Friday, November 9. 2007

"Crusher" Strike Rapier: Unfit to lead AWTeen

Strike Raper expressed his displeasure with the use of free speech in the Activeworlds forums with several long tirades and a series of personal attacks. His recent behavior both in the forums and in the Universe itself clearly shows that Strike is not fit to hold the office of Governor, and AWTeen's citizens will benefit most from a responsible and open leader like Matthew or DaBean. It is in the community's best interest for everyone to ensure that Strike Rapier does not continue the tyranny that has brought AWTeen down into current broken state.

Believe it or not, I was actually prepared to vote for Strike until three days ago. He seemed reasonable, had somewhat good ideas, and was obviously a strong leader. He had a no-nonsense policy against vandalism and troublemaking. However, his behavior on the forums shows that his plan for AWTeen is just as flawed as AWTeen's most recent Caretakers'. His posts were relevant until here, where Strike crosses the line from disagreement to insanity:
I'm looking forward to if I win, Im going to crush all this political BS on day one.
"Political BS?" Isn't the political process designed to let people express their opinions and choose the right person for the job? How, exactly, is the community supposed to vote for the right candidate if everyone is expected to shut up and not ask questions? Dictators, not leaders, govern in this manner. Of course, when asked by Maikeru to answer the original question about the publication of chat logs and of AWTeen's meetings, Strike responded further:
I shed a tear for all those votes lost. I've got better things to do than go chasing single votes by changing my policies. If I lose over-all because of that, so be it.
It's a good thing that every real-world candidate isn't as concerned with losing votes as Strike is, because then we would have idiots running the real world.

Strike further demonstrated that he is incapable of managing a large world during an AWTrivia game yesterday evening (Thursday, November . While playing (and winning, I might add), he said:
Strike Rapier: anyone have a shotgun? or a tow missile... I want to fire one at Brants house
Such comments are not fitting of a representative of a community as large and prestigious as AWTeen. Certainly, Matthew and DaBean haven't made any personal attacks on any of their constituents, and none of AWTeen's previous Caretakers publicly disparaged other citizens by suggesting their house be destroyed. Actually, there was a school board election in my township in 1999 where the supervisor of the board was up for reelection. He had been a spectacular contributor to the district's continued success - but he lost the election because he said that a student should have been "taken out into the parking lot and shot."

Furthermore, Strike Rapier has previously stated that he does not see the need for all information to be made public in AWTeen. One could easily imagine a situation where a "private" "Core" meeting is being held and Strike uses bots to eject people who stop by, or to randomly teleport people halfway across the world. Without knowing what's going on in these meetings, people won't be free to criticize them. It is clear that AWTeen needs to place openness and dialog as one of its utmost priorities during this election cycle, and Strike has clearly demonstrated that he is not very interested in either. He changes the topic every time a meaningful issue comes up, and is out of touch with what the world needs to bring itself back from the brink of irrelevance.

Matthew and DaBean are both far better candidates than the "Crusher." Get out and vote to lend them your support!

Posted by Brant at 13:02

"Matthew and DaBean are both far better candidates than the "Crusher." Get out and vote to lend them your support!"

No thank you, minitruth. From personal experience, Strike does not fuck around when it comes to order. You recall what one thing Digi and Boont did not impose properly? *Authority*.

One troublemaker cheekily, spitefully and generally caused chaos just cause things wern't going his way and he was taking things way too seriously and soon everyone wanted things like that to stop, hence they joined in the fray and soon pissed all over Boont and Digi.

I want to come back to the same AWTeen as before, don't you too? Except without having these kids concern themselves so hard on the politics that they get it all wrong and create a mess for everyone. Strike's perfect for the job.

But at the end of the day, it's up to the public who they want. Your blog picking the candidates to the core, turning this all into a politics game and casting everything in a hard, cold shade of serious blue sucks. Analysis is good, until you attempt weasel-wording the

public's opinion or flip-flop your opinion simply because things aren't going your way on the forums.
Anonymous on Nov 9 2007, 23:24

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I agree. There aren't politics rampant in this election because there doesn't need to be. These people are teenagers! Among the people who are voting that are actually from AWTeen, it might as well be a popularity clownfest contest.

Brant, I think working politics in here has worked against you; most of the people I see respond to you on the forums see you as little more than a pundit who's getting in the way and not really contributing to the process. But get a clue man... in that new blog you mentioned campaigning. People hate real life politicians because they get so caught up in that bullcrap that they completely lose focus of the people they are entering that office to serve in the first place!

Now couple that with the concept of a teen-oriented community that is already rebelious against order by nature. Don't think thats gonna work out all that well :x

Just my two cents.

-Anthony
Anonymous on Nov 12 2007, 21:28

See, Anthony, the thing is that nobody in this election has actually questioned any of the issues. Instead of putting hard questions to Matthew or DaBean, people are actually criticizing anyone who asks anything of substance.

I'm not sure that "the people" are the ones who disapprove of reading articles such as mine. There are a few people in the Activeworlds forums who disagree, most notably you, Strike Rapier, SEVENs, and Newman111. However, I've talked to many people in-world and I've heard much more support than condemnation.

I'm going to write a post later today about how Internet forums seem to bring out personal attacks and negativity in people. Just as you've said that the straw polls in the forums weren't exactly accurate, I have a feeling that the very vocal people who continually bash any ideas for change are in the minority as well.
Anonymous on Nov 13 2007, 07:19