

Butterfield Attacks Student 'Legalism'

Dr. Victor L. Butterfield, Acting President of New College, has commented upon the amount of "legalism" on the New College campus. Butterfield, in an interview with The Catalyst yesterday, said that he was "surprised to find a small community that had committed itself to adulthood, joie d'esprit, and so forth, fuming itself over every jot and tittle of rule and regulations provided for."

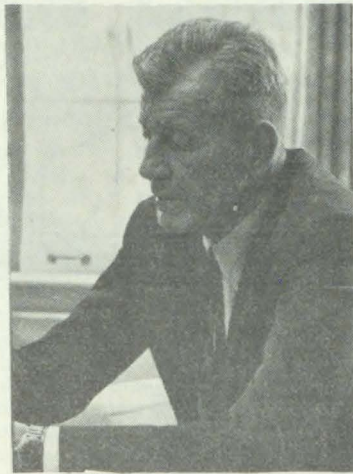
"At Wesleyan," Butterfield said, "we had far fewer rules and regulations and technical definitions."

When asked why this desire to formalize every aspect of campus life seemed to be so prevalent, the acting president replied, "It is partly the temper of the times among students. Young people are receiving

surprise attacks from other authorities in the nation at large. I don't see why this has to happen in a smaller community, or why these fears exist in a place where people can get to know one another. Here it is possible to have a background of mutual understanding and respect that would obviate the need for all this technical provision."

"New College is at a disadvantage in the respect that it is without the tradition older institutions have. Without the tradition, guidelines for the government of the college are not clear, and hence there is a kind of vacuum that people want to fill up with specific rules and regulations."

Butterfield expressed the hope that this desire for legislation might be only temporary. "I would hope,"



Butterfield

he said, "that if it is indeed the case that a vacuum is felt, we might soon start a reversal and relax our stringencies a little bit."

"Actually," Butterfield commented, "this is not solely a student problem. The faculty have gotten into predicaments of inequity and inconsistent practice, so they felt they had to tighten up their restrictions." But the student regulations are even more precise and extensive."

Dr. Butterfield was asked if his opposition to the Proposed Student Bill of Rights, currently before the College Council, was based on his feeling of dismay toward overemphasis on legalism. "No," he replied, "I am perfectly willing to

accept statements of anyone's rights on principle, so long as the rights of all members of the community are being preserved. I feel that in some instances the Proposed Student Bill of Rights infringes upon the rights of other members of the college community."

"This over-legislation puts a crimp upon the community, both morally and legally. In effect, the groups involved in the over-legislation are asking for freedom, but are really beginning to bind themselves all over again."

Dr. Butterfield concluded by saying that he realized that this was a negative judgment, "but there is much of positive value here, and I don't want to sound overly negative."

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Faculty Approves Position Paper, Turns Down Recommendation

The faculty passed a position paper on college growth, and student-faculty ratio at its meeting yesterday. The paper will be sent to the Board of Trustees for their consideration.

The chief proposal of the paper stated that it is the faculty's opinion that "any increase in the student-faculty ratio beyond 8.6/1 would result in a spiral" leading to deterioration of the college's academic excellence.

The proposal, originally submitted to the faculty by the Faculty Educational Policy Committee, was closely tied to administration "working papers" which treated data on specific possibilities for increase in student body and faculty size.

GRASS BUST

Three students from Manatee Junior College were arrested for possession of marijuana, according to a story in the Sarasota Herald-Tribune on Tuesday.

The students were living in a house in Whitfield Estates, on Route 41, just north of New College.

The "hippies" were arrested by Det. Sgt. W. D. Fort, who said that a "large quantity" of marijuana ready for smoking, plus utensils and several growing plants of *cannabis sativa* were confiscated. In addition, some tablets believed to be LSD or STP were seized. The tablets will be sent to a Tampa laboratory for analysis.

A search warrant was obtained for the house, and the house had been "shadowed" by detectives for several days, according to the police.

Law enforcement officials were quoted as saying that "more arrests" were expected in the area in the "next few days."

Dr. Victor L. Butterfield, Acting President of the College, stated that it was important to realize that there was no intention of "freezing" these numbers, and that budgets and ratios must change as they are discussed each year.

Some discussion concerned the difficulties of releasing the working papers to the community at large. It was felt that a general release or publication would result in a reification of the numbers as if they were statements of fact, rather than methods of discussing specific problems. The papers were drawn up and a proposal made because it was felt that long-range plans were necessary to any treatment of topics such as student body growth.

In other action, the faculty defeated the College Council recommendation that student representatives to faculty meetings consist of: The Chairman of the Student Executive Committee, a representative of The Catalyst, and three students appointed by the SEC. A subsequent proposal by Willard C. Humphreys, Associate Professor of Philosophy, which stated that the representatives be SEC chairman, Catalyst representative, the student who was elected to the Faculty Educational Policy Committee, and two students elected at large from the student body.

After this motion was passed, faculty members saw that SEC Chairman Michael Smith and editor of The Catalyst Paul Adomites were seated just outside the fish-bowl, where the meeting was being held. It was moved and passed that Smith and Adomites be allowed to attend the rest of the meeting. The Editor and the Chairman did so.

In other action, William Fleischman, Assistant Professor of Economics was appointed to the College Council for an interim period to fill out the term of Mrs. Marion Hoppin, Adjunct Professor of Psychology, who resigned from the Council last week due to heavy counseling schedules.

The results of the faculty's election for the members of the Committee on Committees was announced. Elected to the committee were Marshall Barry, Assistant Professor of Economics; Roger Griffin, Associate Professor of Chemistry. A run-off election will be held to determine the third member of the committee between Robert Knox, Professor of Literature, and Dr. Humphreys.

Salary Dies Rite

On Friday, the first day of the month of Nova, there will be a mandatory moonrise light show on the main bay at eight o'clock. Following this psychedelic incarnation of the goddess Aphrodite a free freckle psycho rockarocka four hour dance marathon will happen in the Cave of the Pink Flower (the music room to the straights). This ninth hour festival will feature The Gap, one of those total beyond words guaranteed to space you out or your money back

rock bands who it is rumoured, hold on to your flags patriots, represented the USA at Expo '67. There will be free refreshments in the Cave for the hungrier multitudes. This religious celebration is being held at the bequest of Her Satanic Majesty for the glorification of the Lost Spirits of the Juvenile Renaissance. All you need bring is a psychedelic gleam in your eye at all times a costume is not necessary for really strate people..?

Dance Theater Discovery

New College students, faculty, and staff will have free admission to a performance by the Dance Theatre Discovery group on Saturday, November 2, at 8:15 p.m. The program, part of the Artist Series at Manatee Junior College, will be given in Neel Auditorium.

Spontaneity is the keyword to Dance Theatre Discovery. Some of the pieces are not choreographed--the dancers react to what is happening. Sioux von Baeyer, co-director with Bunny Balk, says, "The emphasis, as we feel it, is on the experimental aspect--we're dabbling around to see what happens if... and what would happen if... using mostly electronic music and light show." The group expresses comments on life, often through use of the absurd, with unusual props, music, and lighting. Part of the excitement of Dance Theatre Discovery is the creation of moving designs in space.

The dances which will be presented Saturday night were choreographed by members of the company. Some are experimental in their use of props, some in movement, and others in music and lighting. In "The First National Bank," for example, the props actually came from a bank. In "Archetype" huge gargoyle-like masks are worn by the dancers. In a piece entitled "Condominium" the performers appear as molecular bodies moving in complete isolation from each other. Electronic music, a Bartok string quartet, and "musique concrete," which features Eric von Schmidt on electric piano and buzz saw and Christopher von Baeyer on altered violin and kazoo, are used interchangeably throughout the program. The Light Experiment of Venice does the lighting for Saturday's performance, using black light in a piece called "Blue Line."

Tickets for the program may be obtained at the New College Humanities Office or the MJC box office. New College identification is necessary.

Parents Weekend Parents to See NC In 'Special Way'

New College's annual "Parents' Weekend" will begin Friday, November 8, this year.

The purpose of these weekends, according to Assistant Director of Development Mary Alice Root, is "to give the students' parents a chance to get to know New College in a very special way."

Mrs. Root also stated that "since this is to be a community-wide affair, we want all students, whether their parents be here or not, to become involved with the program."

The program this year will include faculty conferences, student Independent Study Presentations, the annual Parents' Meeting, a panel discussion, and a picnic brunch and swimming. Only the last will be limited to students whose parents are visiting.

A reception for all students, faculty, and parents, will also be held, along with a tour of the Ringling Museum and Asolo Theater.

Speakers at the Parents' Meeting will include: Mr. Wilton D. Cole, New College Trustee, parent, and past president of the Parents' Association; Dr. Victor L. Butterfield, Trustee and Acting President of New College; Mr. E. George Rogers, new president of the Parents' Association; Michael Jackson Smith, Chairman of the Student Executive Committee; and Mr. Ralph Henry, Director of Development.

The panel discussion will be entitled "An Intimate Look at New College," and will be moderated by Mr. E. George Rogers. Student, parent, faculty, and administration representatives will sit on the panel.

Two Students Arrested At Demonstration

New College students Mark Baraz and Dick Webb were arrested yesterday during a speech by V.P. candidate Spiro Agnew in St. Petersburg. They were charged with lighting a flame in a public place and held on \$50 bond. They were released later that evening and the trial has been set for November 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Surprise and disappointment in reaction to the auditorium incident were expressed today by Dr. Arthur M. Miller, New College Director of Student Policy. He also expressed surprise at the incident, stating that the students' announced intention was to make a legal and orderly

appearance at Agnew's speech. Miller felt, however, that "accidents of over-reaction" by students from neighboring colleges had sparked the train of events culminating in the arrest of the New College students.

Miller emphasized that favorable public relations are more than ever vital to the continuance of New College. According to him, no college official will act to limit the constitutional freedoms of the students. He added that in the best interests of the school a corresponding degree of good taste and judgment would be "most highly appreciated."

COLLEGE COUNCIL MEETING

by PAUL ZIMMERMAN

The College Council met yesterday and although a quorum was not present, significant news for the college community was released. It was announced that students will be able to participate in the meeting of the Education Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees scheduled for next week. For the first time in the history of this institution, there will be an opportunity for students to directly confront the Board to express their views on important college issues. Dr. Butterfield expressed his desire to see as many opinions represented as possible in order to give the Board a fair idea of the various attitudes represented on campus. As it is scheduled now, there will be a joint meeting of the Educational Policy Committee of the college and the board plus the Student-Faculty Committee. Here, the one student member of the college EPC and at least four students of the SFC will be able to register their complaints with the board people. This direct confrontation of faculty and students with members of the board, which Dr. Butterfield is pushing for, is something which is quite unique

for most colleges in the country. If time permits, there will be a second meeting set up between the College Council and the board representatives.

Mrs. Marion C. Hoppin, Adjunct Professor of Psychology, resigned from the council. She sent a letter expressing the fact that her counseling schedule was preventing her from devoting sufficient time to her job on the Council and she thought the job should be filled by someone who could put in the time she thought necessary to do an adequate job.

'Environment' Group Meets

by MAX REIF

A group of thirty students and faculty members William Hamilton and Jeff Wright met for two hours Monday night to discuss the "Environment" proposal outlined in last week's edition of the Catalyst.

The proposed experiment in education, which will be listed next term as a course in the Division of Environmental Studies, was originally developed by a smaller group, formed by Mark Baraz and Hamilton. The smaller group had had two previous meetings.

The original group conceived of the experiment as an "anti-environment" to the Humanities core course. The general meeting ensued, however, when it became clear that interest in radical educational experiments is widespread on campus.

Questions discussed at Monday's meeting included the viability of the proposal itself, a preliminary reading list, and the problem of organization into the two or three separate Environment seminars which now seem necessary.

Ten participants spoken to at random Tuesday unanimously expressed disappointment with the meeting, but had hope that the "Division of Environmental Studies" would still be born. Reasons given for the limited success of the Monday meeting were the size of the group, personality clashes, and condescension by original members to new members. Several people expressed desire to meet in smaller discussion groups before the entire group meets again in two weeks.

Editorials

UGLY REALITIES

As is well known to the community, two students were arrested yesterday in St. Petersburg for incinerating the local customs. The initial reaction on campus was something approaching ridicule, but more accurately described as condescension.

The specific action in question may have been impetuous, perhaps misguided, but to dismiss the entire realm of so-called political activity as out of place on the campus would indeed be a mistake.

As students at New College, we sometimes forget that the world is not confined to aesthetics, philosophy, thinking great thoughts and worrying about how emasculating females will castrate us all eventually.

Much as we might often wish it otherwise, we belong to the world and are the children of its ugly realities. In a certain sense, we are its ugly realities. If we close our eyes, the ugliness might all go away for a few fleeting moments, but we have eaten the seeds, and the dark god will appear sooner or later and carry us away to a land of darkness.

STUDY?

Last week we discussed the problem of distrust between the segments of the campus community. One of the least mentioned, but most important causes of this distrust is the students' attitude toward their academic work.

It is felt by many faculty members that students simply do not study enough. It is true that a goodly proportion of the student body does spend much time in studying, but a survey taken last year indicated that students at New College spend an average of two hours a day at their studies.

This is quick to alienate faculty who are truly concerned about whether our "experiment" is really working at all. If there is not serious academic involvement, then there is no reason for the college.

BUT, THEN AGAIN

If there is a group of people who are concerned about making New College an "innovative" college, it is the student body.

The faculty seems to spend much time reporting upon the failures of innovation, rather than the successes. Few faculty members bring ideas for new approaches to bear upon "the system" as it stands at New College.

The faculty has reason to be dismayed, as witness the above editorial. But their interests in presenting new ideas is minimal.

The breakdown of "innovation" at New College seems to be rather frighteningly well-defined: Students come up with new ideas, and faculty refuse them or push aside small successes in favor of recognition of greater failures.

This dichotomy is another source of the distrust which exists.

PROPOSAL

In the interest of re-establishing the constructive dialogue which has died, we present the following proposal:

The weekly "bull-sessions," at which students could meet informally with faculty and administration over coffee and discuss problems at length, should be re-instated.

All that would be necessary would be for a student (or students) to offer his room one night every week for the "bull session." Anyone interested could contact that student about specific faculty or administrative personnel he wished to see. The student whose room was being used could contact the individual sought and invite him.

This would be an important step toward the re-establishment of constructive student-faculty-administration dialogue. It could even be organized on a much larger basis, with the dining room or fishbowl made available. But it should be done now.

hope and betrayal

To the Editor:

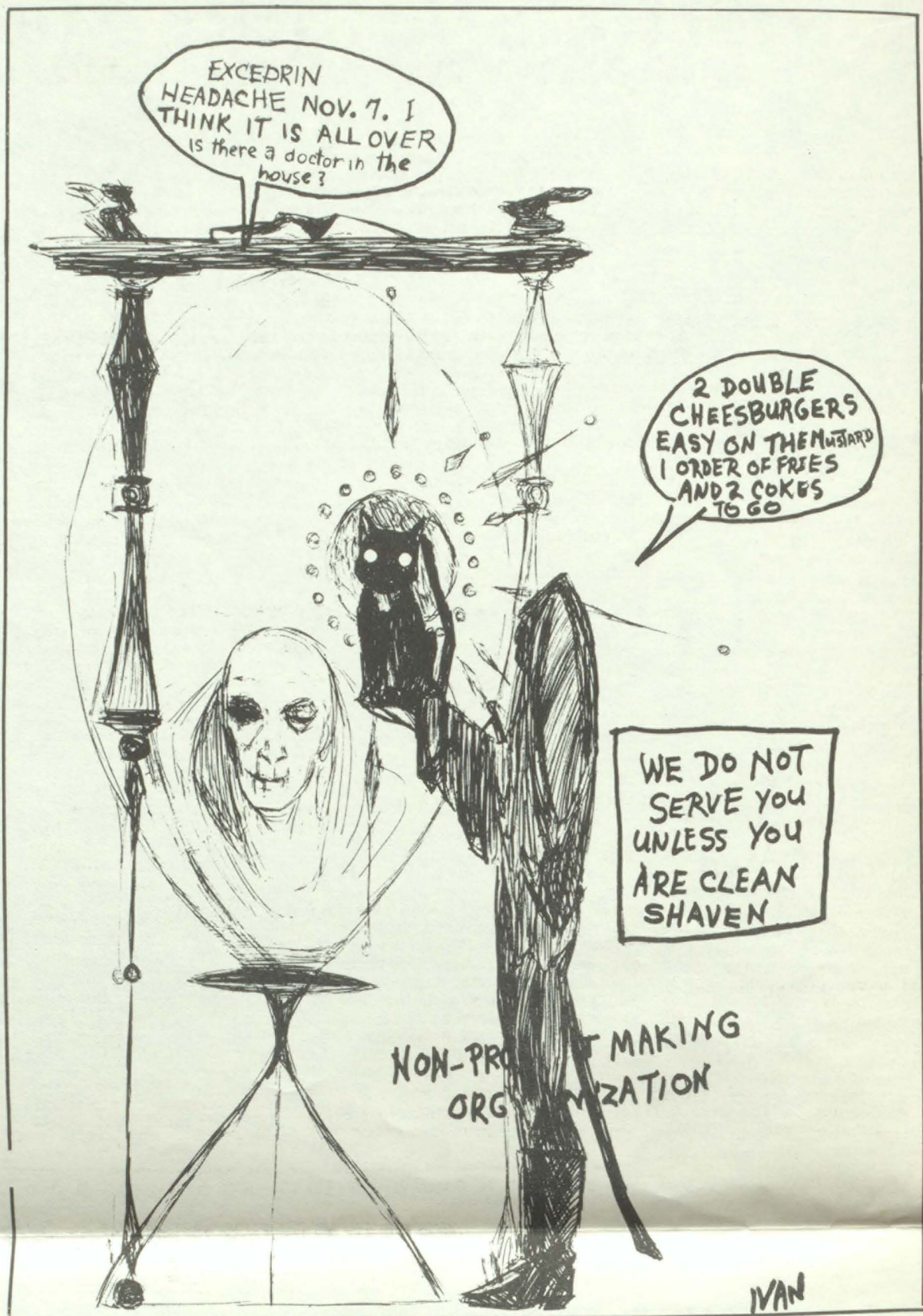
The idiocy of the trailer movement has been superceded by the occurrence in St. Petersburg. I condemn Spiro Agnew, Hubert Humphrey, William Cramer, Richard Nixon and Mark Baraz and company. They are all betraying the democratic tradition which our country has struggled for since 1776. When any candidates or interest groups (Mr. Baraz & Co.) do anything more

than present platforms and criticisms of their opponents platforms, they are infringing on our democratic rights.

The free exercise of democracy can only exist when the voters are not insulted by mudslinging and placard waving.

With hope for Peace,
Don Aronoff

P.S. Does anyone know how light switches turn on lights?



Letters Disillusioned

Dear Editor:

As far as I am able to see, from observations and discussions with compatriots, Phase I, Surprise and Disillusionment, of the class of 1971's introduction to New College has been brought to a successful close. Phase II, Anger, is now beginning.

The only major positive point which has emerged from the whole banquet so deliciously spread in the admissions catalog is the freedom of the individual student to structure his educational plan. This has been leapt upon with high glee and gladness cries; a sizable minority have managed to structure their education right out of existence. The sight of a student regretfully thumbing sixteen pages of Kierkegaard and remarking, "This is the first reading I've done since the term started," is by no means uncommon. A great number seem to have given up the humanities program entirely. This is quite a predictable development, as the tacit assumption was made that each individual would have some experience of an esthetic nature which would bear analysis ala Collingwood. This has proven to be patently false. Whatever the humanities program has accomplished, one thing is certain: it managed to bore or bewilder all but a select few. I had the great good luck to escape the clutches of the Basic Natural Science Program, but from the tales of those who return from the grave, it apparently aims at the technarchization of those who fall prey. As for just about everything else, the aim seems to be sort of solid, well-founded information information storage that education everywhere aims at.

The only glimmer of hope in all this seems to be the tutorial. The faculty members who "... demonstrate the effects of a liberal education in their own lives..." are of course naturally swamped, and have no time. Ergo, the student is

forced back on his own devices to choose either a good, traditional education, to engage in a sort of smack-barsocializing which makes a Baptist picnic appear first cousin to a Bacchanalia, or to plow his way through the muck as best he can.

In short, the Utopian promises of the catalog seem to have fallen by the wayside. The real aim of the college, "To make you a little bit more human" seems to have foundered on the rocks of apathy and sheer ignorance. The freedom to choose alternatives is certainly present, the alternatives themselves are few and rather worthless.

In my opinion, what New College failed to realize at its inception was the fact that the traditional educational concept has demonstrated its inability to preserve civilization in the very character of those it produced. Certainly this should have indicated to somebody that there was a screw loose somewhere in the works, that something besides speeding up the machine was the answer.

Perhaps I have failed to see that there is an assumption that the core programs are intended only to give a firm footing upon which to build the "New Age" for which New College was founded. If so, this assumption should be dragged from the realm of academic arcana and made plain. It would certainly balm a lot of wounded intellects. Virginia needs desperately to be told whether or not there is a Santa Claus lurking somewhere behind the spectre of the Comprehensives.

Efforts such as those of the Pilot Seminar are only to be applauded; some care should be taken to see that they are not utilized as coin laundries for the various egos involved.

I will stay here, if only because I can find nowhere else the freedom to move in the directions I wish to travel. This, possibly, is a gift large enough to satisfy anyone, but frankly, I was led to expect more. Any commitment I have to New College must be to an ideal, not--as I had hoped--to a living reality. Thank you,

Charles K. MacKay

Agreed

Editor:

This Wednesday (October 23) I observed an interesting phenomenon in my garbage can: the garbage was very high in the middle while being very low at the sides. I decided to get to the root of this and dumped everything on the floor. The cause revealed itself to be the October 11 Catalyst which I hadn't crumpled when I threw it away, but instead had just dropped in the can on its side.

Since it wasn't crumpled, and it was already out of the can (and I was grabbing for an excuse not to study), I read it.

One thing really struck me. Small articles, fillers, and letters (like "Spaced Out At Six A.M.") were, on the whole, excellent. Whereas major articles, interviews, etc. (such as NC hosts Dominican Students) were extremely superficial, impersonal, and boring.

How, at such a small college one can write an article about fellow students, administrators, being a student yourself and not get personally involved is a mystery to me

Nathanial

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Machines Are Dead Animals

by MAX REIF

I

This autumn seems to have been, among the men whose job it is to feel the fur of that giant pulsing animal, America, and extrapolate for all of us out here in medialand an exact description of her parts and diagnosis of her condition, the Time of the Post-Mortem. I have read much of the season's output from masscult, academia, and underground, and signed by such men as Stryon, Lasch, Genet, Ras-kin, Mailer, and an Instant Library of others, who have applied the Post-Mortem to not only Chicago but, as in the case of last month's special issue of *Esquire*, the entire 20th century in the whole universe, everywhere. And while the conception of the post-mortem seems valuable as a metaphor, it is maybe not such a good idea when you discover midway in your investigation that the animal you are metaphorizing is really and truly dead.

That, strangely, has undoubtedly happened. It is why *Esquire*, with its full color front cover of two Kennedys and a King resurrected and standing lifelike and immaculate in a quiet cemetery, is not harmless and cute, but stifling, morbid. And why the words of General Hershey echo in my memory in his answer to the question "Is Life Worth Living," which *Esquire* also put to such notables as Mae West and Mickey Rooney and Stokely (Something for Everybody, nothing for anybody). "I hope for and expect the awakening of the silent majority. I can hear it stirring," says Hershey, and others sound as though they are merely grabbing on to an affirmative answer like this is an "exciting" time to be alive, because the question contains a built-in demand for one.

And I begin to understand my response to some friends who called me up long distance last week and asked what New College is like.

The image, although I had not thought of it before, popped immediately into my mind. A scene from *On the Beach*. The radioactive cloud has subsumed the whole world, and we are just waiting because it's coming here too some time and we don't know when; and there's no place to go, so we just wait.

Today is the first anniversary of the Pentagon march, and things have changed even since Norman Mailer reported in *Armies of the Night* that he achieved a sense of grace through the symbolic act of getting arrested and spending time with youths he referred to as "unnamed saints". It becomes apparent that history absolves those who are in power to write it, and that the invisible drums and bugles at the Pentagon, the righteous tears we cried after Chicago, all the fervor of being young and in an ill-defined sort of "movement" will have been not only meaningless, but downright stupid, unless we win. For in the Great Society that Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, or George Wallace see, even books like those of Mailer or Camus, which we can read and say "wow, he's talking about me, mom, see, us kids are Good," will be thrown down some memory hole as irrelevant. Or worse, they will be around but also thought of as irrational and, therefore stupid. Symbolic grace, in other words, is a luxury that may not be available much longer, as Mailer, albeit regrettably, has come to realize in his new Harpers piece on the conventions.

You can see the change, the progressive elimination of hope after hope, and finally of Hope, in the works of authors who made the mistake of being honest about our possibilities several months ago and so must remain honest about our total lack of them now, when perhaps delusion would be preferred. I followed avidly all summer in the New York Review of Books essays

by Christopher Lasch, an eminent young cultural historian I had for a teacher not long ago. Lasch struggled with all his creative intellect, to formulate, in the light of his knowledge about the country and her politics, a plan for a feasible political coalition that could gain power, end the war, and get serious about problems of race and poverty. In a review of Michael Harrington's book *Toward a Democratic Left*, he said such a Left party could emerge out of the McCarthy-Kennedy - anti-war movement; he was somewhat optimistic, although he made no bones about this being the only chance for years to come to avert a wave of reaction that, as he said at a teach-in once, "could dwarf the McCarthyism of the 50's." His latest article is the most pessimistic I have ever read. Consolidated forces, try not to get hurt, and wait around for about 8 years is all he can say. (But there are those of us who, not being famous historians and not wanting to fit into any corporate structure, university, or otherwise can ill afford to just wait out the best years of our lives.)

Another man who was honest is Robert Theobald, a British cyberneticist who quit all his professional work to travel around the United States and talk to college kids because he deemed the magnitude of our crisis so vast it required his immediate full-time efforts. That was more than a year ago. I heard him speak last January, always in a bright, positive vein, but very clear on one point: that we must act NOW (then) to avert a great catastrophe. He gave us nine months. Since then, I've picked up a book of his, published in April, still admirably constructive, but with the time limit down to six months. A lot of folks did try in the McCarthy movement, but all in all, they failed. So now time's up. I don't know what Theobald is saying these days. The animal has died, and it is a matter of time before we begin to smell it.

II

Radicals often speak of America as a machine. For a long time I've felt they were right; but more than a political or economic machine, I think of her as a vast and ingenious educational programming machine, a Skinner Box. I thought once that all schools and mass media were in her service because under the guise of "objectivity," they slanted information her way. Now I find that in large part our mass media are not merely her slaves. They are in fact her working parts and may become dysfunctional in any attempt at true honesty, because the people will see only what the machine has programmed them to see anyway. My father, for example, programmed with the idea that men in blue are THE LAW (not enforced of the law) embodied, saw the Chicago Cabbage live on TV and was willing to believe not the picture, but anything - Anything Daley could make up to justify the action of his cops, as if his own well-being depended on the maintenance of his illusion. It didn't matter what Cronkite, Huntley, or Brinkley said. When their reporting paralleled his programming, they were objective. When it didn't, they were wrong. Media were powerful propaganda agents for the machine powerless against it. Daley's mail, it is well known, ran 17-1 in praise of the police.

And so it becomes clear that if Mayor Daley and a fifteen-year-old kid with long hair were in a gladiator coliseum together and the kid was the Mayor's captive, his personal revenge for all that happened to tamish the Mayor's name at the convention, and the kid had been beaten nearly senseless before hand and then buried with bound hands and legs up to the neck in the ground, and the Mayor ran at the kid with poison tipped golf spikes on and jumped toward his head, and the kid, out of desper-

ation, attempted as the Mayor flew down on him, to bite the Mayor's testicles, and if the event were covered by TV, 100 million people would stand up in their livingrooms and scream, with passion, "FIGHT FAIR, COMMIE BASTARD."

The McCarthy effort proved the absolute impossibility of changing the machine by going through it. And everything that goes through it gets flattened eventually, a phenomenon beautifully symbolized by a Life magazine story last week: Gene McCarthy covers the World Series, as if to say don't worry folks he's no leftist freak, he still likes baseball. Nothing more could have been done. And the sheer arm of the machine, an example of which we saw in Chicago, from now on portends to make demonstration almost sure to be treated as insurrection and insurrection tantamount to suicide. So that there isn't even any way to symbolically feel moral, no way to bet one chip; the time approaches when we let all of them ride or else stand aside in league with the Automatic Crupier. That time the paranoids warned us about is, unless I am but another paranoid, really in the wings just off stage and we probably won't even notice its entrance. Not with a bang, but a whimper does the world end, and skeletons of dead once sleek animals make excellent machines.

In Chicago last spring, the day after the King assassination, when it seemed like everything was falling apart and Yeats' Second Coming was being acted out line by line, I sat in an apartment with a couple of radical kids planning what seemed the only appropriate action, to march 50 students, bitterly opposed to existence as it is like lemmings into the Waters of Lake Michigan. Is that the action called for now -- into the Gulf of Mexico? Or do we just wait on the beach?



Petulia: A Coup 2 0 0 1

by NICK KOULIANOS

If one has been fortunate enough to have seen the films of one of Britain's most original and promising directors, Richard Lester, one can immediately sense the great artistic growth and development that has occurred in his film works. One can notice the evolution of his directorial style from the rather crudely comic nature of *The Knack* to the terse, witty, and sharp social commentary of his latest film, *Petulia*. *Petulia* is Lester's most mature work, and one devoid of much of the playful experimentation present in his early works. The economy and artistic selection evident in *Petulia* shows us that Lester is at last sure of what he has--both on film and in his head. This, of course, does not mean that Lester has succumbed to traditional film techniques in *Petulia*. What this does mean is that Lester has fully realized his own capabilities as a film-maker.

In *Petulia*, Lester portrays contemporary existence as a series of puzzles and pitfalls created by modern man's preoccupation with technology. Lester uses little restraint in exploring and glaringly depicting the role that such often taken-for-granted technological devices as the television and the computer have played in deceiving man and making him devoid of feeling. This is beautifully expressed in a sequence in which a hospital patient spends hours of rapt attention looking at a blank television screen, only to hear from a nurse that the set is merely a facade without a picture tube or a purpose--placed there, as the nurse states, "only for show." The world depicted in *Petulia* is one of mechanization, stiffness, and utter lifelessness--where caged platform take persons up and down stairs, and lovers in an extra-marital affair are given keys to a bedroom by a machine. The film makes a sharp distinction between this coldly efficient and

dehumanizing world and the world of real feelings and emotions. The major figures of the story, including its central character, Petulia, played with superb lifelessness by Julie Christie, seek this sensual world, but cannot sustain the intense relationships it demands or function as "human beings" without the technological crutches of the modern world. This sharp contrast is made explicit from the film's very beginning, at which a scene showing the shrieking soul of Janis Joplin is immediately followed by one showing an elegantly dressed society matron wearing a neck brace ride a sluggishly-moving elevator while sitting in a wheelchair. One immediately senses the desperate need of the protagonists for meaningful relationships, a desperation which is poignantly expressed in a sequence in which Petulia picks a man at random from a crowd of wealthy socialites and asks him to have an affair with her. Petulia cannot sustain the relationship, and the affair collapses, as does her marriage. She is caught between the ideal and the actual. These contrasts, as well as short flashbacks are used by Lester as tactfully-placed cinematic metaphors which illuminate his revelation of the psyches of his protagonists. The camera work, brilliantly attuned to the subtleties of natural sunlight and color, is also very noteworthy. The crisp dialogue is sparingly used, yet still is explicit in revealing plot and characterization.

The areas in which the film falls short, however, lie in some of the aspects of the performances of its major film actors. George C. Scott, delivering what is clearly the film's strongest performance, gives a consistently effective portrayal of Petulia's hapless lover. As Petulia, Julie Christie succeeds fairly well in providing a somewhat convinc-

by DAVID PINI

Context No. 1: Media

"It seems to us that the thrust of education must be to develop a data bank of "common images," shared by the students and the educational establishment; to build from this to articulation of ideas; and only then to worry about reading." (1)

Observe Life Magazine Oct. 25, 1968. (or better still Harvard Lampoon's distillate of Life Magazines)

Wild Animals at Home

Space Flight

Embryos

Apocalup

Apocalypse

Corporate Ad Logos

Popular Philosophers

Some of the Mass Media's most pervasive visual "common images."

Observe 2001: A Space Odyssey by Stanley Kubrick and Arthur Clarke.

All these common images are dis-cerned and orchestrated by them... exquisitely... in good taste... in best taste.

Perhaps the great flat rectangle is the archetypal Life Magazine.

Life: Consider the Alternative.

Consider Life Magazine reflecting upon 2001.

This is narcissism

incest

a put on.

Context No. 2 Mythology

"A broad zone of readiness had therefore been established for the reception of a new approach to the problem of man's highest good... A perfect "mythogenic zone" had been established: a limited yet sufficiently broad area of the earth's surface, relatively uniform in character, where a large population of closely related individuals became affected simultaneously by roughly comparable imprints, and where consequently, psychological "seizures" of like kind were everywhere impending and, in fact, became precipitated in a context of ritualized procedure and related myth.

In such a zone of readiness ideas and practices may appear spontaneously in more than one place at a time and spread as quickly as a flash fire." (2)

"Like the Aeneid and the Divine Comedy, the Odyssey is an epic of rebirth based on a metaphorical journey. All three poems are also in a sense, returns, home-

Consider: 2001

Barbarella

The Prisoner

The Fugitive

Star Trek

The advantage of a television series is the advantage of a periodical. It is contiguous temporally with the audience.

With so many messages, a message or program of any complexity must be repeated incessantly. It then serves to alter the ordering of less coherent input.

The simplicities of an effective film reinforce new categories but cannot induce new approaches to "acting" in the world.

Most of the suspense in 2001 is from learning. Figuring out what is happening, where it is happening. Not what will happen next.

The suspense is your ignorance of the non-fiction.

Imagine: Barbarella's adventure with the apes; Star Trek's "Enterprise" passing the Jupiter Probe; the rocket at the end of "The Prisoner" passing the "Star Child" as it returns to earth.

They could only intersect at those points.

Context No. 3 Technology

"Another element was soon added: the inevitability of history's course: whether in the Marxian or the Teilhardian sense, the important thing was that people be assured that "things take care of themselves" and that there is a happy ending to all experience; that secret mechanisms will produce solutions, without effort, energy, morality, or civic virtue. The model is not "I do" it is "Things develop." This

means that something outside of man is relied on to make the social and political machinery function..." (4)

Jacques Ellul is afraid of Arthur Clarke.

So is Stanley Kubrick.

In the book 2001 by Arthur C. Clarke the slab, the monolith, the symbol of reason, is an instrument loaded package from "beyond the infinite" sent to elevate the healthiest ape to "manhood."

The bloody-fingered dawn of man.

Thus the star-child bom of Keir Dullea is another transformation of man.

Stanley Kubrick transforms Keir Dullea before the infinite. When he realizes when his techno-environment is a mediator between man and the rest of nature and when it is an extension of man's language, dreams, and nightmares.

When he reaches out to reenter the spaceship (Manual Operation Only)

Hal is hollow and mad.

The one-eyed Number One in *The Prisoner* lived in the rocket. Under his Everyman Mask was an ape mask. Under his Ape mask was a madman. No-One. The rocket left.

Those who knew where to go in the first place went home.

The end is not death.

The problem is not suicide.

The event is aging.

Kubrick allows reincarnation but not transformation as an interpretation.

If technology civilization, man barbarian.

If man is civilized, technology will always destroy itself.

Technology nature barbarism.

"A civilized man or relatively civilized man can work unconsciously at promoting civilization; that is, he can promote civilization without any clear idea of what he is promoting or why." (5)

Even an astronaut. A computer is always conscious.

(turn page for footnotes)

SPORTS NEWS Tyranny of the IOC

by THE BLACK KNIGHT

As one who usually takes things easy, I am always somewhat baffled when people react strongly to a situation undeserving of the hassle. I view the suspension of Tommie Smith and John Carlos from the U. S. Olympic team in the same perspective.

What instituted all the fuss? The actual beginning was months before the Olympics got underway. Harry Edwards, a university professor, decided that black amateur athletes, who he feels are not treated fairly by the system, should boycott the 1968 Olympics. The purpose, as determined from newspaper reports, was to make known internationally their dissatisfaction with America's treatment of them. The boycott later had to be called off, as a result of lack of support by blacks, substituting in its place on-the-spot protest. Thus, with hands outstretched, heads lowered, and black gloves glaring at the audience, Carlos and Smith protested while about to be awarded medals, amidst the pompous reverberations of a blaring Star-Spangled Banner.

Now starts the hassle. "The Olympics is no place for politics." U. S. officials apologize for their athletes' "immature behavior." Observers call the action "rude." The IOC (International Olympic Committee)

demands punishment. Condemnations fell like snowflakes and piled into a mass of confusion.

All this escapes me. How the IOC can be so naive and so stiflingly tyrannical I find incomprehensible. Granted, it might be nice if the Olympics could be free of politics - it might be nice if the world were free of politics - but both dreams are equally naive. And considering the world situation, recent types of protests, and the publicity given the Olympics, I can't see why it thinks it should be afforded sacredness - in fact, I wonder whether it merits it. Of course, the IOC might argue that protest would get out of hand since everybody's got a grudge against some-

body. But I doubt that the Carlos-Smith incident would initiate a wave of massive protest - I also doubt that the IOC really believes this either. Perhaps the real reason for the suspension was the IOC's devotion to rigidly controlled order.

As to whether the action was "rude", I think the question is irrelevant. It is just a platitude used to escape the realities of the situation. Yet, there is one criticism I haven't yet heard - that the protest was ineffectual. I think this is true. If later developments prove me wrong, I'll be happy; but I don't see that anything worthwhile was accomplished. Somehow, I get the feeling that everybody's a bit confused.

Petulia Continued

ing portrayal of a bored socialite. Miss Christie at times becomes repetitive in her portrayal of sheer boredom and often to such extremes that one wonders whether this is a device pre-planned by Lester to show Petulia's shallowness, or an example of no talent. The worst effort by a performer in a major role is put forth by Richard Chamberlain, who gives an atrocious performance as Petulia's impotent husband. Joseph Cotton gives solid support to the major performances as Petulia's demanding and materialistic father-in-law.

Despite some glaring deficiencies in the performances of its major actors, *Petulia* must be considered a film success. It is a superbly written, photographed, and edited film -- but only because Richard Lester is behind these three elements of its success. *Petulia* is definitely one man's film -- a brilliant example of the genius of Richard Lester. *Petulia* lies at the apex of his career -- temporarily, at least.

Election Masquerade

by RADIK AL

"Aesthetics will be the ethics of the future." -- Maxim Gorki

Halloween will be observed this year, as always, on October 31, year, as always, on October 31. Elections will be held on November 5. If we dress up in costumes for the spooks' night, why not for the subsequent spooks' day as well?

Take your political responsibilities seriously: wear a costume to class. Dress to suit your political or a-political mood; be offensive, be lovely, be radical, be reactionary, be innocuous, be dippy--but be it in a costume.

During the hours of 9 a.m.--10 a.m. and 4:30--5:30 p.m., costumed participants will be traveling from Hamilton Center to polling places in the neighborhood to make their presences felt in whatever ways they deem appropriate. Prizes for the most political and least political costumes will be awarded by Dr. Hamilton.

Anyone wishing further information as to possibilities for skits, etc., to be performed at the polling places can obtain a list from the Reception Desk or see the list posted in the snack bar.

ISP Forum

This Wednesday, November 6, at 8:00 in the fishbowl, there is to be an open forum for the discussion of the Independent Study Program: its value and defects. The social science department will sponsor the colloquium and all are welcome to attend. Mr. Feeney will give his brief paper on the research done and his evaluation of the underlying cause of his findings. During the forum, some students will talk about the ISP's they did over the summer and perhaps help others to formulate more exciting projects. The discussion will be open to everyone.



2001: footnote

Notes

1. Hampe-Lieberman, "Books," Jan. 4, 1968
2. Joseph Campbell, *Oriental Mythology*, p. 251
3. Howard Porter, *Odyssey*, Bantam Books, Introduction.
4. Jacques Ellul, *The Political Illusion*, p. 225
5. R.G. Collingwood, *The New Leviathan*, p. 346

Letter

CHICKEN LITTLE FIGHTS BACK

(catalyst, n. a substance causing or speeding up a...reaction without undergoing permanent change thereby.)

Folks:

Shazam!!!! With
Surgeon-like incisiveness
Honesty that hurts
Authority smacking of Divine help

Zeal of the Apostles
Altruism of Saints
Mesmerism in your very idiom,
you plunge your scalpel straight to the marrow of New College affairs in the editorial "Why Distrust?" As did, oh, maybe 800 or 900 other college rags across This Great Land of Ours in the past week, serving the identical function of Le Grand e Synthesizer on campus after campus. Students, the administration is not evil, just busy. Administration, students are not evil, just young. COME, THEN, LET US REASON TOGETHER. And be thankful for the deft insight of our newspaper.

So be it then; let us reason. When? Where? About what? Please give us a hint. Even as you spoke, the new dorms that are "more functional" were getting pushed past us by the same Anonymous Authority that from what I am told loaded this here place with first year people this year.

Mao-Tze-Tung (Mr. Tze-Tung? Mr. Tung?) tries to make his revolution perpetual for almost a billion impoverished People. There are comparatively fewer of us here, mostly well-fed. Can we not, all together, democratic town-meeting, one-man-one-vote style, stop and take stock of ourselves, think,

talk, MAKE DECISIONS about New College and where we are going? Soon? Does anybody even care?

Large universities and small colleges in our country are nightmares, educationally. We are still small enough and fresh enough to have possibility, if we can become a community. Let us by God try to stay alive and dangerous.

So come, let us reason together. Somebody say when. You may think the gulf we will be investigating is sheer paranoia. And you may be right. But as for me, I said it before and I'll say it again: THE SKY IS FALLING!!

Crushed, and a bit under the weather,
Max Reif

Dear Mr. Reif:

You ask when shall we reason? Read the editorial on page two entitled "Proposal." Where will be answered in the same place. About what? Anything that bothers you, including the new dorms.

To speak to that issue in particular, Paul Adomites and Scott Cook are the representatives you elected to the Faculty Architectural Committee. If you have gripes, see them. That committee meets to discuss problems relating to the physical make-up of this campus. The new dorm plan have been arrived at through extensive give-and-take between the physical planners and students.

If you feel that this college should run in a town-meeting fashion, make such a suggestion to the Board of Trustees, Faculty, and Student Body. If the majority feels that it should not be done that way, then your "democratization" has failed, and you are in the minority.

Sincerely, THE CATALYST

WHY A WRITE-IN FOR Eugene & Paul McGARTHY & NEWMAN

1. Thousands of Floridians will stay home on Nov. 5, because they have no choice this year. Staying home is not the answer. Protest in the voting booth.
2. These thousands could swing other elections; e.g., Collins for U. S. Senate.
3. We will reduce the Wallace vote by offering an alternative protest vote.
4. A strong vote will signify to the politicians that the people must be heard.

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Sarasota County Chm.
Rohn Timm
955-8960

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City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Contribution _____

INSTRUCTIONS

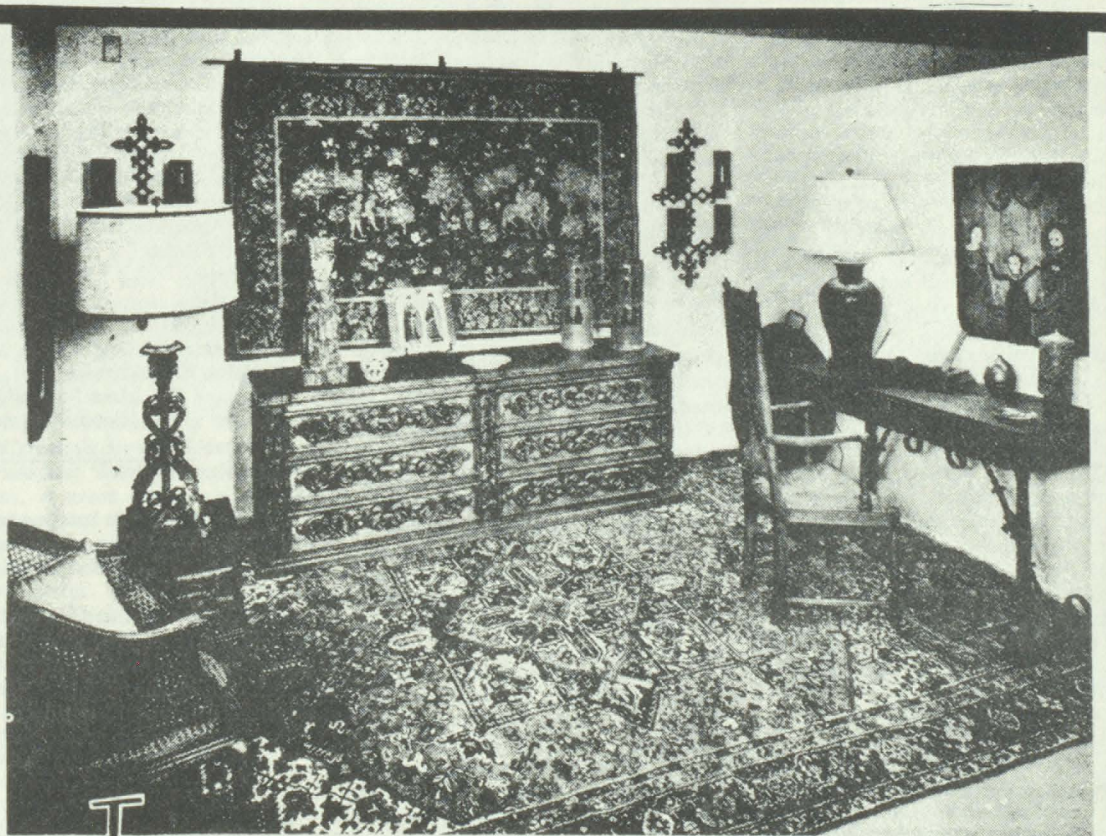
BRING YOUR OWN SHARP POINTED PENCIL.

LIFT LATCH ON THE UPPER LEFT PART OF THE MACHINE.

PRINT THE FOLLOWING 14 NAMES EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BELOW.

VINCENT — GUERRA —
FORD — LEWIS — HIRSCH
— DAVIS — SEARL — DUFFY
KUNST — SIMMS — SMITH
— MILLER — LIBERT —
TAYLOR

NOTE: Any deviation in spelling will automatically disqualify this vote. On to 72.



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