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EDITORIAL

TERRY B. LEE FOR PREZ

The MONTCLARION here presents its annual SGA preelection issue, under unusual circumstances. But—the difference in our appearance has made no difference in our editorial policies. To the contrary, the hurried and pressured conditions under which we have produced this edition have served to strengthen our editorial stands.

Terry B. Lee has earned the MONTCLARION's editorial support in his quest for the SGA presidency. Lee's positions are clearly those which would provide for greatest student involvement and representation—the two most vital issues facing the Student Government Association at present.

But, more important is Lee's attitude towards the power structure of SGA. He has stated that, if elected, he will ask each of the other presidential candidates to accept posts in his cabinet—a truly positive move in getting all sides represented in the SGA elite.

One of Lee's opponents is Robert Watson, SGA vice-president for academic affairs. Watson, a 30-year-old former cop, has worked very closely with the Benitz administration during its yearlong tenure. Altho this might provide additional experience in power politics, it's no proof that Watson has the necessary dedication to the students that the SGA will have to provide if it is to be an effective force.

The vice-presidency, we think, would be most adequately filled by Bill Asdal. Tho recently appointed to his vice-presidency of external affairs, Asdal has shown a progressive attitude toward effective student representation—as exemplified in his part in the creation of the Commuters Commission. Tho Asdal was appointed by the Benitz power elite, we think he has enough of an independent attitude to merit his election to the SGA vice-presidency.

And for treasurer, Wendy Gillespie seems more prepared to handle the spot than her opponents. Miss Gillespie has had more experience than her opponents with the Student Government Association, tho she has made no really original proposals concerning the treasurer's spot.

ADDITIONAL MONTCLARION FUNDING DENIED BY SGA

SEE STORY, PAGE 3.
EDITORIAL

The SGA and a bankrupt Montclarion

Undoubtedly, you've noticed that the MONTCLARION has changed its format—we've been forced to.

Yesterday, the Student Government Association voted to deny the MONTCLARION the funds necessary to continue publication for the remainder of this semester. Only $2500 would have been necessary to cover the MONTCLARION for the four remaining issues, but the SGA Legislature obviously thought there were more important matters to which to devote the $18,000 which still remains unappropriated in the SGA accounts—$18,000 that can be used for whatever purposes the SGA budgets it for. Perhaps they'll use it for more executive trips. They've already spent nearly $4000 on them. Or maybe it'll go to improving the budget for their upcoming SGA banquet—complete with gifts for the SGA bigwigs. The banquet appropriation now stands at $1200. But one thing's for sure—the money won't go to the MONTCLARION.

Obviously, the SGA thinks that informing the students of what's going on isn't important. This is nothing new—the SGA has rarely provided students with a clear idea of what's going on in SGA.

But more important than this is the fact that the SGA has said, in denying the MONTCLARION these needed funds, that they have no responsibility for informing the MSC student body.

But we have that responsibility. And the SGA Legislature is not permitting it, we will continue to publish for the remainder of the semester. SGA President Thomas Benitz has informed the MONTCLARION's editor-in-chief that any more purchases incurred by the MONTCLARION would be the responsibility of the person ordering that purchase. At this time, that person is the MONTCLARION editor-in-chief.

The MONTCLARION will continue to publish, tho our staffers may pay for its publication out of their own pockets. Ten of our staffers have worked from 9 a.m. yesterday until 8 a.m. this morning—straight thru—in an effort to inform the student body of what's going on...despite the efforts of the Student Government Association to stop them from doing so.

The MONTCLARION wants no pats-on-the-back for what it's attempting. All we ask is that the MSC student body keep in mind that the current SGA Legislature and administration has voted to keep the students in the dark about tomorrow's elections. Keep it in mind all the way to the voting booth.

Letters

To the Editor:

Last night at supper, I decided that I did not want Barrabas to be chosen again. I had arisen to save the school and now in the interest of still saving Montclair State College from a possible disaster, I do hereby give all my support to Terry B. Lee for SGA president. It is with my fervent hope that my supporters will do likewise—uniting all students. I hope they do not wash their hands of this matter. Blessed is the voter, for he inherit SGA.

—Glenn "J.C." Kawalek, Art, '73.
SGA NIXES MONTCLARION FUNDS

The SGA Legislature has rejected a bill granting the MONTCLARION additional funds for the spring semester. The action taken at yesterday's meeting of the Legislature will prevent the MONTCLARION from publishing at its regular size and format for the remainder of the semester.

The bill, proposed by Carla Camponesi, French department representative, called for an allotment of approximately $1200 to cover a debt incurred by the MONTCLARION plus an additional grant of some $2300 to enable the paper to continue printing for the last four weeks of the semester.

After splitting the bill into two parts, the legislature approved the section that paid the debt, but defeated the request for additional printing funds. The money was to have come from the SGA's unappropriated surplus, which currently consists of over $18,000.

Arguing in favor of the bill, Vic Deluca, history department representative, commented that the SGA was "not being truly representative of the student body" if it took action against the MONTCLARION on the basis of what he called "differences of opinion" among SGA leaders and MONTCLARION personnel. He added that the students shouldn't be denied a newspaper because of such conflicts.

Robert Watson, history department representative and SGA presidential candidate, argued that it is the MONTCLARION, not the SGA, that is not serving the campus adequately. He stated that, during his campaign, many students have complained to him about the MONTCLARION, suggesting that the SGA take action to change it.

Psychology department representative Terry Lee, Watson's opponent for the presidency, agreed with Deluca's point. "The fact that the SGA is not satisfied with the MONTCLARION is no reason to deny the paper its right to publish," he emphasized.

Immediately following the meeting, SGA President Thomas Benitz notified the MONTCLARION that the SGA would not be responsible for any debts incurred by the paper after April 27. As a result, responsibility of the Editor-in-Chief, Don Pendley, as policymaker of the publication.

Pendley commented on the situation, stating that, "It seems that the SGA is willing to neglect its responsibility to keep the students informed. As a newspaper, we cannot neglect that responsibility."

SGA executive elections set for tomorrow

The largest slate of candidates since the 1967 election are running for SGA executive offices this year. "This is largely due to the fact that students are taking more interest in their elections and in the student government," according to SGA vice-president Stanley Grajewski.

The petitions were available this year for two weeks instead of for one week, he added.
Lee: SGA has let itself die

The keynote is unity, according to Terry Lee, candidate for the SGA presidency.

The present head of Black Organization for Success in Society (BOSS) cites the duplication of effort as the cause of immobility of the student body.

"A unified student body and a coming together of disciplined interest groups on campus will counteract the power the administration has over the students," Lee says.

Lee said MSC students are "waiting for this cohesion" in moving toward common goals with definite direction.

A junior psychology major and SGA representative from that department for the past three years, Lee claimed "the SGA has let itself die." He suggested that the organization should be so effective as to have every student identify with and show pride in its representative body.

He indicated that so far this has not been the case.

The candidate said: "When I win the election I will offer each candidate a position in my cabinet." He continued: "They will accept if they are sincere in their efforts to make MSC the ideal community we all wish to make it."

Lee, a Linden resident, emphasized that his aspiration to the presidency is an individual goal rather than a group goal. "The issue," he said, "is not that I am a black student but rather that I am a concerned student willing to concentrate my efforts into unifying this student body."

Lee added that a unified block of students working for the majority cannot help but be successful.

He said that students now lack equal and equitable power witnessed by the administration hinting at a proposal to raise parking fees without student consent. He expressed confidence that a unified drive can work to achieve this goal. "I know it can work," he said, "and it is the only logical alternative we have."

--- Celeste Pasone.

Noon classes cancelled for president's speeches

According to a memo from Dr. Walter L. Hallbronner, MSC vice-president for academic affairs, classes will be cancelled from noon to 1 p.m. today to allow the SGA presidential candidates a chance to speak to the student body.

No location for the speeches was mentioned in the memo, nor was any announcement made at yesterday's SGA Legislature meeting.
The most important problem facing the Student Government Association is seeing that a truly representative legislature is elected, according to SGA presidential hopeful Robert Watson. At a MONTCLARION-sponsored press conference, Watson said: "The legislature must become responsive and receptive to all elements of the student body. This has not been the case in the past," he added.

Watson supports the idea of a student judiciary board to whom students could appeal decisions made by other student bodies. Recommendations would be made by this board to the administration, he explained. Matters such as the appealing of traffic tickets would be referred to this board, Watson said.

A former policeman in Verona, the 30-year-old Watson is married and has a three-year-old son. He once worked for the Waterfront Commission on the New York Harbor where he was a criminal investigator. After working for a trucking company for one year, Watson came to Montclair State College for a BA in history. Watson is a sophomore.

Watson said that although the arts have a relevant role on our campus, their primary funding and organization should come from the School of Fine and Performing Arts. Complaining that cultural events are not well attended at MSC, Watson said that a symphony orchestra costing $6000 might only draw 100 people. It would be less expensive to send interested students to see these events in nearby states, he continued.

Benitz and Watson have frequently been criticized for the expense of their trips to student conferences in such places as Las Vegas. In answer to charges of overspending, Watson said that the trip to Nevada cost approximately $1000 or 20 cents per student. At these conferences, he continued, they spoke with representatives from schools from all over the country and learned how to start new programs, such as faculty evaluations and the student judiciary board. "The good executive administrator takes what he learns and uses it for the benefit of the students," he said.

"The thing that I’m the most proud of in my life" is a football program that he helped begin in Verona, Watson said. The program serves 150 boys from 9-14 years of age.

As to statements that he is "the brains behind Tom Benitz," Watson said: "Tom has given me every opportunity to work for the SGA and I have enjoyed it very much." However, he stated, "Benitz doesn’t need anyone else’s brains behind his."

—Susan Kelly.
"Benitz doesn't need anyone else's brains behind his," he said.

Agreed. Why should Benitz start using brains now? He's done so well without them.

I have a personal gripe against Bob Watson's candidacy. I can't quite put my finger on it, but it has something to do with Hiroshima.

The guy is clearly amazing. Mr. Watson has accused the editorial page editor of this newspaper of a "political deal," claiming "I have made none."

Political deals, that is.

Agreed. Mr. Watson hasn't made any political deals--he's just gotten the SGA vice-president working as his campaign manager; he's been using SGA supplies for his campaign; he seems to have been stealing parts of his campaign platforms from other candidates; the election committee chairman a member of his frat, Senate; he's been using his SGA office for his campaign headquarters, etc., etc. But with friends like this, who needs political deals?

Here's a few things you should know:

The Benitz-Watson-Grajewski administration has asked for another $4000 from the SGA Legislature next year in their conferences appropriation. They've spent just about that much for conferences this year.

That same administration has a $1200 banquet coming up on May 12, complete with "gifts" for those who have "served" the SGA. Incidentally, this columnist, as MONTCLARION Editor-in-Chief, has received an invite to that banquet. Sorry, gang, but I won't be coming. I'll be too busy putting together a certain campus newspaper that no longer exists in your eyes.

Incidentally, the lowly $200 that the MONTCLARION had in its own banquet line has been returned to the SGA's coffers.

So that's it. Now some can say that the SGA is serving the student body more adequately than the MONTCLARION is, but, no one says what it is that the students are being served. Whatever it is, tho, isn't on a silver platter.