Hakala blew GA's big opportunity

(Continued from page 4)

Then the procedure began. Almost. The first order was skipped. All but about fifteen minutes of the next two and one-half hours were spent either discussing, detailing, or explaining questions of procedure. Hakala used none of the powers of the chair to channel discussion into substantive channels. He applied Rule of Order almost randomly. He handled the procedural quagmire in an almost comdescending manner, as if explaining rules of order to grade schoolers, and allowed the few substantive debates which were ignited to degenerate into information sessions with him supplying the information.

Those GA reps who were accustomed to "committee speak" and were veterans of the frustrating experience of group decision-making which is the essence of committee life, found the evening almost funny. A welcome note was provided by the otherwise silent Markham, whose bewildered pantherine often served to underscore the futility of the proceedings. The GA reps who were, in fact, new to governmental proceedings, saw their enthusiasm turn suddenly into exasperation. One finally asked, "Is there any way we can always anything?"

In short, it seems that Jon Hakala has demonstrated that while he is a wonderful orator and a true master of campus issues, he is just not a born leader of men. The GA's big chance to serve as the representative mouthpiece of the student body was lost and its integrity as the prime decision-making body in student government was seriously wounded. Let's take the case in point:

The GA adopted a resolution opposing any form of "forced roommate." The resolution singles out one item of the Dining Committee report and examines it out of context. The administration is asked to wait for the report of a GA working group before acting on the Dining Committee's report.

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