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The Knothole, April, 24, 1972

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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THE KNOTHOLE

STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF FORESTRY

VOLUME 22, NUMBER 26, APRIL 24, 1972

ECUADOR ----- 1972

It has been a long time since I have written to the Knothole. Peace Corps Ecuador has been keeping me very busy lately. The first few months of work here were very slow; it's hard coming into another culture, learning Spanish and finding where you can work effectively. My work is with forestry and forestry doesn't have exactly the same meaning here as it does in the States. Here forestry is in its early stages of development. Much of my work deals with continuing the work on the first introduction trials of exotic tree species for reforestation started by the volunteer before me and conducting basic forest research never done before in this part of the Andes Mountains. There is also much traveling around the countryside talking to the Indian farmers promoting reforestation (or in many areas afforestation). It is very slow work requiring much time to accomplish the simplest task. When the average farmer can hardly grow enough corn or potatoes to live on from his depleted land you can hardly expect him to jump at the chance to plant a forest.

During the one and a half years that I have been here, work has gone slowly - many barriers have been taken down and I really feel that now I am accomplishing something. The results aren't obvious because it takes time for both ideas and plantations to grow. Before I came down here, I had wild ideas of teaching the people about ecology, scientific forestry and management. I thought I could go right into communities and sell the idea of planting eroded slopes, setting up cutting cycles and the works. Of course this was crazy, it is easy to make wild statements concerning the solutions to problems when you are not directly involved. Once I arrived and found out about the slow life pace, farming methods over 500 years old, poor economic situation and other cultural differences of Ecuador I had to change completely. When I leave, there aren't going to be huge forests all over the eroded mountains and a well organized forestry department managing them. I hope I can possible isolate a few new forest tree species to be used in reforestation or leave a few little green spaces on the eroded slopes and most of all leave a few ideas which may grow among the communities.

About 9 months ago I was loaned a Peace Corps pickup truck to use in my forestry work, now with this vehicle I can visit remote communities to take tree orders and haul trees to people who could never get them in any other way. It is possible to do more research now. It is interesting to visit a small mountain community where there has never been any trees except for a few Eucalyptus trees in a hedge row or park. At first the people are careful about this stranger who is trying to sell these crazy looking plants done up in paper pots. Then one person will buy 5 plants, another 10, another 50 and so on until months or even years later there will be many people interested in reforestation. The best promotion to reforestation is a successful planting of trees by one member of such a

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community, soon after this happens people will come to you and ask for help planting their trees or what variety would grow best on their land (so far only *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Pinus radiata* and some *Cupressus Spp.* have been found to do well here, but I have 6 or 8 more which show good possibilities in my research plots) or why does my Chirimoya tree have yellow leaves, etc. It sort of has a snowball effect; once you start it rolling and all conditions are good, things will build and you have more work than you know what to do with.

This person to person aid such as I have witnessed here in Ecuador from my Peace Corps work and that of other volunteers appears to be very worthwhile. I truly believe that the Peace Corps idea is one of the most effective tools that we have for aiding the poor people of an underdeveloped country most rapidly. I was extremely disturbed when I heard last month that Peace Corps budget had been cut by Congress. We almost had to send volunteers home because of this money shortage. Such an act could destroy years of work and cut off aid to people who had never before been helped. If I had left because of this cut my work would have ended and years of research could have been lost. Another great loss would have been the faith of many poor Indian farmers who had received aid from the various volunteers. It seems more consideration and money should be given to beneficial organizations such as Peace Corps.

I hope everything is going well at the College of Forestry this year. I will be in Syracuse during the middle of May for a short vacation, then return to Ecuador in June. Maybe I can meet with a few groups, show slides or just talk about what's happened since I left the College and old times (If there are any old timers left?). Well, best of luck with school and hopefully I can get another letter off before exams. Good-bye for now.

Yours truly,

Thomas W. Catchpole
Peace Corps Forester

Cuerpo de Paz
Casilla 4926
Cuenca, Ecuador
South America

Dear Barb,

I suppose you could call this a letter to the editor, and in fact, that is what it is. But actually what I'm about to complain about concerns the whole student body, everyone who ever uttered the word "ecology" in seriousness or in jest, every person who ever looked at a polluted stream and said "Yech!" and everybody else, too. With the recent upsurge of concern over environmental problems, you'd think that a school that wanted to have the title "Environmental Science" would not have the gall to print its newsworthy articles on colored paper! In the last few weeks there have been yellow, pink, green, and blue Knotholes distributed. I'm not blaming the editors of the paper, I'm only posing a question and hope for an answer. Why are we using colored paper when non-colored paper prints just as well? If there is a reason, fine, let's hear it. I'm only seeking a just answer to a blatant destruction of a resource that we all care about. If there is no reason, then why don't we just stop?

Respectfully, Marilyn Shook

There are two reasons for printing the Knothole on colored paper. The varied colors help bring the Knothole to the student body's attention. A white stack of paper can be ignored where colored might catch the eye. I feel that as the only student publication, the Knothole should be as noticeable as possible. The second reason is an economical one. (Strange how economics always finds a place in environmental issues.) Colored paper of lower quality can be run without the print coming through the pages. When white sheets are used, a higher quality is necessary and even then is likely to cause headaches for the ladies in the Bulletin Room because it does not print well.

-Barb Steves
Knothole Editor

To The Editor:

I would like to congratulate the winners of the student elections and express the hope that those who were not successful in their bids will remain active in student activities.

With the new Constitution of the Student Association now in effect, I would like to remind the clubs and publications that they will be responsible for maintaining contact with the Council, reporting to the Council, the election of new club officers, and for submitting next year's budgets to the Finance and Supply Committee.

It is my hope that the new Council will be successful in all endeavors. The continuation of the Unbarbecue and the Spring Picnic as well as the possible establishment of a Softball League and expanding our Arbor Day activities are just a few of the new programs which the Council can consider.

I only hope that the actions I have taken over the past year will prove to be the correct ones. I tried my hardest to represent you well in Albany and organize the student activities here at the College. I know that my successor, Bob Loveless, will do likewise and undoubtedly make many improvements.

I would like to thank the many people who have made this an enlightening and memorable year for me. Special thanks to Tom Backus, Paul Chakroff, Barb Ingerson, Dave Hardin, Steve Conowall, Barb Steves, all the Council members, the Freshman Class officers, and of course, Sally Druckenmiller.

I would also like to thank Dr. Bennett, Dr. Payne, President Palmer, Professor Green, Mr. Corr, Mr. Finnegan, Barb Dewan, Mrs. Freeman, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Clute, Dr. Getty, Dr. Ketchledge, and all of the class and club advisors for all of the help and guidance they have given me and the other Council members.

Sincerely,

Jim Goulet

ADIRONDACK HOME

BY MARK
CLARK

Jim feeds deer. Jim is a man I know who, every day, all winter fills his station wagon with hay and mixed grain and drives down the bumpy back road that goes by a deer yard, and feeds the deer. I went with him once. We bounced along on the frost heaved road 'til we came to the spot, the driveway of a summer camp. It was deserted for the winter, but not quite. About 50 deer live there all winter. Jim gets out and hollers, "HERE BUB...COME ON BABES." And out they come, from out of the thicker part of the swamp along the lake. Jim hollers again and pulls a bale out of the back. The noise of the slamming tailgate attracts the hundred or so eyes and a hundred or so ears twitch this way and that while he breaks the bale and spreads it out. Many little piles of grain are poured out so more deer can feed at once, then maybe by the time it's the little ones' turn there'll be some left.

I think of all the lectures in Wildlife Ecology, attacking the practice of feeding deer, and I want to say something to Jim. But I know he would point at a relatively healthy looking fawn and call him by name saying, "Do you think little ol' Blackface there would be alive if I wasn't feeding." ...No answer... "Course not!" And he'd be right, so I don't say anything.

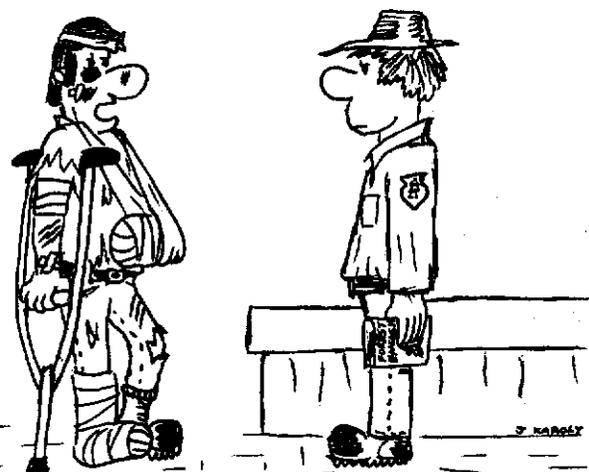
Jim says if I'm quiet I can get out of the car and they won't spook. I get out and one or two white flags go up but by an large they just look at me with their white dimmed eyes and twitch their ears. The wind shifts and one of the biggest deer, catching a whiff of someone other than Jim paws and snorts, staring at me. Then the flag goes up and 49 or so others follow him into the swamp a ways, stopping to stare back. "Guess they don't like your smell, Mark." "Can't say as I blame them," I answer, and we get into the car. "I've been told by higher ups in the Conservation Department that it's bad for the deer to feed them," Jim tells me this as we bounce back toward home. "But you can't prove it by me." Maybe he's right.

ABOUT THE MARCH ON ALBANY AGAINST TUITION

On March 20, the Statewide Coalition For Free Public Education called upon students from high schools and colleges throughout the state to come to Albany and to confront their legislators with their opposition to tuition at SUNY and CUNY. Following the founding of the Coalition at Albany on Feb. 12, students from all over the State participated in the planning of this demonstration.

On March 20, delegations from over 40 schools and colleges from all parts of New York State converged on Albany. Over 1500 students poured out of the busses and joined the picket lines that ringed the Capitol. They

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WE STUDIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOR IN ZOOLOGY 100
LAB LAST WEEK. GUESS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN
YOU KICK A BEAR IN THE HEAD 4

had come from Albany, Mohawk Valley Community College, Corning, Oneonta and Harpur College upstate; and from C.C.N.Y., DeHostos Community College, Kingsboro, Theodore Roosevelt High School, Music and Art and many others in New York City. As well as being representative of both city and state, the picket lines were interracial, with Negro, white, and Puerto Rican students joining together to fight for free, public higher education throughout New York State.

At the conclusion of the picketing, delegates of students visited legislators and argues for the Coalition program. Some of the legislators agreed with the NO TUITION program and committed themselves to fight for the passage of legislation to prohibit tuition at SUNY and CUNY. Many others, in spite of the appointments made well in advance, avoided meeting with the student delegations. Even when appointments had been confirmed, these legislators were suddenly called away to "top level emergency meetings."

In spite of the fact that many legislators were afraid to meet with a statewide, interracial group of students to discuss the future of free public education in New York, they got the Coalition's message: that students in New York are not willing to stand by and watch their education sacrificed to the political deals that are being cooked up in Albany. And that students are not going to be divided, but are organizing together to fight for their common educational goals. This unity demonstrates that the Albany March was an overwhelming success.

-New York Statewide Coalition
for Free Public Education

If you are interested in any more information, contact Spencer Jarrett, X2389 (SU)

ZOOLOGY CLUB TO CONDUCT BOOK DRIVE

During the prison rebellion in Attica this fall, the library was burned and practically destroyed. An appeal has been issued for books of any kind but most importantly books, periodicals and journals which would aid in education and self-improvement. Bibles, treatises on religious philosophy and histories of religious movements are also especially desired.

The Zoology Club is sponsoring a drive here on campus for any used text books, lab manuals or periodicals you might be able to spare. There will be a box set up in Nifkin Lounge for any contributions. We all have some books we'd never like to see again. It would certainly be more worthwhile to send them to Attica than burn them on the quad.

ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS THIS WEEK

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

The Freshman films in 319 Marshall this week will be "New Alaska" (28 min.) and "Wilderness Trail" (15 min.).

Also on Tuesday, the Graduate Student Association will present Gerald K. Rhode, Manager of the System-Planning Engineering Department of the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation. He will speak on "Energy Supply and Nuclear Power." The talk will be at 8 p.m. in Marshall Auditorium.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

The Botany noon movies are "Eruption of Kilauea" and "Lake Titacaca." They will be Thursday in 5 Illick. Both you and your lunch are welcome to attend.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

As the Sophomore Lecture Series continues this Friday at 7 p.m. in 5 Illick, Dr. Petriceks will speak on "The U.N. and International Forestry," and Mr. Cerny will discuss the Military.

SENIORS are reminded to order caps and gowns at the Special Order Desk in the S.U. Bookstore prior to May 12. After that date an extra charge will be made for late orders. Payment must be made when the order is placed.

The following is a continuation of last week's list of well known songs as sung by some noted members of our College Community:

1. "Patches," by S. Druckenmiller
2. "On Tap in the Can or in the Bottle," by S. Potter
3. "Don't It Make You Want to Go Home," by R. Friedman
4. "Harry the Hairy Ape," by H. Payne
5. "Theme Song from Shaft," by N. Christiansen
6. "Can't Get No Satisfaction," by D. Morrison
7. "Rag Doll," by M. Shampine
8. "Chirpy Chirpy Cheep Cheep," by M. Alexander
9. "Music to Watch Girls By," by R. Friedman
10. "Where Evil Grows," by J. Litcher
11. "Midnight Confessions," by C. Borgognoni
12. "Early in the Morning," by R. Lea
13. "Big Bad John," by J. D. Bennett
14. "Leavin on a Jet Plane," by H. Payne
15. "Running Bear," by R. Chambers
16. "Sink the Bismark," by D. Anderson
17. "Hound Dog," by J. Berglund
18. "Bird Dog," by J. W. Johnson
19. "Blue Suede Shoes," by D. Campbell
20. "Born on the Bayou," by J. W. Johnson

PLEASE
RECYCLE
THIS
KNOTHOLE