

Letters To The Editor

STUDENT GOVERNMENT JOINS NATIONAL STUDENT LOBBY

Letter:

This past November the Student Government Association here at NCSA joined with 45 other schools in twenty-seven states as a charter member of the National Student Lobby. The purpose of this lobby shall be to represent on the national level of government the member student associations of the NSL and to advocate in Congress those positions adopted by the students represented by the NSL.

All NCSA students will be able to vote on national issues here at school. Then this vote will be given to the NSL to determine the lobbying policy. The organization hopes to focus and organize student energies and opinions towards realizing goals determined by the member schools. Already, the organization has increased to 69 schools in thirty-four states in only two months.

-Marilyn McIntyre, Sec.

The following is the Lobby's press release on the coming fight in Congress over the Defense Budget increase:

The first shot has been fired in the battle for the budget priorities of the federal government for fiscal 1973. On December 9, the Department of Defense announced that a \$2-3 billion increase would be requested over last years defense budget.

Spokesmen for the DOD claim that the increase is needed to offset the buildup of Soviet land and submarine missile forces. The proposal is to 1) speed-up the rate at which U.S. minutemen and Poseidon ICBMs are being converted to carry multiple warheads 2) a speed-up in the development of a new submarine missile known as ULMS and 3) development of the B-1 bomber.

Furthermore, the new Pentagon budget will go to Capitol Hill (to be accepted or rejected) in January. This timing is not by chance - in January the U.S. - Soviet strategic arms limitations talks will have reached a crucial state in Vienna. In a fit of Or-

wellian logic, the DOD has claimed that increasing the military budget will give the U.S. a "strong position" at the SALT talks.

Many people, including students, had hoped that with the "winding down" of the Vietnam war money now used for that fiasco could go for badly needed domestic programs. It appears that students and others will be in for a rude shock. Not only will there be no savings from the supposed "end to the war", but there will be an attempt to increase the military budget!

Students from across the country have voted on the National Student Lobby referendum and the results have indicated an overwhelming mandate to cut the military budget. 86 percent of the students who voted on the referendum said they would like to see the military budget reduced. In an attempt to at least halt this proposed \$2-3 billion increase, the NSL has announced a major drive to block the Department of Defense increase for fiscal 1973. The strategy proposed by the NSL

staff is twofold. One, staff members of the lobby in Washington, D.C. will speak with Congressmen and Senators to convince them to vote down the proposed increase. Second, local pressure will be brought upon Congressmen from every state by new student voters.

Since 1946 the military has devoured more than \$1,000,000,000,000 and it is now eating up \$200,000,000 every day. Not only are these funds going to finance the air war in Indochina (130,000 tons of bombs per month) they are financing programs such as the B-1 bomber which will be obsolete by the deployment date (sometime in 1980).

Essentially, America is armed to the teeth and rotting to the core. Our national priorities are weighted on the side of inhumanity and death. There can be no change of priorities, no restoration of health and vitality to the nation, until we reduce the tapeworm - the parasite of wasteful military spending - at

least to manageable proportions. This is why the National Student Lobby has undertaken a campaign to cut military spending.

Bill Mitchell, a staff member of the NSL said recently, "The military budget is armed robbery - we must bring pressure upon Congressmen and Senators to stop the billion dollar increase to an already inflated arms budget. If you would like to see this proposed increase defeated - write and call your Congressman. Also, see that your local newspapers have full knowledge of DOD's proposed increase and encourage them to write an editorial against the budget increase."

Cablevision

Editor

This school has a strange sense of priorities. Recently telephones were installed on every floor in all the college dorms. Yet, still we can barely receive more than one station on those cheap lounges we have in the lounges.

Being an arts school, this situation is ridiculous. It seems ridiculous why not one television on campus can pick up more than WSJS without a lot of interference and static. Even the programs on our own school cannot be seen.

I fail to see why we still do not have cablevision. Cablevision costs \$12 per television to install, and \$5 per month after that. The price for cablevision in all the lounges, including Sanford and Moore dorms would come to \$60 for installation, and \$25 each month. Surely this school can afford that.

I have heard of plans calling for cablevision in the lounges, the main building, the Commons, new televisions, color televisions, all kinds and types of TV abundance. If the school cannot afford all of this at once, why wait until it can do everything? Why not install cablevision in the lounges now. Ten different stations, all in crystal clarity, would be better than our situation of one station plus static any day. And well worth it.

Michael Singleton

Groovy Poll

Recently, I conducted a poll. Being of Polish origin, this task was difficult because of the conflict of interest. But not really caring about petty grievances that some people might have concerning the idea, I decided to ask NCSA students and a few selected teachers whether or not they were groovy.

As you can imagine, this was a very subjective poll. Unlike Neilson's TV or presidential questionnaires, one who is foolish enough to undertake such a task would more than likely receive a variety of answers besides the typical Yes, No, or No Comment. So bear in mind that although it is difficult to imagine the results of this poll printed in any understandable procedure, it is even more difficult to imagine some flipped-out Polak asking you if you are groovy.

THE RESULTS OF THE ARE YOU GROOVY POLL

(Carefully calculated by work-study students

who had nothing better to do)
Yes 75 percent
Maybe, but you'll have to ask my doctor 3 percent
I'm psychedelic 1 percent
Would you repeat the question? 10 percent

F--- off, kid 11 percent
And so, as you can see, this poll proves conclusively that 75 percent of this campus is groovy or something similar. That makes me feel a lot better.

-Keith Pajkowski

Art And The City

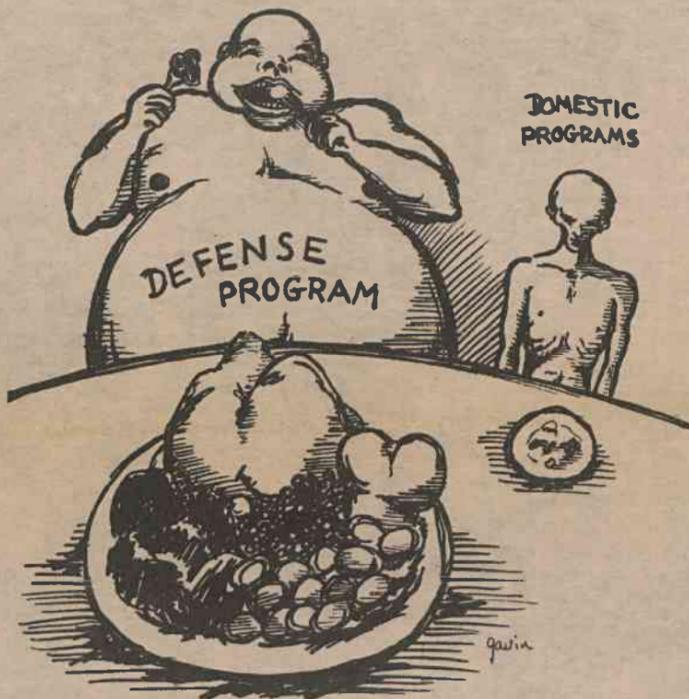
Michelangelo once called art "a jealous thing that requires the whole and entire man." This is fine as long as one's art does not totally isolate him from the outside world. For it is the outside world that decides the importance of one's art. Specifically speaking, we are all here because of some talent, and it is that talent that is our gift to the rest of the world. So here we are situated in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and we tour and perform all around with little thought to the exact area that we live in. . . to its problems and its needs.

Winston-Salem as a whole knows little about the School of the Arts, and yet the school has been here for six years. Why then this lack of communication? The fault is divided between the people of Winston-Salem and ourselves as artists. We should give more to our community as we would the appraisers of our art. For we must keep in mind where this school is homed and the fact that it would not be here now if not for some of Winston-Salem's prominent citizens. This city is now our address, our home, our community for as long as we are at this school. We should be involved. But we aren't. Winston-Salem is more than just a dual-cigaretted named city.

One big way we can help is with the various charitable organizations. They are often in constant need of entertainment and the like. Because of the makeup of their organization they cannot afford live entertainment. Yet right within their own reaches a whole school of talent-talent that would obviously merit from any performance, not to mention the good accomplished both to the charity and our school. The possibilities are vast in a school of our kind; the experience would be important, and the good, unforgettable. Yet it seems we are just too busy.

Art is not selfish, otherwise it would never have existed throughout time. We as artists must learn to step out of our cocoon of crafty self-importance and give our gift of talent to those around us. . . to those who need it. For a better understanding of the arts, it is our duty to take this step and to keep trying. Only after that can the misunderstanding and mystery of the arts and its people be eliminated and a deeper love and appreciation become a vast experience.

-Brad White



BUDGET PRIORITIES

HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN NCSA BACK ON THE FARM?

During my first visit to my hometown I was faced with the frustrating situation of explaining North Carolina School of the Arts to the "outside people". I found with each group I had a different interpretation and for some groups no interpretation at all. Parents, former teachers, other artists, friends and relatives all got a different picture of NCSA according to what I thought they could grasp or understand.

How do you convince a former professor how busy you are when your academic load consists of four semester hours instead of the twenty hours you used to carry? How do you explain to your parents that you're still a freshman after they've spent thousands of dollars on your college "career"? How do you explain to the girl that was once your understudy that you're not prepared or allowed to act in any production at NCSA? How do you convince your brother (The Jock of the year) that NCSA has a gym but no basketball team? How do you explain to your aunt that you don't want to be an actress like Marlo Thomas? How do you convince your sister that after college you don't want to teach Tap at Barbara Jean's School of Dance? How do you tell a High School beau how funny the Homecoming fraternity party was when he lives in a fraternity? How do you convince your father that you don't think John Wayne deserved an Oscar for "True Grit"? How do you cope with an uncle who thinks Nureyev is a Tailback for the Green Bay Packers? How do you tell a high school chum about NCSA's Homecoming Queens when she was elected Miss Eastern? How do you convince your brother (the Jock) that male dancers do not wear "tutu's" and toe shoes? How do you convince some of your old acting buddies that now one of your night spots on campus is a minister-guidance counselor's apartment? How do you impress a relative when their reply is "Marcel who?" How do you appease your father when he thinks he's paying \$2300 for you to learn how to breathe? How do you explain to your neighbors that your acting teacher is competent even though he hasn't been on "Marcus Welby"? How do you convince your mother that free lessons at Merle Norman are not the same as make-up classes at school? How do you explain to radical friends that you've never seen any protestors?

How do you convince your parents that after college you won't be able to find an available acting job in Rocky Mount, North Carolina? How do you explain that NCSA is better than any other art school?

Bev Petty

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