The Griffin

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Trustees considering tuition hike

I attended my first Board of Trustees Meeting as President of the Undergraduate Student Assembly. I was asked to attend meetings in an advisory capacity voicing the opinions and feelings of you, the students, on all issues. The Board is important to the College e. to us, who are the College at this time, in that it is "responsible for long range policy and planning presidential relations, developing financial resources and support, and a major role in external relations. "Functions of Boards of Trustees in Higher Education by the Comm. on Higher Education of the Middle States Assn." Of the above mentioned purposes of the Board, I think the most important to us as far as we are concerned right now is their power of "developing financial resources and support," I was hit hard by this during our meeting where, under "New Business," on the agenda the words "Discussion of Tuition Rates for 1974-1975" appeared before me. All of the students should know now that the Finance and Budget Committee Report, submitted by Mr. William D. Hassett, Jr., to the Board for their approval, the Trustees did move into such a discussion.

The Board began to delve into the feasibility and necessity of a tuition increase. There had been various points brought up into the meeting where I had quelled my desire to interject certain student opinions because to me, and I know to you, this issue was the most in need of a student voice and everything previously talked about was pertinent to it. I must say I was recognized by the chair whenever I had an observation or statement and was asked, by a Trustee, what I thought the student reaction to a tuition increase would be.

I answered for myself, as a working student, and for you, who I know to be mostly in the same position, that a tuition increase for 1974-1975 would be impractical and unacceptable to us especially after the large raise we experienced this year. Thereafter debate a motion was made by Mr. Robert Greene for a large increase over to the Finance and Budget Committee for their recommendation and that they also study the possibility of major structural changes effecting general economies at the school so that alternatives to a tuition increase likewise be investigated. Thus such an increase would be avoided if at all possible.

The committee must make a report back to the full Board at an emergency meeting before Dec. 1. This motion was seconded and approved by a good number of the Board members. I will be in attendance at this meeting, and student representation on so vital an issue to each and every one of us is a promise I can easily make to you.

I was also invited by Mr. Heckinger of the Finance and Budget Committee to attend their meetings which is an invitation I plan to pursue. U.S.A. Treasurer Gary Gardi is also a member of this committee, since Fr. Demke agreed with us in our belief that student input in this area was of great necessity, and thus we will also be representative of your views at the committee level prior to a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

The general mood of the Board pleased me in that it seemed concerned with my opinions, and as your representative, I take heart that the Trustees did not make a rash decision but are instead doing a great deal of study on the matter and plan to treat the question with the gravity it deserves and the gravity with which we shall reach and hear the decision. I will keep you informed, to the best of my ability, on occurrences pertaining to this issue and others as they arise.

Review

Shakespeare at Canisius:

One can hardly get too much of a good thing like Shakespeare. For the Canisius Community, it is a once-a-year event that doesn't reuse half as much interest as it should.

However, the small showing that did turn out for As You Like It was well entertained. The National Shakespeare Company gave a strong interpretation of one of Shakespeare's funniest plays. They gave the play just enough pomp to circumstance without making it pretentious.

Directed by Mario Siletti, the parts were generally well cast with only a few exceptions. It was difficult to judge the blocking of the play simply because our facilities dwarf any sort of major production. The cast seemed to fill every inch of the stage at times making freedom of movement impossible. One can imagine that the players had enough problems, not bowing each other over in entrances and exits alone.

The costumes attempted to represent the time period in splashing rich brocades and metals. The costumes were generally well cast with only a few exceptions. It was difficult to judge the blocking of the play simply because our facilities dwarf any sort of major production. The cast seemed to fill every inch of the stage at times making freedom of movement impossible. One can imagine that the players had enough problems, not bowing each other over in entrances and exits alone.

The costumes attempted to represent the time period in splashing rich brocades and metals. They were done for better for the men, especially the courtiers, than for the women. The first setting was a hit hard on the eye but the second, an umbrella forest, was more imaginative and relaxing.

The taped music recordings were adequate.

The acting itself was strong in most cases. Despite our usual poor acoustics, the parts were articulated well enough to overcome this. Rosswald, (Sharon Swink), carried her part off admirably. Also, the northern flavor of Shakespearian comedy.

Cesar (Timothy G. Wallace) put on the proper political face in executing his role. Cesar (Kent Ridley) lacked more like a grossly, vinegar-bowing politician than a clear-headed Roman senator. Brutus (Marshall Roseblum) whose usual appearance should be pensive and diffident came on like a rash swindler of the underworld. Anthony (Christopher Root) lacked the appropriate sophistication of a mature political man. Although he delivered his speeches well, he gave the appearance of a giddy playboy. Portia (Susan Swink) who stepped so well into the shoes of Rosalind, literally tripped over this particular role. The conspirators and the rest of the cast were adequate.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the production was its attempt at realism. There was a obvious inconsistency between the shifting levels of harsh realism and intimate situations. Strange, since Caesar was portrayed as such a totally human person, that at the scene of his assassination and everything previously talked about was pertinent to it. I must say I was recognized by the chair whenever I had an observation or statement and was asked, by a Trustee, what I thought the student reaction to a tuition increase would be.

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