

# Can "Star Wars" Be Shared?

by Kim Ormand

Both the Americans and the Russians are approaching the Geneva Conference in one of the most distrustful and hostile moods ever displayed by both superpowers. The air is thick with proposals, propaganda, accusation, and visions of failure. It is quite obvious that some concise decisions and actions must be taken by President Reagan to clear the air that seriously threatens to choke the summit meetings.

The Russians have shown that they are anxious about the "Star Wars"- Strategic Defense Initiative- research. They've indicated that unless something is done to halt this research, the summit meetings will be a complete waste of time. They do not believe Mr. Reagan's claims that Star Wars is a defense system and will not be used to attack them. Thus, unless this research is stopped they will be forced to start their own program - which would push the arms race into an irreversible realm of destruction.

This need not happen. All President Reagan has to do is suggest that the Russians join us now in the development of the "Star Wars" system. We really have nothing to lose. Mr. Reagan has already said that if the system works, he will give the research to the Russians to allow them to develop their own system. So why wait? If both shared the cost and work, then both could benefit - especially in terms of protection from an attack of a third world power - an issue of concern for both sides.

Granted many people may find this notion ridiculous - share our secrets with the Russians? Yet realistically speaking, the Russians are not fools - they know what they are doing. In time they would create their own system, as they've done in the past, without our help.

It would take much planning, plenty of detailed legalities and much willingness as well as trust. Yet this is not impossible- twenty years ago both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. agreed to stop all above ground nuclear testing and both sides have complied to this agreement, a positive sign.

I am against the "Star Wars" program for I am against all nuclear weapons and this, of course, includes any defense system. If the research must be done, however, I think it should be done jointly and carefully to be appreciated by all involved. Some peaceful measures must be taken and the sharing of "Star Wars" seems as good a place as any to start.

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# Jamaican Trip Planned

Have you made any plans for Spring break yet? If not, let me suggest that you consider accompanying me and a small group of students on a trip to north shore of Jamaica. The Biology department will be offering a field course in Tropical Marine Biology-Ecology (Biology 289) during spring semester 1986. This course is open to students with or without previous college biology experience. This will be our third annual Spring Break migration to Hofstra University's Marine Lab in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica.

The class will be staying seven to eight days in a small hotel run by Jamacians, in conjunction with Hofstra's Marine Lab. The main daily activities will be snorkeling the offshore coral reefs and learning about coral reefs and the organisms that populate them. Other activities may include trips to local tourist attractions such as Dunn's River Falls (a series of beautiful waterfalls the class will easily climb), Green Grott (private caves), and Shaw Park (a beautiful tropical

garden), and field trips to mangrove swamp areas, bat caves, a coconut plantation, and perhaps even a tropical rain forest up in the Blue Mountains.

This Marine Biology class will be offered as a seminar-type course, for one semester hour credit. Students may elect to come on the trip and then decide (while in Jamaica) to audit the course. This option will be available to everyone coming on the trip, up to the last day of our stay. Snorkeling experience is not necessary; I will be giving snorkeling lessons in the BC pool prior to our trip.

The approximate trip cost is \$800, which covers transportation, room and board, and almost everything except individual spending money. A deposit will be due right after Thanksgiving break, with the remainder of the money due before Christmas break. The enrollment in the course is extremely limited so see me immediately so that I can save you a place in the class. Please feel free to contact me for further details, or to answer any

questions you may have. I also have slides to show anyone interested in the trip.

Well, what do you think? Are you the type of person that would like to visit a foreign country, snorkel coral reefs, see beautiful tropical fish, climb a 400 foot waterfall (it's really fun!), explore old pirate caves, and in general just have a darn good time during Spring Break? If so, come to Jamaica!!

Interested students should see me immediately, and sign up for the course during pre-registration for spring semester.

Dr. Bill Brower

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# Should Rock Music Be Censored?

by Lora Sobotka

Is rock music getting too risqué? Some senators' wives think so. In fact, Tipper Gore, wife of Senator Albert Gore Jr., D-Tenn., is so appalled, she and other concerned parents have founded the Parents' Music Resource Center. The PMRC want to make excessively violent and sexually explicit lyrics known to the public before they purchase them. Mrs. Gore and the PMRC want record companies to furnish song lyrics with the records and tapes and to set up a panel to establish a set of uniform criteria.

Some of the musicians targeted by the PMRC include Sheena Easton, Judas Priest, W.A.S.P., Sheila E., AC/DC, Twisted Sister, Prince, Motley Crue, and even Micheal Jackson. According to Time Magazine, Frank Zappa announced to the Senate Commerce Committee that "the complete list of PMRC demands read like an instruction manual for some sinister kind of toilet-training program to housebreak all composers and performers." Some students here at Brevard feel the same way. Jaime Barrman said: "I think it's quite ridiculous that they're (the PMRC) trying to censor what we want to listen to. They are taking away the freedom of speech of rock singers."

Some musicians are in favor of PMRC's guidelines. The Pointer Sisters were quoted on RKO radio as saying "There is a big dif-

ference between 'romance rock' and 'sex rock'. Rating records could avoid subjecting kids to 'sex rock.'" Some students here at BC agree. Sophomore Melanie Wilson said "I think it's a good idea. I don't know how it's going to keep people from listening to it. It's like alcohol. They may have an age limit but young kids are going to get it anyway. I don't know how practical it is."

If the PMRC gets their way, Congress may pass legislature forcing record companies to at least warn consumers of lyrical content.

Dear Editor,

While writing my article 'Is Rock Getting Too Risque?', I had a very difficult time being unbiased. To think of my 8 and 9 year old nieces and nephews hearing songs like "Darling Nikki" and "My House", makes me ill. I remember when I was that age and now when I look back, I wish I didn't know as much as I did. Let the innocence of youth remain innocent. Life itself gives enough worries and problems to people, and to corrupt the minds of the adults of tomorrow is ensuring a corrupt future.

Thank you,  
Lora Rae Sobotka

# Letters To The Editor

Dear editor,

Priorities is a word that keeps popping into my head continuously as I see a lack of them every day, everywhere I turn. This absence of priorities shows up in school work, school related activities, friendships, and relationships.

All I ask is why? and I know that question can't possibly be answered. Where has the integrity of mankind gone? Giving one's woru on sometning, no matter how trivial or important, doesn't seem to be worth the effort used to speak it.

People say, "I'll be there," and they never show up. They say, "I'll do it," and it never gets done. It's bad enough that this type of behavior shows up in the everyday working world, but how can it be dealt with in a personal relationship? When someone's personal priorities are not in order and others are hurt by this, what is left to say about our fellow man?

Honesty, truthfulness, and integrity all help lay the foundations for priorities. Without one of these elements, priorities are lost and distorted. I'd like to be able to look at the person standing next to me and know he was a person of priorities - someone to be counted on. However, I know that this is a little much to ask of fellow human beings. I'll have to be content with keeping my own priorities in order and not letting the lack of other's interfere with me.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Davis

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