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Richard L. Rubenstein

Rubenstein: 'This life is all there is'

A few years ago Jewish theologian Dr. Richard Rubenstein and his wife attended the Paris Opera to hear Igor Stravinsky's "Rites of Spring." Mrs. Rubenstein said that when it was first played, no one understood the strange music. There were riots in the aisles after the performance. Fifty years later, Stravinsky became a hero, Mrs. Rubenstein said.

"Now she wasn't predicting that I'll be a hero," said Rubenstein, "but she was saying that I mustn't expect people to take in what I'm saying too quickly."

And what the man is saying is:

"This life is all there is. We mustn't have the illusion that there's more than the living and the sharing. That's enough for me. It's not enough for everybody."

"I find that I'm the kind of person who must mean what he says,"

Rubenstein said.

His book, "After Auschwitz," is "not a happy book," he said. But that's one reason he is happy himself. He has no illusions about his religion, he said.

"At all costs I want to mean what I say." The intense brown eyes emphasized what he said. "Having lived in the Western world of the 20th Century and having been old enough to experience some of World War II, Korea and Vietnam, I've seen enough of humanity's hopes and enthusiasms smashed rather cruelly."

He holds that there is no way a Jew can believe in the God of History's purposeful wrath. After the death camps of Germany, the Jewish person has proof that there is not a God of History, he said.

Rubenstein, 49-year-old professor of religion at Florida State University, was at UNC as Carolina Forum guest speaker.

Rather short and muscular with a shock of striking black hair with graying temples, he says he is deeply committed to his school.

He thinks the South can understand his philosophy better than the North because "there is a tragic note in the South which the North has never experienced." He became nationally known after his speeches at a theology conference at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga.

"The middle of the '60's was a very optimistic time," Rubenstein said. But that is the time when his tragic realism philosophy took book form with "After Auschwitz."

Why would someone born of American-born parents, tucked safely in Cincinnati during World War II, become so involved in the issue of the Jewish death camps in Germany?

"Perhaps it was because of the

distance from the thing," he said. "My children are very aware that their mother was the age of Anne Frank when she was killed. They think it's a miracle that she was alive, and that, consequently, they were ever born."

"I was forced to ask 'what does this mean?' in terms of the historic Jewish faith and 'what does all this mean?' in terms of modern man?"

He is sad that he cannot say to sorrowful Jewish people that they can bind up wounds in the light of religion but "the historical framework just does not make sense anymore."

"It's fair to say that I have been more completely rejected by my own community than any other religious figure in modern times," Rubenstein said.

Still an ordained rabbi, Rubenstein said he is not a political radical. Rather, he is a religious radical.

A long time ago, somebody tried to

persuade young Rubenstein to change his name. A less Jewish-sounding name would make him more successful, others said.

But even though he wasn't brought up in a traditionally Jewish home, the suggestion of falsifying himself and pretending he wasn't Jewish was the point at which he delved deeply into Jewish life by becoming a rabbi.

The stand he made as a young boy still holds:

"I just want to be who I am," Rubenstein said. "I don't need some special myth that God looks favorably on me and not favorably on others. And that's what got me into trouble when I saw things not adding up right."

The trouble that started when he plunged into the Jewish community and saw that it could no longer stand deep inspection has not ceased.

Rubenstein sticks by what he says.

Fall dorm sign-up set on April 3

by Linda Livengood
Staff Writer

Initial action for the fall room sign-up procedure will take place from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 3 in rooms 213 and 215 of the Student Union.

A \$25 deposit is required of all students who reserve a room. The deposit is refundable until July 1.

A lottery will begin on Tuesday and will continue through Thursday for those students interested in changing dorms. The numbers, selected at random, will be used later to determine the order in which students who are changing dorms will be assigned rooms.

According to Robert Kepner, director of Residence Life, "By holding the lottery early, the students who want to change dorms will know their chances of getting into the dorm they want."

In order to participate in the lottery, students must pay a \$25 deposit. They must have their housing cards with them when they select a number.

A schedule of dorms will be announced today to determine the order of selection of lottery numbers. Dorm order will be selected randomly. "Because the lottery numbers are randomly distributed, the order of the appearance of the student doesn't affect a person's chance for a good number," stated Kepner.

On Wednesday, April 4, preference sheets will be distributed in the residence halls. These will give the dorm resident the opportunity to voice his preference of remaining in the same room, changing rooms within the dorm or changing dorms. Kepner has emphasized that the preference sheets are not binding.

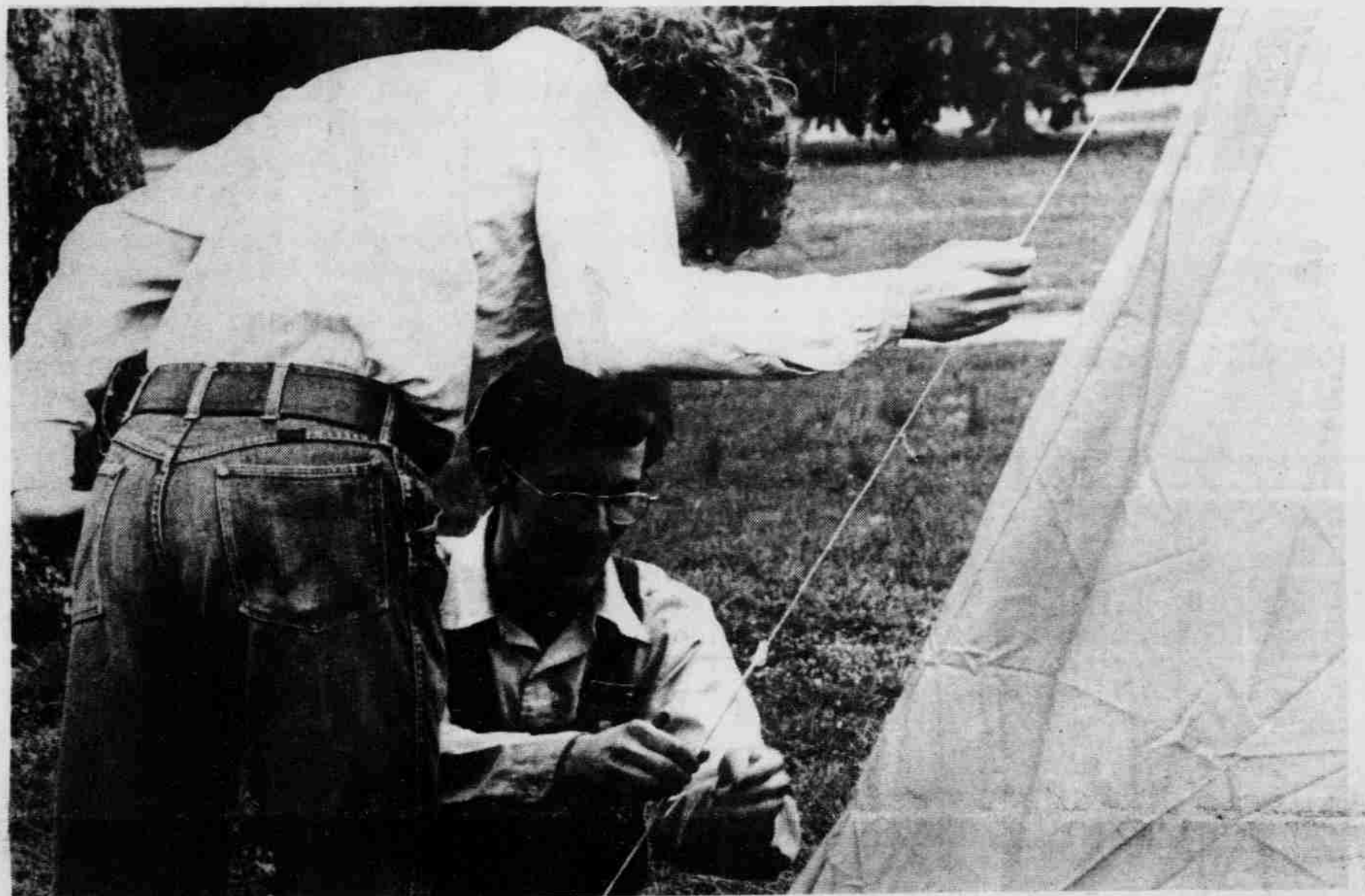
The preference sheets must be returned to members of the residence hall staff by Sunday, April 8.

On Wednesday, April 11, those students who live in University housing and desire to retain their same room for next year will sign up within the residence halls. This phase of the sign-up process will continue until Friday, April 13.

Those students who want to remain in the same building, but would like to change rooms, can sign up Monday and Tuesday, April 16 and 17 in their residence halls.

Students who want to change dorms can go to the University housing office in Bynum Hall Wednesday through Friday, April 25-27. At this time the lottery numbers chosen earlier will be used to determine the order of sign-up for the students desiring to change buildings.

Students who are not presently living in University housing can reserve a room for the fall semester on April 30.



New canvas at Old West

With room rent on the rise, Leslie Wickham and Steve Evans appear to be preparing for another alternative to campus housing with the pitching of a tent near McCorkle Place

Thursday. Actually, they were just checking their tent before a weekend of camping.

(Staff photo by Tom Lassiter)

Court test of legality possible

WCU faculty seeks AFT aid

by William March
Staff Writer

A group of faculty members at Western Carolina University are forming a local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), a teacher's union affiliated with the AFL-CIO.

The group's temporary chairman, Allen Grant of the WCU English Department, predicts that they will have the 20 per cent of the teaching faculty needed to become charter members of the local "within a day or two," and that the group will probably test in the courts North Carolina's laws against collective bargaining by public employees.

The AFT has required that about 20 per cent of those engaged in teaching at the University, or about 60 people, become charter members before it will sanction a local. The actual number in the group now is being kept secret because of a union rule, but Grant labeled reports that about 35 people have joined the group so far as "conservative."

If successful, the group will become the first teachers' union to be established at any four-year school in North Carolina.

The move began after a speech by AFT organizer Howard Husey on the WCU campus Wednesday night, attended by about 50 to 60 faculty members.

Wilbur Hobby, N.C. AFL-CIO chairman, currently has legislation before the General Assembly to revise North Carolina statutes against unionization by public employees.

"We are not entirely happy with this legislation," said Grant, "because, for one thing, we feel we should get the right to strike. But we do not ask a union shop." Grant said he thought the group would probably go to court and challenge the North Carolina law, which is in conflict with federal regulations.

Andrew Baggs, president of the WCU chapter of the American Association of University Professors, predicted two days ago that "there will be plenty of support for AFT to come here." Baggs said he would prefer that the faculty use the AAUP as its collective bargaining mechanism, however.

"I see no philosophical conflicts between the two groups," said Grant. "I am president-elect of the AAUP here, and there is every likelihood that Professor Baggs will join our group. We chose AFT because the AFL-CIO has national power and prestige, and can offer a local many advantages, such as strike support."

The move to unionization is in response to problems of governance of the University by the administration of Chancellor Jack Carlton. The action

comes in the wake of recent flare-ups of faculty discontent over the administration's proposed method for choosing a committee to name a new dean for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the College almost unanimously rejected a proposal made by J. Stuart Wilson, vice-chancellor for academic affairs at WCU for choosing this committee.

"From the point of view of the General Administration, Wilson's actions in this matter are completely within his authority," said UNC President William Friday.

Wilson's proposal would allow the college members to elect from among themselves six of the 11 members of the committee. Wilson himself would appoint two more college members, two students and a person from outside the college.

Fair Kedos celebrates caring for one another

by Ken Allen
and Carol Wilson

Fair Kedos. It's digging holes and planting trees. It's arranging for 'dempsy' dumpsters and setting up newspaper recycling depots. It's street fairs and auctions, dances and parties. But most of all, it's caring. About yourself. About your neighbors. And about the interaction of the two to form a community.

Fair Kedos is the natural outgrowth of last year's Apple Chill Fair, according to Carroll Kyser and Daryl Powell, two of the many people that are working with the Chapel Hill Recreation Department on this venture.

Last year's Apple Chill Fair, a week-long celebration of life, made people aware of the diversity of life in Chapel Hill. It brought townspeople together with the students, the professional people together with the merchants.

This year, as Harper Peterson, teen coordinator for the Recreation Department, was getting ideas about Apple Chill, the idea for a month-long fair with ecological overtones evolved.

"So they gave it the name 'Kedos,' which is Greek for caring, and set it for April.

The festivities start Sunday, with the April Fool's Sports Festival.

A marathon volleyball game, jogging tours set up by Boyd Newman of the Physical Education Department, a bike rally and frisbee games are some of the activities planned for Sunday between 1 p.m. and dark.

In addition to these athletic endeavors, the Black Arts Cultural Center will be selling crafts, ECOS will be handing out information, and people from Fair Kedos

The newly approved by-laws also provide for one voting member on the Publications Board from The Daily Tar Heel and one non-voting member from each of the other publications and WCAR.

The Pub Board will also include two faculty members, each without a vote.

In other actions, the CGC approved the proposed Student Consumer Action Union (SCAU) budget for the remainder of this fiscal year. The budget includes an appropriation to employ three persons to research consumer issues this summer.

Action was postponed on the proposed Student Government budget for 1973-74. The council will consider the budget at its next session.

A resolution wishing success and offering assistance to Henderson Residence College for its proposed living-learning center was passed by the CGC.

Student Body Treasurer Wayne Thomas told the council that 15 electronic pocket calculators have been purchased at a cost of nearly \$2,000. The calculators will be made available to students.

President Ford Runge nominated Steve Jones as the new treasurer of the student body and Micky Wilson as assistant treasurer.

Weather

TODAY: Partly cloudy with an expected high in the mid 60s. The low tonight is expected in the 40s. There is thirty per cent chance of precipitation.

Faculty probes Female role

by Cherin Chewing
Staff Writer

The Faculty Council will discuss the Faculty Report on the Role and Status of Women in the University at 4 p.m. this afternoon in Hamilton Hall.

The report was to be discussed March 23 by the council, but was tabled due to lack of time. It will be the only item on today's agenda.

The report said discrepancies exist between men and women in University

hiring, promotion, tenure and salaries.

It also made several recommendations for reconciling the discrepancies, including immediate establishment of a standing committee on the status of women, active recruitment of women by individual departments and preparation of an action program to employ and compensate women on an equal basis with men.

University Women for Affirmative Action (UWAA) will present a statement to the faculty voicing its support of the

study and making some additional recommendations.

UWAA recommends that the Chancellor send written notice of the end of all discriminatory practices to all departments within three months, that a woman be appointed head of the action program and that the standing committee be at least 50 percent women.

The Faculty Committee on the Role and Status of Women was formed after the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) found that the University

did not meet national standards on hiring and employment of women.

HEW ordered the University to present a plan of affirmative action by April 1973.

In 1970, the National Organization for Women (NOW) and the Women's Equity Action League brought suit against the University charging discrimination against women.

The Faculty Committee on the Status of Women began work on its report in December 1972.