

new indicator

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Academic Senate passes new ruling

UCSD Students Face Tough New Regulation

The Academic Senate, last November, established a new policy which gives Provosts the right to expel any full-time student who does not complete 36 units in any three consecutive quarters. This policy has several repressive implications.

As the University pressures students to take employment (in place of financial aid), and as Federal funds continue to dry up (either forcing students to quit school or take a job and work their way through school), more and more students will attend the University on a less than full-time basis, taking as many classes as they can handle after their jobs. The new Academic Senate policy enables the University to hold a club over students' heads—the threat of expulsion.

Provosts will be able to expel students whom they personally dislike, with whom they have political differences, etc. Students will not be able to participate in campus political life for fear of alienating their Provost. They will be effectively barred from taking

part in demonstrations or other activities likely to be viewed unfavorably by the administration (of which the Provosts are a part).

The power that Provosts could hold over students is not merely potential. UCSD's Provosts have shown time and time again—as has the entire

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Poland, Libya, American Journal, CSEA, KKK, Draft Funky La Jolla, & much more...

administration—their absolute disregard for students' rights. Just last year, the third college's Provost attempted to change eight grades received by a student to Fs. (That student had long opposed many of the Provost's policies, and had been active in organizing opposition to them. The Provost had earlier attempted to take other academic action against the student as well. The grades were changed to Fs for a few months, before being

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Budget Deficit Cover-up

Financial Aid Mishandling Affects Hundreds at UCSD

The role of student financial aid—that of providing sufficient financial support, so that students, particularly those from lower income backgrounds, can afford to attend a post secondary institution—is being severely limited at UCSD. In part this is due to factors beyond the control of the UCSD Administration, such as federal and state cutbacks; however, a poorly managed Financial Aid Services office is threatening to seriously impede students' access to UCSD and is a matter of growing concern.

As fiscal pressures become more insistent in every segment of post secondary education, now, more than ever, students can least afford to see an Office—subsidized by student fees—continue to provide a service that is detrimental to their progress. The mismanagement has implications ranging from affecting retention and recruitment to forcing students to abandon ideas of continuing at UCSD. The UCSD Administration must shoulder the blame for another case of poor management of a student service. Students, for their part, cannot remain idle, and must pressure the Administration into providing services that benefit students.

UCSD students receiving financial aid first felt the impact in early December after receiving a letter from Student Financial Services (SFS) stating that "all UC San Diego financial aid recipients will have a \$200 reduction in their award to meet this year's extraordinary need for funds." According to A.S. Commissioner of Student Welfare, Reggie Williams, "the cut came as a total surprise to students, even though the letter from Financial Aid Services stated that students received warnings of possible cuts when they received their original aid package." According to Williams, a significant omission in the SFS letter was made, namely that SFS ran a \$240,000 deficit for the 1980-81 academic year. This, Williams says, is the "determinant factor" for students having to be cut \$200 across the board.

"The practice of covering a deficit in one year with next year's funds is out of line when you consider that students are forced to return \$200 from their aid package...sound fiscal management last year would have avoided this."

Soon after the decision to cut was made, Williams and A.S. President Jules Bagneris met with Tom Rutter; however, at that meeting Rutter merely elaborated on the contents of the memo he was preparing to send students but made no mention of the deficit of \$240,000 from the previous year. According to Bagneris, "it was easy to see that there were a few unanswered questions."

When contacted by the *new indicator* several SFS staffers disclosed that the deficit—the first in the history of the department—was to be "absorbed" by the current year's budget, therefore further "squeezing" the limited resources and leading to a decision to cut every financial aid student by \$200. Given this background, it is little wonder that the Financial Aid Office neglected to mention the deficit in the memo sent to students.

Administrative Mismanagement

Upon the requests of several dissatisfied Financial Aid recipients the A.S. Student Advocate Program—conducted a brief investigation and uncovered a situation where each administrator in the higher echelons remained "tight-lipped" about the matter. From the Director of Student Financial Aid Services to the Vice-Chancellor of Undergraduate Affairs, Joe Watson, the explanations were not different.

The situation became clearer however, when the *new indicator* contacted SFS, and a few staffers (who shall remain anonymous) were willing to discuss the situation in the Financial Aid Office.

According to them, part way through the 1980-81 academic year (February 1981) all staff members were instructed by Director Tom Rutter to "hold everything" because of over-commitment in resources. This notice

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Solidarity Day, September 19, 1981. People mobilized to picket Vice President Bush and U.S. non-intervention in El Salvador on December 4, 1981. See article below.

El Salvador Protest

On December 4, at 7pm, the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES) sponsored an ecumenical mass and candlelight vigil in commemoration of the four murdered American religious women and 12 slain Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) leaders. The event was widely co-sponsored by progressive student and community organizations, and drew some 300 people to the mass. Another 200 people waited outside, and joined in for the vigil and march to Heritage Park. At the park, a number of unamplified speakers addressed the crowd, among them Blaise Bonpane. Rev. Bonpane told those assembled that "Jesus, if he were to return to El Salvador, would be a communist, and again he would be crucified."

Unfortunately, the media arrived while the mass was in progress and did not stay for the impressive candlelight procession. In all, the media has done an extremely poor job covering CISPES and its ability to mobilize community protest against U.S. involvement in El Salvador. The strong show of support for CISPES' December 4 event was not covered in the local media, an oversight that seems deliberate given the Reagan

Administration's sabre-rattling in the Caribbean, sabre-rattling that is not supported by the American people.

George Bush Picketed

It was a scene from a Costa-Gavras film. Over 200 people responded to the call to picket their vice-president; some 150 against on one side of the street facing the plush hotel where he was to speak; and 50 for on the other sidewalk, between the protesters and the hotel. The protesters are working people, middle-class individuals, students, old people, people in wheelchairs. Those loyal to their vice president are nationalist refugees, recently arrived; reminders to the country of its foreign policy mistakes. Because of assassination threats, police and police cars cordon off the hotel parking lots, the street between the demonstrators is heavily patrolled, sharpshooters with rifles hold the hotel's rooftops, vans of police commandos wait at strategic points, helicopters hover and swoop over the site, and commando-fatigued people brandishing submachine guns stalk the landscaped grounds around the protest.

The scene at the Bush picket, noon, December 18 at the Sheraton Harbor Island could have been drawn from "Z" or "State of Siege." The surreal

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Congress Attempts to Codify Repression

Senate Bill S. 1630—the 4th generation of the criminal code bills that began with the notorious Nixon/Mitchell S. 1—was recently approved by the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and full Senate action is due when Congress reconvenes Jan. 25, 1982. In addition to Senators Strom Thurmond (R.S.C.) & Edward Kennedy (D. Mass.)—who led the campaign for similar bills in 1977 & 1979, S. 1630 is co-sponsored by Republicans Hatch (Utah), Denton (Ala.), Dole (Kan.), East (N.C.), Laxalt (Nev.), Simpson (Wy.), Specter (Pa.); and, Democrats Biden (Del.) & DeConcini (Ariz.).—S. 1630 has the endorsement of the Reagan Administration.

On the surface, S. 1630 seems designed to do more than streamline and modernize the Federal laws on crime. Passed piecemeal by various Congresses over the decades, those laws have never been systematically organized. Scattered throughout the fifty titles of the U.S. Code, the Federal crime statutes are replete with inconsistencies, redundancies, and ludicrous anachronisms. Existing law, for example, prohibits the interfering with the flight of government carrier pigeon, piracy in the service of a foreign prince,

writing a check for a debt less than \$1, and seducing a female passenger in a steamship. More importantly, present law also contains some seventy separate theft provisions and seventy-nine different terms to describe a criminal state of mind.

However according to Frank Wilkinson, executive Director of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation, the manifest need for code reorganization by no means justifies the unconstitutional practices which S. 1630 would sanctify if it were to become law. "When closely scrutinized, S. 1630 can be seen for what it really is: a prescription for political repression the 1980s," Wilkinson contends. "It contains something dreadful for virtually everyone, from the labor and peace movement to the press and anti-nuclear demonstrators."

Among the bill's most repugnant provisions are the following:

Peaceable assembly

Opposition to War, Registration, or the Draft—S. 1630 restates current law which could criminalize people who, during a war and with intent to oppose that war, "physically interfere" with

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American Journal: Max Scherr In Memorium

It was just like Max Scherr to die on Halloween. There was a lot of tricks in the man, and a lot of treats, too. Max was, by turns, gentle, bitter, compassionate, tight-fisted, tough and self pitying. He was both a capitalist and a radical who wanted to abolish capitalism. Like the newspaper he founded, the **Berkeley Barb**, Max was both loved and loathed. He had opinions about everything, and everyone who knew him had opinions about him.

Few Americans knew Max Scherr's name, but many are touched by the intoxicating, idealistic brand of politics he helped ferment in the underground press in the 1960s and early 1970s. With Art Kunkin of the **Los Angeles Free Press** and a handful of others, Scherr performed radical surgery on radical journalism, declaring that sexual freedom, mind expansion and avant-garde art were as important as seizing state power. An obsessive worker himself, Scherr asserted the primacy of fun over work, of feelings over analysis. "Read the **Barb**," he exhorted protesters at a political rally, "it's a pleasure not a duty."

Max Scherr was born in Baltimore in 1916, the son of a immigrant Jewish parents. He grew up reading the **Jewish Daily Forward** and H.L. Mencken in the **Balti Sun**, and came to radicalism early. As a boy, he read Marx aloud to his pals beneath the soft flow of a streetlight, and as a young man, he practiced labour law briefly in a small Maryland town during the Depression. "I didn't make any money," he told me, smiling palely from his hospital bed a few months ago, "but I got paid. My office was filled with homemade brandy, bread and eggs."

Tiring of his penurious law practice, Scherr rode the rails to California,

arriving in the promised land in a boxcar awash with water a foot deep. He swept sidewalks for food money, then made his way to Mexico, where he married his first wife and wrote for Mexican and American publications. In the 1950s, he entered graduate school in Berkeley, but lost his job in the university library when he refused to sign a loyalty oath.

From the groves of academe, Scherr's path led to the Steppenwolf, a rowdy bar he ran in Berkeley during the first stirrings of civil rights and Free Speech Movement activism. He started the **Barb** to give empathetic coverage to an anti-Vietnam war protest, not knowing that if there would be a second issue. Reader response was so enthusiastic, he decided to keep publishing.

That was in 1965. Over the next four years, Max was in his salad days, presiding over the **Barb** in the classically cluttered house he shared with his second, common-law wife, Jane. Round and bespectacled, with a long, bushy beard, Max looked every inch the patriarch. Writers wandered in and out, raiding Max and Jane's refrigerator and sleeping on their floor. Among them were Yippie-to-be, Jerry Rubin, and Gene Schoenfeld, a medical doctor whose "Dr. Hip" advice column gave readers info on sex and drugs that their family doctors wouldn't or couldn't impart.

Energy was high, but staff pay and editorial say-so was low, and there was the rub. Max, who considered himself a whatever-happens anarchist, ran the **Barb** with an iron hand. And while championing the disinherited, Max also made money—netting \$5,000 a week, by one estimate. In 1969, fed-up staffers walked out to start their own paper. After that, Max and the **Barb** were

never the same.

When I first met him in 1973, Max was tired and sick. Smiling wanly he introduced himself as "the guy who signs the checks." But, as I discovered, Max collected, as well as issued, checks. He got a fat annuity from the law firm to whom he sold the paper that same year and a hefty weekly consulting fee. Had he been more organized he could have made even more. Half-opened envelopes stuffed with green-backs littered the decrepit office, and bookkeepers stole him blind. One of them, a heroin addict, was into him for \$60,000.

When I became editor in 1975, I quickly came to dislike this colorful pioneer of the underground press. My model for the alternative paper of the mid-seventies was thoughtful and analyzed, a paper that would tell people how to deal with what they already know. Max saw the paper as a shaggy, shouting **National Enquirer**. We clashed constantly, and often bitterly.

Max's personal style, too, offended me. Dining on white wine and quiche covered by his expense account, Max would discourse learnedly about the revolution, and why the barely-solvent staffers at the paper should work for principle, not for filthy lucre. If being an affluent bohemian seems like a contradiction in terms Max embodied that contradiction.

After leaving the paper, I came to view Max more generously, occasionally sharing his cherished cappuccino—down to one cup a day, since this advocate of hedonism worked himself into several heart attacks. I remained aware of the limitations of his character and his career, but I began to see his accomplishment more clearly, too.

Despite some serious failures, Max Scherr's contributions to American journalism and politics were genuine. Without Max—and risk-taking editors like him—the longest war in our history would have dragged one even longer, and the myth of the objectivity behind

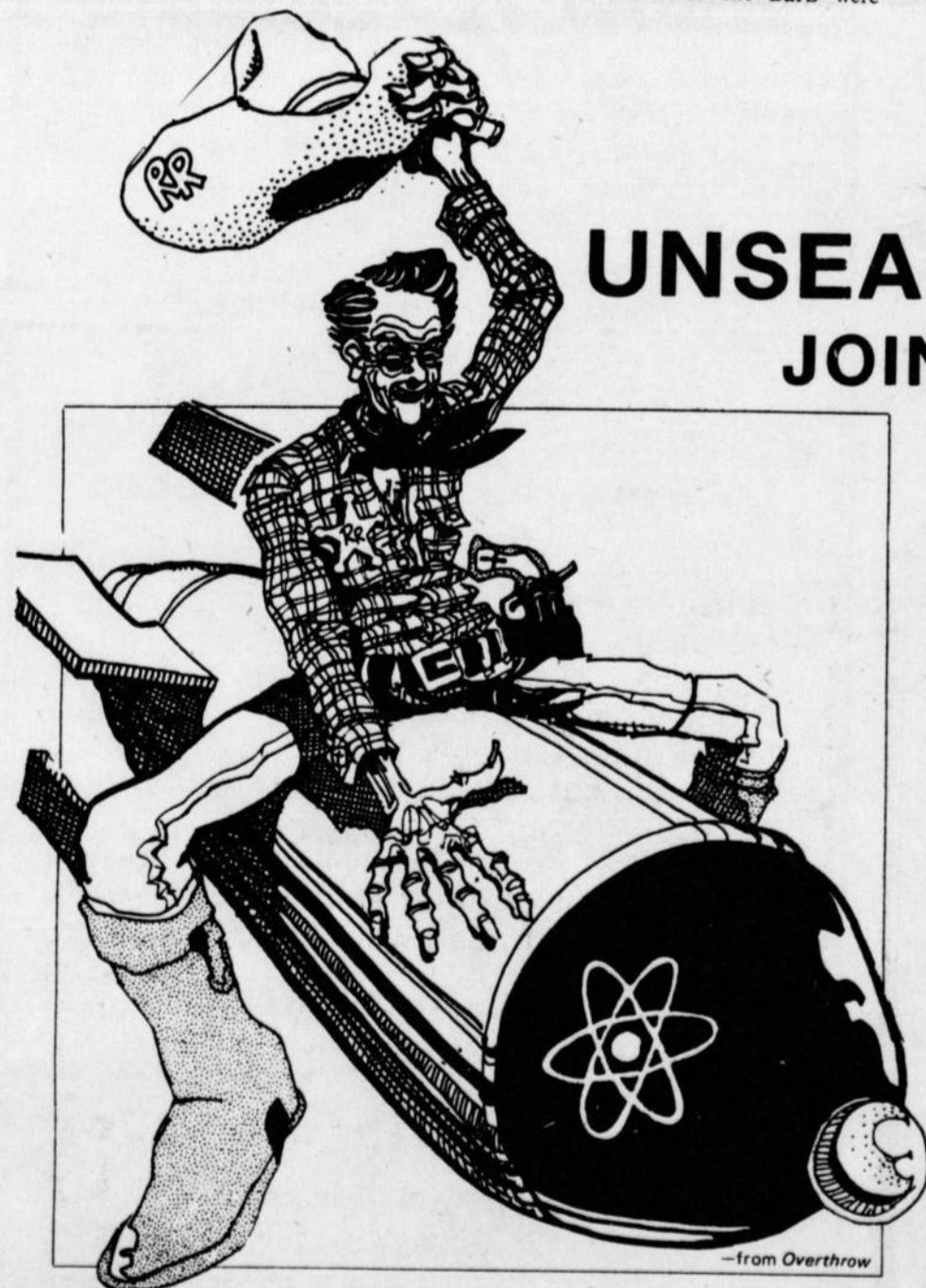
which the mainstream media cloak their own considerable biases would have gone unchallenged. Moreover, Max honed an existential edge that few journalists of any persuasion ever acquire. "The role of the **Barb**," he told me, "was to remind people that their lives were at stake all the time."

Max was energetic and interested in the world to the end of his life. From his bed, he mused about the book he planned to edit, even as the cancer he had fought for years took away the use of his legs. As he wisecracked about the headline he would have written on his paper (it died a year before he did) about the near-assassination of Ronald Reagan: "Shit Shot." It was quintessential Max Scherr: crude, rude, to the point and memorable.



I was in Arizona in the day after Halloween, visting a beautifully maintained Spanish mission with my friend Suzanne, as local Chicanos observed the traditional Mexican day of the Dead, lighting candles for departed souls and bowing reverently covered heads. Although I am fairly irreligious, I found the ceremony unaccountably moving. I said a silent prayer to whomever or whatever moved on to New Mexico, and there got the call telling me that Max was dead.

—David Armstrong



UNSEAT THE COWBOY JOIN THE NEW INDICATOR

The **New Indicator** is a radical, independent U.C.S.D./Community newspaper with a fourteen year publishing history. The **New Indicator** Collective needs:

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Women In Revolution

ERA Supporters Arrested In Washington

While "Reagan's war on women fans the flames of women's rage," the Congressional Union, using once again early movement tactics, lit symbolic fires of rage on November 11 at the White House. The demonstration follows the August 26 chaining of women to the White House fence. This action led to the arrest of 21 ERA supporters.

Charlotte Bunch and Georgia Fuller, while standing on a small stepladder, gave opening statements to the crowd of candle holding women.

Bunch pointed out statistics which showed, "women make up two-thirds of the world's workforce, earn one tenth of the world's pay and own one one-hundredth of the world's property." After giving these facts, she stated, "Our fight will not end until we have full and total equality for women."

The climax of the demonstration came as three washtubs appeared filled with wood and paper (the words of Reagan). The fires brought two fire trucks and over a dozen police to the site. As fire fighters unrolled their hoses, demonstrators sang, "move on over or we'll move on over you."

The latter day suffragettes frustrated fire department personnel by setting three more fires in Lafayette Park, across the street from the White House. Cheers broke out for the women as they stood before the flames, hands over head forming the triangular shaped women's symbol.

Fuller explained the demonstration by stating, "As the suffragette burned the words of Wilson, we in the same spirit burn the words of Reagan. And as our fore-mothers set watch-fires of freedom at this same site, we as American women ignite the watch-fires of equality."

Members of the Congressional Union claimed "women are not fooled" by the words of a "hypo-critical President" who says he's for "equal rights" but opposes the ERA. The women criticized

Reagan's budget policies "which assault the poor, the vast majority of whom are women and children. These policies literally take bread from the tables young women set for their children, force older women to choose between food and heat, and force many working mothers who are just now gaining job experience back on welfare."

The Congressional Union, in their fight for the passage of the ERA, had optimistic news for the crowd of over 100. Mary Whitmore, from Seattle, Washington, prophesied, "Virginia will be the next state to ratify."

Whitmore's projection comes after the November Virginia elections which placed three pro-ERA candidates into the offices of Governor (Robb), Lt. Governor (Davis), and Attorney General (Baliles).

The women at the Congressional Union never seem to lose steam as they plan to protest the December 15 lighting of the White House Christmas tree. The protest comes after last year's presidential request not to light the tree because the hostages were still in Iran. According to Fuller, "All women are hostages without the ERA."

Future demonstrations are planned for January 11, Alice Paul's birthday (composer of the ERA) and February 15, the birthdate of Susan B. Anthony. On February 15, the Congressional Union is hoping to encircle the White House in remembrance of Anthony's struggles for women's rights during the early suffragist movement.

off our backs

Women and the Solidarity Union

A women's commission of the Polish union Solidarity has been formed at the

FSO factory, the largest automobile plant in Poland. The FSO factory, which employs 26,000 workers, was among the first to form a strike committee in support of Gdansk workers last year, and presently 70% of the work force are members of Solidarity. Approximately 10,000 women are employed at FSO, most of them in production. Eight thousand of them have joined Solidarity.

The new women's commission will be headed by Yawdiga Dolinak, an accountant at the factory. Dolinak told the French newspaper *Liberation* why the commission was founded. "Until now women workers were reluctant to discuss their personal problems with the all-male union delegation. Here in Poland, alcoholism is a social plague. Women workers with alcoholic husbands who beat them wouldn't confide in a man. Now they come to see me individually with their problems. In meetings I can request alternative housing arrangements for these women without divulging their personal histories."

Women factory workers share many of the same problems as other Polish women, especially the need for housing, provisions and childcare. However, as workers for a large factory, FSO employees enjoy some advantages. While they still lack daycare facilities, the factory does provide housing, a hospital, stores—as poorly stocked as elsewhere—and vacation homes. A women's residence is being constructed; one for men already exists.

Although women are considered equal before the law, there is still a tradition that men, who have more time because women are doing the housework, become more involved in politics. Among the factory's Solidarity leadership, only two of the 16 members are women.

This underrepresentation exists in the national leadership of Solidarity as well, where only one woman is on the national coordinating committee. Several other women, such as Anna Walentynowicz, one of the Gdansk strike leaders, have left Solidarity, complaining of the lack of internal democracy.

Recently, the *Washington Post* reported a visit by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to a factory of striking women workers. Walesa reportedly joked that he had come not to make a speech, but to see the girls.

off our backs

2,500 Assemble for Women's Pentagon Action

Approximately 2,500 women assembled in Washington, D.C. November 15 and 16 for the Women's Pentagon Action (WPA). The demonstration marked the second consecutive year, and third since 1971, that women throughout the country have coalesced on the Pentagon grounds to focus their anger on one of the world's quintessential symbols of male supremacy.

Sixty-five women were arrested for their part in the protest, most of whom were charged with petty offenses of unlawful entry. Three women threw or smeared blood on Pentagon columns and were charged with destruction of property, also a petty offense. The arrests came at two separate times during the day. The impetus for the second wave of arrests was provided when a group of half a dozen foreign dignitaries from West Germany and Belgium arrived. They were helped past the protesters and waited politely. "They have a democratic process that makes this possible," commented a Belgian.

The women departed at about 3:30 p.m. For the 65 women arrested for civil disobedience activities, the action was far from over. They were searched, fingerprinted, and photographed at the Pentagon, arraigned at the U.S. Magistrate's Building in Alexandria, VA; approximately two-thirds were transported to the Arlington County Detention Center. Some women were given citations for later court appearances (some in other states) and were released on personal recognizance. Nine women were sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment by Magistrate Court Judge Elsie Munsell, four others were given a 15-day sentence by District Ct. Judge Bryan, and approximately 18 were detained awaiting trial the following week.

off our backs

CARPPOOLING

Carpooling is one of the simplest and best ideas yet devised to help you save money while you reduce traffic congestion, conserve energy, and improve the quality of the air in San Diego. The Parking & Transit Systems Office, in conjunction with the San Diego Commuter Computer, will send you a list of other students to contact in order to start your carpool. Just stop by at our office at 400 Warren Campus and fill out an application form. Shortly thereafter you will receive a list of other students who live in your neighbourhood who would also like to share a ride to UCSD. Carpooling isn't just an energy- or cost-efficient way to commute—it's also an easy way to make friends!

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Long Stories In Short

Mother Hired Kidnappers

Marita Riethmiller hired "deprogrammers" to kidnap her 20-year-old daughter, Stephanie, to stop her from allegedly being a lesbian. Charges of abduction, kidnapping and sexual battery have been brought against the "deprogrammers" involved.

On October 8, Stephanie Riethmiller was abducted from the street near the apartment she shares with Patricia Thieman. Mrs. Riethmiller paid \$8,000 to change her daughter's lifestyle. The "deprogrammers" and Mrs. Riethmiller took Stephanie to Leesburg, Alabama. Famous "deprogrammers" Ted Patrick, James Roe and Naomi Faye Kelley are charged with sexually assaulting Stephanie six times during the six days that they held her captive. There are some reports that Patrick was not present at the times of the sexual assaults.

The prosecutor, Simon Leys, is sympathetic to the religious right and hostile to lesbians and gays.

Stephanie's father, William Riethmiller, who had been involved with the initial arrangements for the kidnapping, turned state's witness. After the police had brought Riethmiller to Cincinnati, they returned her to her parent's home. After she left for her apartment, her father taped an appeal to her through a local television station, asking her to seek professional help.

off our backs

The High Price of Sex

Dr. Henry Lyons, a psychiatrist who counsels students at the University of Florida, says premarital sex is a sign of mental illness and usually leads to suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, or promiscuity. Fortunately, he says, only a tiny percentage of his patients have engaged in the practice, and the number is dwindling.

the progressive

Killing's Too Good

Dr. Jeronimo Dominguez, the Right to Life party's candidate in the recent New York City mayoral campaign, said he would favor amputation as a criminal penalty. "It's more of a deterrent to cut off a finger than to just kill him," he explained.

the progressive



what she wants/cpf

Blood Money Self-Defense

Good news. Now there are two new ways to get rich quick and add to the violence in society at the same time. Killing two birds with one stone...The hot new investment items seem to be knives and guns. Knife craftsmen have seven year backlogs of orders and the fanciest ones go for \$100,000 apiece. Luger handguns are a growing collector's item that are "more liquid than gold or diamonds or real estate." Investment Rarities, Inc. is advertising the Nazi guns as better "performers" than gold, silver, Saudi Arabian oil and bonds. But profitable as they seem, one knife promoter says reassuringly that people "collect with their hearts rather than for money." Are those bleeding hearts?

dollars and sense

Women's defence groups yesterday slammed a court's sentence on a young mum for carrying a "firearm"—an anti-rape spray.

Mrs. Caroline Farnejad, 28, was given a suspended jail sentence by West London magistrates.

The spray marks the attacker's face with red dye.

Miss Anne Ashby, cofounder of Chiswick Family Rescue, said: "I don't know how the police can call it a firearm. If the latest victim of the Yorkshire Ripper had one of these sprays she might have been alive today."

London Rape Crisis spokeswoman Jennifer Peck said: "They might as well classify a bunch of keys as an offensive weapon."

Southern Libertarian Messenger

The Answer To Your Problems

Today's world raises a lot of questions. When you see or read about the riots in Miami, sanitation worker strikes, revolutions around the world, and homosexuals marching in the streets you begin to worry about what is going on. Will it creep into your neighborhood? Will it destabilize your children? Will you die of disgust?

You don't have to worry anymore. Fundamental Answers Incorporated, has the answers to your problems. At a nominal \$50,000 a month subscription for your whole family, we will provide you with a world view that answers all your questions about life and guarantees to put a stop to any other troublesome questions from entering your mind, or your money back.

Soil of Liberty

Enterprising Public TV

There is so much excitement in the private sector these days that even public TV wants to get in on it. This fall PBS premiered a new series called "Enterprise" which looks into the nitty gritty deregulation, investment and bankruptcy. "We saw an era that was full of real cowboys and indians and it wasn't being covered," says one of the show's producers. "The business world is the only remaining area of adventure in American life."

Remember last year when the AFL-CIO thought labour history was an exciting area of American life that wasn't being covered? PBS vetoed the idea saying union funding would make the series biased. "Enterprise's" biggest unbiased funders are Dunn & Bradstreet and Merrill Lynch.

dollars and sense

Nuclear Trade

The U.S. intends to increase its production of weapons-grade plutonium and tritium at Energy Department-owned facilities more than 70% to meet the demand for the Government's expanding nuclear weapons program. The conversion of the Richland, Washington reactor from fuel-grade to weapons grade plutonium would provide "an additional 750 kilograms per year", a Defense Department official said. About four kilograms of plutonium can make an atomic bomb.

industrial worker

Civil Rights Under Attack

Gay and Lesbian civil rights measures are meeting a mixed reception. Fifty-eight percent of the voters of Palo Alto, California rejected a measure that would have banned discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment and public services. In Austin, Texas, the Austin Citizens for Decency is promoting an anti-gay ballot measure. The proposed ordinance says, "It shall not be unlawful to deny housing on the basis of sexual preference." The anti-gay measure is a response to a proposal brought before the city council last August to add sexual orientation to the city's fair housing ordinance. Christian fundamentalists managed to see that the pro-gay measure was postponed, and then came up with the counter-measure.

However, in Wisconsin, the state assembly passed a bill prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference in housing, employment, and public accommodations. The measure now goes to the state senate. California, Pennsylvania and Michigan have executive orders banning state discrimination based on sexual orientation, but none of these is as extensive as the Wisconsin legislation.

off our backs

Shameless Mother

Last September, a young mother was nursing her baby in a department store parking lot in De Soto, Missouri, when a police officer happened to pass by and warned her that she could be cited for indecent exposure if she continued. The woman, outraged, demanded an apology and, getting none, took the matter as far as St. Louis County Counselor Thomas W. Wehrle. Wehrle agreed with the officer that if "the manner in which the nursing is accomplished exceeds the bounds of decorum as determined by local standards of decency," then a nursing mother could be arrested.

Women are already under pressure from infant formula makers to bottle feed their babies. Legal opinions that uphold the obscenity of the functional breast will make free choice even more elusive.

Over and over, we hear the folks in government saying they wish women would go back home, put on their aprons, and act like women again. But just go ahead and try it.

the progressive

Rest in Peace

Banning movies and burning pamphlets won't make the conflict over occupational health and safety disappear. In 1979 There were 43 million days of work reported lost due to occupational illnesses and injuries—an average of 170,000 people out of work each working day. Eula Bingham, the head of OSHA under Carter, estimated that as many as 100,000 workers die each year due to occupational illness.

industrial worker

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