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The Knothole

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The Knothole, April 1, 1977

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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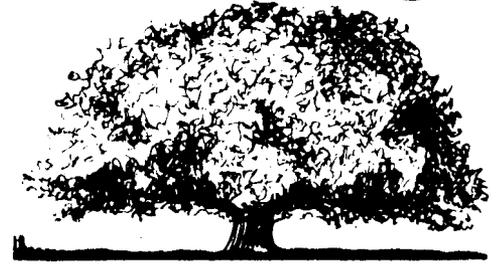
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KNOTHOLE



One ought, every day at least, to hear a little song, and a good poem, see a fine picture, and if it are possible, to speak a few reasonable words. Goethe
Something good that's good for you.

APRIL 1, 1977
 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 20

ELECTION RESULTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

President:	Phil Hertzog
1st V.P.:	Tisha Drozdowski
2nd V.P.:	Jim Keehan
Secretary:	Kathy Lyons
Treasurer:	Didi Schultz
Social Chairperson:	George Berman
S.U. Senators:	Chris Militscher
	Andy Molodetz
	Terry Tipple
	Richard Wittman

Student Rep. To
 the Board of Trustees: Sue Buck

SENIOR CLASS

President:	Tonda Thering
V.P.:	Stephanie Punnett
Sec/Treas.:	Laurel Fitch
Social Chairman:	Charlie Marcus
Rep. at Large:	John Gamble
	John Lee
	Joanne Meade
	Annemarie Sebesta
	Wayne Turner

JUNIOR CLASS

President:	Ed Frantoski
V.P.:	Jeanne Debons
Sec/Treas.:	Gary Brown
Social Chairman:	Don Cardin
Rep. at Large:	Bill Edmister
	Linda Falter
	Linda Tambini
	Bill Wilson

SOPHOMORE CLASS

President:	Camille Benk
V.P.:	James Suessenbach
Sec/Treas.:	Conor Shea
Social Chairman:	Elaine Sharfstein
Rep. at Large:	Andrew Cameron
	Michael Kennely

CATSKILLS!!

The newly reorganized Forest Zoology Club held its first weekend trip March 11-13. It was a resounding success with twenty people making the trip to North Lake. Activities included hiking, backpacking and just plain relaxation.

We are planning many new activities for next year, including a weekend trip to the Newcomb campus. Come find out more about the club, watch the bulletin boards for announcement of our next general meeting. All are welcome.

Jim McIlvain

MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

The Joe Broods Memorial Fellowship has been awarded to Anne Henderson, a senior majoring in biological sciences at the SUNY College of ESF. Announcement of the \$1,500 award was made by the Theodore Gordan Flyfishers, Inc. of New York City, which makes the annual award to a college senior who plans to pursue graduate study in fisheries biology.

The Joe Brooks Memorial Fellowship was established in 1973. Miss Henderson is the third ESF student to win the award.

TRI- STATE!!

Anyone who wishes to tryout for Tri-State competition must sign up on the sign up sheet in Moon Library Foyer. There will be a mandatory meeting for all who plan to tryout at 7:30 in 110 Marshall on Fri. April 1st. Tryouts will be held on Sun. April 3rd from 12 to 4 and Tues, April 5th from 4 to 7.

TRY



TRI-STATE

What a success.

THE KNOTHOLE: The student publication of SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

PUBLISHED: Every Thursday.

DEADLINE: The Saturday noon prior to the upcoming issue.

POLICY: All articles and Letters to the Editor must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. The contents of any Letter to the Editor reflects the viewpoint of the author, not the viewpoint or opinion of the Knothole or its staff. Names will not be withheld from any Letter to the Editor. We welcome any counterviews, articles, notices, suggestions, and new staff members.

Editor-in-Chief.....Jane Kolva	Distribution.....Jack Stevens Scott Horgen
Layout.....Bill Coons Bill Edmister Tonda Thering	Features.....Sue Rogers Laura Mauro Gail Gmoser Glenn Olsen Carol White Linda Palter Marilyn Phillips
Typists.....Tom Moore Rich Kaiser Steve Danko Tisha Drozdowski	
Faculty Advisor.....Dr. M. Gratzner	

GOINGS ON

Friday, April 1 7-8:30 P.M. Saengerbund - The Forestry Chorus. Marshall Auditorium.
..... 12:01 A.M. TROUT SEASON OPENS!!!

Monday, April 4 7:30-9:30 P.M. Career Services Program on Job Interviews. 110 Marshall. All students are urged to attend. Bring paper and pen.
..... 7:30 P.M. ESF Student Council Meeting. 321 Bray. Open to all students.
..... 7:30 P.M. Gay Women Students Meeting at the University Women's Center, 750 Ostrom Avenue.
..... 8:30 P.M. Backyard Nature Program Meeting, 238 Illick.

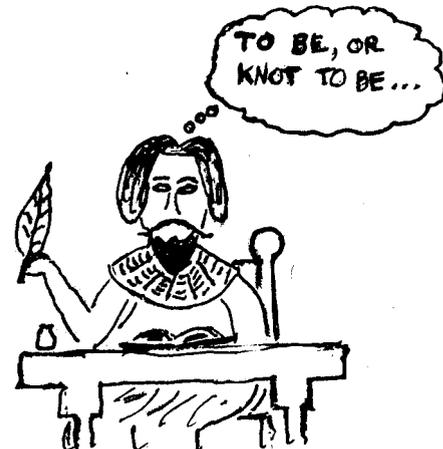
Tuesday, April 5 12 Noon-1 P.M. Managerial Science and Policy Seminar, "Water: Issues and Opportunities in Resource Management" by Professor Robert Hennigan. 324 Bray. All welcome and bring lunch.
..... 7:30 P.M. S.U. Outing Club Meeting in Lyman Hall. All welcome.
..... 7:30 P.M. CESF Explorer Post Meeting. Topic will be "What is Fisheries Management all about?" by Robert Warner. 5 Illick.

Wednesday, April 6 8:00 P.M. Onondaga Audubon Society. Dr. Daniel L. Dindal, Professor of Zoology, CESF, will discuss "Little animals with a big job", giving a close look at the ecological role of some fantastic animals around us. Marshall Auditorium.

Thursday, April 7 11:50 A.M.-1 P.M. Zoology Department Graduate Seminar. "Foraging Strategies in Hummingbirds" by Larry Wolf. Conference Room (241 Illick). All Welcome.

Friday, April 8 7-8:30 P.M. Weekly meeting of Saengerbund. Marshall Auditorium.

OUR
MOTTO:



Would it be in the flick of a silver-foxes's tail,
 That we come to realize how many of our conceptions
 are frail?
 For alas, plagued by societies myriad of inducements,
 Confused souls become captured by spiritual
 seducement,
 Not being quick enough to perceive the fleeting
 subtleties,
 Whose delicate nature prevail somewhere between
 expectation and reality,
 They are led astray instead by sympathy,
 the affinity of transient emotions,
 That scatters the senses along dead-end
 pathways of devotion...
 Overhead, a blending of magestic and wild
 in the beckoning call of Canadian geese,
 Signalling the advent of winter as instinct
 guides them toward warm lands and
 peace,
 While here on the ground I contest the
 influence of exhausting animosity,
 Over unwanted thoughts that seek entrance to the
 heart of my integrity,
 And I must struggle to refrain the innate freedom
 of birth,
 Aware of potential unseen perils, discretion must travel
 with all footsteps on earth,
 While aloft though I may scan the skies
 from the windows of the geeses' eyes,
 Amidst the fervor of their spirit, searching
 for a land of worth,
 For to settle, where my soul will not subside and be lost to
 timeless, trampled dust and dirt....



Editor's 2 Cents



Peer pressure has finally taken its toll, and so I find myself sitting in the Knothole office writing an editorial. There are two reasons for this sudden emergence of wit and wittism; first excuse is that without these comments, you would be looking at a blank corner. The second reason is that I felt it necessary to defend the two-page-Knothole that made its brave apperance last week. Despite the crit-isms: "Wouldn't it be more appropriate to call this issue 'Splinters'?" and "Hell of an effort..." it was not the Knothole or its staff that should bear the brunt of this criticism. The Knothole is a function of student input, not of editorial creation. So before you critise, do me a favor and put a little input before you a) open mouth and b) insert foot.

And now that I've won the hearts of the entire student body, let me remind you that today (or tomorrow- if you are reading this Thursday) is April Fools Day...

**TODAY IS THE
TOMORROW
WE WORRIED ABOUT
YESTERDAY !!**

...MAYBE WE
DIDN'T WORRY
ENOUGH!



ZIGGY

EULOGIES

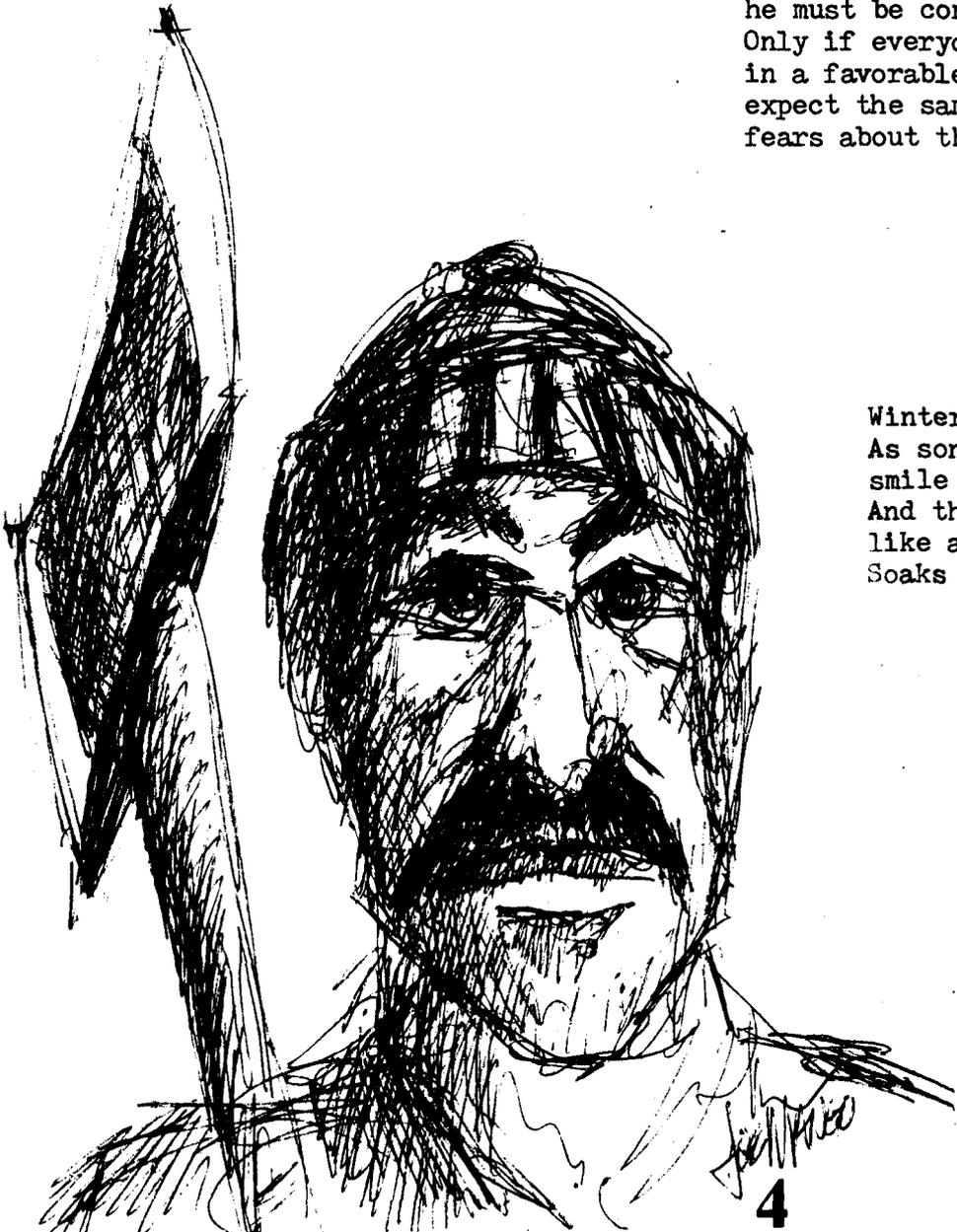
It appears that winter is over. This brings to an end the high post-Christmas death rate as well as the cold wind.

Countless eulogies have been uttered on the countless occasions of death. Eulogies are positive statements in the face of something very negative. Why has the tradition persisted?

Ostensibly, eulogies are for the honor of the dead. The deceased is remembered for the goodness of his nature, not his "bad" points. Thus, the eulogy honors the memory of the deceased, and his family and loved ones.

Actually, eulogies are offered for everyone living, not just those close to the deceased. If life isn't forever, at least it must be good. Whether an individual was a decent person or not, he must be considered decent after death. Only if everyone who dies is eulogized in a favorable light can everyone living expect the same. Eulogies assuage our fears about the pointlessness of life.

TJM



Winter washes from the river
As song sparrows banks
smile under redwing skies.
And the ground...
like a sponge that's never been wrung
Soaks the life into spring.

-Thomas Ventiquattro

LOST - FRIDAY MARCH 11th
ON FORESTRY CAMPUS;
SILVER I.D. BRACELET
(GREAT SENTIMENTAL VALUE)
PLEASE CALL
JAN SMITH
424-0656

REWARD

ADIRONDACK TRAILS" DAMAGED

Of the 80 acres of Alpine Biome in N.Y. State, (all contained the the Adirondack High peak region), approximately 40 of these are rock and the other vegetation which has been seriously trampled by hikers and their "herd paths". Further complicating the situation is that most of the species are rare and/or endangered and of which not much is know ecologically in order to find solutions. So related the ever-stimulating Dr. Ketchledge recently in Dr. Morrison's Soc./Psych. of Leisure Behavior class.

As a private citizen, Dr. Ketchledge became aware and involved in a preservation program for the region and in cooperation with Dr. Leonard of the USFS, NYS Dept. of Conservation and friends from E.S. and F. make possible some positive actions to restore the fragile vegetation and soils of the High Peaks. However, because there is no literature on regeneration of alpine vegetation, nor specific data on erosion rates of trails, the information was obtained by Dr. Ketchledge's dedicated efforts of direct experimentation and measurement. With the help of Dr. Richards, and Dr. Craul, grad. assistants of the ESF, and members of the Adirondaks 46'ers Club, favorable results in stabilizing these problems resulted over a two year period.

At first, their attempts to re-establish grass, such as the hearty Kentucky Blue Grass, failed in the thin soils, but in the second year, heavy fertilization of planted grasses led to a reconditioning of the soil such that the native grasses came back. It was also shown that this effect could be achieved on a larger scale by individual climbers each planting an 11 lb. unit of seed, lime, and fertilizer in the late spring season.

Dr. Ketchledge maintains that the region is undermanaged, undermanned, and its funds have occasionally been misallocated by such things as hiring trail workers with what he calls "no woods sense" in the placement of trails and similar maintenance activities. This is perhaps the very crux of the traffic problem, as confirmed by a special investigatory committee of the DEC which recently released primary findings that state that, "trail deterioration appears to be principally related to the ori-

ginal alignment, position and elevation of the trail on the slope, the methods of trail construction and the degree of continuing maintenance. It is only secondary to the extent of human use." In his very interesting slide-talk show, he pointed out several instances where instead of setting down beneficial water bars on steep slopes in the high country, (where the rate of erosion is commonly 1 inch/year), log bridges were laid down in non-erosive swamp bogs in the flatlands outside of the high peaks.

The DEC's commissioner, Peter Berle, a staunch environmentalist known for his aggressive compliance of the Adirondack Park Agency's Master Plan, in his summary of what to be done about the primary findings has agreed to start work immediately on 12 of the major problems this coming summer.

Several of these will be of direct interest to the 10's of thousands of back packers who will return again this season or embark on their initial expedition up the mountains. For those that have their misgivings about the removal of the lean-to's above 3000 ft. last fall, they will probably be even more disappointed about the commissioner's recommendation that there be no camping or fire building above 4000 ft. Some of the other proposals that border on common sense include that there will be no tenting or fires in the trails and, in fact, must be at a minimum of 100 ft. from them.

In order to alleviate the disproportionate overuse of Mt. Marcy and other nearby peaks or at least to make the impact less of an environmental stress: 1) the DEC would undertake carrying capacity surveys 2) a brochure entitled "Trails to Marcy" would be changed to "Hiking in the High Peaks", 3) a new fast "easy" route to Marcy in more or less a straight line with a gradually increasing slope would be created to take traffic away from the heavily used Marcy-Dam-Indian Falls route. Also an interdisciplinary approach would be set up in planning for new trails and relocation of old trails, and user group size would be limited to perhaps 10 people (as opposed to no limits now).

And for those of you whose minds and/or morals will have deteriorated in the process of obtaining an education here, don't despair, for under Berle's plans prisoners would have an active part in trail building.

MAPLE SYRUP

--Maple syrup--the first sign of spring, and, oh, how sweet it is!

At the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, the age-old art of making maple syrup is being practiced at a demonstration sugar house and the public is cordially invited to participate in the sweet delights of this learning experience.

The production of maple syrup, dating back to the American Indians, is a process unique to Canada and the Northeastern United States.

According to John Engelken, manager of ESF's Heiberg Memorial Forest in Tully, the College has been making maple syrup since 1952, but the primary purpose was for the College's student instruction and research.

Again this year, with improved road conditions into the Forest property, a newly-built demonstration sugar house to replace the old one and a more accessible location, the College is offering tours as a public service.

According to Engelken, the process of tapping trees, gathering the sap and boiling it over a wood fire, is "operating now. The conditions needed are temperatures above 32° during the day, and below 32° at night. On the average, the best time is the latter part of March and the first week of April, but it depends entirely on the weather. This year, the sap started flowing around the first of March."

Engelken advises that visitors call for directions to the Heiberg Forest and to confirm the days when the sugar house is in operation. For information, call Engelken at 469-3053.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

A public hearing conducted by the Board of Trustees of SUNY will be held on April 15, 1977 at the State University at Binghamton, Don A. Watters Theater, Fine Arts Building, Vestal Parkway East, Binghamton, New York, 2 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

In compliance with legislation adopted by the 1976 Session of the New York State Legislature and approved by Governor Carey, the purpose of this hearing "...shall be to receive testimony and statements from concerned individuals about university-wide issues."

Persons wishing to present prepared testimony to the Board, are requested to contact the Secretary of the University in advance of the meeting. Please be prepared to identify in a brief fashion the subject of your testimony. Miss Martha J. Downey is Secretary of the University and can be reached by calling (518) 474-7906 during the weekdays or by writing to her at State University of New York, 99 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12246. Such testimony will be limited to five minutes and such speakers will be requested to provide five copies of their written testimony to the Hearing Registration Officer who will be present at the Hearing.

Persons who wish to make brief extemporaneous comments (no more than three minutes) are requested to file their names with the Hearing Registration Officer, who will be present at the Hearing. Time for such comments will be set aside at the end of the Hearing and such persons will be called upon in the order in which they register with the Hearing Registration Officer.

CREATIVITY CONTEST *** CREATIVITY CONTEST *** CREATIVITY CONTEST*** CREATIVITY CONTEST

The Knothole presents another contest for the ESF student body. The deadline for submissions is April 13th, and will be published April 21th. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best poem, short story, cartoon, and Knothole masthead submitted. Each category has ten dollar prize.

Winning entrants will be notified via student mail. All material will be judged by the Knothole staff.

CONTEST RULES

All material, which may be submitted via the Knothole mailbox in the basement of Marshall, should:

- A. State at the top "FOR KNOTHOLE CREATIVITY CONTEST"
- B. Clearly state which category the submission is entered under.
- C. List author's/artist's name & class
- D. Please date all material, indicate if you'd like it returned, and make it LEGIBLE.



Bird of the Week



TMV-77

SAF STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

The student chapter of the Society of American Foresters would like to extend its thanks for those members (and almost members) who were able to volunteer their services to help with the recent New York Section Winter Meeting at the College. As far as we know, there were no hangups in the programming.

The student chapter will now try again to have the maple thinning at Heiberg Forest, Tully, on Saturday, April 9. There still may be some snow left on the ground in those hills. Some transportation will be provided for those needing it. Those students who had originally signed up and would still like to go and any new students interested should attend our next chapter meeting on Monday, April 4.

Monday, April 4 will also be the elections for the student chapter. Nominations and elections for the various officers are held at the same time, so come prepared. The following positions will be open: president, secretary, treasurer, and seven (7) council members. If you are interested in running for any one of these positions, please see one of the executive committee members or read the student chapter bylaws which will be posted outside 214 Marshall for an explanation of duties and powers.

The song sparrow (Melospiza melodia) is one of the first birds to return to New York State via the spring migration. Song sparrows seem to come north with the red-winged blackbirds. Moist, brusky spring fields may ring with the songs of both species.

The true sparrows belong to the passerine family Fringillidae. This large family is notorious for "look-alikes." The song sparrow may be confused with the fox sparrow (Passerella iliaca) or the female purple finch (Carpodacus purpureus), since all of these birds have a heavily streaked breast. The recognition of songs and habitat preferences is probably the best way to identify sparrow-like Fringillids in the field.

Song sparrows can be found in shrub-fields, hedgerows, wood margins and along the edges of water bodies. Brush piles seem to attract these birds.

The song of this sparrow varies with the locality. Usually, there are three short identical notes followed by a melodious chuckling. The alarm call is more note-like than the usual "tick" or "chip" of other sparrows.

-Thomas Ventiquattro

ATTENTION FORESTRY SOPHOMORES

This summer the Syracuse University Army ROTC Detachment is conducting an On Campus Summer Compression Program. Graduates of this summer course are eligible to join the Army ROTC Program in September as Advance Course students. The summer compression course will run from 6-17 June including Saturday. Subjects covered include:

PHYSICAL CONDITIONING
MAP READING
ORIENTEERING
DRILL & CEREMONIES
FIRST AID
WEAPONS FAMILIARIZATION & FIRING
TACTICS
LEADERSHIP

For more information about this challenging and worthwhile program, call 423-2462 or stop by the office (225 Archbold Gym) as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR SENIORS TO NOTE

NOW TO TUESDAY, APRIL 12: order cap and gown in SU Bookstore basement.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15: last day to submit graduation participation forms. Return SU forms to Special Events Office, 8 Administration Building. Return ESF's blue sheet to 107 Bray.

FUTURE DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED IN NEXT WEEK'S KNOTHOLE.

For further info: SU - Office of Special Events, 8 Administration Building
ESF - 107 Bray.

WHAT A WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

I'd like to say that I'm greatly sorrowed by my imminent graduation, but a particularly severe case of Senioritis (it started spring semester 1976) has degenerated into apathy with a capital A. (not that anyone cares, of course)

It's sort of neat, though, the way that everyone all seems smitten with a dire case of the blahs and I-don't-cares. It gives us a sense of community and common purpose; feeling over-worked and depressed has become the fad feeling for foresters. Actually, we could all be allowing our mental being a quick run out the tubes without even being aware of our mental decomposition (other adjectives that would serve equally well are: decay, degeneracy, failing, loss, deterioration, ect. Imagine, all those without the aid of a Thesaurus!). Speaking of adjectives, that reminds me of English and my anamosity for prepositional phrases and other such attempts at structuring language but then again, who's to take my word, for I am but a functioning college illiterate, one of those for whom a misspelled word on a resume means quick death by dissolution in 100 Molar HCl. Enough of trivia....

Despite the fact that many of the seniors have yet to establish for themselves a position in society (i.e., a job), America's major companies are on the move. Standing as bulwark's in the belief of the innate ability of the Class of 1977 to pull itself up into the rank and file of the employed, companies such as Sears, AMOCO, Mobil, TWA and who knows or cares whatelse, are asking this great class of unemployed, inexperienced people to honor them by obtaining their credit cards. The fact that we have no money to make the payments doesn't seem to phase them too much. I wonder what the catch is?

Not all is gray clouds and rain.. I happen to have two very prestigious organizations interested in me for employment purposes. The fact that they're the Army and the Peace Corps shouldn't make too

of a difference, should it?

Commercials in this country are for the most part inane, borish and sickening. They pain the genteel mind, revolt the stomach, and issue forth the passage of gas as a critical evaluative comment of their content. The following ten commercials are dubbed inadequate and of dubious quality:

1. Mr. Whipple, a man (I assume) with an overt consternation with toilet tissue and a phobia about letting others squeeze it. I vote that we squeeze Mr. Whipple's neck until dead.
2. Mr. Goodwin. A disgusting old pervert with an obsession for teeth and young girls who are going camping. I move that we tie-die his tongue and give him an enema with a tube of Crest.
3. Aunt Blue Bell. Her size belies any petite figure implied by "Bell". The more for your money, honey and weight it for yourself lady should have her mouth cemented shut.
4. Marge and her Palmolive Finger bath. Make her eat it, bowl and all.
5. Aunt Cora and her Maxwell House. The quicker picker upper should be put to bed without benefit of oxygen.
6. Mother Tums. There, there. She belongs in the Student Affairs Office to comfort students when they come to her with their problems.
7. Geritol. My wife's wonderful. I married her because I get tired when I do the laundry. With Geritol I get more milage out of her. Bludgeon the pair of 'em.
8. Baby's diaper, it's sooo soft. How did you do it, honey? "I washed the crap out".
9. Cascade. How spots can ruin a marriage.
10. Ring around the collar. I'd like to ring their f***** necks. I don't quite see how a women can destroy her hubby's life by not using the socially acceptable detergent.
11. Last minute addition: "Do you get stroked in the morning?" No, but I'd like to.

Bill Coons

#LOST: One blue and white hawaiian shirt.
Somewhere in the vicinity of the nearest
flagpole. If found please contact Dr.
Morrison.

#LOST: A red down jacket at H.C.'s Thurs.
night. If found, please contact Bill
Stebbins.

#LOST: 45 minds Sat. night in Nifkin.
If found, please contact the ERM Junior
class.

#To the people who ate the peanuts at the
free concert in Nifkin Fri. night- may
the bird of paradise fly up your nose!

#Congratulations to Jim Perry- the new
"Keeper of the Pants"

#L.H.S. - Why do you blush- are you hot?

#She who dances and runs away lives to
dance another day.

#For Graham: The frail hand never won the
fair lady.

#Silviculturo, a division of Silvico,
proudly announces its last record offer -
The "432 Blues". You hear familiar tunes
like: The big trees get bigger and the
runts get runtier; Oh, I wanted an A but
I'm struggling for a D; Carve a J-shaped
curve into the old oak tree; Stop by my
office- but it can't help; Money isn't
everything- except in forestry. Act now
and you will get the exciting offer;
Ralph's new blues single-- Winny the Pooh
lost his tail near the cop. Availiabile at
your Silviculturo corner...naturally.

#Tim, get up and boogie.

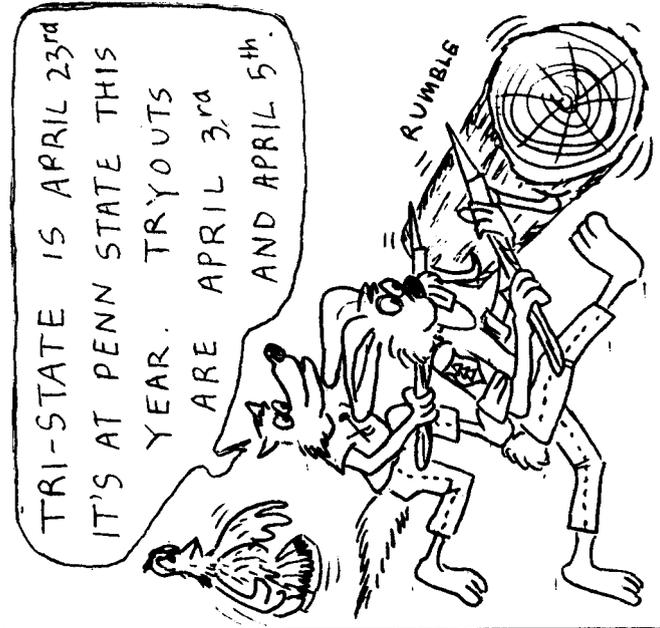
#Frank, you're sick! (as a horse)

#Silvico announces a new product: Silvicola!
The nitrogen fortified soft drink!

#How did the Bionic Man get the Bionic
Woman pregnant? ...Jumper cables

(hahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahah)

Why not



RIDGE RUMMIN'
STUMP PUMPIN'

THE SAGA OF EUSTACE B. NIFKIN
- Mickey Sull

Famous men in pictures,
On radio and such,
We've come to know since grade school
And since have kept in touch.
But there was a man in history
Much different from the rest
Who scored such goals in forestry
He outdated every test.
He was rhommate to Paul Bunyan;
Dan'l Boone's old friend,
And Davy Crockett's sidekick
at the Alamo's tragic end
He invented the giant redwoods
With a Salix magic wand,
And in his flower garden
Planted the Cedars of Lebanon.
He helped old Franklin Roosevelt
Achieve the CCC
And spent much time dam-building
In the state of Tennessee.
But today he remains as legend,
Wind-whispered in valley and dell,
For you folks - his name is Nifkin,
And of him I shall tell.

It was many long months and years ago
In the stump of an old hollow tree,
That Nature done graced the forest
With the birth of Eustace B.
In the younger years of his busy life
He learned from the forested wood
And gave more sound knowledge to forestry
Than a textbook ever could.
He was as patriotic and loyal
As any soul could be,
And at the age of eighteen was drafted
By the U.S. Cavalry.
Well, he fought some Indians for awhile,
Then grew corn in Iowa;
Moved east and became an oil barren
In Pennsylvania.
One day he was out a-walking
With his trusty dog Old Blue,
Taking him through his wood lot
To do what doggies must do.
Blue sighted a hare behind a rock;
Started running just like the wind,
Startled old Eustace to such a degree
He stumbled and bruised his shin.
Looking back to see the log
That tripped him minutes before
He pondered and then said "Eureka!"
"That log made my shin so sore!"
"I think I'll study its' makeup
And chemic morphology.
And I must know it's vascular structure
And of course its cytology.

But I don't even know its generic name
Or what species it might be;
Man! I guess I'd better get in gear
And learn me some forestry!"
He was advised on many schools,
None of which did rate,
Then someone told him of THE COLLEGE
In Central New York State.
He made his decision immediately,
Packed his boots and Bowie knife.
Then hiked from Pennsylvania
To begin his famous life.
As a freshman he was toppes in Botany,
As a sophomore he surveyed well,
But it was in dendro and management
That he really did excel
He was involved in Student Government;
Originated campus mail,
And built our very first greenhouse,
With a hammer and ten-penny nail.
He became a professor in later years,
Though we can't recall of what,
Supervised comstruction of Marshall and Bray,
(They began as bamboo huts!)
Had visions and dreams of our future Quad
Beneath a sky of blue'
Of deep green grass and stately trees,
(Lord - if he only knew!)
Began the famous Zoology club;
Started the Barbeque
And won the decathlon at Tri-State
In '51 and '52.
Directed the first Summer Session
In the cemetery near Marshall Hall
And in Cranberry Lake taught classes
On its swamps in the Spring and the Fall
With a beard as red as the sumac
And a heart as kind as could be,
He was a most humble dear old fellow,
And quite a sight to see
He smoked a pipe made from corncob,
As all good stumpies should,
And they say that, behind the greenhouse,
To this day you can hear him chop wood.
But at this point the facts get faded
Our records have been lost through the years,
And to read them would only bring sadness,
And what's worse than a foresters' tears?
So from here you take the story
As I've reminisced it for you,
And tell it to your decendants
As we've all done the many years through.
But never forget his achievements;
His pride and his most sacred name -
Yes, we hail thee, Eustace B. Nifkin -
Of honor and of fame!

reprinted from the Sept. 28, 1970 Knothole.