



The Lion's Eye

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SGA Campaigning: Smoke before Fire?

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The future of the SGA is likely to be decided during an intense electoral debate being held today. The debate will be held during common hour on the patio of the Commons building. Electronic voting will commence immediately following the event.

After a week of concentrated campaigning by the incumbent Blue and White party and the revived opposition of the Lion's Party, the debate is likely to sway undecided voters. The debate is to be facilitated by newly appointed Associate Director of Student Affairs Chris Coia. Debate questions have been pre-determined by the Office of Student Life (OSL) and will remain undisclosed until the challenge.

"Student leaders are special people," Coia said, "they spend a lot of time giving up their time."

Both parties covered the campus last week with brochures, posters, and events in efforts to establish credibility among potential voters. Both parties were optimistic about sharing their vision of new leadership.

Incumbent Blue and White party presidential candidate Crystal Bowhall said, "We figured we'd have fun while we run."

Blue and White party candidates relied heavily on the distribution of over 200 Party Pamphlets and by personally engaging voters to communicate the parties agenda.

In contrast, opposition Lion's Party Presidential hopeful Paul Hurych and his Vice Presidential nominee Devin Zuczek led an aggressive campaign. Hurych currently holds the post as Vice President of the IST club and Zuczek is a current SGA officer and IST club events coordinator. The two utilized their current positions to host a series of events on campus throughout the past week. The Lion's Party collaborated with the IST club to host popular events such as a LAN party, Dance Dance Revolution, and Wednesday's live music on the Commons Patio.

Hurych addressed the crowds at each event in an effort to inform voters that the Lions party is in the race and looking for victory. "We want to show that we are able to coordinate events that make campus life more exciting" said Hurych "that's our goal, improving campus life."

According to Zuczek, the Lion's Party also distributed over 600 pamphlets and constructed a web site to inform voters on their platform and plans for improving life at DELCO.

Some feel the aggressive campaign strategy of the Lion's Party not only overshadows the efforts of the Blue

Blue and White Party

"Carrying On The Pride

blue
&
white

By Taking The
Next Step" party
Platform Slogan

Lion's Party

"We Must Become



The Change That We
Wish To See"

Platform Slogan

and White Party, but feel the incumbents are not even making an attempt.

Of his opponents efforts, Zuczek said "I am surprised that I haven't seen as much as I expected. I was expecting to see campaigning comparable to ours."

Bowhall is current SGA Vice President and is confident in her party's campaign, though she admits it got off to a late start. She said "I probably could have been doing more, I'll admit that." Bowhall considered many ways of getting her party's message to constituents but ultimately decided the best form of communication would be speaking to students directly. The party considered utilizing online communities that are popular among students as a method of sharing information about their goals but eventually struck the idea down. "I didn't want to use Facebook cause I didn't want to be overbearing" said Bowhall.

Bowhall's confidence is understandable as she has already taken part in two previous elections both with the same outcome; victory. Blue and White Vice Presidential candidate Sean Nichols, current Student Affairs Chair of SGA feels there have been no shortcomings in the campaign efforts of either party. "We are both campaigning very well, besides, it's all for the benefit of the students." Nichols feels confident that in the end the students will choose the right candidate.

Despite the optimism surrounding each camp, both parties are beginning to feel the natural anxieties that come with any election. Both parties also acknowledge the importance of the debate and feel it could be the pivotal point of the election. Both the Blue and White Party and the Lion's Party look to the debates as the ultimate opportunity to show voters what they are offering to the community.

Bowhall credits current SGA President Stacie Mann for much of the Blue and White Party's election platform. She said "A lot of our integrity comes from our current administration. Stacie did a great job." Mann refused to publicly endorse any of the candidates. "I don't feel that

the SGA should endorse any party." Said Mann.

Hurych and Zuczek feel the current administration leaves much to be desired. Devin invokes the Delco slogan "A community of people learning" and says "People are learning, but the SGA has failed to build a community."

The Blue and White Party feels that they have performed well over the past year and plan to continue on that path. "We are looking at our strengths and we're ready to show off what we have to offer." After reviewing the opposing party's platform she feels that the debate will be an opportunity to discuss the differences in each party's agenda.

The Lion's Party acknowledges those differences as a chance to offer a new view on the SGA role. Hurych said "We are looking to leave a legacy of a new student government, one that is stable." He feels the Blue and White party have had the past year to show what they can do and have gone nowhere. He said "In the past year, Delco's Constitution and student government has been restructured two times."

Hurych feels as a presidential hopeful it is important for his party to examine what goals the current administration has realized during its tenure. He said "If they want to continue that kind of leadership, I think it's a good idea to know and understand what has and hasn't been accomplished." The Lion's party has reviewed the constitution revisions as well as the restructuring of SGA elections, the budget and spending reports, and the removal of nine cabinet seats.

Bowhall does not see the opposition party's review of the budget and spending as necessary. She said "I don't understand how they can use that against me." The Blue and White Party candidates feel the debate will end favorably for their ticket. "A few of our differences will be in our benefit. If you go to the debate, you'll clearly see those differences but also similarities and that will make it harder to decide."

Don't Forget to VOTE!

Elections This Week (Mon-Wed.)!

SGA Crossfire Debates

Today on Commons Patio 11:30 p.m.

How To vote:

Log onto any campus computer this week and follow the home page directions or visit Student Life



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