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The Knothole, March 7, 1978

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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The student chapter of the American Water Resources Association will be presenting two films; "The Flooding River", and "Planning For Floods", on Monday evening, March 20, at 7:30, in Marshall Aud. The former is an ecological study of the Connecticut River, and the latter is an Environmental Defense Fund film of a political nature. Each one does an excellent job in presenting their view, and they are well worth seeing. Everyone is welcome! (P.S.: Monday is the first day back after vacation, so you might want to mark this date on the old calendar now.)

There will be an Alpha Xi Sigma meeting Thursday, March 23, at 7:00 pm. The location of the meeting will be posted on Marshall and Illick bulletin boards. Advances in the course evaluations, an open-test file, and Robin Hood Book suggestions will be discussed. The revised constitution will also be voted on. From this meeting on, Alpha Xi will meet every two weeks on Thursdays at 7:00.

If anyone cannot attend, contact me through the student mailboxes.

-Kathy Lyons

There will be a very important meeting of the Basketball Club on Wednesday, March 8, at 5:30, in room 215 Bray. Elections of new officers as well as discussions over next year's plans will take place. All members please attend! New members are welcome!

On Wednesday, March 8, Dr. Ketchledge will give a talk on western trees. After spending 2 months last fall touring the west, taking pictures and observing the trees, Dr. Ketchledge will be expanding his dendrology courses next year. Next Wed. will offer those of us who have already taken dendro an opportunity to supplement our knowledge, and give those who haven't taken dendro a sneak preview of what is to come.

We will also be voting on new officers for next year. We are asking for volunteers to step forward to help plan activities. The positions are president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer. None require a lot of work and all offer students a chance to become involved in our school.

Our next activity will be the annual Algonquin Mountain climb to be held Sat. & Sun. April 1 & 2. The meeting will be held in 212 Marshall.
**EDITORIAL**

Didi Schultz wrote a very good article last week, explaining what your student fee does, and why there is a need to increase it by $1 a semester. At the risk of redundancy, I'd like to add my opinion.

Whether you are personally active in dozens of clubs, or if you just like the beer at dances and TGIF's, I doubt that you could get as much for your money as your student fee gets for you, anywhere else. Eighteen dollars a year buys the parties, clubs, speakers, films, trips, Festival of Nations, Barbeque, Unbarbeque, Banquet, Knothole, the yearbook, and more.

However—it isn't enough anymore. We've been hit with some big price increases this year, besides the steady inflation over the past five years that the fee has been $9 a semester. So we're left with a choice: receive less or pay more. Nine dollars or ten, it is still a bargain, considering the return on your money!

Incidentally, our Student Council negotiated with SU's SA, and we'll be paying SU the same student fee that we have been, for their services. So this extra dollar will be going to those events and groups which are uniquely stumpy (and therefore generally free).

Where else could a dollar do so much for you? Vote yes to the new student fee in the upcoming referendum.

Linda Palmer

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**STUDENT COUNCIL NOTES**

Just a few words before you leave for break!

**Student tickets for the Spring Banquet will be on sale in the Student Council Office (B-19 Marshall) the rest of this week. Faculty and guest tickets may be purchased in the Business Office thru next week.**

**Chancellor Wharton paid ESF a visit Tuesday! More news on that in the next issue of the Knothole.**

**President Palmer is in favor of recyclable soda containers!**

**The Committee for Student Input has finished up its work and we are presently working on implementing their recommendations. Anyone interested in their findings should come to the SC office and read their report.**

**Forty $500 scholarships are being offered by the American College Scholarship Program. Award is based solely on academic ability, not financial need. We can nominate one student. Any takers? Contact your Student Council Office.**

**3UN DAY will be observed. Contact NYPIRG for info.**

**If you haven't voted already—VOTE now!**

**Til we get back from Break...Enjoy!**

SC. ☺
NOTICE: Do you find the Moon display case boring? Do you have an interesting collection that you'd like to display? Contact Maria Young at Moon, soon. Exhibit!

Good news!! The Creativity Contest deadline is March 22, so you now have spring vacation to apply your creative talents. There are $10 awards for the best feature page, artwork, cartoon, and poetry submitted. So, all you closet writers and margin doodlers, c'mon out and show your stuff!

Feature Page: The feature page should be a visual presentation; with an article dealing with a topic of interest, along with something to lighten up the text, such as related poetry, sketches, art, or even photos (we can only print dot-image photos—something that has already been printed, in a book or newspaper.

Artwork: Artwork must be black ink on white paper no larger than 7½ by 10", or smaller than 7½" by 5".

ALL entrees must include artist/author name, school address and phone number, curriculum and year. Entrees will not be returned unless requested. Entrees must be in ink and legible.

Please state at the top "For Knothole Creativity Contest", and indicate what category the entree is under. Deadline is March 22. Submit entries to the Knothole mail-box in the basement of Marshall.
I'VE FINE...

There's nothing whatever the matter with me,
I'm just as healthy as I can be,
And I have arthritis in both my knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze,
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My teeth will eventually have to come out,
And my diet I hate to think about,
I'm overweight and I can't get thin,
My appetite's such that it is sure to win,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have on my feet,
Or wouldn't be able to go on the street,
Sleep is denied me night after night,
And every morning I am a sight;
My memory's failing, my head's in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral is, as this tale we unfold,
That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say, I'm fine, with a grin,
Than to let them know the shape we're in.

How do I know my youth has been spent?
Because my get-up-and-go just got up and went.
But in spite of it all, I'm able to grin,
When I think of the places my get-up has been.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder, as I go to bed,
My ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on a table, till I get up.

Ere sleep dims my eyes, I say to myself,
"Is there anything else I can lay on the shelf"
But I'm happy to say as I close my door,
My friends are the same as in days of yore.

When I was young and my slippers were red,
I could kick my heels right over my head,
When I grew older my slipper was blue,
But I could still dance the whole night through.

Now I'm old, my slippers are black,
I walk to the corner and puff my way back.

The reason I know my youth has been spent,
My get-up-and-go has got up and went.
But I really don't mind when I think with a grin
of all the nice places my get-up has been.

FROM THE ANTIQUER

(reprinted from the December 14, 1970
Knathole)

The Conservation Council of N.Y. has
proposed a bill which would create
a nine-member Fish and Wildlife
Commission, taking away responsibility
for fish, wildlife, and marine re­
sources from the State Dept. of Envir­
onmental Conservation. The bill would
give the proposed commission the
authority to "provide for prevention
and abatement of all water, air, and
land pollution which endangers the
fish and wildlife resources of the
state."

Peter Berle, Commissioner of the
DEC, has come out strongly against
this bill. He feels that it will
increase bureaucracy and costs,
and divide wildlife from other
environmental issues.
EUSTACE B. NIFKIN
LIVES!

To those who really don't know who Eustace B. Nifkin is, this biography, written in 1949 should fill you in.

EUSTACE B. NIFKIN:
His Biography

Eustace B. Nifkin is the semi-legendary figure who is considered the patron saint of all good foresters, and some bad ones. He is now regarded as the Paul Bunyan of the Adirondacks.

All neophyte foresters should know completely the colorful history of their Saint Nifkin. Therefore, this humble woods biographer has attempted to record his amazing exploits for posterity.

As befits a saint, the Great One was not born in the conventional manner. Even the date of his creation is hazy and confused by hundreds of local legends. But this much is certain; somewhere in the dark recesses of the Great Dismal Swamp our Patron Saint sprang forth, fully formed, from the tail-bone of a mash-drunk rasorback hawg. After living on swamp potatoes flavored with wild sarsparilla juice for a few years, the Great One decided to make his impression on the world. He then started on his great explorations of the country's forests. The only evidence of his passing was a trail of empty 'jegs'. Ed collected a vast amount of data in his cured 'revenoor hide' tatum, recording his notes in blackberry wine.

One summer, while cruising whole townships by eye from the Appalachian ridges, his boundless energy and speed carried him far to the north of his usual range. He awoke one morning and tossed down his hearty breakfast of boiled young skunk cabbage and spruce beer. Then, through the rising mist, he beheld the rugged beauty of the virgin Adirondack Mountains. He feasted his eyes on the scene and sighed with great satisfaction, for he knew that at last he had found the spot which would give him the inspiration and peace of mind to finish his great works.

Thereupon he started writing his famed manuscripts of the sciences which he founded. These include silviculture, botany, dendrology, timber estimating, entomology, and the fine art of phenagling. While digging a huge vault for the protection of his masterpieces, he struck an underground river. Barely escaping from the rushing waters, Eustace B. watched the formation of what is now called Avalanche Lake. His suspicions of intruders were well-founded, for some of his classic works were stolen and have since been claimed to be original by unscrupulous impostors. Hear me, brethren; when the roll is called Up Yonder, many will face the righteous wrath of Saint Nifkin.

From the sales of his textbooks, Eustace B. accumulated sufficient funds to buy up all the forest land in the country, and thereupon created the U.S. Forest Service.

It has been believed by some that the Patron Saint met his demise when he was backed into by a pie wagon while shooting snipe in the main street of Tupper Lake. However, bearded summer campers at Cranberry Lake still come back with tales of an old man in a deerskin suit who suddenly appeared out of the beech thickets to give them help on knotty problems, aided by a snort of 'squeezins'.

-Carveth Panvreas Flabb, Esq.
Biographer
**Facts About Trees:**

* Trees grow in soil. (Dr. Cram does it again!)

* Deer eat 'em. Deer eat Raspberry bushes too, but raspberry bushes don't count 'cause they aren't trees. (Refer to 'A Tree')

**Questions and Answers About Trees**

Q: What color are trees? (A probing question asked in GFO 032).

A: Something to (CENSORED) the students with. (Dr. Chris and one of his many words of (CENSORED)).

Q: What are trees good for?

A: Cutting. (A discussion heard in Dr. Nyland's "How to Make a Buck" class).

After this thorough discussion on trees, you shouldn't make the same mistake as Pres. Palmer who was heard to whisper: "But I thought they were plastic!"

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**The strange death of city trees**

First it was the chestnut trees, then the elms. Now, mostly in urban areas, it is some oaks, beeches, ash trees, birches, and especially maples. During the past 20 years or so, the gradual decline of roadside and suburban maples, particularly the silver, Norway, and sugar maples, has become the most serious shade tree decline problem in the Northeast. (The sugar maple is New York's state tree, and enables New York, along with Vermont, to lead the nation in maple sugar production.)

The trees are not exactly dying altogether but they are undergoing what foresters call a "decline." The top branches die, some leaves turn yellow, growth slows, fall coloration mysteriously comes weeks before it should, and fungi can be detected on the bark. What is happening?

Botanist and forest pathologist Dr. Paul Manion of SUNY's College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse has been studying the matter for two years, with funds from a McIntire-Stennis grant through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His research reveals that no single insect, fungus, or virus is responsible. Rather, as many as 20 harmful agents may be working on a deteriorating maple. This has led Dr. Manion to construct a new etiology of decline for his fellow forest pathologists, who prefer to see tree illnesses as being simply caused by one or two agents such as a certain insect or salt on the roads.

For Dr. Manion the new decline of urban hardwoods is a three-ring event: predisposing conditions, inciting factors, and contributing causes.

The predisposing conditions weak genetic constitution, questionable climate, tree age, improper soil, growing air pollution, place a stress on the trees, leaving them open to problems. The inciting factors such as droughts, insect defoliation, salt from road sprays, or late spring frost bring short-term injuries. Then the contributing causes move in to attack the weakened tree: beetles, borers, fungi, viruses.

Says Dr. Manion, "The contributing causes are often blamed for the decline of the trees, but they are better understood as signs of a weakened host or species." For his research, Dr. Manion is using multispectral aerial photographs, taken mostly by Dr. Thomas Lillesand of ESL's School of Environmental and Resource Engineering, as well as ground studies to identify the multiple problems of urban trees, a project in which several other SUNY botanists and silviculturists at ESL are involved.
"It's the Same All Over..."

"BIOMETRIC BLUES"

From one to ten I learned to count,
To add, subtract and multiply.
And, though hard to get through,
I managed until I felt the Biometric Blues.

Where sums of squares and sample size,
And completely random block design,
Blocks whether Latin, Greek or Dutch,
With correlation coefficient one or two
or three or four or six or ten,
And median, mode or sample mean
Or matrix numbers big or small,
It's like talking to a brick wall.

Control of variance by concomitant observations
And sums and squares and samples, sign
ignored in tests for 't',
Degrees of freedom, error square,
treatments within, treatments without
or among or total or completely out,
Significantly different, or significantly not,
Blood flows on the petals of this rose.

Roll up, roll down, continue, stop.
Enter memory, x, display,
Computer programming in a day.
Exams!!, I'll have to try again.

-Patric Oliver
Forestry V

This poem was reprinted from the 1977
"Bosforus", a publication of the
Forestry Association, University of
Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch, Republic
of South Africa.

***UNCLASSIFIED AD***

WANTED: Humor! Jokes, cartoons, articles,
spoofs,... whatever it is that made
you crack up in the middle of that dry
lecture last week! Submit your bits
of hysterical inspiration to the Knot-hole mailbox, marked "For The Humor
Issue".

HELP WANTED:

The YWCA of Syracuse needs people who
have a lot of LOVE and a little-bit of
magic, who can teach crafts, basic cooking,
performing arts, singing, dancing, painting,
and/or physical education
to children 5 years or older with learning
disabilities.

Positions are voluntary or paid, de-
pending on experience and training.

These much-sought-after people must
commit themselves to an interview, train-
ing and job expectations which will be
designed to match their needs and ours.
Physical Education teachers and Swim
instructions will need to meet professional
criteria.

CALL: Jim Komanecky at 487-1167
Onondaga County
Assoc., for the
Learning Disabled
Mary Finkle: 422-4533 or 422-9167
at the YWCA.
Knotline

Got a gripe? (Does Syracuse have snow?) If you have a problem or question about courses, school policy, administrative red-tape, or if you find yourself wondering if you'll survive your education, we may be able to help.

We are a new Student Council committee, which is responsible for, among other things, a new student service; the Knothole Hotline, or Knotline. We may know the right offices, Deans, or Faculty to consult about your questions, and we can follow through until we get an answer. So, if you've been saying "I wish that someone could do something about..." say it to us! We want to help the system work. Just write down your problem, indicate that it is for the Knotline, and put it in the Knothole mailbox. We'll find out just what can be done.

Knotline is ready to be of service!