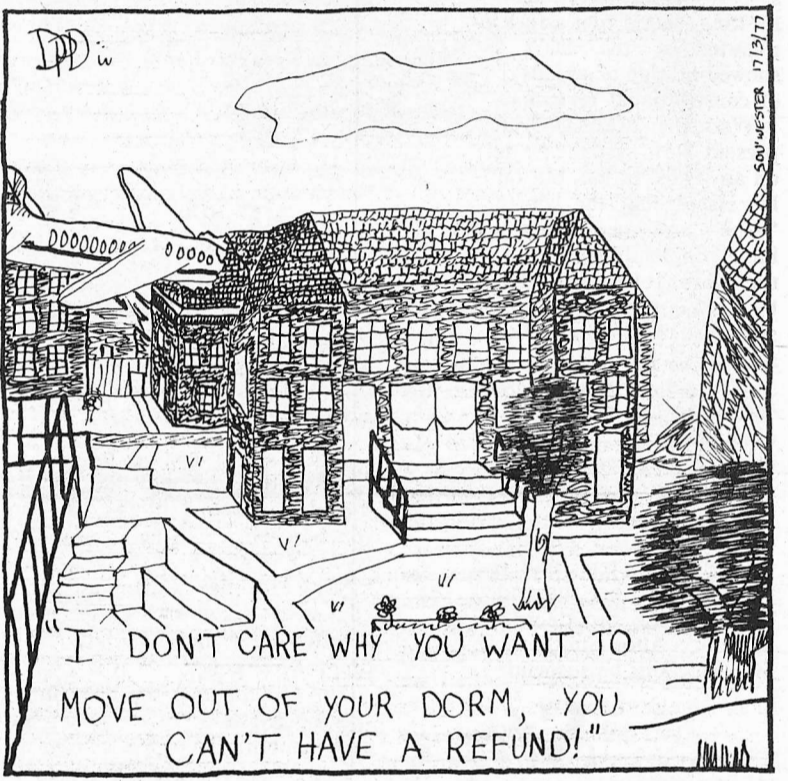
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