

Let Reason Reign

By ELIZABETH WRIGHT

"We pay taxes, we uphold the system, then why can't we feel safe anymore." This seems to be the view many Americans, especially Urbanites, feel about their society. This angry sentiment has led many citizens to take their own initiative in choosing protection. Since many people do not feel at ease in the streets, subways, buses, and even their own homes, they either legally or illegally purchased firearms. Who draws the limits on protection? The law states that it is lawful to shoot a person only if he is lifethreatening; it is not lawful to shoot in order to protect possessions or property. This law touches on the question of charging Bernhard Goetz for his shootings of four youths on the New York City subway.

There were mixed emotions from the public. Some Americans were appalled; however, many cheered. Different reactions were also conveyed in the courtroom. Is he guilty or not?

The problem with condoning such behavior as Goetz displayed in the subway shootings if that future shootings and vigilante murders may spawn from this. If we allow a society to develop similar to that of the Wild West, vigilante forces would run rampant.

Many believe that this type of law enforcement is the only solution since our culture and cities have grown into such a vast complexity of crime. However, if we allow such a warped system of justice and law control, where do we draw the line? Do we just have

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another gun-slinging society?

If one applauds Goetz, one should take a look at his motives for carrying a gun. In 1981, he was robbed and beaten by three muggers; these attackers were charged leniently, which provoked Goetz into buying a gun.

On Dec. 22, 1984, Goetz served his own justice when he shot four youths when they harrassed him for \$5.00. Was justice awarded?

We can not have a vigilante-based system if there is to be controlled order. True, there is question of our law enforcement's capability to control and stabilize crime but one has to realize that there is a limited police force and not all areas of the city are capable of being swamped with police protection.

What does vigilante action prove? Sure it might cut down on a few attempted muggings; but think of the effects of vigilante action. In the course of firing at a mugger, an

innocent bystander might be shot accidentally.

There are trigger-happy individuals who may not hesitate before firing. If one carries around a torch of condemnation and expects to channel it through shooting a mugger over \$5.00, then something is wrong, not only with the person who pulled the trigger, but with society for allowing such a perverse system of law enforcement and justice to exist.

I do not condone the behavior of Goetz assailants; however investigations and justice should be carried out by experienced law officials who are equipped to handle such criminals.

What Resolutions?

By CHRISTOPHER L. SIMMONS

What is it about the start of a new year that makes us determined to entirely rearrange our lives? We go along all year performing the little vices that make us all too human vowing every step of the way that in the new year we're going to stop all that, mend all our broken fences and just generally become all around terrific people.

Of course we never do, but it is fun making lists of what we plan to perfect in our life. Louisburg College students are no exceptions. Here are a few of the resolutions your fellow students have made.

Julie Bialkowski: "I'm going to give up smoking. Give my lungs a rest."

Sheila Jackson: "I plan to make the most of my college experience at good ole Lou-U."

Bryan Laughter: "To find something interesting to do in Louisburg."

Vaughn Wilburn: "I'm going to make a resolution not to make any resolutions. That way when I don't do what I'm supposed to do I won't feel like I've cheated myself."

Joanna Powell: "I make a resolution to try and remain sane in the midst of all this insanity."

Chris Simmons: "I resolve to improve myself in any way possible even if it means cleaning up my room."

Well there you have it. I wonder how many of these resolutions will be fulfilled and how many will be left by the wayside. But then again it doesn't matter. Who wants to be perfect anyway?

By MARTIN THORNE

Before I start with my usual likes and dislikes, I want to tell all of you that are interested enough to read this far that "Falling In Love" is extremely wonderful! I cannot stop thinking about this movie. It made me feel springy and refreshed. This movie was created for the Romantic type that still get butterflies when talking to a cute guy or girl. The two characters that carry the movie are Robert De Niro and Meryl Streep. Both are known in the movie making business as being kings of their trade. De Niro gave a performance that is worthy of being compared to his role in the Godfather, which many feel is his best performance thus far. Streep also left nothing to be desired with her role. It is her best exhibition since Kramer vs. Kramer. Marvin Worth (director) presents "Falling in Love" in the Christmas season. I thought this was a great way to help the audience relate and become a part of this simple, but sweet romance. The husband and wife of different marriages boards the same train every day without noticing the other. On Christmas eve, the two run into each other in a bookstore shopping for their mates. They accidentally bump into each other and drop their gifts. When picking the gifts up they mistakenly swap their respective presents. Upon

opening the gifts on Christmas day, the wife of De Niro gets a sailing manuel, while the husband of Streep receives a gardening book. This gives the two a reason to start a conversation: The talking and laughing leads to a closeness that neither of them wants at first. They converse on the train to work everyday. Both of them are very honest people, so there is a lot of guilt that happens to be a result of the affection they share for each other. It was delightful to watch middleage adults, prim in front of the mirror and rehearse what is going to be said. I guess the innocenses of love will never change no matter how old or young one happens to be. De Niro and Streep are beautifully matched couple. The fire of perfect couple's are rekindled with the pairing of these two. This couple is in the same category as Bogart and Hepburn, which is an accomplishment in itself.

The music in the movie is light and bubbly, which fits the bill. Dave Crusing did the music score and to show you my enthusiasm, I am going to buy the sound track next time I am in a record store. I will repeat, once again, "Falling In Love" is extremely wonderful. If you see a movie in the next century, make sure it is this one. I am going to give this jewel the highest rating Louisburg College has ever witnessed. Be a part of history in the making, go see "Falling In Love". This movie receives five and one-half stars. PG-13

*As much fun as paying the bill from Christmas.

**When you pay four dollars to go to sleep.

***Typical plotless trash on figures out in five minutes.

****Worth the drive to the Louisburg Theatre.

*****Wake the neighbors and load up the kids, run to movie.

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