ne Decree

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American woods need saving first

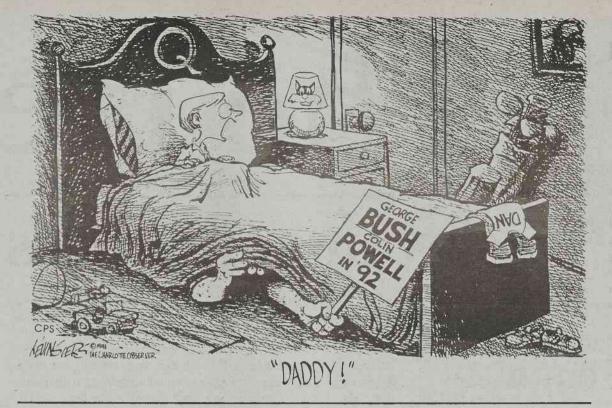
Recently, North Carolina Wesleyan College presented a plan to cut down a number of trees on campus. Before long, a group of people rose up to protest the thinning of the trees. Those few people were enough to cause the school to reconsider the cutting down of those trees.

Henry David Thoreau, over a hundred years ago in his book Walden: Or Life in the Woods, argued that the wilderness of the world (Walden Woods in particular) should be preserved. Since the presentation of his work, Thoreau has been known as the father of the conservation movement.

Today, 60 percent of Walden Woods is protected

from industrial development. This portion of the woods remains much the way it was in Thoreau's time, naturally undeveloped. The other 40 percent of Walden Woods, however, has fallen prey to the greater industrial steamroller. There are plans to build an office park and a condominium complex on the remaining 40 percent of the woods.

These woods are an important part of our American heritage and must be preserved. Before we travel to South America to tell its people to stop raping the rain forest, we must continue to stop the destruction of the woodlands of America.



Sense of 'Other' fosters abuses

Feminism a growing force

By DR. STEVE FEREBEE

I recently read a study of the increasing occurrence of gang rapes on college campuses. Groups of young men - usually acting within the fraternity or athletic team bond - force young women to submit to intercourse while the others cheer them on.

You can argue that the gang rapes aren't happening any more often, just being reported more often. Even if that is true, I don't feel any better. I also read about increasing reports of antihomosexual, anti-Jewish, antiblack, and anti-Hispanic hate crimes.

What these groups have in common is that they are what Simone de Beauvoir called the

and disco music. Nobody I knew

grew up in Northern England

could relate to that. We had our

So Eldritch, along with orig-

own different thing going.'

Dr. Steve Muses

Other, the groups perceived by the white, heterosexual, Christian, western European male power base as the aberration. Therefore these Others appear to be legitimate targets for attack especially when they start trying to move out of their prescribed behavior patterns.

Certainly, not all people in this power base participate in, condone, or excuse hate crimes against the Others, but one of the lessons of our time is that hidden in many of us is an unconscious complicity that perpetuates the system which allows for such behaviors. Many feminist thinkers, for example, want us to ask why violence against the Others happen.

That word — feminist. Because I told Charles Creegan that I would speak about feminism at a colloquium sponsored by the Nash/Edgecombe Research and Dialectical Society (NERDS), I have been asking people what the word means to them. Not many know what it is, but most think that it threatens the status

And so it does.

Feminism puts women and their concerns at the forefront of social change.

The assumption behind feminism is that those people who are in power determine the norms and expectations and methodologies of the culture. If men have been in power, and I judge the norms and expectations and methodologies to be less than desirable, then it is men who must bear the burden of my criticism and women who must bear the burden of change.

An important idea in feminism is that human identity including and probably most of all gender — is a social construct. Feminism does not deny biological differences; but it shows how gender behavior roles are constructed by those in power to create and to protect their power base. If you can accept this idea (and many do not), then you might believe that the roles are artificial and can be

inal guitarist Gary Marx, formed The sisters of Mercy. "We had a fuzz bass, a very

cheap drum machine, and I used to shout a lot through an echo machine," he recalled. "People really got off on it." A few months later, "Damage

Done," the Sisters' first single, was released on their own Merciful Release label, to instant acceptance.

seemed the natural thing to do if you were a punk rocker. Everybody was in a band then. Someone asked me to play on their record, so I did and it just

ued, "people started saying,

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By KEITH GORDON

Stare for a moment, into the fire. Look past the flames, to the embers burning ever so brightly, performing the mesmerizing final dance of their short lives as they turn and soar toward their infinite sleep, burning ever toward darkness. That's the dark, somber sound of The Sisters of Mercy.

With the release of "Vision Thing," the band's third album, The Sisters is building upon a cult status that has elevated vocalist Andrew Eldritch, his work, and his off-stage antics to nearmythical proportions.

'Sisters of Mercy' hits cult status

Eldritch, who has a deep, growling, tortured vocal style, is the brains behind The Sisters of Mercy, as well as its founder. songwriter, and constant focal

He started it all in 1980 in Leeds, England.

"There was a gap," Eldritch explains. "Everybody in London, which is where the whole English music industry is, was promoting at the time very much like they are today, in fact, a rather hideous blend of cocktail

that as possible," says Eldritch of the early sound, "while fitting it into song at the same time, which is not easy.' Eldritch originally got into music, he says, "because it

"We spent the following 10

years trying to keep as much of

kind of grew from there. "Long after that," he contin-

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