

Editorial

**Student 'Senate' is misnomer**

by Jackie Skaluba

Traditionally the last publication of the school year finds the outgoing editor all teary-eyed and sentimental.

Sorry to disappoint, but there's a soapbox here with my name on it and I'm going to give it one more shot.

The topic -- Student Senate.

Last August I invited the Student Senate to use the Lumberjack as a public forum to reach the student body. I thought that with a little coaxing we could get the ball rolling -- after all, isn't the game at its most interesting when the ball is in motion?

Admittedly there were times when the urge to play hardball was hard to resist and at times the popular paranoia voiced the opinion that I was about to spike the ball. (Don't you hate it when people try to reduce life to a simile of organized sports?)

Over all, I think I've shown an (uncharacteristic) degree of patience and self restraint. There were more than a few re-writes as I edited rough drafts I had written in light of one set of interesting circumstances or another; and to tell you the truth, I'm still a little curious about a certain collection of parking tickets and whether or not Norm has ever considered a career in television, as say the host of *Let's Make a Deal*.

However, curiosity aside, I've had some time to make a few observations and it's been

enlightening.

I've listened to the 'student apathy' argument and the 'ineffective student government' argument and many of the variations in between.

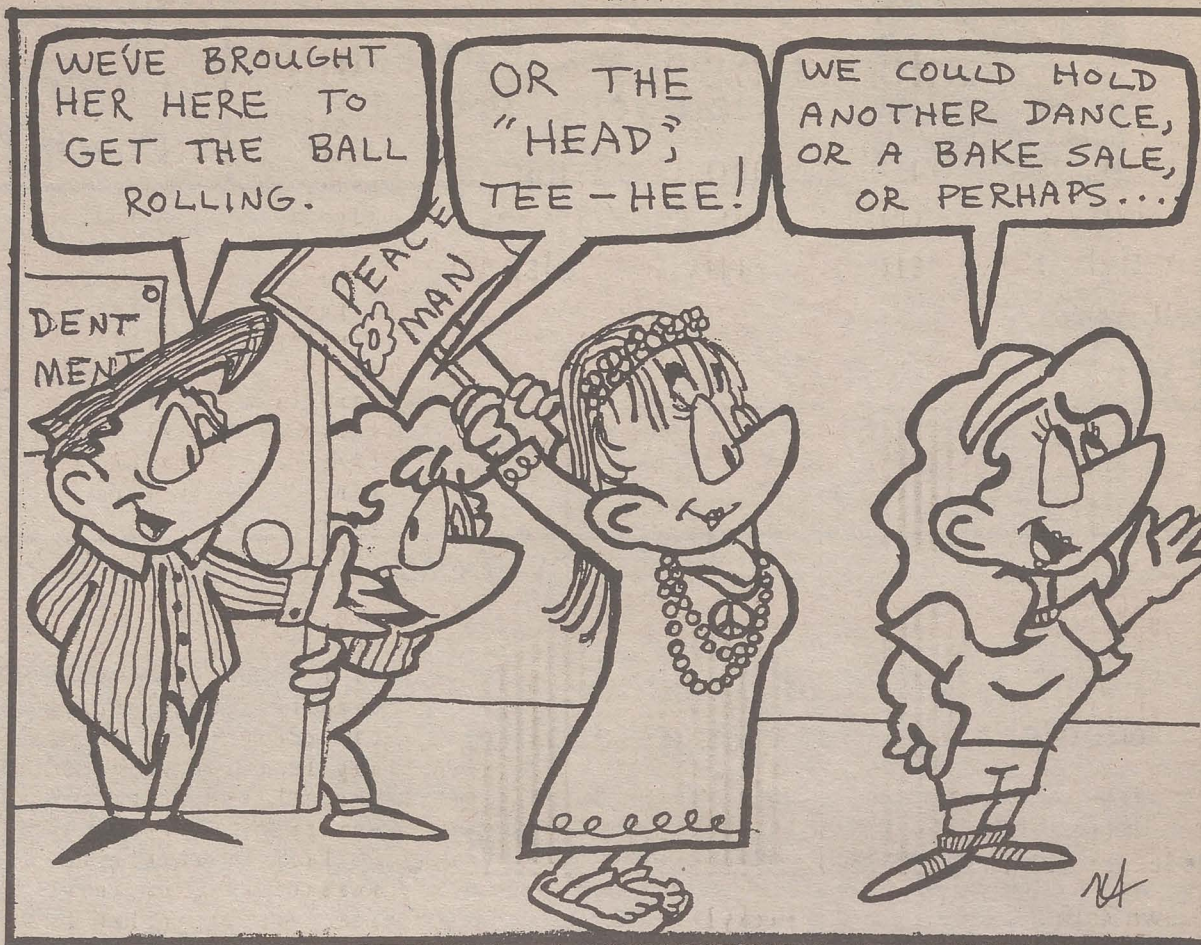
I can't buy into the 'student apathy' theory -- too many holes. It's a common pitfall: looking for an easy answer to a difficult problem.

Time for a little creative problem solving. Remember, just because it isn't black doesn't mean it has to be white -- not when there are so many shades of gray to choose from. Or, maybe it's red!

I understand from some of our more 'seasoned' teachers that during the 1960's, student government was a force to be reckoned with. Now there's no need to reckon with them at all, unless you happen to be running for Homecoming Queen.

Maybe what this is is a labeling problem. The label of 'Student Senate' implies certain things. In its present form, 'Student Entertainment Committee' might be more accurate. Who is responsible for this metamorphosis is debatable. Did they give away their power or was it taken from them? What difference does it make?

In my opinion the Student Senate operates relatively well within its limited capacity, but I can't help wondering whether or not those limitations are self-imposed.



Editorial

**I'm too tired to be apathetic**

by Lisa Suszek

Even though I'm Assistant Editor of the Lumberjack, I cannot climb up onto Jackie's soapbox and spread the word of a withering Student Senate or the apathy that has befallen our student body. I am the epitome of the apathetic student. After all, it took me this long to write my first editorial.

Instead I cry out, "look at the facts, get a grip on the reality of the life of a college student and don't preach to me".

Fact one. The Student Senate has tried to present an agenda of activities for the student body. They've sponsored successful guest speakers and held two or three dances. Although the student government once had the reputation of being a group to be reckoned with, now their activities have the reputation of being boring.

The first thing someone said to me as I was preparing for my first college dance was, "Don't bother going. Nobody is ever there. You'll probably leave after the first 5 minutes," which I did.

Even after showing up an hour into the dance, it didn't take a genius to realize that either no one knew what was going on or everyone had heard the same line.

Sure, maybe a little more advertising would help, but getting rid of the bad reputation seems to be the key to change. I think this year's senate has tried to do this.

Fact two. There is no such thing as an apathetic student.

There are students who go to school full time, or part time, there are students who have jobs, there are students who have children, parents, spouses or friends who depend on them. There are students who commute several miles morning and night to receive an education. There are students who have several hours of homework after school. There are students who join activities.

Out of all these, I have never met a student who wasn't a varied combination of almost all of the above.

When it gets right down to it, I see a lot of people who are working hard. Some are trying to make ACC a better place; some are too tired to get much more than an education out of the time spent here, but it doesn't mean they don't care.

Maybe a suggestion box placed outside the senate door would allow the student body a little more input, especially those who can't make the meetings. It would give the senate some ideas of how to spend the student activity funds.

Maybe better publicity would help especially at election time in finding representatives who want to "be involved".

What's the "total" answer? I'm not sure . . . As for now this apathetic student is going to get some sleep after a long day of school work, the drive home, homework, etc... and goodnight.

**Editor's note**

Good deal!

ACC Casino Night, held at the Civic Center, was a big win!

The evening was sponsored by Student Senate, who played the part of the gracious hosts with a great deal of style.

"Black Jack at table 10!"  
Carnival atmosphere courtesy of Student Senate. Thanks!

Letter to the editor . . .

**ACC Player acts the part**

by Nan Lehman

This semester I have had the pleasurable experience of being a member of the ACC Players and performing in their production, Edgar Lee Master's, *Spoon River Anthology*. Having a part in the play takes a lot of hard work and commitment, but after the final blackout and last applause I felt it was well worth every moment.

In the beginning I was like many of the ACC Players. We had our doubts about whether or not we could accomplish the task at hand, physically and mentally, becoming the citizens of *Spoon River*. We did it though, thanks to our many hours of dedicated rehearsals, a devoted director/instructor (Nan Hall), a creative choreographer (Ginny Titus), a talented musician, a faithful student director, a creative scenic designer, and two hard-working

individuals who were responsible for the technical work and lights.

As the weeks of the rehearsals went by, we became comrades, friends, and in the end, a family unit. We all pulled together doing what was expected of us. There was understanding, caring, encouragement, consideration and love that I, myself, felt and saw others experience. What a spectacular experience! The hard work and camaraderie of the entire cast and crew made this play a most memorable production.

The final night as we began to strike the stage, I was lamenting when I thought: I will never have the opportunity to work again with the ACC players because this is my last semester at ACC. However, my experience with them I will always remember. "Thanks for the memories."

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