IT'S A BIG DAY FOR SGA POLITICOS . . . And Here's Everything You'll Need for the Big Election Tomorrow

By Sharon Wancho
Staff Writer

The annual election for Student Government Association executive officers will be held tomorrow, April 21. Voting will take place in Memorial auditorium lobby from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. At that time MSC students will elect the SGA president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer for the 1970-71 school year.

SGA Vice-President Greg Doucette emphasized that students must have their SGA card to be able to vote. The requirement permits election officials to register voters and prohibit students from voting more than once.

Voting machines have been provided to simplify the procedure. Students should indicate their choice of candidates by pushing one lever under each designated office.

Commenting on tomorrow's expected vote turnout, Mrs. Janet Young, SGA secretary-bookkeeper, doubted that more than one-quarter of the student body will vote. "The largest number of votes I've seen was only 1050 back in 1966," she recalled.

Here's Why Thomas Benitz Is The Best Bet

The issues attacked by both major candidates in this year's Student Government Association sweeps appear to be out of a student-power handbook issued in the 1940s. Somehow the phrase student apathy was mentioned umpteen million times during the course of the campaign. And somehow there are umpteen million remedies. The problem is that remedies for this kind of sickness don't usually work.

EDITORIAL

But since we're placing our cards on the table, we're also making a bet. We're wagering that no matter how dynamic the head of the SGA may be, students will not get involved in its affairs unless there's a cube of sugar in front of them.

David Mende suggests a type of Pied Piper is needed to counter the apathy business. But unfortunately we don't see that type of dynamic leadership around.

Mende's approach to problems confronting our campus is ancient. We really don't see him saying anything that creative. But he's a cold, logical thinker—one thing in his favor.

Thomas Benitz also plays by the 1940 book of rules. But now and then Benitz comes up with some ideas worth consideration. His stand on the possible student operation of the cafeteria, bookstore, and sports clinics and off-campus housing is interesting. If bonds can be sold, as he suggests, channeling student idealism into SGA capitalism could be beneficial.

Benitz is worth a vote.

As to vice-presidential hopefuls, Stanley Grajewski is a popular SGA personality who looks the best to us, tho he lacks originality in any way, shape or form. Donald Pendley, on the other hand, knows the campus from the inside as a result of his connection with this newspaper and other campus publications. He's progressive and worth a vote.

And in the money department, Dawn Sova is the winner. She wants another year on the treasurer's hotseat. That's admirable, and worth the vote.

David M. Levine,
Executive Editor.
Money’s Dawn Sova: Fulltime Job

Seated behind her desk covered with financial and committee reports and vouchers, the SGA treasurer, junior Dawn Sova explained why she’s running for reelection. “Being SGA treasurer is a fulltime job,” she began. “It leaves little time for additional extensive activities.”

“Few people realize what the yearly $60 student activity fee actually is,” said the Garfield resident. “They don’t know it subsidizes the cost of concerts, plays, movies, formals, athletic events, publications and lectures. As general ‘watchdog’ of the SGA funds, there are many times I’ve had to refuse an organization’s request for additional funds or speak up in Legislature against increased expenditures. This money has to be carefully disbursed in order that the students of MSC can grow, also. To lessen the cost of their education here, I would explore the possibility of a student-run cafeteria, bookstore and off-campus housing. This could be accomplished under the auspices of the SGA.”

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SGA would address the issue of the advantage of being judged and disciplined by their peers, the candidate suggested, kicking his shoes off. "It's worth looking into."

A four-foot-high inflated plastic whiskey bottle at one end of the room implied that Busy Benitez had not lost touch with student social interests. "I believe CLUB should receive more funds for extending their social programs," he explained.

"The SGA president should be open to criticism from his constituency," he concluded. "I would support more funds for expanding their social programs," he explained.

Peer pressure made Mende direct and to the point. In a recent letter to the MONTCLARION, Mende stated, "I will get directly to the issue." And that he did, as he outlined them in detail. Mende is strongly in favor of the unlimited cut policy. He stated: "This cut policy, started by the students, is getting bunched around by faculty and administration, and when it gets back to the students it will be in a barely-recognizable form."

Continued growth of the SGA would make Mende happy, and he wants to get more people "aware of the activities of the SGA." He emphasizes the commuter and proposes some form of a newsletter to keep them informed.

Mende is in favor of student evaluation by the student body but specifies that students should "hold the results until tenure (three years at present) is decided. This would allow a faculty member to improve and not be judged by premature conclusions," Mende related. He is the only candidate that specified this point.

When asked when he first got involved with SGA activities, Mende stated: "Last year a friend of mine asked me to attend a meeting. I was surprised at the lack of students at the meeting. I thought it was time to get involved."

One thing is sure — Mende is involved now, and when the time comes to counting out the votes, Mende will be there.

He Sold His Car to Learn About MSC

As a commuter last year, sophomore Donald Vanarelli realized the importance of clubs in campus life. He also realized if it is reflective of a majority of MSC students are sometimes stressed too much. "It's time for me to stop criticizing and start correcting the situations I observe," he said. Thus, Don Pendley opened his comments concerning his campaign for the SGA vice-presidency.

Questioned at his cluttered desk in the MONTCLARION office, Pendley said: "During my two years here I've served as Galumph editor-in-chief and MONTCLARION managing editor. In both these positions I've held the responsibility of criticizing the student government."

"However, I think I've criticized SGA long enough to want to take an active part in changing the way things are done. That's why I'd like to be vice-president." Pendley's interests vary from the creative to the academic to the practical. He's produced and written amateur theater productions in his hometown, Paramus, and spends his spare time writing poetry, satire and musical lyrics.

In the world of academics, Pendley specializes in American studies — particularly literature — and European languages. He speaks Spanish conversantly, and has studied Italian and French. On the practical side, he has worked as a writer for The Passaic Herald-News and Quarterly Business Manager.

Pendley feels that his varied interests will aid him in his SGA career. "An academic community," he explained, "is the homogeneous, student interests, must encompass many fields, but these fields cannot afford to become divided and separate. They need a unifying force. One of these forces can be SGA."

No More Criticism — Just Work

"I feel the duty of the SGA treasurer is to efficiently and impartially serve all of the students at MSC." That is the opinion of Thomas Hayes, candidate for 1970-71 SGA treasurer.

Such a responsibility would be nothing new for the outgoing, personable Hayes. "For the past four years I have been treasurer of Players and also the SGA representative for the physics-earth-science department. This puts me in the position of working with student government from both sides of the fence so to speak."

Hayes added that this was the main reason for his desire to spend his last year at MSC serving in the SGA. Working with student government from "both sides of the fence" led Hayes to his basic criticism of the way the SGA treasury is functioning at present. He pointed out that the treasurer has control over appropriations thru guidelines which have been established. He feels that these guidelines are sometimes stressed too much. "It is unreasonable to expect an organization to be able to predict exactly where money will be channeled when it asks for funds."

The opinion has been held by some students that if Hayes is elected, he should resign his post as treasurer of Players, claiming that a conflict of interest would exist. Hayes rejected such speculation, pointing out that Players is a subdivision of SGA, and that there should be no conflict between the two organizations.

He added that he would like to change the image of the treasurer. "I don't want people to think of the treasurer as the little ballhanded man in the back room with the green eyeshade and the elastic armband," he said.

THE MONTCLARION WILL BE PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAY WITH COMPLETE ELECTION RESULTS.
The VEEP Has Some Words

By Greg Doucette

When the student body went to the polls tomorrow, they will vote for three important SGA offices and one relatively unimportant one. At least, that seems to be the attitude of most people on campus. The executive vice-presidential seat seems to many to be an "extra-added attraction" much like green stamps at the supermarket. Few people place the importance of the office of the vice-president.

"Traditionally, the secretary is usually the most silent of the officers," remarked Fran Niedbala, lone SGA secretarial candidate commenting on the present role of the SGA secretary. "I want to change that. The secretary can be a very powerful voice in the SGA."

Surrounded by paints and paper in Stone Hall recreation room, the jean-clad sophomore business administration major related her ideas concerning the role of the SGA secretary in campus affairs. "The secretary should actively participate in as many committees as possible in order to make her voice heard," Miss Niedbala asserted. "I'd also like to see the minutes of the SGA meetings and any other SGA news posted conspicuously all over the campus," she continued. "We have to involve the entire student body, and the first thing is to let them know what's going on."

Knowledge of the SGA and its functions stems from Miss Niedbala's frequent attendance at SGA meetings. "I see the SGA playing an important role in the future of MSC," the Carteny resident explained, wiping paint from her face. "With the SGA Legislature being composed of representatives from the various schools as well as departments," she went on, "the SGA will act as an 'oversight.' It'll be a way of tying everything together."

Aside from her interest in SGA, Miss Niedbala has been working hard for her class. She served as secretary in her freshman year of the SGA meetings and any other SGA news posted conspicuously all over the campus, she set a precedent when she was elected the first female president of her class.

But her class is not her only interest. Last year Miss Niedbala served as overall chairman for freshman orientation and this year she is financial cochairman for Carnival '70. She is also a sister of Delta Theta Psi.

She Wants to Change Tradition

She speaks with the conviction that the newly-created schools of Humanities and Social Sciences were declared illegal Tuesday. The Student Government Association legislative meeting. By virtue of the SGA decision, representatives from these schools will not be recognized.

The immediate effect of the legislation will be felt after the legislative elections on May 15. Under the new representatives, delinquent figures will be drawn from the schools and departments will be chosen at that time.

The decision not to recognize the School of Humanities came with the passage of a bill submitted by Timothy Fanning and Robert Stickel, English department reps. According to Fanning, the governing structure under which the school's senate is presently operating was not ratified by members of the school. The establishment of this senate is "an insult to the integrity of the individual student present at MSC," Fanning charged.

In similar legislation approved at the meeting, social science rep, Bonnie Miller asked that representatives from the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences not be seated. She rallied the concern of some of the faculty members over "the method of ratification of the school's constitution," she explained.

Discussion of the bills was directed at the actual methods used by the respective schools to ratify their constitutions and the procedures employed to elect senators from the individual departments. Publicity of the elections in the two schools also entered the discussion.

Fanning reported that the humanities constitution was originally rejected by the students in that school. "A second proposal was initiated with no solicitation of student approval," he argued. "The senator elections were poorly publicized and based on a very low vote return."

Frank Grippo, senior social science major, pointed out that senators from the history department were present at a senate tea. It was also brought out that psychology department senators were elected at a meeting of the psychology department and no objections to this procedure had been raised.

According to the Fanning-Stickel bill, the SGA now calls for a "disbandment of the present governing body" of this school. It also requires ratification of the constitution before a new governing body is elected.

Miss Niedbala recalls a "properly-publicized referendum" of her school's constitution before the school is recognized. The SGA further established a committee to investigate corrective measures taken in the respective schools.

Representatives from the combined schools and departments therein will be elected at the legislative elections on May 15, but only department reps will be recognized.

Set May 15 as Rep Election

The elections for Student Government Association legislative representatives will be held in the lobby of Memorial auditorium on Fri., May 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students will be voting within their departments for school and department representatives.

The new voting procedure is based upon a SGA statute change approved by the SGA Legislature in February. The purpose for restructuring the governing body was to provide proportional representation from the newly-created schools, but representatives will be acting in the interest of the entire student body.

According to the new plan, students are entitled to one legislator for an initial 25 students in a department. If a department contains an additional 200 students, or multiple thereof, it receives one additional legislator for each 200 students.

At the same time legislative representatives will be voting for one legislator for each 200 students in a school. There is no longer any representation bonus.

Below is a list of departments and schools and the number of representatives for each.

These figures are based on the projected enrollment for 1970-71.

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By Robert Watson

Staff Writer

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

A roundup of national and local college events compiled and edited by the MONTCLARION.

CORNELL EXPERIENCES

RACE INCIDENTS

Growing racial tension on the Cornell campus boiled over recently in a series of sporadic incidents. Two Molotov cocktails were hurled thru windows of Olin Library on April 2. Over 100 black students raced across the campus, on April 8, hurling rocks thru windows and overturning two cars.

The Black Studies Center was destroyed by arson on April 1. Cornell's black studies program was a leader in the nation. Failures are not a result of poor administrative efforts. The Cornell administration has made attempts to cooperate with black students.

Negro students seem to feel more alienated than before. According to James E. Turner, the black center director: "We not only see this increase as being the most recent reflecting the hostility, hatred and atmosphere of threat of violence that black people live with, but it is a reflection of the growing current throughput the American nation."

STUDENT SYMPOSIUM ON AFRICA SET FOR JUNE

African students in the United States are planning a student symposium of Africa's future on June 5-7. The idea for the conference grew out of an International Conference of Africanists staged by the African Studies Association and Committee on African Students last October. The groups met in the U.S. and Canada respectively.

The conference will be held in Boston, New York or Chicago.