

The Knothole

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The Knothole, March 6, 1963

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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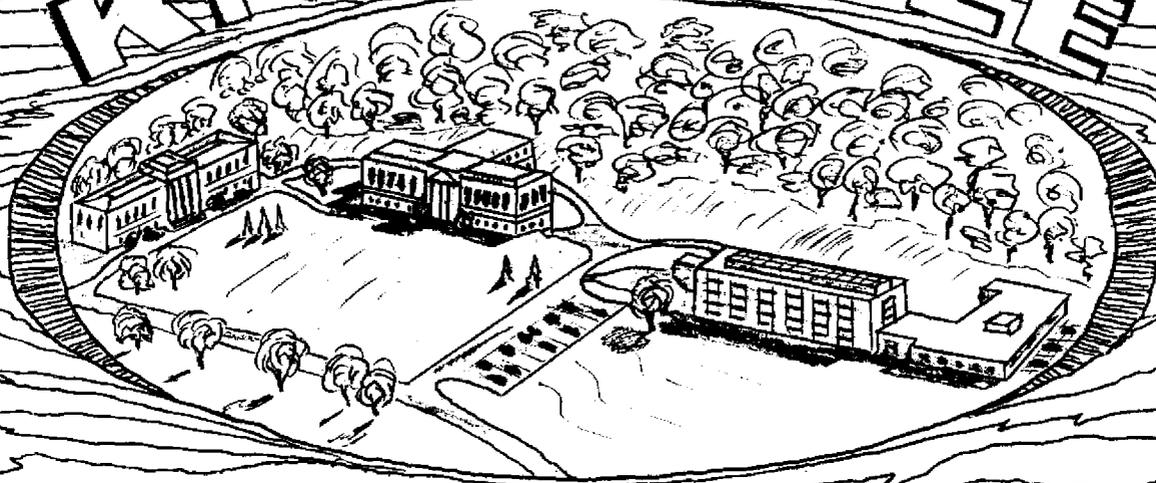
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OUR CAMPUS AS SEEN THROUGH THE
KNOTHOLE



Editors: H. Chaphe, T. D. Fitzgerald, J. Locke, D. Riordan, P. Sarver, H. Welm

March 6, 1963 Deadline for Entries: Monday 8:45 A.M. Published by Alpha Xi Sigma

STUDENT COUNCIL CHEATING RESOLUTION IN VIOLATION
OF BOTH OUR STUDENT CONSTITUTION AND RIGHTS AS INDIVIDUALS

As stated in last week's editorial "To Curb Cheating," the Student Council has "passed a resolution that is of serious consequence to all undergraduate students." It has also been said that the alleged cheating problem is humiliating and distasteful. The resolution to which I refer is even more so appalling. It is an embarrassment to me as a student, to many of those with whom I have discussed this matter, and, I trust, to our faculty and administration as well. It is in direct contradiction of the principals we live by and those civil liberties established in our Federal Constitution. It likewise has no legality under our present Constitution of The Student Association. How such a resolution could have been proposed, much less passed by those who represent you and I is a bewilderment.

I shall here present what is referred to as a "mechanism to detect and indicate cheating."

"Any student detecting cheating by any College of Forestry student can inform his class president. The class president must then inform the accused party that he or she has been suspected of cheating. The accused party is not to learn the identity of his accuser. The class president must keep a list of accused cheaters and if a person is reported for cheating more than once to any class president, (i.e. - more than once within the four-year college career) his or her name will be submitted to the Council for appropriate action."

Let us consider the implications of such a resolution. Following an accusation, the accused party is informed of his position. However, no provision whatsoever is made for an immediate denial or defense of the charge made against him. As it stands, a mark is to be placed beside one's name in some "little black book." There is no hearing or opportunity for denial. Likewise, no chance is given to defend one's reputation and integrity as an individual. Yet, with two marks beside one's name, some rather indefinite "appropriate action" will be taken. Evidently one mark is not supposed to look so bad. At present, it justifies neither hearing or trial.

Secondly and perhaps even more alarming is a provision that (and I repeat the quote) "The accused party is not to learn the identity of his accuser." I was literally shaken by this statement. The blunt and nonchalant manner in which it is said makes me wonder if those who conceived such a system are aware of the principles of due process inherent to the judicial system of our society. The Sixth Amendment requires that "In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right . . . to be confronted with the witnesses against him." This means that such witnesses must appear in open court to give their testimony and that the accused has the right to cross-examine.

Two questions will immediately be raised in many minds. The first, should college cheating be considered a criminal act? Secondly, should those rights established in our Bill of Rights apply in trying such a case? I feel that both questions can be answered in the affirmative.

To justify the first, a criminal case can be defined as one in which those representing a society of people prosecute an individual for an alleged offense against that society. In this case, if cheating is an offense against a society of predominately honest students, it must be tried by the judicial representatives of that society as a criminal act. In our eyes, the convicted cheater is a criminal, yet one who, prior to conviction, must be presumed innocent and given every opportunity to defend himself.

In answer to the second question, our Bill of Rights, applying to every level of civil government, should likewise be applicable in cases where the representatives of a community (in this case, a community of students) establish a means whereby individuals are tried for criminal acts against that community. Our Student Association is much more than a voluntaristic club which at times might find it necessary to reprimand a member for breaking a certain rule. It is an elected body representing the student community at our College and making many of their rules. If it is given authority to enforce these rules and try offenders, it must then adhere to those individual rights prescribed in our civil courts. A system, whatever name it be given, where the accuser is not revealed, most definitely violates these rights.

There is yet another problem to consider. In our discussion thus far, we have assumed a student court could be established for trying cheating cases. Such is not the case! No constitutional amendment has been offered for student body approval of such a court. Then again, what Constitutional authority has a class president to act as Student Council "district attorney." Our Council by far has exceeded its power in enacting this resolution.

In summary, I shall state that the Student Council has no right, either under our Student Constitution or according to any legal judicial system, to enact such a plan in its present form. I can interpret this resolution in only one way, a way that violates our rights as citizens, students, and individuals. It will not go unchallenged. In addition, I am disturbed that so little thought and consideration

was put into the final resolution before its passage. Such careless action should not be condoned.

What I have said has no true value unless some construction suggestions can be offered to replace the present system. The idea of some type of student court to try suspected cheaters is a good one, but not in its present form. Each accusation must be carried to its finish and not allowed to accumulate in our "little black book." In addition, the accuser must eventually confront the person he has charged and be prepared to take the stand against him. The burden of proof must lie on the accuser, not the accused. Such is fundamental to our system of justice and there can be no other way when an individual is to be tried by his peers.

Even with such guarantees, this is dangerous business. A person's reputation and entire career may be at stake. A non-public trial would save those found not guilty from ruinous publicity. Those found guilty might be extended a warning for the first offense. A second offense could bring far more drastic action.

Any such proposals, however, cannot be enacted without student approval by a constitutional amendment. I trust further discussion of this issue will take place in next Monday's Council meeting. The present situation must not be tolerated.

P. S.

N.Y.S. COLLEGE OF FORESTRY VS. S.U. - 3:1

Two hundred and six students and faculty members crowded Marshall Lounge last Thursday to make their effort for the Forestry Blood Drive. Colds and flu caused thirteen rejections, pinching the final total off at one hundred and ninety three. However, foresters out bled the highest record of their apathetic contemporaries, attending Syracuse University, to within drops of a three to one ratio (percentage wise).

I wish to extend my appreciation for the fine cooperation and generous participation displayed by numerous individuals in the student body, the faculty, and Kappa Phi Delta.

Nelson Hoy
Blood Drive Chairman

STUDENTS AND FACULTY

W O O D C H O P P E R S B R A W L
SPONSORED BY JUNIOR CLASS
FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1963
THE GREEK "GODS OF WINE" WILL PLAY
DANCE & TWIST MUSIC
8:00 to 12:00 MARSHALL LOUNGE

William E. Austin
Social Chairman

INTRAMURALS

The schedule for the Intramural Basketball League is as follows:

Wednesday, March 6 ----- Seller Dwellers vs. Seniors
Thursday, March 7 ----- Juniors vs. Sophomores
Friday, March 8 ----- Intellectuals vs. Seller Dwellers
Monday, March 11 ----- Seniors vs. Intellectuals
Tuesday, March 12 ----- Juniors vs. Freshmen

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Each year Syracuse University holds a Festival of the Arts. This year it is to be held on April 26, 27, and 28. The School of Music is putting on the opera, "Catulli Carmina," under the direction of Dr. George. He would like some volunteers to sing a short part in a chorus. Participants would be in costume and a minimum amount of acting is required. If anyone is interested, please contact me at X 2934 or X 2935 or leave a note in my mailbox.

Dick Hoff

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

After the viewing of the Robin Hood Photo Contest entries by several faculty judges, the winners were finally picked. Unfortunately, none of the prints were judged to be first prize material and so the \$10 prize in that division has been divided up into two \$5 second prizes in the two slide divisions. You may pick up your photos this week in the Library. The winners will be notified as to when they will get their prize money. Thank you all for your cooperation and support.

The winners are:

Miscellaneous Slides:

\$10.00 First ----- Jon Crofoot
\$ 5.00 Second ----- Jim Coufal
Honorable mention ----- Dick Hoff

Landscape Slides:

\$10.00 First ----- Dave Riordan
\$ 5.00 Second ----- Tom Fitzgerald
Honorable mention ----- John Locke

NEW ADVANCES IN SCIENCE - PART I

(From the files of A Georgian Court College biology major)

1. A magnet is something you find in a bad apple.
2. The pistol of a flower is its only protection against insects.
3. The dodo is a bird that is nearly decent now.

New Advances in Science - Part I Cont'd.

4. Geometry teaches us to bisex angels.
5. The moon is a planet just like the earth only deader.

Terry Amburgey

BULLETIN

The time was February 21st, 1963. The place was Drumlins Country Club bowling lanes. The participants were the members of the WPE faculty bowling team (on top of their league at last report) and a team made up of WPE students. The result? That is classified information. We are permitted to say, however, that if the faculty should take all nine points in the rematch schedule for tomorrow afternoon, the score will be even.

H. C.

AN EXERCISE IN REASONING
(From Introduction to Logic, by Copi)

Of three prisoners in a certain jail, one had normal vision, the second had only one eye, and the third was totally blind. All were of at least average intelligence. The jailer told the prisoners that from three white hats and two red hats he would select three and put them on the prisoners' heads. Each was prevented from seeing what color hat was placed on his own head. They were brought together, and the jailer offered freedom to the prisoner with normal vision if he could tell what color hat was on his head. The prisoner confessed that he couldn't tell. Next the jailer offered freedom to the prisoner with only one eye if he could tell what color hat was on his head. The second prisoner confessed that he couldn't tell. The jailer did not bother making the offer to the blind prisoner, but agreed to extend the same terms to him when he made the request. The blind prisoner then smiled broadly and said:

"I do not need to have my sight,
From what my friends with eyes have said;
I clearly see my hat is _____!"

Answer in next week's Knothole.

EXERPTS FROM THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY
"THE MAN FROM CREEPIN' GIRDLE, WYOMING" *

...The day I was born my father threw a party in the backyard - my mother didn't like it too much 'cause she was the party my father threw....

...When I grew up my pop said to me - "Rover (he always wanted a dog instead) you're going a long way in life," and to make sure he nailed the box car doors shut....

...Right now my folks are carrying on a football romance - each is waitin' for the other to kick-off....

...Got a job one time paintin' a barn. The farmer said put on two coats, so there I was in the middle of July with two heavy coats on. It sure was hot....

...But I did do some worthwhile work for another farmer. That was the time I crossed his cow with a mule and got milk with a kick in it. Also crossed a homing pigeon with a woodpecker so's they'd knock when they got home, but all we got was a bunch of Knotholes....

...Went into town one day to get me a new seersucker suit - got it at Sears where only a sucker like me would buy it....

...That was the same day I fell through the screen door and strained myself....

...I tried wrestlin' for a time. When I walked into the ring, took off my robe and flexed my muscles, the women fainted and the men laughed - seems I forgot to put on my trunks. That's the night I wrestled Max Baer....

...Also boxed for awhile. Never forget the time I fought Joe Louis. Had him scared in the first round - he thought he killed me....

...Went to the forestry college for a spell - took a course in twig identification called twignometry.... Also learned a bit in genetics - crossed a red pine with a white pine and got barber poles....

...Was goin' to get married but went into the ice business instead - figured every man has a wife but only the iceman has his pick....

...Did go with this girl, though - she was 36-24-36 - that was just her head. Why her bikini was two beach umbrellas and a hammock. Even when she was three years old she had truck tires on her bicycle....

...But she said she'd go to the end of the world with me and so we came to Syracuse.

* That's just a short stretch from the county seat.

~~Alumni Memorial Award~~

Alumni Educational Grants

Income tax?

John P.
1942 225.