

Films, concerts coming to North Campus

KATHY LINDSAY
Associate News Editor

More films, concerts and speakers will be coming to FIU now that the SGA North Campus Council has its own budget.

In an SGA meeting held at the North Miami Campus Wednesday, the controversial issue was resolved when the Senate voted to allow the council (which consists of NMC students) control of the \$70,298 budget generated from Activity and Service fees on that campus. Final signature of the budget, however, belongs to SGA Comptroller Martha Gasset del Castillo.

If the budget stands as it is now,

\$3000 will be for film rentals, \$4100 for a contemporary concert series and \$8750 for a lecture series. Prominent among scheduled speakers are Robert Klein, Cesar Chavez, Gloria Steinem and Ellis Rubin. Speakers will appear on the Tamiami Campus and students from North Campus who wish to attend will be bused from there.

There was opposition to the budget voiced at the meeting Wednesday by some who felt the North Campus Council should be abolished completely.

Jim McDonald, Technology Associate, called the budget "garbage." He said that "we should get necessary things done for the NMC before approving this budget."

Judy Merritt, vice president of Student Affairs, advised the SGA that it was holding on too tightly to the council. "Hold those things that you love most dearly with an open hand," she said.

Gasset del Castillo said, "we are one student government so why should we be selfish? They are our responsibility. We should try to help them."

In other recent actions the SGA approved two amendments to the five-year-old SGA constitution.

The first would give the student body the right to propose future constitutional changes. Student-proposed amendments with 500 signatures supporting them would be placed on the

ballot in the next SGA election. If approved by the voters, future proposals would take effect immediately.

The second would change the SGA titles of "Chairman" and "Associate Chairman" to "Chairperson" and "Associate Chairperson."

Both amendments will go on the ballot for student approval if okayed at a University Forum meeting. The next Forum will be January 17 at 12:30 in the UH Forum (pit). They will become part of the constitution only after approval by the student voters.

The amendments are the second and third ever approved by the SGA. The first was never submitted to the Forum.

the international

Volume 2, Number 14

December 10, 1977

Florida International University

Miami, Florida 33199



BOR closes FIU nursing

RUSTY SEVIGNY
Editor

Upon recommendation by the Florida International University administration, the Florida Board of Regents voted last week to abolish the nursing program at FIU. No new students will be accepted into the program, which will be phased out by June 1979.

Failure to be accredited by the National League for Nursing, lack of faculty cooperation, and poor planning by the previous administration were cited as reasons for shutdown of the program.

According to Ricardo Arias, interim vice president of Academic Affairs, the administration tried to work with the nursing school to improve the program. He said that on several occasions consultants were called in to evaluate the program, and that generally only negative reports were returned. "I shared these reports with the nursing faculty and tried to convey to them that the situation was very serious," Arias said. "What we needed was a very radical positive reaction showing that we could deal with our own situation. I cannot say with all confidence that the faculty realized the gravity of the situation or tried to straighten it out."

At a meeting with nursing students on Dec. 7, Arias read a memo from a nursing program coordinator accusing the nursing faculty of dissension and destructive criticism.

However, one of the students at the meeting drew attention to a nursing program review conducted in March 1977 by Dr. Patricia Haase of the Southern Regional Education Board, and Dr. Margaret Tyson, Dean of the School of Nursing, Hunter College. The review of the nursing program at FIU states that "the nursing program suffers from a lack of autonomy. As long as it is viewed in relationship to other programs in the School of Health and Social Services and funded only at the present level, it will flounder. Not only is the priority of the nursing program at FIU questionable, but also one wonders if the University wishes to have the program at all."

One of the problems expressed by

the student nurses is that the program is the only one of its type in South Florida where registered nurses go to work on a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Julie Armstrong, a member of the Student Professional Nurses' Association, said, "We serve the community. We already work in the community. Now what is the community doing for us? The University of Miami costs almost \$2000 per semester — where are we supposed to go?"

Part of the BOR plan is to allow planning of a regional program with Florida Atlantic University. It would be a generic program, accepting new students, but would also serve those nurses seeking advanced degrees.

But the student nurses are not satisfied with that. According to Susan Nickel, treasurer of SPNO, they were never told of the impending doom to their program. "We were told that the department might be put on a one-year probationary status, but never was it said they might shut it down altogether."

Alice Cornelison, secretary of the SPNO, said, "I understand that the UM nursing program took eight years and three tries to get accreditation. Here, they've shelved it on the first try. And we're going to have to compete for jobs with graduates from NLN-accredited schools."

Dr. Joseph Olander, FIU Executive Vice President, stated that the administration is committed to the students now in the nursing program, in seeing that they are able to complete their degrees with capable faculty members. He said that, although he concurred with the BOR Mandate, he was "chagrined and distressed that you feel that you were not consulted as students."

He said that the present administration was dealing with a "problem of programmatic legacy," that it is suffering under mistakes of poor planning by the previous administration. "I am concerned that what we're doing is in the best interest of the students, but also in the best interest of future students. I extend to you on behalf of the administration our parting apologies," Olander said.



Graphics by Bill Ashton

The International wishes everyone a happy holiday season. The next edition will be on the stands soon after the start of classes January 4. See you next year!

Funding may limit NMC construction

BILL ASHTON
News Editor

Florida International University's planned Academic II building may be built without the academic support complex designed to accompany it.

The Florida Board of Regents voted to lower the priority for the complex when they submit their funding request to the Florida legislature. Both the Academic II building and its support complex are planned for construction at the North Miami Campus next year.

The proposed \$6 million Academic II building remains 21st on the funding request list, but the \$1.7 million support complex was dropped from 27th to 28th.

The BOR listed the funding requests in what they feel is the order of importance. Requests from number one to twenty-one, if funded by the legislature, would require \$19 million,

an amount which is likely to be granted. Requests from one to twenty-eight would require almost \$30 million, an amount FIU Executive Vice President Joe Olander termed "very unlikely" to be granted.

The priorities were rearranged to make way for a \$3.3 million request to renovate two old buildings at the University of Florida. UF's request was placed 22nd on the list, pushing everything below it down a notch.

The support complex would be used as a warehouse for supplies and a center for repair work at the NMC. Duke Campbell of NMC administration said that "we couldn't offer the calibre of physical plant support that is really needed at the campus without it. We would have to rely on the Tamiami Campus, or on outside firms."

Present physical plant facilities at NMC operate from a trailer.

In Brief

Attention International Students

Any student that has applied for a tuition fee waiver for the Winter 1978 Quarter should come to the Office of International Student Services, UH340, to fill out your course schedule so that we may process your tuition waiver.

Literary magazine available this week

The new, improved 'Hemispheres' should hit the stands this week. Two years in the making, FIU's literary magazine will include an assortment of poetry, fiction, and just plain good stuff. Look for it.

Science students asked to respond

There is a group of students interested in seeing a third quarter of Physics without Calculus incorporated into the Physics curriculum. If you are planning on attending graduate school, professional school, or need a full year of Physics for any other program, please call ext. 2605 or go by the Physical Science Dept.

Lecture to be given on Pre-Columbian art

The "Problems of Appraising Pre-Columbian Art" will be the topic of the lecture by Mr. A.P. Rosenberg, Chairman of the Cultural Diffusion Research Section of the Institute of Maya Studies. The lecture will be held at the regular monthly meeting of the Institute of Maya Studies on Wednesday, December 21, 1977, in the auditorium of the Museum of Science at 8:00 p.m. The public is cordially invited to this free lecture.

Technology undergoes reorganization

The FIU School of Technology has been granted permission by the Board of Regents to reorganize into four departments. These departments are: Construction, Engineering Technology, Industrial Systems, and Home Economics. The present organization includes the divisions of Engineering Technology, Construction, Industrial Technology, and Environmental and Urban Systems.

The new Engineering Technology department will include Environmental and Urban Systems.

The new Home Economics Department is presently an interdisciplinary division between the Schools of Health and Social Services and Technology.

Additionally, the Master's Program will be under the direction of a coordinator who will report directly to the Dean. The BOR has approved a Master of Science degree in Environmental and Urban Systems, specializing in aquatic resources.

In its request to the BOR, FIU stated that the reorganization does not involve any increase in budget or any changes in the present academic structure. The request also stated that the new organizational concept would result in greater efficiency and quality of the programs.

Merritt a natural in Student Affairs

KATHY LINDSAY
Associate News Editor

There's a charming southern lady in FIU's administration who would disappoint any who like to think a woman has to be aggressive and masculine to be successful.

Judy Merritt, FIU's vice-president for Student Affairs, is warm and natural. "If the manner in which you present your ideas is logical and you have good factual support, you don't have to be aggressive. Although, sometimes, you must be direct and assertive," she said, "it's not the normal thing to expect to see a woman in an administrative position. All women have faced not having a role model...someone to see in certain positions."

Merritt feels support from her husband helped her in the beginning. "He made me understand that you can do anything you desire to do." Although her perception of FIU's handling of the situation is "okay", she says "the statistics tell a different story". But she does not conform to any movement. "I have faith in a system which allows achievement based on ability," she said.

A graduate of the University of Alabama, Merritt has been at FIU for three years, after leaving Birmingham Community College where she was located for 10 years. She sees a similarity in the growth and development of both schools and was attracted initially to the opportunity to develop a North Miami Campus. She was previously University Registrar and

has responsibility for the beginning and familiarizing plans for the North Miami Campus.

Originally from Jacksonville, Alabama, Merritt has a subtly Georgian accent which she thought she had lost.

Currently, Merritt is involved in a program to develop strong interpersonal relationships between departments in Student Affairs so that the areas will work together. "Right now we do not have combined areas of Student Affairs. It provides a different perspective when actually working with people in that area rather than through organizational lines." She likes the opportunity to develop new programs for students and see them react. "It's exciting. I look upon myself as a facilitator, to provide resources and discourage artificial barriers."

Young, attractive with reddish brown hair, Merritt speaks enthusiastically of the future of FIU. "The emphasis will be on quality and excellence. We need to define what our direction will be and what the main thrust of each campus will be. It will be a time of getting our act together."

On one wall in Merritt's office hangs an "Outstanding Administrator Award." On an opposite wall, a poster reads, "To avoid criticism do nothing, say nothing, be nothing."

Merritt foresees more emphasis in the future on the international aspect of FIU and also recognition of the urban role. "We will concentrate on what the relationship of the commuter should be in program development and ways that the university can help urban development through programming and



Dr. Judy Merritt

research. We must make Dade aware that these things are there. Highly urban areas have certain types of needs and certain types of graduates are required. One of the most obvious things is the need for a downtown center which would relate to urban renewal.

Merritt thinks the individual student needs are the needs of the campus. "FIU is a commuter school. This should act as a catalyst to identify certain needs such as university dormitories to encourage participation and more elaborate lounges for students who cannot go home between classes."

Is she thinking about the next step up? Merritt believes a person's responsibility is to do the best he or she can do and not worry about the next step. "If you currently do all you can do, whatever will be, will be."

Olander appoints inquiry board

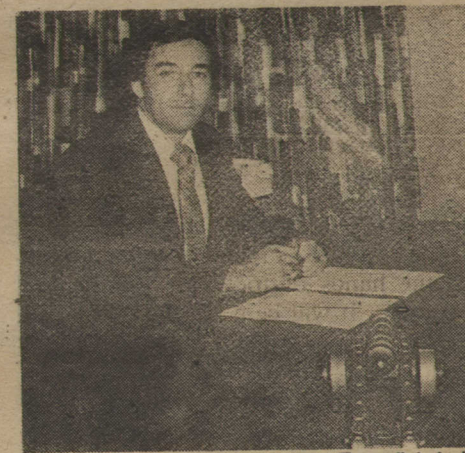
In response to requests by the Faculty, Student (SGA), and Career Service Senates, a Board of Inquiry has been named by Executive Vice President Joseph Olander to investigate the Florida International University Department of Public Safety.

The Board will look into allegations against FIU Director of Public Safety Timothy Fenlon and others, who have been accused of unfair labor practices and harassment of FIU employees.

The five members of the Board are Chief Vincent Anika, University of Miami Public Safety Department; Pam Davis, Director of the Dade County Women's Detention Center; William

Kimbro, Assistant County Manager; Major J.L. LeGrande, City of Miami Beach Police Department; and John Remington, Director of the FIU Institute for Labor Research and Studies. Diana Richardson of the Career Service Senate will be an ex-officio member of the Board. Olander and FIU Associate Vice President Patricia Lutterbie will also attend the hearings.

The Board will meet on Dec. 13 to hear presentations from various representatives of the university community. Olander said that employees of the PSD will meet privately with the Board, in order to protect them from possible recriminations.



Maripat Taccolini photo

Chief Timothy Fenlon

\$2 million in loan money may go to student governments

About \$2 million a year in tuition money, formerly used to guarantee Florida students loans, may be given to student governments in the future.

Thirty-five cents per credit hour is paid by state university students to support the student loan program which will end in July. The United States government will back future student loans.

The Florida Student Association, a lobbying group for the student governments of the nine state universities, wants the loan money to go to the student governments. Richard Merrick, FSA executive director, last week urged the student body presidents to oppose

any university financial aid director who does not want student governments to get the money.

Florida International University's students would not want student governments to get more of their tuition money, according to their vote in October. A referendum question on the ballot in the fall SGA elections asked students whether they favored adding the money to the Activity and Service fee controlled by SGA, or using the money for academic programs. 53.2 per cent favored academic use for the money.

Transferring the 35 cents per credit hour to the A&S fee would increase the

fee from \$2.14 to \$2.49 per credit hour. FIU's SGA would stand to gain about \$150,000 this year.

The Council of University Presidents, of which FIU President Harold B. Crosby is a member, endorsed shifting the money to the A&S fund. However, some financial aid directors feel that the money should stay in student loan coffers. University of Florida Student Financial Aid Director Doug Turner recently called the FSA's proposal a "moral shift away from funding student loans".

FIU's SGA has yet to take a position on the funds.

Editorial

Nursing Program abolishment wrong

It is no secret that Florida International University is in the midst of a vast reorganization process. The effects of the upheaval are being felt throughout the university. It is a painful process, one in which personnel are fired, rehired in other areas, some jobs are completely abolished, and programs are either shuffled into other departments or closed down altogether.

There is no doubt that the best interests of the university are in the minds of those administrators charged with the task of putting a fledgling university on its feet. There is also no doubt that the original administration, in its eagerness to fulfill a commitment to the community, made a lot of mistakes.

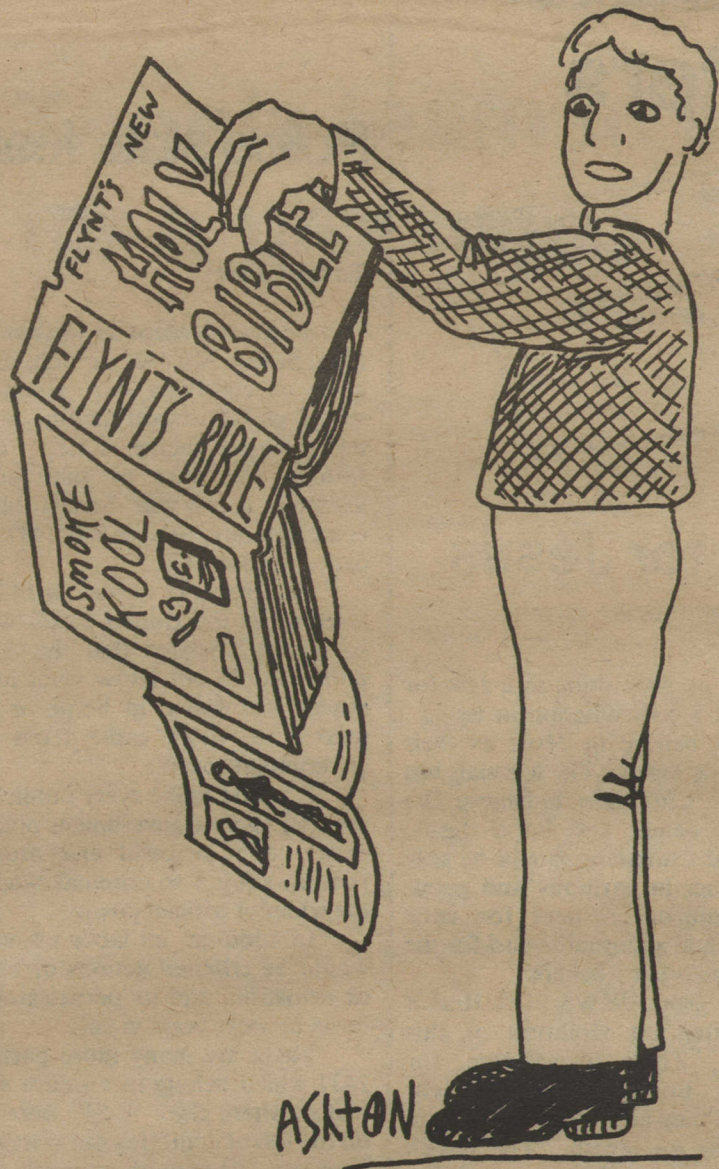
However, in the case of the nursing program, it would seem that not enough responsibility is being taken by the present administration to admit to their own mistakes.

The administration asked the Board of Regents to approve abolishment of the program, blaming administrative mistakes, and the program's failure to be accredited by the National League of Nursing. The BOR approved the request.

Administrators complain of their "painful" decision in this matter. But it cannot be denied that the real pain is that of the student nurses who were never made aware of the gravity of the situation, and who feel that they were led to believe by the administration that everything was actually rosy.

Those responsible for the abolishment of the nursing program should own up to their errors. It is obvious that faculty "trouble makers" whose contracts were extended year after year should never have been rehired. Deans and other officials who could not deal with the situation in hand should have been questioned about their own incompetence as managers.

The students of this university, who pay not only tuition but state taxes to support it, should not have to study under the fear that their program may be shut down because the administration didn't know what else to do with it.



"Mine eyes have seen the glory..." — Larry Flynt

Pros and cons

Should marijuana be legalized?

Should the government take the lid off of pot? Should present marijuana laws go up in smoke? Keep reading and find out what fellow students think about this controversial topic.

CAROL LINDENBERG
Staff Writer

Do You Feel Marijuana Should Be Legalized?

TERRY CASANOVA — Hotel
It depends. The very young people think it should be legalized, but I feel they are too young to decide (teenagers and younger). I believe if it is legalized it will get into the hands of too many of the wrong people. It will be a bad influence on the young. I, myself, don't condemn people if they want to smoke it and they are old enough to handle it.

DAN SEBENY — Criminal Justice
No...there is a multitude of problems that come along with legalization of marijuana. Marketing for one. Not everyone should be allowed to use it. It would be just one more drug easily accessible to the general public.

JORGE MARTINEZ — Arts and Sciences
No...It would lead to too much relaxation in our society and I think the penalties should be reduced significantly. They are much too harsh. As far as being totally legal, I feel the effects will be bad on society.

DANIEL WRIGHT — Hotel
Yes...It's quite natural, it comes from the earth. No one has come up with significant harmful effects. Tobacco is

more harmful to us. I see no reason for it to be illegal. I also think when it becomes legal, the same conglomerates that run the nation now will reap the profits from this.

RODNEY CLARKE — Chemistry
No...I think there's too much about marijuana that we don't know. I think in the long run it will be proven to be harmful rather than helpful. I do, however, feel it could be used medicinally under a doctor's care.

JIMMY WALLACE — Computer Science
It should be left to the individual. I, myself, don't smoke, but I don't condemn others for doing it. We don't know much about it, but people have been using it for hundreds of years without any harmful effects.

RICHARD JASINSKI — Accounting
Most definitely...Legalize it. Yes. I think it's perfectly harmless and should be legalized, and penalties should be dropped.

International
Florida International University
Tamiami Trail, Miami, Fla. 33199
(305)552-2118

Editor Rusty Sevigny
Managing Editor Pete Kolb
News Editor Bill Ashton
Business Manager Iris Maher
Advertising Cindy Garfinkel

Associate News Editor Kathy Lindsay
Entertainment Editor Ginger Davis
Copy Editor Mary Ann Gramer
Sports Editor Scott Eyers
Graphics Richard Sevigny

The International is an independently funded newspaper published for the students of Florida International University. All views expressed are not necessarily those of the university's administration or faculty. The International's office is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The office is located in University House 212-A.

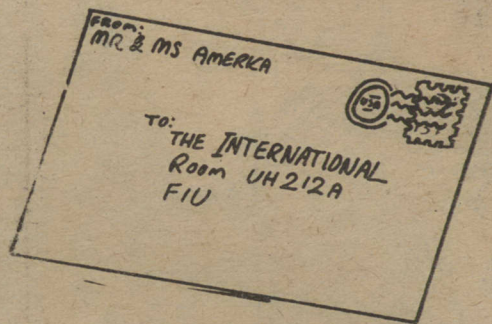
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Letters



Jews for Jesus

To the Editor:

There is no such thing as a Jew for Jesus — it is a contradiction in terms. Jews do not believe in Jesus as their Messiah. Jews believe The Messiah has not yet come. Christians do believe The Messiah has come, and he is Jesus.

Jews and Christians should be able to live together in harmony and goodwill, with mutual respect for each other's ideas and a mutual regard for the dignity of each other's beliefs.

The cult group JEWS FOR JESUS displays a flagrant violation of this good-will. They proselytize for Christianity under the fraudulent pretense that they are Jews. This act in itself is totally un-Jewish. The Jewish faith is against proselytizing, and has been since its inception.

This cult has been denounced by both Christian and Jewish leaders for its irresponsible actions and insensitivity to the sensibilities of Jews and Christians alike.

Deborah Bartnoff
Director of Hillel

Police state feared

To the Editor:

There is a piece of legislation pending, Senate Bill 1437, which, under the guise of codifying our criminal laws, would go far toward making our country a virtual police state. This bill follows the lines of that notorious legislation of last year, Senate Bill 1. Not coincidentally, Senate Bill 1437 is often called the Son of S.1.

For example, under SB 1437, press freedom in the United States would be so greatly crippled that the American public would not know what its government was doing, at home or abroad, unless the news came from official government sources.

It would make every public demonstration against government policies, no matter how peaceful and orderly the protest, subject to criminal sanctions at the whim of official power.

In addition, all labor union strikes would be criminal actions of blackmail or extortion, and its perpetrators liable to six or more years in jail.

There are many more parts of SB 1437 which belong in a police state bill and nowhere else. A bill which would do the job of codifying our criminal laws decently, thoroughly, and without assaulting our civil rights is HR 2311. This is the legislation that deserves the vigorous support of us all, including our representatives and senators. Since we elected them we ought to let them know how we feel.

Jan Foster,
Miami Beach

Response to story comes from employees

To the Editor:

I should like to commend Mr. Shanbrom for his article in the November 22 issue of "The International". He had the courage to let the truth be known to this whole institution concerning the activity of certain members of the FIU Campus Safety Department, which has become for some reason a Special Security (SS) Department.

I should stress the point that in my case Mr. Fenlon and Mr. Bloom did in no way try to show "understanding" in the incident. Proof lies in their denigrative "Supplementary Police Reports" and "Witness Statements" which are total lies and downright perjury, and which were never shown to me prior to my signing a release from legal action. It is perhaps unfortunate that I kept the incident quiet, but my feelings and respect for FIU made me wish to avoid the sort of fight this would have precipitated.

But, the Police Chief together with certain of his subordinates mistakenly recognized my inaction as an easy opportunity to misuse their power at the expense of this Academic Institution. The recent events reported in this newspaper and an unfair ticket I received recently are blatant proof of it. One can understand the reasons why they can continue this abusive course of action in my case. It is tacitly and covertly condoned by their immediate supervisor, Mr. Arrowsmith, who speaks of

"negativism" and "my antagonism towards the Public Safety Department" when I requested to him that my file be expunged of this incident.

Where cooperation, understanding, respect and dialogue should reign, it seems that certain people here deliberately and irresponsibly cultivate confrontation and intimidation. This is at the least contrary to the ideals of an academic institution as well as contrary to the quintessential base upon which this free and democratic society has been founded.

I hope that wisdom and justice will prevail so that we may all unite in harmony toward the goals for which this academic institution was founded.

Florentin Maurasse
Associate Professor of Geology

To the Editor:

I would like to commend the staff of the "International" and particularly Bob Shanbrom for their coverage of the issues concerning the department of Public Safety in the Nov. 22 issue. I spoke with quite a few FIU staff people last Wednesday, and the general opinion was that you did an excellent job on a story that needed telling. I am proud that our University has such a free and courageous voice in the "International".

Susan Alvarez
Career Service Senate, Chair

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"It's hard to imagine anyone who will not, in the end, turn on to 'The Turning Point'."
—Richard Schickel, Time Magazine

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—Gene Shalit, NBC-TV

The Turning Point

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SOME MATERIAL MAY NOT BE SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

STARTS WED. DEC. 21
BAY HARBOR THEATRE &
KENDALL LAKES II THEATRE

A community organization is planning a **Christmas Party** on **December 20** for **F.I.U. International students** on **student visas.**

For information call, or contact the International Student Services Office, UH 340, 552-2421.

Visual Arts show to explore light

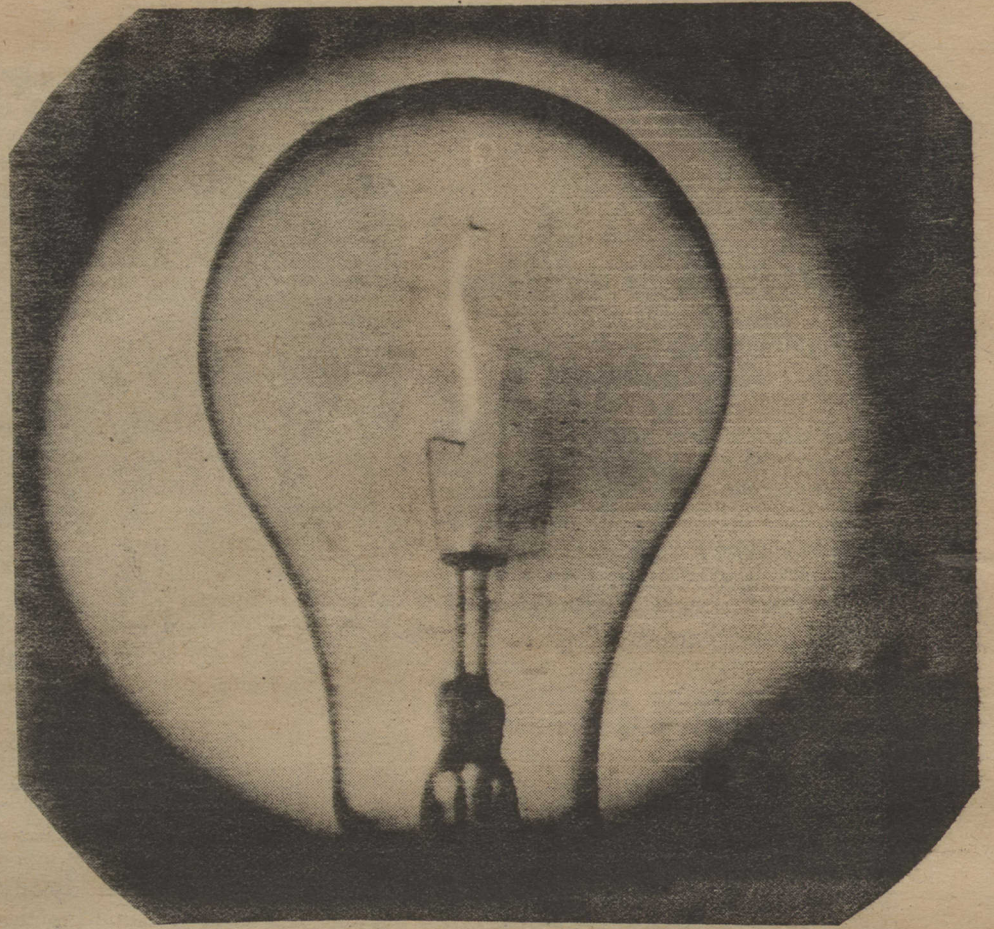
The Visual Arts Gallery of Florida International University will host a preview reception of an original exhibition, "Light Works", on December 16 at 8 p.m. The theme of the show is based upon the consideration of light as a conceptual premise underlying the art pieces. Examples range from a series of color prints done by Chrissa, based upon her experience with neon as a sculptural medium to marty Newman's "Etalon Interferogram", in which the image is the light itself. Stylistically, such diverse identifications as environmental, minimal, realist and expressionist can be applied. A variety of light sources are employed as media. Some examples would include neon, vapor lamps, projected beams, illuminated current and laser holograms. Some works are static, others move. Some are viewer operated, and some incorporate sound as part of their form.

Opening night events will include performance pieces using laser beams

and assorted electronics executed by FIU sculptor, Ralph Buckley. Physics Sciences technician, Fred Hoover, and students from the Departments of Visual Arts and Physical Sciences.

The show was organized by FIU Gallery Director, James Couper, an Assistant Gallery Director, Rene Cooley. Works have been loaned by galleries, private collectors and artists. An illustrated catalogue with a foreword by FIU Visual Arts Professor, Gene Arant, will accompany the exhibition.

"Light Works" will remain on view until January 4, 1978. Gallery hours for this exhibition are 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday; closed Sundays. The Gallery will be closed December 23 through December 26 and January 2. The FIU Campus is located at S.W. 8th St. and S.W. 107th Avenue, with the Gallery occupying the southwest corner of the Primera Casa building.



Let there be light

Calendar

MONDAY December 12

- UBS, 12:30 p.m., UH315
- Flying Club, 7 p.m., UH317
- Continuing Educ., 6:30 p.m., UH150
- Continuing Educ., 12 Noon, UH213E
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B
- Coop Workshop/Winter 2 p.m., UH316
- Pre-Med Society, 12:30 p.m., UH150

TUESDAY December 13

- Church of Jesus Christ, 7 p.m., UH213W
- Future Attorneys, 12:30 p.m., UH150
- WFIU-TV, 12:30 p.m., UH Forum
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B
- Continuing Educ., 8:30 a.m., UH213E

WEDNESDAY December 14

- FIU Concert "Music Juries", 2 p.m., VH118
- Bureau of Blind Services, 10:30 a.m., UH315
- Career Planning, 9 a.m., UH316
- Career Service, 9:30 a.m., UH213E
- Campus Ministry, 7 p.m., UH213W
- Management Exam, 3 p.m., UH140
- SGA Meeting, 11 a.m., UH150

THURSDAY December 15

- Flying Club, 7 p.m., UH317
- UBS, 12:30 p.m., UH213E
- Sailing Club Lessons, 7 p.m., UH213W
- Intl. Stu. Assn., 12:30 p.m., UH213W
- Alpha Phi Omega Meeting, 12:30 p.m., UH150
- Sailing Club Meeting, 12:30 p.m., UH150
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B
- Fla. Parks & Recreation District Meeting, 8:30 a.m., UH210

FRIDAY

December 16

- **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**
- Fed. of Cuban Stu., 12:30 p.m., UH316
- WFIU-TV, 12:30 p.m., UH Forum
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B
- Faculty and Staff Meeting, 3 p.m., UH213E
- SGA Christmas Party, 8 p.m., room to be announced.
- WFIU-TV Christmas Party, Friday night. Details to be announced.

MONDAY

December 19

- UBS, 12:30 p.m., UH315
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B

TUESDAY

December 20

- Future Attorneys, 12:30 p.m., UH150
- Yoga Classes, 12:30 p.m., UH212B

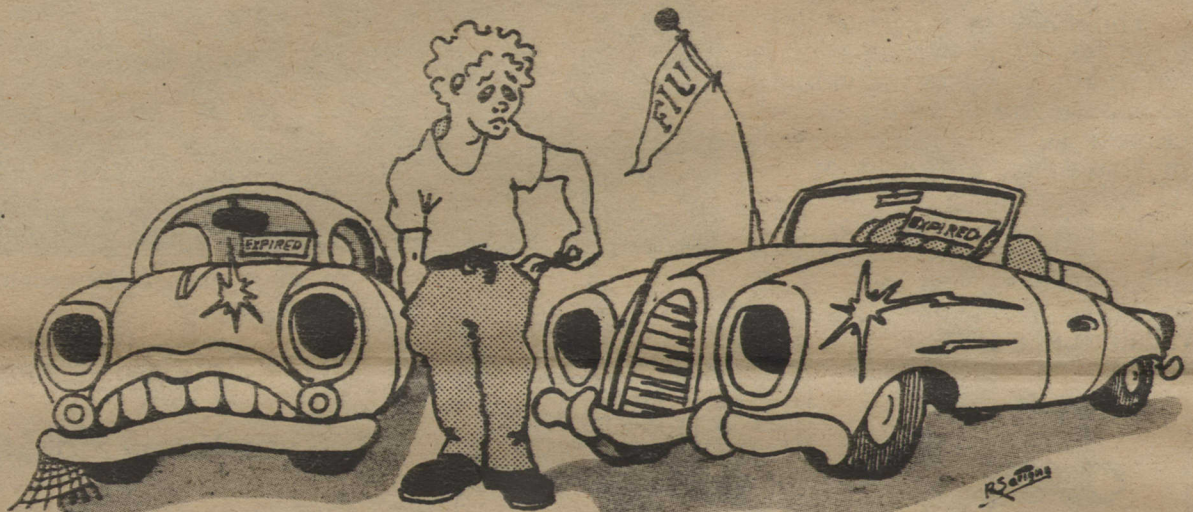
WEDNESDAY

December 21

- Bureau of Blind Services, 10:30 a.m., UH315
- Career Planning, 10 a.m., UH316

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
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A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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What to do in a concrete canoe

MARY ANN GRAMER
Copy Editor

You've heard of a lead balloon. Well, how about a concrete canoe? If these two items seem to have the same connotation (they won't float), the similarity ends there, because the canoe that is under construction by The American Society of Civil Engineers FIU Student Club in VH135, is going to float and hopefully, will weigh under 200 pounds.

In the spring, the Engineering society would like to get together a Concrete Canoe Regatta, inviting ASCE Chapters from colleges and universities in the South Florida counties of Dade, Broward, Collier, Monroe, Palm Beach and Lee.

Also, they would like to propose a race in Biscayne Bay. The concrete canoes of the past have primarily been used in fresh water lakes, and a race in the ocean would be a different experience with rougher wave action, although the salt water possibly would lead to corrosion.

Those interested can get in to see the canoe and participation is open to any group or individual. The department is willing to give technical help. Please contact Jim Nadaskay, president of the FIU ASCE club at 271-5949, or Advisor Dr. Jim Hahs, at 552-2764. A packet of rules and regulations was sent out to all universities and colleges, and is available upon request.



Concrete canoe under construction in room VH 135.

Dan Sebeny photo

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If you are thinking of becoming or hiring a co-op (or know someone who could be a co-op), give us a call. We're Co-operative Education at Florida International. By the way, we're fresh out of Co-ops that work all day for a saucer of milk, and our last responsible position in a magical toy factory went to a gnome from Sandusky.

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Viewers beware: TV may be hazardous to your health

MARIE A. SALAZAR
Staff Writer
Commentary

The negative impact of television on all segments of society in the United States far outweighs its few positive contributions.

By advocating and portraying a consumer oriented, plastic, disposal way of life as the only socially accepted alternative, they are censoring reality. This censoring of reality can be damaging to a child exposed five hours a day to television. The damage may manifest in a lack of involvement with the world around him. A preference for the spectator rather than active roles in real life situations and a non-acceptance of alternate lifestyles.

Televisions encourage subjectivity with every commercial and robs the viewer of objectivity. If you don't use Ivory you'll have old, dried out hands. God forbid! The ultimate catastrophe. Children that grow up within this framework have trouble adjusting to the real environment and the demands life makes upon all individuals. They cannot relate to the set of values imposed by society or their parents and like drug addicts opt for the easy way out. Drop out altogether.

Television also discourages human interaction, the give and take processes by which we grow internally. For a child engaged in watching television this interaction is non-existent. He is isolated in his own fantasy world that has no relevance outside the picture tube. He does not communicate or express himself.

Diet and physical exercise are also adversely affected by television. Exercise stops when a child sits in front of the set for hours. Through the encouragement of commercials he will probably have a couple of sugar filled soft drinks accompanied by salty potato chips or pretzels. Nutritional value of this fare is zero or detrimental to their health.

A generation of such television drones is more prone to being led or manipulated by external sources to their disadvantage.

To summarize, television is creating a generation of passive kids removed from reality and unable to interact in a social setting. Television is stifling their intelligence and quenching natural curiosity.

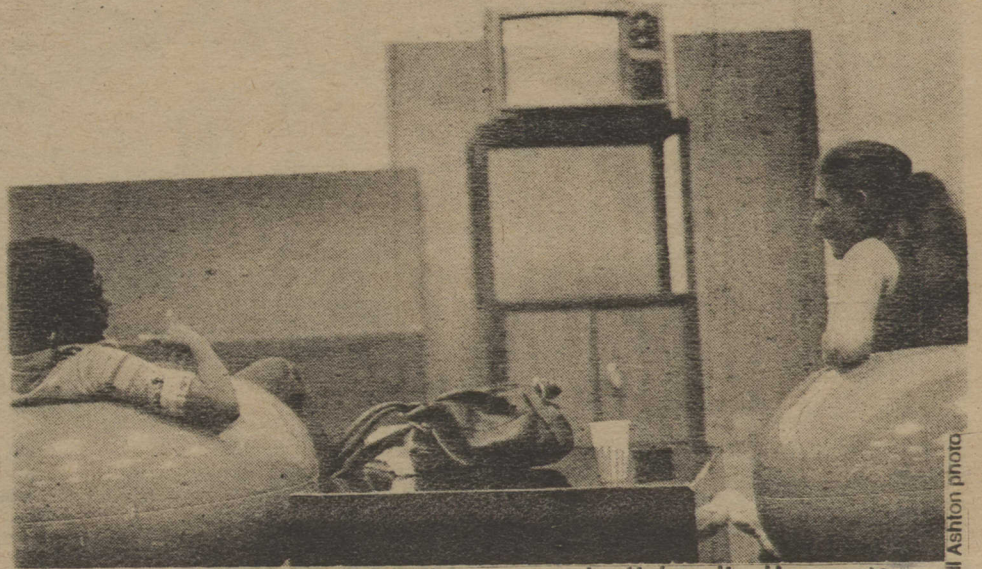
Television advocates mention some of the positive effects of the medium. Among these, the most important is the portrayal of news events. The same way television can distort reality, if used positively, it can portray it effectively. An example is the Vietnam war. For the first time coverage of the war, real life scenes from the battlefields, were brought into the living room of the average American (U.S.) family. I am sure that this helped sway sentiment and turned public opinion against the war. One thing is to read about death, pestilence and destruction, another is to see it in vivid color.

Another advantage cited for television is that it can be very useful in forecasting the weather and impending disaster. It can warn citizens in case of hurricanes, etc.

"Experts" say that television did not cause the riots of the 60's, poverty and plight of the blacks did that. This can be agreed with to a point, however, the televised documentaries and actual live newscasts, helped immensely to unite and encourage the violence throughout the nation. I am sure that no "expert" will agree that television actually discouraged the black's stance. Whether this is good or bad will have to be left to the sociologists and eventual historians.

To conclude, I am certain that television could be used to a much better advantage than it is being used currently. Instead of being exploited by large corporations to maximize profits, without regard for the consequences to the general public, it could be used to instruct and alert this same public to external realities not present in their own environment.

In essence: television in the U.S. is a great 'brain washer'



Two students find the television room in University House an excellent place to catch up on conversation.

Bill Ashton photo

Citizens' group attacks auto insurance rates

BILL ASHTON
News Editor

A statewide "citizens' group" called FAIR is proposing an amendment to the Florida Constitution which the group says would reduce the average person's auto liability insurance rates by 30 per cent.

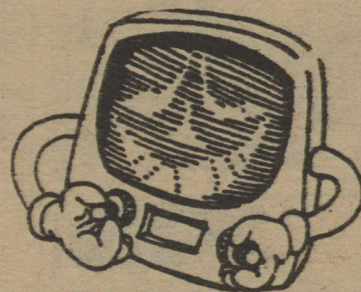
FAIR (Floridians for Auto Insurance Relief) is circulating petitions, proposing a constitutional amendment which would take away Floridian's rights to sue for speculative damages. Those involved in auto accidents would retain their rights to recover actual medical expenses, lost wages, property and vehicle damages, and punitive

damages for willful or reckless misconduct.

The FAIR amendment, which is endorsed by Florida Insurance Commissioner Bill Gunter, will be placed on the ballot in next year's general election if 254,000 Florida voters sign the group's petitions.

According to the initiative provision of the Florida Constitution, amendments proposed by petition must then be approved by a majority of those voting in the next general election. Should the voters approve the amendment, it would become part of the Constitution.

Anyone wishing to fill out the petition can find a copy on page 10.



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SGA NEWS

Nov. 30, 1977

Resolutions Passed

A) On the North Campus Council Bill, the following items were decided:

1) \$1,200 was allocated the a Clerk Typist II for the North Campus Council.

2) The Projectionist position was changed from OPS to work-study.

3) \$6,750 was allocated to bring Gloria Steinem, Ellis Rubin, Robert Klein, Cesar Chavez and other local speakers to the Tamiami Campus. \$2,000 additional was allocated to provide transportation for NMC students to attend these lectures.

B) First amendment to the SGA Constitution Bill. If this amendment is passed by the Forum and approved by voters, future revision will need 500 signatures in order to get in the ballot.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec. 16 — 8 p.m. — UH Forum Refreshments — Live D.J. Santa Claus will be there.

Licensed amateurs or anyone interested in a "Ham" radio station in FIU.

Wanted — licensed Ham — general class or higher. Faculty or staff member. For trustee of amateur radio station. Contact Evan Gonshak — UH 310 — 552-2121.

Associate needed from School of Health & Social Services. Apply at SGA office.

Nativity of Christ display at Library. Sponsored by FIU Catholic students. Starting Dec. 5.

Thursday Nite Live at the Rathskeller. Every Thursday from 7:30 p.m. til closing.

"Lechon Bowl," Dec. 17, 11 a.m. Food & refreshments.

Children's "Holiday Party," Dec. 16, 5 to 7 p.m. For information & application forms, call Sid Walesh — 552-2104, PC 543.

Nov. 23, 1977

Resolutions Passed

1) An SGA Information Booth will be set up where Auxiliary Services is located. AS will move to back of UH 212D.

2) Letter will be sent to U.S. officials denouncing any U.S. positive involvement in South Africa.

3) Letter of congratulations will be sent to President Crosby for his upcoming marriage.

4) SGA supports the Safety Committee's request to investigate the Public Safety Department, and that no one will be fired until the investigation is completed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.


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Marathon promises to be run for money

RUSTY SEVIGNY
Editor

Some of the top runners in the United States will compete with South Florida runners of varied ages in the Orange Bowl Marathon, which will take place on Dec. 26.

The Marathon, a 26-mile, 385-yard course, will lead runners through the most scenic sections of Miami. They will begin on Biscayne Boulevard at S.E. 2 St., wind around through Coral Gables and Coconut Grove, down Old Cutler Road, and then run back to the finish line at the Four Ambassadors Hotel.

Robert Volski, an alumnus of Florida International University's Physical Therapy Program, wrote the proposal for the marathon to the Orange Bowl Committee. "It was based on the need for high quality sporting events in South Florida," Volski said.

There have already been 250 applicants for the marathon and Volski said he expects "at least 500" by the Dec. 17 deadline. New York City's first marathon contained 250 runners, and that event is touted as the "premier" marathon in the country.

Barry Brown of Gainesville, the two-time Pan American champion will be running in the Miami race. He was the past American record holder in the steeple-chase Marathon, with a time of 2:14.

Women's American record holder Teri Anderson of Kansas has also sent in her application. In 1972, she ran the fastest mile in the U.S. with a speed of 4:41.6.


Some of the 19 divisions in the marathon include the Media Challenge, entered by the Charlotte N.C. Observer, Homestead News-Leader, Miami Herald, Miami News, Channel 10, WIOD, and WAIA; the wheelchair division, cardiac, youngest finisher, and most courageous.

Volski is very optimistic about the future of the Orange Bowl Marathon. He said, "It will be one of the most important marathons in the country within a couple of years, providing we get the financial backing we need. This year Dannon Yogurt provided what we asked for more and more." FIU is cosponsoring the marathon.

For further information, contact the FIU Physical Therapy Department, 552-2265.

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Tennis team in swing for a promising season

BILL ASHTON
News Editor

Florida International University's 1978 women's tennis team promises to make bigger headlines than ever before. But the headlines this year should concern their activities on the court, rather than off the court.

Under the direction of new tennis coach Kitty Van Allen, the team carries out rugged daily practice sessions. "Miss Kitty", as she's affectionately known, believes that running, sprinting, stretching and "kangaroo jumps" will build the players' skills and endurance.

Linda Kavanagh and Rose Brown are the only returning players from last year's headline-making team. The two were in the center of controversy when former tennis coach Karrin Newman charged that they violated Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (IAIW) rules by drinking beer on a road trip and using "vulgar" language.

Brown and Kavanagh were cleared of the charges and are now receiving full athletic scholarships. They were recently re-elected as SGA Associates, and will represent the School of Education until next October.

Kavanagh says that the two have

improved all around. "Rose and myself have just completed the Emily Post course on etiquette. However," she jests, "Rose is having problems with her Alcoholics Anonymous program."

Kavanagh adds that "they can take away my gusto, but they can't take away my tennis racquet."

New players on the team include Diana Bean, 1977 state junior college singles champion from Miami-Dade Community College South; Rosie Secada, MDCC—North's top player in 1976; Diane Aten, a top player at Dade North last year and FIU's first Fall Festival Queen; Joanne Follien, a good golfer and all-around athlete at Dade North; and Kendra Copeland, formerly on the Indian River Junior College tennis team.

Coach Van Allen says, "We're going to win the state championship. We have got the depth. Women's athletic Coordinator Linda Miskovic is in agreement, saying that the players make up "the best women's team in FIU's history. There's a good chance we will proceed to the regionals and maybe even the nationals."

Brown, with a laugh, says "I can't wait for the first road trip. I've got my beer on ice."

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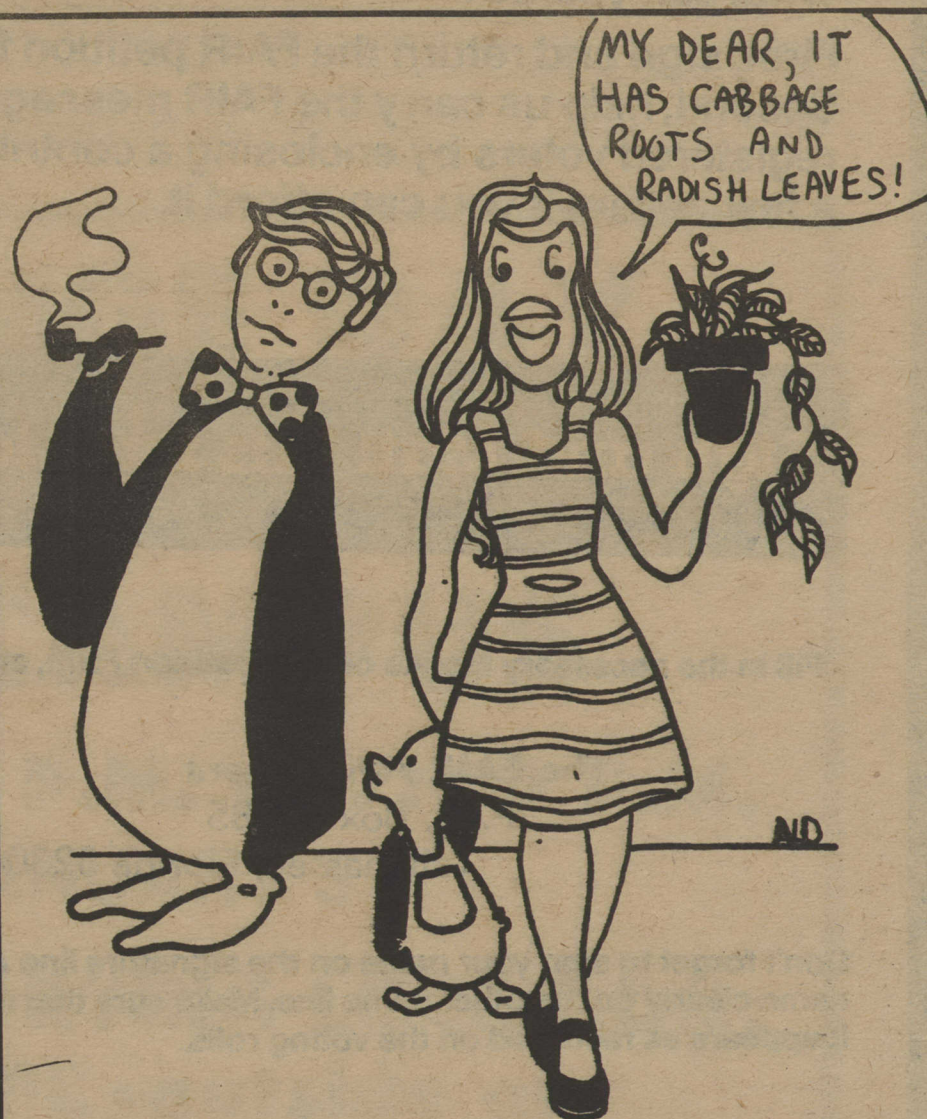
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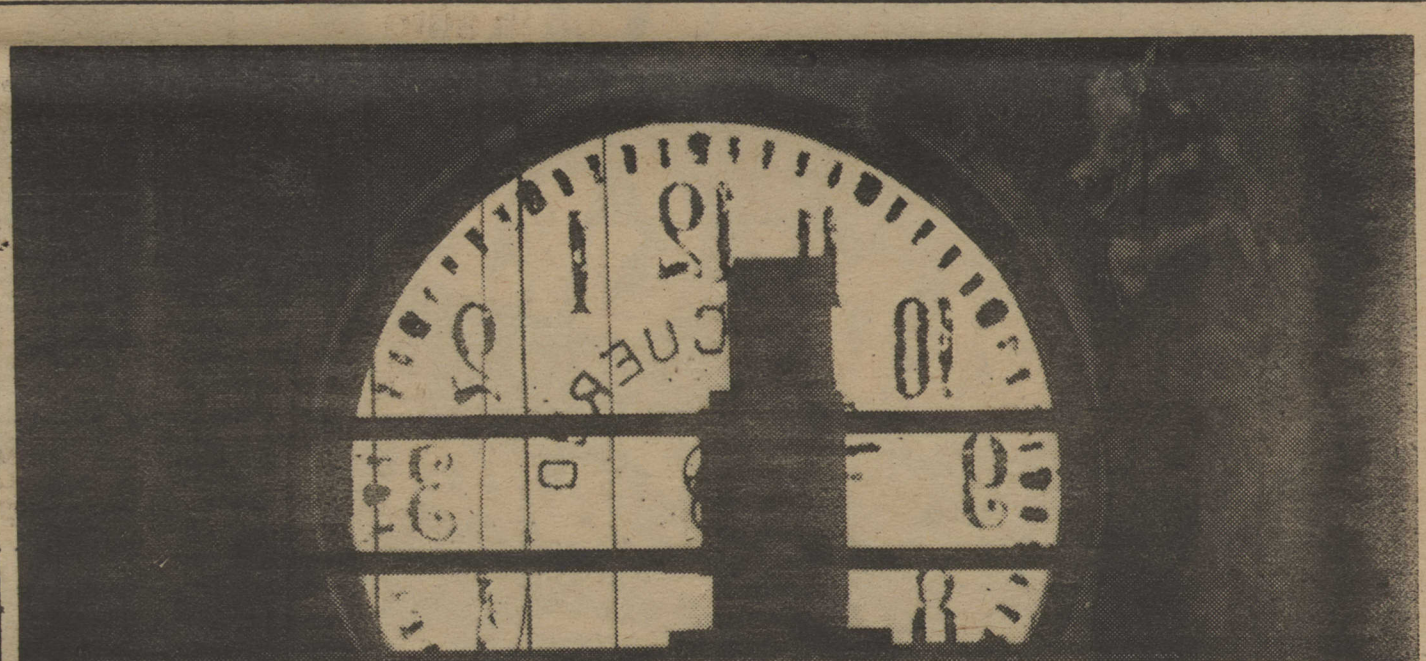
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