

New Grading System Proposed

Four Richmond College professors, all members of the College Committee on Admission and Standing, have proposed a revised grading and advisement system for the College. It would substitute for the existing H-P-F a new procedure which, while eliminating the grade of F, would make it possible for a student to earn the grades of A, B, C, or D in his or her coursework.

In addition, the four propose a radically upgraded student advisement office "to offer the student a consistent, reliable, and informative advisement service."

The four professors are Michael Lutzker (Social Science), Henry Ebel (Humanities), Goodwin-Collins Onyeledo (Afro-American Studies), and Ronald Gruberg (Professional Studies). In a letter now being circulated to all members of the Richmond College Assembly, they seek additional co-sponsors for two resolutions, on grading and advisement, that will then be submitted to the Assembly.

According to Professor Ebel, "these resolutions spring from a very widespread sense at Richmond that our grading and advisement systems are not working well, that we aren't doing nearly enough to see to it that our students have a worthwhile experience at Richmond and are not sent out thereafter simply to join the ranks of the unemployed."

The four professors feel that the "experimental" H-P-F grading system has not worked out well at Richmond.

"The really disastrous part of it," according to Professor Lutzker, "is the meaningless grade of P, which can stand, in conventional terms, for anything from a B-plus to a D. The Admission and Standing Committee has now heard shocking testimony which indicates that at least one graduate school regards our Ps as roughly equivalent to a D, while others have no idea whether they should be regarded as Bs, Cs, or Ds."

The four professors feel that the grading system has already collapsed at Richmond. "Letter grades that negate the H-P-F system are being sent out left and right at Richmond College," according to Professor Ebel. "Sometimes they are sent out by the individual faculty member, sometimes by the division. The losers are those students who don't take steps to see that a letter-grade equivalent is arranged for them."

But the actual professional damage being done to Richmond students is only one aspect of the professors' concern. In addition, they see the "meaningless" grading system at Richmond as tying in with an atmosphere of drift, passivity, and personal uncertainty within the College. The system of "genial permissiveness" on the part of the faculty, which was originally adopted because it seemed kinder than the old system of grades and standards, has now, according to the four, become destructive in its effects.

"We are proposing a changed relationship between the College and its students," is their way of putting it. "The pleasant fiction that if only students are left alone they will somehow 'take care of themselves' must be abandoned. Aside from the fact that it is demonstrably untrue, it is too frequently a rationalization for simple laziness on the part of the College and its staff."

According to Professor Lutzker, the resolutions on grading and advisement should be seen as two parts of one proposal, and as deeply supportive of each other. "Just to change the grading system, even if we do drop the grade F and substitute NC ('No Credit'), is a way of putting the onus on the student. That would be a reactionary move, and I would be opposed to it. A clearer and more meaningful system one that can do the student some good, only makes sense if he or she is also getting some meaningful help and advisement from the College. What we're proposing is an Office of Student Advisement that would be staffed



and available all of the time, so that no one would have to run helplessly through the halls looking for a faculty member to sign a form. In addition, the Office of Student Advisement would be actively involved in helping the student to think about the future, and about the role that Richmond College is playing in his or her life. It would be jointly staffed by the faculty and by the Dean of Students' office, so you'd be getting two

perspectives on any problem or decision."

The four professors are seeking the names of all Assembly members, students and faculty, who would like to co-sponsor the two resolutions when they are formally submitted. In addition, they are asking for statements of support from students who are not members of the Assembly. Such statements can be sent in the form of a brief note to Professor Lutzker, Room 833.

SAVE FREE TUITION !

Save Free Tuition! Fund the Budget!

These will be the slogans used by students of the City University as they descend upon their legislatures for the remainder of March.

The slogans refer to the double barreled threat posed to the City University by the upcoming report of the Keppel Commission on the Funding of Higher Education and the lack of support recommended for the University's 1973-74 budget.

The matter of the budget is the simplest to understand. There simply isn't enough money in the budget proposed by the legislative leadership to assure the continuation of the Open Admissions program with adequate support facilities. The figure of approximately \$470 million is well below the University's needs. It is estimated that the University will need an additional \$22 million in state funds in order to survive. Approximately \$20 million of this amount would be met by New York City matching funds. This would raise the University up to

a bare survival budget of about \$512 million.

The funds that are needed are as follows: \$10 million from both the state and the city for senior colleges; \$10 million from both the state and the city for community colleges and \$2 million from the state for SEEK.

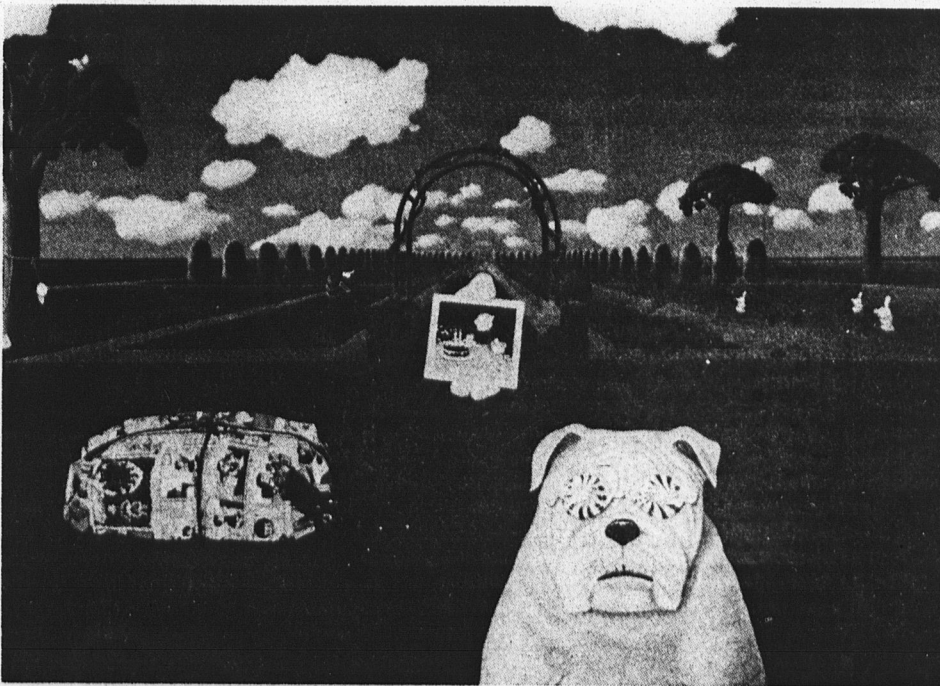
The major problem with the funding of the budget is that the legislative leadership is reluctant to talk about increasing the support for the City University while the prospects of imposing tuition loom as such a real possibility with the upcoming release of the Keppel Commission report.

The Commission, which is expected to make public its findings on about the twelfth of March, was established by the Governor to deal with the problems confronting higher education and its funding.

According to a recent report in the *Amsterdam News*, which is fairly reliable according to inside sources, the report has

(Continued on Page 3)

Spring, A Surrealistic Pillow



Boro Prexies Squawk About CUNY Cutbacks

Never before has the tradition of tuition-free, open enrollment maintained by the City University of New York been as important to the continued health and survival of the City as it is today, and never before has it been more imperilled.

The Governor's proposed budget, which falls \$53 million short of the minimum funds necessary to keep the City University operating at current levels, will result in the destruction not only of the open admissions program, but will deal a serious blow to the high quality of instruction which has been the hallmark of this institution for generations. These additional funds must be provided by the State Legislature now.

We, the Borough Presidents of the City of New York, therefore urge the Legislature to provide full funding during the coming year at a level which at least maintains the current enrollment and faculty strength. This requires a clear commitment by the State to match City aid, dollar for dollar, to finance the fourth year of open admissions in the senior colleges.

It is unthinkable that City University should be faced with closing facilities and reducing enrollments during a year when the State budget contains a sizeable surplus. Any failure to provide the additional \$53 million necessary is a rejection of existing funding commitments by the State; it is also a serious breach of faith with those young people, especially our returning veterans, who are totally dependent on the City University for higher education.

The City University, free and open, is one of the few benefits available to the over-taxed and underserved working families of our City. Fully 50 percent of CUNY freshmen this year come from families earning less than \$9,000 a year; almost 75 percent come from families earning less than \$12,000—the minimum family income necessary for a "moderate" standard of living in our City today according to the Community Council of Greater New York. The imposition of tuition on these students, many from families with more than one member attending a CUNY institution, would be nothing short of a disaster.

Once again, therefore, the people of New York City are being forced to go to Albany to beg for a fair share of tax dollars which have already been taken from us. They are monies which have already been paid out, twice over, by the taxpayers of New York City for the purposes of higher education.

New York City taxpayers support, on their own, half the budget of the City University system, and then we pay again, through our State taxes, both towards the support of the State University system, as well as towards the State share of the City University budget. We do not begrudge our money to the State University, although we know that only ten percent of its student population comes from the City. We do, however, demand equity and the return of an adequate share of these funds to maintain our own free-tuition system.

As Chief Executives of the four boroughs of New York City, we urge the State Legislature to resist the proposed destruction of our University. We urge the Legislature to appropriate for the City University the additional \$53 million which it must have to continue, funds which we ourselves have already paid. In this demand, we know we are speaking for all the citizens of the four boroughs, for all the struggling and hard-working families who have already made great sacrifices to send their children to the City University. These are our constituents; these are the people that the City University has served so well.

Hon. Robert Abrams, President
Borough of The Bronx
Hon. Sebastian Leone, President
Borough of Brooklyn
Hon. Donald R. Manes, President
Borough of Queens
Hon. Percy E. Sutton, President
Borough of Manhattan.

Nita Burton Views Family Court

During the past two years, this writer has interviewed 450 teen-agers on S.I. with gripes. Their most frequently cited gripes were reported in a recent issue of this newspaper. In all fairness to parents and authority figures, it must be pointed out that this writer deliberately sought out the most disgruntled teen-agers; the ones who might most need help but be the ones least likely to seek it. Further, to relieve an apparently dismal picture previously painted, it should also be shared that another 200 approached for an interview scoffed at the invitation and expressed the attitude that, "I've no gripes! I'm satisfied with my parents and authority figures and feel they are satisfied with me."

Even those who shared gripes did not do so very rapidly. They were suspicious. "You're not a teen-ager so how come you're bucking for us? Are you a social worker or some kind of 'pig' who wants to find out all our crap so you can 'fink' on us? How come you're writing everything we say down?" After that frequently made comment, the notebook disappeared.

The same writer showed them pictures of her own five children and reminded them that they shared the same world, and maybe some of the same problems and assured them that she had a vested interest in eliminating problems whenever possible, they softened and shared. Bill DiBiasi and Vincent Laurino and Nita Burton all assured them of two things:

a) they would ascertain whether some facilities existed to handle some of the problems they cited and to report back to them what the avenues were.

b) where no solutions existed, to approach authority figures to find some. This pledge brought the writer to Richmond Family Court.

Family Court of the State of New York for the City of New York has branches in each of the five boroughs. Judge Florence M. Kelley is the Presiding Judge at the helm for the entire City. Each borough has its own Administrative Judge, appointed by Judge Kelley. Honorable Ralph Cory holds this position in Richmond.

Family Court was established in 1962, when it merged the functions of the old Domestic Relations Court with some of the functions of the old Magistrate Court. There were actually three separate courts of inferior jurisdiction in N.Y.C. at that time: the old Domestic Relations Court, the old Magistrate Court and the old Court of Special Sessions. They were replaced by the two new courts; Family Court and Criminal Court.

Before the creation of these two courts, each of the three previous courts had its own Probation Department under court administration. When the courts were reorganized, the Office of Probation was also created, with its own administration; not answerable directly to the Presiding Judges of the two new courts but to the Judges of the Appellate Division. Mr. John A. Wallace is and has been the Director of Probation since its inception in 1962.

Family Court Functions Dealing With Children

1. Called upon to adjudicate cases involving children; delinquency or any act committed by a child which if committed by an adult would be considered a crime.

2. Conducts a "Person in Need of Supervision" Program (commonly referred to as PINS). A child regarded as habitually incorrigible, disobedient to authority figures, etc. Such a child is usually referred by a parent, authority figure in the community such as Truant Officer, schools, Police. The objective of this phase is to help rather than punish a child who may benefit from exposure to this program.

2. Neglected Children are dealt with. "Neglect" could mean children who are left unattended or come to the attention of the police or neighbors as being in need of supervision. Abandoned children are included in this category. Doctors and hospitals are now obligated to report all cases of suspected abuse.

4. On a happier note, Family Court also handles the adoption of children.

5. In cases of separation, divorce or other circumstantial family breakdown, they decided upon the custody of children.

Family Court Functions Dealing with Adults

1. Handles Support Petitions—forces the

breadwinner to support his or her family.

2. Issues Orders of Protest—upon request from member of a family against another member of the family for protection from physical abuse. This order would make it illegal for the offending member to violate terms of the order. This is regarded as a "Family Offense".

Role of Office of Probation

The Court relies upon the Office of Probation after a finding to ascertain whether an alleged condition actually exists; to investigate and to assess the situation.

3. Makes recommendations and when necessary, arranges for child placement or child and family supervision in the home through visitations or through office visits. Often the Office of Probation conducts large screening operations to prevent cases from ever reaching court; especially in the cases of alleged delinquents and PIN. The PIN case total for 1972 (that is, a combination of delinquents and PIN) totalled 668 cases; however only 245 of these ever reached Court. The others were adjusted before reaching Court.

Child's Right to Defense Attorney

Like any adult, every child who appears in Court has the right to a defense attorney. If the parents can't or won't get one, the court will.



All of the above information was furnished to this writer by Mr. Philip Vota, who is the Principle Probation Officer at Richmond Family Court, 100 Richmond Terrace, S.I.

Changes Requested by Island's Teen-agers and Custodial Parents

This writer has designed a program entitled "Prevention in Lieu of Rehabilitation" which is in operation at Richmond College. During the past two years 450 teen-agers with gripes were interviewed, and invited to share their gripes. Happily, another 200 who were approached scoffed at the invitation to be interviewed and expressed the attitude of, "I've got no complaints. I'm pretty well satisfied with my parents and authority figures and I think they are satisfied with me."

Least a misrepresentation be presented by omission of an important fact, it must be pointed out that this writer deliberately "sought out" the most disgruntled teen-agers; the ones not likely to come to me or anyone else for help. They must be made to feel and justly so that they too are cared for and that what they think and feel IS important to the overall picture called "society". They too are an integral part of it. Hence, they were interviewed in bars, parlors, in car junk yards, in the street, in front of department stores or wherever a responsive conversation could be engaged in. Many of their gripes were not relevant to Family Court. The following gripes and recommendations were very much so.

1. The Court forces financial support of children; but no moral support from the parent no longer at home. (D.A. Braisted and many others have pointed out that the crime rate is much higher among children from broken homes; these teenagers explain why). They feel entitled to at least one day a week of the "visiting" parents time. They used to go on picnics, trips, dinner out, etc. "We felt like regular kids." Now we feel sort of rejected; twice rejected, really. Once by our parents and once again by social

pressures. Other kids talk at school about what their ole man did for them and where he took them. To us, its like sale in an old wound to have to listen to all their crap...like their boasting about being loved more by their parents and society than we are." If the "visiting parent" wants rights, shouldn't he or she also be willing to accept some moral and guidance responsibilities? The other parent does it 6 days each week. Many visiting parents limit their visits to a few hours a week...or none. My Custodial Parent (meaning the parent the child lives with) is great all week except for visitation days. If other plans were made for the hours the visiting parent usually comes...and he or she doesn't show up, my Custodial Parent is furious and takes it out on us kids; bitter because if the custodial parent left the kids unattended for 8 hours, it would be running a risk of being arrented for neglect. Regardless of how meaningful the Custodial Parent's plans for visiting day were, at the last moment they would have to be scrapped and the children given preference of his or her time.

SUGGESTED REMEDY:

Visiting Parents should be made to stipulate time of expected arrival (after such house has been mutually agreed upon by both parents) and time of return with children. If for any reason he or she chooses not to avail themselves of the visitation rights, the court should specify that the

hire a reliable adult to take his place on holidays if she or he can't or won't come. If this measure was adopted, the chances are the second family would be kept to a limited number, since a greater demand would be placed on the visiting parents' time...and money. When spending a full day with a family of 3-8 children, spending as most fathers or mothers did before, it would greatly compensate for the absence during the week. Strangely, and fortunately many express a noble attitude, "What my visiting parent is doing is wrong; should be here with the family...but she or he is still my parent. I would never want to testify in court against either. In about 50 percent of the cases, there was deep bitterness and potential tragedy projected toward the visiting parent.

Suggested change regarding Joint Accounts

Many couples now getting divorces never dreamed this would happen to them. In good faith they accumulated monies or properties, bonds, etc. in joint accounts reading "and-or". Many now feel swindled, and rightly so, now when they realize that the mate has legally but not justly withdrew all the monies from accounts or cashed in certificates, etc. A law should be passed immediately making it impossible for anyone to withdraw money listed in joint accounts to safeguard families. Again, if the Custodial Parent is left with a feeling of victimization, and the children are exposed to this feeling daily, how can they help not experiencing "guilt feelings". Regardless of whether the victimized parent says nothing, children feel they are caught in the middle of the integral part of the mess and are somehow largely responsible. Further society suffers financially because if one parent removes the monies accumulated for a "rainy day", when the children need services (therapy in particular) that her support petition does not cover, custodial parent has no choice but to resort to clinics and public sources since the children cannot manage without those services.

Legal Services for Women of Middle Income Self Employed Husbands

This writer has discussed this feature with Attorney Dubruff and she agreed that it is unfair to women but so far, no remedy has been presented. Men who are self-employed, as soon as they seek divorces or separation, suddenly discover that they earn much less than they used to. Naturally, the figures on his Income Tax report will also reflect this stance. There is no way this can be proven pro or con.

Regarding Legal services, for many women, this is a gross injustice. One woman in particular produced documents proving that she had invested \$60-80,000.00 in their marriage while the husband had less than \$500.00 at time of marriage. After 17 years of marriage; the husband having been a perennial student and never earning even \$6,000.00 per annum until 6 years ago, had withdrawn every penny of the family's jointly owned monies, and still had money for an attorney of his choice, while not only did she not have money for an attorney, but Legal Aid refused to help her saying that her husband earned too much for her to qualify for Legal Aid's services. (A lot of good that did her?) Until what is legal in this country is synonomous with justice, this country is in for some serious repercussions.

Family Court advised this woman to call the Bar Association for an attorney. She followed these instructions; was referred to a woman lawyer on a Friday to appear in court on the following Monday. The Attorney said she would advise whther she would take the case. That was almost a year ago. The woman still has not heard from her.

The woman in question took up the matter with M.R Jacobi of the Bar Association and was advised, "It is entirely the option of an attorney to accept or decline a prospective client." Was it because the women did not have money of her own to pay the fee? She will never really know. Some legal protection should be made in behalf of wives of middle-income men.

The second part of this article will appear in the next edition of the RICHMOND TIMES.

Save Free Tuition!

(Continued from Page 1)

three major recommendations for the City University. Most importantly, it will call for the imposition of a tuition on the same scale as the State University at City University. Current tuition charges at State University are \$650 per year for freshmen and sophomores and \$800 per year for juniors and seniors. The report calls for the state to increase its percentage share of the cost for maintaining the City University. However, since tuition would reduce the total required public cost for the maintenance of the University, the 60 percent figure would amount to less than the state now pays for the University. Lastly, the report calls for the Governor to appoint a majority of the members of the Board of Higher Education.

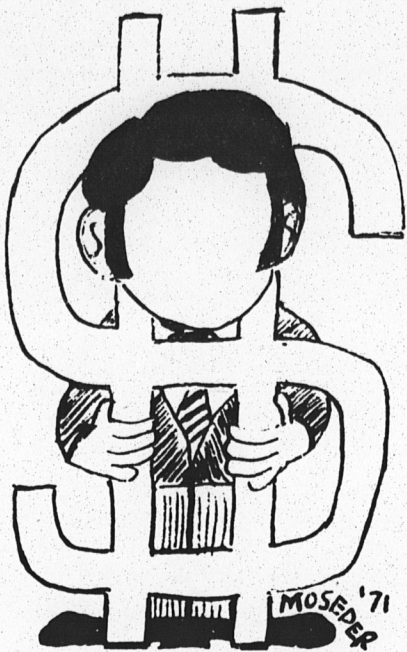
The last recommendation is seen as important as it would give the governor the opportunity to have tuition raised at will at the University.

Coupled with the call for tuition, the Keppel Commission also has called for a program of massive financial aid to blunt the effect of tuition charges on those who could not afford it.

This has been called the bait to try and attract support for the Commission's report among those in the University. However, as Chancellor Kibbee has pointed out, the day will come when the tuition will rise and the aid will drop. In addition, the proposal has been called bad business since it is estimated that it would cost the state far more in financial aid necessary to support the City University's Open Admissions program than it now does for the state to maintain the free tuition policy. This is because of the large number of students in City University in dire need of financial assistance.

One staff member assured that the Keppel Commission mathematics are off, and the loopholes will come to light under legislative scrutiny.

One thing the Keppel Commission did not take into consideration is the peril posed to the federal financial aid program. The Federal budget has made no appropriation for Supplemental Education Grants and the future of the Basic Opportunity Grants is also in doubt. Should these programs fail at the federal level, the state would have to



accept a much greater burden of financial aid if it was to live up to the Open Admissions program and the financial aid program recommended by the Keppel Commission.

The cost of the Keppel Commission may well exceed the ability of New York State to honor its commitments if the federal program fails.

The Keppel Commission report will be the subject of public hearings before the Joint Legislative Committee on Education on March 15, 1973 at the State Office Building on Centre Street.

Should the recommendations of the Keppel Commission be approved by the Legislature, it would place the citizens of New York City in a most unfavorable financial position. Not only would they be forced to pay tuition under the terms of the report, but they would continue to have to pay taxes for the support of State University as well as the City University and in the process, they would still lose control of their University.

More On Free Tuition

Speech presented at the Keppel Commission on Tuition

March 15, 1973 by CCNY students

The move to impose tuition at the City University should be seen for what it is—at attack on the right of Third World and working class students to attend college. We are the students that have always been systematically excluded from the universities of this country. When in 1969, Third World students at CCNY fought for and won the right of open admissions to the free city university, it was a major victory not only for all students, but for working people in general. It was a real blow against an educational system which has always divided the people of this country along class and racial lines.

But from the start, this great victory was sabotaged by the people who control the city university. At the local, state and federal level, these people have made it impossible for open admissions to be a reality. The absence of adequate remedial and counseling services, the vetoing of badly needed construction bill by Rockefeller, drastic cutbacks in SEEK and the National Student Defense loans, all conspire to cancel the gains made in 1969 and return the university to the days when only the privileged could attend.

Now we are entering a time when drastic attacks are being made on the lives of the people of this country. We are faced every day with more cuts in day care, health programs, education, veteran's benefits and other social services. At the same time rents, food prices, and unemployment are reaching new heights. This (Keppel) commission makes no secret of the fact that it wants to participate in the drive to squeeze every drop out of the people. Section 28 of the report states plainly that its recommendations are designed to keep out people from skilled higher paying jobs. To quote the report:

"The state's projected supply of college educated citizens appear to exceed the economy's projected demand for those who

complete the baccalaureate degree."

The Keppel commission is very outspoken about supporting Nixon and big business drives for cheap labor, and we know that it is Third World students who will be forced into dropping out and getting these low paying jobs or joining the ranks of the unemployed.

And, as usual, those who control the universities, from Lindsay to Rockefeller to Nixon will seek to divide and confuse the student body. They already have a long history of racist attacks against open admissions in an attempt to divide Third World and white students. Now they will try to divide those who go to State University from those who go to City University and the two year students from the four year students. They will try to convince us that instituting tuition, giving city university money to private schools and in general, breaking the back of the open admissions program, will be all for the good of city university students. And they will try to railroad their proposals through the state legislature before the April 2nd budget deadline.

Throughout the city, students are already mobilizing to fight these blatant attacks. We know that when we band together and FIGHT BACK we can win our demands. The city college students who fought for and won open admissions showed us this. They also showed us that in our fight there is only one group that we can rely on. That group is not the state legislature, not our school president, not Lindsay or Keebie. The only group that we can rely on to carry this fight to its conclusion is the students themselves.

We must and we will organize thousands of college students, high school students and the working people who are the parents of these students, to actively and militantly FIGHT BACK against the policies of groups like the Keppel commission. We will build a massive coalition which, when fighting for the rights of Third World and working class students, will protect the right of all of us.

PRSU
Attica Brigade

The Cupboard Is Really Bare

MEMORANDUM TO: Richmond College Assembly
FROM: E. Rubenstein, Secretary
Committee on Research and Grants
SUBJECT: National Science Foundation Grants
DATE: March 6, 1973

In response to many questions from faculty and students, the Committee on Research and Grants wishes to announce that there will be no competition this academic year for grants drawn from funds made available by the National Science Foundation. The reason is simple: the amount of NSF money at our disposal this year is so small that it seems to us both more practical and more desirable to add such funds as we now have to the very considerable amount we will receive from the NSF next year so that a meaningful competition can then take place. We shall, however, recommend that next year's competition operate retroactively to include worthwhile projects begun or accomplished during the academic year 1972-73 and during the summer of 1973.

The members of the Committee present at the meeting at which the above decisions were reached are D. Kramer (Social Science), E. Rubenstein (Humanities), A. Schwartz (Professional Studies), J. Schwartz (Pure and Applied Science).

They Say Cutback... We Say Fight Back

In the past few months we've been hearing a lot about cutbacks in financial aid and in student loans and about tuition for CUNY. Most people's reaction has been to sit back and wait. And while we've been sitting more and more students are getting less and less hours of work-study (at Queens 100 students who were eligible got no jobs at all). While we've been waiting College Discovery and SEEK programs are being cutback (at Hunter SEEK funds were cut 7 percent). As we sit and wait, 70-80 percent of those in the senior colleges dropout and the proposed tuition of \$650-800 for CUNY will make open admissions a joke.

It wasn't always like this. In 1969 the longest and most militant student strike in American history took place at San Francisco State and won Third World Studies there. The same year City College students, led by Third World students and supported by the community, took over the South Campus demanding more say in SEEK and that the CCNY population reflect the Black and Puerto Rican populations of the city's high schools. This struggle spread throughout the city and soon people all over Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens were fighting for open admissions. And we won! In September, white working class students were admitted to CUNY. But we stopped fighting too soon and open admissions was implemented in a half-assed way by the city and state. Programs were not created to meet the needs of the new students. Not enough counselors were provided (at MCC the student counselor ratio is 700:1). Rockefeller vetoed a 2 billion dollar con-

struction budget that would have provided needed space for the new students while he gave 30 million to the private colleges. And now cuts in financial aid and loans by the federal government (Economic Opportunity Grants are being replaced by Basic Opportunity Grants which will make it much harder for low income students to get aid) are making it harder and harder to stay in school, and tuition will make it impossible. And now Veterans' benefits are being cut too.

It's time to start fighting again. We cannot allow these attacks on us, the sons and daughters of the city's working people. We're always the first to get cutback (with Third World Students being hit the hardest) and we must be the first to fight back. Not through letter writing, not by preparing endless research documents, not by lobbying assemblymen but by the united action of CUNY students. We must fight like we did in '69, with high school students and community people, to protect the gains we have won from the attacks of the state and to make CUNY really serve the needs of the people of this city.

The following groups have endorsed the statement and article:

- Puerto Rican Student Union
- Attica Brigade
- Student Gov't-Richmond
- La Asociacion
- Amistad
- Committee of Majors
- Food Co-op
- Community Center

Books

THE RIGHT TO SAY NO

by Judith Todd

224pp \$6.95

Distributed by the Viking Press

... The Right To Say No by Judith Todd tells for the first time the truth behind Rhodesia's anti-colonial struggle. The Right To Say No is not only the story of these times, but also an indictment of the policy of appeasement Great Britain had toward Rhodesia; the culmination of which were the Settlement Proposals—massively rejected by the Africans—under which all power was to be left in the hands of the illegal Ian Smith regime.

Judith Todd, the twenty-nine-year old daughter of the former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Garfield Todd, reveals not only life under the Smith regime, but also the details of the proposals worked out by Britain and the team of negotiators led by Lord Goodman with Ian Smith, and without the participation of the African majority. She also criticises the U.S. Government's decision to continue the importation of Rhodesian chrome despite a United Nations embargo on trade with Rhodesia.

This personal account of the imprisonment of Judith Todd and her father for five weeks, without trial and without having been accused of any crime, is also the story of a country's struggle for freedom and sane government.

Judith Todd now lives in London, where her book is on the best seller list. She continues her battle against the current Rhodesian regime that still has her father under house arrest. Because of her stand for the people she was recently appointed delegate to the United Nations for the African National Congress.

EDITORIALS

Full Speed Ahead

Meatless Week Is Now A Reality.

While meatless eating at Richmond has been done under the banners of gourmandism or health (as opposed to the grossness of eating what the cafeteria offers as meat), it is a praiseworthy and necessary action to go without meat at breakfast, lunch and dinner for the sake of rational economics. Our contradictory government is appalled at the idea of a national strike against the meat industry and offers, as a viable alternative, eating less or buying fish (which is more expensive than meat and comes from polluted waters).

Meat farmer associations have urged their members to pull their product off the market in order to create a shortage. This, in turn, will help keep meat prices high. Meat farmers complain they are just about making a decent profit on their product. If the farmers aren't making a profit, then who is?

The meat packing industry, for one, seems to be a top contender. Richard Nixon's administration supports the economic system promulgated by industries such as the meat packers. All of the middle class citizens who voted for "man of the people" Nixon are feeling it in their pocket.

And about that comment to eat less—how much meat do students living on financial aid eat?—or people living on welfare? Should the financial disciples of industry decide what and how much we eat? It is blatant arrogance for rich politicians to tell us to eat less while they can afford any culinary luxuries they please.

Everyone must unite behind the meat strike. We should not let the greediness of meat industry capitalists determine our diet.

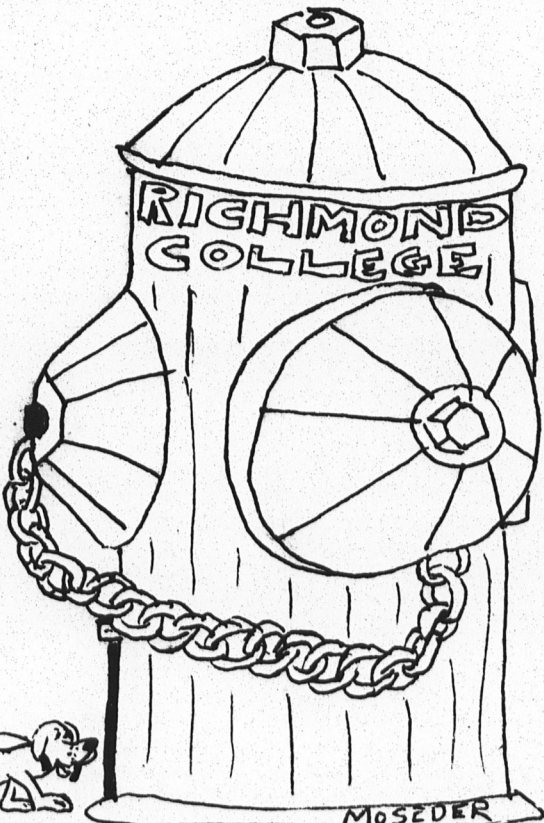
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Contributing Editor — David Moseder

Francine Harawitz Secretary

Contributors to this issue: Nita Burton, Theodore H. Merwin, Dennis Hamill, Attica Brigade, La Asociacion, Prof. Lutzker, Anthony Del Plato, Holly Wolfbane, Max Spiegelstein, University Student Press Service, Puerto Rican Student Union.

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LETTERS

A Bit Of A Mess

To Whoever Typed the Paper:

I find it a bit strange when college students cannot spell correctly. Didn't you learn anything in grade school?

I am referring to the title on page 7 of the March 15 issue of the Richmond Times.

You do not need to use the contraction "They're" for the sentence: "There Is a Relationship Here...Somewhere."

If you misspell in small print you can probably get away with it. But, this is such a blatant mistake!

Please try to be more careful in the future. This kind of boo-boo is a terrible reflection on our college. What will our enemies think? They're liable to think those "hippie, pinko, slobs" can't do anything.

Think about it, ok?

Sincerely,
An Ex-English Major

...Reply

Dear EEM;

we doesn't want ya ta tink dat we ain't got no idea of gramma. We do. but we also gots a printer who don't. ya see, we give da printr ruff copy and he prints it up in dese lil strips which we den put into newspaper form, pastd on papr. den da printr copeez the papr and prints in in finnish form. So we doesn't alway make da mistaks. sometimes its just a stoned copyriter or something.

Onward Christian Soldiers

RE: CATHOLIC CHURCH CHARGES BY STUDENTS OF STATEN ISLAND AND RICHMOND COLLEGES

Gentlemen and Ladies (if members):

It was heartening to read of students to have the courage of their beliefs and talk up and write about them so that all minds who are interested in Truth, Character and the Belief to Live and Let Live, will have been improved mentally and morally.

The reason I am told that Churches especially the Catholic receives Tax Exemptions of their vast properties and Income, Sales, and other Taxes that the Honest Human has to pay so that the parasitic organizations such as Religions (so called) can live in ease and peace of mind, reason is that these religious organizations so called improve the minds of the men, women and children mentally and morally. I have enclosed a few beliefs taken right out of the New Testament to prove otherwise.

There is not one person who has Alertness, Aliveness and Intelligence would accept especially the Catholic Views as being the words of God, rather they would decide they are the words of Mythomaniacs whose repertoire is Mythomania. Is it any wonder that because of Catholic Teaching the world of Humanity is living in a state of unbalancedness.

Yours in cooperation with the minds Our Maker gave us, so that we would not go astray and lead others astray,

max Spiegelstein

(Copies sent to Staten Island and Richmond Colleges)

Some of the following beliefs that prove conclusively that its source, the New Testament is the Greatest Hoax ever foisted upon Humanity. Result has been making minds of children unbalanced, and men and women A-dolts.

BELIEF that Paul heard and conversed with a voice, believed to be that of Jesus

where he sits on the right hand of the Majesty in Heaven.

BELIEF that Paul's two witnesses or companions did not hear the voice, neither did they hear Paul's answer to the voice (Acts 22:9).

BELIEF that a human being can be born, without father, without mother, but by the Holy Ghost, who is void of body, sex organs, etc. (Hebrews 7:3, 8:1; Colossians 3:1 and 1 Corinthians 12:3, Matthew 1:18).

BELIEF that the Trinity, wherein the Holy Ghost and Jesus are one and the same Person, and that the Holy Ghost fathered Jesus, thus making Jesus the Son of his own Father. (1 Corinthians 12:3; Matthew 1:18)

BELIEF that Jesus attended the "Last Passover Supper," although St. John the infallible representative of God, reports that Jesus was taken down dead, from the cross, because it was the Scriptural Law that before sundown whereafter the Sabbath and the First Night of Passover began (it was a High Day) meaning that Jesus could not attend the Passover Meal as he was already dead and buried hours before the celebrations of the Sabbath and the Passover Meal began. (John 19:14, 31, 36).

BELIEF that Transsubstantiation was initiated by Jesus at the Feast of the Last Supper of the Passover Meal, cannot be true as St. John reports he Jesus was crucified, taken down from the cross and buried hours before the event of Transsubstantiation could be initiated. (John 19:14, 31, 36)

BELIEF that Jesus was a real person, when Paul, the inventor of the name (1 Thessalonians 1:1) and the founder of Christianity (1 Corinthians 3:10) confesses he never saw Jesus as he Paul was born out of due time (1 Corinthians 15:8) also he admits that he did not receive the Gospel from man, but from Jesus Christ who could have given Paul the exact words and events we are told they witnesseth, instead Paul went to the pipe-line he had with Jesus, billions of miles away up and conversed with Jesus, wherefrom he got his Gospel. (Galatians 1:11, 12)

BELIEF that Jesus was a learned man, for he taught the elders and the multitude yet he is believed by the New Testament writers to be illiterate, for they report Jesus did not write, or read, from any book neither did he leave even one letter written of the alphabet, although reading and writing of the time was as common as eating.

BELIEF that it was possible to feed 5000 Men not counting the women and the children, with five loaves of bread and two small fish. When they were all fed, the disciples picked up the left-overs and filled up 12 baskets full of the pieces of bread. (Matthew 14:15 - 21)

BELIEF that Pontius Pilate was a murderer, Judas Iscariot a Traitor, and the Jews killers of a God, when all over the New Testament, the writers report that Jesus was to be killed, in order to save the World from Sin, and the Scriptures to be fulfilled. Also Catholic Bible History, Page 196, that "The Jewish Paschal Lamb was a figure of Jesus Christ, that true Paschal Lamb for this reason Christ was by his own will put to death on the cross on the same day at the very hour that year by the Jewish Paschal Lamb was offered in the Temple."

Max Spiegelstein

Who Knows?

Dear Richard:

1. He should see the things you don't print.
2. If anyone thinks the idea of a cafeteria and bookstore run on a non-profit basis by salaried employees of Richmond College is a good one, please call 442-5727 after 5 p.m. weekdays and we'll see how numerous we are.

Theodore H. Merwin

Deadline For Next Issue-April 11th
Bring Typed Articles To Room 539

Oscar, Tony and Stephen

by Richard Kornberg

In the span of forty-eight hours, TV viewers were able to travel from the heights of Broadway to the depths of Hollywood via the TV broadcasts of the annual awards ceremonies. The proximity of the broadcasts tends to make comparisons inevitable and as has been the case in recent years, the younger theatrical Tony outclassed her older brother, Oscar.

The TKO is of course unnecessary, which makes it all the more sad, for Oscar and Tony should be counterparts, supreme in their respective arts. It is however a fact of television and hence of life, that audiences like to watch contests. Whether it be the Miss America crown or any number of other laurels, high ratings are gleaned from these "best in their class" offerings. With an assured audience, the spotlight moves from the awards themselves to their packaging and it is in this division that the "Big O" trips and clumsily falls.

It is a sad reality that Hollywood's fantasy machine is unable to produce a cogent, entertaining event. This year's proceedings ran forty-five minutes over its announced two hour running time. Those stalwarts who gritted their teeth and stayed tune to see if Liza Minelli would triumph were afforded an unexpected bonus. Long after the initial shock of the tacky set which for some inexplicable reason included what seemed like a gazebo gone astray—whose presence reminded this viewer of "Lady Caroline Lamb," which in the end could be considered United Artists' victory over an Academy which failed to nominate its product—and such extraneous awards as the one given to a bumbling union representative (at a time when producers are fleeing Hollywood's tough labor restrictions) or another which was less a reward for the so-called best song than an affirmation of the need to get better melodies or simply scrap the category altogether, came Brando's big moment. And he blew it.

His refusal should have been HIS own. Instead an Indian woman delivered the announcement and she was forced to bear the brunt of the audience's hostility. A first person's passionate expression (the merit of which is debatable when you consider such films as *Little Big Man* and *When Legends Die* which echo a change) became a third person's rhetoric. This change in tense lacked the heroism of the possibly admirable thought.

It was a fitting climax to an impotent evening.

In contrast with the Oscar's, the Tony's were a joy to behold. This year's theme "The Wide World of Broadway" beautifully reversed a potential handicap (the TV audience's lack of contact with the New York theatre) and with the use of taped clips showed that Broadway extends both near and far.

The creative staff traveled all over the world in an effort to prove how widely reproduced are the musicals which originated on the Great White Way. My favorites were the Japanese production of "King and I" and the French "Hello, Dolly" but the evening also offered a Yugoslavian "Man of La Mancha", the Vienna Volksoper's "West Side Story" and a British "Showboat" (which included in its orchestra pit a band of white singers augmenting the voices of the on-stage blacks during "Old Man River"). This added knowledge is what comes from my going to London and sitting in the third row of the Adelphi Theatre. The United States was represented by the Wichita Falls, Texas High School production of "My Fair Lady" and the current New York smash "Pippen" and we also got a glimpse of the possibly pre-Broadway hit, "Ciao Rudy." This musical biography of Rudolph Valentino can currently be seen in Milan, Italy.

While much of this world wide cavalcade was devised for the benefit of the TV audiences, from my seat in the balcony of the Imperial Theatre I felt right at home. The usual discomfort of watching the many taped sequences on small monitors was alleviated through the use of an on-stage screen which was an integral part of Robert Randolph's attractive yet wonderfully unctious set. This thoughtfulness on the



Liza Minelli and Joel Grey both Oscar winners doing Money Song in "Cabaret."

part of the show's devisors extended to all phases of the evening and an interesting, concise program was the result.

Concerning the awards themselves, it was heartening to note that the voters were not swayed by the star status of some of the nominees. In two categories deserved actresses beat their more widely known competition. (Glynis Johns outpolled Debbie Reynolds for best musical actress and Patricia Elliot bested Irene Ryan, Hermione Gingold and Patsy Kelly for the supporting award.) When all the votes were announced Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music" led the victors with six awards closely followed by "Pippen" with its five triumphs.

March must have been Stephen Sondheim's month. On the eleventh Mr. Sondheim was honored with an evening devoted

to his songs. An SRO audience paid as much as \$100.00 to hear selections from his past and present shows performed by many of the original artists. Jack Cassidy, Dorothy Collins, Alice Playten, Hermione Gingold, Nancy Walker, Angela Lansbury, Alexis Smith and Glynis Johns were some of the talented performers who made this an evening to remember.

"Gypsy", "West Side Story", "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", "Company", "Follies", and the current "A Little Night Music" were all Sondheim shows. With such a prestigious list it is difficult to choose favorites but on this wonderful night the audience seemed to take Chita Rivera and Pamela Myer's "America" and Nancy Walker's rendition of "I'm Still Here" closest to its heart.

Is this any way to give a tribute? You bet it is.



Glynis Johns is indeed happy since she was awarded Tony Award for best musical actress. Co-star Len Cariou is at her left in scene from "A Little Night Music."

The Riches of Richmond

by Theodore H. Merwin

Art, in this case Gerald Mast's *Macbeth* and Donald Silverman's *Parent's Day*, according to Oscar Wilde, is of all modes of autobiography the most charming. Perhaps this is because we can keep the dividing line between charm and imposition on our side of the footlights, certainly the reolution of previous interactions in soliloquial fashion is charmed, not to say privileged, in addition to being the artist's *de rigueur*; at any rate, both our artistes have taken full advantage of this. Mr. Mast, merciless with text-cutting and with the stylized, shimmering courage of his convictions, finds in his soliloquy a double in the scourge of Elsinore, and Banquo's ghost becomes a charming admission of the murders he entails, an incorporation of this, indeed, into the art which is his brand. The difficulty, of course, is whether the ideas are big enough for the shimmer. But this question is implied in *Macbeth's* own struggle; ideas meditated upon in the nights before art can hardly not become big enough; finally, no one has ever accused Shakespeare of lacking in magnitude! Also, what is Shakespeare without style? And how, in the throes of catharsis, how are we to preserve our fine lines between "styled" and "stylized"? Mr. Mast's *divertissement* is *ubu Roi*, as if to say, if you will only submit to my stresses, what a glorious subconscious you will find! Full of farts and frinance, and all manner of other "saucy fancies," of the beauty you are.

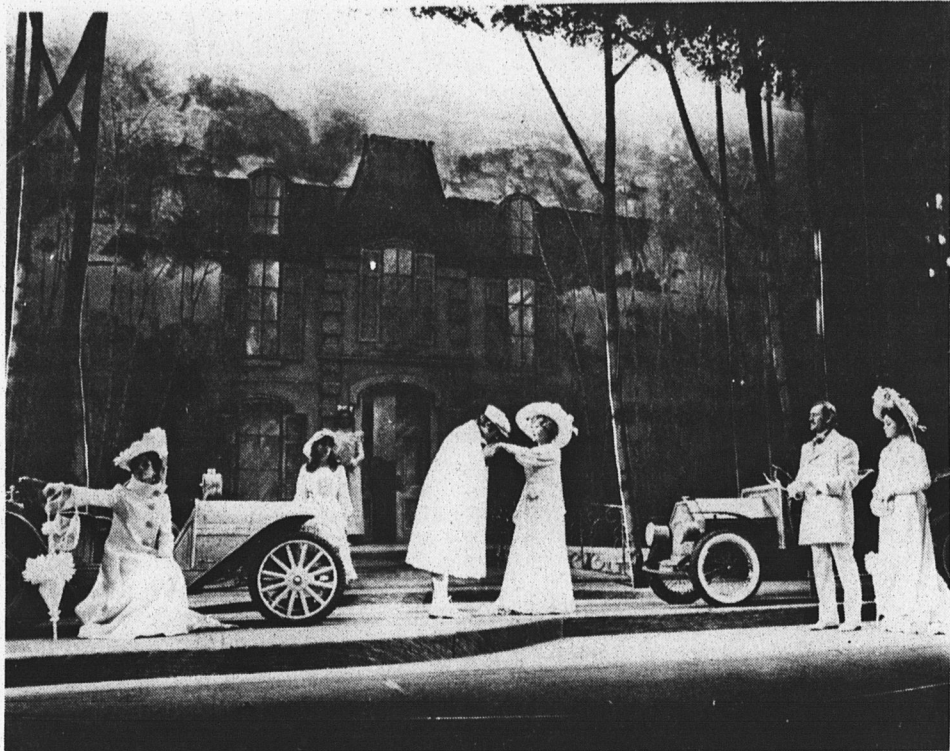
Donald Silverman, as his name suggests, is "eye-deep" in the bathos of cultural stereotypes that is the Jewish sans Jerusalem's world-experience; so awesomely brave, wrapped in unbearable tensions, between Jerusalem and Auschwitz (not to mention the Bronx), work and humor, that this involves. And, as I pointed out last time, simplicity is best, but who could have guessed, before the fact, that the equation could be so exact, that we would have a commune whose prior at least Caulfied innocence is never questioned, blitzkreiged by the eponymous; that the film would be a social comedy, as befits social stereotypes, filmed glancingly, surreally, in a motley as befits a mind under pressure? Of course the humor dissolves in the pathos, and when one thinks of him undertaking a film—truly a labor of Hercules—among hangloose communards, he becomes his film, that kid naked in the soapsuds as his parents transport their own agonized and agonizing privacy, his Banquo...

ERNEST—A charming doctrine, Gilbert.

GILBERT—I am not sure about that, but it has at least the minor merit of being true. —Oscar Wilde

Finally, "it would be ingratitude indeed," as Walter Pater said, of the volume which first contained it, in a letter of thanks to its author, not to mention the charming annotation of Oscar Wilde's "The Selfish Giant" on CBS, the 28th of March. As it was produced by the *Reader's Digest*, I had misgivings about it, but they proved to be delightfully unfounded, even an atonement for Condensed Books and such. Truthfully following the tenets of last issue's "Merwin on Cinema" nothing (with one exception) was cut and the narration image tension excellently used in a visual style as happily engorged as "Yellow Submarine" in a dossier of painting styles. Unfortunately, the simplicity of the Giant's own speeches seems stupid by the broken record slowness of their recitation, if the simplicity of the narration seems delightful by its melodious vocal charm; perhaps this was done to allow our condescension even to stupidity to disappear in the final pathos—a worthy task! Unfortunately the narration is occasionally interrupted by rock songs which state a moral perhaps better left implied; perhaps this was done to incorporate, by music, even the explicitness of our in-

"A Little Night Music" — A Musical With Class



A Theatre Review by Richard Kornberg

When "Hair" opened on Broadway in 1968, critics were quick to forecast that it would cause an upheaval in the traditional Broadway ranks. As time proved this was not precisely the case, with the greatest mark occurring this past season with the quick folding of "Dude" and "Via Galactica," musicals which were created by "Hair" alumni. It is true that composer, Galt MacDermot, went on to score with "Two Gentlemen of Verona," but it is difficult to consider this work revolutionary.

Meanwhile, producer-director Hal Prince and composer Stephen Sondheim were beginning their string of conceptual shows. Their first offering, of what now has grown to be a trilogy, was "Company," a brilliant effort which at last audit just about broke even. This was followed by "Follies," a show whose failure was due to an audience which expected another "No, No, Nanette." Now Broadway is being brightened by "A Little Night Music" which, like its predecessors, examines the "holy" state of matrimony.

Quite possibly the team will finally have its long deserved major hit. If not, it would be solely due to the fact that these en-

tertainments are simply too good, and above the tired businessman, middle brow audiences rave reviews attract. It is a sad phenomenon that playgoers only come to shows which are universally praised. Of course "Irene" is the exception but how many plays star Debbie Reynolds and have Richard Nixon as press agent.

Casual theatregoers are under the grave misconception that they and the critics have equal tastes. In many cases the show which receives mixed notices would be vastly more entertaining to the silent majority while the mass appeal rave reviews are heaped upon a work which could only be appreciated by a select, more sophisticated segment of our population.

For "A Little Night Music" oozes sophistication. While the Playbill states that it was merely suggested by Ingmar Bergman's "Smiles of a Summer Night," in tone, mood, intelligence and for the most part story, it is quite faithful to its source. The result is that this beautiful art film has been turned into an almost supreme achievement, the art musical.

The precise flow of all of the show's elements produces a feeling that it has been

orchestrated in its entirety. Therefore, it is not surprising that even with the strength of its parts, it is the musical moments which provide the impetus to keep the show rolling on its merry journey.

The Sondheim score is distinct through its use of music as an undercurrent for the brilliant lyrics. Only in the middle of the second act do the more conventional melodies ("Send in the Clowns" and "The Miller's Son") reach the surface. However all the songs are in waltz-time which helps enhance the period flavor of the offering.

It is the turn of the century in Sweden. Though Fredrick and Anne Egerman have been married longer than it would take to produce a baby, their marriage has not yet been consummated. He is more than twice her age. This is Fredrick's second marriage, the first one producing a son who is infatuated with the present Mrs. Egerman.

Fredrick encounters his former lover, an actress who goes from one affair to another and who is in the midst of dating a married count. Of course the countess happens to be a school chum of Anne Egerman's.

All of these interrelationships come together in "A Weekend in the Country" and this number, which ends the first act, is unforgettable. First the lyrics impress then the music takes hold and with the aid of Florence Klotz's stunning costumes and Hal Prince's staging and his use of Boris Aronson's striking settings the audience is transported. The effect is quite like one you might feel while viewing Cinerama but of course this is live. It is a beautiful sensory experience.

The second act also has its share of memorable moments. The dinner hosted by Hermione Gingold when the various parties do a bit more than eat is very funny yet it has an underlying pathos, a quality which pervades the entire evening and adds immeasurably to the success of the venture. It is precisely this feeling that Glynis Johns captures in her rendition of "Send in the Clowns."

Indeed, this is one of the best acted musicals in years. An ensemble technique usually reserved for drama is evident here. The cast is equally blessed with fine voices which helps in conveying the comic brilliance of Stephen Sondheim's lyrics.

Glynis Johns with her Jean Arthuresque voice beautifully captures the attraction and vulnerability of the actress Desiree Armfeldt and Hermione Gingold is equally good as her mother. Len Cariou's Fredrick Egerman is a finely etched characterization bringing to life a man who has long been

dead and Patricia Elliott could not be bettered as the countess. She has all the style and bitchiness the role demands with an added desperation which adds to her Tony Award winning performance. Laurence Guittard, Mark Lambert, Judy Kahan, D. Jamin-Bartlett with her show stopping rendition of "The Miller's Son," and the rest of the supporting cast could not be bettered.

"A Little Night Music" is undoubtedly the best musical to be seen on Broadway in quite some time. It has the look and feel of its period with an intelligence and sophistication that is a product of the 1970's. Its brilliance will be evident to the sensitive playgoer; to all others, mores the pity.

The Sondheim-Prince team has indeed changed Broadway. They have added to the musical form an appeal to the intellect, resulting in the psychological show, one that involved the id, ego, and super ego as well as the libido. Now isn't that more revolutionary than having some kids run around a stage half naked?

Film Clips

Alex Karras, former Detroit Lions linebacker, has been signed by producer Michael Hertzberg to play a featured role in Warner Bros.' *Black Bart* starring Cleavon Little in the title role.

Karras plays a hired hoodlum out to get the sheriff in the screenplay by Mel Brooks, Andy Bergman, Richard Pryor, Norman Steinberg and Alan Uger from a story by Bergman.

He joins Harvey Korman, Madeline Kahn and Slim Pickens in the comedy western, being directed by Mel Brooks.

Producers Max Rosenberg and Milton Subotsky will film the color production, *Tales From Beyond the Grave*, for Warner Bros. in England, beginning early in June, it is announced by Robert H. Solo, vice president, foreign production, for Warner Bros.

Based on four stories by R. Chetwynd-Hayes, the screenplay was written by Robin Clarke and Raymond Christlou.

Tales From Beyond the Grave, will be directed by Kevin Connor, his first directorial assignment. Connor, one of the industry's most experienced film editors, recently edited *Oh What a Lovely War*, *young Winston*, and *Hitler, the Last 10 Days*.



As in past years, the Adelphian Players will appear at several branches of the Brooklyn Public Library this spring. Their programs consist of dramatic presentations from the world's great literature.

The Adelphian Players were organized in the summer of 1966 by Mr. Russell E. Bonanno, Chairman of the English Department of Adelphi Academy. He has recruited his talent mainly from the young people of high school and early college age in the Bay Ridge community.

Selections from the following repertoire will be presented: dramatic readings from American and European poets; selections from "Spoon River" by Edgar Lee Masters; scenes from the theater; a one-act play, "An Incident" by Andreiv; dramatizations from the works of Mark Twain.

Dates, branches of the Brooklyn Public Library and curtain times for performances of the Adelphian Players are:

Wednesday, April 11	BAY RIDGE LIBRARY 7223 Ridge Boulevard	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, April 25	KINGS HIGHWAY LIBRARY 2115 Ocean Avenue	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 2 Wednesday, May 9	BAY RIDGE LIBRARY 7223 Ridge Boulevard	7:45 p.m.
Monday, May 14	KINGS HIGHWAY LIBRARY 2115 Ocean Avenue	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16	SHEEPSHEAD BAY LIBRARY 2636 East 14th Street	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, May 23	HOMECREST LIBRARY 2525 Coney Island Avenue	8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 6	SHEEPSHEAD BAY LIBRARY 2636 East 14th Street	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, June 13	BAY RIDGE LIBRARY 7223 Ridge Boulevard	7:45 p.m.

Byrds - "Album Of The Year"

by David K. Moseder

They say you can't teach old dogs new tricks...but old Byrds? That's something else again! The original Byrds (Gene Clark, Roger McGuinn, David Crosby, Chris Hillman and Michael Clarke) have flocked together and recorded an album that's been a long time coming, but well worth waiting for. Titled simply BYRDS, the album is more than a reunion; it is a milestone in the musical growth of these five extraordinary performers.

BYRDS leads off with a Gene Clark tune appropriately called "Full Circle." Gene also does his own "Changing Heart" as well as his interpretations of two Neil Young songs, "Cowgirl in the Sand" and "(See the Sky) About to Rain." These four numbers all possess the superlative quality and beauty which distinguish every song that Gene touches. The fact that his solo efforts (and those with Doug Dillard) have been so widely ignored by the public is not only a mystery, but a great injustice as well.

David Crosby, who produced the album, contributes one new song, the off-beat, witty "Long Live the King," plus a revival of "Laughing" which originally highlighted his otherwise mediocre solo album of two years ago. "Laughing" can hardly be called a 'cover' version, however, for as David says, "I wrote it for the Byrds in the first place." There is also a sensitive interpretation of Joni Mitchell's "For Free" which illustrates how David's close association with Joni over the years has left him with a deep empathy for her material (among other things).

"Things Will Be Better" and "Borrowing Time," two short but sweet Chris Hillman ditties (co-authored by Dallas Taylor and Joe Lala respectively) serve to remind us that Chris was as much a pioneer of country-rock music as anyone else. Of all the original Byrds, Hillman has come the farthest along musically. In the "Tambourine Man" days, Chris was acknowledged as one of rock's greatest bass players. Since then he has been recognized as a master of the mandolin, and with the release of BYRDS he has likewise established himself as an excellent lead guitarist.

Chris also has a fine, country-tinged singing voice. His harmony work has contributed immeasurably to the critical successes of the Byrds, the Flying Burrito Brothers and, most recently, Manassas.

When Michael Clarke joined the Byrds in 1964, he had been strictly a conga player. Today, as this album testifies, he is an accomplished drummer and percussionist. Although Mike neither writes nor sings, he is nonetheless an integral part of the original



The original Byrds (l to r) Roger McGuinn; Chris Hillman; David Crosby; Michael Clarke and Gene Clark

Byrds, as the other four would quickly point out.

Roger McGuinn may not be the world's greatest singer or its most prolific composer, but his leadership, musical skills and artistic integrity have kept the Byrds very much alive throughout the years, in spite of an unusual number of personnel changes. Roger, who is actually one of five leaders here, has contributed two compositions to the album.

"Sweet Mary" is yet another colorful

remnant from Tryp, the as-yet-unproduced McGuinn-Jacques Levy country-rock musical. "Born to Rock 'n Roll," which points up Roger's desire to steer away from the country idiom and get more into rock, looms as a potential single which could return the Byrds to the hit charts. ("Things Will Be Better" and "Cowgirl..." would also make strong single entries.)

BYRDS is a great album by the finest rock group America has ever produced; and it may only be the beginning. The guys are

talking about getting together once a year to do a record and possibly a tour. To this end, McGuinn is disbanding the current Byrds ensemble (consisting of himself, Clarence White, Skip Battin and John Guerin) with a farewell performance slated for sometime in May.

In other words, the Byrds as a unit will be semi-retired. If Roger, Gene, David, Chris and Michael live up to their rumors, the original Byrds will remain on the music scene on a part-time basis. Part-time Byrds is better than full-time anyone else, and certainly much better than no Byrds at all.

Though it's true that I view the music world through Byrd-colored glasses, I think that I can say in all objective sincerity that BYRDS is a most significant album both in musical scope and historical perspective. The Byrds have always been an eclectic, exciting and innovative group. They will undoubtedly continue to make rock music history, both individually and collectively.

Though the year is barely three months old, I must nominate BYRDS for Album of the Year honors. I don't see how anything could possibly come along within the next nine months to top it.

More With Merwin

(Continued from Page 5)

terpreting within the processes of our reactions; not to allow us even the distance of our response; again a worthy task. But unfortunately, after a wholly admirable faithfulness to the text, the last sentence is left unsaid, and the ending is closer to the end of Beauty and the Beast than following the presentation of pagan-to-Christian mythic history, introduced with a delightful unportentiousness, with an almost sub rosa tact and awe; but perhaps, again, this follows from the King Kongish anticlimax of the appearance of the Giant in relation to its Wagnerian preparation. Both imply a Christian end-of-the-world, and perhaps a pagan regathering seemed too bold for the

pleasant villagers.

But it would be ingratitude indeed to allow these objections even if the above perhaps cannot stand to obscure an oasis in ye cultural wasteland, and I would like to end by thanking the Reader's Digest, even the commercials interrupted scenes of water and by urging you to read "The Selfish Giant"'s four pages to whet your appetite for the necessary reshaping and the necessary garnishings of Wilde's and culture's other tales. Thank you, Reader's Digest! (Of course one shouldn't hold one's breath waiting for their animation of Salome, but thank God for small favors.)

Theodore H. Merwin

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Poetry Corner

Water Girl

Her blue eyes tell me about her,
That she is sweet, gentle and kind
I know nothing about her past,
She doesn't remember yesterday,
But can't wait till tomorrow.

by Ira D. Grodin

DAMOLONAS... (for NLS)

In an academic lobby
three women approached me
to inquire about my poetry
(How deep in my heart was it rooted?)

They found beauty in its sadness
but even moreso
great sadness in its beauty

Their praise stroked my ego
Their concern caressed my soul

So I promised them a lyric
painted with smiles

It was a lie
white and well-intentioned
for long had I forgotten their request
when I wrote at last

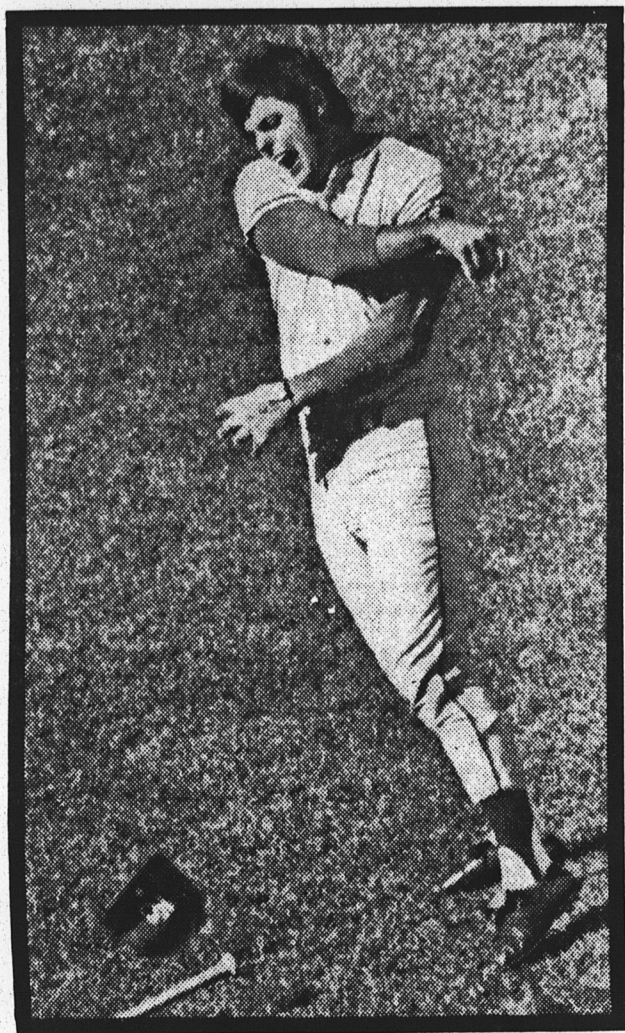
a joyful verse
a loving fantasy
a petal song

I hope they will forgive me...
I wrote those words for you

David K. Moseder
3-26-73

Baseball

National Pastime ?



by Ira Grodin

The baseball season opens this week and the game once called the national pastime is rapidly decreasing in fan popularity. Last season there was a drop of 3 million in attendance. I don't think that it was completely due to the players' strike, but to the general decrease in excitement the game brings.

The season begins April 6 and drags on till the end of September. They play 162 games, twice as many as any other sport. I feel that due to the season's length, it subtracks from the excitement of each game. If the schedule was shortened so that the season begins in May and ends in mid-September, it would bring more fans to the game.

Past seasons have shown that once a team wins its division the fans stop coming to the games. This brings almost a whole month of meaningless baseball to both players and fans.

If any one factor was to be singled out to baseball's decline it would be the owners (the N.L. owners are the worst). Charles Feeney, President of National League owners, said "We like the game the way it is." For the last 100 years there have been only minor changes. Thanks to the A.L. owners we will at least have the new "designated pinch hitter." Whereas the pitcher on the average makes eight of ten times, the designated pinch hitter will bat for him the entire game. This should mean more runs and maybe better pitching duels, since many times a manager must replace a pitcher late in the game even though he is pitching well.

The most obvious reform would be inter-league play. Such rivals as Yanks-Mets, Cubs-White Sox would bring in the fans to the game. The N.L. owners have always rejected this plan.

Expansion has also contributed to the decrease in baseball's attraction. The quality of the players is not enough to make 15 good teams, yet there are 24 with plans to increase it to 26 within the next three years. Because of expansion the major leagues must fill positions with ball players that should be in the minors. The Texas Rangers didn't have one player to hit over .260.

Now that the season is coming around, I'm sure everyone secretly writes his predictions and hides them till October. Here are mine.

AL

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1) California | 1) Baltimore |
| 2) Oakland | 2) New York |
| 3) Chicago | 3) Boston |
| 4) Minnesota | 4) Detroit |
| 5) Kansas City | 5) Cleveland |
| 6) Texas | 6) Milwaukee |

California's trades have made them a team to beat. Robinson and Singer could make this team a big winner. Oakland has too much of Charles O. this winter with Epstein and Duncan gone and an unsigned Vida Blue. Chicago lacks the pitching, but Allen will make them a contender till the end. Minnesota, Kansas City will be lucky to play .500 ball. Texas will improve and play .400 ball.

The Birds needed a power hitter and Earl Williams should make them the A.L. team in the World Series. New York has little bench strength and needs more help in the starting rotation. Boston and Detroit had their glory last year, playing for the title in the last 3 games. Both will find this year much tougher. Cleveland had a good year for themselves but really aren't going to challenge for the top. Milwaukee will remain in the same place as last year—last.

Now turning to the National League:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Los Angeles | 1) Pittsburgh |
| 2) Cincinnati | 2) Chicago |
| 3) Atlanta | 3) New York |
| 4) Houston | 4) Montreal |
| 5) San Francisco | 5) St. Louis |
| 6) San Diego | 6) Philadelphia |

The Dodgers have the pitching that should carry them past Cincinnati down the stretch. Cincinnati doesn't have enough pitching to do it again. Houston had its chance last year. Leo (the Lip) will have his problems this year. San Francisco should be thankful for San Diego or else they would be the doormat of the league.

Grodin Gems—The beat goes on at Madison Square Garden. This time 3 fights in the stands, 12 people ejected, when will it stop? The hockey and basketball playoffs also begin this week with the Knicks against the Bullets. When it's final time I expect to see the Lakers beating the Celtics in six games. The Rangers play Boston and will need a small miracle to win the first series. For the Stanley Cup, Montrael losing to Rangers in seven (I believe in miracles).

Dogs On Campus

Denis Hamill

Perhaps the single most disgusting statistic of American consumerism is that over two billion dollars a year is spent on pet food. It is even more disgusting when one considers that the estimated number of poor people in this land reaches over fifty million. It is as if the pet owners in this country think the OTHER AMERICA consists of goldfish, frogs, turtles, hamsters, monkeys, myna birds, parakeets, cats and, worst of all, dogs.

Of all domestic animals, dog owners have got to be the worst violators of urban environment. Dogs come in at a close number two. Number one allows number two the privilege of shitting anywhere it bloody well pleases, carpeting our streets, parks and playgrounds with large steaming mounds of disease. One of the grossest misconceptions is that dog owners in this town are dog lovers. Any animal psychologist will tell you that to coup up a hound in an apartment will almost certainly cause the dog to become neurotic, in some cases even to pick up most of the neuroses of the owner. A dog instinctively needs to run whenever its impulses tell it to. It also needs to fuck at whim as well, and because they do not possess a large enough intellect to govern their impulses, a dog in heat can be seen on occasion screwing a protruding handle or the crack under the door. A frisky speed freak dog will run in mad circles around the sofa, up the stairs into the bedroom across the idiot owner's sleeping face, back down, round and round, looking for the daylight of open space. What the dog usually finds is that it gets the daylight beat out of it with a rolled newspaper. This of course is not love. It is cruel. It is mean. It is anti-animal. It is also inhumane. This town does not have enough room for its people, never mind a half-million dogs.

But dog owners will insist they love animals while they shovel Alpo and Ken-l-rations down the mutt's throat, ignoring the fact that they are contributing to the extinction of the wild mustang. There used to be over a million mustang proudly running in fleet, strong herds through the west of this country. There are fourteen thousand left and are fast nearing the buffalo in scarcity every day. They are chased by helicopters until they collapse and die from exhaustion, bewildered and betrayed to be sold for six rotten cents a pound to the dog food industry. From the industries it goes to the dog lover, from dog lover to dog, from dog to shit in the streets, from the streets to the

pores of children's fingers, from the fingers to the candy bar to the small vulnerable mouths to sick beds. But alot of these animal owners or animal lovers will tell you they care about ecology, they love all animals, and children are just adorable. I'll tell you they're full of shit. Dog shit.

In Richmond College itself, a higher educational institution of alleged adults, dogs of all sizes, shapes and colors are allowed to run freely and unleashed through the halls, elevators, lounges, bathrooms, classrooms and, worst of all, the cafeteria of the school without regard for those who may be allergic to their hair, repulsed by their sniffing wet noses, or nauseated by their scavenger stares or drooling tongues while eating lunch. This is selfish and inconsiderate and it must stop. I could very well understand a seeing eye dog leading a blind person because that is necessary. Other than that anything that is less than Man's (Woman's) best friend (which dogs aren't, they are either parasitical slaves or indentured bodyguards, sometimes both) should not be allowed into the confines of the academic institution.

Another consequence we should look into is that parents are sometimes obliged to take their small children with them to school when adequate day care is not available and they should not be infringed upon by unleashed Great Danes the size of Volkswagons. People will give me that line of shit about how sweet and friendly Great Danes are and I believed it until the time of this writing. An AP dispatch from Inkster, Michigan on March 18th, 1973, informs us that two Great Danes are being held for the killing of an eight-year-old child. Not the whole life of every Great Dane that has ever lived was equal to one breath of that small child's life and we had better start admitting it. If we let Great Danes and mutts through the doors why not German Shepards, Doberman Pinschers, yaks, moose, timber wolves, llamas or any other agents from hell we might find around town? It's all the same. All or nothing at all, nothing in moderation.

Either that or get rid of the dogs. The security guards in Richmond are hired to enforce the rules of the school. One of them is "NO DOGS." Let's enforce it and make the selfish bastards that infringe dogs on those of us who prefer the company of people, smell their own shit for awhile, at home or whatever cage they please.

