

Albany Student Press



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State University of New York at Albany

Wednesday, February 10, 1971

The U.S. Is In Laos and the Campus Reacts

Plans Made

Rally on Campus; Protest at Capitol

by Kenneth Deane
and
Harry Weiner

Responding to the recent South Vietnamese invasion of Laos, an open meeting of students last evening made provisions for a march on the State Capital this afternoon. The march will be preceded by a rally in front of the Campus Center at 12 noon.

Although a confused and chaotic atmosphere prevailed the meeting, the prevailing impression was that a more effective means of action than has previously been taken is necessary to combat the U.S. government's aggressive policies in Southeast Asia.

Among the other proposals offered were a march on the Federal Building and the Selective Service Offices, and the halting of traffic on the thruway. A desire was expressed by a number of the students to organize a more cohesive movement that would enable future actions to be more meaningful.

Although the original intent of the meeting was to agree upon specific methods for a more effective protest against the war, only this afternoon's action was agreed upon. The greater part of the meeting was occupied by "Profound Profanities," and the possibility of a "SHIT-IN" scheduled for this weekend. The depositing of fecal matter on the capital steps was considered by many present to be the most offensive manner of expressing the student's dissatisfaction with government policy.

Tentative plans were also discussed concerning a demonstration on Saturday, February 13, which would involve both the University and Albany communities. It is hoped that such a demonstration would serve to educate the community at large to what the group termed as the immoral nature of the U.S. involvement in Indochina.



South Vietnamese Airborne Troops shortly arriving at Khe Sanh for push into nearby Laos. Background, US Army Chinook helicopter comes in with more troops. Picture taken Sunday before South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu officially announced invasion. [AP Wirephoto]

U.S. Air Power Used in Laos Three Americans Killed

South Vietnamese troops and tanks pressed westward across branches of the Ho Chi Minh trail in southern Laos Tuesday behind enemy forces retreating under the lash of U.S. air power.

At last reports, the main column in the second day of the operation

had proceeded about 12 miles inside Laos.

Operating in front of the South Vietnamese, U.S. helicopter Cobras attacked enemy supply depots 15 miles inside Laos.

Field dispatches said the South Vietnamese had set up two artillery fire bases inside Laos, one of them 15 miles west of the border.

The object of the South Vietnamese incursion is to cut the Ho Chi Minh trail, the last major supply route of the North Vietnamese to Cambodia and South Vietnam, and to smash bases.

The South Vietnamese in Laos are moving under a U.S. air umbrella. U.S. tactical combat planes had been flying 300-400 missions daily against the Ho Chi Minh trail and other targets in Laos.

Military spokesmen said this action had been stepped up 20% since the South Vietnamese incursion. In addition to the tactical air effort, SAC B52 heavy bombers are supporting the effort.

Twenty thousand South Vietnamese troops and 9,000 U.S. troops are involved in the effort. No U.S. ground troops are going to be used according to the military command.

Three Americans were reported killed and 31 wounded in an ambush and two fights in the Khe Sanh area Monday. South Vietna-

mese headquarters said 10 of its soldiers were killed and 44 wounded Monday, the opening day of the drive.

The U.S. State Department said the drive is not an expansion of the war because "the territory involved has been the scene of combat since 1965." A spokesman for the State Department, Robert J. McCloskey, said the operation will protect American lives during continued U.S. troop withdrawals from South Vietnam. He said that the operation will be kept within the southern Laos panhandle and in the region of Sepone.

Defense Department officials said the strategic goal behind the drive is to keep the enemy from mounting an offensive while the U.S. is turning over its role in the war to the South Vietnamese.

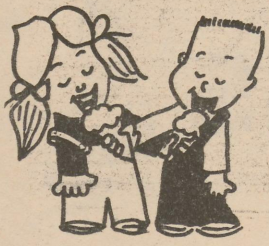
The White House said the decision to launch the strike into Laos goes back to January, when there were consultations between commanders of the army of Vietnam and U.S. forces.

At a press conference to discuss the move into Laos, White House Press Secretary, Ronald Zedler said that the administration regards the Laotian operation as definitely consistent with international law and the charter of the United Nations. This analysis followed a question: "You mean it is consistent with international law to invade a country?"



A large number of students turned out Tuesday night in response to the events in Laos.

...chow



LOVE
is the
only way



LOVE!

Telethon Aids Children

by Bob Kanarek

SUNYA's Telethon for Autistic Children will be held on the 26th and 27th of this month. Since Monday of this week, T-shirts and buttons with this year's slogan, "LOVE, Is the Only Way," have been on sale in the Campus Center Lobby, and will be sold through the 27th. Telethon '71 proceeds will go to the Capital District Chapter of the National Society for Autistic Children.

Autism is an emotional illness about which very little is known. It is often characterized by severe withdrawal from people, resulting in the child's inability to talk or communicate at all.

The Society has established a summer camp for autistic children called Camp Rainbow. The proceeds from the Telethon will be used to widen camp facilities so that more children will be able to attend the camp for longer periods each summer. The Camp is designed to give the child an expanded educational and social opportunity.

This year, the Telethon will be held in the newly decorated Rathskeller. Some notable highlights of the Telethon will include a film dealing with Autism from the well known television series, "Marcus Welby, M.D." An hour will be devoted to International Student Talent as well as a Children's Hour. A musical comedy entitled "Little Nell," written by Steve Hirsch whose rendition of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" (Rudolfo Il Reino Di Nasa Rosa) won this past Holiday Sing, will be presented. Many campus folksingers will participate in the drive, including Hector Rivera, Randy Kaye, Ron Daniels and Julie Caravello. There may also be a preview of the play "Peter Pan" which will be performed in Children's Theatre next month, as well as a considerable amount of talent from local schools. Throughout the 24 hour Telethon refreshments will be sold.

Co-chairmen for the event are Nancy Zollers and David Seligmann. Dave expressed his hopes that this year's Telethon will be an even greater success than those of previous years, and Nancy added that "the Society is counting on the support of the SUNYA community."



Funds from Telethon '71 go to Autistic Children. This year's Telethon symbol and slogan (top left). Workers at last year's Telethon (bottom).

---top left, alverson; graphic by claudia mcdonald; bottom, benjamin

Lettuce Boycott Urged:

Students Aid Workers

by Stephanie Dikovics

The lettuce boycott has induced the A&P Food Store chain of N.Y.C. to buy only Union (United Farm Workers) lettuce...thus, the rabbits of "Fun City," though still enjoying their favorite meal, are not crossing picket lines. They are eating Union lettuce.

With a great deal of effort on the part of demonstrators and pickets, the same goal may be

achieved in the Albany area. By picketing stores that carry non-Union lettuce, it is expected that patronage will drop sufficiently—thereby forcing the store to buy only Union lettuce in order to stop the picketing and regain customers.

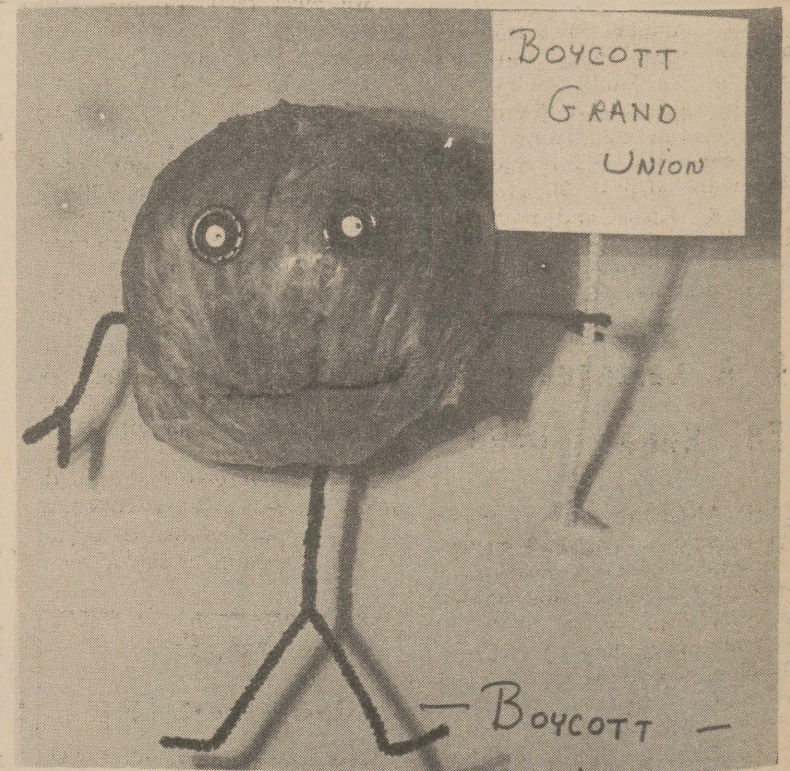
Approximately 30 per cent of the lettuce now produced in the country is covered by United Farm Worker contracts. The target of the lettuce boycott is the

remaining 70 per cent of the lettuce now being produced by scab labor. Through an effective boycott effort, many larger cities have eliminated scab lettuce from the grocery shelves. The overflow is now being sold in grocery stores in smaller cities such as Albany.

A group of Albany students, under the guidance of William Berg, AFL-CIO representative, calling itself "Friends of the Farm Workers," has undertaken the task of organizing a successful lettuce boycott in Albany. Their efforts have included printing and distributing leaflets which expound the cause of the strike, picketing the non-Union lettuce stores on South Pearl Street and Central Avenue, and asking the FSA to serve only Union lettuce. The group plans this Saturday to picket South Pearl Street at 11:30—a tactic which was successful during the similar Grape Boycott.

Perhaps the most ambitious plan of the group is the possible presentation of a concert featuring either Paul Newman, Paul Simon (minus Garfunkle), Peter, Paul & Mary, or Pete Seeger, and including local talent. The proceeds would go to the strike cause at the national base and the Albany area base.

Realization of the goals of the farm workers during the Grape Boycott was achieved after five years of indirect pressure and maneuvering. In the case of the lettuce workers, the leadership of



...solomon

Caesar Chavez is a boon both psychologically and tactically. Chavez lends a degree of national prominence and relevance to the

strike, which aids in garnering the publicity so necessary for a successful boycott. Hopefully, William Berg feels, "[We will] see as many bodies out [picketing] as possible. The cause is just. What we are doing is seeking to improve the livelihood of the farm workers."

The Deadline for Applications for Waivers of The Student Activity Assessment Is Wednesday, Feb., 24, 1971.

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The Legislature

Sales Tax and Blaine Discussed

The Assembly's fiscal committee is considering a rearrangement of the sales tax structure that would take away the power of communities to impose a local sales tax.

Under the plan, revealed Monday by Assembly Speaker Perry B. Duryea, the state sales tax would be raised to 6 cents a dollar and this levy would be uniform across the state.

In other words, a consumer would pay the same amount of sales tax anywhere in the state.

The state sales tax now is three cents a dollar and communities have the authority to add up to another three cents in local sales tax. The result has been a patchwork of differing sales tax levies among various localities.

Repeal of Blaine Amendment

One proposal — to repeal the constitutional ban on state aid to parochial schools — has been abandoned by legislative leaders, high legislative sources said.

Despite public vows by leaders to repeal the so-called Blaine Amendment, the sources said, "It's as dead as anything could be."

Roman Catholic church leaders, up till this year, have sought the repeal. Recently, they dropped their support of the measure in favor of appeal for immediate aid.

Apollo 14 Lands ; Ending 9 Day Mission

AP — Apollo 14 astronauts splashed down safely right on target in the South Pacific and were brought aboard this carrier Tuesday after completing man's most successful moon mission. Astronauts Alan B. Shepard Jr., Stuart A. Roosa and Edgar D. Mitchell dropped into the South Pacific, ending a nine-day, 1.15-million-mile voyage.

L. A. Earthquake ; 24 Known Dead

LOS ANGELES AP — A powerful earthquake staggered Southern California Tuesday, leaving at least 24 dead and forcing the start of evacuation of as many as 250,000 people because of a leaking dam. Nearly five hundred people were treated for injuries at various hospitals in and around Los Angeles. Tall buildings swayed in downtown Los Angeles when the quake hit at 6:01 a.m. PST, just at dawn. The quake registered 6.5 on the Richter scale, according to experts. The scale grades anything over 7 as a major quake. The quake center was in the San Gabriel Mountains, 10 miles from the San Fernando Valley.

As a constitutional amendment, the repeal measure requires passage by two separately elected legislatures and then the voters to become effective. The 1970 legislature passed the measure and the 1971 legislature was scheduled to endorse the measure again to enable the question to be placed on the November ballot this year for the decision of the voters. If passed, there was the possibility that an aid program for the financially ailing parochial school system would be voted in 1972.

The Roman Catholic bishops said money was needed now. They said the restriction has been eroded by court rulings, so attempts to repeal it would be meaningless and only delay efforts to help nonpublic schools.

Gov. Rockefeller however, won-

dered Monday how the legislature could aid parochial schools and still honor the constitutional ban. He said he still supported the repeal of the Blaine amendment.

With the action on the Blaine repealer being held up, the legislature will try this week for final legislative passage of a constitutional amendment to create a new state Department of Criminal Justice.

The new agency, which the legislature passed last year, was envisioned as a device for improving the state's crime-fighting efforts. It would supervise the activities of district attorneys, sheriffs and local police forces. District attorneys, among others oppose the idea.

Sell Marijuana Like Liquor ?

NEW YORK AP — A marijuana cigarette could be purchased in the same manner and in the same store as a New Yorker now buys liquor, under a law proposed today by a Manhattan state legislator.

Assemblyman Franz S. Leichter announced that he was introducing a bill to repeal all present state prohibitions on the possession of marijuana and to control its sale the way alcoholic beverages are regulated.

As with liquor, marijuana would not be sold to persons under 18 years, Leichter's proposed legislation provides.

"We must recognize that possibly as many as one million New Yorkers use marijuana," the West Side Democrat said. "The evidence does not show that marijuana is harmful," he added.

Leichter's bill would establish a state marijuana control authority to license and regulate growers, producers, manufacturers and distributors of marijuana.

The authority also would enforce regulations setting the strength of marijuana sold at retail and require a warning on any package or container of marijuana regarding possible ill effects on the health of the user.

Leichter said that the strength of marijuana can be controlled, as can the alcohol content of liquor. Marijuana would be sold at retail

only in licensed liquor stores and all present rules and regulations pertaining to such stores and the supervisory powers of the state would apply, he said.

Under the proposed legislation, the marijuana would be taxed and David Michaels, an attorney assisting Leichter, speculated that the drug would be taxed "several times the amount of liquor" — providing the state with a substantial revenue.

Anthropologist and author Margaret Mead appeared at a news conference with Leichter to support the legislation along with Ira Glasser, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, and Civil Court Judge Martin Stecher.



Student Voices Doubt On Vietnam War Legitimacy

WASHINGTON AP — A Stanford University student accused Congress today of giving up its right to declare war and urged the Senate Armed Services Committee to approve legislation to abolish the draft.

Peter Knutson, chairman of the Stanford Draft Repeal Council, said his draft age friends are frustrated because of being forced to fight and die in an undeclared war in Southeast Asia.

The moral dilemma facing young men today would be similar to American men having to fight on the side of Germany in World War II, he said.

"If during the course of the Second World War, America had entered on the side of Hitler's Germany," he asked, "would you have allowed yourself to be drafted? Would you have blindly said my country right or wrong?"

"I hope you can appreciate the magnitude of that dilemma because that same painful choice faces millions of Americans today," he said.

Miss Mead said she supported the legislation "in the interest of children and respect for the laws of the country."

The present law, Miss Mead said, is "unrelated to reality."

"I do not urge people to smoke marijuana and the aim of my bill is not to increase its use," Leichter said. "But since clearly the use of marijuana will continue, and in fact increase, I think it is to society's advantage to impose quality control, to have a system of distribution which will keep marijuana out of the hands of the young and to end the hypocrisy of permitting the use of more dangerous substances such as tobacco and alcohol while banning marijuana."

He questioned why the Congress failed to declare war and asked rhetorically whether it could be because a majority felt that the war wasn't "just enough" to warrant a declaration.

Knutson made his remarks on the third day of hearings before the Senate Armed Services Committee on legislation to end the draft.

Coca-Cola Enacts Pollution Program

NEW YORK AP — In the new spirit of environmental concern, the Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of New York has announced plans to set up 17 collection depots in the metropolitan area where it will buy glass bottles and aluminum cans.

The company will pay a bounty of one-half cent per bottle or can, regardless of brand, and turn them over to be melted down and recycled.

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 Counseling hours, in effect 2/11:
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Editorial Comment

Oneonta Says Yes

The student body of the State University College at Oneonta has approved continuance of their mandatory tax (see the report on page 3 of Monday's ASP). The vote was an overwhelming 1,800 in favor and only 220 students against. Thus Oneonta has shown us that despite all the noise from right-leaning students and state legislators, the vast majority of students still support the court-upheld mandatory tax.

Mandatory tax on this campus supports many worthwhile student activities which benefit all Albany State students. Many of these cannot be separated in price for taxpayers and non-taxpayers. In order to maintain the existing programming and begin new projects, mandatory tax must continue.

Oneonta has shown that tax is *not* on the way out. It remains the free choice of the student body. And the students at Oneonta have shown our student body up in the size of the voter turnout- over 2,000 voted out of a student population of 4,500. Albany State's 7,500 seldom turn out in numbers over 800- or about 10%! This spring, when our tax comes up for a referendum, let's see a similar turnout- whether its pro or con.

Patroon Room

The recent institution of Saturday evening hours and the \$1.50 meal card discount in the Patroon Room restaurant in the Campus Center is a great achievement. The new hours, the good food, and reasonable prices, plus the discount will make the Patroon Room a better bargain than any off-campus restaurant.

The students and Food Service employees who argued the FSA hierarchy into this breakthrough deserve our congratulations. Unfortunately, the decision was undoubtedly influenced by FSA's bleak financial forecast.

Hopefully, students will take full advantage of this good offer for an excellent meal. If not, the program will quickly go to an early grave, and the loss is that of the average student. And, of course, it will be twice as hard the next time to talk FSA into anything as innovative!

IT'S A DOVE . . . WOULD I LIE TO YOU?



Albany's Right-Winged Eagle

by Bob Warner

The Albany Eagle, a right-wing publication on campus, deserves mention because it represents a significant minority on campus as well as across the country. One must call it a publication, though, and not a newspaper, because it does not report what it sees objectively, nor does it even make an attempt to do so. Yet, this publication by a handful of secretive YAF'ers must be taken at face value.

The editors of The Eagle seem to take the attitude that they are the saviors of America — that they alone stand for what is right in America, and that they have arrived on the Albany scene hopefully in time to save the Capitol District from all left-wingers, radical as well as liberal. Their evangelical spirit, while probably sincere, is somehow ludicrous.

Therefore, the editors would like to make us believe, that after 40 years of New Deal Welfare Statism which has ruined the fabric of American life, they will be the vanguard of the great American swing to the right. Assuming that one is willing to take this

propaganda sheet seriously, then, let us examine what the junior Bill Buckley's of SUNYA promise us.

The Eagle promises the day when sanity and rational behavior will reign on college campuses across America. The conservative's



style of sanity, however, is "law and order" which can only mean, when spoken in right-wing jargon, oppression of students and suppression of civil liberties. Their brand of freedom is the freedom to kill four students at Kent State.

The Eagle also refers to the lack

of "law and order" last May during the Strike. Of course, it was only those "free-thinking 'liberators'" who were lawless. The brave faculty who held classes and "dared defy" the Strike were the paragons of the rule of law over the rule of men. That is our common Roman heritage — the concept of a rule of law. Yet, those courageous few of the faculty broke the law of the University Senate and Acting-President Allan Kuusisto, and denied students the option to choose one of five options of course grading as a result of the Strike. Rome was notorious for selecting the laws it chose to obey.

Therefore, we can appreciate The Eagle for what it is — a right-wing rag, just as much as Sweet Fire is a propaganda sheet of the extreme left. When put in proper perspective, then, The Eagle is an up-to-date northern extension of the Birch Society. The only problem, however, is that they can sometimes successfully veil their rhetoric much in the same manner as the freshman Senator from this state, who passes bigotry, selfishness, and violence off as something American. If that were the case, then, being Un-American is not so bad.



albany student press

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thomas g. clingan

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In 1916 the Class of 1918 created the Albany Student Press. Due to an error, we are still in existence and can be found in Room 326 of the Campus Center of the State University of New York at Albany. Our phone numbers are 457-2190 or 2194 (there's another one but that's secret) and we are funded by a mandatory student tax and we are members of A.P. Communications are limited to 300 words and are subject to editing by the Chief. peace

Compost Piles of Capitiousland



Barnyard Foulter

Snowmobile accidents have once again made the news in Capitiousland. Recently a speeding snowmobile approached a railroad train from behind and collided with it. The engineer of the train had been deafened by the roar of his own locomotive, and failed to hear the approaching vehicle. There were no injuries, but the train was completely demolished. In another recent accident a large tree suddenly leaped into the path of a snowmobile. The tree was pronounced dead at the scene of the mishap. It is our feeling that all trees are a menace to snowmobiles, and should therefore be outlawed.

Reporter's Notebook: We recently had the opportunity to visit a local church in our continuing quest for a family-oriented comic book. We observed a large number of red-bound books, one of which we opened at random, coming to a passage which opened with the words, "In hoc signum," which is no doubt an obscenity in some communist language. Elsewhere in the same book we discovered a passage which read in part, "Forgive us our trespasses." Although we can condone the act of trespassing, and, in fact, indulge in it at times ourselves, we feel that these pinkos can never be forgiven for anything.

We have been informed that the Foulter Memorial on the Northway at Clifton Park has attracted a large number of worshippers. We would ask, however, that all visitors remember to close the lid after they finish their meditations. Otherwise, the skunks will get in and alter the atmosphere of the shrine.

It has been called to our attention that Capitiousland's Great Regurgitational Newspaper, hereafter known as the *Times-Onion*, has been printing lewd cartoons portraying one of our great naval heroes as an exhibitionist. Upon checking, we found that this scandal sheet had indeed published a comic strip showing Donald Duck in full uniform, with the glaring absence of a pair of pants. These jejune jotters should not be allowed to print such pornography in a family newspaper.

"Spic: I have followed all of your columns with great interest. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for your good work, and express the wish that you will keep it up until the xiphosauran xiphoids of xenophilia have been extirpated.

Spiro T. Newspeak"

(Aside: Mr. Newspeak is a public figure ranking with such greats as G. Harrold Carswell, Mortimer Snerd, and Lester P. McSwill. He is a probable candidate in the Presidential election of 1984.)

And the Pollution Control Board writes, "We have followed all of your columns dealing with the pollution of the waters of New York State. It is our opinion that you can contribute to the cleanup of this mess by building a holding-tank pumping station in your backyard. Not only would you be helping to clean up the environment, but you would also have a large supply of fresh shit material for your column."

EDITOR'S NOTE

The above parody, by William Weiss of the Features Staff, continues our verbal carrying-on and doodle-slinging with Mr. Barnett Fowler, columnist for the Albany Times-Union. Mr. Fowler has recently granted the ASP an interview, the proceedings of which will appear in one of next week's issues.

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Behind The Closed Doors

An ASP Parody

by Dennis Whitehead

The January 27 meeting between Melvin Laird and John Stennis regarding U.S. troop involvement in Laos was notable for its absolute secrecy. After the meeting neither Laird nor Stennis would comment in any way that had transpired at the session—only that Laos had been discussed.

The ASP, however, today discovered a copy of the secret testimony which turned up in an IBM carton at the Registrar's Office. In the interest of informing the American public as to exactly what is going on in Laos, we hereby reprint a transcript of the meeting:

SENATOR STENNIS: 'Afternoon, Melvin.

SECRETARY LAIRD: Good to see you again, John.

STENNIS: Don't smile at me, Melvin, it turns mah stomach. Y'all look like you're tryin' to lure some sweet li'l ol' white girl into your car with a piece of candy.

LAIRD: Ha ha ha. Only if it's in the national interest.

STENNIS: Speakin' of that, just what the hell are you boys doin' over in Laos anyway? Some son of a bitch woke me up at 1:30 to tell me that the Commies got wind of it. I don't give a damn what y'all do to those Gooks over



WASHINGTON, Jan. 27—BEFORE SOUTHEAST ASIA TESTIMONY—Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird, left, talks today with Chairman John Stennis, D-Miss., of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Laird went before the senators to discuss Southeast Asia at the closed-door session.

[AP Wirephoto]

there, but I do not like being awakened so early in the afternoon.

LAIRD: Let's not get bogged down with that again. Besides, we have a brilliant plan. We'll bomb the hell out of the country, with our pilots dressed as civilians. Then to show that we're obeying Cooper-Church, we have newsmen photograph our ground troops milling around at the Laotian border.

STENNIS: Mah God! You mean

to tell me that you're going to comply--

LAIRD: Of course not, John. They'll be standing at the Laotian border with Thailand. We expect to be through Laos in a day or two at most.

STENNIS: Just like Cambodia, eh?

LAIRD: Like I told Dick, I know where we're welcome.

STENNIS: The usual No comments, Melvin?

LAIRD: The usual, John.

1970's Best

Home Movies

ASP Humor

by Rich Rini

As something of an amateur movie critic, I'd like to share with you those movies shown at SUNYA last year that, in my opinion, were outstanding.

One of my favorites ran daily from January 'til May. It was *The Grande Illusion*, with an all-star cast including Cliff Thorne, Bill Perlmutter, and Al Kuusisto as "The President." Running simultaneously was *Man of a Thousand Faces*, starring Charlie Hennigan. Both of these pictures were rated "G" for general audiences.

A revival of the *Wizard of Oz* featured Gerry Wagner as the Wizzard and, of course, all of those beautiful little munchkins, a rare treat, indeed.

A fine double bill shown last spring was John Kaufman in *Lost Horizon* and *Tarzan's Greatest Challenge* with Ken Stringer and Tarzan, Dave Neufeld as Bwana, and Mike Lampert as a cast of thousands. Stringer's performance was outstanding, especially in his tweed loin cloth. However, in several points of the film the script called for the hero to smile, an impossible task for the rough-tough Ken, so Stringer's grins were dubbed in by

Marney Nixon.

The summer offered only one fine film, *Never Steal Anything Small*, starring the staff of WSUA.

The fall brought a bevy of exceptional movies, including *Dr. Kildare's Revenge* featuring the entire SUNYA Health Service staff. The most powerful moment of the film comes when Kildare, played affectionately by Charles O'Reilly, pours Cepacol over a patient's ruptured appendix, killing him instantly.

Uncle Wiggley in Babyland, with Louis Benezet as Br'er Rabbit, was fine children's entertainment.

And how can anyone forget Peter Haley's gripping performance in *Exodus*, released just last month?

A few sports flicks made their presence known, too. Dick Sauers earned plaudits for his production of *Gulliver's Travels*, with the varsity basketball team as the Lilliputians. Also on the athletic hit parade was *Kelly's Heroes*, starring Brian Kelly and the Albany swimming team. Finally, there was *Great Expectations*, starring Bob Ford and a large though inexperienced cast.

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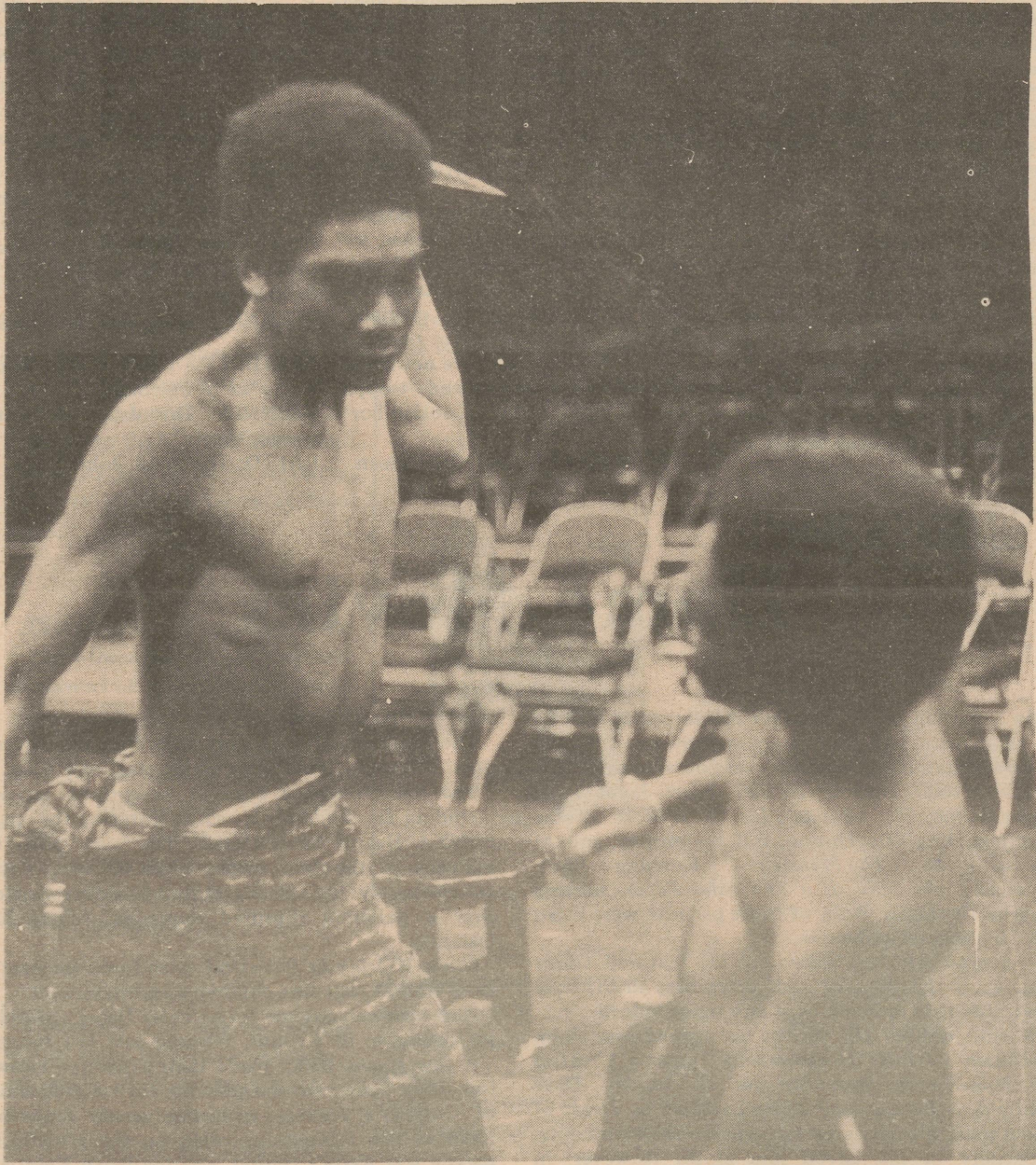
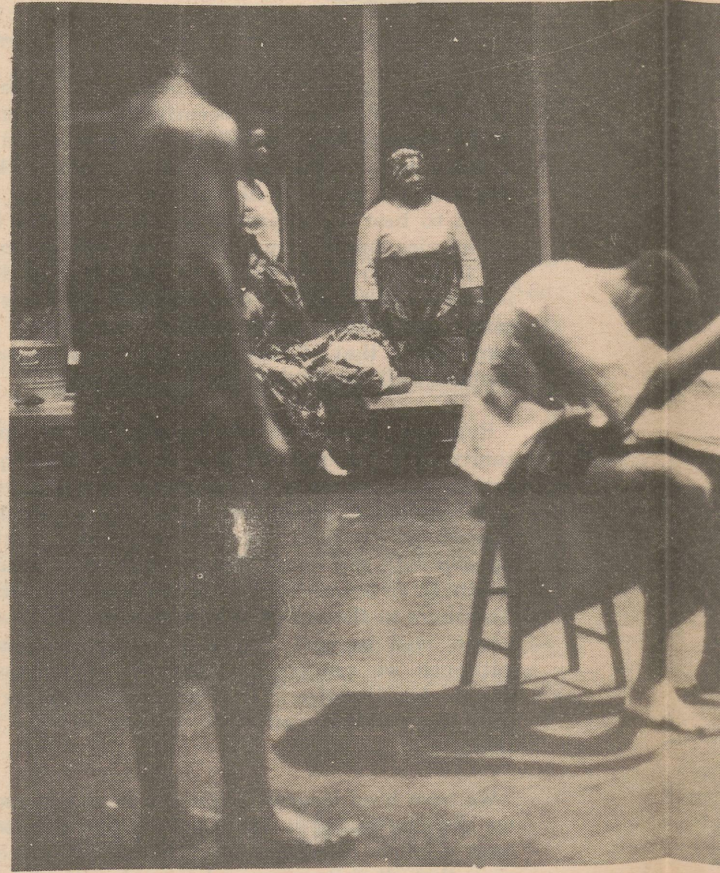
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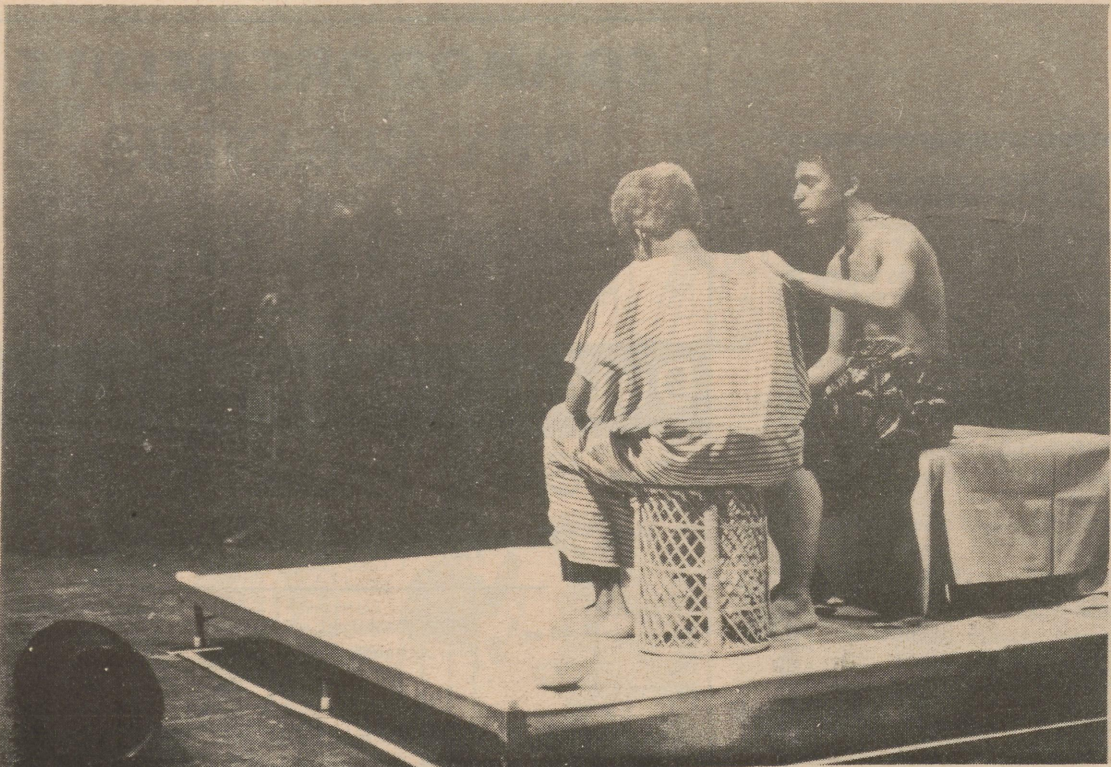
THE BLACK ENSEMBLE



Tonight, at 8:00 in the Lab II Theater Center, The Black Ensemble Performers present their first production of the verse-play "Song of a Goat."

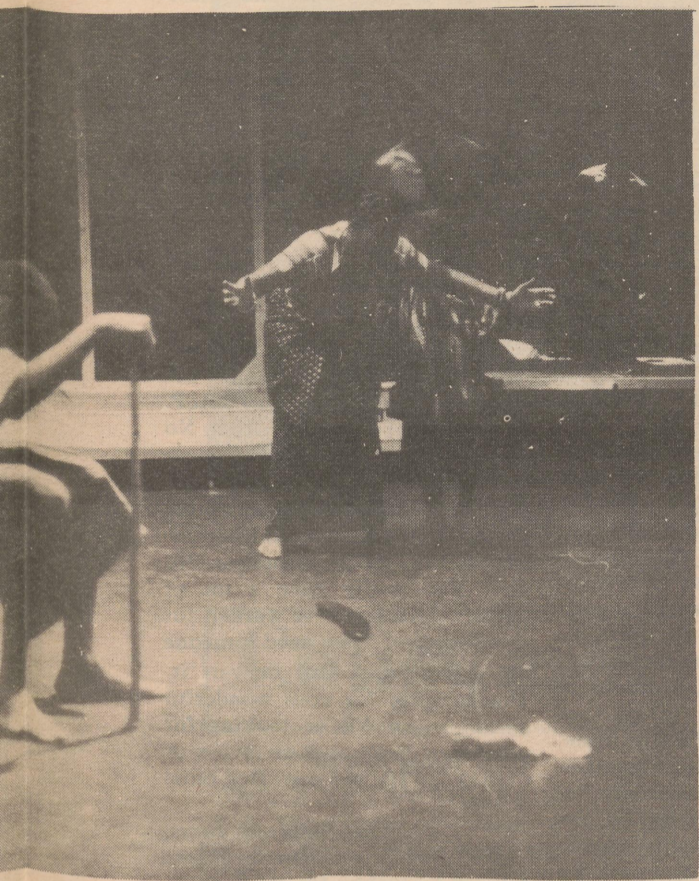
The play deals with African cultural relations and communication, which the ensemble crews have worked intensively for the past several months to present a fine example of African relations and communication, which

"Song of a Goat" will run through at 8:00 p.m.



SONG OF

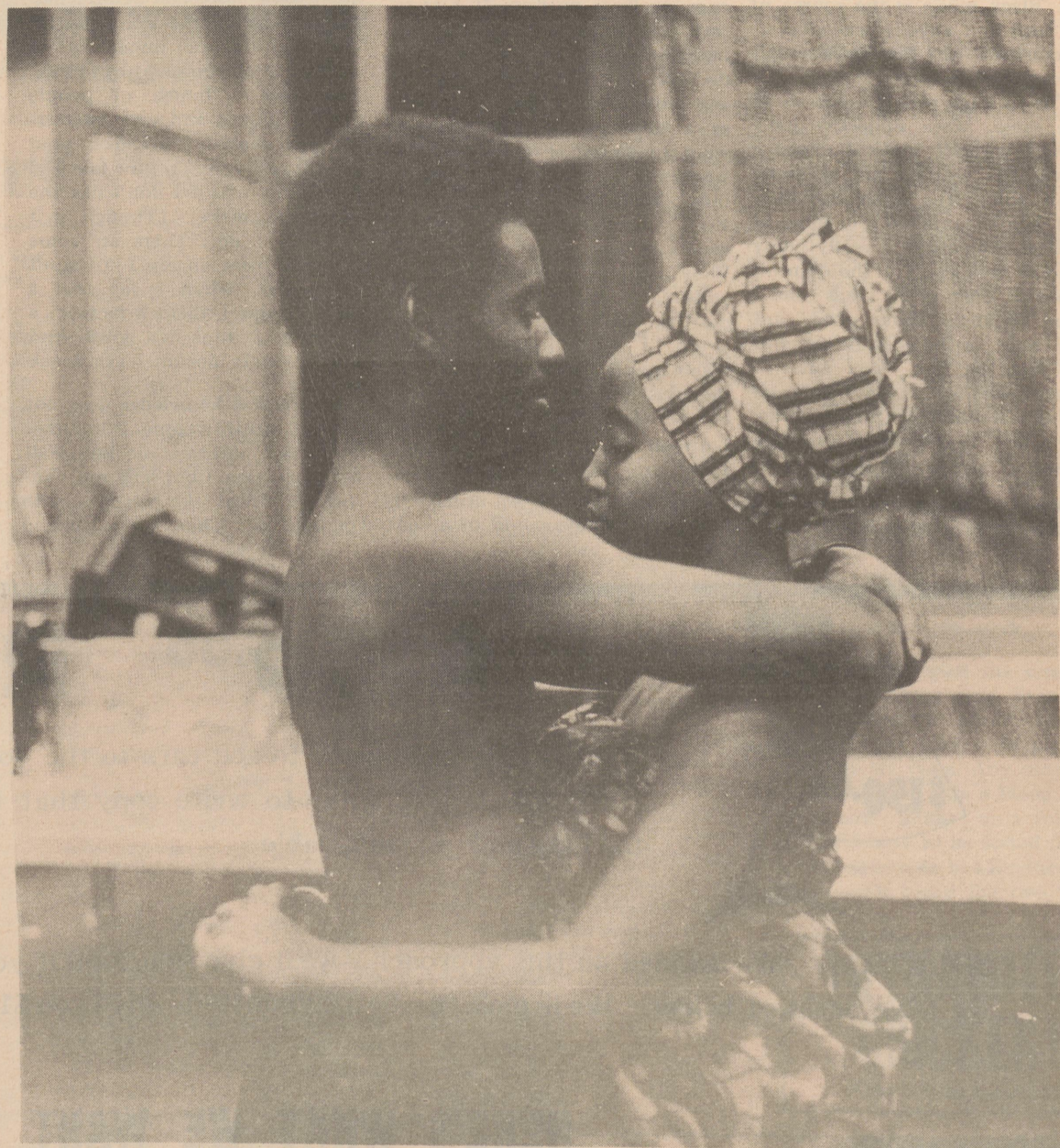
EMBLE PRESENTS...



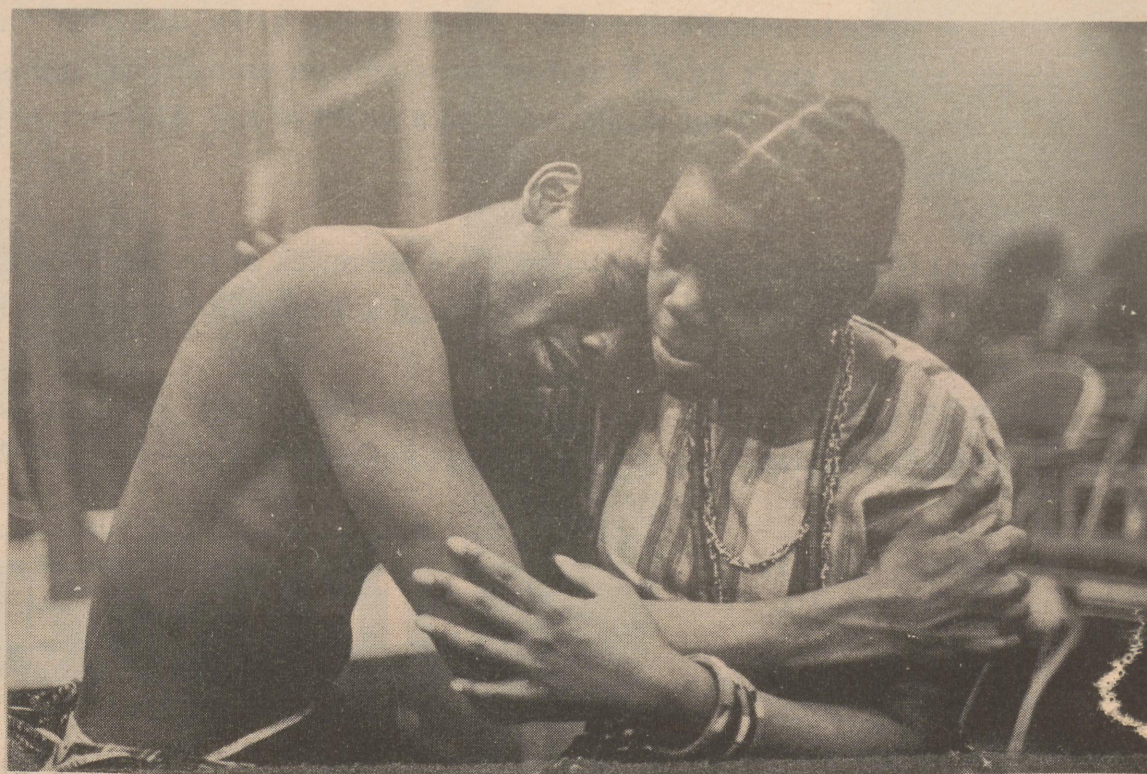
...b II Theater of the Performing Arts
...le Performing Arts Company will
...n of the year, John Pepper Clark's

...n cultural traditions, and the cast and
...y for the last four weeks in order to
...frican folklore and a study of human
... which will appeal to all.

...through Sunday. Curtain time will be



A GOAT



All photos by Ronald Simmons

Arts Communications - Record Reviewer Reviewed

Miss Waters:

I guess you are responsible for that Fool disguised as a music critic who calls himself Jeff Berger. If you want to improve the quality of your staff then remove him.

Never before have I read such poor reviews. From his first article to his most recent travesty in the form of a consumer guide and a Chicago concert review. His concept of criticism is finding as many synonyms for "good" or "bad" as possible. He never bothers to explain why he qualifies the way he does. There is misinformation galore. His statement about Alvin Lee being his own greatest influence probably comes as a result of his own self confessed ignorance of Black music. Black music is the source of all rock and anyone who doesn't comprehend the former shouldn't review the latter.

The Chicago review was more of the same. More subjective judgments without musical explanations. His writings are no more than advertising hype and does not belong under the heading of critical evaluation. I really enjoy reading reviews - you should print more of them of all kinds - but I want to know about music, not the chairs, or the lines, or the cops or Patti or Ken. You have so many superior reviewers in all fields - Rosenblum, Quigley, Graeber, etc. - that it seems a terrible waste to give so much space to someone who apparently acquires all his musical knowledge from

liner notes and Wall Street slogans.

Pete Jacobs

Dear Pete:

Well, obviously I don't think I'm a fool writing travesties or I wouldn't keep writing, but thanks for your opinion. That's what it all comes down to, you know--your letter, my reviews: all opinions, collections of words to express the way we feel. Of course, all my reviews are "subjective judgments." In discussing art, what else is there? No music is absolutely good or bad. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and there are truths outside the Gates of Eden and etc.

You want to know about music, not the chairs, or the lines, or the cops or Patti or Ken. If I were reviewing in an era prior to the inception of rock, maybe I could do that. But rock is a sociological and cultural phenomenon as well as a musical one. (Would you want a reviewer of the Woodstock weekend to talk only about music? He'd be missing the point.) Rock concerts are socio-cultural events as well as musical events. They are the affirmation of a culture, a gathering together, a positive celebration in a negative world. I want to capture the whole mood of a concert of which the music is an important part, but not the only part. Interaction between group and audience affects the way a concert goes.

Police interference can negatively affect the whole mood of a con-

cert. Long lines and delays and even hard seats can tire an audience and dull their enthusiasm which, in turn, can leave a group uninspired. Concerts create a mood, a total feeling and I think it important to report the whole thing. As for Patti and Ken, it's just a thing I like to do -- to mention the people I go to concerts with. Maybe because who I'm with affects the way I feel at a concert. Maybe I just like to do it. Sorry it bothers you.

As to my method of criticism, you're pretty much right about what I do, but let me explain why. Most of my reviews do come down to various degrees and ways of saying "good" and "bad." Sure, I could qualify my criticism. I could talk about competent drummers and inventive solos and impeccable taste and skillful harmonies. But what is competence? What's inventive or impeccable or skillful? It all comes down to this: You have a bunch of people making sounds and what matters is how it feels and sounds to you. Does it really matter how talented Eric Clapton is if I don't like the sounds he makes? (Though as it happens, I do.) There are some talented opera singers. I just don't like opera. When I say that a record is good, that's a fact. It's a fact that I think it's good. And I'm the only person I can speak for.

My musical knowledge does not all (or mostly) come from liner notes or Wall Street slogans (Wall Street slogans?) but let's not confuse musical knowledge with musical fact. There are no musical

facts, except if you want to talk about who recorded what when and who wrote what and who recorded whose material and etc. The rest is subjective. You want to know about music. What do you want to know? The best (only) way to know about music is to listen to it.

My consumer guides are for people who are considering the purchase of an album. If we have similar tastes and I like the music, maybe you buy it and you like it too. I can tell you a bit about why I liked or disliked an album (as space allows) but I can't deliver a thesis or logical "proof." And neither can anyone. I write the way I feel, being as subjective as I can be, because where music is concerned I can only speak for myself. Nobody "knows enough" about rock to deliver the final statement about a record, because there is no such thing anyway. If I tried to speak in terms of talent or the lack of it, I'd either be pretentious or irrelevant or both. Talent is what large numbers of people currently like, as far as I'm concerned. I don't trust the accepted standards. They change too fast.

As for Alvin Lee, I was trying to point out that many musicians end up being influenced to a great extent by their own previous works and styles; they can end up imitating themselves. I didn't intend to ignore the things that influenced them in the first place, which in the case of Alvin Lee (and many others) certainly includes Black music high on the list. To say that Black music is the source of ALL rock, however, is a statement I can't agree with. Certainly, Black musicians from John Lee Hooker to Chuck Berry have been a major influence for huge numbers of performers from John Hammond to the Rolling Stones. But ALL? ALL rock music is

influenced by only one thing -- the world, and the Black experience is an important part of that, especially in the area of music, but it isn't all of it. Would you say that Black music is the source of Pink Floyd's *Atom Heart Mother*? If so, I disagree. And my "self-confessed ignorance of Black music" --does that refer to my statement that I'm not really into Gospel music? And if so, are you actually saying that one must really dig Gospel music to review rock? If so, I disagree again.

I'm really sorry that you and Charles (see next letter) don't like my reviews, but a whole lot of people have told me that they do. And as long as they're around, I'll keep writing.

Jeff Burger

Dear Jeff,

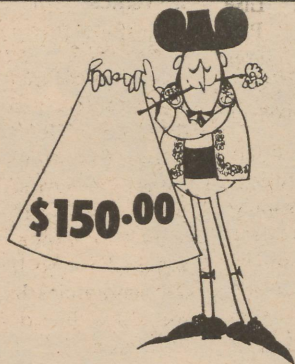
I would like to congratulate you on your fine evaluation of the Chicago concert in Monday's ASP. It was extremely well written. No shit. Man, you're really into music and life and all that cool stuff. Someone with all your writing ability and talent should be writing ads for dirty underwear. No shit. You really have a lot of polish. Have you ever worked for the Enquirer? They need someone of your talent to deliver it. Thanks again for your wonderful editorial and I'll be looking for your own down-to-earth review of CHICAGO III. No shit? Bull Shit!

Sincerely yours,
Charles Kriete

Dear Charles:

In answer to your question, I have never worked for the Enquirer. No shit.

Jeff Burger



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PROBLEM: We want to sell cars to the youth market. We want to use college newspapers. We want to write copy that is believable. What we want to say is too long and unmanageable.

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The cast of the children's theater production 'The Yellow Laugh' during rehearsals.

ROCK PILE

by Eric Graeber
**JOHN LENNON/ PLASTIC ONO
 BAND (APPLE SW 3372)**

Anyone who has read the recent interviews in Rolling Stone with John Lennon knows that the former Beatle has gone through many emotional and psychological changes in the last year or two.

This album is one of the more simplistic records I've heard in a while, both musically and lyrically. Gone is Lennon's subtlety and witticism. There are no ob-

scure Lenonesque lyrics or weird type characters.

This is a personal diary of John Lennon. I know I personally don't like to hear anyone suffer and there is quite a lot of suffering done here. So he didn't receive any love when he was a child and has never overcome the death of his mother (more artfully revealed in the earlier "Julia"). Maybe it would interest a psychiatrist but I don't think Lennon's pain produces good music.

Even the ballads are surprisingly tepid. The only song that I can praise is the myth shattering "God" in which Lennon renounces the Beatles once and for all (as well as most of the other world idols).

As George Harrison says on his more impressive album "All things must pass." Let's hope that this stage of Lennon's brilliant and always exciting career passes by quickly.

**EMERSON LAKE & PALMER
 (COTILLION SC 9040)**

THE NICE were the most effective group at narrowing the bulging gap between rock and classical music. Keith Emerson, the masterful keyboards player of THE NICE has formed a new three man classical-rock band with two other English lads whose groups were split asunder: Bruce Palmer, drummer of the ATOMIC ROOSTER, and Greg Lake, bassist of KING CRIMSON.

The major deficiency of THE NICE was the vocals, but this is no problem for the new group because Greg Lake retains the top form he reached on the excellent "Court of the Crimson King" album.

The vocals though are primarily a vehicle for Emerson's stellar piano and organ work.

The ends equal the sum of thy parts on every song. Even though the group is brand new they sound like they have played together for years. Any other group that tried to mix a Moog with an acoustic guitar on a folk song would have to be tested for suicidal tendencies but Emerson & Co. somehow blend the two together with ease

Theater Ensemble To Tour State

The Community Service Program which allows a student at SUNYA to receive credit for service rendered in the community, has paved a road of opportunity for ten students in the Department of Theatre to create and establish the SUNYA CHILDREN'S THEATRE TOURING ENSEMBLE for the Spring of 1971. The ensemble, operating with the cooperation of the Department of Theatre has prepared for presentation *The Yellow Laugh*, by Arthur Fauquez. The production will open on campus on Feb. 19, 20 & 21 in the Studio Theatre. It will then tour, serving the culturally deprived young people in Albany and surrounding areas free of charge.

Dr. Melvin Urofsky, Director of the Community Service Program, has enthusiastically lent his support and resources to this ambitious project. The students; Gary Maggio, Barbara Richards, Mary Carney, Carlos Guzman, Lisa Sarna, Henry Kuivila, Phil Edelstein, Claudine Cassan, Greg Haymes, William Snyder have done all the work themselves

The SUNYA Theatre Council will conduct their 1971 Induction Ceremony on Thursday, February 11 at 5:30 in the Lab II theatre. Mr. John Fernald, the Agnes E. Futterer lecturer, will be the guest speaker at the ceremony. New members being inducted at this time are the following:

- Robert Verini
- Toni Gurbel
- Philip Bennis
- Edith Collins
- Henry Duivila
- Eileen Kelly
- Arnold Galin

Consumer Report No. 2

by Jeff Burger

WRONG END OF THE RAINBOW, Tom Rush (Columbia, C 30402). Printed lyrics. \$4.98 list. A. What do I think? Fine album, fine album. "Came to See Me Yesterday in the Merry Month of" --that's on the album. So is "Sweet Baby James" and another James Taylor song, "Riding on a Railroad." And a Jesse Winchester song. And some Tom Rush songs (mostly written with Trevor Veitch who plays with Tom). And, of course, there are the songs written by people whose names I don't yet recognize. Just like nobody had heard of James Taylor or Joni Mitchell when Rush first recorded their songs. Look, Tom Rush knows a good

song when he sees it or writes it; then all he has to do it record it

JACK-KNIFE GYPSY, Paul Siebel (Elektr, EKS-74081). Printed lyrics. \$4.98. A plus. You never heard of him, right? Well, maybe you'd be interested in the names of some of his sidemen for this album. There's Clarence White of the Byrds, Buddy Emmons who invented the steel guitar, Doug Kershaw, Bernie Leadon of the Flying Burrito Brothers -- I could go on. This is one of the records that you (I) like almost immediately. It's like a new (old) friend. On a few cuts, he sounds a lot like Bob "JW Harding" Dylan. On the other hand, you could say that Dylan sometimes sounds like Siebel. Siebel has sometimes shared a concert bill with the Band and sometimes he sounds like them too. So what? Mostly, he sounds like Paul Siebel, and Paul Siebel sounds damn good. Another thing: after you've heard his music and you know it pretty well, you'll know Siebel himself pretty well too.

UP ABOVE OUR HEADS, Clouds (Deram, DES 18044) \$4.98. B minus. Not bad. Sometimes dull. Sometimes not. Not at all. The last song has some really

good lyrics. Sometimes I like to hear this record, sometimes I don't (I think this review is a reaction to the Richard Meltzer school of rock criticism. I just read Meltzer's *The Aesthetics of Rock* and I'm probably a masochist for bothering to finish it. Don't waste your time.) Anyway, I could go into an analysis of the cultural and social implications of the trumpet solos on this album or the spatio-cosmic dimensions of the last song, first side. I could even use footnotes. But fuck it. I'd rather just tell you that this album is not a disaster and neither is it the best album I ever heard.

I WALK THE LINE, Original Soundtrack, Songs by Johnny Cash (Columbia, S 30397) \$5.98. B plus. You like Johnny Cash? If I can forget his TV show, I do. (Ditto, the Everly Brothers) Cash wrote the songs for this album. If this is the only Cash album you own, you picked a good one. Well produced, good material, good backup, Cash is in good form. After you've piled all your Pink Floyd records on the changer, it might be comforting to know you can always turn to Johnny Cash (On the other hand, it might not be).

Art Council Sponsors Film

The SUNY at Albany Art Council will sponsor William K. Everson, film researcher and historian, who will lecture and present a rare silent film, D.W. Griffith's *Heart of the World*, at SUNY at Albany, Thursday evening, February 11, in LC 18 at 7:30.

Everson, an Englishman by birth, has compiled the largest 16-millimeter film collection in the world. Currently a professor of film history at the New School for Social Research and at New York University in New York City, he has authored several film books, including *The Western, The Bad Guys*, and studies of W.C. Fields and Laurel and Hardy, and has been of inestimable help as researcher to other film writers. He also heads the Theodore Huff Film Society in New York City.

Hearts of the World, a tragic story of World War I filmed in France and England, has been neglected as one of Director D.W. Griffith's major works due to a lack of available prints. Released in 1918, the film stars Lillian and Dorothy Gish and Robert Harron, and includes actual front line action footage of the French Battlefields.

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 Chapter Seven at Plaza Seven Shopping Center
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The Hebrew Club will meet Thursday in the State Quad Flag Room at 8:30 p.m. There will be Israeli dancing on Thursday at 9 p.m. in the State Quad Flag Room.

Ski Club meeting Thursday, Feb. 11 in LC 5 at 7:30 p.m. Trip Saturday Feb. 13 (limited to 50 people) to Gore Mountain.

* KING GURGO THE INEPT OF VULGARIA IS COMING TO CLAIM THE PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES *

Rev. John Starley Gravel, crew member of the Exodus and former member of the Haganah, will speak tonight at 7:30 p.m. in LC 3. Hear a first hand account of the establishment of the State of Israel.

graffiti

John Cupak, Chairman of the Albany Chapter of the Hudson River Sloop Restoration group will give a talk and slide presentation of the Hudson River's ecological problems in Bleeker Hall, Dutch Quad on Feb. 16, 1971 at 8:00 p.m.

The Student Ambassador Committee is having an interest meeting for all students interested in programs abroad: Europe, Asia, Africa, S. America- Affiliated with the Experiment in International Living- Wednesday at 7:30 in the Assembly Hall.

Cathexis sponsors Mrs. Edith E. DiGiulio speaking about "Grapho-analysis" (Handwriting analysis) on Wed. Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. in LC 1. Bring paper and pen.

The Art Council is sponsoring William K. Everson, film researcher and historian, showing a D.W. Griffith film, "Hearts of the World," Feb. 11, LC 18 at 7:30 p.m.

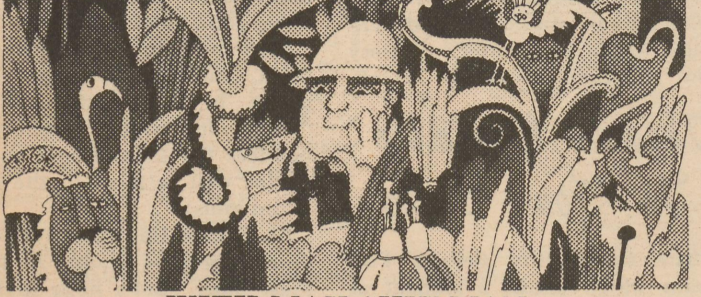


Sigma Alpha Eta-Speech Pathology Honorary, Meeting on Feb. 11, in HU 354, at 7 p.m. Business meeting At 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker and Film. Mr. Pete Maguzu of Sph Path and Audio Dept. will discuss the films which are about Teaching Multiply Handicapped Children. All welcome. Refreshments served.

* Peter Pan will be flying soon at a theatre near you, March 3-7. Tickets on sale now at the Performing Arts Center Box office, open 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. weekdays. Hurry!

Satisfied with the status quo? No problems, complaints, gripes? Then sit in your dormitory room and don't come to the Grievance Committee meeting to be held Monday, Feb. 15 at 4:15 in CC 346.

ON CAMPUS



WITH MAX SHULMAN

(By the author of Rally Round the Flag, Boys... Dobie Gillis... etc)

Everything you always wanted to know about college... but were too classy to ask

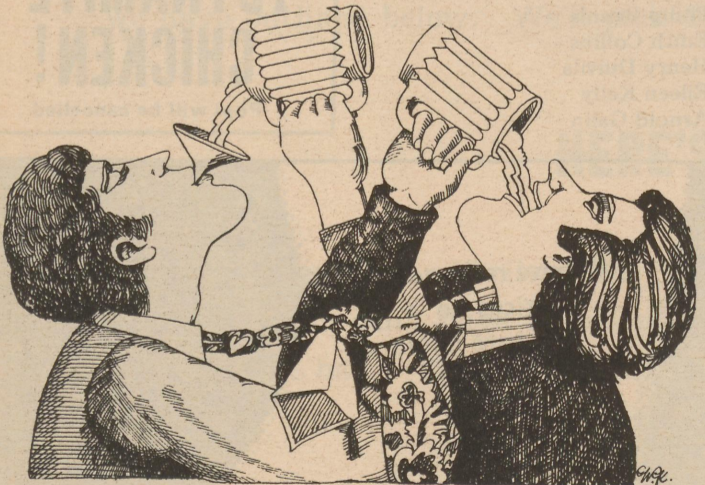
The other night when the little woman and I got home from our encounter group, I said to her, "Isn't it odd, my dear, that colleges still haven't tried non-verbal communication?"

(Incidentally, the little woman I refer to is not, as you might think, my wife. My wife is far from a little woman. She is, in fact, nearly seven feet high and mantled with rippling muscle. She is a full-blooded Chiricahua Apache and holds the world's shotput record—908 feet. The little woman I refer to is someone we found crouching under the sofa when we rented our flat back in 1924. She has been with us ever since, although to be perfectly honest, she's really not much fun to have around. She never speaks except to make a sort of moist, gagging sound when she's hungry, and she'll often sneak up and tusk you while you're busy watching television. Still and all, with my wife away putting the shot most of the time, at least it gives me somebody to hack around with.)

But I digress. "Isn't it odd, my dear," I said the other night to the little woman, "that colleges still haven't tried non-verbal communication?" And it is odd. Why do teachers keep talking to students? Surely they've learned by now that talking is no way to communicate. It's been proved over and over in encounter groups, T-groups, sensitivity groups and grope groups that people don't really, truly reach other people with language. How can they? Words, by their very nature, are ambiguous and artificial and conceal more than they reveal. There is only one way to really, truly communicate with another human being, and that is to touch him and feel him. This is honest and natural and basic and beautiful and legal in some states.

And yet teachers go right on talking. No wonder they get no feedback. Let us say, for example, that a teacher is trying to get a student to learn Boyle's law. Talk won't do it, not even if the teacher talks the whole semester long. But if one day he will simply and silently reach out and just hold the student for a minute or two, maybe even dance with him a little bit, he will find that the student has learned not only Boyle's law but probably the fox trot too.

And what is more, the teacher will discover he has a new friend. No longer will student and teacher snarl and make coarse gestures when they see each other on campus. Instead they will run together, clasp and nuzzle, trade hats, and finally, without a word—for what do friends need with words?—repair to a nearby tavern for that friendliest of all ceremonies: the sharing of Miller High Life Beer.



No beer binds a friendship the way Miller High Life does. I could tell you why if I wanted to. In fact, I could go on for hours about the glories of Miller High Life. But I won't, for we all know, don't we, that language is not the way to communicate? So here is all I will say:

Get yourself a can or bottle of Miller (a keg if you are a very large person). Pour a glass for your friend, a glass for yourself. Link arms. Tie your neckties together. Drink.

Can words describe the resultant euphoria, the enveloping oneness, the ripening occlusion? No; words are useless. Just Miller and a friend; that's all you need to know. And if, by chance, you don't have a friend, get two Millers. You'll never walk alone.

But I digress. Talking, as we have seen, is obsolete. And of course, writing is on its last legs too; in fact, I give the literature game another six months at the outside. Naturally, being a sort of writer, I'm a little sorry to see this happen, but on the other hand, I'm not really worried. The shotput game, thank Heaven, is better than ever, and I feel confident my wife will always earn enough for me and the little woman.

* * *

The brewing game also looks healthy from where we sit, which is in Milwaukee, from whose storied environs we have been bringing you Miller High Life, the Champagne of Beers, for more than 115 flavorful years. Try some; you'll see why.

The Student Ambassador Committee is having an interest meeting for all students interested in programs abroad: Europe, Asia, Africa, S. America- Affiliated with the Experiment in International Living- Wednesday at 7:30 in the Assembly Hall.

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The Art Council is sponsoring William K. Everson, film researcher and historian, showing a D.W. Griffith film, "Hearts of the World," Feb. 11, LC 18 at 7:30 p.m.

classified

Frogface- Happy Valentine's Day. Two Hero Biscuits for Sammy Prye. Love Jellybean.

E.A.S.C. Offers Discount Flights (Europe-Asia-Africa): E.A.S.C., 1481 Lenox Rd., Schenectady, 12308, Tel. 346-9973.

1949 Pontiac, Excellent Condition, 23,500 miles. 8 cyl. Automatic, 4 door, 7 tires, \$400, 482-7511.

Income Tax service for college students. Low rates to fit your budget. Call 489-1930 after 4 p.m.

Wanted- "Foundations Behavioral Research" by Kerlinger. IV 9-0370.

Lost-Dave lost his brown-rimmed glasses. \$5.00 reward. Call 489-7840.

WANTED TO BUY: Good used guitar for under \$25. Call 457-5019 and ask for Dan.

Two students need information in obtaining summer work in the Bahamas. Call Jim 457-5036.

Hi! Margaret. From B.

Still for Sale- '62 Mercedes-Benz. Leather Interior, 4-speed, Reasonable Mileage, FM radio, 489-3407.

Seniors renting 2,3, or 4 bedroom Apartments or houses who are leaving in May, please call Steve or Gary at 457-4093.

DYNAMITE CHICKEN?

Popi will be cancelled

Campus Center Dry Mounting Service

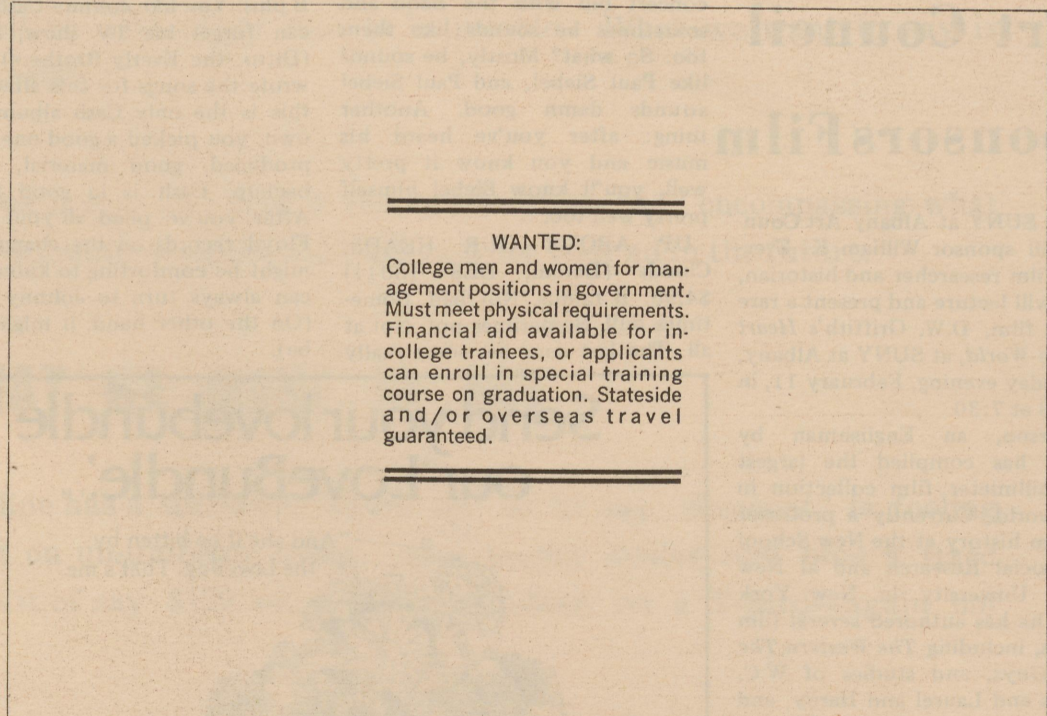
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I understand there is no obligation.

Find yourself in the United States Air Force

Refer Expanding

Free Clinic Prepares for Debut

by Eric Joss

The Refer Switchboard, since its inception during this past summer, has been successfully providing no-hassle help to all who desire it.

Refer Switchboard, Inc. (434-1202), operates under the all-pervasive policy of making free aid available to anyone who is experiencing difficulty, even though Refer itself is supported almost wholly by donations.

The Clinic

It was the perception of the unfulfilled needs such as the ones alluded to above that supplied the impetus for the new Refer Free Clinic which is to open on February 15.



...hochberg

will be blood analysis, urinalysis, treatment of venereal diseases, hepatitis, common colds, and abrasions, and the dispensing of birth control devices and further information on planned parenthood.

The Clinic is located at Refer Switchboard headquarters at 332 Hudson Avenue (phone for Clinic 434-1205), and it will be open initially on Monday and Thursday nights from 7 P.M. until there are no more people desirous of its services that evening.

The philosophy of the Clinic will be commensurate with that of all Refer's services. The medical services offered will come with no financial, legal, or moral strings attached.

Around-The-Clock Service

Although the Clinic is at present the main thrust of activity at Refer Switchboard, it is by no means its only undertaking. Refer has continued to furnish a vital 24-hour-a-day telephone referral service which currently handles a load of 40 to 50 calls daily.



332 Hudson Ave.: 24-hour-service to the lost, tired, and hungry.

...hochberg

Medical School, the ACLU, the Legal Aid Society, and the county welfare system. A good deal of Refer's work is handled by its own staff, who are assisted by volunteer ministers, psychiatrists, and doctors.

In addition to the 24-hour switchboard, Refer has responded to unique problems whenever they arise. People who are "crashing," and who need a place to stay, find an open door at 332 Hudson.

Refer refuses to be stagnant and is constantly looking toward the future extension of its services. With the advent of the new Clinic, its capacity to give help has been greatly increased.

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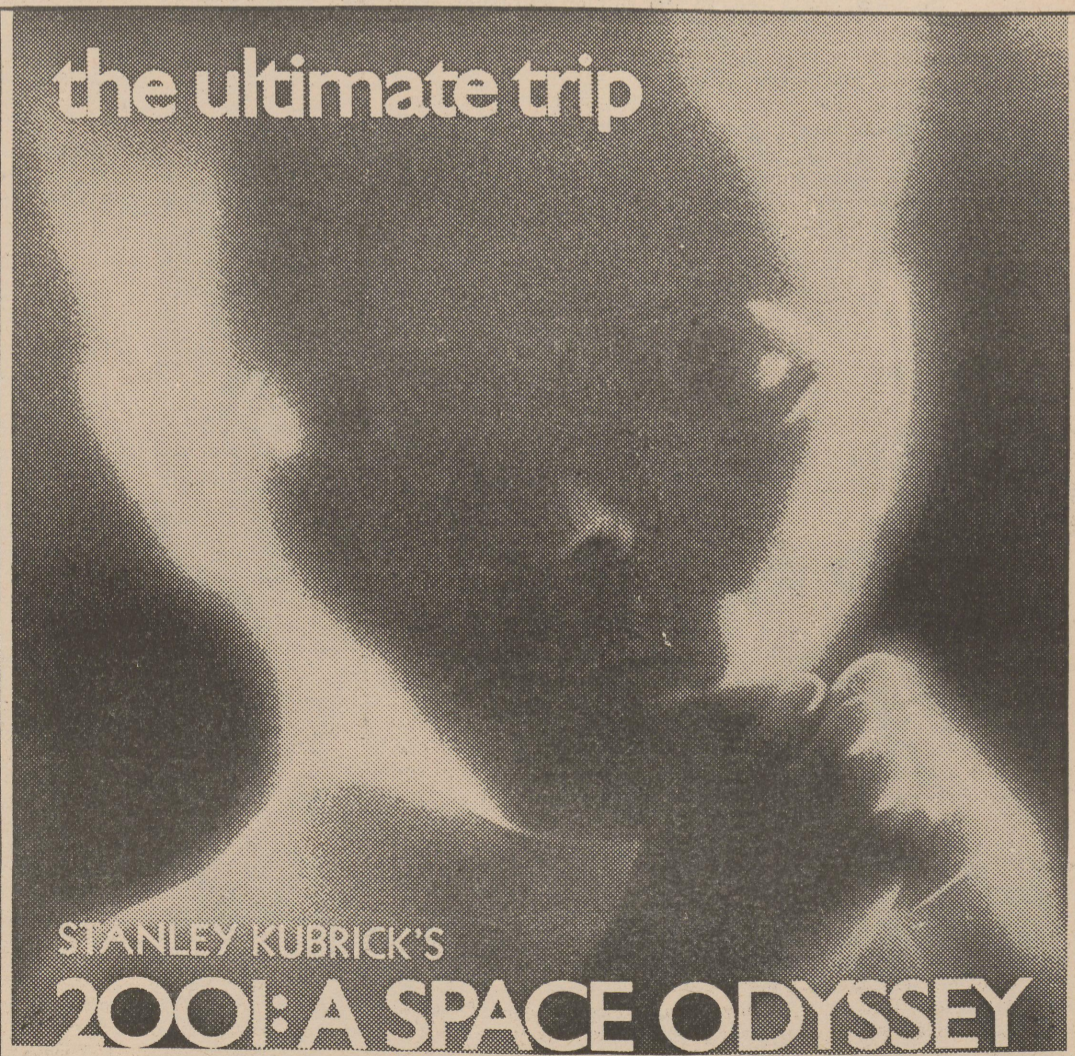
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Welfare Families Organize, Demand Adequate Income; Community Effort Grows

by Steve Murphy

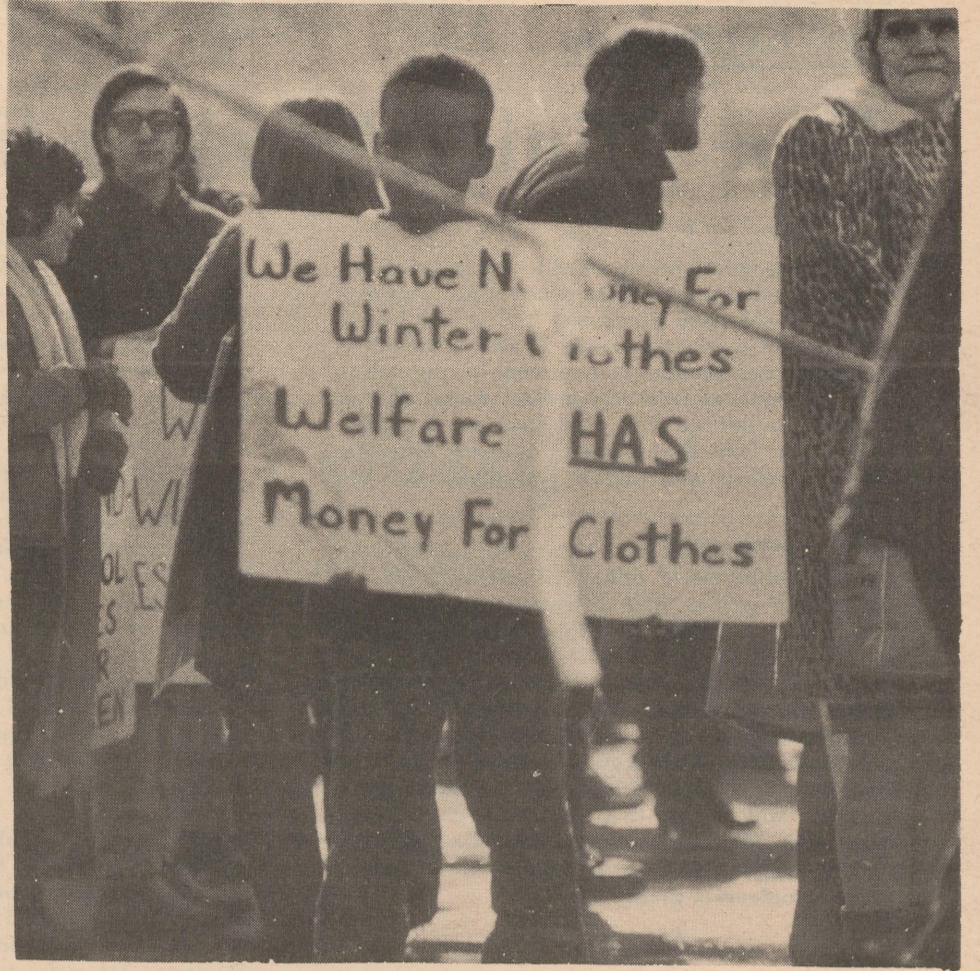
Lately there's a great deal of concern with the underprivileged people in our society. Our own university has taken a step toward relevancy by involving students in volunteer services. But volunteers, who function as parts of different community agencies that deal directly with poor people, have only touched the outer fringes of the problem by helping people on a small scale. This help is necessary and certainly not ineffective, but, the poor are still poor. Something more is needed—something that goes beyond the usual agency work.

One of the main reasons the efforts of those working for poor people have met with frustrating opposition is the organized and repressive system that presently handles poor people. This system, with its accompanying racist attitudes and stereotypes is based on a dichotomy—the poor vs. the non-poor. While this is a simplification of the basis of this system, it does function to keep the poor poor. This system leads the working man to believe that the reason he himself can't get ahead is because more taxes are needed to support the "lazy bums on welfare who won't work." The working man, as well as others, must realize that poor people, and poor Blacks in particular, are victimized by our system—more than any other group. Rather than the cause of a declining economy, the poor are the most obvious manifestation of the inadequacy of our economic system.

An organized and unified effort on the part of poor people is needed in order to eliminate some of the living conditions that are the reasons why poor people are in need of help. The work of scattered community agencies and volunteer services is important but will only lead to frustration in view of the probability that the poor will still be poor. There is an organized effort in the making here in Albany—in the National Welfare Rights Organization.

NWRO is a nation wide grassroots organization of welfare clients and others with inadequate incomes. Their concern is with all people whose income does not provide a decent standard of living. The immediate concern of the group is with the public welfare system that keeps the poor down. The main goals of NWRO are adequate income, dignity, justice, and bread (there are still hungry people).

NWRO recognizes that people are poor because they don't have enough money. Poor people have never been able to secure enough income from whatever wages they earn to enable their families to live decently. As a remedy to this, NWRO has proposed a guaranteed



The poor who rent their homes are forced by economics to live in the least expensive housing. These are usually the oldest and most deteriorating structures.

Those living in public housing often find conditions unsafe and the buildings in disrepair.

...alverson

adequate income plan providing a minimum of \$5,500 annually for a family of four. This proposal challenges government and society to change their priorities from an emphasis on death and destruction to an emphasis on life and peace.

To help promote dignity for all people, NWRO has been working for a change of attitude among welfare clients and sympathetic outsiders. In a country where it seems to be second nature to despise public welfare as wasted tax dollars for "lazy, shiftless freeloaders," welfare is now considered by many people as a right—a basic right—rather than a hidden shame and a gift. NWRO is playing a major role in bringing about a new welfare era.

NWRO has analyzed many misconceptions about welfare and welfare clients and compacted them into "The Five Lies About Welfare," that are gaining increasing acceptance. NWRO has established the following statements as *lies* that are meant to provide a scapegoat for the problems of an inadequate economic system:

- 1) More jobs will solve the welfare problem.
- 2) Most welfare recipients are Blacks who have moved to states with high welfare grants to get on welfare.
- 3) Welfare mothers are immoral.
- 4) Welfare is the "good life"—color T.V. better food and Cadillacs.
- 5) Welfare takes most of your taxes.

Here in Albany, the Welfare Rights Movement is growing. Welfare clients have been misinformed systematically by the Albany County Social Services Department. One of the most important objectives of Albany's WRO is to get literature and an information booth into the Albany Co. Welfare building to inform clients of their rights. It is in this building that clients experience probably more degradation and frustration than in any other circumstance of their lives. Albany WRO continually meets well organized and strong opposition every day it attempts to organize and inform people of what's really happening with welfare. WRO has to first make the Social Services Department abide by existing laws before greater changes in the system can even be within sight. The local group accomplishes more and more each day. Their struggle is a constant one—for freedom to live life in a better way.

On the state level, WRO has met with the N.Y.S. Board of Social Services and demanded to have welfare clients function as part of this board. As it stands now, the board is made up of affluent people—bankers, investors, doctors, industrialists, suburban housewives, and even the vice-president of Pepsicola Co. WRO feels that these board members cannot make decisions or make recommendations to Rocky with the best interests of the poor in mind. More complete and honest representation is necessary. The non-poor can no longer decide one-sidedly how the poor should live.

The Albany WRO is here and it's alive. They are helping themselves. They can teach us—all of us—and then we can all help each other. The more the people organize themselves, the less is their need for "outside" help. The poor vs. non-poor dichotomy can at least be blurred and hopefully destroyed some day. The efforts of a few people must be unified and organized into a whole that has the power to watch out for itself. The people must be heard—and we all must be aware of the fact that poor people really can help themselves—once they're together. Poor people must have the power to determine their own lives.



The problems of inadequate incomes are especially acute among minorities. The translation of the sign (in Spanish) reads: "We want to live decently." ...alverson

The photos on page 12 of the Friday, February 5, ASP were taken by Art Goodman.