



## To Sleep or Not To Sleep

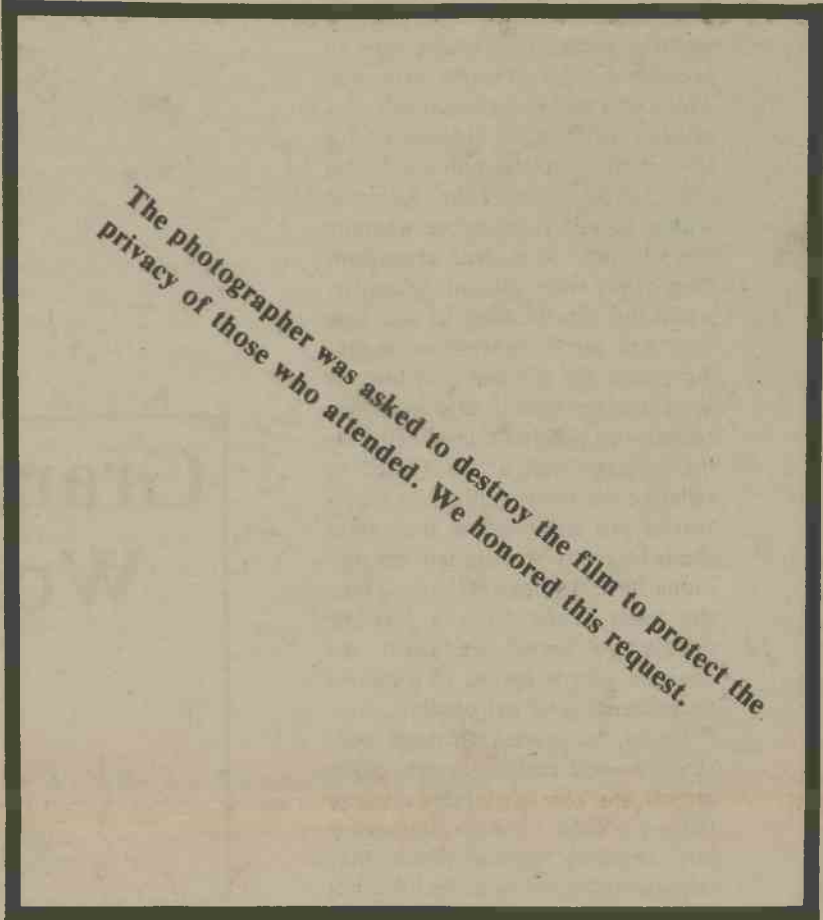
David Tew

"I see this peaceful protest as a step in the direction of gaining respect from administration," said junior Hunter Wingate. "Mostly, I see the student body as realizing that a mature protest can stand strong."

The "natural protest" Wingate was referring to was a sleep-in held on September 24 in the Wilmington dorm main lounge. The point being protested was the suspension of two St. Andrews students for violating the school's cohabitation laws.

"In participating in the sleep-in protest, it was on purpose to question whether the administration followed due process in the cohabitation case," said Drew Hayes, who conducted the forum before the sleep-in. A dialogue was distributed to those in attendance which brought up the question in the Saltire, specifically the right to a trial before a judicial body, with references to the rights granted the accused of due process yet specified that guilt or innocence was not the issue. At the height of the meeting, over one hundred St. Andrews students were assembled, although the great majority of them declined to stay the night. The meeting did last past midnight, thus some one hundred students were technically "cohabitating" past visiting hours. This was the group's form of "civil disobedience", and many students and faculty felt it was a necessary awakening.

"I am most impressed by our display of concern and by the mature manner in which this demonstration of concern was handled," said senior Phillip Leist. He continued, "Student apathy is



dissipating, and it seems that channels for communication with the administration and the faculty are open wider than any time in the recent past."

Senior Brook Gustafsen supported Mr. Leist by saying, "This is the first time in my four years at St. Andrews that I have seen students unify over an issue we feel strongly about. We must continue to stand up for our rights, like in the responsible manner that has been displayed."

Dean of Students, William Loftus, voiced the administrator's voice

of the event. "I thought it was very positive. Of all the ways to protest, they chose the most constructive one. It is always unfortunate when students break the rules, and I didn't approved of that, but I didn't stop it, though it is within my power to do so; and there appeared to be a very good and mature discussion," he said.

College Pastor Bob Martin agreed. "I have serious questions about the entitlement as "sleep-in". I didn't attend because it was billed as such, and thus inappropriate. However, I have nothing but

positive feelings about the determination to have a forum. It is a tribute to the basic ideals of students - how they reason things out together. I hope for similar forums and pursuits for other issues, such as national selections, peach movements, and community interests, rights, and needs. I am willing to believe the interest is here."

Though invited to address the group, Dean Loftus shared Martin's thoughts on the appropriateness of being at a function that was in violation of the school's laws. "Plus," he added. "I needed to speak to the Student Life committee first. But I felt the meeting would be well run. Anytime people get together for a common concern - that's good and the last thing I want to see is a docile student body. I feel like I wouldn't be doing my job."

Though less than a dozen students actually stayed the night, there was a firm resolution among them. "I've come to show my concern for our rights," said Freshman Sandra Shaw. "I plan to be here for the next four years, and I don't want any vagueness in my rights as a student in the future. I feel the action taken was unjust and we, as students, need to show concern so that nothing like this happens in the future. The administration needs to know our concern for this situation."

Senior B.J. Tipton agreed. "I feel that there is a definite vagueness concerning the action that was taken in the recent case. It is, as I see it, our duty to peacefully protest the course of action which has been taken. After all, these are our rights and we need to understand how the executive power affects them."

## Global Glance

Nicaraguan junta leader Daniel Ortega declared on October 3 in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly that direct U.S. military action in Nicaragua will be "ready to begin" by October 15. Ortega also insisted that the U.S. approve a draft peace treaty formulated by Colombia, Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela, a group known as the Contadora.

Three Soviet cosmonauts finally stepped foot on solid ground again on October 2 after a record 237 days in space. Senator Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) is convinced that the Soviets are working toward a manned mission to Mars. Matsunaga has proposed a cooperative program between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. to strive for a joint manned mission to Mars, but little support has been shown for this proposal.

The European Economic Community (EEC) continues to grapple with financial difficulties. Overspending has forced the EEC to request that its 10 members contribute to a \$750 million rescue package into to prevent the EEC from defaulting on its financial obligations during the remainder of 1984.

Brown University students will be faced with an intriguing question on their Student Council ballot this October 10-11. Approximately 700 students endorsed a petition requesting that the student body vote on whether or not the campus health center will stock cyanide pills so that students might have the option of suicide following a nuclear attack. Reports from the university indicate that some students and faculty are finding the question difficult to swallow.

Complied by Philip Leist

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