

Features

Argentine filmmaker, the horror of 'the disappeared'

Pat Hayes
Staff Writer

...would hold a gun to my
...tell me they were going
...They tortured my hus-
...with electric shocks."
...did Alicia Partnoy
...her years as a political
...in a concentration camp
...Argentina. She has co-
...a documentary about
...disappeared" political prisoners
...Las Madres: The Mothers
...de Mayo, which was
...in Whitley Auditorium
...Sunday. (The film's other
...producer, Susan Blaustein
...was scheduled to appear
...unable to because of



Photo by Pat Johnson

Alicia Partnoy

...oy, who now resides in
...ngton, D.C., had her
...and poems smuggled out
...and published in human
...journals. She has testified
...human-rights abuses in
...China before the United Na-
...and other international
...organizations.

...film depicts the story of
...disappeared"—some 30,000
...women, and children who
...apprehended by the Argen-

tine military junta, never to be heard from again. The military rulers considered the prisoners to be subversives; they tortured or murdered many of their victims.

New ARA program allows for nutrition

Mike Edwards
Staff Writer

...ing Monday, both McEwen and Harper Center cafeterias will
...participate in a new Nutritional Awareness Program. The program
...is called "Treat Yourself Right."

...program will be supervised by Bill Butler, director of dining
...at Elon College. "The idea behind this program is to make
...students aware of what foods are good for them," Butler said.

...Nutritional Awareness Program is offered in conjunction with
...the American Heart Association. Together they intend to inform
...students of the difference between nutritional foods and junk foods.

...ed in the cafeterias at the beginning of each serving line will
...start describing the amount of carbohydrates, fats, calories and
...nutrients that are in each serving of food. Butler explained that "We
...show what students want to eat. This program simply shows students
...what they are getting."

...Butler said he feels the program is more concerned with lunch and
...but breakfast may be included in the program.

...The school's home office in Philadelphia has designated Elon as one of
...the best locations for the program, Butler said. "This program
...is simple and without a doubt will be highly acceptable," he predicted.

"The target of the government seems to be people 17 to 30 who are idealistic and don't measure the risk (of being against the government)," Partnoy said.

The film also shows the efforts of The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, a group of women whose children have been apprehended. They march every Thursday at the Plaza de Mayo wearing photos of their children demanding to know what has become of them. They want trials for their children who have been accused of crimes and release for those who have not been charged.

Since 1977, the movement has grown to include thousands and is the basis for an international movement demanding the release of political prisoners.

Individual mothers told their stories in the film. These mothers told of how their children tried to bring about social change and

help the underprivileged in Argentina. Former government officials, such as ex-Buenos Aires Chief of Police General Camps (now imprisoned), have claimed that the Mothers and children are Marxist subversives.

Partnoy was 21 when she was apprehended. During three years she was held captive, she was blindfolded, beaten and could not speak to others. Her captors subjected her to mock executions.

"Little things in life, and the feeling that we were right in opposing the government, kept us going," she said.

In the late 1970s President Jimmy Carter's human rights policy put pressure on the Argentine government, and some people were allowed to come to the United States. "U.S. policy did make a big difference in what happened to me and others. The people in the U.S. have a right to

influence international policy. You have the power to help us," she said.

Partnoy's testimony was quoted in the final report of the Argentine Commission for the Investigation of Disappearance and helped to bring about the recent convictions of four junta generals in Buenos Aires.

"I owe my life to the fight of these Mothers," said Partnoy. Her film about them was nominated for an Oscar for Best Documentary of 1985. It was sponsored by the Elon College chaplain's office and religion department.

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