# THE ARENA

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 11, 1969

VOL V NO ?

## Prof. Blasts SES Report

The Study of Education at Stanford, which is currently being considered by the Academic Senate and the Student Education Council, has been the subejct of much one-sided commentary. Few of those who have spoken out on the SES report have dealt with the study as a whole. One critic of SES, Professor Leo Weinstein of the French Department, shocked the Academic Senate last month by labeling the study reactionary and condemning it for having "no philosophy of undergraduate education". In the interest of providing a greater diversity of views on this critical educational issue, a member of The Arena staff conducted the following interview with Professor Weinstein on April 8:

#### Q: What do you object to about SES II?

A: I feel that it is propagandistic and preconceived. I call it a propaganda pamphlet. It starts out with a preconception which is delicately syntactical: to them the word "requirement" is dirty. It takes the unilateral view that curriculum requirements should be abolished except for token ones.

You cannot talk about undergraduate education until you have considered the admissions process. By formulating undergraduate requirements before admission requirements, SES was making out curriculum for unknown students — who might as well have come from the moon!

As a consequence, we are always talking in a vacuum. Stanford has done away with admission requirements as we used to know them. We must speak in terms of necessities and preparations. If we had a firm admissions policy, all this propagandistic emotionalism would dissolve.

#### Q: What changes would you like to see made in admissions policy?

A: I do not find a correlation between the Admissions Report and undergraduate education. SES should begin with admissions and build curriculum accordingly. The system should impose strong requirements — with exceptions.

One of the more important considerations would be achievement tests. Each candidate for admission would take five achievement tests, only the best three being counted.

I also propose that 10% of the sutdents should be admitted on the strength of one outstanding requirement or ability. We do want flexibility.

But I do say, as a general policy, that there must be a correlation between the high school preparation we expect and the undergraduate education we provide.

#### Q: What other criticisms would you make of SES?

A: There is an enormous discrepancy between highblown SES goals and the lack of concern for proper preparation and competence. It proposes creativeness without concern for the acquisition of a craft. It proposes interdisciplinary studies without concern for the acquisition of a solid knowledge of history. I would call it, in short, "How to Succeed in College Without Really Trying".

SES is a panicky attempt to pacify violent change. It was not conceived as a long-range problem. Everything is done to railroad it thorugh the Senate and Academic Council.

#### O: Would you call SES "reactionary?"

A: It is because it applies to the University the kind of "progressive education" which has failed so lamentably in the past. The present admission proposals will reduce the teaching of basic or solid subjects in the high schools. We will return to "progressive education" where college students were not prepared.

We can upgrade our students by making our admission requirements stronger. We must insist that students concentrate on competence.

#### Q: What effect will SES have on students?

A: If this report is accepted, voted on favorably, and instituted, it will cheapen the Stanford diploma. It will also do a serious disservice to the vast majority of students who will be going on to graduate school. If the present proposals are carried into effect, a candidate will be required to take no more than two quarters of history, no language or math, and little

Continued on page 4.



SDS IS REVOLTING

# Stop Feeling, Start Thinking

by Rich Nelson

I was supposed to write about dogs on campus, but it's not worth the time, especially when so much else could be said. People are dying, hungry, alone within the shell of themselves, and yet the life game goes on. We all know there are starving Biafrans, homeless Vietnamese, oppressed blacks, and pollutants filling the air. Yet despite this concession to "reality", life hasn't much changed for most of us. We say "yes, that's true" with our heads, and act "so what?" with our lives.

I wish all men could see through each others eyes, if only for one moment. We've been through much together. In a bizarre way, we've been closened by the horror of the war in Vietnam, and the vulgarity of mass communications, primarily television. Like previous generations we've got a togetherness, but ours seems so much more promising, if only because we've got more money and education. We've been in school all our lives, and I find myself wondering "for what?".

Lately what I see around Stanford saddens me in

#### Decency

And maybe Arlo Guthrie wrote more than a song. Yet right here, right in the Stanford community exists the possibility for Rennaissance. For new birth. And I mean more than singing Alice's Restaurant or staging a Rally for Decency. More than wearing a blue button or a black armband. I mean you and I coming to life. It's about time we began to think. Thinking is not easy. So many of us can float through our lives, never stopping to ask ourselves what we're doing. Frankly,

before I came to college I never thought at all. I'm not proud to say that, yet I've never been unintelligent.

It's not easy to put into words exactly what I want to say, but you know the garbage that's been piled upon us for the past 20 years. You know the schools that miseducate, you know the advertizing that sells the unnecessary, you know the blatant rape of the earth by business and government. Yet what have you done to make things better? What have you done for peace between men? What have you contributed to beauty? I know I haven't done much, and I'm ashamed. Ashamed of myself and you.

Why don't you spend today, yes spend it like you spend money, as an investment in yourself and others. Take time to sit down, to walk through the grass in bare feet, to feel the sun, to play with the dogs I was to write about originally, to smile at someone and mean it, to laugh with yourself, and to think. Ask yourself who you really are. What you care about. What's real. How can you make things better. Ask yourself the questions you've always repressed inside. Today might be a good day, just because of you.

### Cory for President

Now that the winter of our wet discontent has passed, the annual race for the ASSU Presidency has begun to pick up momentum. Next Tuesday and Wednesday thousands of Stanford students will trudge to the polls to select a successor to our own version of Hubert Humphrey, Denis Hayes. Predictably, the prospect of being President of the Stanford student body has attracted a curious variety of potential office holders. Many of the Presidential aspirants have devised gimmicks to attract the attention and interest of otherwise apathetic students. One group has carried collectivist thinking to its logical extension by running 31 people on one slate while another one has made a rather blatant appeal to dope fiends by having the name of their ticket correspond to that of a well known drug.

Sadly, the serious, concerned candidates are often obscured by those who are out to expand their own egos and have a good time doing it. Individuals such as Jim Schneider and John Spiegel have attempted to offer thoughtful position papers on what needs to be done with student government, but, on the whole, the campaign thus far is reminiscent of previous years when candidates simply went thru the expected process of mouthing platitudes and deploring the general state of the ASSU.

In the opinion of the editorial staff of The Arena, only one candidate, Bob Cory, has really demonstrated a practical and well reasoned approach to the problems which confront the Stanford community at this time. As a member of the Committee of Fifteen and as a representative in the student legislature, Cory has proven himself to be flexible and responsive to different points of view. His support for an urban studies department here at Stanford, his position in favor of giving academic credit for participation in community programs and his proposal for reallocating student body funds to provide for the expression of divergent opinion on campus reflect his fundamental belief in pluralism and the responsible use of student power.

Although Cory is not a member of the Community of the Right, his liberal political views on certain issues are complemented by the more moderate stance of his running mate Eckhard Schulz, a member of the Student Education Council as well as the Committee of Fifteen and LASSU. Both Cory and Schulz have made it abundantly clear that they oppose the use of violence as a means for change. The *Arena* urges those students who are deeply concerned with recent trends in student government to give serious consideration to the proposals which Bob Cory has made and to vote for him next Tuesday or Wednesday.

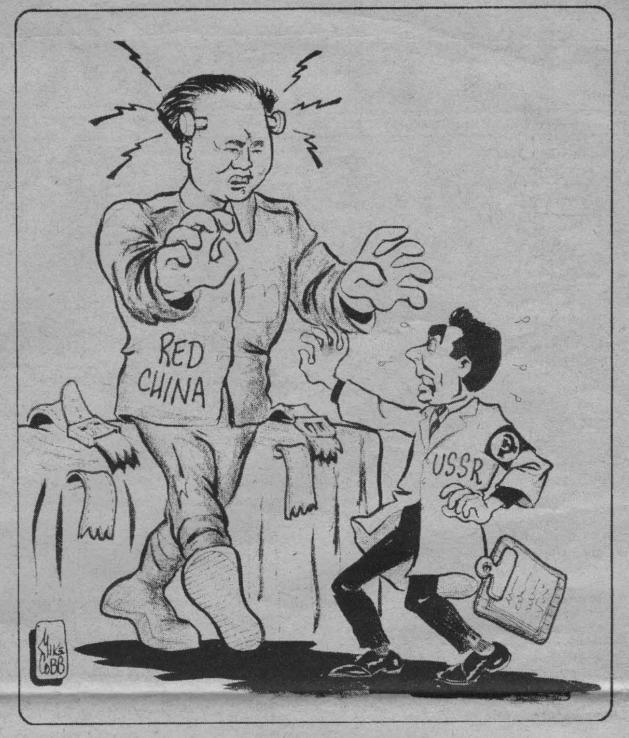
### Award

This week's award for responsible journalism goes to Mr. Frank Miller of The Stanford *Daily* for his April 4 article entitled, "Faculty Vote on ROTC". In the course of reporting on the background to the Academic Council's deliberations concerning ROTC, Mr. Miller strongly implies that a group of older faculty members are the only ones who favor retention of the ROTC program on campus. Last month, the Stanford student body, by a vote of 2106 to 1397, supported maintaining academic credit for part of the ROTC curriculm. That fact was not mentioned anywhere in Mr. Miller's article. Nice going, Frank.

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### Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Reading The Arena often gives me a warm glow because the kind of Conservatism it promulgates sounds so very appealing. The editors are opposed to violence and demagogery, and believe in freedom, civilized behavior, and even in civil rights. As a liberal I find it comforting to think that those on the other side aren't so bad after all. But then I remember what conservatives do when they leave off theorizing and get a chance to practice what they believe. Unfortunately the gap between the abstract and the concrete is a wide one. So I'm hoping that someday The Arena will deal with specifics and explain why, when it comes to action, conservatives: vote against appropriations for rat control and elementary schools; favor restrictions on aid to dependent children but vote for subsidies and tax benefits for the rich. claim that hunger isn't a problem in the United States, vote to cut domestic expenditures but approve billions for technological gimmicks devised by the Pentagon, and cry "harassment!" when a government administrator tries to enforce the fair hiring provisions of federal contracts. These are only a few random examples of conservative behavior but they are enough, I think, to illustrate the essential difference between conservatives and liberals. When it comes to specifics rather than vengeance in approaching human problems, and would rather relieve human misery than guard - at any cost - the special privileges of a lucky and powerful

As a starter, why doesn't The Arena consider some of the pressing problems facing the United States to-day, and explain to the rest of us how a rational, civilized, non-violent conservative would attempt to solve them?

Hopefully, Rachelle Marshall To the Editor:

The Stanford campus desparately needs a responsible alternative to the Stanford *Daily*. Though I generally approve with your outlook, I have two suggestions that could improve your paper.

My first suggestion is to improve your headlines. Your paper suffers, as does the S.F. Chronicle, by the use of sensational and over-emotional headlines.

Second, I believe your paper could be greatly improved if "Spectator" would quit writing garbage or if his article would simply be replaced.

If these suggestions are followed, perhaps more people would then care enough to comment upon or contribute to a more responsible paper.

Rob Tvedt

### THE ARENA

AIRES: Martin Taylor; TAURUS: Bill Randolph; GEMINI: Harvey H. Hukari, Jr., Susan Hudgens, Mark Venezia; CANCER: Leon Eymil; LEO: Mike Hirsch; VIRGO: Anne Castle, Bruce Borgerson; LIBRA: Craig Ostfeld; SAGITTARIUS: Spectator; CAPRICORN: Katy Lewis; AQUARIUS: Bob Tvedt, Leo; SCORPIO: Rich Grey; PISCES: Mike Cobb, Joe Frawley, Rich Nelson.

The Arena is published weekly at Stanford University. All correspondence should be directed to Box 3678, Stanford, California, 94305. All contributions are considered: letters to the editor, short features, articles, and any graphic work. Letters and articles should be typed and double-spaced.

#### PRETTY POISON

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Sue Ann - of the Pepsi-cola (filled with arsenic) generation - is bubbly, sweet, 17 - "going on 18",, youthfulness of its young characters (as was the case pretty - a Lolita face and figure, leader of the high school drum and bugle corps, and honor roll student. She wonders, at the end of Pretty Poison, how she could have gotten mixed up - albeit, innocently, with a convicted arsonist.

The arsonist, on parole, meets Sue Ann when he first spots her leading the drum and bugle corps and then runs into her at a hot dog stand. Dennis, handsomely played by Anthony Perkins, was institutionalized at age 15, in a mental hospital, for burning his aunt's house, while his aunt was in it. He recalls, at one point, that the fire was unintentional, and he feels true remorse for his aunt's death and hadn't known that she was in the house - yet, because of his conviction, he is forced to hide his past (when his boss, where he works at the chemical plant, finds out about his record from Dennis' probation officer, he is fired.)

He also conceals the truth from Sue Ann as he courts her by creating a fantastic scheme that he is a CIA agent and is stationed in the town to prevent an unknown group from poisoning the waterways. Sue Ann, bored and tired of being controlled by her bitchy mother, is intrigued and fascinated by his supposed

The two embark on a series of adventures as ally agents. The games are innocent at first; Sue Ann thinks that her mother's boyfriend might be "subversive", so Dennis takes pictures of him with a minituarized camera. Dennis convinces Sue Ann that his probation officer uses his role as a cover-up and is actually another agent.

Dennis is intelligent; he knows that someone like Sue Ann would have nothing to do with him, if she were to know the truth. But Dennis is more human more moral in his feelings for others - he falls in love harder than she - and is used, skillfully, by Sue Ann for her own purposes.

The charm of Pretty Poison lies in the clumsy with Bonnie and Clyde). Its impact is that as we are being charmed and mostly amused by Sue Ann, she turns the CIA game into a murderous plot.

Many times I walk out of a movie with my nose pushed in by all the "messages", the "symbols". Pretty Poison (playing at the Stanford Theater, Palo Alto) first of all entertains, but one walks out of this movie and for hours mulls over the characters of Sue Ann and Dennis, trying to piece together the reasons why each did what he did (not that the movie fails here - on the contrary, like any fine dramatic mystery, it implicates rather than explicates).



Pretty Poison, directed by Noel Black, achieves its unsettling quality with the aid of quick but smooth pacing of the scenes and from the excellent camera work. The quick, split-second flashbacks - in Dennis' mind when he visualizes the burning house everytime he hears his probation officer's name - are very effective because of their brevity and subtlety.

Anthony Perkins is excellent in this role. Although he is usually hypersensitive in his films, he turns out a mature performance here; Tuesday Weld, as Sue Ann, picks up on her old part as the bitchy high school campus queen on the Dobie Gillis television series and she doesn't look a day older than she looked then and she's just as disgusting and hilarious with her nymphet-like ploys and charms.

Susan Hudgens

### GERMAN RADICALS

The West German radical student movement "has started to face the problem" of hanging onto recruits once they pass 25 or 30 years of age.

The German youth, reports Prof. Iring Fetscher of Goethe University in Frankfurt, are trying "to develop strategies by which the bourgeoisification of radical students and their integration into society can be prevented."

Dr. Fetscher, in this country as Visiting Professor at New York's New School for Social Research, spoke to an audience of about 60 students and faculty Tuesday afternoon in the Lou Henry Hoover Building. His talk was co-sponsored by the Hoover Institution and the Goethe Institute of San Francisco.

Because the German student movement "is not ideologically linked up with an irrational worship of youth as such", said Fetscher in his prepared text, it could be transformed "into a movement which is united with adults who share its ideals and participate in its activities"

But one serious obstacle to this kind of link across generations, noted the speaker, is "the lack of humor and self-criticism, the sometimes blind refusal" by students" of any counsel emanating from the older generation".

This "conviction of infallibility" among the youth, as Fetscher put it, "is in contradiction with both democratic and even anarchistic theories and with the generous moral ideals shared by many student leaders.

"It can psychologically be understood, but it is a reproduction of the authoritarian character which the students wish so ardently to overcome."

The speaker suggested that "in the U.S. the combination of student revolts and Negro movements is likely to exert a much greater pressure" - at least politically - "than the youth movement in Germany, which until now seems to be rather isolated'

Fetscher saw more hope of French and German student influence in what he called the "cultural" sphere, and suggested that in this regard, for European activist youth, the work of Italian writer-activist Antonio Gramsci, dating back some three decades, was seminal.

"It seems to be quite clear," the speaker explained, "that in the developed capitalist countries the impact of the state and the cultural superstructure is much greater than it used to be at an earlier stage of evolution, when Marx wrote Capital".

German and French radical students, Fetscher maintains, adhere neither to the essentially Soviet faith in the industrial proletariat nor to the Chinese faith in the "peasant masses". Instead, they agree that university and high school students "have to play a much more important role than in the past".

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### No Knee-Jerk Moderates

by Leon Harris

The charge is often made by liberals that moderates and conservatives care more about profits than human happiness and are unresponsive to pressing social problems. The moderate is made to seem as somebody who does not care about people.

Much of this rhetoric comes from the knee-jerk liberal who is infinitely more interested in feeling than thinking, and who, in the process, often ends up doing more harm than good. The most obvious example of the liberal whose good intentions far outstripped his accomplishments is Lyndon Johnson.

There is no doubt that LBJ, with his Great Society at home and in Southeast Asia, viewed himself as the great ameliorator of suffering of the 1960's. His legacy is all too evident: a grossly mismanaged war which reflects his poor understanding of the problems of Southeast Asia; a series of economic measures in the War on Poverty which the Government Accounting Office has declared eminently unsuccessful; and a degree of racial tension, due in large part to liberal promises that could never be fulfilled, probably unequalled in American history. So the liberal or radical who wants to "feel more and think less" might well pay heed to the era of LBJ.

Campus opinion notwithstanding, the moderate is

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no less aware of social problems than the liberal. For one thing, the moderate is more likely to take a balanced view of the role of business and technology in the development of American society, and he realizes that the same forces behind America's tremendous economic success - youth-orientation, future-orientation, economic self-interest, desire to conquer our natural environment - are also the causes of our greatest social problems.

For another thing, the moderate, less given to cause-mongering than the liberal, is more likely to see that the totality of society - its structure and its various life styles - is more important in the long run than particular problems that come and go - Mississippi one year, Appalachia the next, the ghettos the next, and the Santa Barbara beaches the next.

Probably the basic difference in approaching social problems between the moderate and the liberal is that the moderate believes in minimizing concentration of power, while the liberal has traditionally wanted to throw all power to whatever particular institution he feels can solve the problems of the moment. In the long run, the moderates' positon has proven wiser.

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### A Potpourri of Rock

Bantam books has issued a slick little paperback edited by Richard Goldstein called "The Poetry of Rock". It's fortunate that somebody finally recognized the poetic merits of today's music, but I am disappointed by Goldstein's editorial job. Out of seventy-odd lyrics (printed in full), he catches those songs of obvious importance: "Suzanne" by Leonard Cohen, "The End" by The Doors, Phil Och's powerful "The Crucifixion", and The Incredible String Band's evocative "Koeeoaddi There", probably the finest work in the book by conventional standards. But Goldstein also included songs by The Who and The Troggs, along with early ditties like "Who Put The Bomp" - important songs in rock history, but hardly poetry outside their musical context. In their place, Goldstein should have included Country Joe's "Porpoise Mouth", Dino Valente's "Get Together", and Dylan's "Just Like A Woman" - perhaps his most sinful omission. Nevertheless, the book is worth owning, but I wish Goldstein had consulted me before he sent the book to the printer.

On the top of a heap of new record releases I would put "Happy Trails" by The Quicksilver Messenger Service. A whole side of this LP is an extended development of Bo Diddley's classic question, "Who Do You Love?". Excellent work throughout,

Under Quicksilver we find "Let Us Go Into The House of The Lord" by the Northern California State

Youth Choir of the Church of God and Christ. The disc, recorded in Oakland, was picked up by KSAN and now the lead cut, "Oh, Happy Days" is being aired on KYA. When you hear these people sing gospel, you know where soul music came from.

Next in the stack we find "Elephant Mountain" b



the Youngbloods, a Bay Area group which, for son strange reason, has never made it big nationally. Their material is consistently imaginative, their performances a lyrical pleasure, and Jesse Colin Young's vocals on cuts like "Darkness, Darkness" are superior.

Under the mountain lies "A Salty Dog", Procol Harum's third release, and again this unique English group fails to recapture the powerful magic of their first LP. Nevertheless I admire Procol for their ori-

ginality and audacity. I've never heard anybody else try to do a Procol Harum song — nobody else could do it.

Steppenwolf serves up more heavy synchopation and growling vocals in "At Your Birthday Party". It's got a good beat and I guess you can dance to it.

Garbage collectors, please note what we find at the bottom of the stack — Blue Cheer's third album. It hasn't been released yet, and judging from the tapes previewed on KSAN, they really shouldn't bother.

#### Here, There and Everywhere

I sat 10 feet from drummer Buddy Miles during his second set last week at the Fillmore. It was an awesome experience, and describing Buddy as a fusion of Otis Redding and Ginger Baker would almost do him injustice . . . KPFA is now broadcasting the Sunday night Avalon show live . . . Jim Morrison of The Doors surrendured to the FBI and was then released on \$5,000 bond after charges stemming from a Miami show where he allegedly "let it all hang out".

Janis Joplin's psychedelic Porsche was stolen from the Winterland Garage during her last performance, but was later found in an Oakland Safeway parking lot. Ralph J. Gleason (Chronicle rock-jazz critic) opines that Janis should return to Big Brother, and judging from her appearance on Ed Sullivan, I would concur...

Bruce Borgerson

### Moderates...

Continued from page 3

For years moderates urged that private charitable organizations and state and local governments should play the dominant role in health, education, and welfare, while liberals clung to FDR's vision of an omniscient, omnipotent government in Washington. However, in the ferment of recent years, "community action" and "participatory democracy" are coming into vogue. Along with these phrases has come increased interest in returning tax revenue collected by the federal government to the states and revenue collected by the states to the localities.

This highly salutary development, which liberals are now grabbing onto and trying to call their own creation, would not have occurred had not the moderate and conservative interest in decentralization been patiently articulated during the decades when the New Deal mentality dominated the academic and government worlds.

#### Value of Work

There is a second major area in which mdoerate thinking for many years has had to swim upstream against liberal prejudices but has eventually proven itself to be correct. This is the matter of attitudes towards work and welfare. In the period roughly 1933 - 1965, liberals consistently pooh-poohed the moderate and conservative position that paying enormous benefits for unemployment, Aid to Dependent Children, and related problems was doing nothing to correct the basic problem of long-term unemployment. Again and again we heard, "conservatives and moderates just don't care".

But time has shown otherwise. The current revolt in the ghettos, the remarkable success of the National Businessmen's Alliance, and the thinking of leading liberals like Daniel Moynihan are all proof of the fact that the FDR approach to long-term unemployment was a failure. The moderate position that society should not reward laziness and that basic cultural values, rather than superficial economic symptoms, should be attacked has been vindicated, and most open-minded liberals would admit this fact.

The moderate does not distinguish himself in abstract theory about poverty and social problems. Nor is he given to knee-jerk responses to every new social problem revealed by Huntley-Brinkley. But in the long run his mixture of wisdom and compassion for human needs has proven, and probably will continue to prove, of substantially greater use to society than the wide and precipitous swings between theory and emotion that characterize the average campus liberal of today.

### Reactionary SES...

Continued from page 1

English. Graduate schools will recommend that these candidates not be admitted.

We have gotten to the top in graduate admissions; now we have to think of how we are going to stay there. Every application for graduate study is strongly judged on the reputation of the school.

I have no objections to non-majors as long as they are willing to sign a statement that they absolve the University of responsibility for helping them find a job and make a living.

#### Q: Why have we heard so little negative response to SES?

A: SES has done a pretty slick propaganda job. This report was leaked out to the *DAILY* long before the faculty received a copy of it. It was accompanied by positive praises. It was impossible for quite a while to even criticize it.

The proponents of SES have had a tremendous advantage. The *DAILY* is behind it. Every important Stanford official backed it. The Assistant Undergraduate Dean of Humanities and Sciences is floor manager for it.

Everybody is acting in anticipation of SES passing and the faculty is acting as if it had laready been passed.

It is impossible here at Stanford to take a stand and defend it for very long. As faculty, we are more concerned with our subjects. If we become "personalities" on campus, we are exposed to bias, villification, and being called names if you are not mouthing the popular slogans. You can get yourself into quite

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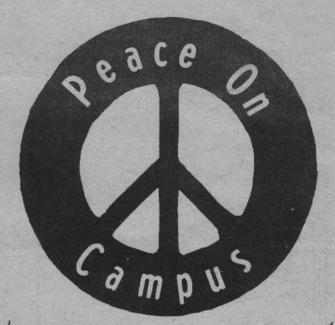
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There is no more freedom of discussion at this university. The moment you take a stand you are being qualified by a name. You are either a liberal, a conservative, or a radical. No one is concerned whether or not you have a point.

I am not a curriculum specialist or a legislator, but I do know what basic requirements should be made for students at this university. The words "competence" and "requirements" are not dirty words. They are important words.



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