

ELEMENTS REPLACED 2-1-77
DATE

WATCH YOUR STEP

JET FUEL A

MASS. CAUCUS:

PEOPLE VS. THE MACHINE

WATCH YOUR STEP

JET FUEL A

by Tim Carey

The Massachusetts peace movement held a convention in Worcester last Saturday to attempt to unite behind a single acceptable candidate for the April presidential primary. Prior to the convention, the contest was generally seen as a race between the McCarthy and McGovern forces, and, in the end, the superior organization of McGovern beat the charm of and nostalgia for McCarthy. What surprised most observers, however, was the strong showing of Shirley Chisholm, the Black congresswoman from New York, who gathered almost a quarter of the vote.

The caucus, open to any registered Mass. voter, was held at Assumption college, a small, conservative school with fig leaves decorating the statuary on the campus. Around three thousand people attended the eight-hour session, the idea for which grew out of the National Emergency Conference for New Voters last December. The participants represented a cross-section of what has, over the last four years, been called The Movement. The crowd consisted of a majority of under-thirties, with quite a few participants over fifty-five or so: the remnants of the radicals of the 1930's. Those in between, those powerful in the regular Democratic party structure, were absent, since they were going to have their own caucuses and decide on their own slates of delegates to the convention. Thus, the convention, while nominally Democratic, actually represented the grass-roots base of the radical-liberal fourth party which has existed just underneath the surface of American politics for the past four years.

Just as the regular Democratic party stayed away from Worcester, so did their candidate, Ed Muskie. According to many at the caucus, Muskie was secure in the knowledge that he could set up an organization without the help of students, Blacks, Spanish-speaking peoples, or anyone to the left of a non-controversial stand. Muskie and his organization stayed away from them, and from the hard questions which they present, which their very existence presents, to his candidacy and the media myth of "Muskie integrity." Virtually everyone at the caucus had been involved in politics in 1968 and Chicago, and memories like that die hard. Likewise, the Lindsay staffers (easy to spot by their dapper dress) put in only a token appearance, because the man who seconded Spiro Agnew's nomination four years ago has yet to do sufficient dues-paying before the haze of forgiveness will set in.

The tone of each candidate's campaign was set by the opening speeches, presented before the delegates adjourned to their congressional district caucus rooms. Sandra Graham, the radical councilwoman from Cambridge, spoke for Shirley Chisholm, and took the point of view that the caucus should be a consciousness-raising exercise, with the Chisholm forces acting as a radical pressure group on the McCarthy and McGovern forces. This is a necessary position, since Mrs. Chisholm's chances of winning anything are exactly 0.00. The Chisholm forces, a coalition of Black, Spanish-speaking, and radical white (especially feminist) groups, had just organized themselves four days before-hand, and their fire and informality impressed many delegates more than all of the detailed, well-reasoned, and well-written position papers of George McGovern. One of the Chisholm spokesmen declared, "our political price is high, damn high... a large vote for Shirley Chisholm will throw the Democratic party into a very healthy disarray." Another telling point for the Chisholm forces was the embarrassing circumstance that the caucus was held

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Pine Tree Legal

The dramatic spectacle created by the T. V. serials starring young trial lawyers has left an unknowing audience with the impression that legal services have attracted only the most successful and good-looking young lawyers. All too often the misguided audience thinks that legal problems are solved in less than an hour with commercials in between and that the defense attorney never fails. Not so in the real world. Until recently, if the defendant was found innocent, it was because he had paid heavily for the services of his attorney. His capacity for bringing his case before the court reflected his wealth.

This situation was remedied in 1965 when the Office of Economic Opportunity responded to the legal needs of the poor by establishing a Legal Service Program. This program, designed to provide and promote an increase in the accessibility of the courtroom to the indigent, was established at a time when many were advocating violence and disruption for stimulating reform measures. The Legal Service Program offered to the poor for the first time an opportunity to use "the system" for redress of their grievances. For too long the poor have been denied their constitutional rights because effective advocacy depended on a large financial base. Opportunities for competent legal representation for those who cannot afford a private attorney are now available. New reform measures have been initiated by these poverty lawyers in the areas of consumer protection, health, environmental safety and civil liberty. The new advocates are visionary lawyers, capable and dedicated, but any account of their battle will reveal a strong political undercurrent which constantly endangers the success of both the individual attorney with his client and the whole national program.

As a part of this national program, Pine Tree Legal Aid has been working throughout the state of Maine responding to the problems of the poor. Although Pine Tree Legal Aid only handles civil cases, they have been swamped with grievances since they began operating over three years ago. The idealistic dedication of the Pine Tree Legal Aid attorneys to the poor has resulted in improved landlord-tenant relations, better welfare treatment, family relations and broad social reforms. For most recipients, the availability of legal representation has renewed their faith that the right of litigation can be enjoyed and employed by every American citizen - a right that should be growing without political threats.

While the impact of this legal assistance is now being dramatically televised, the battles of Legal Aid, and more specifically Pine Tree, are not always successful. Yet most often the cause for failure is a fear of the grave political repercussions that might occur if the result were otherwise. The stringent guidelines that the federal government has imposed on this program reflect the growing concern among certain politicians for the possible repercussions resulting from strong and vocal representation of minority groups. The restrictive requirements and boundaries placed on the Legal Aid Program tend to cripple rather than enhance the effectiveness of the program. The continual success of the program, even with these political restrictions, has aroused a stronger and more intense opposition from powerful private interest groups and public officials at all levels of government.

When the case docket of the Legal Aid Programs is examined it becomes clear why their efforts are generating more political repercussions. Most of the civil complaints of the poor to which Pine Tree Legal Aid responds regard

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"The theory of starting political movements at the grass roots is valid only if the tops of the stalks have not already been lopped off by the threshing machine of the party regulars."

on the fifteenth of the month, the day the welfare checks arrive, thus making it impossible for welfare mothers to attend. The organizers and participants in the convention were at heart white middle class liberals, and they were made extremely uncomfortable when they were reminded of it.

Gene McCarthy spoke next, and was just as clean, charming and eloquent as in 1968. His candidacy is based on his courage in the snows of New Hampshire in '68 when everyone else was at home despairing. His speaking style is the same: oblique, philosophical (he spent several minutes talking on the semantics of the word "incurSION" versus "invasion"), and his speeches still seem to sort of trail off, never really beginning or ending. He is perhaps the first presidential candidate since Stevenson to fuel a campaign entirely on nostalgia. A great many people worked a great many hours "coming clean for Gene" in '68, and they still feel a lot for that effort, even if Gene did (although not according to Gene) fade off to a kind of mystic mountaintop for most of the last four years.

Still, the man's incredible record of never selling himself out to anyone remains, and this hangs about him and his followers like a golden mantle. The other candidates all paid homage to him, but it was as though they were praising a ghost from the past, and it was unsettling to them to have a ghost running for president. Paul O'Dwyer, a McCarthy staffer, tried to cast a positive light on this condition when he said, "The one thing we are capable of generating at this point is confusion."

The McGovern people came to the caucus unbelievably well-organized and looking very much like winners. Former Senator Ernest Gruening of Alaska

(one of the two senators to vote against the Gulf of Tonkin resolution) spoke for McGovern, delivering the usual blasts at Muskie, Nixon, and Lindsay, but pleading with the McCarthy and Chisholm camps to "show the world that the liberals can unite." The McGovern people, ultra-organized, irritated many delegates with their impatience and insistence that the truths of George are to be held self-evident. This was probably the major reason why the vote lasted through three ballots, with McGovern's vote rising by attrition from 51% to 62% (a 60% vote required for nomination). He was put over the top by the ultimate convention emotion, which broke out around five P.M.: "If you want to go home, vote for McGovern!"

The selection of a presidential candidate was, in theory, supposed to result in unanimity among the liberals before the primary. McCarthy, who had apparently pledged not to run in the primary if the caucus did not nominate him, had already started vacillating the next day, saying that perhaps he didn't take the caucus all that seriously. The status of Shirley Chisholm's candidacy also seemed to change during the course of the afternoon. Made heady by the "victory" of a 23% vote in what was perhaps the most liberal gathering one could assemble, they quickly made plans to continue the campaign as far as possible, with a hoped-for finale in the vice-presidential nomination.

The second major purpose of the caucus was to select delegate slates to oppose the regular Democratic (and probably Muskie controlled) slate in the April primary. This process occurred entirely at the local level, and seemed to go quite smoothly, with everyone having at least an opportunity to see and hear the people who will be representing them in Miami. However, whoever wins the presidential primary by popular vote will have all of the delegates pledged to him on the first ballot, and no convention in twenty years has gone past the first ballot. And the power of the Democratic machine can generate vast amounts of money and organization, which can dwarf any citizens' coalition.

Thus, the question of whether the entire circus accomplished anything at all nagged the minds of almost everyone attending the caucus. The question was never overtly raised, but the possibility remains that Muskie may be so well entrenched with the Democratic machine as to be unbeatable at the convention in Miami. The theory of starting political movements at the grass roots is valid only if the tops of the stalks have not already been lopped off by the threshing machine of the party regulars. The participants, however, seemed ready to fight the inevitability of Muskie. Even if it is all a charade, they felt the need to play it out to its end, there being for them no alternative.

Legal - Con't from pg. 1

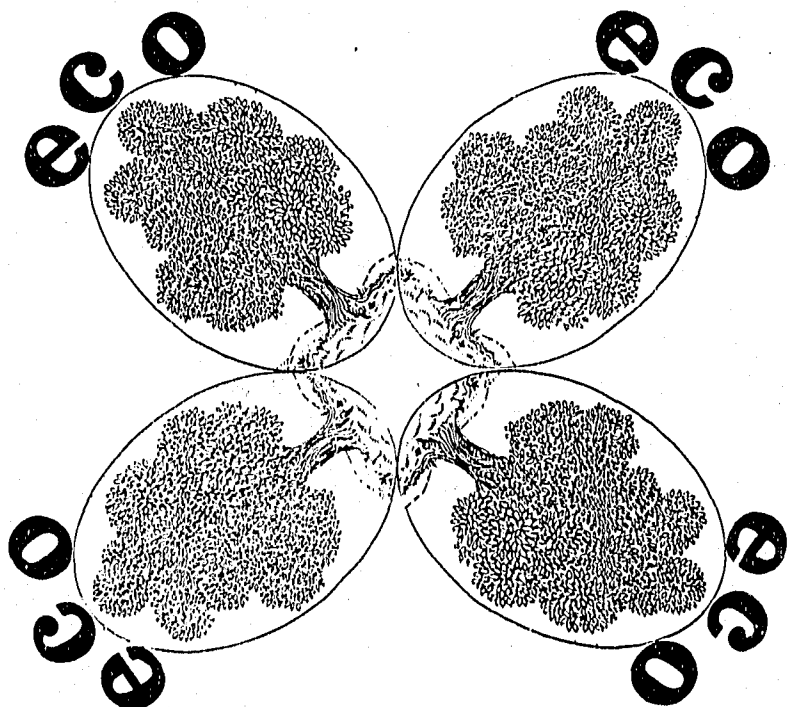
relationships with other governmental programs or local government policies. Amendments directly concerned with curbing the effectiveness and freedom of the Legal Aid Program in this area have been introduced in the Senate. In 1967, one defeated amendment advocated the prevention of Legal Service lawyers from bringing actions on behalf of clients against federal, state and local government agencies. Again in 1969, another amendment was presented and barely defeated which would have allowed governors to veto - without OEO overrule - any Legal Service Program in their state. This would have subjected the Legal Aid attorneys to greatly increased local pressure. While these amendments have received little public attention, many surmise that the Legal Aid Program is going to be put to a cruel political test.

Most of the opposition does not center around the petty legal problems of the individuals, but with the test cases that concern large-scale social reform. On the test case docket of Pine Tree Legal Aid, such cases have tried to alter laws which adversely affect the poor. A good example is the case of Desmond v. Hachey, in which an attorney brought a suit in federal court challenging the procedure by which indigent individuals could be imprisoned for their failure to pay their debts. Another case, Newell v. State of Maine dealt with the failure of the court to appoint counsel without advising the prisoner of his right to have an attorney appointed. Other test cases have challenged various government agencies for not complying with recent changes in the Maine statutes.

Not all the cases that Pine Tree Legal Aid handles have far-reaching consequences or political repercussions, but simply help the individual client. Problems dealing with over-extended credit and high debts are often handled by sending the clients through bankruptcy proceedings in hopes of discharging their debts. An improperly drawn-up property deed can often be cleared so the owner will have a rightful legal claim to his home. The illegal credit maneuvers often employed by easy-credit loan firms can often be spotted so the client will not have to pay excessive interest rates. Many of the cases are divorce proceedings or problems in alimony payments which can be solved without political

consequences, but unfortunately they often involve a large emotional strain. The bulk of the case load falls into one of these areas, but often the problems besetting one client are also hurting many others in similar situations. This is when a test case is employed. In many situations, Pine Tree Legal Aid must deny its services to the poor because of the federal guidelines under which Pine Tree must operate. Probably the most frustrating restriction is the low income level a possible client must be earning before his case can be accepted. One attorney described this requirement by saying, "If the client has a dime in his pocket to call a private attorney, we usually deny him our services." While this guideline helps to cut down on the caseload, it does often leave the individual with no legal redress due to lack of funds.

The work that Pine Tree Legal Aid is doing is interesting and deserving of recognition even though its desire to help the poor raises numerous political and ethical questions. It seems unfair to subject a legal service attorney, or any other trial lawyer, to the harassment of political consequences. While the Legal Service Program has survived past attacks on its independence, its integrity, and its capacity to serve the poor, each new political challenge drains the program's energy and diverts its resources, increasing its vulnerability to political attack. Involvement in Pine Tree Legal Aid has renewed my faith that the poor are being helped and that their problems are being heard and solved. But more needs to be done. This program needs to be removed from the political arena and insulated from political interference. Its boundaries should be extended so all individuals who need or desire an adequate source of legal help will be granted their right of redress. No attorney can meet his professional responsibility to his client if there are outside restraints on the types of cases in which he can participate. Under our system, the courts are the forum of last redress. As citizens, we are told to recognize the supremacy of law, and for this respect we are granted recourse to the courts, even for those who are disenfranchised. The success of Legal Aid suggests that there are those who realize that the government can offer to the poor the opportunity and the resources to challenge those improper acts of both private and public bodies.



compiled and edited by Frank Fiore

America hits ZPG figure - For the first time since the 1930's the U.S. came close to the 2.11 children per family which would result in zero population growth after 70 years. The July and August figures were 2.2, but unfortunately most experts interpret the birthrate drop as a short term result of the current recession. On the other hand, more young Americans are staying single for longer periods of time. Latest Census Bureau figures show that 56% of the men and 46% of the women under 35 are single, jumps of 5 and 8 per cent respectively since 1960.

Dwindling Supplies

The following table lists some natural resources vital to modern industry. Static reserve index indicates the number of years that our known world reserves of that resource will last if we continue to consume it at the present rate. The exponential reserve index shows the number of years a given resource will last assuming that usage will increase at an annual rate of 2.5%.

Resource	Static Reserve Index	Exponential Reserve Index	Current Rate of Usage (%)
Aluminum	175	67	8.0
Chromium	560	108	4.0
Copper	40	28	3.3
Gold	17	14	2.5
Iron	400	98	3.8
Lead	15	13	2.0
Mercury	13	13	3.0
Nickel	140	60	8.7
Tin	25	19	6.0
Coal	900	127	3.6
Natural Gas	35	25	6.6
Petroleum	70	41	6.9
Uranium	66	40	6.0

data compiled by D. H. Meadows of M. I. T.

Machine-haters will take heart in the above figures since they predict the demise of the "Technological Age" within our own lifetimes. Scary thought isn't it? Oh well, we don't run out of anything till 1984... I wonder what's on the Tube tonight.

"Not in use, turn off the juice" - a recent drive at Florida State University to conserve electricity, saved the state \$48,000 during a three month period.

A study prepared for the U. S. Commission on Population and the American Future estimated a few weeks back that it costs the average family anywhere from \$80,000 to \$150,000 to raise two children and send them through college.

Get This

The NBC bulletin reports that "the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, William Ruckelshaus told members of the Aluminum Association that regulations to require returnable bottles are unworkable because the public isn't returning deposit containers and the idea of high deposits will encourage people to counterfeit bottles to collect the deposit".

Douglas Mountain Saved

Douglas Mountain in Sebago, the highest point in southern Maine has been purchased by the Maine Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. This mountain is popular with hikers and the view from the summit extends to the White Mountains. The \$35,000 for the purchase was borrowed from the Revolving Fund of the Nature Conservancy in Arlington, Va.

The Council for Economic Priorities, a non-profit business research organization, reports that many of the anti-pollution ads of American businesses are playing dirty. The CEP noted that G. M., Ford, The Can People, the Glass Containers Manufacturers Institute, Boise Cascade, US Steel, Armco Steel, Standard Oil, Bethlehem Steel, Caterpillar Tractor, General Electric and a number of paper manufacturers

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Academic Roulette

by Rick Gawthrop

Last Monday the faculty of the Social Sciences Division, and a few invited students, met with Dean Jensen and the Social Science members of the Educational Policy Committee to discuss that committee's motion of December 8, 1971, calling for an increase in credit hours required for graduation from 105 to 120.

Most of the meeting was spent discussing the various ways, outlined by the committee's proposal, in which the student may earn the recommended 15 additional hours beyond the minimum of 105 credit hours in conventionally graded academic courses. One method suggested by the committee was for departments to increase the number of credit hours given for some of their courses. Such an increase would usually involve an augmented workload in the course but would probably not increase the number of class meetings per week. Many faculty at the hearing wondered how this procedure of augmenting courses could have any uniformity at all and objected to the lack of a "concrete measure" for the new procedure. Admitting that the credit hour system is necessarily imprecise, the representatives from the EPC replied that one must rely on the discretion of the individual faculty member in such matters. They also pointed out that all such changes in credit hour value must be approved by the EPC and suggested that a rough way of determining the proper number of hours for a course might be to figure out the amount of time the "average" student spends on the course and classify the course accordingly.

The merits of several other aspects of the proposal were also debated by the Social Science faculty. Some objected to the introduction of the pass-fail system as a means of fulfilling the extra 15 required hours on the grounds that in some classes the pass-fail students would seriously hamper the conducting of the class. Others reacted negatively towards allowing students one or more independent programs along the lines of intern or apprentice programs in government, laboratories, or editorial offices. These critics charged that such an option would extend the practice of giving academic credit to non-academic work. Other faculty pointed out that these special projects, plus the extra hours

being taken by each student, would inordinately increase faculty work. Proponents of the EPC motion sought to assuage these reservations by arguing that carefully supervised independent work does have educational value and that the faculty members would be able to use their own discretion in taking on students with independent projects.

Important as these considerations were, the major debate of the meeting centered around the necessity for changing the present system. Professor Pullen favored the move to 120 hours because "We are not asking enough of our students." He pointed out that since the mid-1960's the graduation requirements have been lowered by 15 hours, distribution requirements reduced, the use of comprehensive examinations by departments eliminated or curtailed, and the academic content of the Jan Plan reduced from the levels of the first few years of the program. All these reductions have been made, Dr. Pullen argued, at the same time that the average Colby student is, if SAT's mean anything, becoming increasingly able to handle college work. Moreover, Dr. Pullen said he knew of no faculty member who had increased the work load in his courses after the change from 120 to 105. While the controversy over acceleration would be resolved by the EPC's proposal and while Dr. Pullen's experience on the Standing Committee has led him to favor an increase to 120 hours, he insisted that the primary motivation for the change is a concern over whether the majority of Colby students are doing enough work.

Charles Hogan, one of the three students at the meeting, countered by insisting that the problem of acceleration can be settled independently of any proposed change in graduation requirements. Hogan also struck at the main premise of the program's proponents by stressing that the present system of 105 hours has never been given a proper trial and that the many gains in student participation in extra-curricular activities would be lost if we went back to 120. Finally, Hogan put forth the Stu-G proposal, which would institute all the "progressive" and experimental features of the EPC proposal without requiring students to take credits of any sort above the 105 graded hours. Under this plan students could take as many "flexible" hours over 105 as they wish; but as they would not be required to take the additional credits, the students involved would be sufficiently motivated to make these new programs academically worthwhile.

Professor Berschneider and Dean Jensen, in response to these view points, stated that they felt the EPC proposal is not only a response to a problem but a "beautiful synthesis" of the conflicting views in that it incorporates "progressive" features with an increase in required hours. Whether this "synthesis" will become Colby's new "thesis" is, however, problematic. There will be, according to Dean Jensen, open hearings for students either later this month or early in the second semester. Monday's meeting (similar meetings were held for the Natural Sciences and Humanities divisions on Tuesday and Wednesday) certainly produced no consensus among the faculty involved, although this was not to be expected at a meeting designed to be "educational". As the attitude of the faculty as a whole is still uncertain, it is difficult to say what the outcome will be when the faculty votes on this controversial issue at its meeting on February 16.

include: -eminent domain
-the area of the coast involved (or areas)
-who determines these areas
-state and municipal tax concessions
-types of industries allowed
-will the proposal by-pass the nationally acclaimed Site Location of Development Law which seems to be working remarkably well?

Other major issues that also bear the scrutiny of the environmental organizations and individuals are the enactment of the Ambient Air Quality Standards, the solid wastes disposal issue, open-dump burning, the appropriation for spraying 500,000 acres of Maine for Spruce Budworm and the reorganization of state government, particularly the Dept. of Environmental Protection and the Dept. of Natural Resources. Now is the time to let your legislators know that you are interested in these matters. Ask them to keep you informed. The best current tactic in the battle for Maine's quality of life and the maintenance of Maine's coastal zone starts with political action at the local level.

(editors note- The MIPA bill as set forth by House Speaker David Kennedy proposes to zone certain areas of the Maine coast to admit oil refineries and other coastal based industries. Areas under consideration include Eastport as well as a piece of coastal Washington County near the Canadian Border. As of the present, all the evidence indicates that the presence of oil on the Maine Coast would constitute a serious threat to the environment.)

Trash-America's fastest growing resource!

traffic

by Jeff Paul

Ah, this is good, very good, And why shouldn't it be? This is the seventy album by a group that has come and gone, changed personnel, but still remains ----- Traffic.

Previous albums by Traffic have always been more than interesting. Perhaps this was due to the central figure of the group, Steve Winwood. Winwood began wailing on piano, organ, bass and guitar with the Spencer Davis Group some five years ago at the age of eighteen. "Gimme some lovin'," "I'm a man" and brilliant cover versions of "Georgia," "Blues in F," and "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out," proved that Winwood had a lot going for him.

Traffic began in the seclusion of Berkshire in 1967 as a trio with Jim Capaldi on drums and Chris Wood on flute, sax, organ and percussion, joining Winwood. Their first lp, "Mr. Fantasy," was very fine and set a precedent for the group with Winwood overdubbing bass, organ, piano, harpsichord and guitar lines. This first album was further enhanced by the presence of a then unknown guitarist, Dave Mason.

But with the release of their second album, Traffic emerged as one of the truly innovative groups in the midst of high powered rock. That was three years ago and until "John Barleycorn Must Die," their fifth lp, it seemed that the group had lost its magic. There had been divisiveness in the group, mainly between Winwood and Mason. They split up in 1970 and Winwood began work on a solo album. This later resulted in the "Barleycorn" lp as Wood and Capaldi helped in its production.

A long lull again between releases and then a poorly recorded live album, to fulfill contractual obligations with United Artists, was released. Besides fine versions of Dave Mason's "Sad and Deep as You" and "Shouldn't Have Took More that You Gave," this lp, "Welcome to the Canteen," was evidence of the new direction Traffic was heading for. Now Traffic was a band, a group with six integral parts, led by Steve Winwood.

In a recent interview Winwood said he was listening to a lot of jazz recently and this influence is most apparent on Traffic's new album, "The Low Spark of High Heeled Boys." There is the usual overdubbing, partly because guitarist Mason is again no longer with the group, but also because of the complex rhythms present here. Probably the most apparent change in the group is the growth of each musician in it. Of the six members of the group, there are no fewer than four percussionists --- drummer Jim Gordon, formerly with Derek and the Dominoes, Joe Cocker, Delaney and Bonnie; woodwind extraordinaire Chris Wood on congas; former drummer and now lead singer Jim Capaldi on tambourine and occasionally drums; and the newest addition, Reece Bop Kwaku Baah.

Some will be surprised or upset with the great jazz influence on this album, but after a couple of listenings, this lp seems to be a monster. The solos are well restrained and these six musicians play with a vibrant maturity that suggests they have played together a long time. Certainly much of the credit must go to Winwood for his flawless production of the album as well as his many musical creations, but the whole group shines in these grooves. Another plus is the superior quality of the recording not evident since their second album, but this is characteristic of the work done at Island Studios in London.

Jim Capaldi sings the lead vocals on "Light up or leave me alone" and "Rock and Roll Stew," the latter written by drummer Gordon with lyrics by bassist Ric Grech. Winwood sings lead on the four remaining tracks, with "Many a Mile to Freedom" a standout on side two. The title cut is one of the finest pieces I've ever heard on a rock album and yet, after listening to this lp it seems more and more that Traffic's music defies a label.

This is one of those records that will challenge you to listen to nothing else for a while. It is a fusion of many musical sources, molded by six very creative individuals.

All you have to do now is hear it---

"THE LOW SPARK OF HIGH HEELED BOYS"

by Traffic
on Island Records

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ers were all guilty of making misleading statements about their accomplishments in cleaning up the environment. The auto makers misled the public about the amount of pollutants their cars emitted, and also they underplayed the significance of autos to the total air pollution problem. Among some of the more blatant falsities cited were a Southern California Edison Company ad showing a lobster as a contented resident of power plant water wastes. In reality, the lobster "came from nowhere near the plant". A Standard Oil of California ad showed the company's research center. The building pictured was the Palm Springs court House! An oil ad stated that "Texaco prohibits the discharge of oil into the sea anywhere in world" at the same time that a Texaco oil refinery was spilling almost a quarter of a million gallons of diesel oil into Puget Sound. Finally, the CEP noted that the top 100 advertisers spent almost \$5 billion in advertising expenditures in 1970, more than twice the entire outlay that year of all industry in this country for pollution control equipment.

(Courtesy of Ecology - Today)

MIPA Proposal To Highlight Special Session

(by Marshall Burke)

The Special Session of the 105th Legislature has been called by the Governor for January 24. What appears to be the major issue affecting Maine's environment is the proposal for the so-called "Maine Land and Port Development Authority." This is a complex issue and there are many significant questions with which the legislature will have to deal, as noted in various news reports on the proposal, before any decision can possibly be made. These

editorials:

The sort of political activism that a few of us witnessed or engaged in last weekend in Worcester was, of course, an essentially futile gesture in and of itself. It felt good to see such enthusiasm generated for McGovern, and the support for Shirley Chisholm was especially encouraging. But there probably will be no stopping Muskie unless Muskie stops Muskie. As a result, many of us will either ignore the November election or find solace in voting for a symbolic fourth party. This is the dilemma: which deserves first priority - getting rid of Nixon, or repudiating the present situation of choosing between two machines? Perhaps defeat in 1972 due to apathy and fourth party incursions would demonstrate to the Democratic machine that 1968 is going to repeat itself over and over until a real choice is offered in more than face or tone of voice. This would of course be the fantasy used by many of us in rationalizing support for an alternative candidate in 1972.

At least the Worcester experience demonstrated that a responsible and uncompromising body of left-wing activists can survive, however futilely. Most everybody is disenchanted with some of the extreme tactics involving destruction and violence. The Wisconsin bombing probably marked the real turning point in terms of a reaction against such tactics. But is there a real alternative means to effecting change when and as needed? Confrontation in the streets and building take-overs did have their positive effects in some places. Certainly they were an integral part of a general consciousness-raising campaign by the Concerned Left. At a national level this group is once again trying the System through the candidacies of McGovern, Chisholm, and possibly others. The course the Left will pursue during and after the conventions will depend to a great extent on the course of the war and the economy in the next few months-- in other words, on the activities of President Nixon.

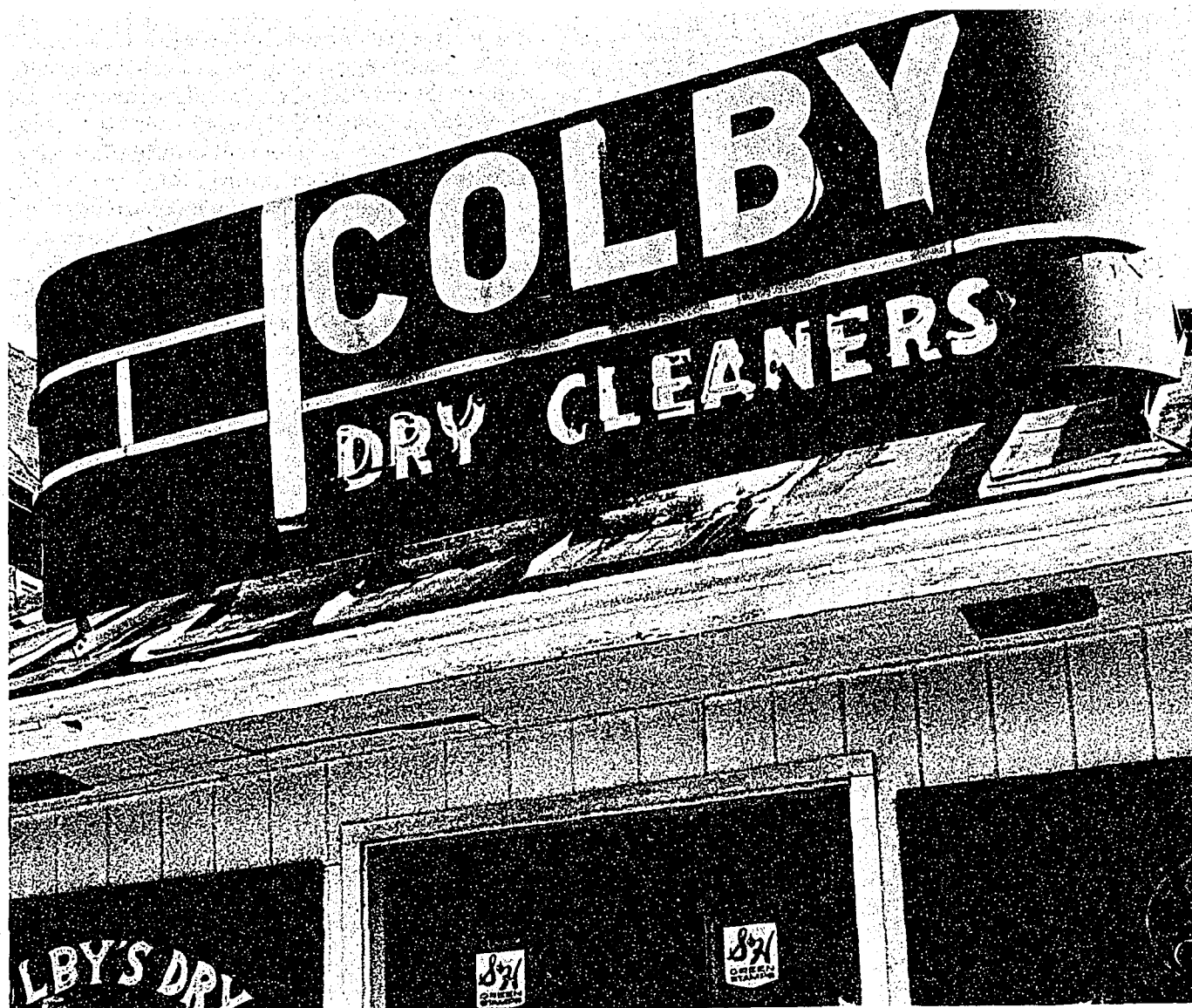
The future of a Concerned Left at Colby is also somewhat dubious. Every three years an entirely new batch of activists has to go through a process of refining its collective consciousness to the level of perceiving the fundamental obstructions to receiving the education of one's choice here at Colby. The turnover is too rapid to permit a strongly entrenched and philosophically organized left-wing opposition to emerge. The same corporate elite guides Colby down the same path, year after year.

In our last editorial we called for an actual redistribution of power - mainly toward students and faculty, and away from pocketbooks and big business. Colby is not an institution for learning and inquiry; it is a small big business. It is run as a corporation by a corporation of big businessmen. Such issues as credit hour requirements are approached from a business perspective; Colby has no real education goals - it is concerned with advertising and marketing a product. The proposals for a return to 120 credit hours have demonstrated this thoroughly. Everyone agrees that there are problems of educational philosophy inherent in such an issue. But the administration seems intent on revising the structure before discussing philosophy. We would like to suggest that a slight delay in such a revision would not mean the demise of Colby's competitive capabilities in the grad market or on Wall Street. And the opportunity which Con Con II affords for constructing a more concrete educational philosophy should not be second - guessed by hasty decisions now.

If we can in bringing all constituencies of the college together with equal voice for all, direct ourselves toward a realignment of a power within the institution and towards the question of educational philosophy, then we would be more adequately equipped to deal with structural and procedural problems in the educational process itself.

At the level of the college, as at the level of national office, we are concerned less with the personalities at the top than with the corporation/machine behind the scenes. Our concern, regardless of specific policies, is with the relationship between the mechanics of governance (the machine, the corporation) and those being governed (the people, the students).

4



Letters:

To the Editor:

I was very troubled and disturbed by the childish display put on by some Colby students during the University of Vermont hockey game. I found the entire matter quite intolerable and unnecessary. The "children" on this campus who believe that they have the inalienable right to vent their frustrations during public events leaves a bad taste in all mouths. These few individuals are pseudo-fans who destroy the pleasure of the majority by their irresponsible actions. Their littering of the ice with debris could cause serious injury to an athlete competing for them. I would be a sad occurrence should this activity cause permanent damage to another human being. As a sports fan, I feel that these actions negate the pleasure of an athletic event.

As a member of both the Admissions staff and the Colby community, I am upset by the image which this portrays. Each weekend the admissions office allows students to remain on campus with the hope that they may better evaluate the college. Hopefully, even if these prospective students do not attend Colby, they will leave with a favorable impression, which eventually will be transmitted to others. At the same time, other visitors can only generalize from their limited perspective, but these generalizations will be very negative. Obscene cheers, throwing of trash on the ice and abuses towards visiting persons destroys any good will that we, as a community, should be creating.

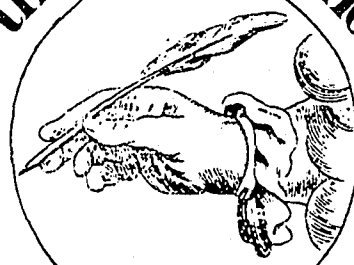
If such obusive activities continue, I would feel that the college should take nay measures necessary to not only stop this, but to permanently remove certain individuals from attendance at athletic events, and even from the college. I hope that the alleged maturity claimed by these few students and their desire to be regarded and treated as adults will help to terminate this foolishness before any disciplinary action is necessary. I am also confident that my sentiments are shared by the vast majority of students on our campus.

Sincerely yours,
Robert S. Aisner
Assistant to the
Dean of Admissions

Letters To The Editor Con't on pg. 11



the Colby Echo



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120 : IN PERSPECTIVE

Often, the immediacy of an issue obscures the preceding record of controversy. The debate over 120 credit hours is about to be brought to a head in February's faculty meeting. We here present excerpts from related ECHO articles from last spring.

from The Old Soft Shoe, by Kaynor, Carey, and Nahra

In response to a question about whether this proposal didn't mean a sacrifice of the quality of education for the sake of numbers, Prof. Koons pointed out that the Bachelor of Arts degree represents a certain kind of established measure of achievement agreed upon across the nation, assumed to be present in the colleges by the states which charter them. Thus, he argued, education is like a shoe: you could go to school for ten years taking only a couple of courses each semester, but at the end of that time you would only have a pile of leather; you would not have the completed shoe. We are giving a degree of an established nature, if we require less, then we are not giving a completed degree.

Some students asked why certain amendments or riders couldn't be attached to the proposal going to the faculty. Mandatory revaluation of 300 and 400-level courses, plus the option of taking any hours above 105 as independent study for members of all classes were the two main recommendations. The defenders felt that this would limit the flexibility aimed for in the bill. The students felt that this would provide insurance against the proposal's simply becoming a return to an antiquated system.

For example, the argument based on the idea of joining the "mainstream of American education" contrasts curiously with the willingness to depart from that "mainstream" two years ago, when the requirements were lowered. If we could be innovative in the original move, why must we cease to be so in rectifying the failures of that move? Also, the "mainstream of American education" lacks clear definition. If there is indeed a "mainstream" let us see the figures which imply it. But that's like using the Bible as an authority: you can prove anything if you look for the right quote.

The basic problem which needs our attention is not how the "mainstream" operates, but how one cares to view the educational experience which one participates in here at Colby. If one believes that knowledge is measured in terms of how many facts can be crammed inside of a receptacle's head in the shortest period of time, then the move to 120 hours is a fine idea indeed, and there is really no argument at all. If, however, one believes that the role of the student in a liberal arts curriculum is to learn "that which cannot be taught", then the issue becomes much more clouded. How much course material does one retain three years after one has left Colby? How many formulae and plot outlines are retained? Isn't the important thing rather how one learns to deal with the vast amounts of information which rove through the walls of academe today? -- In short, isn't the goal that of learning how to learn?

One can all too easily get through the modern educational system (and indeed do quite well in it) without ever learning how to think. Any student at Colby at any college, with either a cynical or naive enough attitude, could get through any requirements pushed in his face without getting any more out of the experience than if he were allowed to go through college without having to worry about any requirements whatsoever. (What if we just required the equivalent, in time spent studying at college, of four year's residence?) But maybe this is what college is for: placing thoughtless machines and cynical opportunists in positions designed especially for yes-men and power-seekers.

In short, modern education is all too often exactly like making a shoe. A student must actively fight his own educational system from grammar school to college, if he is to emerge a true sentient being. Independent thought and study are tolerated rather than encouraged. Exceptions do exist, of course. Janplan is a great idea, but all too often it becomes a means of cramming a semester course into a month, working in as much as possible in the shortest period of time with the least amount of true assimilation. And there are limited opportunities which allow (but as we said, do not encourage) students to participate in independent study during the semester.

To put it another way, the proposals for the changes in the credit-hour requirement, JanPlan review, and so forth, imply a great deal about the larger issues of education at Colby,

Dean Benbow's comment about fixing up the structure first was a reasonable one for a man in his office to make, but it also points out a very specific condition of Process here which needs further examination. As students, most of us are less concerned about the quantitative aspects of our Colby experience than we are about the qualitative ones. We are getting so caught up in discussing structures that we are avoiding the problem of what is being put into them, and we are also letting the structures drive wedges between the constituent parts of the college community. The substance of our experience here should be our primary concern. Thus it might prove more valuable in the long run to take the time first to sit down as a community, in open forums, and to discuss the substantive goals for which we want to strive. Then we could devise a structure (or non-structure) more appropriate to the particular situation/problems/goals which we are ourselves part of.

from 120?120? by John Brassil ('71)

One corollary to the EPC recommendation is the proposed re-evaluation by each department of their 300 and 400 courses, making some of them four credit hour affairs. Naturally, this would call for a "beefing up" of the course on the part of the professor. The present system, when handled correctly, makes it possible for the student to do the "beefing up". Once again, however, the EPC seems only to have considered the cases of the slackers-off. In any case, the proposed change further restricts the student during his last two years by throwing more (not necessarily better) work at him in all advanced areas -- work that he has no choice but to complete. Also, what junior or senior will ever take five courses again? The present system gives the student an opportunity to decide for himself when and how he will do his "beefing up". Under the "get back" plan, the student's schedule is more or less set for his entire college career -- flexibility is gone.

Certainly the area requirements are less strict than they were four years ago. The relatively poor quality of the 100 and 200 courses, (which are the only ones available to the I-must-take-five-courses freshman) however, creates yet another problem. Those precious few courses which many students consider valuable (Baby Art, for example) are already jammed. The EPC proposal will increase the crush on such popular courses, making life a little more unbearable for the student. With the instructor-student ratio at Colby returning to 15:1, such a situation will be no picnic for the faculty either.

Considering the problems of the 3 1/2 year graduate and the flunking freshman, alternative solutions are surely possible. The faculty could recommend:

(A) Strengthening the present advisor system to provide the student with the best possible assistance in planning his academic career.

(B) Allowing those who have proven themselves incapable of self determination (in spite of this assistance), to flunk out.

(C) Reinforcing the residency requirement already on the books; in short, somehow make it more difficult to graduate early.

from Biting The Hand by Stuart Ross, Instructor in Art, '70-'71

When they try to amend curricula to include subjects they deem more relevant, they run head on into the professional paranoia of faculties, called intellectual standards. How about a pass-fail system? Some students and some faculty members are willing to entertain the idea that grades and learning may not have anything to do with each other. It might appear to an objective observer worth trying any reasonable alternative to a cumbersome grading system. Instead, students are suspected of trying to cheat the system, get off easy, and what most schools have come up with is a grudging and pun-

itive alternative that poses no threat to the traditional system of rewards and punishments. It's hard for most faculty after having paid all their dues as under graduates and grad, teaching fellow and underpaid instructor and finally making it, to admit that the status can be separated from the learning. Too painless. Without grades, exams, comps, prelims, without hazing, how do you expect to become a brother?

Most students, of course, drop out along the way. You can pay the required dues, get a bachelors degree, and be even. But the people whose responsibility it should be to reform the educational system, to keep it alive to change, are the very ones who have gone all the way, paid all the dues, and hence have the most vested interest in keeping the cost of membership as high as possible. Talk of "cheapening" degrees, of lowering the "value" of grades, which always comes up in these matters, shows clearly the thinking of educators, and it's the grossest kind of market economy mentality. They are selling a commodity and have to keep the price high or the bottom drops out of their market. This is done with big name professors, winning teams, and graduates who go on to good jobs. But primarily it is done by exacting as high a price for the product as traffic will bear. The confusing thing in all this is that the student is not the consumer. He is the recipient of the degree, but it's parents, alumni, wealthy benefactors who are the buyers. Students are both raw material and finished product in this process, a status which may have all kinds of interesting psychological side effects, but one which gives them no more say in the process of education than a piece of rolled steel has in the making of a car.

As long as the university is less concerned with learning than with its own preservation as an institution it cannot respond to the problems that beset it. Clearly, its own pretenses have been exposed. Where is its highly proclaimed scholarly objectivity when the matter being studied is itself? The university can no more deal rationally with the problems of its own reform than GM can deal with the problem of the internal combustion engine.

Institutional self-preservation is an enlargement of individual self-preservation. One faculty wife said to me, referring to students, "They come and go but my husband and I live here. It's our lives." I sense the feeling among many of my colleagues that students are transients, while we, the faculty and administration are the permanent residents of the community. As with any mobile population, that puts them pretty low on the social scale. The implications of this are that students have as difficult a time securing a voice in the policies of the university as a summer tourist would have trying to vote in a resort town.

Students continue to embarrass administrations because they ask all the right questions. We continue to treat them as inmates, ingrates, or unfinished people. Instead of the university being a place of self-discovery and risk, it is being run just as museums are run, mostly for the convenience of the administration and the maintenance staff. And it is as a museum of cultural artifacts that it is offered to the student; you may come and look if you like, but the price of admission gives you no right to decide what we exhibit.

In fact, the greatest irony of American higher education is that those least adapted and least adaptable to the world we live in and will live in are making all the decisions concerning the education of those most adapted and adaptable. Administrators, faculty members, respected elders of the academic community, we are all looking more and more helpless as we grapple with the stresses of nature and culture. Young people do not keep beating at contemporary problems with nineteenth century solutions. They look less and less to concepts of nation, religion, morality, and social custom which can no longer yield answers. They are experimenting with life styles, with relationships, with nonlinear thought and nonrational states. Their attitudes toward drugs, toward family units and sex, toward mass culture and "fine art," competition and money, seem to me much better adapted to survival in their time than the attitudes their elders would prefer them to have.

In fact, a kind of cultural mutation has occurred to deal with the violent changes in environment that the last few decades have seen. Perhaps it is always true that each generation creates problems that only the succeeding one can solve. This generation gap, though, seems greater than can be accounted for by the normal variations of cultural heredity. It is certainly the case that the institutions which represent the power of the present older generation, from the UN to the faculty senate to the family circle, seem hopelessly impotent before the crushing problems that will face every young person in the next thirty or forty years. If we do not allow them the opportunity to work out viable solutions in their own way, if we keep them eternally tangled in our own concepts of morality and learning, they will spend most of their energies fighting the pointless local skirmishes of generational antagonism, and not enough where they should be spent, in the attempt to bring their world out of the age of mindless greed and white colonialism, to the continued existence of which we have all tacitly consented and contributed.

If we cannot help them to this end, we should at least not hinder them.



MACGOWRAN: Man Alone

by Peter Vose

Jack Macgowran's In the Works of Samuel Beckett performed Jan. 13 at the Waterville Opera House provided an excellent opportunity to see and understand the Beckett man. The show itself is a unified presentation of the Beckett man actually comprised of a selection from Beckett's poetry, fiction, and drama. Macgowran's performance evoked laughter but it is laughter that always contains a hint of despair.

Macgowran presents us with a man being totally honest, revealing his past, his present condition, and peering into the unending and almost unendurable future--made livable only by the chance to talk candidly about himself. In Malone Dies Beckett writes: "Nothing is more real than nothing." The only reality is art and all that art can do is express the nothingness and man's reaction to the nothingness. At one point during the show Macgowran discusses "all the things which are really nothing, and concludes that "only a voice is something". For the audience the "voice" came alive for two hours and alleviated the pain of living and dying in the nothingness.

The program, in Macgowran's words, "tells the audience the story of a man's innermost thoughts on

the statement that he's going to die, and along the way tells of the man's past, his hopes, his relationships to parents and people, the attitudes and terror he feels as the end approaches." (Me. Times, Jan. 14, 1972) The Beckett man is usually old, weary of dying, but attempting to tell his story before he dies. This is the situation of Malone in Malone Dies--he knows he will soon die, "perhaps next month," in fact he could die today "merely by making a little effort". Instead he hopes to tell four stories, "each on a different theme." The Beckett man is always aware of death, but this only intensifies his search for some reason to continue living.

Beckett is often criticized for presenting a hopeless, meaningless, world peopled by sick individuals little better than animals. In fact the opposite is true as Macgowran's performance proved. Beckett insists in spite of the seeming hopelessness and Godlessness of life, that man continues to hope and live. Beckett never attempts to rationalize--he demands that life be lived at the lowest level of reality--death with no mitigating circumstances. There is no peace of fulfillment, oneness with God or Nature, Heaven or Hell; the only thing for which to hope is the chance to cry out, to talk about your

own encounter with nothingness and in so doing make it bearable. This idea was expressed towards the end of Macgowran's performance; "I can't go on. What have I said? I must go on."

The aspect of the performance which most impressed me was the importance given man. The set was simple--a rock, two wings and a backdrop painted in a manner that suggested the Cosmos. The overall effect of one man on such a set was that of monumentality. Macgowran's Beckett man is not a sick pitiable creature, but is rather the most important being in the universe. Man, to Beckett, is still created in the image and likeness of God; he reflects the personality of a deity who created a world incongruous enough to include beautiful flowers and birds dropping excrement on man's head, a deity who gives life, but a life that is little more than the "tiresome business" of dying. Man has not become God; rather God has become man; there is no divine yardstick by which man must measure himself, there is only the human dimension--but the effect of viewing man in wholly human terms produces a greater respect for man's spirit and will to live, not a contempt for his inability to reach divine perfection. We have Macgowran and Beckett to thank for this insight.

HAPPY DAYS: Togetherness

by Susan Francis

Last week Powder and Wig presented "Happy Days" a play by Samuel Becket, Nobel prize-winning author of "Endgame" and "Waiting for Godot". "Happy Days" is anything but a play about contentment; it is instead a confrontation with the absurdity and emptiness in life. The two main characters, Winnie (portrayed by Deborah Mael) and Willie (David Cheever) are a middle-aged couple incapable of communicating with each other, although Winnie persistently proclaims that everything is "so wonderful."

Both characters have been placed in absurd situations that show their paralysis in life; Winnie is sinking deeper and deeper into a mound of sand; Willie crawls on all fours in and out of a hole behind the mound. In the first act, Winnie amuses herself by her incessant chatter and by fumbling with the contents of her black bag. She brushes her teeth, inspects her gums, takes on and off her spectacles, takes out her revolver, "Brownie", and places it on the mound. Willie responds to her verbal barrages by blowing his nose, uttering a few words, retreating into his hole, or, most often, by silence.

In the second act, Winnie cannot even rely on these little diversions for she is buried up to her neck. She tries to comfort her facial features for some activity but soon finds this dull. The only comfort left to her is her mind and the presence of Willie. Since her mind is becoming more and more senile,

Willie becomes her sole source for inspiration and the reason for her "happy day." At the end of the second act, Willie suddenly crawls from behind the mound and reaches towards Winnie, barely articulating her name. Winnie, in her eternal optimism, interprets his actions as an indication of love and declares, "This is a happy day." Yet, Beckett purposely leaves the ending ambivalent for the audience who perceives that Willie could just as easily have been reaching for the revolver to kill Winnie.

In the Thursday night performance of the play, this ambivalence at the end of the second act was somewhat obscured by Cheever's weak delivery of his one line. This line, in which he begins to call Winnie's name, represents his sole attempt at communication in the second act. It should have left the audience guessing as to whether he was trying to say, "Winnie I love you" or "Winnie I'm going to kill you," but it was uttered too faintly to be heard. Winnie's feelings are evident at the end by affectionate look at Willie. However, due to the awkward seating arrangement, the expression of Cheever's Willie was impossible to see.

The play is dependent upon the interaction as well as the absence of activity between the two characters. Deborah Mael's attempts at communication with Willie receive ridicule; he vulgarly places his soiled handkerchief on his head and lights Winnie's parasol on fire. In general, the comic scenes are well-executed, although at least one cue (when Willie ignites Winnie's parasol) was shaky.

Winnie's monologue requires an understanding of a wide range of emotions: despair, hope, wistfulness, fear, and confusion. Deborah Mael, by her facial expressions and voice intonation, has evoked these emotions believably and with perception. In a play in which the actress is hampered by being unable to use much body movement, she has developed a well-thought-out and appealing characterization. Her Winnie is more sophisticated and cognizant than the personality I had imagined. Her wistful delivery of the line, "That is what I find so wonderful" shows that Winnie partly perceives the reality of her situation.

David Cheever has little to do as Willie. The scarcity of lines and the fact that Willie is invisible for most of the play make his character dependent upon the imagination of the audience. Winnie's lines and Willie's almost total inactivity help to form a character that is beastly and listless.

Ed Witham has directed a very creditable performance of a very difficult play. My main criticism of the performance is of the staging. This is not the fault of Powder and Wig, in fact they did remarkably well under the circumstance, but rather the fault of the lack of facilities at Colby. Frankly, trying to watch a play by ping-pong tables in 2nd Floor Roberts with someone playing the piano downstairs is annoying, particularly if you can't see over the person in front of you. If drama is to be effectively presented at Colby, a more adequate facility (like a theater) is desperately needed.

High On Fred

by Lloyd R. Winter

The reporter entering Dunn Lounge thinking how would Jimmy Breslin review the Easter service at Trinity Church? There are about thirty people in the room, the concert has not started. It is already five minutes late. A man sits down next to the reporter, after inquiring if his, the reporter's, coat (which he has thrown over the chair) means that the seat is saved. "No, it's not saved." "No need to move it." But the reporter moves it anyway, to the floor, where in a while someone else sits on it. The man who has seated himself in the newly vacated chair is a minister. He must be a minister because he speaks with a slight drawl and smiles alot. The reporter does not talk to the minister. He does not know what one says to a minister. By now there are close to eighty people present - maybe three or four are seniors; probably half are freshmen. Should this be noted as a trend? Mike Johnson: rawhide jacket, long hair, cowboy boots, acoustic guitar, telling us he is nervous so we won't be. His delivery is polished - one feels certain he has been through much the same thing hundreds of times. Or dozens. A couple of witticisms, modest and friendly. The vast majority of those present appear eager to enter into whatever spirit Mike has planned this evening. The reporter does not and occupies himself recalling the sexy parts of the book he has just read. Mike wants us to participate in the first song. "New England people have a reputation for not getting into things easily," observes Mike. "Amen!" from the back. Now we are relaxing. Mike asks us to clap and begins playing; never did eighty people clap so enthusiastically and so utterly out of time with the music and with each other. The reporter does not clap nor does he join in the chorus. He feels like he has just walked into the ladies' room by mistake. He is watching the tall girl on the sofa at the other end of the room, and she is in turn smoking a cigarette and looking like she just walked into the men's room by mistake. The songs Mike Johnson is singing make subtle references to religion, one supposes. "I'm happy because someone loves me." Or should it be Someone. Holy references should be capitalized, but how do you sing a capital letter? Johnson's guitar is good; he is not only competent but he has feeling (mustn't say "soul", may need it later). The music is listenable on its own. While he is doing an Arlo-esque bit about the Second Coming (Alice's Apocalypse?), Mike's mostly-German shepherd-dog-Jessie is barking in the hall. The reporter hopes fervently that she is a Christian vegetarian dog. It is the only fervent thing the reporter does tonight. Mike completes his song unruffled and Jessie ultimately goes to sleep center front, thus establishing beyond a doubt the ultimate nature of the evening. Karen Johnson and her autoharp join Mike. Karen is his wife. Her strong Baez voice harmonizes well with Mike's smooth Rush, the autoharp is slightly out of tune. "Who cares?" observes Mike. And nobody really does. We have been here an hour and there has been no testimony of any sort. Mike says he will do one more song and take a break. He introduces the song as "stupid." It is, but most fun things are, and Mike does it and everyone except the reporter, the girl with the cigarette and a few others sing the chorus (I'm high, hi-i-i-i-igh, I'm high, hi-i-i-i-igh").

Needless to recount, the high isn't... well, it's needless to recount. Song over, Mike begins to talk - about his own experience, about how he found out what Jesus is really like (yes, he played with Mike Bloomfield in Chicago and jammed with Kooper, Mandel, et al. We already know that but we don't mind listening to it again). This is a presentation, he says. "Some of you will like what you've heard, others won't. I'm just glad I don't have the job of choosing you." He says Jesus is here, now. Jesus offers us an opportunity to share His joy, but also to share His feeling and concern for the world and those who live on it. This identification with Jesus, seeking the Truth, can make you happy, he says. And he offers himself as proof that it works. The reporter thinks that even if he could think of something to say to Mike to punch his religion full of holes, which he can't, he wouldn't. He is happy for Mike and Karen Johnson, but the reporter still feels he is on the wrong bus. Mike is hanging around before moving over to the coffee house, to talk with anyone who wants. The reporter sees a girl approach a guy she doesn't know and ask him if she can try to clarify anything for him. On the way out: a friend says, "I just wonder if they'll still be into Jesus when being into Jesus isn't cool anymore." The reporter is thinking, yes dammit, they probably will. A few minutes later, the reporter pours himself a big glass of wine. Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus.



Calligraphy, the study of beautiful handwriting, is the subject of Mr. Muller's Jan Plan. Approximately thirty people meet in Bixler's scriptorium every morning to practice the Italian Chancery Cursive letters. The model for these pen forms is Arrighi's *Opera*, *The First Writing Book*, written in 1522, translated by John Howard Benson. By imitating Arrighi's alphabet carefully, students hope to develop clear crisp flowing penmanship by the end of January.

Instruments for calligraphy include squared-off broad pen nibs, penholders, India ink, osminel pen, and a drawing board. To write, one must rest the board so it is tilted, clip the paper onto the surface, and hold the pen at a forty-five degree angle. Always held at the same angle, the pen can make three lines: thick \ medium // and hairline //.

Using these three lines and an oblong parallelogram shape for rounded letters, one can write the Chancery Cursive alphabet.

Several problems confront the italic writer. For instance, the height of ascenders and descenders must be in proportion to the size of the main letter body. Also, one must keep the spaces between letters, words, and sentences even. Furthermore, one must be attentive to slanting & joins & flourishes & layout.

People enrolled in this Jan Plan to improve their handwriting or to learn a new art. In either case, by the end of the month they will have mastered a readable standard script and will have the satisfaction of knowing they are practicing a writing style five centuries old.

~ Martha C. Z. Wetmore ~

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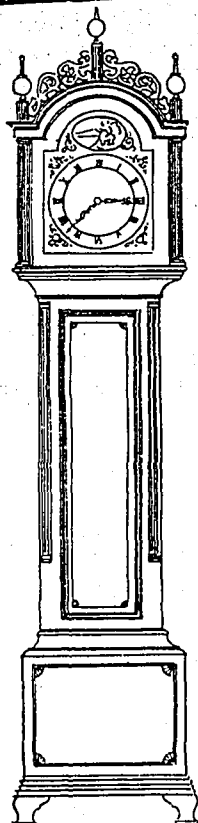
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THE CONCOURSE
BASEMENT BEAUTY
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First waterbed fatality

by Tom Miller

Tucson, Ariz. (CPS) - Malcom Coors, a University of Arizona grad student in economics, is apparently the first fatality of the waterbed fad sweeping nouveau-riche hippies this year. Coors had been watching a late-night talk show on his fine Sony television, which had frayed electrical connecting wires. The set fell into a puddle - the result of his cat clawing at the Waterbed - and he was electrocuted. The electrically charged water seeped up and surrounded his body before he could reach safety.

Ironically, Malcom had just completed writing a paper for his "Economics and Culture" class on the waterbed price war. The paper, entitled "Price and Quality Factors Affecting Cost of Liquified Mattresses: A Ten City Sample," had been sold to Lyle Stuart Publishers of New York. They had planned to release it this winter under the title 'The Sensuous Waterbed.'

In fact, the Coors paper documents a curious parallel between hip-capitalists selling waterbeds and stockbrokers trading defense industry shares. The appendix to the paper, is a description of the waterbed's effect on the user's psyche, sex, and thought patterns. Evidently it is this part which will comprise the bulk of the Lyle Stuart book.

Coors (no relation to the brewery family of Golden, Colo) had purchased his waterbed for \$24.95 at Hydro-Fux Unlimited in Tucson about four months ago. Since then the price has dropped five dollars. The manager of Hydro-Fux, Phil Scott, disclaims responsibility for the accident saying, "I told him when he bought it to put a pad over it for just that very reason. Anyway, we have a five-year guarantee on all our beds. Wasn't that a bummer thought? I mean, ZAP, he's gone, you know?"

Scott said he'd give a new waterbed without charge to Coors' girlfriend Aurora, with whom Malcom was living at the time. Aurora escaped injury - she was up getting a roach-clip when the accident occurred.

NEWSBRIEFS

Arthur W. Seepe, treasurer of Colby College for the past 21 years and a member of the faculty since 1937, will retire in January. A native of Peru, Ill., Seepe is a graduate of Dartmouth (1931) where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year. He earned a master of commercial science degree at the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration. He was appointed to the faculty as instructor of business administration and continued teaching in that department until 1952.

A collection of classic film masterpieces, including "Grand Illusion," "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari," "M," "The Seven Samurai" and "Beauty and the Beast", will be brought to television beginning in January as part of the "Film Odyssey" series on the Public Broadcasting Service network. Most stations are expected to televise the series Friday evenings at 8:30. "The Blue Angel" will be televised Jan 21. In this German-made film, which made Marlene Dietrich an international star in 1930, von Sternberg introduced harsh realism to the movies. The story tells of the moral and mental degradation of a college professor under the influence of a cafe performer.

Other films:

"Grand Illusion" - Jean Renoir (Jan 28)

"M" - Fritz Lang (Feb 4)

"The Seven Samurai" - Akira Kurosawa (Feb 11)

The U.S. National Student Association has announced a new special travel program for students and faculty members bound for Europe. Provided are a new four passenger car and a new tent for \$288 for the first month and a semi-monthly charge of only \$35 thereafter, with all the mileage one can drive. The tent accommodates four persons comfortably and can be taken home for further use, once the European trip is over, at no extra charge.

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STUDENT ARTS FESTIVAL

Since the next Echo will not be published until the second week of second semester, a few things need to be said about the upcoming Student Arts Festival, which will run for the whole month of February.

The first two weeks of the Fair, leading up to the next Echo, will be very busy days. Returning registration is on Mon., Feb. 7. on Wed. and Thurs., the 9 and 10 at 1:00 p.m., there will be tie-dyeing workshops in Roberts Union, led by Bob Rutman. All students are invited to bring their own objects to dye and also are especially invited to come and help tie-dye long banners to be used in Runnals gym during the Crafts Fair.

On Thurs., the 10th, the student art exhibit in the art museum will open at 7 p.m., officially opening the Arts Festival. Any entries must be submitted to the art department no later than Feb. 10 (matted, please). On the same night, at 8 p.m. the Gannett lecture series will sponsor Joseph Campbell, author of the Masks of God mythology series, speaking on Myth and Symbol in Given auditorium.

The annual Crafts Fair will take place this year on Feb 12, from 10 to 5 in Runnals Union, sponsored jointly by the Student Arts festival and the Maine State Commission on Arts and Humanities. This year we hope 35 to 40 craftsmen representing a wide range of talents will appear. Besides sales and exhibitions there will be weaving, pottery silk-screening, leatherworking, and other demonstrations. There will also be a chance to sign up for small workshops being given by some of the craftsmen later on in the month. This will be done on a first come first serv basis, as the workshops are to be of limited size. There will be films shown on Saturday night.

On Sunday and Monday, the 13 and 14, Stan Vanderbeek will be showing his films and discussing films with students. The main film showing will be Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in Given. Vanderbeek is an artist-fellow at the center for Advanced visual Studies at M.I.T.

On the 15th we are hoping to have some sort of program involving some Maine Indian craftsmen. On the 16th Frederick Ruder will run a leatherworking workshop in the afternoon. Also, Joel Simon and others will present a play developed during Jan-Plan. On the 18th the day of the first Echo of the semester, a program of dance and music will be presented as the products of Jan-Plans run by Peter Re, professor of music, and Judith Mandeville, instructor in dance.

People in charge of the Festival:

Susie Jane Rogers, Chairman
Gary Lawless, Chairman
Martha (Muffy) Wetmore, Workshops Chairman
Bill Stanton, Museum Committee

The Student Overseas Services (SOS), a Luxembourg student organization, will obtain a job, work permit, visa, and any other necessary working papers for any American college student who applies. Applications should be submitted early enough to allow the SOS ample time to obtain the work permits and other necessary working papers.

Interested students may obtain application forms, job listings and descriptions, and the SOS Handbook on earning a trip to Europe by sending their name, address, educational institution and \$1 (for addressing, handling, and postage) to Summer Placement Officer, SOS-Student Overseas Services, 22 Ave. de la Liberte, Luxembourg, Europe.

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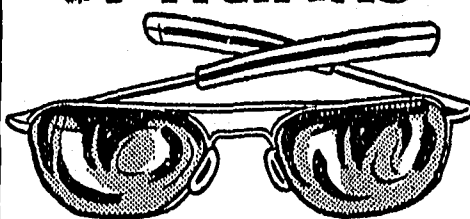
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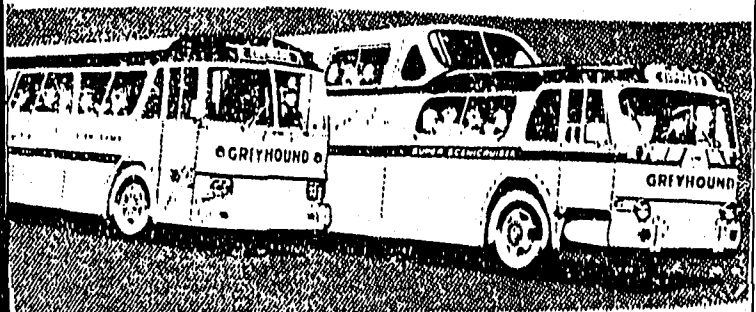
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A little known fact is that Colby has a Ski Team, which has been hard at work since December. You may have seen the Alpine Team of Peter Crosby, Peter Krakoff, Peter Clark, Peter Lawson, Jim Schmidt, Scott Goeller, Richard Perkins, Dave Galvin, and Ned Battey (the last five of whom are Freshmen), practicing at the Colby slope. They have been practicing since Dec. 21, attending an Alpine Training Camp at Sugarloaf from the 21 to the 23.

The Camp was terminated by a Giant Slalom race on the 23rd. The results are not in yet. The poor weather this winter has so far caused the cancellation of two Alpine races: one to have been held at Bates on Dec.

28, and the other to have been at Bowdoin on Jan. 13. However, the team did get some racing experience at the Colby night slalom held on Jan. 7 at the Colby slope. The team placed a sad 4th, being beaten by UMaine, Bates, and UMaine at Farmington. We were followed by Bowdoin. It is worth noting, however, that UMaine and Farmington are in a higher division than we are and that Captain Peter Crosby placed 4th out of the 50 racers.

The poor weather also hampered Coach Mike Hodges' plans for a Nordic Training Camp here at Colby during the Christmas vacation. As a result, the jumpers and the

cross-country runners did not get started until Jan. 3rd. Since then, the 3 jumpers - Dave Cheever, Brett Bayley and Ned Battey - have spent their afternoons at the jump, working hard on distance and the equally important factor of style.

Cross-country skiers Jim Colburn, Rob Burgess, and Freshmen Jim Gibson and Ned Battey, after getting the Colby course in shape, have spent their time working up to good speed for the 9-mile races which they will have to face this season. The Plymouth Relay Race on Jan. 29 is their first race, with the important season opener, the Maine State Meet, one week later.

HOCKEY

by Bruce Haas

After eight games the Mule hockey squad has skated to a 4-3-1 record, losing to the three top sextets in Div. II, Bowdoin, UMass, and UVermont.

On December 6, Colby met Boston State and came away with a 6-3 win. Mike Lemoyne, centering for Steve Self and Doug McMillan, scored a hat trick, while goalie Scott Ryerse came up with some key saves.

During vacation Colby travelled to Williams for the Mules first appearance in the Williams Invitational Tournament, and came home with a second place finish, losing only to UMass, the tournament champion. In the first game against Williams the Mules spotted the host team a two goal lead before roaring back to score 4 times in the first period, 3 in the second, and 4 in the third for an 11-2 victory. Doug McMillan hit for 4 goals, and Dana Fitts, Steve Self, and Mark O'Connell netted 2 each. Pat Keenan, a junior sensation for UMass, personally stopped Colby as he gunned for 4 goals in the undefeated Redmen's 6-1 win. Colby allowed the opposition to move around freely in the defensive zone, giving UMass plenty of time to set up their scores. The lone mule score was a Mike Lemoyne power-play goal which knotted the game at 1-1. The final game was much closer than the first two, with Colby skating to a 5-3 decision over Oswego. The last Colby score was into an open net. For his performance in the tournament Doug McMillan was named to the ECAC Div. II Team of the Week.

Colby came home to face a tough part of their schedule with back to back games against the Div. II finalists Bowdoin and Vermont, and contests with UConn and Salem State.

Against UConn Colby was stunned by two quick scores, the first at only :35 of the first frame. It proved to be a frustrating period for the Mules since they could not find the range to score. Nearly mid-way through the second they finally got on the board and coasted to an 8-2 win. Steve Self pumped in 3 goals, and the team had 50 shots on the UConn netminder.

On the following evening the Mules played the best hockey of the season for the first two periods, collapsed in the third, and watched UVermont score 5 straight goals for an 8-6 comeback win. The Colby team had held a 6-3 lead at one point in the last period, on their fine play and Steve Self's second hat trick in two nights. The loss was even more discouraging since the Mules lost the services of Mike Lemoyne who suffered a broken collar bone and will be out for 4-6 weeks.

Arch rival Bowdoin was the opponent in the next game. The Polar Bears combined fast skating and slick passing consistently breaking past Colby's forechecking, and working the puck around in Colby's end. Bowdoin built up a 6-1 lead, finally winning 6-2. Colby scores were made by Doug McMillan and Mark O'Connell.

Colby fought back twice, battling through a sudden-death overtime period for a 4-4 tie with Salem State. Scoring for the Mules were Mike Ready, Doug Endreson, Dan Heaney, and Rick Englund. Scott Ryerse kept Coach Richie Green's charges in the game with some great stops as the offense sputtered and managed only a few shots on the Salem goalie.

The next game for the Mules is an away tilt with Hamilton College on Jan 22, and the next home game is on Jan 26 against Lowell Tech.

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More LETTERS...

Dear Editors:

It has recently come to our attention that no one on this campus seems to know the exact winter quarters of the ducks who usually habitate Johnson Pond. The ducks are an integral part of this campus community. We have all in our own ways come into contact with these beloved bread-eaters. How can we forget the regrettable incident concerning the infamous stuck duck, or the midnight quacking concerts, or their inherent sarcasm in laughing at passers-by. These and other fond remembrances will invoke a stirring deep in the hearts of all, especially those who risked their lives and reputations to pilfer bread from the dining halls.

WHERE HAVE THE DUCKS GONE ???

Worriedly yours,
Wally Plumstead, et al

— To all concerned: The ducks are alive and well Further inquiries should be directed to Wendy Shockett, Roberts Union.
--- Ed.

To the Editor:

In handing out SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY leaflets with the title: "Young people have good reasons to rebel!" it is gratifying to note the favorable reception of young folks, including students.

On the other hand, some adults are so immature and emotional that as soon as they see the name SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY they rip the leaflet in pieces and resort to name calling.

What gets me is that President Nixon, knowing capitalism is in deep trouble, keeps pushing for increasing trade with mainland China and nobody is accusing HIM of being a Red.

Yet here I am, a member of the SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY, founded right here in these United States by DANIEL DE LEON in 1890, and some people think the SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY takes orders from Moscow!

WHAT IGNORANCE!

Nathan Pressman
12 Catherine St
Ellenville, N.Y.
12428

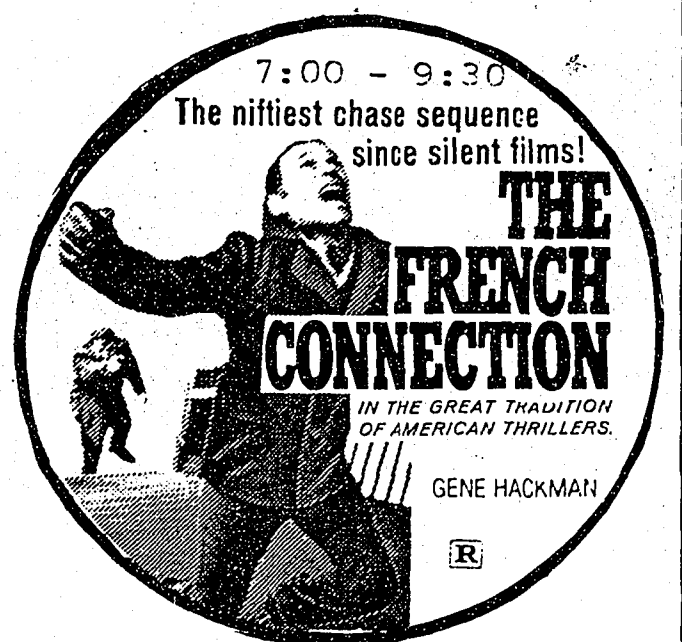
Dear Editor,

I feel that the Colby student coming to the University of Caen should have the right to come alone. In other words, I feel the Caen Plan at \$3825 is impractical for the people who can do it for \$1500 maximum (since they are attending a school here in Caen whose yearly tuition is \$160, opposed to Colby's yearly tuition of \$2500).

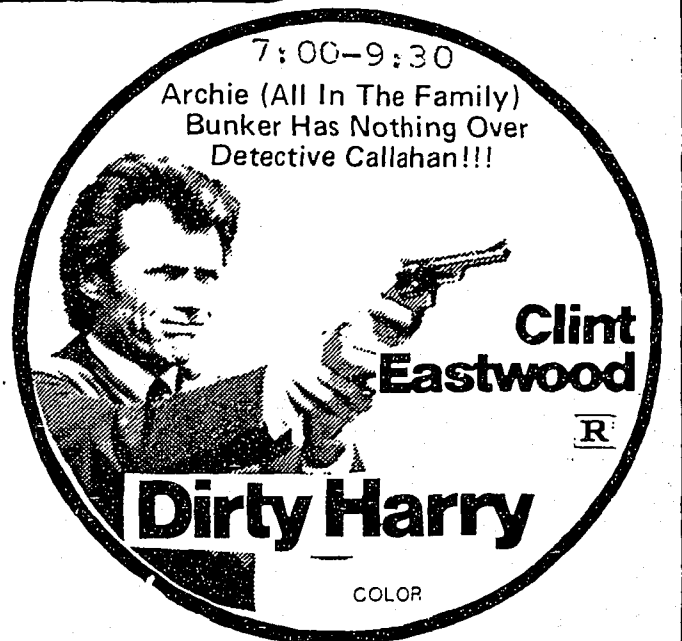
I have no doubt that Colby spends our money somehow (although God knows no one makes much of an effort to tell us where); but since the program can be done for at MOST ½ the price, and since you can learn the language equally well doing the same program at this much cheaper price, I see no reason why students desiring to do the Caen Plan - now that two Colby faculty members have seen it and have given credit for it - cannot do it alone for the same Colby credits which we are presently buying for almost \$4000. The "group feeling" given you security, but it represents too much more in costs for which I feel we shouldn't be paying: a director, banquets, etc., which are all very nice, but, in my opinion, unnecessary-especially the banquets. People from other American schools have done, are doing, and will do Caen Plan independently. All the ones that have finished it or are doing it have lived through it. If these people can do it independnetly, why can't we, for the same Colby credits?

Thankyou.

Sincerely,
Steve Capaldo
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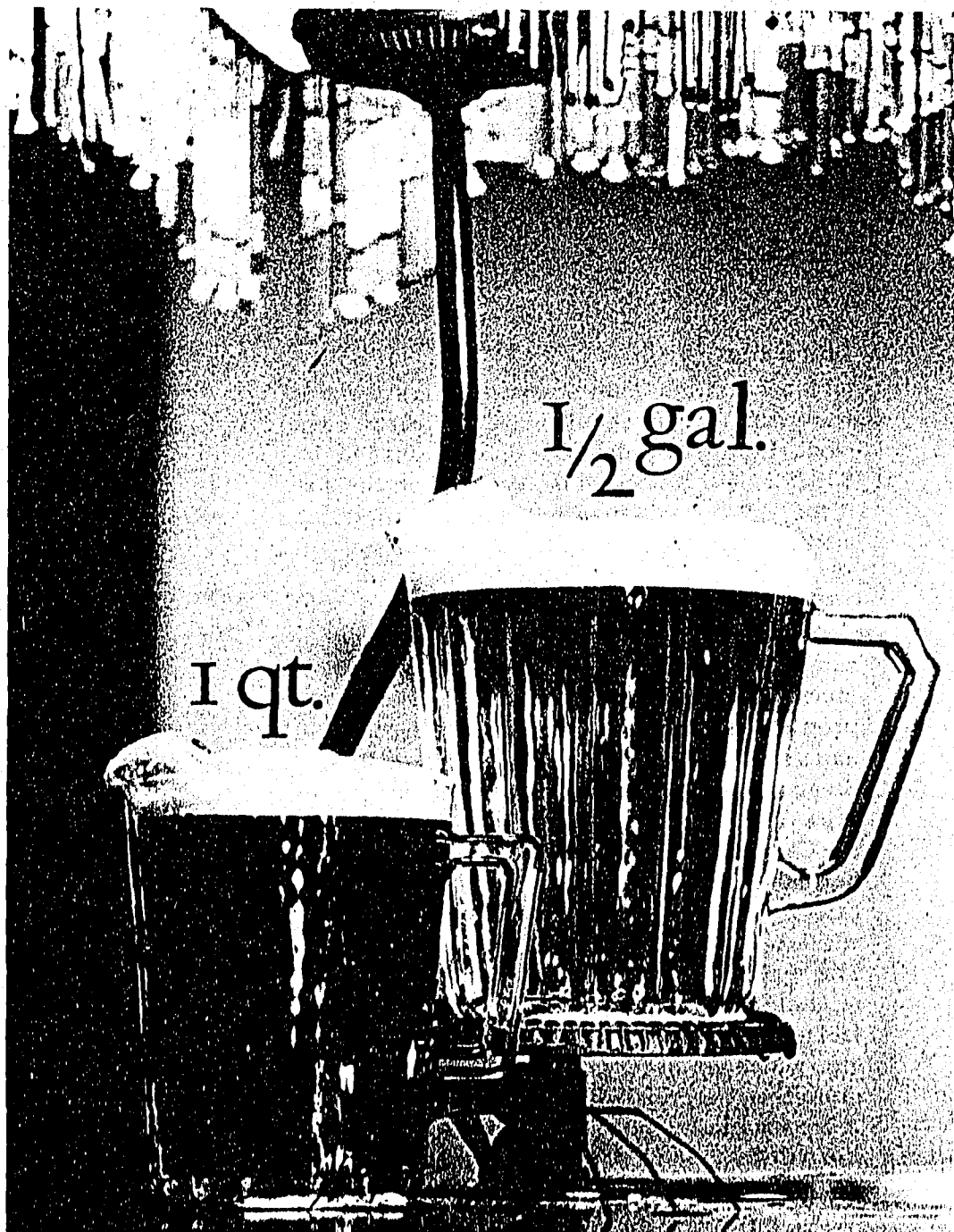
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