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The Knothole, March 29, 1973

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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NEW PHONE SYSTEM

On April 2 the College of ES&F phone system will change from a system of a centrally based phone switchboard with many extensions to that of a direct-call-in system. This new system will allow a caller to reach directly the office wanted. For example, instead of a person calling the College's one phone no. and then asking for ext. 396, the call can be made directly. All C. of ES&F numbers will be preceded by 173- and should have an 8 as the fourth digit. So an ext. 396 will have the new number 173-8396. To make a local outside call from the College, dial a 9 first and then the number wanted. This will apply to calls made to SU and its extensions. To call someone in Day, dial 9 and the SU number (476-5541), which will ring the SU switchboard; then ask for the ext. you want. To make a call within the College, dial 8 and the ext. : for ext. 396, dial 8396.

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DIAMOND ORDERS CRUCIBLE

Environmental Conservation Commissioner Henry L. Diamond announced that Crucible, Inc. of Solvay has been ordered to complete installation of air cleaning equipment this month.

Crucible, Inc., the specialty metals division of Colt Industries, has posted a $50,000 bond with the Department as assurance that testing of the air cleaning equipment will be completed by September 19, when they will certify that they have fully complied with Department requirements.

1400 ESF STUDENTS NOT ARRESTED - DRUGS

It seems a little unfair to law abiding citizens that most of the news published in newspapers is of a negative nature. The person who commits a crime gets more coverage than the person who performs a service to the community. It is this paper's policy to give "equal time" to both sides.

Although the early morning drug raid of last week netted two ESF students among the final captives, it should be noted that over 1400 other ESF students were not arrested. Among many of the reasons that these students remain free are that some find no use for illegal drugs in their lives, some have a respect for the law, some are just never caught.

There were no law enforcement agents of the city, county or state involved in the continued freedom status of these students. All those not picked up were between the ages of 17 and 20. The list of names of these students is too long to be printed here but information on this can be obtained from the Knothole.
DR. GEIS’ TEST OF TIME

The determinations of the longevity, stability, productivity, and time constraints of past plant communities from "cellular-fossils" is the concern of research work presently being conducted by Dr. James W. Geis of the Botany Department here at the College of Forestry.

Dr. Geis' research deals with the examination of the products of silicate deposition in living plant cells. These silicates, while being chemically similar to the silicon dioxide of ordinary beach sand, become when deposited in plant cells, a non-crystalline amorphous material which occurs in the cell wall or lumen taking of the morphology of that cell. Thus a more durable silicate replica of the original plant is constructed.

Upon the death and decomposition of the living plant materials these silicate replicas, termed opalphytoliths, accumulate in the forest soils. Therefore a record of the plant species and their relative abundance is laid down through the years in the soil of the forest floor.

Dr. Geis’ group is presently working on the construction of a taxonomic key to the species identification of these opalphytoliths which occur naturally in most species of plants. It is the hope of Dr. Geis that once the cataloging of specific opalphytoliths has been completed and a key constructed, inferences can be made concerning the species composition, relative abundance, stability, longevity, and productivity of various forest communities which have existed on different sites over long periods of time.

The general principles behind these determinations closely approximate those of pollen grain analysis. However, the major advantage of the opalphytolith determination of past ecosystem structure is that, while pollen grain analysis can only be accomplished on wet anaerobic sites where decomposition is slow, opalphytoliths are not destroyed through the common pathways of decomposition. They are therefore present on the drier aerobic upland sites. It is hoped that through examination of these relatively stable opalphytoliths much new evidence can be obtained regarding trends, both spatial and temporal, in the establishment, maturation, maintenance, and elimination of forest types over the years.

In the near future it is hoped that full scale soil analysis will begin and that new insights into the ecological histories of upland forests will be brought to light. Such insights will bring about a better understanding of the overall successional trends of today's forest and allow for more in-depth and accurate planning for and manipulation of forests in the future.

Tom Cuffney--Alpha Xi Sigma Research Report

FREE CREDIT

Want college credit without formal classroom preparation for a subject you know well? College Proficiency Examinations offer this opportunity. By taking an exam you may qualify for credit that is applicable to your graduation here. This is an opportunity to reduce course load or obtain more credits. Learning can take place in many ways and not just in the college classroom. Independent study, military service, or on-the-job training may have adequately prepared you to take a proficiency exam. Exams are offered in more than 25 subject areas within arts and sciences, business, education, nursing, and foreign language.

The cost is from $15 to $25 and a passing grade can earn up to 2½ course credits depending on the exam. Exams are usually given in Oct. and May. Syracuse will be among other N.Y. cities that offer the tests on May 10 and 11. Deadline for applications is April 2. Enrollment forms, study guides and reading lists are available free of charge from: Regent External Degrees
Room 1924
99 Washington Ave.
Albany, N.Y. 12210

TRI-STATE

Tri-state is April 14. Tryouts for the Tri-state Woodsmen's team will be held Sat. and Sun. Mar. 31 and Apr. 1. There will be an additional practice for those having made the team on Sat. and Sun. Apr. 7 and 8.
PHONES...

There will also be a new switchboard located in Bray Rotunda. The operator may be reached in the normal way by dialing 0. If you receive a call and want to transfer it to another ESF line, press the button down for ½ sec. (very quickly), and tell the operator what no. to transfer the caller to. More than ½ sec. will be too long and cut the caller off. If an outside operator is wanted dial 9 and then 0. There is also an emergency no., 8888, which rings Security.

This information was given to KH by Mrs. Jeanne Savage, Service Advisor for N.Y. Telephone Co. Mrs. Savage said that this system will greatly relieve the telephone traffic which has been causing the congestion of calls to the outside from the College. She said also that SU will be changing to a similar system this August.

Along with the phone in Nifkin Lounge, the S.C. has received assurance from Vice President Andersen that a second phone for student use will be located in Moon library. Long distance calls cannot be made from these phones.

RECYCLE UPDATE

Over vacation, Maintenance took two truckloads of paper to Spevak’s. Following is a breakdown of types:

- newspaper 1675 lbs.
- computer paper 2495
- white ledger 1450
- colored ledger 810
- computer cards 250
- corrugated cardboard 210

Total 9920 lbs.

The largest category was newspaper which composed about 47% of the shipment. This indicates a good trend in that we are collecting much more of the other paper types. Please keep it up.

April 6 is the day for recyclers. The event will be at about 8:00 pm that Friday, in Nifkin Lounge. Be sure to sign up in the paper garage on the back wall.

WPE HONORS

Two students at the State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry are recipients of the Forest Products Research Society Outstanding Student awards.

Dr. Robert W. Davidson, chairman of the College's Department of Wood Products Engineering, announced that Stewart Foster, a senior from Fayetteville, and Mark Reeves, a junior from Baldwinsville, are this year’s winners.

The awards are made each year by the Forest Products Research Society "to stimulate student interest in the forest products industry," according to Davidson. Dr. Eric Anderson, former president of the national society, participated in the presentations made by President Edward E. Palmer.

Students enrolled in a wood engineering program at a number of institutions across the nation are eligible. Selection of an outstanding junior and senior is made by the faculty at each college.

SILVERSTEIN RECEIVES GRANT

A $15,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation will enable a forest chemistry professor to continue research in ecological chemistry at the College of ES&F.

Chemistry Professor Robert M. Silverstein received the funding for an eighteen-month period, which began March 1.

Dr. Silverstein’s research is focused on the identification of pheromones, the chemical "odors" emitted by insects as part of their communication system. Pheromones serve as sex attractants, alarm signals, path markers, and regulators of insect behavior.

Silverstein is concerned with the trail pheromones associated with leaf cutting ants, native to Latin America, which pose a threat to agricultural crops.

The research may lead to "more effective control of leaf cutting ants without massive environmental contamination," according to the professor. He feels that uncovering the identity of pheromones will also be an important advancement in the study of insect behavior.

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EUROPEAN JOBS

For any student planning a trip to Europe a temporary paying job in Austria, Switzerland, France or some other country could be the answer to lower purchasing power of the U.S. dollar. Recently raised wages in Europe will not only offset any loss in dollar value, but a few weeks work at a resort hotel or restaurant job providing wages plus free room and board will actually pay for the youth fare air ticket and provide leftover cash for traveling around Europe. Temporary paying student jobs are available to any student willing to work in order to see Europe.

Most jobs are in Austria, Switzerland, France, and Germany in such categories as resort, hotel, restaurant, hospital, and farm work. Jobs are also available in factories, offices and shops. Standard wages are always paid, and room and board are arranged in advance and provided free of cost with most jobs. The Student Overseas Services (SOS), a Luxembourg student organization which has been helping students for the past 15 years, will obtain a job, work permit, visa, and any other necessary working papers required for any college student who applies early enough. SOS also provides a job orientation in Europe before going to your job.

Application forms, job listings and descriptions, and the SOS Handbook on earning a trip to Europe may be obtained by sending your name, address, educational institution and $1 (for addressing, handling, printing, and postage) to Placement Office, SOS, 22 Ave. de la Liberte, Luxembourg - Europe. Inquiries and applications for paying jobs in Europe should be sent early enough to allow SOS ample time to process the papers.

BOYS UP NORTH

Two students at the College of E S & F's Ranger School at Wanakena have been awarded scholarship grants from Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation.

Presentation of a $100 check was made to each of the recipients at a school meeting.

Recipients are Stephen A. Jilm of Cranberry Lake, N.Y., and Robert John Cameron of Tampa, Florida.

THE BEAT

BY

ROLAND R. VOSBURGH

Everyone would agree, I'm sure, that recycling of paper is a worthwhile activity. Yet I think that many people do not realize all the work that is involved. The recycling group here at the college is performing a fine job, but some people on campus are making their job harder.

Six buildings have to be checked continually to empty the theta bins located on each floor. Those buildings that get the most traffic are the hardest hit. The bins fill up quite quickly. Once the bins are emptied the paper is taken to the recycling garage. It isn't just dumped there. Each bag must be hand sorted by paper grade. The categories of paper that are accepted are newspaper, white and colored ledger, kraft paper or paper bags, magazines, cardboard, and chipboard. This takes up time and is not always an enjoyable task, but one that pays off because of different price scales for different grades.

Usually one will find, along with the paper, some materials which can not be recycled, such as cellophane or towels. This is an inconvenience. It is worse when you have to deal with garbage that lazy people toss in the bins. The bins on the first floor of Illick and Marshall as well as Moon Library invariably contain apple cores, milk cartons, or cigarette butts. All of the bins had, or should have had, lists on them stating those materials which are not recyclable. O ran up against this kind of garbage while emptying the bin from the third floor of Marshall. You may not know it, those of you who use this floor, but we have not yet perfected ways of recycling apple cores, plastics, and cigarettes! How would you enjoy sorting paper from all that mess and get lousy cigarette ashes all over you?

I would suggest that receptacles for garbage only be installed in these areas of high use to eliminate the problem. Until then, let us all show a little intelligence about what we throw in the theta bins.

Thank You.
"STONEYBROOK DAYDREAM"

Stoneybrook begins my wave.

Strolling in green darkness...
Living Beauty in my hand
My soul sighs the burning brand
Melting deeper in dark sand-
She controls me with Her harness...

Stoneybrook whitecaps my wave.

Seemingly endless in Her night...
Yet day it was outside Her bounds
Soundless in Her many sounds
It is here that I am found-
She wins the battle without a fight...

Stoneybrook, it's breaking!

Why do I leave, there's no control...
Clouds appear, fogging my eyes
Longer and deeper my soul sighs
Stoneybrook's about to die-
Tears drip my face. The roll?

My wave met its beach.

Albert Gomolka

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All you smokers who plan to quit someday:

Can you throw away that pack right now? It's not easy, is it?
In 20 years, after 146,000 more cigarettes, you think it's going to be easier?
Don't kid yourself.
Quit now. You'll never get a chance like this again.

U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
This space contributed as a public service.
Senator Roy M. Goodman, RL-New York City, and Assemblyman J. Edward Meyer, RC-Chappaqua, have introduced bills S2782 and A3615 calling for the decriminalization of marijuana.

Senator Joseph Galiber, DRL-Bronx and Assemblyman William F. Passannante, DL-New York City, have introduced bills S3472 and A3545 calling for the repeal of sodomy laws.

Senator Carol Bellamy, D-Brooklyn, and Assemblyman Albert H. Blumenthal, D-Manhattan, have filed a package of more than twenty Women's Rights Bills which would amend the Civil Rights Law and the State Constitution to bar discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status, or sexual discrimination. They include a proposal that a woman be granted unemployment insurance upon being divorced from her husband.

Assemblyman Eugene Levy, R-Suffern, is sponsoring a bill which would require hotel and innkeepers to post their room rates at the registration desk. The bill unanimously passed the Assembly and has been sent to the Senate.

Governor Rockefeller has introduced legislation that would require television and automobile repair shops to obtain licenses which would be revoked if they defrauded their customers. The automobile repair shops would have to register with the Department of Motor Vehicles and TV Repair shops would register with the secretary of state. Shops could be fined up to $100 for negligence or overcharging. Only the shopowners, and not his employees would be liable.

Assemblyman Robert F. Kelly, R-Brooklyn, has reintroduced legislation to restore the death penalty for first-degree murder. At present, the state imposes a death penalty only for the murder of a policeman or prison guard in the line of duty.

The Assembly has approved and sent to the Senate a bill allowing tax abatements to property owners in 26 counties, as far south as Westchester, who suffered losses in the tropical storm Agnes last June. The state would compensate local governments and school districts for the reduction in revenues as a result of the abatements. All 26 counties are in the "disaster area" declared by President Nixon after the storm.

Assemblyman Milton Jonas, R-Nassau, has sponsored a bill which would prohibit new employment agencies from referring to sex or age in their names. Employment agencies are already prohibited from referring to race, creed, color, or national origin. The bill passed the assembly and has been sent to the Senate.

Deputy Majority Leader James Emery, R-Geneseo, filed legislation to require lobbyists to register with the Legislature before confronting lawmakers and to submit monthly financial statements with the Secretary of State.

Assemblyman William Sears, RC-Woodgate, has introduced a bill, A4335, to exempt from sales tax, hearing aids, hygienic tampons, and sanitary napkins.

Assemblyman Joseph Lentol, D-Brooklyn, has introduced a bill A3095, appropriating $500,000 to the Narcotic Addiction Control Commission enabling it to make agreements with private agencies for the development and distribution of sound recordings and tapes, and other recording devices for radio broadcast, motion picture film, or other means of reproduction which shall show nature and effect of dangerous drugs upon the human mind and body, with emphasis upon education of school and preschool age persons.

Senator Emmanuel Gold, DL-Flushing, has introduced a bill, S-77, to repeal provisions in the Education Law which limit the authority of licensed pharmacists to sell and distribute contraceptive devices only to persons age 16 or over. Assemblyman Blumenthal, DL-New York and Senator Gordon De Hond, RC-Rochester, have introduced similar bills (A4371; S3049).

Assemblyman Blumenthal has introduced a package of bills, A5130-5145, to change various laws which presently make distinctions between males and females, discriminating on the basis of sex.

Assemblyman Antonio G. Olivieri, DL-New York City, and Senator Donald Halperin, D-Brooklyn, have introduced bills A1510 and S3102 to provide that state agencies maintaining records of information about persons must notify these persons, and to require that the agency maintain a record of names and positions of anyone inspecting the records and for what purpose. The bills also require that each individual be permitted to inspect his own record and that his permission be required before information about him be disclosed.

Senators Ohrenstein, Bellamy, Burstein and Gold have proposed Senate Resolution No. 44 requiring all state departments and agencies to refrain from buying iceberg lettuce in violation of the lettuce boycott organized by the United Farm Workers.

Senate Majority Leader, Warren M. Anderson has proposed a resolution to authorize the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Codes to create a sub-committee to study and investigate the administration and enforcement of the laws relating to public sales on Sunday, the so-called "blue laws."

Assemblyman Vincent A. Riccio, RC-Brooklyn, has introduced a bill A4050, to require that 11th and 12th grade pupils be given medical examinations to discover venereal disease.

Assemblyman William F. Passannante, DL-New York City, has introduced A3544, which would abolish trading stamps.
ALBANY TIDBITS

BICYCLING

With the fast rise in popularity of bicycling, lawmakers have been concerned with the level of safety standards for bicycles. Recently, Governor Rockefeller announced the adoption by the state of what may be the most comprehensive bicycle safety standards in the country.

The safety measure, which applies to all new bicycles sold in the state after January 1, 1974, calls for reflective material to be installed on the front, rear, sides and pedals of new bicycles to increase their visibility at night. Among other features, the regulations require that tires and rims must be covered with reflective material. Since 1965, the Governor pointed out, more than 33,000 bicyclists have been killed or injured in New York State accidents.

GAMBLING

Can you imagine spending a Saturday night, not in your favorite bar draining pitchers of beer, but in a gambling casino playing roulette, chemin de fer, craps, poker or blackjack? And not in Las Vegas, but in New York State? Last year's Legislature could, and they approved an amendment to the State Constitution that would permit the Legislature to legalize a whole array of gambling in the state. A constitutional amendment requires passage by two separately elected Legislatures and the approval of voters in a referendum. If this year's Legislature passes the gambling amendment, it will come before voters in the November election. However, the current Legislature is not as enthusiastic about it as last year's was. Senator Bernard Gordon, R-Peekskill, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, made a trip to Puerto Rico to meet with Governor Colon to discuss the operation of casino gambling there. Governor Colon pointed out instances of cheating and other abuses despite strict checks and licensing procedures. The Senator also received a letter from the Baseball Commissioner, Bowie K. Kuhn, who wrote that the possibility of legalized gambling at sports events "poses a serious threat" to baseball. Senate Majority Leader Warren M. Anderson, who supported the amendment last year, also has reservations this year about gambling on sports events. He does not wish to see the practice legalized in New York State. And several legislators have expressed apprehension that a new wave of lobbyists would sweep the Capital, representing interests like jai alai and dog tracks. Presently, the State Constitution forbids all gambling with the exceptions, made through amendment, of bingo, horse racing, and the state lottery.

ROTC

Public schools will have the option of establishing military instruction programs under a bill which passed the Senate and was sent to the Assembly last week. Several Democrats voted for the proposal, including Mary Anne Krupsak, who split with the two other women senators on the issue. All Republican senators voted for the bill, which would allow students 14 years of age and older to participate in military training if they so desire. The junior Reserve Officers Training Course (ROTC) would be voluntary for the public schools and students. Students wishing to participate must have written consent of their parents. Courses would include drills, commands, ceremonies, leadership instruction, basic astronomy, elementary communications, and the principles of radar and sonar. Senator Leon E. Giuffreda, R-Suffolk, sponsored the bill and produced supporting memorandums from the State Education Department and the New York City Board of Education.

Court Opinion Denies EDF Appeal to Save Free-Flowing Cossatot

On November 28, 1972 EDF's appeal to save the free-flowing Cossatot River in Arkansas was denied by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Corps of Engineers is continuing construction of Gillham Dam.

In spite of the Court's denial, the language of the decision supported EDF's position that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) establishes certain substantive requirements and obliges courts to review even Congressionally authorized projects on their merits. The Court stated that, "the unequivocal intent of NEPA is to require agencies to consider and give effect to the environmental goals set forth in the Act, not just file detailed impact studies which will fill government archives." Courts have sometimes ruled that NEPA involves only procedural requirements such as the filing of environmental impact statements.

EDF filed suit against Gillham Dam in 1970. In 1971 a district court stopped construction, ruling that the environmental impact statement prepared by the Corps was inadequate. After a second statement was filed, construction was allowed to continue and EDF took the case to the Court of Appeals.

EDF's attorney, Richard S. Arnold of Texarkana, Arkansas may request that the case be reviewed by the Supreme Court.
ENVIRONMENT FARES BADLY IN '74 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Natural resource and environmental programs generally fare badly in the new Budget for the 1974 fiscal year beginning July 1 as proposed by President Nixon and sent to the Congress 29 January.

Natural resources and the environment rate only $3.7 billion, or 1.4 per cent of the proposed $268.7 billion total, ranking behind agriculture and rural development (2.1%), commerce and transportation (4.3%), and community development and housing (1.8%), with human resources (46.7%), national defense (30.2%) and interest (9.2%) leading the allocations.

The Chief Executive proposed a Budget $12.7 billion greater than the anticipated receipts of $256 billion. In his special radio address, President Nixon said his budget involves reductions in programs which have been regarded as "sacred cows". Many members of Congress were highly critical of this approach, some saying that the President has a few "bum steers" of his own, such as the National Industrial Pollution Control Council, an advisory group of industrial heads, which would be continued at the expense of $323,000.

President Nixon said his Budget is designed to be balanced in fiscal 1975. He virtually dared the Congress to change it, saying it "is the clear evidence of the kind of change in direction demanded by the great majority of the American people." He said the flow of governmental power would be away from federal agencies in Washington and back toward "where it belongs", to state and local officials. Accordingly, he explained that the Budget includes substantial program reductions and terminations.

Nixon lashed out at Congressional budget procedures and called for a rigid spending ceiling, avoidance of "backdoor financing", elimination of annual authorizations, and recommended enactment of appropriations bills before the beginning of each fiscal year. He charged that Congress must accept responsibility for budget totals, finding financing for any increased outlays. Otherwise, he threatened Presidential vetoes.

Tied in with the Budget is the Chief Executive's plan for restructuring the federal government through consolidations of functions into four new departments, including one on natural resources. He also proposed special revenue sharing with broad-purpose grants which would provide State and local governments with $6.9 billion to use "with considerable discretion in the areas of education, law enforcement and criminal justice, manpower training, and urban community development." In this, he revealed the Administration's opposition to categorical grant programs.

"The balanced development of our natural resources is essential to a healthy economy and an improved standard of living," he explained. "Development inevitably brings change to our natural environment which, if not properly controlled, could impair the health and welfare of our citizens and the beauty of our surroundings. Balancing the need for development and growth with the need to preserve and enhance our environment has become a major challenge of our time."

At least some of those challenges, however can be found in his Budget proposal. In the attempt to hold total spending to a bare minimum, the Administration proposes severe slashes in outdoor recreation and some resources management programs, but advocates accelerated drilling for offshore oil and gas and controls, but not prohibitions, on strip mining. He also requests funds for accelerated research on the supersonic transport aircraft, a tender issue with conservationists.

Cross Florida Barge Canal As a result of successful court action by EDF, trees are no longer being cut in the Eureka Pool area of the proposed Cross Florida Barge Canal. Since 1971, several thousand trees have been cut illegally by the Florida Canal Authority. Because the cutting was done selectively, the damage is not visible from the air. The action by the Canal Authority was in violation of a January 1971 injunction which prohibited all construction and related activities, such as the clearing of trees, in the canal area.

The Canal Authority is one of the proponents of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. Construction on the canal, which would have destroyed much of the Oklawaha River, was halted in 1971 by Presidential Order following successful litigation by EDF and the Florida Defenders of the Environment.

Suit Filed to Force Creation of Long-Overdue Standards

On December 4, 1972 EDF at Ralph Nader's Health Research Group filed suit against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to prevent the unregulated release of asbestos, mercury and beryllium into the atmosphere.

EPA lists these substances as hazardous air pollutants which "may cause, or contribute to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness." Asbestos is a known human carcinogen. The 1970 Amendments to the Clean Air Act require EPA to establish national emission standards within 180 days after such identification of a hazardous air pollutant.

The establishment of such standards is now six months overdue. EDF attorneys Scott H. Lang and William A. Butler indicate that industries using asbestos, mercury and beryllium are reluctant to implement available pollution controls until emission standards are established. The suit seeks to compel EPA to comply with the law and issue the overdue standards within 15 days of receiving a court order.

Court Injunction Too Late To Prevent Destruction on Cache

A victory in EDF's case against the Cache River channelization project in Arkansas came too late to save over six miles of the river and many acres of bottomland timber.

In May 1972 a district court refused to grant EDF an injunction to save the Cache. This adverse decision was reversed by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals on December 14, 1972.

The Corps of Engineers began construction immediately after the May decision. While EDF's case was in court, bulldozers worked day and night clearing and burning the forest above the mouth of the Cache and ditching the river itself. By the time the appellate court decided in EDF's favor, all construction scheduled to be completed before 1974 had been completed.

EDF will ensure that the remaining 200 miles of the Cache River will not be damaged pending settlement of the case. Richard S. Arnold of Texarkana, Arkansas is counsel for EDF and the Arkansas Ecology Center. Dr. Leo M. Eiselt of EDF coordinated scientific testimony.
If someone told you that our ability to manage ruffed grouse would depend on our ability to manage the male aspen, would you think he was pulling your leg? Aspen maybe, but to specify male aspen seems to be stretching a point. A tree is a tree, isn't it?

In most cases a tree is a tree, for they have a complete flower with both male and female parts. There are a few flowers that are not bisexual, and the aspen is one tree with this unique type of flowering system. To satisfy yourself that there is a difference in the trees, you can go out, as I did yesterday, and look up into the branches of an aspen stand. You will note that some trees have groups of large buds on their twigs and some of them have only small buds. The large buds are the male flowers, and with the warm weather that we have had, some of them are already beginning to pop open like pussy willows.

Aspen buds have long been recognized as one of the important grouse foods, but it wasn't until Gordon Gullion of the University of Minnesota began his intensive work on grouse that the significance between male and female trees became apparent. When you start comparing the importance of one environmental factor to populations as far removed as those of New York and Minnesota, you may be on thin ice because of the differences in the total set of interrelationships. What he has learned, however, has been so dramatic under his north-central grouse conditions, that game biologists are reevaluating their local observations to see if some of what Gullion has learned can be applied effectively in their own areas.

Grouse do not range far after they have left their brood and established their new home territory. A male's activities will center around several drumming logs, and he may never go more than 600-800 feet from them. The Minnesota study showed that almost inevitably there was at least one 30-50-year old male aspen in the vicinity of the drumming logs. Observations on these activity centers that had long records of use, showed that they were vacated when the area was cut for pulp, and not used again until the next generation of aspen had reached about 10-15 years of age.

The hen may move considerably farther during the course of the year. Her first territory is one suitable for nesting. Here the study showed that readily accessible aspen was more important than either the location of the male with which she mated, or the brood cover to which she finally took her young. The newly emerged leaves of the male aspen made up a large percent of a nesting grouse's food.

New York's own grouse studies during the 30's showed that aspen buds were the most important sources of food during winter and spring. However, they made up only about 18 percent by volume over a 10 year period. Some years it was much higher, others much lower. If this is a case of the "haves" and "have nots" which is which? Do we lack aspen, or does Minnesota lack the variety that our grouse can find?
Cancer Hazards In Our Environment

Charles F. Wurster, Ph.D.

The author is Associate Professor of Environmental Sciences at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He is also Chairman of the Scientists Advisory Committee of EDF.

Most human cancers are caused by man-made, avoidable environmental agents. The Environmental Defense Fund has taken legal action against DDT, aldrin, dieldrin, mirex, DES (diethylstilbestrol), DEP (diethylpyrocarbonate), nitrates and airborne asbestos because they or their derivatives are common environmental substances that cause tumors in laboratory animals. DES and asbestos are also known to cause cancer in man.

It is very difficult to identify substances that cause cancer in man. Human cancers usually form many years after exposure to a carcinogen. Individuals exposed to DES before birth may not develop cancer until after puberty, and cancers caused by airborne asbestos may not appear until 30 years after exposure. If 210 million people are exposed to low levels of an environmental carcinogen which causes tumors in one person in 10,000, then 21,000 individuals may develop cancer decades later. Exposure to myriad other substances, however, makes identification of the carcinogen almost impossible.

When substances are tested for possible carcinogenesis, laboratory animals must serve as substitutes for man. To increase the sensitivity of such tests, high doses and tumor-sensitive mice are generally used. Leading authorities in carcinogenesis maintain that any substance which causes tumors in laboratory animals represents a cancer hazard for man. Nevertheless, it is sometimes argued that these tests are not valid for man because the dosage used is much higher than that encountered in a human environment. This argument assumes that a person can be exposed to small amounts of a carcinogen without danger. Evidence for such a “safe threshold” is lacking. Carcinogens do not become safe in low concentrations. They merely cause cancer in fewer individuals. These concepts are the basis for the Delaney Amendment to the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act which prohibits the addition of carcinogens to food.

The argument that anything can cause cancer if administered in large enough doses is false. High dosages do not convert innocuous substances into carcinogens. To the contrary, carcinogenesis is a specific biological event that can be caused by relatively few substances.

If we hope to combat cancer, we must reduce our exposure to environmental carcinogens. We should heed the warnings provided by animal experiments. Environmental carcinogens do not have human rights. They are not “innocent until proven guilty.” The risks of accepting a supposedly safe threshold for environmental carcinogens are immense. Only human disaster can “prove” that a substance is carcinogenic to man.
"Premature", "courting environmental disaster", "not needed", "a waste of consumer's money" were the terms applied to the proposed Niagra Mohawk nuclear power plant near Oswego.

The Central New York Public Interest Research Group (CNY-PIRG) released comments it submitted this month to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) concerning the proposed plant known as the Nine Mile Point, Unit Two. These comments were in response to the federally required environmental impact statement released by the AEC in February. Under Federal Law the AEC must release a draft impact statement, accept written responses from citizens, citizen groups and governmental agencies and then adequately respond to these comments in a final statement prior to the granting of any construction or operating permits.

The report prepared under the direction of CNY-PIRG's Executive Director Suzanne Spitz and coordinated by John Cromie, a third year Syracuse University Law student, listed 24 points which CNY-PIRG says "must be answered satisfactorily before it is safe, environmentally sound, or economically feasible to proceed with construction. Todays plans must not burden future generations with undue fiscal, environmental or safety costs."

"The environmental statement was premature" charged Cromie. "These deficiencies are so pervasive as to indicate that the Commission's decision-making process was at times badly impaired, unfounded in fact or supported by mere belief and conjecture. The missing data must be collected and reported in a supplement to this document and made available for further comments before the final draft is published. Furthermore," Cromie continued, "analysis of some problems raised in the draft statement is either totally lacking or inadequately discussed."

The plant is scheduled to begin operation in 1978 or 1979 but Spitz and Cromie state that "the data presented by the Commission and the New York Power Pool indicate that the electrical capacity of Unit 2 will not be needed until 1981 or 1982. Therefore, why commence construction in 1974 when the plant is neither needed nor adequately planned?"

"Furthermore", Ms. Spitz continued, "the consumer would realize considerable monetary savings if the plant were delayed; any delay in construction will produce savings. The "benefits" which would accrue from an early operation date for a grossly underutilized nuclear plant would not approach the savings produced by a delay."

"If one word could be used to summarize what all the previous comments have said about the Commission's Statement," the CNY-PIRG report states, "it would be 'premature'. The Draft Statement has all the indications of a hastily prepared document meant to satisfy minimal statutory requirements. Internal inconsistencies; inadequate, unreported or uncollected data and poorly constructed analyses have all contributed to the objections raised in our comments."

The CNY-PIRG report states that "the necessary environmental data is either totally lacking or deficient for lake currents, vertical isotherms, wind induced waves, supplementation and evaluation of thermal studies, ascertainment of fish populations and distribution, existant radiation and expected radioactive accumulations. Some of the inadequacies are recognized by the commission; some are not. However, none of the conclusions reflect this lack of data, unless the Commission dealt with the inadequacy by not making a decision, as it did with the intake problem. If the Draft Statement is to be a reliable document assessing the potential environmental effect of this plant, the commission must delay its Final Statement.
until this document is supplemented with the missing data and a reassessment of the conclusions is made."

"Some of the other inadequacies in this draft might not require a supplement, although the public must be permitted to review the consequent analysis and conclusions. These deficiencies include the omission of criteria for intake acceptability and the various monitoring procedures; the lightly treated use of herbicides; the lack of ceiling for accident risks; the nonarticulation of serious accidents and their costs, and the cursory analysis of construction starts, cost schedules, periods of plant life and decommissioning costs."

CNY-PIRG points out that "the time necessary for the collection of data and ensuing analysis is available. As the Commission's own calculations indicate, after the planned commencement of operations, a several year period is available before this unit's capacity is actually required. There is no pressing need that the proposed construction schedule be maintained. The collection of data and added decision making that is called for in these comments clearly outweigh any need to build the nuclear plant by 1978 or 1979."

In conclusion the CNY-PIRG report notes that "since the possibility of construction delay is supported, this alternative must be studied since it will save the consumer millions of dollars, by not paying for something until it is needed."

Ms. Spitz stated that "if the Atomic Energy Commission does not adequately answer each of the 24 points raised in the comments submitted to them, CNY-PIRG is prepared to take this matter to the Federal Courts."

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Suzanne Spitz, CNY-PIRG, (315) 476-5541, x4534

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LETTER OF INTEREST:

The following letter was sent to the Society of American Foresters by Dr. L.E. Minckler

Dear Sir:

For years I have wondered how the forestry profession could develop and promote a unifying concept; a conviction and articulation that we provide a unique service to society and that this service can be specifically identified. Recently at the S.A.F. New York Section meeting Dr. Roger Thompson talked pointedly on this theme. He reminded us that medical doctors "promote health" or they "fight death." In simple terms, lawyers "promote justice." He asked, what is the unique service of foresters?

To my knowledge no one has ever expressed this in simple terms comparable to the above. We go into long involved explanations that even many other foresters do not understand or entirely agree with. Certainly the public does not understand and often settles for "fight fires, plant trees, and clearcut" as the role of foresters. And Smokey Bear and Paul Bunyan have not helped the situation.

As a starter, let me propose a simple statement that I think describes the unique services a forester could render society; "promote the long term integrity of the working forest ecosystem." This applies at least to forestry realistically concerned with the environment, a forestry that I have called "environmental forestry" emphasizing an interdisciplinary approach. Hopefully, the whole forestry profession will soon be seen in this light.
Although most people may not realize it, the federal government has been involved in air pollution abatement since 1955. Under P.L. 84-159, the Public Health Service was authorized to conduct a research program and give technical assistance to state and local governments. However, the basic responsibility for action still remained with state and local governments and not the federal government.

In 1963, the Clean Air Act was signed into law. Once again, primary responsibility still remained with state and local governments. However, research areas were set up specifically for: motor vehicle exhaust, sulfur removal from fuels, and air-quality standards development.

The Motor Vehicle Air Pollution Control Act of 1965 gave to the Secretary of HEW the authority to regulate automobile emissions. In addition, research was expanded. Money was made available to state and local governments in 1966 by the Clean Air Act Amendments.

Beginning in 1967, some major revisions began to take place. The Air Quality Act set up eight airsheds over the continental U.S. A National Air Pollution Control Administration was authorized to conduct research and submit reports as to costs and feasibilities of abating air pollution. The law mandated that the states develop air standards and plans for their implementation. The plans must now be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The most significant Congressional action came in 1970 with the Clean Air Act Amendments. To protect public health, primary national ambient air quality standards were required. Also, secondary national air quality standards for the protection of the public welfare were mandated. States were given nine months to develop plans to meet the primary standards. The EPA had to approve the plans or come up with a satisfactory plan of its own within another six months.

The same amendments also set a goal for automobile emissions. The goal is a ninety percent reduction in emissions of the 1970 models by 1975. A one-year extension can be requested if a manufacturer feels the standard can't be met. The Administrator of the EPA, Mr. Rucklehaus, denied such a request on May 12, 1972. It was requested by five companies, but he felt they had not provided enough evidence for an extension.

Standards for stationary sources have also been set up. So far, standards for five categories have been established. These are: nitric acid plants, contact sulfuric acid plants, portland cement plants, large incinerators, and fossil fuel steam generators. President Nixon has also issued an Executive Order barring any company which does not comply with standards from receiving Federal contracts or financial aid. More standards have yet to be established by the EPA, though. An interesting proposal for a sulfur tax was advanced by President Nixon. It would start with 1¢ per pound of sulfur in fuel in 1972 and gradually go to 10¢ per pound in 1976. So far it has not gotten off the ground.

Perhaps of great interest to us is the projected cost of pollution control for automobiles. The estimated cost for meeting the 1975 deadline is at minimum $229 per vehicle. It could only be as high as $351. In addition, about $65 per year will be required for more and better fuel and maintenance costs. The consumer is going to bear the largest share of this expense.

What about other types of engines? There are three types under various degrees of consideration. One, the Rankine-Cycle power system, is an external combustion engine using steam or possibly another fluid vapor. Another, the Brayton Cycle power system, is basically a gas turbine type but is plagued by several problems. A third type is the stratified charge engine which is a glorified internal combustion engine. As yet, none of these have a definite edge as the best.

Industries also face a difficult problem. Low sulfur fuels will become more difficult to find, and therefore more costly. Both coal and oil are in this situation. However, although oil is heading for a shortage, coal is estimated to last for 1500 years at present consumption rates. Clearly, though, it is the general public which will end up footing the bill for air pollution control.

Daniel R. Mahns.
STUDENT FEES AND
CLUBS COMMENTARY:

John Anlian

As treasurer of the Student Association during the past year I have had a view of student fees and their usages which few other students are able to have. With these observations I have developed conclusions about each S.A. organization which, although this may be only one point of view, may be helpful in deciding on the allocations for next year's budget.

Alpha Xi Sigma, the college honorary and service fraternity---

It seems obvious to me that the word service is highly misused here, and I do not place all the blame upon this organization's officers. Although the written membership totals 35+ in number less than eight participate to any large degree. For the most part, the services which AXS provides to this college (Robin Hood Book Collection, coffee and donuts at exams) hardly warrants the $400 budget given to them. I also question whether "service" necessarily means a need for money. I would say that there is a surplus of $200 going to this organization. I do compliment AXS on their survey of the research being done by faculty. However, the results of this survey have been few and far between. While I am on the subject I would like to comment on one of the requirements for entrance into this frat. That requirement is the carrying around of a wooden pole for a week. This rule or so-called "tradition" is out of date and should be abolished. Any student who has attained the privilege of being in the top 20% of his class has amply proven his worth and should not be subjected to such ridiculous behavior.

Archery Club-- This is still a young club, but I believe it has proven to be worth the $225 spent on it since it offers to the student an activity which is not readily found elsewhere. Furthermore, its regular program attracts an appropriate number of participants from all curricula.

The Bar-Be-Que-- The $4000 spent on this activity is probably the most efficiently used money at the college. It is the one event which brings almost everybody together; students, faculty and administrators. It allows the college to relive the "back-woods" atmosphere of a by-gone era. I can find little to complain about on this event--except that I wish there was more chicken.

The Banquet--$3500. Although not as much of a "crowd drawer" as the BBQ this event provides the more modern atmosphere of the college. It is a time when outgoing seniors and newly elected student council officers are honored.

Botany Club and Zoology Club-- I have placed these two clubs together because they both provide a similar from of activity and have both experienced a similar demise during the past 3 years. As a freshman, I initially found these clubs to be the "big guns" on campus. At any one meeting (Botany and Zoo clubs alternated on Fridays of each week) 100+ persons could be counted. This can now be compared with high points of 35-40 during this year. Yet their budgets of $700 have remained the same. It seems that they have forgotten what their names imply.

Forestry Basketball League-- received $240 and has an active membership of 110+.

This is an efficient use of activity fees.

Forestry Basketball Club--received about $190. This is a new club and has proven itself to be a viable one. However, its proposed budget for next year is $2000+. Even if its membership were to double to 30 it may be questioned as to whether it is right to spend such a sum in order that a few individuals can have a good time. If this were all that were to it I would definitely agree. However, with the establishment of a "college team" the student body may gain directly and indirectly in other ways. If the budget is approved there would be 7 home games played on this campus (women's Blg. Gym) against such teams as Lemoyne and OCC. Watching such games would provide enjoyment to
many students as well as alumni, etc. It may be argued that attendance at these games may be hampered by the more monopolizing attractiveness of S.T. games. This may be true, but the no admission charge to FBG games may somewhat offset this effect.

On a more indirect scale, but potentially a more beneficial aspect is the fact that as this team plays against other teams around the state it will establish the name of the college in the minds of the spectators of those games as well as readers of the sports pages. An argument may be made that our college should concentrate in academic excellence and not bother with such a non-mind developing activity. It should follow the example of Harvard and Yale schools which only have team sports because of the large size of the student body. They are known for their high academic standards. This is a good point—but how many schools can hope to attain such distinction even close to those two? Tufts University, one of the highest ranking schools in the Northeast, is virtually unknown 200 miles from its campus. (Note: it has no sports program). We ourselves are one of the top Forestry schools in the country and who knows us?

The mentioning of the College's name, even if it is only linked to a sport, places a seed of recognition into people's minds. When a student says that he is from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry the response won't always be "The College of what?" or "Gonna be a forest ranger, huh?" More employment opportunities may eventually result from this recognition. The ethics of this strategy may not be widely condoned but this is how people react.

The final question arises—are we willing to sink $2000 into a venture which may not come off? The only way to increase the probability of success is to get the FBG off on the right foot. A poorly supported, losing team could only bring ridicule to our College. Therefore I think this club is worth at least 1 year of testing. If it proves to be what its proponents hope it will be—we all are golden. Other options which should be considered are 1. the possibility of the College itself giving some financial support and 2. the FBG raising some money on its own as the S.U. Lacrosse and Rugby teams do. It's a long way to the NCAA.

Forestry Club and Tri-State—Approximately $2000/year is spent on these two activities. The Forestry Club has a membership of about 25. However, the use of its equipment may reach 100 at BBQ time. Forestry Club is the organizer of this event as well as a participant in the Tri-State meet and other woodmen's meets in the Northeast. This club is the bearer of the College's name within Forestry circles, just as the FBG may carry the college name to non-Forestry circles.

The Knothole—received a budget of $65, and although the quality of this publication has fluctuated a great deal the small cost per student is beneficial as the College's only communication vehicle (obviously I am biased on this).

The Student Council—$675* has provided the central core for activities on this campus. It has provided services such as the T-shirt sales and Benchmark (Course Evaluation Survey). I will not elaborate further on this because Mr. Vosburgh in his column, "The Beat" has adequately covered it.

Class Budgets—fluctuate from year to year and from class to class. The class of '75 has distinguished itself as being the most active class to come along in a long time with its square dances and coffeehouses. It has co-ordinated many of its activities with other clubs and classes. The class of '76 also looks promising.

The UnBarsheque—$600. This function usually attracts at least 150 ESF students and although one year may not be as good as another it is well spent.

Empire Forester—$9000. It is questionable as to whether 30% of each student ESF fee is worth the money to undergraduates since the yearbook is oriented towards the seniors whom most undergrads do not even recognize. A proposed change may be for seniors to pay an additional $15-20 fee directly for the yearbook and therefore decrease the overall ESF fee by $5. This may also create an incentive to create a more "meaningful" yearbook since students may not wish to buy one is the previous

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year's book was of poor quality.

The F. Eng. Club, Papyrus Club and WPE Club.--The three clubs of small curricula--sometimes called the "industry clubs." Each receives approximately $200 and usually can find few ways of spending it until a desperate rush at the end of the year. None of these clubs are very active, nor do they try to obtain student membership outside their own curricula. WPE Club, however, the more active of the three, did organize the UNBBQ and sponsored a WPE Dept. open house last fall. Each of the clubs is planning an end-of-the-year party, which I would hope will be well publicized to the student body, since all S.A. functions are open to all students.

Mollet Club--I can find nothing outstandingly good nor bad about this club. It received a budget of $600 and seems to exists solely for those L.A. Bashes. These are, however, well publicized to the whole student body.

Finally, I would like to make some recommendations. Full-year budgets for the next academic year, are to be approved by the Student Council during the next month. I think that this system should be changed to have approval of budgets before each semester. Therefore if a club is not active during a year the money of that club will be tied up only for a semester and not for a year. At the same time, new officers of formerly inactive clubs can be given a chance to prove themselves--if they are given a Fall budget which is close to their requested budget. This may provide a built-in incentive to maintain an active program. Clubs which normally have a more active program during the spring than in the Fall may state this on their fall budget request. Example--The WPE Club may ask for $50 during the Fall with a statement that they expect to need $200 for a year-end party during the spring.

SILVERSTEIN...

The leaf cutting ants evolved from a stinging ant, adapting the stinger as a trail blazer, the professor explained. The adapted stinger drops a trace chemical to mark an insect's route to leaves and back to the nest.

"Theoretically, we could draw a detectable trail around the world using only one milligram of this substance," remarked Silverstein.

Up to now, "only hard pesticides, such as Mirex, have been effective against the ants," he said. But, duplication of the trail pheromone might prove to be a more effective weapon by sending the ants on the wrong trail.

"We're trying to frustrate them by using their own chemicals," the professor said.

The advantage of such a control measure, Silverstein said, is that the substance is bio-degradable and specific, meaning "even other species of ants wouldn't respond." Unlike the general pesticides, such as Mirex, it is less likely to harm other living members of the community, nor will it last for a long period.

Dr. John Moser, entomologist of the U.S. Forest Service Station at Pineville, La. is serving as an unpaid consultant for the study.

Dr. Silverstein began research into the trail pheromones of the leaf cutting ant in 1966. He has been at the College of ES&F, since 1969.

* Friday - March 30
8 am - 9:45 am Chemistry Seminar, 303 Baker
3:30 - 5 pm Chemistry Seminar, 308 Baker (open)

* Saturday - March 31
12 noon - University Hill Corp. meets Rm 1916 Bird Library
1 pm - Woodsman Team Practice behind Walters Hall. Open to all.
7-11 pm - International Students Talent Show Marshall Auditorium. All Welcome.