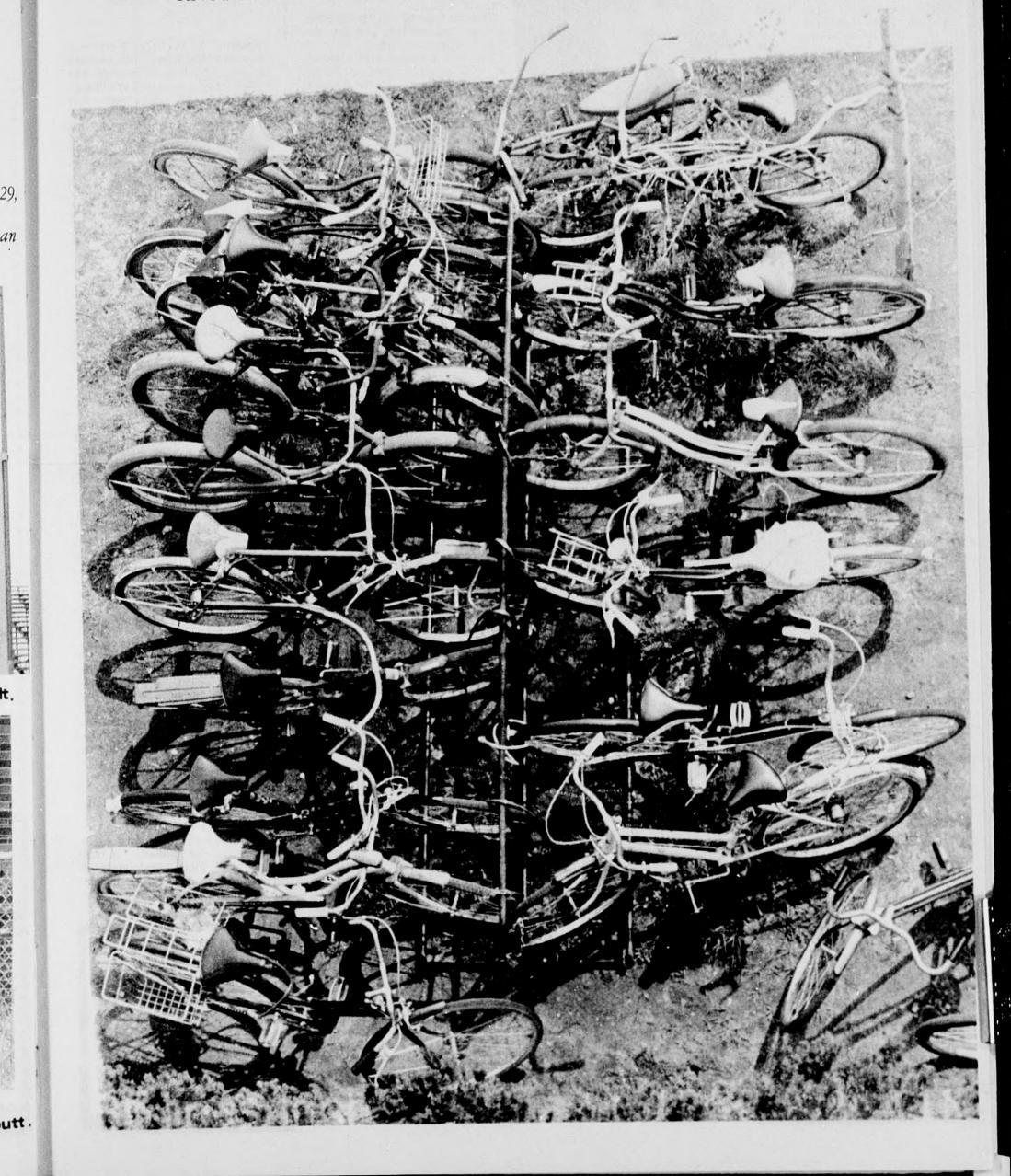
photo/Thurber

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Che Almanian.

THEIR FORCES GROW DAILY, CHOKING THE BICYCLE RACKS... KNOWING THEIR NUMBERS AND SUSPECTING STILL MORE TO COME.



Page 2 THE ALMANIAN Almanian Staff Member Takes 2nd Place in Detroit Press Club Journalism Competition

Greg Wegner, the only ALMANIAN staff member who entered, took a second place in the Expression of Opinion Category in the Detroit Press Club Foundation's seventh annual col-lege journalism awards. The award brought Wegner a \$200 cash prize.

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The award was given for Wegner's "Some Explosive Questions" concerning the Amchitka nuclear blast. The article appeared in the November 15 issue of the ALMANIAN.

A University of Michigan graduate student from Southfield, Edward Mut-ter, won two of the 10 awards and tied for another.

Mutter, whose cash prizes total \$1,075, and fellow U. of M. student journalists swept seven of the 10 awards in this year's competition



and tied for an eighth.

The winners were announced by Foundation President Roy D. Chapin were honored at the foun-Jr. and dation's awards banquet in the Detroit Hilton Hotel.

Professional, college and high school winners were given 26 jour-nalism awards worth \$11,100 in cash and scholarships. Students from 22 schools submitted

articles published in 1971 for this year's college competition.

The college entries were screened by a 17 member panel in Detroit before being sent to the National Press Club in Washington for final judging by a panel of top Washington newsmen.

Monday, May 8, 1972

Speaker States 7 Reasons Why Women's Roles are Changing by Barb Miller

Speaking to the Topic 9 class on "Education and Women," Dr. Barbara Zikmund stated seven reasons why women's roles in society are changing. Women are living longer. It is safer to abort a pregnancy in 12 weeks than to carry a child for nine months due to medical advances in control of reproductivity. Attitudes toward motherhood are changing: "You can be a real true woman without having to be a mother," says Dr. Zikmund. The attitudes of men toward women are shifting away from the "little lady" image. Expansion of education, variety in job opportunities and the lightening of the burdens of home-making also contribute to the change in women's status.

Education for men doesn't necessarily apply to women. Just as important for women is life experience. Continuing education for the community is playing an important part in furthering women's education. The theory that "education is the best teacher" is being questioned due to the fact that more women are going to college.

'The more education a woman has, the more likely she is to use it in the labor force," Dr. Zikmund says, citing statistics that show 82 percent of women between the ages of 20 and 24 with a high school education or better have an occupation, and 86 percent of the women between 45 and 54.

However, women go to college for different reasons. To get a full time career, fill the gap until marriage, to be a better wife and mother, to be a better citizen and volunteer "in case something happens, to have something to fall back on" are some of the reasons.

Females go to college with general goals and greater interpersonal competency, while males are specific in their goals and have high task competency. Colleges help men become more general and women be-come more specific. Females in-crease in peer dependence. "The senior girl who doesn't have a ring on her finger is a very uptight creture. "She's afraid she isn't a full woman." Men, however, grow in Men, however, grow in self-esteem and become less socially oriented.

"Government pressure is going to change attitudes" toward the value of education for women. It will step in and force employment of women, which will provide models for other women to be as educated and also get good jobs.



JOHN RICHARDS

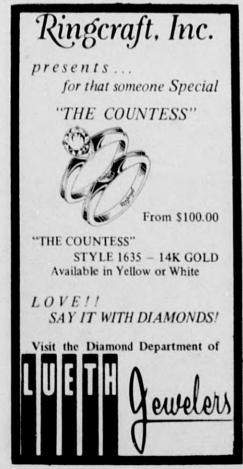
Elected Student Council President

In the Student Council elections held last Tuesday, John Richards defeated Bill Harrison for the office of president by what can be called a landslide, 396-98. In the race for vice president, Kirby Goodwin received 261 votes, Steve Oesterle 219. There were 66 blank or write-in ballots. A run off will be held May 9.

House for Rent

For Rent: Smallfour-bedroom home. * Five miles west of Alma. Alma School District. James Tipton, 463-5731.

3



Call the second second

Senators Urge Nixon to Withhold **Decision on Alaskan Oil Pipeline**

Twelve Republican Senators from midwestern and eastern states today urged the Nixon Administration to withhold a decision on a proposed Alaska oil pipeline and to examine the merits of an alternative oil and gas system that would cross Canada into the American Midwest.

In a letter initiated by U.S. Senator Robert P. Griffin (R-Mich), the Senators urged Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton "to delay any decision on the pipeline until the newly-feasible alternative of a trans-Canada pipeline can be given close study, as has now been given to the trans-Alaska proposal."

The Senators pointed out that such a cross-Canada route would hold economic, environmental and national security advantages over the Alaska pipeline proposal.

Such a route would extend from Alaska's North Slope down through Canada's Mackenzie Valley into the midwestern U.S. The Canadian Government has expressed strong interest in such a joint venture with the U.S.

ment's own Environmental Impact Delaware; Bill Brock, Tennessee.

Statement which concluded that the trans -Canada pipeline would be "an equally efficient alternative" from an economic standpoint.

The combined oil and gas pipeline system across Canada also 'would cause the least disruption to the natural environment, as your report acknowledges," the Senators told

Morton. "In view of the publicly-stated willingness of the Canadian Government to cooperate in the construction of a trans-Canada pipeline, and the ultimate advantages -- economic, environmental and security -- which would accrue to both countries, we believe this alternative should be given more serious consideration than appears to have been the case thus far."

Signers of the letter included: Griffin; Charles H. Percy, Illinois; James L. Buckley, New York; Robert T. Stafford, Vermont; Norris Cotton, New Hampshire; George D. Aiken, Vermont; Edward W. Brooke, Mass.; The letter cited the Interior Depart-The letter cited the Interior Depart-

Harriette Simpson Arnow, **Distinguished Novelist**, on **Campus Wednesday & Thursday**

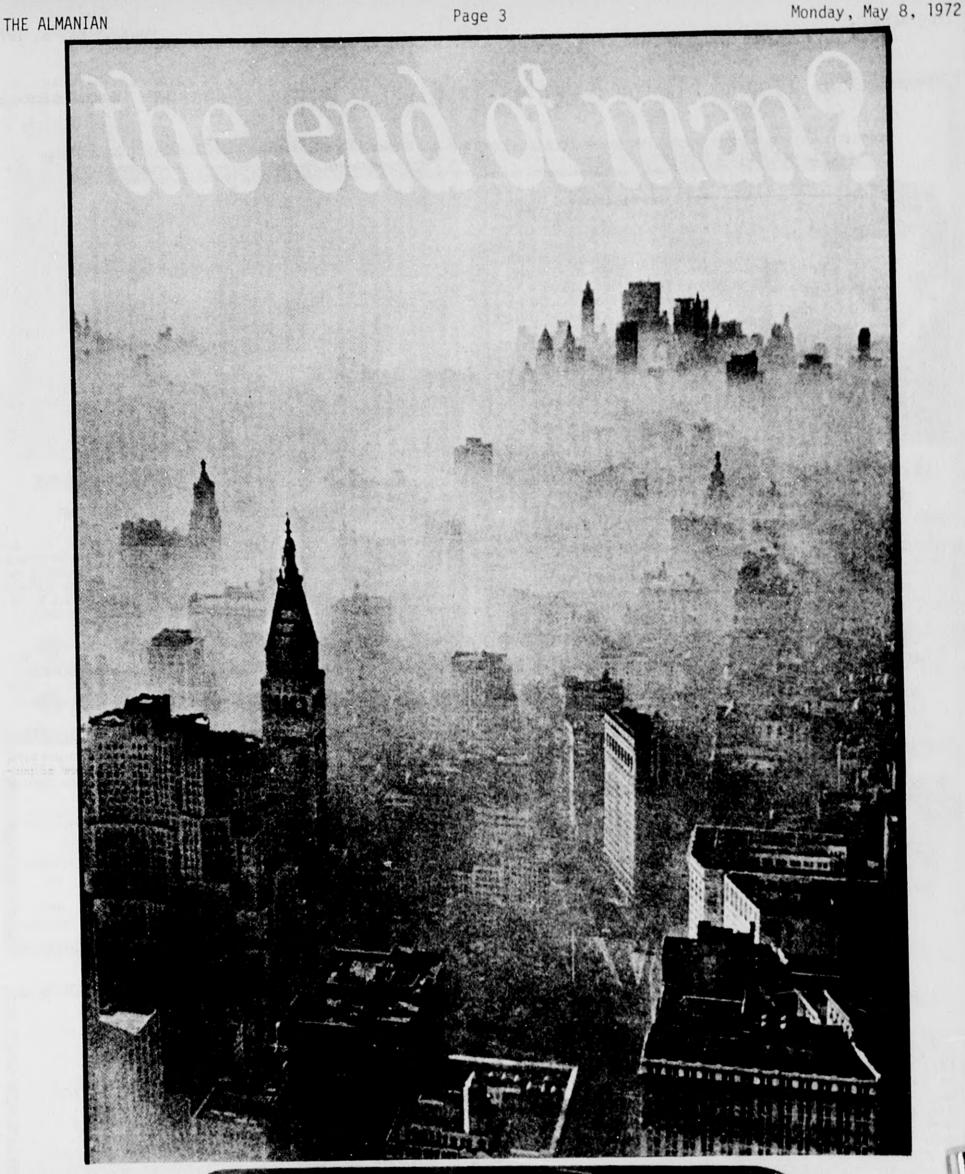
Under the auspices of the Lecture- afterward to Ann Arbor, where they Fine Arts Series, Mrs. Harriette still reside. Simpson Arnow, distinguished novelist and social historian, will appear on campus Wednesday and Thursday. May 10 and 11. On Wednesday at 4:00 she will be in the Reid-Knox Memorial Room to discuss both the craft of writing and some features of her own work. Harriette Simpson was born in Wayne County, Kentucky, and was ed-ucated at Berea College and the University of Louisville. For four years she taught in the public schools but gave that up to devote more time to writing. The mid-1930's found her in Cincinnati doing odd jobs, writing short stories, and beginning work on her first novel. In 1939 she married Harold B. Arnow and for five years the two of them pursued farming and writing on a farm in the Cumberland National Forest. During World War II they moved to Detroit and shortly

Mrs. Arnow is the author of four THE MOUNTAIN PATH novels: (1936), HUNTER'S HORN (1949), the bestseller THE DOLLMAKER (1954). and THE WEEDKILLER'S DAUGH-TER (1969), and two works of social history: SEEDTIME ON THE CUM-BERLAND (1960) and THE FLOWER-ING OF THE CUMBERLAND (1963).

She has won the Friends of American Writers Award, the Berea College Centennial Award, the Woman's Home Companion Silver Distaff Award for a "unique contribution by a woman to American life," and the Award of Merit of the American Association for State and Local History. Two of her short stories have been anthologized in O. HENRY MEMORIAL AWARD PRIZE STORIES.

The 4:00 program in Reid-Knox is open to all without charge.





Sage Reflections & Sober Moments

QUESTION

It pays to know there is just as much future as there is past. The only thing it doesn't pay to be sure of is man's part in it. -Loren Eisely The Immense Journey

... how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vailglory which can be acquired from ravaging it.

-George Washington

CONSERVATION

"I think of conservation this way: Thoughtful men are dedicated to it; intelligent, perceptive men can be reasoned into believing it; but the ardent materialists, whatever their station now, must be frightened into it. It is only through fear that they will give up the exploitation of the environment. It is ironic that an enemy of conservation is, unwittingly, an enemy of himself."

> -Werner Nagel Missouri Conservation Commission

Sun and Rain

May the long time sun shine upon you, all love surround you, and the pure light within you guide you all the way on. -The Incredible String Band

I do not think that any civilization can be called complete until it has progressed from sophistication to unsophistication, and made a conscious return to simplicity of thinking and living.

-Lin Yutang The Importance of Living

******** Wegner, Tipton Selected To Conduct Writing Program *********



Dr. Robert Wegner

Two members of the Alma College English Department faculty have been selected by the Michigan Council for the Arts to conduct a series of creative writing programs in the Saginaw-Bay City-Midland area May 8-12.

The sessions on writing of fiction and poetry will be conducted by James Tipton and Dr. Robert E. Wegner of the Alma staff. Preliminary scheduling includes conferences at high schools in Midland on Monday and Tuesday with programs at the Midland Art Center during the evenings of those days. On Wednesday Tipton and Wegner will be at John Glenn High School in Bay City, and on Thursday they will be at Delta College. During the week they will meet with

During the week they will meet with interested community groups as well as with high school and college students. Segments of the programs that they present will include readings of their own works; Tipton is a poet and Wegner a short story writer.

Tipton, who recently received a stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities to research specific problems in contemporary poetry, has given readings at many schools in the Midwest including Ohio State University, Saginaw Valley College, Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan. His more than 300 published poems, short stories, translations and reviews have appeared in ART IN SOCIETY, THE NATION, CIMARRON REVIEW, SOUTH DAKOTA REVIEW, SOUTHERN HUMANITIES REVIEW. DALHOUSIE REVIEW, QUEEN'S QUARTERLY, EPOS, MEDITERRA-NEAN REVIEW, SOUTH DAKOTA RE-VIEW, FIELD, THE HOLLINS CRITIC and many other literary magazines. His collection of poems, STUMP FARMING, will be published later this year by Unicorn Press.

Wegner, who is the author of a critical biography of E.E. Cummings published by Harcourt Brace, has published stories in ESQUIRE, CARLETON MISCELLANY, THE GREEN RIVER REVIEW and other literary magazines. One of his stories, "I'm Going Down to Watch the Horses Come Alive," was recently reprinted in the anthology of modern fiction, THE AGE OF ANXIETY, published by Allyn and Bacon.

Tipton and Wegner's programs in the Saginaw-Bay City-Midland area are supported by the Michigan Council for the Arts. Established by the Michigan Legislature in 1966, the Council provides a wide variety of programs and services in the performing, visual and literary arts that are available to community groups and organizations throughout the State.



Mr. James Tipton

Further information on how this Agency can contribute to the cultural growth of communities may be obtained by writing to the Michigan Council for the Arts, 10125 E. Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan 48214.



Dr. John Agria

By Barb Miller

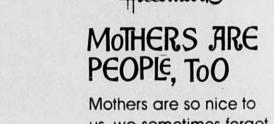
COLLEGE HOUSING: ACRITIQUE OF THE FEDERAL COLLEGE HOUS-ING LOAN PROGRAM is the title of the book Dr. John Agria has just had published by the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Re-search. In it he claims the federal college housing loan program should be terminated because its goals are uncertain and the means for reaching those goals are ineffective. Written by Dr. Agria while on sab-batical leave in Washington two years batical leave in Washington two years ago, it is an evaluation of how well the program of federal loans and grants for dormitories is working. No one is quite sure of what the pro-gram does, because the definition is so general. The purpose of the pro-gram is to provide help to students to keen down the cost of housing by to keep down the cost of housing by offering loans at a lower rate to institutions to build dorms. The program is under the department of Hous-ing and Urban Development, not the education department, so the loans can only be used to build dorms. Colleges tend to overbuild housing, and then are forced to increase spendings for classrooms and teachers' sal-aries. The limitations on what the money can be used for leads to a

Dr. Agria Publishes Book On Housing Program distortion in the decisions of what is

distortion in the decisions of what is valuable. Since building dorms can be helped by the federal government, other areas of expansion are ignored. Saving for students are relatively

small under the program. The estimated per student subsidy in the 1971-72 year was \$33.50 at public colleges, or 2.6 percent of total projected charges, and \$66 at private colleges, or 2.4 percent of the total. The reason for this is that in order to apply for a loan the college has to prove its dorms are overcrowded. By the time the application is approved, construction costs have gone up and it is found that building without federal aid might have been more profitable.-The increase in costs while waiting





for aid might wipe out any savings there might have been.

there might have been. The cost of living in a dorm doesn't vary, so the needy student ends up paying just as much as a student not as needy. Often the students most in need of financial aid go to the community colleges and a federal housing program does not help. The most needy colleges often can not get the loans because they have a low credit rating. Therefore, the colleges that could benefit most by the program are neglected.

In proposing alternatives to the program, Dr. Agria thinks that more direct subsidies to students should be provided, and that the college housing program should be consolidated with the academic facilities program. Also, states should eliminate money to just public schools and create a pool for all schools.



us, we sometimes forget they're just people, too - they need to be told that they're wanted and loved. That's why there's a Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14. And that's why we feature Hallmark Mother's Day cards—the kind that say just what you want said, perfectly.

LORI'S CARDS & GIFTS



Hope's band to PERFORM WITH KILTIE BAND IN PARENTS DAY CONCERT THIS SUNDAY

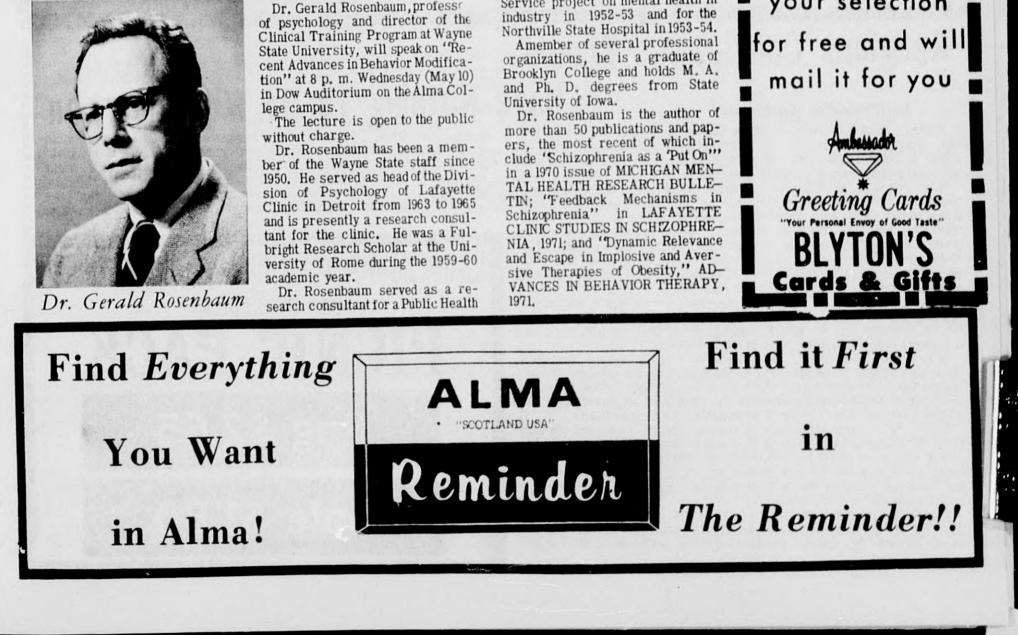
Hope College's band will join forces with the Alma College Kiltie Band to present a Parents Day concert on the Alma campus Sunday (May 14) afternoon.

The program of symphonic band music, which is open to the public with charge, will be presented in the college's Physical Education Center at 2:30 p. m.

Both the Hope College Band directed by Donald Warner and the Alma band under the direction of Jack Bowman will present selections individually before joining for two numbers.

The concluding selections to be played by the combined bands are "Lincolnshire Posy" by Percy Grainger and "Finale" from the Symphone in G Minor by Kalinnikov.

Psychologist To Speak On **Behavior Modifications**



Dr. Gerald Rosenbaum, professe



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Remember Mother's Day Sunday May 14 See Our Fine Selection of Mother's Day **Cards & Gifts** We gift-wrap your selection

THE ALMANIAN

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Monday, May 8, 1972



Page 6 THE EDITOR'S DESK WOMEN--A KEENER ESTHETIC SENSE

Paul H. Harasim

Many of my brothers with an artistic bent will dispute me, but I must say it--women commonly have a far keener esthetic sense than men. Beauty is more important to them; they give more thought to it; they crave more of it in their surroundings. The average man, at least in America, takes a bovine pride in his indifference to the arts; he can think of them only as sources of somewhat discreditable amusement; one seldom hears of him showing half the enthusiasm for any beautiful thing that his wife displays in the presence of a fine fabric, an effective color, or a graceful form. color, or a graceful form.

Women are resistant to so-called beauty in men for the simple and sufficient reason that such beauty is chiefly imaginary. A truly beautiful man, indeed, is as rare as a truly beautiful piece of jewelry.

What men mistake for beauty in themselves is usually nothing save a certain hollow gaudiness, a revolting flashiness, the superficial splen-dor of a prancing animal. The most lovely movie actor, considered in the light of genuine esthetic values, is no more than a study in vulgarity; his like is to be found, not in the Detroit Institute of Arts or among the hormonics of Brohms, but among the plush cofee, record clocks and harmonies of Brahms, but among the plush sofas, rococo clocks and hand-painted oil-paintings of a third-rate auction room. All women, save the least intelligent, penetrate this imposture with sharp eyes. They know that the human body, except for a brief time in childhood, is not a beautiful thing, but a hideous thing. Their own bodies give them no real delight; it is their constant effort to disguise and conceal them (girdles, nylons, make-up etc.); they never expose them esthetically, but only as an act of sexual provocation. If it were advertised that a troupe of men were to be in Lansing to do a strip-tease act on a public stage, the only women who would go to the entertainment would be a few delayed adolescents, a guard of indignant members of the parish Ladies Aid Society, and members of a women's liberation trying desperately to show that they were getting turned-on by the exposure of flesh.

Men show no such sagacious apprehension of the relatively feeble loveliness of the human frame. The most effective lure that a woman can hold out to a man is the lure of what he fatuously conceives to be her beauty. This so-called beauty, of course, is almost always a pure illusion. Arespected critic of the arts once commented on the female body in both an amusing, and , the correct way:

"The female body, even at its best, is very defective in form--it has harsh curves and very clumsily distributed masses; compared to it the average milk-jug, or even cuspidor, is a thing of intelligent and gratifying design--in brief, an object d'art. Below the neck by the bow and below the waist astern there are two masses that simply refuse to fit into a balanced composition. Viewed from the side, a woman presents an exaggerated S bisected by an imperfect straight line, and so she inevitably suggests a drunken dollar-mark.

It is extremely rare to find a woman who shows even the modest sightliness that her sex is theoretically capable of -- it is only the rare beauty who is even tolerable. The average woman, until art comes to her aid, is ungraceful, musshapen, badly calved and crudely articulated, even for a woman. If she has good torso, she is almost sure to be bow-legged. If she has good hair, she is almost sure to have scrawny hands, or muddy eyes, or no chin. A woman who meets fair tests all round is so uncommon that she becomes a sort of marvel."

But men do not demand genuine beauty, even in the most modest doses. They are quite content with the mere appearance of beauty. That is to say, they show no talent whatever for differentiating between the artificial and the real. A film of foundation make-up on the face, skillfully applied, is as satisfying to them as an epidermis of damask. Synthetic hair, artfully dressed and dyed, gives them as much delight as the authentic tresses of Venus. False bosoms intrigue them as effectively as the soundest of living fascia. A handsome pant-suit attracts them quite as surely and securely as lovely legs, shoulders, hands or eyes.

In brief, men estimate women, and acquire their wives, by reckoning up purely superficial aspects, which is just as intelligent as estimating a used car by purely superficial aspects. They never go behind the returns; it never occurs to them to analyze the impressions they receive. The result is that many a man never really sees his wife--that is, as our Man in the sky is supposed to see her, and as the mortician will see her -until they have been married for years.

And once a normal man has succunbed to the meretricious charms of a woman, he defends his choice with all the heat and steadfastness appertaining to the defense of a point of honor. To tell a man flatly that his wife is not beautiful is so terrible an insult that one risks a certain broken nose if not superbly schooled in the art of self-defense or an olympian-skilled sprinter. One would offend him far less by arguing that his wife is an idiot. One would, relatively speaking, almost caress him by directing a swift kick to his groin. The ego of the male is simply unable to stomach such an affront.

A man, then, with his esthetic deafness, dumbness and blindness, succumbs to a pair of well-managed eyes, a graceful twist of the body, a synthetic complexion or a skillful display of legs without giving the slightest thought to the fact that a whole woman is there, and that within the cranial cavity of the woman lies a brain, and that the idiosyncrasies of that brain are of vastly more importance than all physical attractions combined. But not many men are capable of any very clear examination of such facts. They dodge those facts, even when they are favorable, and lay all stress upon the surrounding and concealing superficialities.

and the second **Religious Convictions Should** Have Nothing To Do With Abortion

by Theodis Karshner

Existing abortion laws should be reformed or abolished as a matter of basic human rights. Our current system is violating a woman's right to control her own reproductive life. Reproductive organs are personal property not government property.

How effective is this law anyway? Most states allow therapeutic abortions when the woman's mental or physical health is in danger. Some states have laws which dictate that abortions be performed only when the mother's death is imminent. These laws pertain only to the Affluent people have little problems obtaining therapeutic abortions. But, if they do fail they can always afford a trip to an area where abortions are legally performed. The less affluent female must seek an illegal abortion with physical risks involved. Religious and moral objections have had the strongest influence on our abortion laws. The Judeo-Christian religions view abortion as an act of murder on the unborn child. Yet is the fetus a human being? It cannot smell, taste, hear, see, touch, or think. It is evident that the laws are a product of religious views. Therefore, such laws should be questioned constitutionally on the grounds that they violate the First Amendment which has a clause which forbids the establishment of religion and guarantees the separation of church and state. Motherhood ought not to be bound by these religious convictions. Under the current system if a woman adheres to the law she must have an unwanted child (that is if it was an accidental pregnancy). The result will most likely become a lifetime sentence and an ordeal which could be destructive to both mother and child. For many years now it has been an accepted belief that maternal rejection has been a major contributing factor of psychosis. Those who consider abortion murder should not avail themselves of The ideas of those against abortion should not be the basis of laws which prohibit the actions of those who are not bound by similar rel-

igious convictions. Abortion being performed by a licensed physician should be removed from the domain of criminal law. A woman should have the right to abort or not, and the physician should have the right to refuse to perform abortion on the basis of his own moral or religious convictions. All states which have laws forbidding abortions should have these laws studied and reformed for the good of society as a whole.

CHICK-N-JOY DAWN DONUT 203 W. Superior **PICNIC PACK** Reg \$2.65 Sale \$1.80

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

United States Government Defrauds Americans

condemn those who see; a court presided over by those who would pluck out the eyes of men and call it rehabilitation." -- Daniel Ber-rigan, THE TRIAL OF THE CATONSVILLE NINE

sitting in judgment himself is revealed as judged. It is neither Father Philip Berrigan, Sister Elizabeth McAlister nor friends who States which has committed gross stand condemned in Harrisburg; rather, those who would conspire withcorporate chambers and, who profit States which has imposed a dicta-from the preparation for, and waging torial regime in South Vietnam. It of, an increasingly Orwellian night-is the government of the United mare vision stand condemned before States which cloaks itself in sys-the peoples of the world. What we tempeak (Vietnamization et b. s.) have witnessed in Harrisburg and in while it intensifies its automated dethe weeks following the trial is fur-struction. It is the United States ther damning evidence that it is not government which has committed

demonstrated once again its malicious intent to defraud the American innocence. people. But what else can be expected of a government that has come munity, to reaffirm our responsi- *

Ellsberg and Anthony Russo (who released the Pentagon Papers to the American public) demonstrates that resist military service. it is those who would reveal the gan, THE TRIAL OF THE It is those who would reveal the ATONSVILLE NINE corruption of U.S. military policy, In peace, Pilate who believes himself to be itting in judgment himself is re-ealed as judged. It is neither self, whom that government whould ****** SINCE

It is the government of the United atrocities upon the peoples of South-east Asia and the United States. It in the confines of governmental and is the government of the United the Harrisburg defense nor jury grave crimes against humanity. How which is hung--it is the government ironic it is indeed that it is the community of peacemaking resis-The United States government has tance which must stand under the * gavel of criminals and plead its *

The time has come for us, in com- *

Friends, "For you cannot set up a court in the Kingdom of the Blind, to condemn those who see a court the lives of its own citizens! The trial of the Harrisburg defendants as community of noncempting to the trial of the Harrisburg defendants as means of opposition and support, physically and spiritually, those who

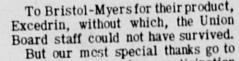
SINCERE THANKS FROM UNION BOARD

Editor: The ALMANIAN Concerning the weekend of April 28th * Dr. Edgar participates in and 29th, Union Board would like to convey our sincere thanks to the * following: The judges Mr. Norman * Jennings, Mr. Ron Melton, and Mr. * Robert Semmes; Delta Gamma Tau; * Kappa Iota; Tau Kappa Epsilon Ensemble; Theta Chi; The Heather Trio; The Alpha Phi Omega-Gamma Sigma 🖌 Sigma Quartet; Alpha Zeta Tau; and The Scot Christian Fellowship Inter-varsity Chapter Ensemble for their talents and time in producing a great show.

To Herb Taylor and Sally Gates for their magnificent job of master-

ing the ceremony. To Saga Foods for their special meal and their much needed aid in providing supplies.

To the Union Board employees, who for both nights immensely aided in preparation and presentation of the



the student body, whose participation made the entire weekend a success.

Union Board



dept. chairmen conference

Dr. Arlan L.Edgar, chairman of the Department of Biology at Alma College, will participate in a conference for recently named department chair men July 10-14 at Point Clear, Alabama.

The conference, sponsored by Research Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia, will enable department chairmen from natural science divisions of many institutions to exchange ideas.

Dr. Edgar has been a member of the Alma faculty since 1950. A graduate of Alma College, he holds M.A., M.S. and Ph. D. degrees from the University of Michigan.

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THE ALMANIAN

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Page 8

Monday, May 8, 1972

WOMEN COP SECOND STRAIGHT TITLE





Mary Lou Fortmiller 1st--2143 points

With Mel Fortmiller leading the way, Alma's archery sisters won their second consecutive WMIAA tournament at Kalamazoo in record-breaking fashion. When all the arrows were pulled out of the targets, Alma ended up with 6069 points--crushing

second place Calvin by 509 points. Mel Fortmiller had the individual high score for one Columbia round (possible 648 points), chalking up 562 for a new tournament record. She also had the highest average for four rounds, averaging 538 for another record.

Julie Hatton of Alma racked up the second highest individual score with a 542, tying with Sheri Hondorf of Calvin. Hondorf won the Dunn Award (recipient selected by all archers-awarded for skill in archery, sportsmanship, congeniality, etc.).

Last year the Dunn Award was won by Mel Fortmiller. Traditionally the recipient does not receive the award twice.

Statistics: Alma--6069; Calvin--5563; Kalamazoo--5499; Albion--4572; Hope--3923; Olivet--3748.

Archers Defeat Albion 1226—564

On May 2nd, the Women's Archerv team beat Albion College, 1226-564, finishing up their one loss season befor entering the WMIAA tournament at Kalamazoo College.

Albion had only brought ald shooters to compete where normally the top three shooters figure in the scoring. Alma College's two best archers, Mel Fortmiller and Gail Landis shot fifth and sixth to give the rest of the team a chance in regular competition and also take a look at next year's team since both Mel and Gail are seniors. Following are the scores: ALMA #1 Deb Price-374 #2 Julie Hatton-470 #3 Debbie Butcher-372 #4 Sherri Hansen-455 #5 Mel Fortmiller-576 #6 Gail Landis-477 ALBION #1-411 #2-153 TOTAL: 564 for Albion and 1226 for Alma.

Gail Landis 3rd--1972 points

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Julie Hatton 5th--1944 points

SPORTS FALLOUT

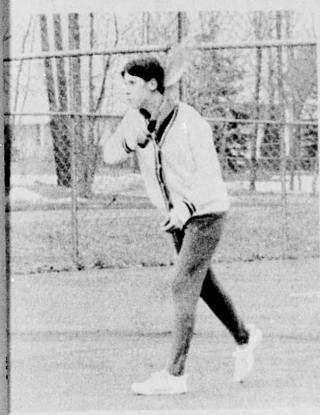
)ay	Activity Golf	Opponent	Location	Time	
lon.	Golf	N.A.I.A.	ALMA	9:30	A.M.
lues.	Golf	Calvin College	ALMA	1:00	P.M.
lues.	Tennis	Calvin College	at Grand Rapids	3:00	P.M.
lues.	Track	Calvin College	ALMA	3:30	P.M.
Ved.	Basebal1	Calvin College	at Grand Rapids	1:00	P.M.
ri.	Golf	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
Sat.	Golf	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
Fri.	Tennis	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
sat.	Tennis	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
ri.	Track	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
Sat.	Track	MIAA with Calvin	at Grand Rapids		
Sat.	Baseball	Ferris State College	at Big Rapids	1:00	P.M.

Friday, Albion will be here to make up two baseball games which were postponed earlier this spring.



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Monday, May 8, 1972 NETTERS FAIL IN TITLE BID



THE ALMANIAN

JANET WORTH 1st--3rd flight



NANCY STODOLA 1st--5th flight



Expectations were high for the Women's Tennis Team as they entered the WMIAA Tournament. Hoping to capture the championship for the second year in a row, the team ended the season on a promising note unde-feated, beating Albion 6-3, despite playing without the services of No. 1 Carol Jones. An undefeated season counts little at the

Tournament, however, for the pressure is on the individual rather than the team. In two

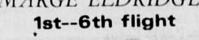
the individual rather than the team. In two days of tennis opportunities abounded, some won, some lost. The losses are what count and Alma came out as runner-up in the WMIAA behind Kalamazoo College. The pressure was on Alma's young team and the experienced gained will be invaluable for next year. Though able to do no better than second place, Alma won several indivudual flights in both doubles and singles. The number 6 singles player, Marge Eldridge met Calvin in the finals Friday afternoon winning a close match for the championship 6th flight singles, 7-5,7-5. Playing right next to Marge was her doubles partner, Nancy Stodola, undefeated during the season and continuing her undefeated string through the tournament. Nancy won number 5 flight singles by beating her Kala-mazoo opponent. Next court over from Nancy was still another Alma battle, pitting Ellen was still another Alma battle, pitting Ellen Miller against, once again, Kalamazoo for the championship of number 4 flight singles. Ellen, the fighter that she is, could not quite overcome the machine from Kalamazoo. Ellen lost 6-2, 6-3 but the scores are not indicative

of the close battle for each point. Still another Alma singles player reached the finals. Janet Worth met Calvin for the number 3 flight singles. Having lost to the same Calvin girl during the season, Janet nevertheless overcame her opponent to win that flight in two sets.

Alma's number 1 doubles team remained undefeated for the season and throughout the tournament, capturing the championship of that flight from Kalamazoo. Meeting the same doubles team from Kalamazoo against which they had gone three sets during the season, Carol Jones and Lynn Coddington needed only two this time, winning 6-4, 6-0.

The season is now complete for the team. The top four members of the team will travel to Kalamazoo in two weeks for an inter-collegiate tournament hosted by Kalamazoo College but that is for experience and individual honors rather than for the team as a whole. Alma will lose number 5 flight champion Nancy Stodola for next year's season as Nancy will graduate early and be married. The core of the team will return for next year's season, however, and once again Alma will be a team to watch out for.

MARGE ELDRIDGE



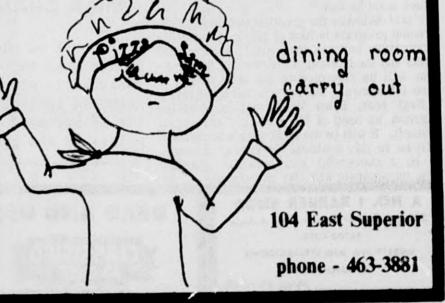


CAROL JONES and LYNN CODDINGTON 1st--1st doubles

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THE ALMANIAN

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A Devoted Woman

by Bev Palmreuter

Carol Swords has devoted much time, effort and hard work in activities at Alma College. Carol, a senior majoring in Physical Education and minoring in Sociology, is hoping to teach at the high school level in the Grand Rapids area next year. Carol has been a cheerleader, participated in women's varsity sports and is currently a resident assistant in Bruske. Carol has also been the head of the Women's Intramural Council for the past two years. Looking back on those two years as head of Intramurals, Carol says: "It has been bene-

Intramurals, Carol says: "It has been bene-ficial for me in learning how to organize and supervise activities, working with people and having them work for you and also realizing the difficulties of being an administrator." Most women on campus view the intramural program as a fun time and free-for-all. This attitude is the complete opposite of how men feel about their intramural program. For the guys who couldn't make the varsity, their skill level being very high, the fraternity or dorm team is all-important and winning is the only thing that counts. "For most women, the intramural game is a time of interaction with others and having a good time. The competi-tive spirit is not as large a part but they too want to win," says Carol. "One of the problems of the program is that

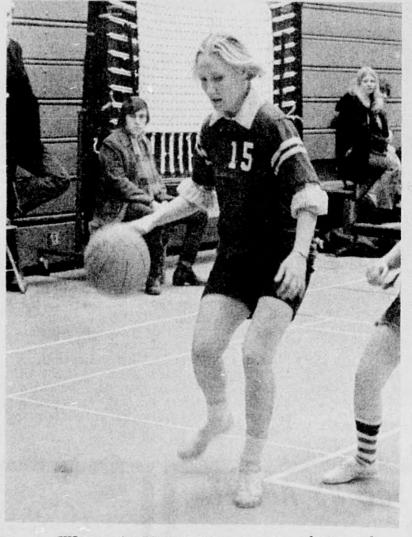
"One of the problems of the program is that we can't cater to a certain group or skill level, we must please everybody and include all levels of ability, therefore holding back the women with more ability while those with less ability feel badly because they're not that skilled but yet they want to participate." The question is then posed whether to push for more competitiveness in intramurals or remain a social function. Carol replies: "It looks as if the intramural program will remain non-competitive and more of a social inter-action between students. However, plans are being made to have clinics where women can improve their skill level and become more familiar with the mules of the stars. familiar with the rules of the game. They'll have fun and also learn in the process. This will make the games more meaningful to the participants."

"Another problem that is continually run into and difficult to handle is the apathy on the part of women concerning intramurals. Many shy away from the area because they think shy away from the area because they think only guys can play sports and are competitive. Others say they're too busy. But it only takes 1 or 2 hours once a week, sometimes twice a week to play a scheduled game, which really isn't much time to set aside for intramurals. Many women who sign up for a team don't take it as an obligation. They don't think about the organization and planning which goes about the organization and planning which goes into it; that's where the apathy comes in. Too many people have to be pushed to see through their obligation."

Concerning the present outlook of intra-murals, Carol states: "The program could be a lot better than it is now. We have just enough equipment to get by but we have just enough equipment to get by but we could have more and better equipment. The budget is very unequally distributed between men's and women's intramurals." Carol attributes this to the fact that 'we never had to use much money for our process. money for our program. It will be difficult to obtain an increase in our budget since there wasn't a need previously. I'd like to see officials get paid more, up the salary for the head of intramurals, buy needed equipment and

Steve Utley pinch hitting against Grand Valley

SCOTS WIN A PAIR , LOSE A PAIR



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Women's IM Director, Carol Swords



Mother's Day

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Sunday May 14

Your Friends Will Know

Alma College's baseball squad en-dured another week of .500 ball. Last Thursday the Scots split a non-confer-ence doubleheader with Grand Valley

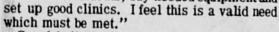
and Saturday they split with Olivet. Freshman Gary Sobkowiak started Freshman Gary Sobkowiak started the first game against Grand Valley and had a 3-1 advantage after two innings. But, then the roof fell in as Alma lost it's defensive cool. Grand Valley shot ahead and Coach Butch Cantrell sent in reliefer Jeff Keller. Keller pitched good ball, giving up only one run in three innings. Pete Moss replaced Keller and was tagged for a few seventh inning runs. The final score was Grand Valley 11, Alma 3.

Rick Lake pitched the second game which went to Alma 6-4. Lake had good hitting support from the fresh-man class. Steve Chilenko and Dave Cline collected two safeties apiece. Senior hurler Larry Hourtienne

turned in a no-hit performance against Olivet College, but still lost the game 1-0. Olivet scored the lone run in the first inning. Hourtienne walked the first batter and made a throwing error on the second man's bunt. A fielder's choice and a double steal was all that was necessary for the victory. Alma had one hit, an infield single by Larry Andrus.

Freshman Dewey McCoy picked up his second triumph in as many ap-pearances with a five hit pitching display in the nightcap. The score was Alma 1, Olivet 0. The Scots produced their run in the sixth inning. Ron VanderBann led off with a single but he was erased when Gary Horwath grounded into a fielder's choice. Horwath moved to second on John Duke's single. A passed ball and a ground out by Doug Fillmore brought Horwath home with the margin of victory. The Scots now stand 3-3 in MIAA action. They must win the remaining six league contests if they are to bring home the title. Albion is perched on top of the roost with an 8-2 record.





Carol believes the greatest weakness of the present program is lack of publicity and communication between the council and the students and the newspaper. However, this prob-lem will be remedied in the near future, to give intramurals the recognition it deserves. Next year, Ellen Miller will assume the position as head of the Women's Intramural Council. It will be the first year a sophomore will be in this position. Next year promises to be a successful year with the expanding role intramurals will play on campus.

MIAA CHAMP

Ed Novak of Olivet College was the MIAA basketball scoring champion in 1935. Big Ed averaged 10.3 points in ten games.

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BE QUEEN FOR A WEEKEND

The Alma Jaycees are pleased to sponsor the first Miss Highland Festival Contest. This will be held in conjunction with the annual Alma Highland Festival in May. The basic rules are:

1. 18 to 25 years of age

2. Must be single and never married, divorced, or annulled

3. Must be of good moral character 4. Possess poise, personality, intelligence, charm, and be of attractive appearance

This is an excellent opportunity for outstanding young girls to compete and to demonstrate their abilities. A Miss Highland Festival and two runner-ups will be chosen. There will be cash prizes and gifts for all three winners. All three are expected to be present during most Festival activities. A limited amount of travel may be necessary during the forthcoming year.

Return completed applications by May 12, 1972, to either the Chamber of Commerce office or to the Alma College office. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Vern Willson at 463-1181 or 463-3546.

The Almanian needs 4-5 copies of the following issues: Sept. 22, Oct. 11 Oct. 18, Jan. 17, and Feb. 28. If you have any of these issues, call Harold Kruse at ext. 234 or Wright Hall.

America's Finest Small College Newspaper

Any opinions expressed or implied herein are not necessarily those

of Alma College, its student body, or its faculty.

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ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR SUMMER OFFERED

Page 11

Word has been received this week of an unusual summer fellowship program for outstanding college students which has been initiated by the Environmental Protection Agency. Special emphasis is to be placed on the impact of environment on society. The fellowship program which runs from Thursday, June 15 through Thursday, August 31, will have a stipend of \$1500, plus room and board and travel to and from their residence.

The Environmental Protection Agency fellowship project will involve student investigation into present-day environmental concepts These include Environmental Management, Leisure in the Environment, Quality of Life, Future of the Environment and Center-City Environment. The Fellows, themselves, will participate in topic selection. Twenty-five Fellows are to be chosen. They are to work in teams of five with a well qualified graduate student as a team leader.

More complete information and application forms are available in the Placement Office. All applications must reach the director of the program by Monday, May 22. Final selection of Fellows is to be made by Tuesday, June 6.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Monday, May 8 Golf, N.A.I.A. here, 9:30 Tuesday, May 9 Student Council Elections for Representatives Golf, Calvin here, 1:00 Tennis, Calvin at Grand Rapids, 3:00 Track, Calvin here, 3:30 Chemistry Club, Dow 289, 7:00 Film, "Day of Wrath" -- Clack, 10:00 Wednesday, May 10 Baseball, Calvin at Grand Rapids, 2:00 Film, "Comedy of Terrors" -- Tyler, 20:00 Thursday, May 11 Chemistry Alumni Banquet, Hamilton Faculty Dining Room, 7:00 Friday, May 12 Tennis, Track, Golf, M.I.A.A., Calvin at Grand Rapids Dow Flick, "Chism"--6:45 and 9:00 Saturday, May 13 Tennis, Track, Golf, M.I.A.A. Calvin at Grand Rapids Baseball, Ferris at Big Rapids, 1:00 Dow Flick, "Chism"--6:45 and 9:00 Alma Symphony Trip to Cedar Lake, 8:00

Sunday, May 14

PARENTS' DAY Parents' Day Concert--Kiltie Band--P.E. Center, 2:30



LAMERSON'S

Editor-in-Chief.....Paul H. Harasim Managing Editor Lynn CoddingtonJanet Worth News Editor Feature Editor Greg Wegner Sports Editor Theodis Karshner Photography Editor Don Thurber Copy Editors Liz Schultz Linda Treeful Business Manager..... Harold Kruse Layout and Design Editor Donna Lupp Reporters.....Barb Miller Dave Salvette Photographer.....Jim Kloosterman Typists.....Lynn Evans Penny McElroy Debbie Masson Melissa Gamble Carolyn Manning

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ALMANIAN: In your four years at Alma College, what have you found to be the best things about the school?

WHEELER: I have felt that being at a small school has been to my advantage to have a small student-professor ratio. I felt that I was able to get more individual attention and perhaps to pursue my interests a little further than if I had been at a larger school, I have always felt that the students here at Alma have always been very friendly -- it's very easy to get to know people here. It's been an enjoyable atmos-

phere to study in. ALMANIAN: What don't you like about Alma--if anything?

WHEELER: For one thing, as far as social life goes I think that it's a serious handicap that we do not have a functional Student Union. I think that that's something this place really needs... is a place where students can get together, where there can be social functions because many of them are non-existent up here, and I think that's a serious handicap.

ALMANIAN: Do you think that you've gotten all you can, academically, from the school?

WHEELER: I'd say that I've done better than I expected. Our department is pretty small, but I've gotten a chance to know most of the professors real well, and I, myself, have had opportunities to further my studies that some kids might not have had ... one summer I worked on an NSF grant under Dr. Edgar and I thought that was quite a worthwhile experience that very few people have had a chance to experience. I sought that one out and I was able to pursue it. If a person tries, then he's able to get a lot out of a small college education. It's been very satis-fying to me. A pet peeve of mine is that I don't like living in a dorm. I feel that it's a disadvantage not being able to live where you want to live. For instance, after a certain point, you lose the need of having to live with a lot of other people. For a freshman it's very important that you get out and know people, functioning with them and just to get along with them, but by the time you're a senior, at least the way I've felt, I would have enjoyed being off campus and gotten an apartment or something with a couple of other people. That's a drawback to this place to me. I have not liked having to live in a dorm.

ALMANIAN: Do you think that the American Medical Association has deliberately held down the number of

doctors in the country? WHEELER: I won't say that they've deliberately held the numbers down, but they set very rigid cri-teria for proficiency. I don't feel myself that they're doing that just to keep the number low, but to maintain a certain level of competance in the profession. Today, they're trying not to bend their rules and their structure, sacrificing numbers for quality.

ALMANIAN: What is your purpose in going to Med school? What are you driven by?

WHEELER: I'm going to Medical school because first, almost entirely my interests lie in the field of science, and not only do I feel that I can contribute something to the medical field, but also, I, myself, love people a lot and enjoy working with them. I've just felt that this is where my niche is. Basically I feel that, if I am to make any contribution to society, I feel that I can do it more functioning as a scientist and as a doctor. I may not end up going on practicing... I may be doing medical research some place, too. have a desire to improve society and I think that I can do my best part by being a physician.

Some people say that so many doctors ALMANIAN: are driven solely by money and that the young people going into the profession seem to be going into it for more humanitarian impulses. Would you agree with that or don't you know? From the majority of people that I have WHEELER: known and associated with just the few around here -there aren't that many pre-meds--I would say that most of them are motivated by interest and desire rather than money, but then again I have known the same people you are talking about, that are motivated by one thing. I think that you find that anywhere anyway. There's two sides to every coin. ALMANIAN: As someone going into the medical profession, do you agree with abortion? WHEELER: Oh, yes. I, myself, I'm not Catholic, so... I'm definitely in favor of it. I think that there's going to have to be some , if this is considered to be a population control, which some people do, it can not be a very effective means, it isn't going to take care of a large number of people. For the problems that have arisen out of this question, I think that abortion is the only answer to the question. I'm totally in agreement with it. ALMANIAN: With the recent surge of heart transplants,

This week's senior interview is with Craig Wheeler, ogy Medical School next year, he recently won the 1972 Frank oks in Michigan and Ohio. Wheeler, in the course of the inte tol the college is going to cater to the contributors, then, k in they have with the students at all " For more on Almage, world, read on.

do you think that it's wrong that people are given a false hope to live when it really doesn't seem to have worked out?

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MANIAN

one in a million chance that their life may be saved is enough to motivate most people in that direction. Any scientist would be willing, if the person's in agreement, to try to further the research aspect of it. Even if the chance is slim and the fellow is willing to take it, there's a chance that what he learns by this operation is going to go on to save a million other lives. One mistake may be fatal to one person, but they're going to know that they can't use this method, technique and etc. I don't think it's false hope, I think it's playing the odds.

ALMANIAN: Before you came, or during your four years, what were your expectations of your college education and were your expectations fulfilled?

WHEELER: Nope. I chose Alma because it is a liberal arts institution. At the time I came here, I really did not have a definite goal in mind. I chose what I hoped to be an institution where I could sample a little bit. I had definite leanings towards the sciences, but I hadn't de-cided at that point particularly what field of interest I'd be going into. So I chose Alma because it had an excellent Biology program and had an excellent natural science program in the beginning, and I thought it'd give me a chance to experiment around a bit and look around. In that respect Alma has fulfilled my intents completely because it made up my mind for me, so I guess it had to be successful. That's the reason why Icame. I could have gone to Michigan State, but I would have had to enroll in a particular area of interest. I could have been a Bio-chem major down there, but Inever would have had the chance to sample some of the other fields that crept up in my mind and that interested me on the way. In that respect, I think that it really helped me.

ALMANIAN: What instructors have you found to be particularly good here at Alma and what ones have been bad?

WHEELER: You can't say that I've had a really good sampling of professors on the total campus, but Dr. Edgar, Dr. Wittle, Dr. Toller, Dr. Dykstra, Mr. M. J. J. Smith...these are people I've come in contact with, not necessarily in courses, but in personal experience that have been fantastic, . . . and also Dr. Kapp. . . these are people I consider very well. I have to admit that the people that I thought were not very productive are no longer here.

ALMANIAN: Do you think that there has been enough to do here at Alma? (Socially, academi-cally?)

WHEELER: As far as academics, I haven't had to worry about not being busy enough. Not necessarily taking heavy course loads or anything like that, but I'm a studier, so I devote to the studies. I've felt that I've definitely had enough to do. Socially, the things that we do up here are a little bit specialized in the environment. After you've been here a couple of years, you find what there is to do and what there isn't to do. I missed out on a lot by not having had the opportunity to meet a lot more people and a lot more mass functions, say, for instance, but if you can adjust yourself to the life at Alma, and get used to the small numbers and the same people you're going to meet day in and day out, I've never had any trouble, no. At Alma, if you're not involved in a certain group, there's not a lot of social functions that are put on at this school, say by fraternities, sororities. Union Board occasionallydoesput on things where all the kids on the campus get a chance to participate in, but I think people call this place a suitcase college because people escape from it on a week-end because it's dead. If you can get used to doing things that are characteristic of Alma, you'll

have no problem. I think it's the people that n a co get the opinion that this place is dead are peoplet phy who haven't found out what really goes on whore the here and have not gotten into what the kids wiays a here do. I'm a Zeta Sig, so I guess you can say the is that I had a social cutlet. Being in a fraternity, utting for me, has been a worthwhile experience. It's redit given me an outlet for at least not group inter ot ov action, then for IM sports, etc. It's just some ag on times if that's the only thing that goes on on alon't week-end is a Greek party, if you want to be the mile party type and meet your needs. alf a ALMANIAN: Besides your fraternity, have you ise's had any other extracurricular activities? hat. WHEELER: Well, I've been a member of the ut a

SENIORN

Chem Club and the Bio Club, and I've spent two doct or three years now as President of the Biology er of Club. I've had a lot of contact with kids in the us so sciences and that, I think was a very valuable ind he extra-curricular activity for me. I got to meet evoti a lot of people. hink

ALMANIAN: What do you do in that club? hey's WHEELER: It's just anything goes. . . it's LLMA not really rigidly structured. ime

ALMANIAN: Talking about osteopathic doc- nter tors, do you have any feeling against them or n the for them? Do you think that they are as well seen trained as medical doctors?

WHEELER: I can't speak from knowledge on bout this. I'll reiterate what I've heard from the VHE doctors and just other people in general. It hat used to be that feeling that osteopaths, or bone nd i crackers, were quite a bit inferior to M.D's ave and at one time they were, but, their medical lone education is very similar to any medical edu- thi cation you'd get at any other university now, good As a matter of fact, many doctors now, especially Dr. Sandal, for instance, feels that usy within the next four or five years that there ack will be no difference between an M.D. and an ime osteopath. People graduated from osteopathic o de schools will be given M.D.s the same as every- lo. one else. Their level of education has improved LLM now to a point where there is very small differ- what ences between the two.

ALMANIAN: How do you feel about our involve- ante ment in Vietname? Do you think that we should simp pull out immediately. . .do you think Nixon is :an' doing the wrong thing by continuing the bomb- ple ing? Nou

WHEELER: I'm definitely not in favor of U.S. to b involvement. I felt that in the beginning, the WHI intent behind the U.S. involvement was correct alor at that time, but over the years, the purpose of you the war and everything behind it has just gotten deal so screwed up now. I've kinda got the feeling nav that if Nixon is going to be pulling out, the way going it looks, he's trying to slowly turn over the soc control of the country to the ARVN troops, and per I think that the pull out is correct and he should have continue it, and I feel that maybe, perhaps, he able shouldn't have continued with the bombing. util ALMANIAN: On our campus we have an Afro-ties American House. Since they have been given as such a place to meet in at college expense, at the our expense, do you think other people should fac be able to go to the president of the college the and ask them for a house as well? dra WHEELER: I think that if the college is going you of to be non-discriminatory, they'll have to. In other words, if they're going to give facilities AL to a certain group of students, there's no reason SO why they can't grant the same privileges to any at other group of students, if it has a worthwhile be purpose behind it. Judging what a worthwhile purpose may be is something else, too, I supfev pose. I just feel that if just one group is given privileges, Ithink that's discrimination in some respects, too. That's my personal feeling. ALMANIAN: Do you think that doctors are paid too much or too little for the work that they do? WHEELER: If you were to put a doctor's sal-ary down in terms of an hourly wage, I think go you'd find that a doctor is not paid that much more than say, for instance, a crane operator

lo

TERV ler, ogy major from Grand Ledge. Attending Wayne State University rank oks Award for the best undergraduate biological research paper

inte told ALMANIAN editors Janet Worth and Paul Harasim that " If hen, k in the end, they're going to be losing any kind of status Almage. Craig Wheeler, the medical profession, and the state of the

ple that in a construction crew. If a doctor is any kind peopled physician at all, he's got to be putting in s on whore than an eight-hour day, more than a five kids w lays a week. It is my opinion that a doctor can say the is doing his job to the best of his ability is ternity, utting in a lot more hours than he is getting ice. It's redit for. In my opinion, most doctors are inter of overpaid. I don't think you can put a price st some ag on a person's talent. . . in other words, I on on a lon't think you can actually say that it's worth-

o be the hile for Christian Barnard to charge a dude alf a mill because he transplanted somebody lave you ise's heart into his body. I have no opinion on s? hat. I don't know what to think because I don't r of the ut a price on a person's life. A normal doctor, ent two, doctor who's not a millionaire is usually bet-Biology er off than most other people, but if he has used s in the us schooling and has put it to a good purpose, aluable und he is practicing what he should be doing, and to meet evoting the time that he should be, which I

hink most doctors do, then I don't feel that t club? hey're overpaid.

. .it's LMANIAN: Do you think it's because of the ime they put into their work or just not enough ic doc- nterest that we don't have many doctors, say, hem or n the U.S. House of Representatives? There's as well ween some criticism that all these good minds ould be put to better use when they're talking

edge on bout Medical reforms for the country. om the VHEELER: It's just always been my opinion ral. It hat a doctor has devoted his life to his work or bone nd if you talk with most doctors, they hardly M.D's ave time enough for their own families, let redical lone getting involved in a lot of other functions. al edu- think that you're right that there are a lot of ty now, good minds that are not being used, but there W, es- weing a shortage of doctors, most doctors are Is that usy night and day, ... I don't think it's out of t there ack of interest, I just think it's out of lack of and an ime. There's just not enough time for a person opathic o devote himself to everything that he wants to every- lo. There aren't enough hours in the day. proved LLMANIAN: I think this will bring you back to differ- what I said before, the criticism about the American Medical Association that a lot of talwolve- ented people are not able to get in to the school should simply because there's not enough places. We ixon is :an't get the care to the people. We have peo-

bomb- ple who simply can't get medical attention. Would you like to see the profession continued of U.S. to be held down in numbers?

ng, the WHEELER: I am of the opinion that I will go orrect along with the AMA in one respect -- that I think oose of you still have to have stringent criteria. You're gotten dealing with people's lives, and you'd better feeling nave confident people at the scalpel if they're he way going to be performing these functions in er the society. There's so much responsibility on a ps, and person's shoulders. I think that you've got to should have confident people. There are funds avail-ups, he able now and I think it's too bad that they can't mbing. utilize them to a better extent to expand facili-Afro- ties for the training of these young men because saying that all women are that way, but there's a lot of women that realize it would mean giving up any kind of a relationship. They'd have to spend so much time in school. I think that many women feel that they just do not want to devote the time. I don't have an explanation for it, to tell you the honest-to-goodness truth, because I know just as many brilliant women as I do brilliant men. They just seem to become unmotivated when they are faced with the fact that they are going to have to lead an abnormal life, in some respects.

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ALMANIAN: You think that the medical schools, because there are so few places and feel the woman's place is in the home? Do you think that's the reason why they're kept out?

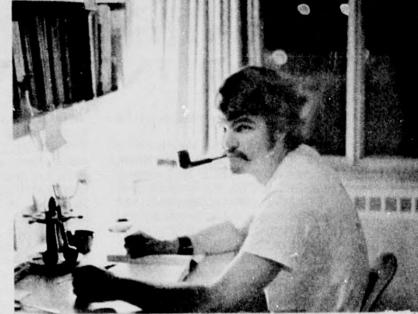
WHEELER: This is what I've heard from personnel down at U of M, that they feel that unless they're convinced that a woman is going to do this, give up this time, and has no aspirations on the side, that they're not willing to invest their time and their money, or invest the person's time, also, in the program, unless they're absolutely sure. There are so many women that enter medical school that don't make it. I'm under that impression anyway that the dropout rate is greater for women than it is for men.

ALMANIAN: What about men who might want a family? Do they say anything about that? WHEELER: Well, yeah, it's a little easier for a man to leave his wife and family at home and carry on his existence in that respect than it is for a woman, who is supposedly left with a family and is caring for the family concern. That's supposedly the old basic concept of the family. People can argue with me on that, too, but, once that concept's perpetuated well, then, let's face it, that's the way it's going to be. That's where they draw the distinction. . . a woman's place is in the home with a family and it's the man's place to earn the money, be the breadwinner.

ALMANIAN: The paper that you won the award on, what, in layman's terms, does it deal with? WHEELER: I was just investigating whether a toxin from a marine coral, whether it was antigenic in nature. When it comes in contact with a mammalian species or other vertebrae animal, whether there is an antibody reaction, whereby a natural antibody is formed to it. All I did was to investigate whether or not an antibody was formed and I devised various tests in order to detect it . . . it's presence or not.

ALMANIAN: If you were to have to name one man or one woman that you respected most, who would you say right off the top of your head? WHEELER: I guess I'd say my father and probably the most outstanding woman, Iguess, would be Rose Kennedy.

ALMANIAN: If you were to describe yourself in terms of "Leftist", "Rightist", or "Middle of-the-Road", in politics, where do you think you would stand? Do you have a party? WHEELER: I'm a Republican, but I'm not entirely conservative. I'm somewhere between conservative and "Left-wing". I'm not a strong conservative, but I guess my tendency is towards being a conservative, if anything. ALMANIAN: Why do you think that the Republican Party or conservatism . . . what do you think attracts you to it? WHEELER: A lot of it has to do, I guess, with my family life. My parents are both Republicans. They have had some influence on me. Basically, I have generally been in agreement with most of the Republican platforms. I have very rarely disagreed with most of Nixon's political moves that he's pulled off in the last four years. I really can't disagree with the man because I think he did a good job in de-escalating the war, like I say, I disagree with him in re-escalating it, but, in general, Monday, May 8, 1972



Craig Wheeler

I have agreed with most of the Republican platform.

ALMANIAN: Do you think politics can be an honorable profession?

WHEELER: I don't know! I, myself, do not have a real high opinion of politicians. I don't want to get mixed up in politics because I don't like politics that much. There's too much that goes on underneath that I knew nothing about. There's so much that never meets the public eye that I really question some of the functions that politicians serve in their places, in their seats in Washington. That's my own opinion.

ALMANIAN: What do you find to be wrong with the United States? What would you like to see corrected?

WHEELER: It almost appears that the American society is decaying today. Drug addiction among all classes of people ... just the general unrest. I can't put my finger on one particular thing that I think is integrally wrong with it. I have the feeling that something is going to happen within the next ten years that's going to set everybody on their ears. I, myself, can't put my finger on it. I don't know. I just don't know.

ALMANIAN: Do you get the feeling that people are unwilling to put out, to give of themselves? Say, 100%? Are they trying to get what they

have and give it to people? WHEELER: I don't feel at all that people give 100%. Too many people are just wrapped up in themselves. They're unwilling to give enough of themselves for the betterment of their own society and for the betterment of their fellow man. I really think that most people are living within themselves a lot. I really do. ALMANIAN: What do you think the student's role is in contributing to a college? Do you think that he has anything to contribute to a college?

WHEELER: A college is a community in itself. I think it's up to the students to do what they can to better the "community" and if people have certain talents, then (this gets back to the previous question), I feel that many people are able to do certain things, but they refuse to do so. People that have the talent and have the amazing ability to improve their surroundings should do so. In other words, there should be a certain amount of interaction amoung students in this small community, just to keep it a community. There's a lot of isolationists up here who refuse to get out, who refuse to put themselves out to even help make anything coherant out of the whole thing. I feel that it takes a certain amount of human involvement, which , you know, you don't see from everybody.

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given as it is now, there are a lot of small classes in the universities but they just don't have the should facilities nor the personel in order to equip these schools. I think that's one of the major drawbacks. You just can't crank out a doctor, you know. It takes an awful long time and a lot of money.

> ALMANIAN: From what you know, and this is something that I have seen, it always appeared, at least where I was going to school, that the best Biology students were women, and many of them in the sciences, and yet we have so few women in the medical profession. Why do you think that is?

WHEELER: If I were to put it down to just one "eason, I would say that, I don't know if women lose a lot of their ambition when they get to college or what, but, it seems that many women just decide that it's not worthwhile for them to o on to pursue something which will entirely divorce them from the family life. I'm not

ALMANIAN: Do you think a person is more a product of his environment or do you think Which would you lend the more heredity? influence to?

WHEELER: I would lend more to the environment. A certain amount of a person's innate character is inherited, but I think that people around him, the type of "environment" that he's involved in, I think has a lot to do with the shaping of his personality and a lot to do with the shaping of his character. I think that probably after a certain age, it's all environment.

ALMANIAN: Do you agree with the welfare programs in the country? How do you think

continued on next page

ALMANIAN SENIOR INTERVIEW

we can best get everyone working in the country?

WHEELER: This is why I say that there are certain things in America that are drastically wrong. I guess one of them is that so many people around feel that the world really owes them a living in some respects. Somebody owes somebody a debt someplace, but, people are just unwilling to really put their minds to it and try to lead a productive life. I'll grant that right now it's a little bit rough because there is a job shortage, I realize that, but I think that a lot of people are not really trying that hard. They have a grudge against somebody. They're saying, "You owe me a job, therefore I'm not going to work. You've done me bad, so why should I exert myself?" A lot of people I have that opinion of, but, a lot of unemployment is due to actual job shortage, which is a result of many events.

ALMANIAN: What books do you find that have most influenced you? Should we say other than textbooks?

WHEELER: I guess I would say that I've read a lot of biographies about rich statesmen, great men. I guess that reading about other people and the way they ve met the challenges of their life, the way they had to struggle to succeed in life, I guess, the success stories, you might say, are the kind of books that influence me the most. I kind of identify with people who are having a rough time making it someplace. I couldn't put my finger on one book. These types of books are the kind that have given me a little bit more ambition or have given me a little more drive to work a little bit harder or something.

ALMANIAN: Lately, violence in movies has been the thing. Violence in America occurs more than in any other place in the world. Why do you find that so?

WHEELER: I guess if I were a psychologist I would go back and say that these movies are more appealing to some of the basic, innate nature of man. The animal in him. I think that every person has certain basically primitive feelings. The movies nowadays are really appealing to them. Not necessarily some of the violent movies, but some of the skin flicks that are running around now, too, ... I think that they are just really appealing to the real primitive nature of man. Somebody has gotten on that idea and has just been capitalizing on it. They're just finding out.

ALMANIAN: In other countries, say France or Sweden, you can walk in the major cities all night long. We can't do that in America in any of the major cities, say Detroit or Los Angeles. Why do you think that is?

WHEELER: That's because the American society has built a big myth around sex and around the whole concept of the human body. It's something evolved about the American way of life and something has set up this type of structure. The American morals in the last two-hundred years, they think, I guess that maybe we have the worst of all societies in the world. As a result, we come out with a screwed up system of values and mores. ALMANIAN: Do you agree with the statement that the same thing that has made this country great, the competitiveness, is now bringing about it's downfall? You said that you thought we seem to be falling apart . . . WHEELER: In some respects, I guess you could get it down to the economic aspects and the American way of life is built on competition. In that respect, I guess it has contributed to much of the physical degredation in this country, I personally believe. I don't think that it's the competitiveness that's responsible for the decaying of the society itself. I can't ALMANIAN: When you think of music, what kind of music do you most enjoy? WHEELER: I love almost any kind of music. It depends on my mood. I like classical stuff. I like a lot of big band era stuff. I'm a music lover in general. I don't have any preferences at all. It depends on my mood. ALMANIAN: Does it bother you at all, when you'll be going to Wayne State University, that .n Detroit (I read an article recently) where the chance of a policeman getting killed is greater there than in any other city in the

United States: do you think that you'll be far more uneasy than you have been at Alma? WHEELER: Yes. I, myself, come from a small town anyway of about 7,000 people. Just the mere fact of going to Detroit with over a million population . . . you know, has its effect on me, too, but, I'm going to be uneasy living there. I know I will. It's going to take me a long time to accustom myself, especially after spending some of the most influential years of your life at a little town like Alma, it's really going to be a drastic change, and it will take some adjustment on my part.

ALMANIAN: In "Time" magazine there was an article that said that many small colleges were folding over the country. Do you think that we should go ahead with co-ed housing, that we should decide that there's not going to be any hours for women . . . do you think the college should hold back for money purposes? In other words, if the people with the money say, "you can't do this," what should the college do?

WHEELER: I guess I'm of the opinion that if those people are going to be calling the shots for the college, then this isn't a college anyway. I'm of the opinion that this life up here is backwards and I think that it's got to change or you're not going to get many of the people that they're trying to attract to this college ... they're not coming here simply because of the social structure here. If the college is going to cater to the contributors, then, I think in the end, they're going to be losing any kind of status they have with the students at all. The quality of the students are going to decline unless they change along with the rest of the world. That's my personal belief . . . another sore spot, I should have mentioned.

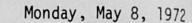
my personal belief . . . another sore spot, I should have mentioned. ALMANIAN: While you've been here at Alma, do you think that you've developed more of a social awareness?

WHEELER: I can easily say that I've developed more of a social awareness, I don't think I had any social awareness before I came up here. I don't think that mine is not developed as well as other people's might be, but if you have any contact with anybody else, or if you're any kind of student that does any reading, you can't help but become more aware. Alma hasn't held me back, I don't think, no.

Almanian: how do you view the military? Do you think that that could ever be an honorable profession?

WHEELER: For certain kinds of people. For one thing, I think that the military is a necessary evil. Contrary to what a lot of people say, I don't believe that there's never not going to be war, there's never not going to be one country trying to crush the next. That gets back to the basic primitiveness of man again. Somebody's always out to kill somebody else. I think that, as much as I hate to say it, the military is a necessary thing and there are certain people in the world that wouldn't mind making a buck to kill somebody. If that's the kind of protective force that we need, I guess there are people to fulfill it. You've gotta have it.

ALMANIAN: Do you think that people who are in police work enjoy killing people or hurting





Craig Wheeler

no answer for. I really don't know what to say to that question. It's there and I don't think that there's any way known to man that you're break down that barrier between people. For some people it's not there and for others, it's a guiding force in their life. I have no idea. ALMANIAN: Last year, the school was given money to build a new running track from one of the alumni and yet we have, it seems, rather a poor library. Why do you think we have such values?

WHEELER: I question them myself sometimes. I question whether the institution is here for academic purposes or whether it's here for athletic purposes. But then again, I guess if you can talk somebody into donating some money to an athletic function, then if you're lucky, you can get him to contribute a dollar or two to someplace else at the same time. If it gets down to getting money, the school feels that if they can get money from anybody, they're happy just to get the money.

ALMANIAN: Do you think there's too much emphasis put on athletics at the school?

WHEELER: I don't think there's that much emphasis placed on it, I'm interested in atheletics as much as any other person. I'm not denying that there shouldn't be a fine physical education center or there shouldn't be a fine physical education program, but I just feel that a lot of the monetary assistance that is given to atheletes is denied to other students that really have a need for it. That's where my objection lies. They should be able to finance their education on the same grounds that everyone else is able to.

ALMANIÁN: And yet people will say that there are no scholarships given...

WHEELER: Well, we know that there are. You're not pulling the wool over anyone's eyes when you get an anonymous donation. ALMANIAN: Philosophically, do you think that man is inherently bad?

WHEELER: No, I think that there is a little bit of bad in every person, it just depends. I don't think people are basically bad, it just depends on the state of a person's conscience, I guess, as to how much it's going to come out. If you're going to go back to the old adage of evil versus good in the world, it depends on a person's conscience or a person's state of mind. It's not so much that evil is going to overcome the good, but I think it's there in a person's individuality, but it is just the state of his conscience as to whether it's going to assert itself or not. Ego, Super-ego and all that business. ALMANIAN: What country do you think the United States should most fear in the world? And why? WHEELER: I'd probably say Canada. The United States has kind of exploited Canada for many years, then I think that their being our northern-most neighbors on our border, if they continue on with the exploitation they've undergone for the last mucho years, they're liable to get themselves an unfriendly neighbor which could be very strategically placed for anyone else who might want to capitalize on it. ALMANIAN: Does it bother you that Cuba, a communist country, lies only ninety miles from. our shores? WHEELER: No, not that much, I think that our defense system is quite adequate. That doesn't bother me all that much. I don't think it makes much difference today whether a nation is ninety miles off our shore or

them?

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ALMANIAN: Do you think that levels of communication have broken down? Say when we're talking with blacks or military or police, they say something and we stop listening? Do you think we've already made up our minds? If someone says that there should not be an Afro-American Society on campus, he's immediately labeled a racist. What can we do to correct that, or do you think that that is just inherent?

WHEELER: What do you do with a person's prejudices? How do you break down a prejudice? If we knew, we wouldn't have the problems today. Prejudice is something I have

continued on next page

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INTERVIEW WITH CRAIG WHEELER

ninety thousand, as far as weapon potential and etc. Kill potential, I don't think that it makes that much difference.

ALMANIAN: You don't agree then with Sec-retary of State Dulle's "domino theory"? WHEELER: No. Not really. I don't think that it's the United States position that they about a construct the they should convince another country that they should be our ally. I think it's past our posi-tion to be playing protector for the whole world. A country's got to have a choice. No, I don't agree with that. ALMANIAN: A lot of people are saying "no more marriage communal living and so forth"

ALMANIAN: A lot of people are saying "no more marriage, communal living and so forth." Do you go along with that? Do you think that people should be allowed to do what they choose? Do you view that as a breakdown? WHEELER: Yes, I think I do. I said in the beginning that I was a bit of a conservative. I'm a firm believer in the family system. When you start breaking down on the family, especially with children, I think it has a very marked effect on their future and their up-bringing. I don't have that much against bringing. I don't have that much against communal living among people, but I have a great fear of what's going to happen to future generations who have been brought up under conditions where there are no values, there are no morals. I think that no matter what society you're in, there's got to be a certain level of morality. I guess my level of morality is more on the conservative side. I'm a firm believer in the family concept.

ALMANIAN: Do you go along with what scientists are saying now, that couples should only have two children?

WHEELER: Yes, I'd have to agree. But, I don't think it's not necessarily going to be the place of Americans. It's not going to do much

good for Americans to limit themselves to two children a piece, when the rest of the world is going at a population rate of ten or twelve children a piece. It's going to have to be some kind of a universal application. It's going to have to be universally applied, which is kind of a hard thing to conceive of, too. ALMANIAN: Would you favor the kind of system where a lot of people got together in the world and said that we're going to have one language? Do you think that the different languages are a break-down in communication between the nations of the world?

WHEELER: No, I've never felt that way. For one thing, I think that it's wrong to try and create a single people. I think that languages are things that kind of set one people apart from another, but I've never felt that a language barrier has been any kind of a barrier between understanding of people. I can't say that at all.

ALMANIAN: Do you think that the time has past now where someone can say they're a citizen of Alma, Michigan of the United States? Shouldn't people consider themselves citizens of the world?

WHEELER: I'd have to say no, I guess because there are certain goals of many people on this earth that are entirely different than our goals. I think it would be wrong for anyone to try or even make an attempt at one common goal for all people. I see what you're getting at -- some kind of world understanding where people are not quite so antagonistic and etc., but I can't conceive of a one nation earth. I just can't conceive of it ... there are just too many different types of people through-out the course of evolution. People have evolved in this area and in this area and this area, with entirely different personalities and etc. I think that

it would almost be an impossibility to try to come out with a single, universal type of people.

ALMANIAN: Do you think student protesters and the kind of people who appear to make up the marching clan are going to change the American society? Do you think that's the way

to do it? To go marching in Washington? WHEELER: I'm in perfect agreement with WHEELER: I'm in perfect agreement with anyone who's willing to protest a cause or assert a cause. The only thing I'm in dis-agreement with has been violent means of protest. I don't go along with that at all, especially the people who are protesting the war in Vietnam who go out and burn down ROTC buildings. That seems to me to be kind of conflicting ideals there, you know. I have no bone to pick with anyone who's willing to pro-test anything. I guess that's a person's right to let his ideas be felt, but I think when his assertions of his ideas infringe on somebody assertions of his ideas infringe on somebody else's rights, that's when I feel that the line should be drawn. Infringing upon someone else's rights and privacy...I'm in total disagreement with that.

ALMANIAN: J. Edgar Hoover, who just died, ... they just found out that he had been having the FBI spy on civilians and men in very high positions. How do you respond to that?

WHEELER: I think it was none of their business. I've never gone along with the wire-tapping business. This is getting towards the idea of 1984 and the police-state type of thing. That's a fear I have, too. I felt that that was unwarrented. I'm really surprised that that ever happened, but that's like what I say about politics.. you never know what's going on underneath. That's why I say I kind of fear politicians in some respects.





of for Reason his books include Chicago in 1937, and has since lectured and taught at NYU, the New School for Social Research, He received his Ph.D. from the University The The Joys of Yiddish, A Most Private Intrigue, The Many Worlds of L*E*O R*O*S*T*E*N and Education of H*Y*M*A*N K*A*P*L*A*N. Trumpet In addition to A Leo Rosten is an author and political scientist. Yale, Columbia, and UC. Stanford, UCLA,

employment, exploitation, does not deserve "A system that has not abolished war, unto exist."

biologists, decapitate all researchers, and By the same reasoning, let's execute all doctors, blow up all hospitals: After all, they have not abolished destroy all disease

Before you destroy this system, which has evolved through so much pain and experiment and human agony, why not propose another that will solve (not hide, shift, or disguise) the problems of unemployment and exploitation and war.

ment in a prison. Or a concentration camp. Or where officials can transform strikers into slaves. Unemployment, for instance: There is no unemploy-

War? Did not wars rage during all the centuries before "this system" existed? What plagues the human race is that it takes two (or three or four) to keep the war can be hated only by those who lived through two hate war as worldwide wars and their horrendous aftermaths. Yet the ancient, sobering fruth prevails: "If you want peace, peace, but only one to start the shooting. be prepared for war.

you will stage your peace demonstrations in Washington and Hanoi and Peking and Moscow and Cairo and Tel Aviv and ... I, and a legion of the unbelicose, will gladly join you.

Acknowledgment is made to Dr. Leo Rosten for permission to re-print portions of A Trumpet for Reason (New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1970).

Any simpleton can proclaim the millennium-no agogue can promise Utopia, without revealing a shred of competence or a program. When asked what the New Left proposed to do if it achieved power, Tom Hayden, war, no cruelty, no hunger, no greed - just as any deman early messiah, replied: "First we'll make the revoluion - then we'll find out what for."

the pipes in town before he figures out how to repair a Would you hire a plumber who wants to rip out all leak in your sink?

or what urban problems entail, or why slum clearance fails, or why "soaking the rich" injures the poor, or when raising taxes proves counterproductive, or when our forthe most astonishing ignorance about such trivia as how milk is delivered, or how jobs are made, or how to raise passion, a dream of creating heaven on earth - fast, and can replace personaP gain without crippling personal freedom, or how to choose between critical priorities, or how to allocate resources, or what kind of incentives That's what little rebels are made of: touching comthe standard of living, or what functions a bank serves,

eign aid harms an underdeveloped country, etc., etc. etc.

A little knowledge is dangerous - unless it creates respect for the dimensions of problems and their intri-A total lack of knowledge deserves no respect. cate, interlocked conjunction with others.

And ignorance parading as truth, with sanguine auguries of universal salvation, is nothing less than decep-tion.

"This society is only interested in higher prices and profits! We want a system of production for use."

society, or the function of prices (and profits) in any You apparently do not understand this society, or economy.

social improvement would come from without profits (through taxation or otherwise)? Has it never occurred to you that the market place occurred to you that profits are a form of proof - that for any is a polling booth? That buying is voting? That no eco-nomic system operates without some form of pricing, without some yardstick for allocating resources, without some measure of efficacy and worth? Has it never a product or a service satisfies those who freely pay for it? Have you ever wondered where the money

Consider the countries that follow your platitude, "production for use." Without a single exception, they produce far less for their people to enjoy, of much shod-dier quality, at much higher prices (measured by the hours of work needed to buy something).

about the sugar harvest) and mighty Mao have lately stunned their followers by publicly announcing egre-gious failures in performance, fatal flaws in their plans, bafflingly inadequate "incentives" to their masses. The Russians, after fifty-three years(!) of total power, must where smuggling capitalist incentives into their systems? Not just base Brezhnev, but noble Castro (who for ten years attacked those who doubted his reckless claims ask Henry Ford and Italian automakers to come to the Don't you know that socialist countries are everyproletarian paradise - to make cars.

Has it not dawned on you that wherever and whenever there is no free market, there is no free thought, Can you name one country where individual freeno free art, no free politics, no free life?

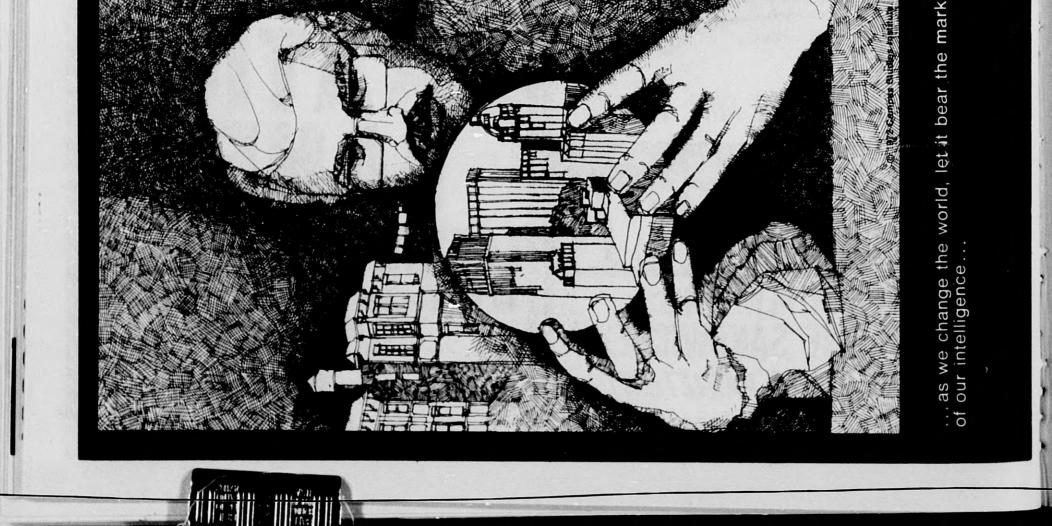
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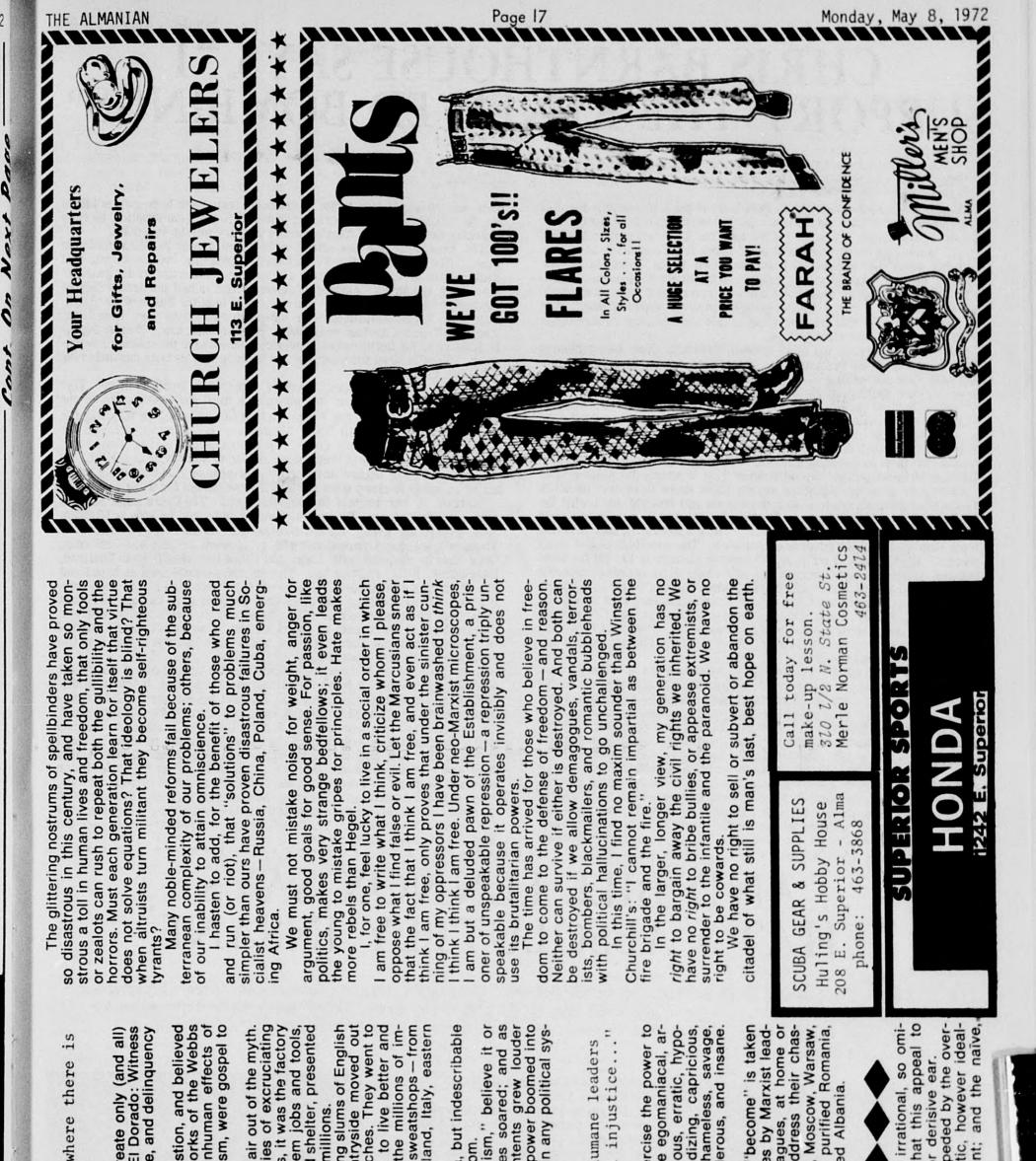
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"How can you defend a system so much misery?" Because the system does not create only (and all) the misery, and because I can't find EI Dorado: Witness the suicide, alcoholism, crime, divorce, and delinquency rates in other systems or countries.

I, too, once asked your very question, and believed in its verity and implications. The works of the Webbs and the Hammonds, depicting the inhuman effects of the Industrial Revolution and capitalism, were gospel to my generation of radicals/liberals. Research has blown most of the

poverty and misery and hopelessness, it was the factory system that saved the poor, gave them jobs and tools, produced better food and clothes and shelter, presented unprecedented opportunities to the millions. The fact is that after endless centuri

Those who moved into the stinking slums of English of stinking barns and hovels and ditches. They went to cities from the lovely England coun the hunger and hopelessness of Ire the machines to get a precious job, aspire higher. The same is true of migrants who flocked to American Europe.

Capitalism replaced not Arcadia, but indescribable poverty, illiteracy, and economic doom.

men became less poor their discontents grew louder and their social protest and political power boomed into that the earnings of the masses soared; and as It was under "heartless capitalism," believe it or a force such as had not existed with em before. not.

"We want a society in which humane leaders have the power to abolish all

critical, self-intoxicated, self-aggrandizing, capricious, blind, irresponsible, treacherous, shameless, savage, barbarous, criminal, merciless, murderous, and insane. The "humane leaders" who exercise the power to abolish injustice consistently become egomaniacal, arbitrary, stupid, jealous, ruthless, odious, erratic, hypo-Please note:

from official statements and speeches by Marxist leaders, about their once revered colleagues, at home or abroad. Outraged readers should address their chas-Budapest, Bucharest, the capital of and Tirana, the capital of enlightene tisements to Peking, Havana, Prague, Every adjective after the word

nous, so confused and confusing that this appeal to reason will fall upon many a deaf or derisive ear. We stand in peril of being stampeded by the over-simplifier, however honest; the fanatic, however idealistic; the unstable, however eloque So We live in times so violent,

however appealing

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CHRIS BARNTHOUSE SAYS, "I SUPPORT THE RENEWED BOMBINGS"

The following is the exact statement that Alma student Chris Barnthouse gave ALMANIAN reporter Barb Miller on why he supports the renewed bombings in Vietnam.

I support the renewed bombings. People are so quick to condemn the U.S. government, but I have yet to hear one bad word against the North Vietnamese government. I have yet to hear one bad word against the Viet Cong. According to my timetable as I figure it the war could have been over two years ago without the peace movement in the United States. As soon as the U.S. started giving support to the South Vietnamese, Ho Chi Minh said "No matter what the American government does we can hold out for ten years. The American people will never stand for that." And as soon as he said that the American people seemed to go out and try to prove just exactly how right he was.

The North Vietnamese are in no great hurry to win. They have patience; The North Vietnamese are in no great nurry to win. They have patience, Americans have never had patience. If ten years ago the American people had said "We are willing to invade North Vietnam"--they didn't have to mean it, they didn't have to do it--if they had just said "We want to get it over with," we would have seen immediate peace talks. We wouldn't have seen the stalling that's going on. The North Vietnamese don't have to negotiate right now. They have all the cards, we have none. We've shown them our full hand. We've told them we're leaving and there's no reason for them to negotiate with us links the Americans start underreason for them to negotiate with us. Unless the Americans start understanding Oriental politics we will never have a successful Asian policy. Everybody goes into idealism saying we're there to protect the South

Vietnamese government, to keep it democratic and free and that's what the administration's been saying. That's what the peace movement's been down on, that they're corrupt anyway. There's nothing farther from the truth than that, and the government knows it. The American people won't stand for what's actually going on. The war in vietnam is like all the wars between capitalists and Communists. It's a very dirty business. There's nothing idealistic about it at all. North Vietnamese don't want to get South Vietnam because they think Communism is better and they want to help the people. They want South Vietnam merely because it isn't Communist. They want Laos merely because it isn't Communist. They want Cambodia merely because it isn't Communist. The U.S. wants Vietnam merely be-

cause the Communists want it. It's like a chess game. You can figure world politics as a chess game. Vietnam has the unfortunate honor of being one of the political pawns in the game called world control. Sometimes the whole game will hinge on one pawn. All the big pieces will be hinging on one pawn and that's what's been happening in Vietnam. Stalemates like this are too costly, they bog down the game. Nixon decided to break the stalemate. The newspapers, as soon as Nixon got in, predicted there was no way Nixon could do anything. There were only two things Nixon could do in Vietnam: escalate or pull out completely in a way that would embarrass the American government and lose South Vietnam. A year and a half later newsmen were amazed at Nixon's policies. No one suspected he could do so well. They gave him a vote of confidence because he was getting out of Vietnam, he hadn't had to escalate and he was not embarrassing the U.S. government. Nixon's

Bill Lennox

plan was to turn it over to the Vietnamese, train them to be good soldiers so he could get the Americans out and leave them supplies, thereby breaking the stalemate. That's worked out very well up to a point.

The reason for the new offensive is to embarrass the Vietnamization The one thing the Vietnamization program overlooked was that plan. South Vietnam has been corrupt for so many years and all its generals have been appointed. Another problem is that in half the battles they're outnumbered. The best thing I can compare it to is the Battle of the Bulge. Now the North Vietnamese are throwing everything they have at us. They don't intend to take over South Vietnam right now. They're hoping to hang on to the northern two provinces, and set up a provisional govern-ment. They've been successful so far because they've been outnumbering the South Vietnamese.

As soon as they invaded, bombing renewed in North Vietnam. This brought tremendous uproar on campuses against the bombing but no one said one word against the North Vietnamese invasion. It was okay for North Vietnamese to kill South Vietnamese but it wasn't all right for Americans to bomb supply routes. It almost seems as if the Americans are rooting for the North Vietnamese instead of just trying to get out. No one says anything against any North Vietnamese or Vietcong action while hey're so ready to clamp down on the U.S. government for doing anything.

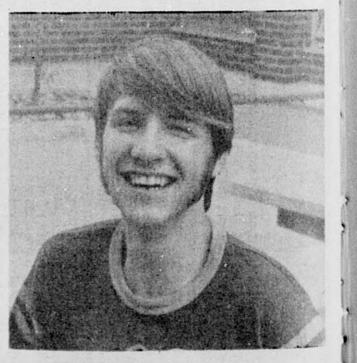
Vietnam is our foothold in Southeast Asia. The Communists will not stop at South Vietnam. The domino theory claims that as soon as Vietnam goes everything goes. I don't believe quite in that. It's just that when Vietnam goes the Communists will go to work on Laos and Cambodia. Once they're finished with Laos and Cambodia they'll go to Thailand, Bangladesh, India, right on up. The American people want us to pull out and try a new isolationism. We've tried that twice before and each time it's bean more aestly. The first time up tried it we had are more aestly. it's been more costly. The first time we tried it we had our merchant ships sunk by German submarines. The second time we ended up with our Pacific fleet at the bottom of Pearl Harbor. If we hadn't won the battles of Midway and the Coral Sea we would have lost World War II to the Japanese, that's how close it was.

If we pull out of Vietnam and become isolationists again it will be all well and good today, it won't be all that good tomorrow, but the next day we'll have something to reckon with. The next day the world will be Com-munist and then there'll be the U.S. Khrushchev said "We will bury you." As long as there is a democratic U.S. it's a threat to Communism and they can't have that. The Soviet Union's and Red China's entire intent is world domination. You may say that's stupid and that no one believes it, that they don't really want it. But look at the facts. When the Soviet Union defeated Germany in World War II and "rebuilt" the Indo-European nations, they didn't let them go. They're now merely puppets. You saw what happened in Czechoslavakia when they tried to do anything other than what the Soviet Union wanted. That's why we're in Vietnam--not to save the South Vietnamese, but to save us.

"... AND BILL LENNOX SAYS, "THAT'S ABSOLUTELY INSANE"

Bill Lennox took issue with Barnthouse in an informal debate in Gelston Lobby. At times it appeared as though the verbal fisticuffs might turn out to be something more. With her trusty tape recorder in hand, Barb Miller took down everything the two combatants mouthed, with a little background included in the process.

> Lennox: Can I ask you a question? Barnthouse: Sure. L: Do you feel the North Vietnamese government is a puppet of some world wide Communist plot?



B: It's a puppet. South Vietnam is a puppet of the United States. North Vietnam is a puppet of Red China.

L: Red China? How do you justify that in the light of them receiving arms from the Soviet Union right now?

B: The Soviet Union, as long as they're against the United States, will keep twisting a thorn into our side.

L: How can they be more or less a puppet of both when the Soviet Union and Red China are obviously not getting along . . .? B: No, see . .

L: It seems to me that there's a definite split. There's no such thing as a world wide communist takeover anymore. That's part of a very old Stalinistic policy that fell out of vogue in about 1954 or something around that. I'd bet my bottom dollar that the Red Chinese overtly contro! North Vietnam, that the people of North Vietnam could be fighting as fiercely against the Red Chinese as they are against the Americans.

Chris Barnthouse continued on next page

B: It isn't overt. That's the problem. It isn't overt. They're not going to have Chair-man Mao riding around saying "We own your country." They're going to be sitting there at North Vietnam saying "If you don't do this we cut off your arms supply."

THE ALMANIAN

L: They're not receiving arms from China. They're depending on arms from the Soviet

Union. B: If you'll check it out they're receiving a from China. All you great number of arms from China. All you hear about is the Soviet AK's because they're better rifles. But the Chinese are sending Soviet missiles because the Chinese don't have any missiles. There are Chinese road builders in North Vietnam right now. There are Chinese technicians all over the place right now. The Chinese way outnumber the North Vietnamese. They way outnumber the Soviets in North Vietnam.

L: Do you think the premise is that if we don't defend South Vietnam that it will be a first step in a chain of all the nations that will eventually cross the oceans and in effect we will be fighting the Reds in Coney Island? B: You'd better believe it. Of course you won't because that's not a quote unquote cool thing to think right now.

L: It's an absolutely insane thing to think. B: It's not cool to think the Soviet Union has secret police right now, but they do.

of fearing the Red Chinese. China is a large nation. They've got basic needs as a large nation. In all possibilities they could expand

at any moment they wanted ... Girl at the desk: Sue? Sue? Thank you. L: . . . and take over the whole of Southeast Asia, which might be something that they might inevitable do because it's necessary. You can't stop that. You can't fight stupid little limited wars like this. That war is destroying the United States country. You know it is. Ho Chi Minh planned it out. He knew exactly what was going to happen . . .

B: ... do you know .

L: ... in a democratic nation .

B: I can tell you again what I told her. Ho Chi Minh, when the first supplies reached South Vietnam from the United States, said 'Do what you will, United States, we can hold out for ten years. The American people will never stand it." As soon as he said that the American people went out and tried to prove how right he was. Two years this war could have been over if we had just said, we didn't even have to do it, if we had just said from the beginning we are willing to go into North Vietnam, invade it, get it over with. North Vietnam would have gone to the tables immediately. They would have said okay. They wouldn't have done all this stalling around.

L: Do you think Red China would have stood

for what is rightfully theirs, what has been stolen by a very bad foreign policy in terms of a very ugly type of political imperialism. They were denied the true leadership of that country which they should have if the free elections of 1954 would have been carried out. Ho Chi Minh would have been elected. Eisen-hower's admitted that himself. I've got a quotation of it. The country would have been run under an elected Communist government. But the United States jumped up, like you're doing now, and started blurting out the Red Scare and denied free elections in their country. B: Okay, but that's water under the bridge right now.

L: No, it's not. That's what those people are fighting about.

B: That's what the people are fighting. I'm not . .

L: That's why the United States is wrong ... B: I'm not talking idealism. I'm not talking about what's right and what's wrong. I'm talking about what is. Girl at the desk: Lynn? Phone.

B: I'm talking about national survival.

girl at the desk: You're welcome.

B: I'm talking about what can happen and what will happen.

L: What will happen if you keep sending troops to fight limited warfare is the democracy of this country will erode because there will be much



L: Do you think the United States doesn't Every country has a secret police force. That's how .

B: Oh sure, but how overt is it? How overt is it if there's a knock on the door that says "come on . . .

. . . That's not it. Granted, the Soviet Union is a very authoritarian country. Granted, the fact is Red China is the same way. Granted, the United States is the same way, with different political idealogies. The point is ... B: The United States is a far cry from the Soviet Union and China. Sure they have what you might call the secret police.

L: That's a different idea. The point is the North Vietnamese people won't stand to be dominated by anybody. It's part of their history. They will not be dominated by the Japanese, by the French, by the Americans, and they won't be dominated by the Chinese. They won't . . . B: And the South Vietnamese were the same way, that they would not be dominated by anyone. But they're a puppet of the United States right now and North Vietnam is a puppet of China. It's not a cool thing to think North Korea is a . . L: . . . It's got nothing to do with cool. There's a lot of people . .

for that?

Red China would have had to stand for **B**: that.

. policy? Do you think they would L: . have allowed the United States to send ground troops over the North Vietnamese . .

B: I didn't say we had to do it. All we had to do . . . I'm just talking about public opinion, have the American people say we're willing to do it, get out. We didn't even have to mean it. The American people aren't willing to do L: that though.

B: That's right. That American people are too .

They want to run their country the way L: they feel it sould be run.

B: Let me tell you this. The American people are not willing to understand the way the North Vietnamese, the way the Asians think. The Asians go by the sage approach, which means going east to go west. The Americans go east to go east, west to go west. The North Vietnamese kept up the war by going to the peace table. Intelligence reports came down from North Vietnam of whole batallions wiped out by B-52 bombers before they could get to the south. So the North Vietnamese decided to go to the peace tables to stop that, to get the supplies through. Supplies were piled a mile high in Haihong because they couldn't get out because of the bombed out roads and bridges. As soon as we stopped, six months after we stopped bombing, everything was okay again in North Vietnam. Why end the peace talks when you've got that? Girl at the desk: Marilyn? Marilyn?

public dissent which will bring about a result of authoritarian control of this country. You will be destroying this country. You will be bringing other nations who are like working again with little puppets as you say, the United States and South Vietnam, some Communist country and North Vietnam, will bring it to a head, forcing crises that in the end will only be solved by destroying one another. Is that what you'd like to see, a final showdown? Why don't you just attack the Soviet Union and Red China and do it once and for all?

B: Did I say that?

L: That's what you're implying ... B: I'm not implying anything. That's what's wrong with your type of person. You won't listen.

L: I'm listening.

Girl at the desk: Sandy? Phone.

L: . . . who have sat down and analyzed it for exactly what it was and it's been a great United States mistake. It shows the end of a foreign policy domination, a foreign policy that obviously has failed. It's the end of an era. You have to face that.

B: End of an era. What's the new era? Isolationism again?

L: No, just redirection of priorities instead

L: For sure. It's good. I support the North Vietnamese people. It's as simple as that. They are in my eyes a people who are fighting B: Okay, well let me just say this. L: Sure.

B: Just let me finish what I started out to say about the American people. We could have gotten peace by wanting war. The war could have been over two to three years. . .

L: War does not bring peace.

B: Oh, wait a minute. If we had said we were willing to invade North Vietnam, North Vietnam would have risen to the task. They would have gone to the peace tables.

L: They would have made stronger conscious pleas with either the Chinese or the Soviets and they would have said sure, we won't mind backing you. It would have been a replay of the Korean affair except in 1960's-70's tones which would have meant I'm sure the introduction of nuclear weapons.

continued on next page



B: I doubt that very much.

L: Do you really think that because the United States says 'look if you don't stop messing around we're going to invade your country, that the North Vietnamese people will stop? B: No, we wouldn't have been saying that. We would have been saying listen, we're either going to talk it, we're tired of messing around, we're not going to play handball with you anymore, we're tired of being in Vietnam, we're getting out, we're going to take you with us but we're getting out. North Vietnam would have gone to the peace table immediately. When they went to the peace table it would have been for real. It wouldn't have been just to mess around so they could get their roads rebuilt and so they could talk while they built up all their troops. It would have been to talk so the war would end instead of dragging it out. It's not the United States that's dragging the peace talks out, it's the North Vietnamese government.

L: For sure. They want to run their country. The United States won't allow them.

B: Their country is North Vietnam. L: Their country is Vietnam.

Girl at the desk: Bev?

L: The United States denied them that right in 1954.

B: Did you ever hear of a Geneva convention? L: Of course. It's exactly what I'm referring to. In that, Geneva courts in 1954 stated that in the year 1956 the country of Vietnam, which was temporarily divided, would be unified by means of a democratic election. In 1956 the

"What's so bad about being a Communist?"

American people looked at what the census poll had shown, and it had shown Ho Chi Minh would have won by an enormous amount. Thus they decided they were not going to hold election. We can't let our ego be smashed by having a Communist elected to run this country. That's exactly what happened to stop the elections. That's why the people of North Viotnam and the store that the store of the store that the store of t Vietnam are at war, because they want their country and the United States denied it. As soon as we admit that fact and give it to them things will be a lot cooler. My point is that they're not going to be run by the Red Chinese. They're people and they want to run their country and they're Communists. What's so bad about being a Communist? If you decide to be a Communist you know. Locus Christ to be a Communist, you know, Jesus Christ, who cares? The thing is they're people and they want to run their country their own way and no matter who tries to step on them, be it the United States, Soviet Union, or China, they'll fight to the last man to protect their country and run it the way they want. B: If they want their country so bad, who do they want Laos and Cambodia so bad too? Answer me that. Is Laos part of their country? Is Cambodia part of their country? Is Thailand part of their country?

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"To him who does not know the world is on fire, I have nothing to say."

-Bertholt Brecht

One Says Nixon is Wrong,

One Says

He's Right



B: That wasn't it. That wasn't what caused it. It was when the government that was being blackmailed by the Communists was tossed out by the Cambodian people to a nonsympathetic government. Immediately the Communists arose and attacked Cambodia. They decided they were not going to let a government toss them out. Why doesn't . . .

L: They're dedicated revolutionaries.

B: They're very dedicated revolutionaries. If they only want Vietnam, why do they want Cambodia too?

L: They don't want Cambodia. They're using it as a tool, a political tool, a physical tool to undermine the United States war effort and the South Vietnamese war effort.

B: Then why are they attacking trying to get Phnom Penh? Why don't they just stick to the portion that's important to South Vietnam? Why do they keep attacking the Cambodia troops? Why do theykeep trying to push further and further west in Cambodia to take over Cambodia?

L: I don't know, it's just a fact I think it's because those are ...

B: Non-Communist.

L: . . . puppet governments of the United States. The United States is running B-52 bombers out of countries outside of Vietnam. B: Okay, so now we're expanding further, right? Why don't they attack Guam? We have bombers there. Where's it going to stop? As long as the United States . .

L: You know that's not feasible. That's insane. B: Okay that's insane, but what if they could do it. Would you support them if they did it? If they could come over and attack an air base of the United States would you allow them to attack it?

L: No, but they're not attacking the United States.

B: They're attacking another country. You said all they wanted was Vietnam. Why do they want Laos and Cambodia? What are they doing in Laos?

Girl at the desk: Carol? Carol?

L: They're using it as a tool to... B: They're using it as a tool. Why are they attacking the Laotian government? They've got the part they want. Why don't they just sit there. Why do they keep using ... L: Because the United States runs those coun-tries and the United States tries and the United States ... B: The United States runs those countries...

L: That's right it does.

B: Okay.

L: You know that.

B: Of course I know it. Why won't you admit the Communists run North Vietnam, that

know any other cause?

L: Are we to tell them how to live? Are we to show them how the western ...

B: We're not trying to force ours on North Vietnam.

L: Oh, bullshit.

Have we invaded North Vietnam? No. **B**: Have to bring China or someone else into L: the war.

In other words, we would if we could. B: L: Sure.

B: Of course. That's right. L: Sure. That's the way you're thinking right now. If we had moved in and threatened to destroy them they would have stopped. If they would have said no, well, China and the Soviet Union would have moved in, sure, why not. We would have been out.

B: What I'm talking about is the tactic. I didn't say we should have done it. I said we should have threatened to do it. If the public opinion poll had said sure ... L: But the public opinion doesn't say sure.

B: That's right. Because the public opinion. . .

L: ... sick ... B: That's right. Because the public opinion ... They sit there and think of tomorrow, they think of next year. They don't think of 30 years from now. They didn't think of 30 years from no when they abandoned the League of Nations in 1920.

"Don't grit your teeth so much!"

L: They couldn't conceive of 30 years from now.

B: No, they coudn't conceive of 30 years from now. The other people did. They could conceive of something happening over there, that they needed to be united.

L: Don't grit your teeth so much! Gee whiz! B: Because I'm a fanatic. Because I can't believe in people wanting another new isolation.

I can look at history ... L: It's not isolation. It's just something, you see people, you let them develop in their own way. If they want aid, medical aid, things to feed their people, you give it to them. You don't give them bombers or airplanes.

B: And if they want Laos do we give them Laos? L: They don't want Laos.

B: After all, it's a puppet of the United States. Why not let them have it if they want it? L: Because they don't want it.

B: Well then how come they're fighting in it? L: Because it's a contingent area, it's very close and it's been their path to get supplies from the North.

B: No, that's just the panhandle area. Why are they trying to take over the biggest part of it? Why do they keep attacking westward and westward?

L: Because it puts pressure on the United States to get out.

Puts pressure on the United States! **B**: L: Yes. The plan of the North Vietnamese people is to embarrass the United States, which they've done greatly to ridicule them, to show what complete assholes they are and they've done very well. They'll use any means to do that. What they want is to live in a unified Vietnam under a unified Communist government and it's as simple as that. B: Simple as that.

L: For sure.

B: The whole world is very simple.

No, that is what those people want. L:

L: They were using those countries to bring supplies down. They weren't taking over the countries overtly. Richard Nixon expanded the war .

B: They held the eastern portions of Cambodia completely. There was no .

L: They didn't until Richard Nixon expanded the war to those areas. They were using the supply depots, supply trails, and Nixon decided to send troops to bomb those trails and they built them up again. He's spread the war into entire Southeastern Asia.

they're under heavy . . .

The Communists are North Vietnam. L: B: All right. Let's not say they're puppets, but they're under huge pressure.

L: I'd like to prove you're wrong. They're under pressure to receive arms, they must receive money, they must receive supplies, the same way any small country does. You have to kiss a little ass. My point is that those people in the end will not be stepped on by those countries. Look at the organization. The South Vietnamese government, I'll venture to say, is one of the most corrupt governments in existence today and that's a blatant fact. B: Of course! I know it's a fact!

L: Look at the North Vietnamese government. You can't say that. That government works with a revolutionary zeal to reunify their country. They take care of their people. Their people love their cause. They're not mindless mutants in stagnant . .

B: Why do they love their cause? Do they

It's a very complex thing. You can't loo at North Vietnam and say that's all. That's all there is in this, is North Vietnam. There's more in it than that.

L: No there's not. The United States has filled you with such Red Scare propaganda that it's frightening. Would you go to an American Communist meeting?

B: And do what?

L: Maybe think about considering their ideas. B: Their ideas? Sure. Great Communist idea. It's like Chairman Mao said when he took over. I think Chairman has done a great job in China. I think nobody else could have done it. Except there are bad things to do along with it too. When he took over he said there would be complete freedom of the press. The newsmen asked him what kind of freedom. He said for the ideas that agree with us.

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THERE WON'T BE ANY WINNER IN THE WAR

L: For sure. It's a giant Communist nation. The people don't mind. Look at the mass. Look at how many people there are. If the people ever got upset they could totally destroy Peking. There's no doubt about that. If the people of North Vietnam . . .

B: They're so regimented they can't. What about the Soviet Union? You think the people like it there? L: Yes!

B: There have been three full scale revolutions since the first one. You check up on the history books. There have. Three full scale revolutions, they love it so much. L: Detroit, Watts, Cleveland, Newark, .

I don't mean that. I'm not talking about a **B**: revolution . . .

L: It's a f----' revolution?!

B: I'm talking about three provinces of the Soviet Union going up in smoke. I'm talking about thousands of people dying during some of these great big ones.

L: If there's a concentrated effort they can do The thing is in North Vietnam, they want to live in a unified country the way they want to. That's what's so simple about it.

Do you think they have free choice? Do B: you think they're taught all ideas over there? Are they taught anything but Communism and how great their system is?

L: Are you taught anything but Americanism?

B: I sure as hell am!

L: It doesn't sound like it.

B: I know maybe you don't think it. Maybe you closed your ears to everything else. But I didn't.

L: I remember sitting down to a twelfth grade history book that was so insanely stilted. I can remember watching television . .

B: I can remember sitting down to an American history course reading a history book which most conservatives hate because it's

the proper view of American history. I remember reading BURY MY HEART AT WOUNDED KNEE. I remember reading in an American government course the COMMUNIST MANIFESTO, and talking about Communist ideas. I remember reading the Cincinnatti ENQUIRER with conservative interviews and radical interviews. I remember keeping my ears open. I didn't just sit down and listen in a course and walk out and say okay. I went out and looked. You can't just sit there and blame it . . . If you missed something in school it's because you didn't look. You have to try to learn. You can't just sit there and say okay man teach me. It's not a one way street. You remind me of a computer. You L: really do. I can see your eyes light up and tape shoot out of your mouth every now and then.

B: Tape shoot out of my mouth. In other words .

L: You're gritting your teeth again.

B: Let me tell you this. If you think that I'm just the typical American, I've been called a reactionary, a Communist, I've been called everything in the book by every organization in the book. It's hard to classify me if you think I'm a computer. I'm radical on some and conservative as George Wallace on others. So don't call me a computer. That's an insult and I haven't insulted you yet. L: Sure you have, you just haven't listened. But I'm sorry if it's an insult.

B: That's the same thing as calling me a Nazi, calling me a computer. As far as I'm concerned it is. Calling me a computer is like saying I don't think.

L: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to make such a radical association. So I'm sorry.

ALMANIAN: Obviously you're both very well informed and obviously neither one of you is going to convert the other one. B: No, it's obvious it's been hashed over so

many times that nobody's going to . . . ALMANIAN: I think you better just keep away from each other. I can see the spark fly from chair to chair.

B: I'll bring my flag over to his room and burn it. We'll cuss at each other and spit on each other all night long.

ALMANIAN: Wait a minute. I just have one more question. When do you think the war will end?

B: That's a very difficult question to answer. I can only give you the situations when the war will end. As I see it now the war will end when the North Vietnamese sit down at the peace table and make intelligent offers instead of using the original offers they have and sticking by them and saying no, no, nothing else. L: Can I give a version of how the war will end? ALMANIAN: I want to hear him out first. B: The war will end when the South Vietnamese get their army and when they finally can all the political appointees. North Vietnamese don't know it, but their new offensive has helped that along. Some of the officers have been canned since the beginning of this. The inept ones got canned.

ALMANIAN: When the war ends, who will be the winner?

B: There won't be any winner in the Vietnam war. There will only be those who are left alive. South Vietnam will still remain a part of North Vietnam as it stands now. I couldn't say what will happen six months from now. They may stay separate for a while but after that I don't know. The North Vietnamese may regroup and try it again. But hopefully by then it will be an all Vietnamese battle.

L: I agree that it's going to be an all Vietnam ese battle and the North Vietnamese will eventually win no matter how long it takes, no matter what other countries get in their way. In the end they'll win because it's in their hearts. They want their country back.



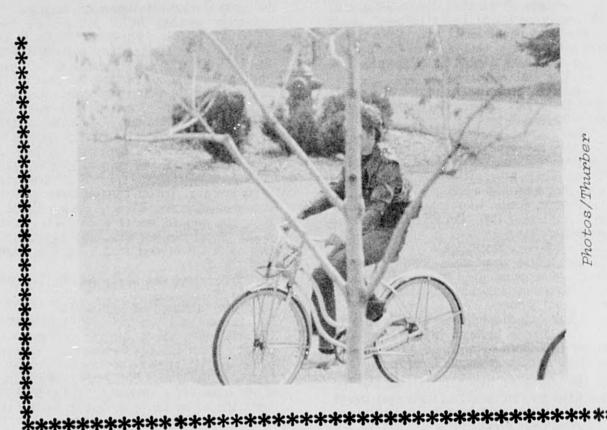
CRAZE OR NO, THOUGH, I'LL KEEP RIDING

by Greg Wegner

Something about this afternoon does it, draws us outside with a friendly insistence inevitable as a vaccuum cleaner, and almost before we can say "I've had it" we're swept out the door and into the daylight. Any thoughts of studenthood seem to disappear on days like this; your spring-fed senses begin rearranging priorities, making nothing so important as sunsoaking, frisbee throwing, or (and amazingly, more than ever before) bicycle riding. Every view you take of the afternoon includes a bicycle it seems. Their forces grow daily, choking the bicycle racks, parading the streets and sidewalks, knowing their numbers and suspecting still more to come. For isn't it true that manufacturers can't meet the orders? Look at them, sleek streaming things swooping past in a gust of silence pedaling, or coasting by in a precise little chorus of clicks. There is a real freedom to bicycle riding--

suspended in mid-air by only two wheels spinning, what is it do you suppose holds you upright? As if defying the elements we're pedaling down the street in a whir of color shooting past our vision. Dart past these walkers here at 25 or 30, and they'll say, "Where are you going in such..." But their words diminish, fade and blend themselves into a whirl, the same as all sounds, the same as all vision now. Shift another gear and we're steaming, straight out of town and into the spaces, the countryside unrolling before us like a huge carpet. I love this feeling: nothing is immune, nothing exempt from the sheer de-light of my inertia. It's as if I am the stable one and the whole vast setting is shifting, streaming past in a steadily changing perspective for my benefit alone. Pedal on and the distant becomes near, the future turns present and bursts past in a flurry of spokes and chains and wheels and spinning gears.

You learn to hate cars. Big gratuitous monstrosities, they come chugging past with a honk, gulping gas and filling the air with their skeleton exhaust without oxygen, ugly and black as a limosine. They make pedaling harder and they make you curse their lavishness, their automatic easy chair transmissions. You can gain revenge in the city, though, in thick traffic, for that's where cars are plagued. They're sitting ducks, bound by signs and traffic lights, and you can tantalize them to no end by skirting past some spot where they're obliged to stop. For a bicycle is governed no laws (not even gravity, it seems). There's nothing like riding downtown, a



conscious mockery of all traffic laws. On a bicycle I am neither a pedestrian nor a fullfledged motor vehicle. I am neither and I am both, and I can take liberties in either direction. We can weave around, in and out of lanes, through red lights; we can even turn left where it says NO LEFT TURN. It's easy.

It's hard though, hard when you're going against a strong wind or uphill. Sometimes you reach a long steep slope where it's half a mile or more to the top and you've shifted down once but you're getting tired because you've been going two hours already and there's some little part of you wishing it were easy and that somehow you could reach the top without the work; and the cars are growling past and the wind's in your face and you wish you were there already, thinking about it as past, and you look up again and it seems just as far to the top as it did last time. So you shift down again and it gets easier for a minute, until you lose your momentum and the next minute you're pedaling hard as ever but going even slower than before and it seems futile like chewing ashes because you think you could go on forever like this and never get anywhere.

And then you think, what happens when I do reach the top? Nothing, particularly. The

road goes on, down the hill and up again to another, and another, and another. Strangely enough, it's when you remember this and resign yourself to it that hill climbing gets easy again--when you reduce the scale of things and think this isn't the top of the stairs I'm reaching at all, but only the first step. When no end is in sight and there lies ahead only vivid life, intense and demanding, it's then I remember that I'm doing this because I WANT to.

Going down the hill is like getting paid a week's wages, and you can spend it all at once or invest it. If you coast all the way it's like shooting your wad, but if you decide to keep pushing, pedaling as hard going down as you did coming up then it works for you, getting you sometimes halfway up the succeeding hill before having to shift gears. You can have it either way, maybe that's what I like about bicycling. You can pursue it as casually or as ferociously as you please, and unlike almost every other craze that sweeps the country, it's not detrimental or even annoying to others. There is no noise or pollution, you operate at no one's expense and actually to your own benefit. This is one fad that I would like to see go on forever; craze or no, though, I'll continue to ride on these spring afternoons.



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