The Soap is NOT Enough

Armchair Politics

Robert DeRafano
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The College of the Holy Cross caught up with the 19th century last week when they installed those new-fangled soap-dispenser things in the residence halls. I applaud the college for yielding to the pressure of the student body and for going against the obvious question: Why didn’t we have soap dispensers already? I know the reasons why the college gave them to us; but really, does anyone believe them? The college maintains that there was absolutely no valid argument they could give as to why soap dispensers weren’t installed 10, 20, even 50 years ago. My only comment with this installation is that why wasn’t the issue forced all those years ago when soap dispensers were first invented? On that note, I have decided to bring some more pertinent quips done up next.

Why are there no door handles on campus? I know there are door handles in Stein, Hogan, and Kimball, but the rest aren’t. I think the most part only have those latches, for lack of a better word. Those things are hard to open; you have to get your fingernails underneath the latch. They are ridiculous. Would it kill the college to install some door handles in the dorms? What if a student with no fingers enrolled in the college; would he have to get Publ. Safety every time he wanted to get in the dorm? I just need a door handle, something that I can grab and give a good pull when I try to get in the dorm.

Another question that came up recently was why there are no more take-out containers in Lower? I went down there the other day to get a delicious Crusader Burger and fries to go. When I said to the lady that I would like it to go, she said, “You have to take it out of the trash now.” Shocked best described my reaction at that moment and I understand why they broke down and cried right there. We students of the College have to take our food out of the trash to put it in one of those stupid little containers. There is no reason at all why the management of Lower Kimball and all us to get our food out of those containers. The worst thing about this is that they give you the food on those styrofoam plates that you then throw out when you switch to the little container by the trash. This creates double the trash and does not seem to be very environmentally conscious.

A third question is, “Would it kill the college to put in some more water pressure?” I could get a better shower if I went to Physical Plant and had them turn the hose on me. The college does do is to give us decent water pressure to combat the fact that the bathroom stalls are all nasty especially on the weekends. While I’m on the subject of weekends and bathrooms, would it be that hard for the college to put out some more trash barrels on the weekends? Trash always seems to overflow on the floor and it just looks and smells bad.

If the administration thinks they can pacify me with soap, they are sorely mistaken. If they want to pacify me, they have to put handles on the doors, put a little bit of thought into the water pressure, and give me some trash barrels.

Letter to the Editor

To The Editors,

As most of you know by now, Napster and other music related sites have been blocked by the Holy Cross Administration for a COMPROMISE. That way, I won’t have to spend $18 for the new Baha Men album CD just for “Who Let the Dogs Out.”

Sincerely,

Bobby Riether ’01

CHRIS JONES
CRUSADER STAFF WRITER

Nov. 7 and the days following have been a sad time for the American democracy. The situation taking place in West Palm Beach, Florida is a prime example of why so many Americans loathe politics. The Florida scene is ugly and dominated by harsh words and legal maneuvering from candidates who feel wronged by the outcome of the election and Republicans who want Bush to win. Even the elder statesmen, Former Secretaries of State Baker and Christopher, have emerged as partisan henchmen. Respect for the office of the president has declined throughout the past eight years, and it can not take the constitutional crisis some are attempting to foment.

Congressmen Peter Deutsch and Robert Wexler, among other tasks, could be exonerated by themselves. These men are demagogues recklessly throwing gasoline on the blaze in West Palm Beach. Their attempts at acting in a dignified and judicious manner, the only way to establish a precedent, insist on inciting unrest, insisting on passion and emotion, a tactic that must be resolved by the judicial system. In effect, they have shattered the tradition of loser and winner coming together after a campaign, of the people’s decision, whatever it is determined to be.

The unfortunate fact is that a myriad of irregularities occur and voter fraud is perpetrated by actors supporting both major parties, and they occur in thousands of locations across the nation. Addressing all of them would require more time and resources than the government can produce. To place things in a global perspective, a British newspaper on November 9 noted that the only surprise coming out of Flori-dal politics was that there were not more ballot-related problems in West Palm Beach.

Florida’s Duval County, a Democratic stronghold, then it is good enough for Floridians in a couple of years. If a manual recount is held the vote certification deadline. How- ever, we must enter the office as legitimate in the eyes of the public. Certainly, the public must see evidence that Gore’s votes were substantiated in the Florida counties. If the manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated and judicial remedies are exhausted, guarantees equal protection of all citizens under the law. If a manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated and judicial remedies are exhausted, guarantees equal protection of all citizens under the law. If a manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated and judicial remedies are exhausted, guarantees equal protection of all citizens under the law. If a manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated and judicial remedies are exhausted, guarantees equal protection of all citizens under the law. If a manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated and judicial remedies are exhausted, guarantees equal protection of all citizens under the law.

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Short of a complete hand re-count of every vote cast in the state of Florida, this is the only legal and fair way to deal with this, outside the realm of passionate, frantic street demonstrations.

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THE CRUSADER OPINIONS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2000

CRUSADER STAFF WRITER

Wexler and Deutsch among other members of the public, Secretary of State Katherine Harris, acting under Section 102.111 of the Florida Statutes, must uphold the vote certification deadline. However, it is incumbent upon her to consider any amendments submitted by individual counties with fairness. Short of a complete hand re-count of every vote cast in the state of Florida, this is the only legal and fair way to deal with this, outside the realm of passionate, frantic street demonstrations.

Whatever the outcome, with or without the support of the chads, the president must enter the office as legitimate in the eyes of the public. If Gore would not support a Gore victory based on the divined interpretations of fallible humans in a few Democratic Florida counties. If the manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated under-counted, then the entire state must undergo a manual recount. Partisan forces would be nullified if every precinct from the Palm Beach to the Keys attempted to determine, once and for all, who received the most votes in the state of Flori- da. The United States Constitution, while giving the states the right to coordinate the technical and legal aspects of national vot- ing, reserves these issues to the judgment of all citizens under the law. If a manual recount provides evidence that Gore’s votes were substan- tiated, then the entire state must undergo a manual recount. Partisan forces would be nullified if every precinct from the Palm Beach to the Keys attempted to determine, once and for all, who received the most votes in the state of Florida.

As a record of the public will, machine tabulation is the standard across the country with good reason. Necessarily, it removes the potential for human error and deliberate fraud. A machine is neither Repub- lican nor Democratic, conservative or liberal. The only problem with machine tabulators is that they cannot interpret the will of the voter if a ballot has been im- properly marked; in this case, if a voter did not completely punch out the chad, the machine likely invalidated the response.

As a result, the will of the voters was not accu- rately represented through machine counts. Unfortunately, there is no way to rectify this discrepancy in most cases. Like standardized tests, inadvertent marks distort the outcome but the回避 cannot follow instructions. Instead of argu- ing about the chad condition, which is a decidedly s u b j e c t i v e process, Florida law provides the necessary legal provisions to deal with this situation.

As difficult as it may be to argue about the chad condition, which is a decidedly subjective process, Florida law provides the necessary legal provisions to deal with this situation.

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