Looking Ahead
Getting Organized for YOUR job search

Tom Slocum,

One cause of stress related to the job search is lack of organization. Seeking a professional position utilizes many of the same skills you have mastered taking classes. You need a system and a plan of action. Getting a notebook with dividers is a good start.

Stress often begins this time of year when graduation is fast approaching. Family and friends are wondering, along with you, what you will be doing after graduation. You know you should have a resume(s), (It’s OK to have more than one targeted resume) cover letters, lists of openings, geographic preferences, and potential employers. When one looks at all the employers in the country as well as categories of employment and resources, it can become quite overwhelming. You need to take charge.

Now for the organization part and using your academic skills. Put your notebook to work as you would for a class. Create a section for a timeline similar to a syllabus. Identify your subject areas to master and key dates to produce output. Create sections for each area to refer to as needed. (resumes and letters, available resources for help, job listings, potential employers, contacts, *references, geographic preferences and information, employment categories, pending employment actions.) Also have a section for “Thoughts and Ideas to Investigate and Reflect Upon.” You now have a “home base” to work from as well as an accountability source to keep you moving. As you collect information and take action, record or file the related information in each section. Keep it handy and visible. By getting organized you have something tangible to show you are actively taking control or your job

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Letter to the Editor
and Student Community at ESF

How many students are actually aware that Nifkin Lounge no longer exists? I had heard rumors to this effect over the last month or so, and yesterday I actually saw the new sign, changing the name of Nifkin Lounge to the Alumni Lounge. A notice arrived in the office where I work on campus stating that all memos, letters, etc. that make reference to the lounge must now use the new name.

As a student, I am appalled that this was allowed to happen. When I was an undergraduate student as ESF, there were not too many traditions left, and now that I have returned as a graduate student, I find that there are even fewer. No longer is the “Please Keep Our Green—Use the Sidewalks” sign placed at the corner of the quad to remind people not to cut across the quad; instead we now have pathways being worn as people take a short cut to and from Moon. And no one seems to care!!! I was a member of USA for two years, and we saw apathy as a real problem. One of the things which I believe encourages apathy and lack of student spirit is the fact that there really is not much for students to do on campus, and there are no traditions left. Outside of the occasional TGIF, and the many seminars, there is not much to do. What happened to the dances? There used to be a dance every month or two when I was an undergrad. In Nifkin lounge!

And now we have another tradition taken away. I am shocked that the students did not react. As an alumna, I am even further shocked because I received no notice that this was going to happen. And, as an alum, I am very much against this change!

Was the student body consulted about this change? Was an announcement sent to the alumni? Was a survey taken to find out if the overall feeling was in favor of this change? When I come back in another seven years will I find that no one even knows who Eustace B. Nifkin (and his girlfriend Elsa) was?

I for one will never call it the Alumni Lounge—it is, and will always be, Nifkin Lounge.

Sincerely,
Ellen Rathbone
TO ALL STUDENTS:

Welcome back! Believe it or not, it's time to plan Earth Week again! For those of you who are unfamiliar with the celebration, Earth Week (an extension of Earth Day, April 22nd) consists of environmental activities, lectures, music and other entertainment for the ESF population as well as for anyone else who wants to take part in the celebration. Although Earth Week is primarily sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Association (USA) it is a community event that anyone can take part in. In the past, many of the organizations on the ESF campus have played an important role in planning the organization of Earth Week. This year, we would like to see even more club involvement and student support. For anyone who is interested in being a part of the planning, the first meeting will be held on Monday, January 29th at 7:00PM in Nifkin Lounge. Please share this information with the members of your organization.

I hope to see you there!
Daniela Shebitz
Earth Week Chairperson
Undergraduate Student Association

AFTER GRADUATION??!!

Peace Corps

Offers opportunities to live and work overseas, learn a foreign language, and gain hands-on work experience while helping others who can benefit from your knowledge and experience.

Peace Corps is looking for people with degrees or experience in:

Environmental Education
Forestry
Natural Resources Management
Parks/Wildlife
Math/Science Education
Agriculture
Water/Sanitation Engineering
Fisheries
and many more....

Contact your Peace Corps Campus Recruiter
B.J. Ritchie, 404 Bray Hall, 470-6678

Peace Corps
"Still...the toughest job you'll ever love"


WHEN: Starting on or about Jan. 8, 1996.

TO DO: Set up a spreadsheet containing data about commercial nurseries and seed producers which contains addresses, phone numbers and types of plants they sell. This data will be regional in scope, and will require phone calls to verify/update information.

DURATION: Estimate 80 hours to complete task.

SKILLS NEEDED: Familiarity with spreadsheet applications in DOS. Also, ability to communicate succinctly with nursery and seed business owners throughout the Northeast. Can proceed semi-independently after task is understood.

HOURS: Flexible, but within the core time of 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday.

CONTACT: John Dickerson at 477-6535.
Sounding Off
With Greg Bubniak

Tricky Oliver?

Hello all! It is good to be back after some time to relax and recover from the fall semester. I hope that this semester is positive for all. As is customary, I would like to turn your attention towards something that struck me as interesting. I had the opportunity to watch the movie “Nixon”, directed by Oliver Stone. I also saw a documentary on the life of Richard Nixon as presented by the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) soon afterwards. The contrast between the two was striking.

“Nixon” was the handiwork of Oliver Stone, and there was little to suggest otherwise in the movie. Nixon was portrayed by Anthony Hopkins, who looked absolutely constipated through the entire movie. He was portrayed as a very nervous man, uncomfortable in his own skin; I cannot see how such a man could possibly have enough charisma to win two presidential elections. I base this suggestion on the personal belief that a politician must make his or herself appear appealing to the voter or they will not receive votes. The Nixon shown to me by Anthony Hopkins could not win too many elections. I will not attempt to blame this on Hopkins, but rather on Stone; he did direct the movie, and things were quite probably done his way. The topper to this movie was Stone’s very vague suggestion that Nixon had something to do with the assassination of John F. Kennedy. I sat in disbelief when this scene was finished, because it was clear that all of the characters in the scene were fictional; the lead character in the scene, “Jack Jones” (played quite nicely by Larry Hagman), had the character listed in the credits in quotes. “Jones” suggested that Nixon may have an easier time running for president if Kennedy was not around, and the very next day Kennedy was shot. I saw little relevance to the inclusion of this scene, for its historical backing is non-existent.

I was not entirely sure on my take of this situation at the time I saw the movie. Soon, I would have something to compare it to.

The PBS documentary, part of the “American Experience” series, was a three hour look at the life of Richard Nixon. The program showed interviews with people he grew up with, went to school with, ran against in government elections and several of his top presidential aides. The program showed at least one solid half-hour of video tape footage of Nixon himself, and he didn’t look constipated during any of it. It did substantiate some of the things Stone sought to bring out in Nixon’s character: his distaste for losing elections, his quirkiness, his bitterness towards the Kennedys (John and Robert). It did not paint him out to be a horrible person as Stone almost seemed to do, and it did show him to feel genuinely hurt when the Kennedy family didn’t invite him to John’s funeral. It showed a man whose dogged determination brought him, in an honest fashion, to political heights most do not see. It showed a man who let one small event be handled so improperly that it ruined his career and the careers of many in his administration, not a “crook” as reputation may have it. PBS has had a reputation of being liberal. In this case, PBS’s rendering of someone was more middle of the road than the popular culture rendering. Amazing!!

In summary, I will first admit that I am somewhat a fan of Richard Nixon, and that my opinion is most definitely biased. I still feel that my comparing these two looks at the life of Richard Milhous Nixon is as obvious as anyone else would come up with if they saw the same two takes on him as I. The bottom line: Hollywood distorts history again. I have recently said that Disney was a large thought controlling machine used on children to feed them liberal garbage at an early age. Well, Oliver Stone is delivering the garbage to the adults. When a historical drama is made, it is easy for the viewer to mix up fact and fiction — the exact thing Stone thrives on. His misinforming of the public is his greatest joy. Those in Nixon’s family and administration, with a few exceptions, detest the Oliver Stone rendition of “Nixon”. This includes those who spent time in prison because of their involvement with him. Now that should tell you something.
ATTENTION:

Please note that **all** submissions to the *Knot-hole* (except for images intending to be scanned) should be handed in on a 3.5 in. disk (preferably formatted to Macintosh) accompanied by a printout of the entry displaying the file name. Thank you for your cooperation.

The *Knothole* Staff

Casual Dining for the Economically Challenged Contest

Have you ever eaten somewhere near ESU and wanted to tell everyone how great the food was? Better yet, was it economical to eat there? Well, here's your chance to let us know about it.

Pick your favorite eatery in walking distance of ESU, area that is set for the economically disabled, and the Knothole staff will eat dinner there and rate it against all the other eateries suggested by other students. We would also ask that you tell us what particular menu item you like the best, and we'll try it. The winner will have lunch on the Knothole at the end of the semester.

All you need to do is fill out the entry form below and turn it in to the Knothole student organization box (basement of Bray) or in the folder near 22 Bray.

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Name: ___________________________ Mayor: ___________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Class (please circle): 1 2 3 4 5 Grad

Name of Eatery (One per entry, please): ___________________________

Location: ___________________________

Menu Item (please include approximate price): ___________________________
27th Annual
Creativity Contest

The Knothole
is soliciting entries for its 27th Annual Creativity Contest

There will be 3 cash prizes in each of 4 categories:

Artwork
Photography
Short Story
Poetry

First place: $30
Second place: $20
Third place: $10

Send submissions to the Knothole, 22 Bray Hall via campus mail, or drop them off in person.
Complete list of rules and regulations is posted outside 22 Bray

Deadline for submissions is 3:00 pm, March 1, 1996

***SCHOLARSHIP***

The Genesee Finger Lakes Nursery and Landscape Association has announced its 1996 scholarship program. Six scholarships ranging from $600 to $1,000 (depending on number of applicants) will be offered.

Applicants must have a home residence within one of the following counties: Allegheny, Cayuga, Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Struben, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates. Recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic achievement, experience, interest in the field, and financial need.

DEADLINE FOR APPLYING:
Feb. 10, 1996
More information in Financial Aid Office, 115 Bray Hall, including applications.

***SCHOLARSHIP***

The Outdoor Writers Association of America announces its scholarship program for the 1996-97 academic year. Amounts are from $2,000 to $3,000 and will be awarded to qualified undergraduate (last 2 years) or master's degree students.

DEADLINE: March 1, 1996

For more information and application forms, please come to the Financial Aid Office, 115 Bray Hall.
Elementary Humour

Happy New Year and welcome back to these hallowed halls of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry. I hope the beginning of this semester finds you in good cheer. If not, here’s a little something to make you smile:

"The forests of the Adirondacks are found mostly in woody places."

"The Adirondacks are the part of New York most thickly spread."

"All of the Adirondacks, with the possible exception of the southern 9/10, is flat mountainous country."

"Correct my being wrong but tell me true or false. Are the Adirondack Mountains higher than our Ozark Mountains here in Missouri? I wrecked my brain trying to think which."

For those of you just tuning in the above comments were made by some elementary school children from Missouri about the Adirondack Mountains in the spring of 1974. Also for those of you just tuning in (and for those of you who have been with me all along) I have been soliciting submissions for this column. If you come across anything which you find humorous and would like to share with your fellow students please send it to me care of Elementary Humour. Everything else you need to know about submissions is on page 2.* Happy hunting and see you next week!

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search. Typically it takes from 4-6 months to secure a professional position. It could also take as much time, effort, and cost as a 6 credit pass/fail course.

*REFERENCES: Most employers will ask for at least 3 references. Be sure you have made contact with at least two faculty members before you graduate. Ask them if you could use them as a reference and if they are comfortable giving you a GOOD letter of recommendation. Most faculty prefer to respond to a specific request rather than write a general reference to send with you. Plan to spend 10-20 minutes with them to be clear what process will be followed as well as being sure they know you and have something to work with. You might leave a resume or personal brief. Career services help is available in 110 Bray.

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“SOME OTHER REALMS”
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS SULLIVAN

On Exhibit
January 16 - March 17, 1996
at the
Robert B. Menschel Gallery

Schine Student Center
306 University Place
Syracuse, NY 13244
Gallery Hours: Sunday through
Friday, 10AM - 1PM

Remember-- Knothole submissions are overwhelmingly preferred on disk, Macintosh Word 5.0 or up.

Do you have a professor or staff member who you think is fantastic? The Empire Forester yearbook is looking for someone to dedicate its 1996 edition to. If you feel your professor or staff member is worthy of such an honor, nominate him or her.
In The Near Future...

Monday, January 29

**First Earth Week Meeting** 7:00pm, Nifkin Lounge. All those interested in planning Earth Week are welcome.

Tuesday, January 30

**Knothole Meeting** 6:30pm, 22 Bray  
**Student Environmental Action Coalition Meeting** 6:00pm, Nifkin Lounge

Wednesday, January 31

**Empire Forester Yearbook Meeting** 4:30pm, 22 Bray. New members welcome

It's almost midnight and the *Empire Forester* yearbook is **desperately** seeking anyone with knowledge of PageMaker to fill the position of Layout Editor. Class credit up to 3 hours is available. Call as soon as possible at 470-6892.

**Presidents' Roundtable**

February 6, 1996  
5:30 PM  
Nifkin Lounge, Marshall Hall  
All clubs must be represented!