

Killingsworth Charges C-W Ridicules SGA

Editor Debates Indictments At Special Publications Meet

By Gere Lee

Denouncing Crimson-White editorial policy, SGA President Roy Killingsworth told the Board of Publications Friday night that the Capstone weekly newspaper is not being operated "in the best interest of the University."

The top student executive had originally placed his list of complaints in the form of a motion requesting the board to ask the resignation of Editor Cheri Chandler. No such motion was introduced.

Being his charges on the Student Government constitution, Killingsworth cited Article VI, Sections 1 and 1 (a) which state:

1. The Crimson-White, the University newspaper, the Rammer-Jammer, the official monthly magazine of the University, and the Corolla, the annual publication, are operated for the benefit of the student body.

1. (a) The officers shall operate these publications in a manner that shall reflect credit on the student body. The publications shall receive from the student activity fee an appropriation and shall be operated as business enterprises as long as they continue to serve the best interest of the University.

Killingsworth's Grievances

Reading from a prepared list of grievances, Killingsworth charged:

1. That the Crimson-White editorial "The Machine and Its Cranks," which appeared in the January 26 issue, had ridiculed the Board of Publications in reference to a past editor of a student publication who "neither remembered nor bothered to learn anything about journalism but defeated a capable candidate because he wore the right fraternity pin."

2. That the C-W had not bothered to obtain the complete facts in its editorial of November 17, 1948 entitled "What's What in Who's Who."

3. That the so-called "Etheredge Extra" last Spring had "done much to hurt Buck's reputation." He referred to the extra which broke the news of reopening of applications for the SGA presidency. The same edition had carried as its second lead Tom Whitley's charge of fraud in the 1947-48 elections.

"Continually Antagonized"

4. That the C-W editor has continually "antagonized individual students." He cited as examples that the "story on the ODK-sponsored Auburn-Alabama trophy had been lost in the back pages of the paper," and that "The Engineering school's St. Pat's Day story last Spring had been distorted and incomplete."

5. That the use of a picture of the Decatur Daily's editor, with an eye-witness account of the 1907 Auburn-Alabama game, did not reflect student interest.

6. That the Crimson-White has carried on a continued ridicule of the SOA and SGA officials in its editorials and columns. The president referred specifically to Don Landgraf's Veni, Vidi column two weeks ago titled "From Farm to Fame—or Otto-A Machine Made Man."

Target For Satire

Declaring he believed that he had been the target for the Landgraf satire, Killingsworth said, "My friends have been walking up and calling me Otto."

7. That Editor Chandler has not attended a single SGA meeting or sent a representative although she has been invited to do so.

8. That pre-war Crimson Whites never took a stand in campus politics. "If the Crimson-White is to serve the best interests of the student body, shouldn't it stay out of politics?" he asked the board.

9. That students have made statements to the effect that they would not work for the Crimson-White as long as Cheri Chandler was editor.

In answer to Killingsworth's indictment of The Crimson-White, Editor Chandler told the board:

Editor Chandler's Statement

1. "The Machine and Its Cranks" editorial which Killingsworth cited as ridicule of the Board went on to state regarding "the man who wore the right fraternity pin," that his qualifications were "gilt-edged" on the surface.

2. In handling the Who's Who story and editorial, "the newspaper selected the activities for which each candidate was best known."

"We reserve the right to disagree with SGA selections."

3. In the issue which carried the story on Etheredge, Whitley's charges were not even carried lead story. Editor Chandler refused to make a statement but he refused to do so. All of the facts in the story were corroborated.

4. In answer to Killingsworth's charges of "lack of cooperation with the SGA," Chandler listed the following:

C-W Cooperation

The Crimson-White editorially advocated paying SGA officers salaries in the face of student opposition. The paper carried an editorial praising the work of acting president William Johns last Fall. In addition to this, the Crimson-White editor served on the Alabama-Auburn committee and put out a special "Alabama-Auburn edition" during the fall quarter.

The C-W put out a 16 page Homecoming edition after which the SGA Homecoming Chairman, Charlie Porter, wrote a letter praising the editor and staff for their cooperation. Last Spring, the editor and staff of the Crimson-White gave up

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