

Letters to the Editor ... Grantonian candidate endorsement protested

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To the Editor:

In the past few weeks, there has been a great deal of interest and discussion about student government. One of the more heated issues concerns a rumor that the Grantonian editorial staff will endorse certain candidates running in the next student body election.

Although the Grantonian has a complete monopoly within Grant, it has every right as a private newspaper to endorse any candidate. As our present elections are now run, few students are informed on the qualifications of the candidates. The endorsements by the Grantonian will enable intelligent voting by the student body, by supplying evaluations of the candidates' qualifications.

For these reasons, I urge students to accept these endorsements as you would any newspaper editorial.

Leyton Jump

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To the Editor:

The proposal by the Grantonian to endorse a specific candidate in the coming election appears to be of a self-oriented nature, rather than a constructive innovation on the part of the Grantonian staff to improve student government and aid voters. This proposal presents several disadvantages.

First, since the Grantonian is the main source of information on the candidates, many students will base their decision on who to vote for on the facts presented by the Grantonian. Thus, if the paper, being the only news source in the school, was to endorse a specific candidate, there would be no other effective way for students with an opposing view to express their opinions. Thus the candidate endorsed would receive a decided advantage. For some, the mere fact that an official endorsement was made for one candidate would be sufficient reason not to support this person; thus the possibility of a backlash vote must be considered. Whereas the Grantonian is supported in part by the students of Grant high school, part of their income being derived from the student body card fee, it would seem unfair for the paper to represent one candidate, or one segment of the school, rather than the entire student body equally.

Therefore, in keeping with the standards of fairness, both to the candidate and the voters and in respecting the right of the total representation by students of Grant high school, the Grantonian should not endorse candidates in the coming election.

John Luik

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Dear Editor:

As president of General Council, it is my duty to convey the council's opinion when they express one. In a special meeting on January 16, General Council adopted a resolution which is against the editorial endorsement of candidates for student body office by the Grantonian.

Even though the Grantonian carries out the proposed editorial endorsement of candidates, we feel that they should know the attitude of the student body on this issue, both as expressed on unofficial petitions and as expressed by the General Council.

Thank you,
Vance Hodnett,
General Council President

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Dear Editor:

Throughout the history of our nation, we have striven for the implementation of democratic procedures. Do you honestly

think the four members of the Grantonian editorial staff can make representative judgments on the merits of candidates, devoid of prejudices? Do you believe these four individuals can represent 3,000 others? A monopoly paper subsidized by the student body should not have the responsibility of deciding the political future of the 27 candidates.

Respectfully,
Jim Winkler

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To the Editor(s):

I am writing to state my opposition to endorsement of candidates for elective offices, by the Grantonian. I believe very strongly that the Grantonian should deal with controversial issues, however, I think you must make an exception where the futures of individuals are concerned, as in the case with a student body election. My basis for objection is that the Grantonian is the only means of reaching the entire student body. As much, it will have untold influence on underclassmen, who regard the Grantonian as a source capable of deciding which candidate is best qualified to fill the position for which he is running. The fact is, that the Grantonian represents, at the most, only the fifteen or sixteen people on the staff. You aroused interest in the election, and as a result the endorsement was, by January 10, no longer necessary for this purpose. Because of this I feel the decision by the editors of the Grantonian to go ahead with endorsements, is a statement by these people that they aren't concerned so much with the candidates, or with student government, but rather with the Grantonian. Editors: Please be controversial. Please put out an interesting newspaper. But most importantly, please show fair and responsible journalism.

Respectfully,
Virginia Bailey

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To the Editor:

Last Friday an incident occurred that was quite unfortunate. A so-called "rumble" took place on the corner of 37th a block from Grant. This faked riot was not as serious as various rumors purported it to be, but the damage done to the property on the corner warrants an apology from the student body to the owner of the property. Her lawn is a complete mess with a great deal of the grass gone because of the students who stood on it.

Mrs. E. J. Lawson was the victim of this damage. I think that the student body should take the responsibility for this damage; even though a minority of the student body was present at the disturbance.

It's about time such activities were stopped, not necessarily because the administration or the police disapprove of it, but because there is a risk involved—either people getting hurt, or property being destroyed.

Sincerely,
Bob Wells

'Dimes' drive to aid birth defect victims

A March of Dimes drive will be held January 25-26 in the registration rooms. Money donated will be spent in scientific research and in supporting birth defect centers.

The drive is a special fundraising act permitted by the board of education. In March 1964, \$414.84 was collected.

To the Editor:

The following petition was circulated for only two periods one afternoon, during which time the following signatures were obtained.

A Statement of Student Opinion

This petition was inaugurated in response to the proposed endorsement by the Grantonian of selected candidates in the coming student body election. We speak as independent voters and candidates alike. We regard the proposed plan as highly discriminatory and unfair toward those candidates not supported. At the same time, we can foresee a conceivable "backlash," resulting in the complete rejection of the Grantonian-supported candidate regardless of their actual qualifications. We find it highly inconceivable that the small group of students on the Grantonian staff is well enough qualified to fairly judge all candidates and make choices. In view of these facts, we stand firmly to protect against this proposed course of action.

Jack Mishler, Virginia Bailey, Jack Hinamon, George Risdal, Robert LeMarte, Steve Monroe, Carol Nelson, Larry Spencer, Tom Kees, Frances Harrington, Syl Plenovi, Pat Kroboth, Dave Hyowitz, Larry Ledford, Andrea McMillan, Judi Donald, Bob Wells, Joann Suor, Cheryl Fisher, Steve Albus, John Bogardus, Donna Bruner, Doreen Casey, Chris Curry, Jack Crooks, Linda Nussbaumer, Cindy Lowery, Joann Kraft, Alma Jean Stuart, Bob Heldfond, Gretchen Fehrenbacher, Peggy Weiler, Sandy Chambers, Kevin Mulligan, Jane Nichols, Marilyn Masters, Patricia Johnson, Signe Hanson, Lei Huber, Nanette Dunn, Marcia Covington, Becky Seaman, Burdette, Dave Mathis, Stephanie Reamer, Jo Evelyn Foster, Gail Loneragan, Tina Foley, Linda Stuart, Susan Jackson, Dick Paulson, Suzie Ferrara, Andy Ewins, Alan Gordon, Jim Ream, Jeff Coulter, Janice Egan, Ed Bechtold, Bonnie Weber, Micki McCreery, Kristie Kohler, Cam Guthmann, Marilyn Taylor, John Devaney, Kathy Gardner, Teri Jones, Jean Uakym, Jamer Winkler, Claudia Carlile, Marcia Halves, Daleen Harris, Joanne Gislason, Vance Hodnett, Chris Brandt, Jeff Holden, Tammy Nordstrom, Nancy Rouse, Kathleen Semmy, Helen Wall, Cynthia Roser, Georgia Medbury, Vicki Brocksen, Linda Blomberg, Nancy Battler, Mike McGinnis, Lynda Harvey, Polly Harris, Kurt Robinson, Patty Rood, Debi Huber, Sylvia Sharp, Jim Rockney, Randy Evans, Diane Mercer, Leslie Erz, Kathy Maher, Jean Smedberg, Mar-gee Knippel, Anita Austin, Leyton Jump, Mike Balkovich, Bruce McCormack, Donald Peterson, Carol Donis, Elizabeth Struchens, Lee Alexander, Patti West, Mike Haggart, Candy Jensen, Craig McMahon, Steven Swope, Sue Gregory, Debbi Jennison, Jan Olson, Lisa Ellsberg, Lee Mahoney, Bruce Shelton, Fred Schrumm, Naomi Nitz, Steve Yett, Jeff Walker, Jane Luthy, Joan LaDu, Candy Chambers, Kelly Hayward, Linda Claseurman, Mary Susan Linstedt, Brad Popik, Steve Reuderras, Randal O'Toole, John Horning, Karen Stone, George A. Lampus, Carolyn Cohen, Susan McGill, John Luik, Gary Howarth, Sandy Chambers, Greg Matthews, Mara Smilkins, Lynda Alt, Clara Byrd, Libby Berlant, Maureen Dewaney, Gen Lincoln, Ginne Kaempf, Linda Pullen, Kevin Corbett, John Evans, Tom Winters, Fern Winkler, Mary Randall, Jane E. Stillwell, Laurine Stuckey, Jerry Mishler, Tom Doran, Gary Parker, Dale Small, David Kurtz, Bobbie Vanness, Beckie Vanness, Pat Neupert, Margaret Slang, Karen Hunter, Kirt Breese, David Alexander, John Cornings, Dan Aiken.

Students offer varied opinions on endorsement of candidates

There has been a great deal of discussion upon the subject of the Grantonian's endorsement of candidates. The statements below are examples and excerpts of such discussions.

"A very positive thing has happened through this controversy, because of it a great deal of interest in the election has been engendered. As for the endorsement per se, my concern is that all of our students and organizations also enjoy the opportunity of expressions which you (The Grantonian) are providing through the Letters to the Editor," stated Dr. Roy O. Malo.



Alice Bailey

"I approve of the endorsement of the candidates by the paper, because it will give the student body a better picture of each candidate than the Voters' Guide has," Alice Bailey, sophomore.

"I think that the paper should say at least one good thing about each candidate, so as to be fair. Then if the staff wishes to elaborate on some more qualified students that is their privilege," Geri Schnitzer, freshman.

"I think that the endorsement of candidates by the paper is unfair to the other people running," Rosemary Meier, senior.

"I'm not for the endorsement because it would show unfair favoritism to some candidates. The

Grantonian is a school paper and thus should be unbiased," Phillip Bruce, sophomore.



Phillip Bruce

Fraser, freshman.

"I don't think it would be a good idea because people that don't care or don't listen will agree with what the Grantonian will say and then the wrong person may get elected," Laurie



Geri Schnitzer

opinions and ideas of the complete student body with nothing to back their endorsements but statements written by the candidates," Bob Heldfond, junior.

"I think the endorsing of candidates should be carried out. It's a very good way to get to know candidates that you really don't know," Janiece Kelley, sophomore.

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