

# The Comenian

MORAVIAN COLLEGE



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## Statement of Policy

Some may doubt and even criticize the necessity of an editorial of this type, but as the new editor of the **Comenian** I feel its existence to be highly justified. My intention here is to establish very clearly to the students of Moravian something which for a long time has not been forthcoming, i.e., a definition in lucid English of the aims of the **Comenian**, the description of the duties of the editor and his staff, and finally an attempt at establishing the necessary rapport between the student body as a whole and the contributing members of the **Comenian**.

It has long been my firm conviction that the college newspaper has the potential to be the most powerful and dominant voice on the campus. This is due to its ready audience and frequency of publication. There is no other instrument on campus through which any responsible and intelligent student can be heard by a greater number of people. The **Comenian** can be the strongest means that the individual student possesses by which to express himself to his community. It is the heart of the college life through which the blood of events flows and is subsequently fed into the various branches of the academic organism. The collective student body regulates the lever that controls the speed at which that heart beats.

It is my conviction also that the college newspaper has the duty and the corresponding right to disinterestedly report current events, both local and occasionally national, of direct and significant importance to the student body. The duty of the editor is to establish a general tenor, which in this case is liberal, and to follow the natural implications of that policy to their logical limits. Juxtaposed with this primary responsibility is the secondary responsibility of the editor to maintain an aura of good taste in features, editorials, and in the general slant of reporting.

The present **Comenian** respects no sacred cows on campus. We are always looking for the iconoclast, providing he is mature in his judgments and competent in his style of writing. We welcome all criticism, good or bad and pledge that all will be done to publish every contribution made to the paper. To all the organizations on campus, regardless of size, we offer full coverage provided the necessary information is presented to us on time.

The new **Comenian** is not anti-fraternity, anti-Jew, anti-Christian; nor is it an outlet for personal feuds. The only thing we are against is that individual lethargy, irresponsibility, ignorance, and lack of purpose which breeds stagnation and stunts the effectiveness of a dynamic college campus.

As my associate editors I have chosen from my fellow students those people who have contributed much to the newspaper in the past and who I feel are the best qualified to carry out their respective jobs. The following people represent the core of my staff: Mike Shoup—news editor, Norm Ziegler—sports editor, Robin Veluce and Mrs. James Malloy (Kay Depuy)—copy and makeup editors, Bill Gilbert—business editor, Roger Hudack—managing editor, and Tom Hauptert—photo editor.

I am of the opinion that the editor of the **Comenian** does not personally "own" it. The duty of the editors, as I have said before, is to formalize the tenor of the newspaper. In addition to this he merely selects, chooses, and

constructs the physical makeup of the paper. He is the caretaker of nearly \$2,000 of the student's money and it is his responsibility to see that it is handled in the most efficient and economic manner. The editor creates an editorial policy which should have some semblance of purpose and reflect continuity of thought from week to week.

The editor, finally, has the job of keeping the newspaper machine well oiled and functioning properly. This he does by his personal enthusiasm, imagination, and influence over those around him. He must reflect the policies of the administration, but possess the courage to follow the path of his convictions when the interests of the students are interfered with. He must divorce himself from the untimely actions of the student body when they challenge the wisdom of the administration which has been the result of many years of experience.

In **Profiles in Courage** John F. Kennedy said concerning people and politics that . . . "They will get no better government than they deserve." I did not accept the post as editor because I had no faith in the ability of my fellow students to produce a really good college newspaper. If we have been critical of the **Comenian** in the past, we have no right to be because we only get the kind of a newspaper that we deserve. The best editor is only as good as his worst contributor.

I would like to make it emphatic that the new **Comenian** is a student production. It is not the prized possession of a self-appointed elite or clique. We are hereby extending an invitation to all students of Moravian to join the staff of their newspaper. We need proof-readers as well as columnists, typists as well as photographers, and contributors of all types as well as feature writers.

If you say you have no time, I contend that you must make time. If you say you have no viewpoint, I argue that you dare not be silent. If you say that your future ambitions are more important than two hours a week for your school paper, I say that small achievements done are of more infinite value than great achievements undone. If you say you do not care, then you are jeopardizing the very existence of higher education.

Recent developments have shown us again that we have a moral duty to act in a responsible manner in order to insure the existense of an ethically sound community. We have experienced the folly of living for the future alone and forgetting that the future is composed of many presents and sometimes that future does not come. Youth is no guarantee for old age.

So, my fellow students, let us now begin to form the habits that will bear fruit in later years. We on the editorial staff can do nothing without your aid. I hope by next year at this time I can hand a top-rate **Comenian** to my successor. May we not fall prey to the accusation of Yeats' "The Second Coming":

The best lack all conviction, while the worst  
Are full of passionate intensity.

WILLIAM F. HORWATH  
Editor: **Comenian**

