

The Davidsonian

"THE SOUTH'S FOREMOST COLLEGE WEEKLY"

VOLUME LXXXVI

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1994

NUMBER 12

Analysis

Cutting financial aid curbs tuition hikes

By Mary Laura Moretz

When asked why some of this year's freshmen are not receiving 100 percent financial aid for their demonstrated need, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Nancy Cable Wells says, "It's a very, very complicated issue."

In the spring of 1992, Davidson announced that it would soon be unable to meet all need-based financial aid demands. The class of 1998 is the first class to be affected by the limitations.

Trustee policy now limits financial aid to 13 percent of the overall college budget. "A very few students are not having their needs met now," Cable Wells says, and "most students are still getting the help they need."

Continuing to provide for every demonstrated financial need posed a dilemma for the college budget. Cable Wells says, "Financial aid had been the fastest growing part of the budget. We were pouring money into it, and it was encroaching on other important areas of the budget."

Cable Wells says the change "makes it hard to do everything we want to do" in the financial aid office, since there are still about as many needy students as there have been every year for the past decade.

Cutting financial aid, however, means not having to raise tuition as much each year. Slowing the rate of tuition increase "will hopefully keep more and more people from needing financial aid each year. It helps put the situation in balance," says Cable Wells.

Searching for harmony

Despite recent efforts, Davidson does not meet our needs, say some African American students.

By Jennifer Kerns

The Davidson Class of 1995 still remembers the intense racial tension created by an incident in the 1991-92 school year, which forced students to confront the issue of racism. In the intermittent years, the campus has made special efforts to fulfill the needs of minorities, specifically African-Americans.

"I remember having to justify my presence here to myself and others. Now, I think there is much more awareness of cultural differences," says senior Nikki Liverman.

Freshmen Orientation

To ease the transition into Davidson, graduate Tony Perez, Assistant to the Director of Career Services, organized a weekend orientation for minorities. Perez hopes that the weekend will expand into a four-week seminar, with incoming freshmen taking classes with professors and talking with speakers about life as a minority. This program is an augmentation of the two-week program already headed up by Dean John Eaves.

"One weekend is not enough. The four-week seminar would encourage leadership development, give a support group, and give



Photo by Rob Kosicki

Oz Prioleau, Brian Parrish, Debbie Liverman, and Nikki Liverman at the Black-Student coalition.

minorities a head start." He plans to submit a detailed request to the president by the fall of 1995.

Perez also scheduled a speaker on the topic "How to Survive on a Predominantly White Campus" for Monday, November 14. The speaker canceled at the last minute. The forum will be rescheduled for next semester.

Black Student Coalition

The Black Student Coalition gives African-Americans a place to be themselves. In rebuttal, President Charlie Blake states that "BSC continues to provide a social outlet for African Americans, and a center for awareness of differences." They hosted a spaghetti supper at the beginning of the year to attract a diverse group of new members.

See **SERCH** continued on 2

Chemistry Society plays with kids at Discovery Place



The Chemical Society helps kids.

Photo courtesy of Chemistry Society

By Jay Jennings

The Davidson College Chapter of the American Chemical Society celebrated National Chemistry Week by giving demonstrations at Discovery Place. They demonstrated chemistry for children from November 5 through 12.

A group of ten students and four professors participated in the demonstrations of making GAK, slime, and ice cream for children and adults who attended Discovery Place two weeks ago. In the Instant Ice Cream demonstration,

ice cream mix is stirred together with liquid nitrogen. The cream freezes, a cloud of nitrogen gas rises from the bowl, and ice cream remains in the bowl.

This society started this semester because their participation will be "beneficial to the careers of its members either in graduate school or medical school," according to President Theo Curey. There are about 13 members with two advisors, Dr. Ruth Beeston and Dr.

See **Kids** continued on page 3

SGA unanimously passes resolution demanding removal of Christian requirement for religion professors

By Meg Wolff

The SGA unanimously voted on Tuesday to submit a resolution to the Board of Trustees which would officially allow non-Christians to become members of the Religion Department.

The SGA raised this issue in response to the discovery of an old college constitutional by-law

which prohibits professed non-Christians from teaching religion at Davidson. The resolution states: "The Christian faith is not a necessary qualification for professors to teach such diverse courses as Buddhist Traditions, Chinese Popular Belief, and Modern Jewish Literature."

SGA President Eric

Rosenbach says, "The idea of being taught Buddhist traditions by a Buddhist monk, for example, is just very exciting to me."

Rosenbach encouraged the resolution because he feels the college by-law, which requires any professor hired by the Religion Department to be of the Christian faith, fundamentally contradicts

part of the college's Statement of Purpose: "The loyalty of the college thus extends beyond the Christian community to the whole human community and necessarily includes an openness and respect for the world's various religious traditions."

Junior Latasha Jenkins, who did initial research on the issue,

reported to the SGA on November 8 that other departments have eliminated the requirement in the past.

The resolution, which passed unanimously in the SGA meeting, will now be sent to the trustees. SGA resolutions are intended to present the student view on current issues; they do not directly change school policy.

Inside

THIS WEEK

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #1
Davidson, NC 28036

Presidential Qualifications

SGA resolves to send letter to trustees instead of a vote.

NEWS

2

Tragedy in S.C.

David Santschi explores the impact this tragedy has had and will have on all Americans.

OPINIONS

8

Night music

Orchestra premieres successfully on November 17 with an outstanding program of music.

ARTS & LIVING

10

Men's Hoops

Cats to compete for the conference title. Is this the year for NCAA?

SPORTS

15