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The Knothole, November 21, 1974

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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The eight people who traveled to Wanakena on November 2-3 with the Bob Marshall Club impact study of trail maintenance on the Oswegatchie Plains found rugged trails, spirited weather, some big White pines and Red spruces, and quite a bit of interesting information. Oh, and mules. When the first "hee-haw" rose out of the forest ahead we wondered what kind of hawk it was. It seems that the hunters have been using mules for a long time to haul their tons of equipment and supplies into the woods. We formed quite a contrast, slicing at comparative supersonic speed past them, carrying on our backs all we would need.

The district Ranger, Paul Hartman, met us after our trip and explained that on the last day of 1975, when the Adirondack Pack Agency rules go into effect, mules will be illegal on foot trails. This will make trail maintenance easier because the mules severely deteriorate the trails. He also explained that the pits next to the trail where sand had been taken out for dry tread at swamp crossings were so close to the trail because of poor supervision of workers. The trail supervisor's job is only a summer one, and they have had problems acquiring a concerned, conscientious person for the job each year. So the workers take sand from the most convenient place: right next to the trail.

It seemed that the pits did not aggravate erosion, however, and the older ones were already partially filled in from collapse of the sides, leaf accumulations, and underbrush growth, so they did not appear to be a serious problem.

In one place along the trail a black spruce that had layered into the trail had been hacked back crudely with a machete, and really looked gross.

On the whole, though, we found the trail maintenance to be adequate but not over-intense, and after hearing of the ranger's continued on p. 2
SMALL STORES ENDS SEMESTER

The last day for people to exchange receipts for merchandise is Thursday, December 12 (8:30-9:45 a.m.) If anyone wishes to buy anything for Christmas gifts, please plan ahead. We too have examinations and must study. So, PLEASE, remember we are closing for the year as of 9:45 a.m. December 12.

Store hours for this semester are:
Tuesday: 11:10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m.

The store will be closed Wed., Nov. 27 and Thanksgiving Thursday also. Store hours for spring semester will be announced when we have our classes scheduled. If there are any problems please call me at 476-8113.

Daniel R. Mahns
Council Vice-President

HOW NOT TO GET LOST
WHEN HUNTING

Each year deer season brings forth many hunters more adept at maneuvering the ins and outs of an expressway than they are at finding their way in the rolling, wooded hills of deer range. Fortunately across the southern zone of New York, the road network is intensive enough so that few hunters really get lost. Many, however, get mislaid and come stumbling out of the woods later than expected, much to the dismay and concern of companions and the folks back home.

A good woodsman knows the lay of the land over which he is traveling, even though he has never been there before. Before going into new territory he has obtained some good maps, preferably the U.S. Geological Survey maps of the areas, and has studied them until he has the road and stream pattern firmly impressed in his mind. He knows the swamps, ponds, ridges and other features of the landscape which may influence where and how he will travel. In territory he has traveled regularly he may not keep the map with him, but in new country it is always tucked in his pocket where it can be readily brought out if needed.

Continued on p. 3

B.M.C.... problems, we were impressed that he had done such a good job.

In addition to checking trails, the 29 miles we walked included a bushwhack trip over Parrlow mountain in an attempt to find a shortcut from High Falls to Five Ponds, a trek over Pine Ridge, where hundreds of magnificent virgin White pines stand, and a climb up Cat Mountain. The air was washed and so clear that we could see the High Peaks.

But the most uplifting moment of the trip was seeing the new sign at the beginning of the Five Ponds trail announcing: Wilderness Area. We have all known it for years. It's comforting to find out that it is official.

Kurt Moberg

The Bob Marshall Club presents its second lecture in its series "American Wilderness: Contemporary Attitudes." David Newhouse, past president of the Adirondack Mountain Club will be guest lecturing on Tuesday, December 3, 1974 at 8:00 P.M. in 5 Illick.

Earlier this year, the Council on Environmental Conservation was formed, DEC Commissioner James Biggane, appointed Newhouse to the council in April. Newhouse is an active conservationist and has been the Adirondack Mountain Club's Conservation Committee Chairman for over 10 years. Mr. Newhouse will speak on conservation legislation.

Jack Stevens

FORESTRY CLUB - PAST, FUTURE EVENTS

For those of you who didn't make it to the New Brunswick Woodsmen's meet, you will have another chance to try your skills; the Montreal meet is coming up February 1. Tryouts will be starting December 8 and continuing for several weekdays.

As for recent events, the results of the New Brunswick meet of October 26 were widely spread, with the A team placing 6th, B team 16th, and C team taking 21st. The highlight of the competition was the axe throw with Joe Adamski and John Bill Heller tying for first place.

Included in upcoming events is a meet with the Community College of the Finger Lakes at Canandaigua on Saturday, December 7.

Mary Lou White
The Forestry Basketball League opened its season Nov. 11 under the auspices of new "commissioner" Jon Geer. The games are played weeknight evenings in Archbold Gym. When E.S.F.ers turn in their boots for sneakers the results range from absurd comedy all the way to crisp fast breaks. There is no way to follow a sentence like that, so here is the first week's wrapup:

- The Generals coasted to a 40-20 win over the Woodcocks with Bob Slavicek and Randy Kaltreider scoring 10 points each. Bob Keller had 10 for the losers.

- The Quackers came from behind to take Overdrive 19-18. R. Sinta led the Quackers with 7 while C. Rein had 8 for Overdrive.

- The Bald-headed Bark Beetles II opened their season with a 34-20 win over the Celtics. Donny MacLachlan and Gary Wallace led the change with 10 and 8 respectively. B. Schiller had 11 for the Celtics.

- The FZO Grads cruised on by the Mad Dogs, 32-16 with B. Simmons scoring 15 points.

- Well-balanced scoring and strong boards were the keys as YOU crushed the Fantastic Five, 31-9. D. Smith had 9, J. Best 8 for YOU.

- Paul Ray had 9 points to lead the Silvi Grads to a 24-21 overtime win over the Booth Hall Bombers. D. Ridolfi had 7 for the losers.

- In the Runaway of the Week, the Stumpy Stuffers downed Kappa Phi Delta 74-9. Towards the end of the game, the fans were clamoring for Kappa to break into double figures. Glenn Harbeck of the Stuffers tried to help out by taking a shot at the loser's basket. Unfortunately, he missed. Leading the Stuffer's scoring parade were Jim Briggs with 36 points and Dave Demnick with 16. Briggs looks like he'll be the top contender for league scoring honors. The college's bus has been reserved for this excursion. The trip is to be held on Saturday, Dec. 7. We will be leaving from Moon Library at 8:30 a.m. The tour at Cornell will start at 10:00. We should return approximately at 12:30 or 1:00.

- The sign-up sheet for all those interested is at 333 Illick Hall. Take a break before finals, and come along.

Werner L. Kist

HUNTING...

Particularly when going into new country, always carry a reliable compass that you know how to use. Even in country you know well, a compass can save you a lot of time and effort on a foggy day.

A compass is of no value if you don't know which way is out. The time to determine this is before you start into the woods. It doesn't have to be done with a compass, though that is one of the reasons for carrying it. With experience you can use other guides, such as the location of the sun, or the angle of departure from a road of known direction.

Not all compasses are marked to tell which end of the needle points north. If yours doesn't, this is something you should know before you go into the woods. There is nothing that gives you a more helpless feeling than standing in the foggy woods wondering which end of the needle points north, and knowing that if you guess wrong, you will be walking in the opposite direction to that intended. If, for instance, the red end of the needle points north, scratch on the back of the compass R-N, as a reminder.

Commissioner Jon Geer's telephone number is 423-7273.
ABE CAUSES A FUSS

NEW GUY AT THE COLLEGE

To the Editor:

That's it! I've reached my limit and I want to be the first to express my nausea over the most recent addition to our campus. I can't write every time this College does something, the explanation for which completely escapes me. Like blacktopping over a perfectly good parking area or ripping up a stretch of perfectly good concrete sidewalk. These activities are either laughable or maddening depending on your temperament, and I just figured the maintenance office was trying extra hard to justify next year's budget. But that statue of Abraham Lincoln with horse and book is something else again! I have to be careful how I say this because everybody loves Abe Lincoln. But that statue is totally out of place on this campus. It doesn't relate spiritually to this school at all. If we wanted a statue, Gifford Pinchot or Teddy Roosevelt would have made some sense. What we got belongs in front of the Syracuse Public Library.

I am pretty bitter about this but in a way I can understand it since this College's attempts at beautifying the campus with vegetation have not met with much success. The new guy is here and it's probably too late to do anything about it -- except perhaps plant him behind the recycling garage. All I want to know is, who foisted this on us?

A. Merner
344 Illick Hall
Ext. 8660
(student in silviculture)

To whom it may concern:

It seems to me that statue of Abe Lincoln riding a horse would be more appropriate at The College of Environmental Science and Horsey.

What this college needs is a huge statue of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox. I hereby humbly submit the suggestion of a formulation of a committee for the replacement of A.L.&H. with P.B.&B. the B.O.

Respectfully yours,
James D. Parker

NEW ARRIVAL

Amid blaring fanfares and surrounded by visiting dignitaries, the new pride of the Forestry School was unveiled last Friday morning. It was an arousing occasion as the imposing statue of Abraham Lincoln on a horse was settled into place. The secretaries in Bray lined the windows as the ceremonies proceeded. Lights flashed everywhere as photographers snapped picture after picture. This was truly the event of the year.

Abraham Lincoln was from the mid-west state of Illinois, often called the Land of Lincoln. He learned how to read and became president of the United States. He was the first in a long line of Republican men in the White House, Jerry Ford, also a republican, is now president.

So, this new statue symbolizes the student here at E.S.F. Come to think of it, ole Abe did have some forestry experience. Didn't he used to split rails in between reading books?

WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWS

The Wildlife Society is one of the more active student organizations on campus and is made up of approximately 25 students interested in wildlife management or wildlife in general. It is not a club, but is actually a subunit of the national organization, and for this reason it is not funded by student association but relies on dues ($1.00 per person) for its operating expenses. The activities sponsored by this club include field trips to wildlife management areas, guest speakers, and wildlife movies. Any students interested in joining this club are welcome to come to the meetings and sign up. Meetings are usually once every 4 weeks on Thursday nights. Watch the school bulletin boards for the exact dates of meetings and events. Any interested students with questions can see the club advisor, Dr. Chambers, or call the president Dennis Hilvac (423-0888) or the V.P. Matthew M. Valencic at 475-1563.

Next guest speaker will be Mr. Pete Gaskin talking about coyotes, Dec. 5, in room 5 Illick. Come to the lecture, or the next meeting, and join a worthwhile organization.
WORKING TOGETHER

This may be the last in a series but don't count on it.

In reply to Dr. Ketchledge's letter last week, I must further clarify my position on campus tree maintenance. I do admit that there has been some good input on the part of some professors concerning the campus. As was stated in his letter, Dr. Ketchledge, whom I consider a very good and able teacher, has planted numerous trees around the school grounds. Many of them are growing well and add to the diversity of the area. They are indeed an asset but they are not what I was referring to in previous articles. I was probably not clear in making my point. I was aiming at the "official" tree plantings conducted by the college. Here, again and again, mistakes have been made concerning the establishment and health of ornamental trees. Here too, though, there has been beneficial input by some of our professors. Dr. Graul's work with the drainage system and soil replacement so the hackberries would live is an outstanding contribution.

What we need is an extension of these beneficial works to cover all aspects of the plantings. Where the advice concerning the trees comes from now is questionable. In the least, it is wrong quite a bit. Our college staff with its vast array of knowledge should be able to correctly advise the maintenance crew on care of trees. It can't really be that hard - even I have planted trees that have grown! Maybe if something gets going soon we won't see four inch stubs on the hackberries or sun scald on our remaining sugar maples. But something must be done.

Tom Zelker

LETTER

To the editor:

Why do students find it necessary to carry on social conversations during lectures? We have heard one rationalization that because we all pay equal tuition we all have a right to do as we please in lecture halls. If in fact, this is true, why are smokers prevented from indulging in classrooms? Why are dog owners prevented from bringing their pets in classrooms? The reason, we think, is that these elements will disturb or disrupt the atmosphere of concentration in the lecture halls.

In our opinion, students who insist on speaking with their friends during a lecture should be asked to leave the room and confine their conversations to the halls -- as smokers are so required. Once a lecture begins we pay to listen to what the lecturer has to say NOT what someone five seats in back of us is telling a friend.

Ray Miller and Mark Steinhorst

MOLLET CLUB:

ON THE ROAD

Still in its embryonic stage is the Mollet Club's plan to split the seams of institutional education to inhale some reality. The club of the Landscape Architecture School is designing a maxi field trip to take place during the spring term and to last over a week. The excursion will invade two to three cities that are landscape-culturally significant. The yet to be narrowed down list includes New York City, Boston, Montreal, Philadelphia, Ann Arbor, and more. The final itinerary will serve as a channel to cruise the club through landscape architectural offices, ongoing environment alterations, and lectures.

The advanced planning will give the L.A. staff the opportunity to incorporate the trip and any offshoot projects into the term's curriculum.

Anyone with ideas or connections should make them known at the meeting on Tuesday night at 7:30 in 317 Marshall.

Another infant in the womb of Mollet is a new playground for Skytop. It is being designed by a group of club members.

Richard Held

SOUNDS OF THE WILDERNESS

The Bob Marshall Club

In this mountain village I have grown accustomed
To listen to the voices only of trees,
So when the pines are silent, then I am lonely,
On the days when there blows no breeze.

Rengetsu

Richard Held
FISH FEEDING STUDY

The long awaited results are now in from that research sanctuary in the Adirondacks, Cranberry Lake Biological Station, better known as Ketch's Kamp for Promising Volleyball Players. Anyone who was there will surely remember that "Old Timer" who came down out of the hills near Hoppy's to do his doctoral work on that curious subject of Fish Feeding Behavior.

Under the guidance of Dr. Egloff materials were gathered from far and wide, and even from Oneonta. The fish species being studied were rock bass (Ambloplites rupestris rupestris) and yellow perch (Perca flavescens) collected by Ken Huntington. For the next three weeks the Old Timer made observations of the fish in the aquarium (without paint chips) in hopes of finding the key to why and how and what fish eat. All living organisms from Plecops to worms to shrews (donated graciously by John Johnson), even worms on a hook were tried. The disappointing days drew near an end with no alternative but to abandon the project. The oxygen supply was removed.

The thesis was written and three world shattering hypotheses were presented. First, the adult fish is merely a reproductive stage in the fish's life cycle, now being looked into further by Dr. Brezner with Dr. Werner consulting. Second, most fish are green therefore they photosynthesize, Dr. Schaedle is investigating. Lastly and probably the most appropriate—FISH DO NOT EAT, THANK-YOU!

As mentioned earlier the oxygen source was removed, Well the one definite conclusion that can be drawn is fish do die. Specimens were then donated to Buffalo Bob Plecop Hungaria's (Manager of the defused electric octopi, and the worst volleyball player in Ketch's Kamp) study on capture and recapture of carabid beetles behind cabin 10.

Richard Woltman

Afternote: Applications are now available for 1975 Cranberry Lake Volleyball scholarships in Dr. Ketchledge's office in Illick Hall.

CHRISTMAS TREES

This year marks, as usual, the annual KPD Christmas Tree Drive. Once again the Bro's will drive many miles and trek deep into the woods in order to stalk their quarry, the wiley White Spruce, better known as Picea glauca. After expenditures of time, energy, and alcohol the bro's will return with trees of all sizes and shapes which are available to the general public at the phenomenally reduced rate of $1.00 per foot. Also available at the price of $1 per bundle are 4 to 6 nicely formed boughs of Red or White pine. Anyone wishing to have one or more of these little beauties need only call the bro's at 3-2470 or 478-5302 before December 7, 1974 and place an order. Your tree will be custom cut and if you want, delivered to your very home with no shipping or handling charges. Just specify what you want and leave the rest to the bro's.

You are sure to get compliments and praise concerning your beautiful holiday tree but what will happen to it after the festivities? In a rare moment of creativity and keen insight the bro's have prepared the following list of:

"Things To Do With Your Spruce"
Make like Euell Gibbons And dine on it for a holiday feast.
Be brave and attempt to graft it to your African Violets
Use it for a dress form.
Submerge it in Lake Onondaga as an artificial reef.

HUNTING ... from p.3

A compass doesn't always point where you think it should. Check to see if it is being influenced by your gun, car or other metal object. If not, and it is operating freely, the final rule of compass use is to trust it.

The most common cause for becoming lost in the southern part of the State is being overtaken by darkness. Instead of waiting until sunset, take a slow still hunt out, timed to arrive at the car as the sun sets.

Richard Woltman

Afternote: Applications are now available for 1975 Cranberry Lake Volleyball scholarships in Dr. Ketchledge's office in Illick Hall.

Paul Kelsey
New York State Regional Conservation Educator, DEC
The purpose of this questionnaire is to utilize student input as a guide to designing a more representative yearbook. If you have any complaints, you can make them known through this questionnaire.

The total amount of student fees collected last year was about $25,064. Of this, $9673 was allocated to the Empire Forester. This means that out of the $18 you paid to ESF in student activity fees, $6.94 went to the Empire Forester budget. This amount is needed in order to have a decent yearbook.

Since the yearbook does require so much time and money, we hope you will take the time to sit down with your copy of the Empire Forester and answer these questions as seriously as you can. Without your opinion, it is difficult to make any improvements.

THE YEARBOOK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Year in school: ___Freshman ___Sophomore ___Junior ___Senior
    ___Graduate ___Faculty
2. Do you think the College of ESF should have a yearbook? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
3. Undergraduates: Did you pick up your yearbook this year? ___Yes ___No
4. If you did pick up your yearbook (or if you at least saw one): what was your overall impression of the yearbook? ___Excellent ___Very good
    ___Good ___Fair ___Poor ___No opinion
5. Would you be willing to pay for your yearbook some amount? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
    If so, how much would you be willing to pay? ___50¢ ___$1.00 ___$2.00
    ___$3.00 or more
6. Would you be in favor of advertisements appearing in the back of the yearbook to help defray the cost? ___Yes ___No
    If so, should these ads be:
    ___Forestry related ___Anything
7. Would you like to see color photography in the yearbook? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
8. Do you think the use of "second color" should be continued (e.g., pages 1, 8, 9, 16)? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
9. Was there adequate coverage of events at the College? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
    Was there adequate coverage of clubs and other activities? ___Yes ___No
    ___No opinion
    If not (for both preceding questions), what was missing?
10. If no club pictures are available with a club participating in one of its activities, would you prefer a line-up shot of the club members as opposed to no picture at all? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

11. What did you think of the copy (text)? __Excellent ____Very good ___Good ____Fair ____Poor ___No opinion

Was there enough text? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

Was there too much text? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

12. What did you think of the cover? __Excellent __Very good ___Good ___Fair ___Poor ___No opinion

13. What type of pictures would you like to see more of?
   ___Candidas - students
   ___Candidas - faculty
   ___Formal groups (not including senior photos)
   ___Special effects (e.g. pages 9, 16, 63)

14. Would you like to see a listing of seniors' activities? __Yes __No ___No opinion

Addresses? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

If so, where? __Back of book ___Under the senior's photograph

15. As a senior would you be willing to pay a sitting fee for your senior portrait ($1.50)? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

16. Would you like to see student art (pictures, poetry, etc.) included in the yearbook? __Yes ___No ___No opinion

17. Comments: