

C. Brandon Crocker:  
Will Students Starve?

Emmeline de Pillis: Guns,  
What Would We Do Without Them

# California Review

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FREE

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Nathaniel Branden on Ayn Rand

H.W. Crocker: Wealth & Poverty

E.T. Sullivan: *Sorry...*

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Reagan  
on  
Reagan





# What is American Conservatism?

by Jeff Hart

For someone who speaks around the country, as I have been doing, before student and other audiences, I am often asked to define American conservatism. This is a question highly pertinent to the debates now going on within the Reagan administration between old and new right, between economic free marketers of the monetarist and supply-side persuasion, between libertarian individualists and the new religious right.

When I am asked to define conservatism, I begin by insisting that my definition concerns American conservatism — meaning that British, French, Spanish and other conservatisms would have important differences. All of the Western conservatisms are related, members of the family, but they have different histories and emphases.

My definition of American conservatism comes in three parts. First, it includes representative government and the constitutional process. The process of deliberation by representatives was present from the beginning, from the signing of the Mayflower Compact before the settlers had even landed. It evolved through the colonial legislatures, and, after the War of Independence, issued in the Philadelphia Constitution.

I say "the constitutional process" because the Constitution is not only a document but a set of rules. They involve debate and deliberation and usually compromise. They demand restraint and civility. The Federalist Papers really represent a

book of constitutional etiquette. All of this is one part of American conservatism.

The second part is cultural and religious. America is part of Western culture, "from Homer through the present," as T.S. Eliot put it—though he himself also knew that its roots go much further back than Homer. The great books, works of art, and music represent an extended dialogue on Western man, a dialogue that moves forward in time and changes, but always retains its distinctive Western character. The West as we know it emerged from the fusion of Athens and Jerusalem, reason and faith, and that fusion is part of Western distinctiveness.

As part of this second cultural/religious point, I am willing to assert that the West is Christian. This always causes a stir, but even a cursory glance indicates the fact. The West without Christianity is unimaginable. Our holidays are "holy days" in their origin, many of them, and the texture of our language is suffused with Christian assumptions.

Finally, third point, I say that an American conservatism is predisposed toward the free market economy. Not only does its spirit accord best with republican political assumptions, but it seems to be the most effective system for the production of goods and services.

You can trace the emergence of the free market over the course of several centuries — an emergence that has a certain historical naturalness. Socialism, in contrast, would be a throwback to earlier modes of

the directed and controlled economy.

There's the definition. Question period. Hands fly up into the air.

"Can an atheist be a conservative?"

"Yes. I can cite illustrious examples. George Santayana, for example, and David Hume. But it seems to me that because they lacked the Christian component, there is something incomplete about them. They are a bit like the Venus di Milo — what you see is very good, but where is the rest?"

Hands up.

"Can a Jew be a conservative?"

"Again the answer is yes. We have had many important conservative thinkers who were Jews. I think of Will Herberg, of Frank Meyer. I could name dozens. And much of Judaism is intimately related to Christianity. They share the Old Testament, for example. But, historically, Judaism affected Western culture through Christianity, through the fusion I mention with Athenian thought and Greco-Roman universalism. Of course Christians can learn a great deal from other religions, which always have a great place in the republican party."

This definition of American conservatism seems to me useful and, in fact, correct. It permits one to identify distortions and exaggerated emphases within the conservative camp at the present time. And, I have found, my audiences almost always leave discussing it and arguing about it.

Jeffrey Hart is an editor of National Review and a professor at Dartmouth College.

## Sullivan Speaks



## Apologia

California Review has recently been accused of being 1) Elitist, 2) Racist, 3) Sexist, and 4) Ageist. Only two of these titles are fitting, and the accusers are but simpletons of no great stature, therefore, our humble reputation remains. We feel no need to defend our ways. Nonetheless, we heartfully apologize to those upon whom we have wrought angst.

First, for being elitist, we have little to say other than that we are very sorry.

Second, for being racist, we simply are not. How can we be? We are staunchly opposed to Affirmative Action.

Third, for being sexist, we assert these truths: Men are men, women are women, and homosexuals are in a sub-phylum by themselves. Even if the Surgeon General proclaims otherwise, we shall continue abiding by Nature's law.

Fourth, for being ageist, we hardly qualify. The rendering of respect to our elders is as apropos to us as the rendering of respect to the unborn.

The ethos of California Review lies evident in the pages of this publication. To pirate the words of William Frank Buckley Jr., California Review is "iconbusting, brawlingly staid, and wonderfully highbrow."

Those who disagree are invited to articulate their grievances at our special forum to be held before the public. Cake will be served — angel food, of course.

## Letters



### Buckley's Delighted



Dear Mr. Young:

Delighted at the prospect of a California Review. Thanks for the advance notice.

Yours cordially,

WM. F. BUCKLEY, JR.  
Dictated in Switzerland



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## California Review

Credo: *We few, we happy few, for he who picks up this paper today shall be my brother, be he ne'er so vile, this paper will gentle his condition.*

E. Clasen Young President

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California Review was founded on the sunny afternoon of seven, January, nineteen-hundred and eighty-two, by Young and Sullivan, two American history fanatics engaging in discourse on preserving the American Way.



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## In Review

■ According to our internal sources, Soviet Communist Party Chairman Leonid Brezhnev has died. Reportedly, his action was for the good of the people.

■ In case you missed it, February 14-21 was "National Condom Week." Tax dollars promoted this celebration and its Saturnalian climax—the incredible "Rubber Disco!" A very egalitarian event, (admission free with a condom), the degenerates danced in a brightly decorated, (with blown up condoms), disco and enjoyed a condom blowing contest, (the winner got \$35.00.) Ronnie's sure been rough on those social programs.

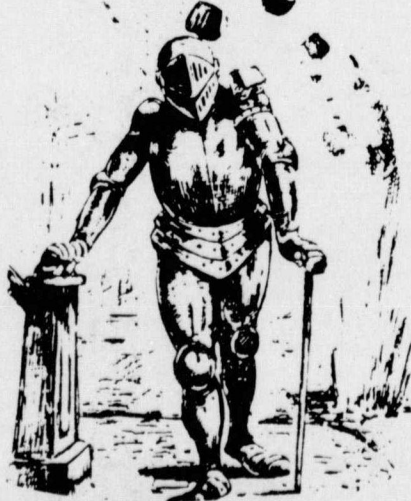
■ Liberals say they are tired of hearing America's leaders blame every upheaval in the Third World on the red, red Russians. The Left is not alone in their boredom; Americans are equally disenchanted, especially those in our current administration who have been fighting the same communist characters for more than thirty years. The prospect of fighting hem another thirty years is about as entertaining as sitting through another hour of Reds.

■ We all grimace at the unemployment figures, but every cloud has its silver lining. Among the unemployed is Ed Asner.

■ Remember "Number 11, Enzo Hernandez"; Cito Gaston; Ivan Murrell; Nate "the Great" Colbert; Larry Stahl; Ed Spezio; Gary Jestadt; Steve Arlin; and Clay Kirby? Those were the days when the Padres were charming losers. Well, the Padres are still charming, (they're still the Padres, after all), but now they're winners. Who says Reagan's administration hasn't brought recovery?



■ So it's come to this. Kimberly Sam cannot take advantage of the magnet school program because she is a Chinese-American and her transfer will upset the racial balance in the schools; and Carl Anthony will be able to transfer only if he accepts his father's racial classification (white) and not his mother's (yellow). If progressives keep working at it, they may make America the oppressive society they love so much to complain about.



■ Now that the Lesbian and Gay Organization of UCSD receives one of the largest student organization budgets, it appears that they have expanded their missionary projects to the extremities of campus. Building 503 on Earl Warren Campus—a men's restroom—has been converted into a gay recreation hall. The doors have been removed from the stalls and random holes have been drilled between them in congruity with their random morality.

■ While Ground Zero Week lurched on its merry way, seven West Europeans tried to hang a disarmament banner in Moscow's Red Square. They didn't get very far. Almost as soon as the banner was up, it was down in the grubby, little hands of the KGB, (as were the seven West Europeans.) The peace-loving Soviets are all for disarmament—our disarmament.



■ Former UCSD student, Angela Davis recently published a trashy novel defaming capitalism. Entitled *Women, Race and Class*, the book is a baseless, bloody insult to the American people for which its publisher, Random House, should be ashamed. Without evidence, Davis contends that the "class structure of capitalism encourages men who wield power in the economic and political realm to become routine agents of sexual exploitation." She also contends that during the Vietnam war, the U.S. Military Command had an unwritten policy to "systematically encourage rape, since it was an extremely effective weapon of mass terrorism." This is a lie. Ms. Davis' perverse rhetoric serves only as a tool of demagoguery to the dishonor of thousands of loyal veterans, their families, and the students of UCSD.

■ COMING JUNE 5th: The Medical Consequences of Nuclear War. Sponsored by Physicians for Social Responsibility, this conference should prove illuminating for those millions, if not billions, of people who think nuclear war promotes health.

## Who's Right? Who's Wrong?

■ On pinpointing the difference between a liberal and a conservative, many of our beloved media-hypes have mislabeled the Left as a responsible lot. Ronald Reagan straightens them out with his own definition:

"A conservative is a fellow that if he sees someone drowning, will throw him a rope that's too short and tell him it would be good for his character to swim for it. A liberal will throw him a rope that's long enough, but when he gets hold of it he'll drop his end and go away to look for someone else to help."

■ HUAC is dead, but California Review is here!



Congratulations to President-elect Henry Chu and the rest of the new A.S. council; restoration of an effective student government is expected.



## Fritz the 'Crat

Walter Mondale was the keynote bore of Ground Zero Week at UCSD. In a dull speech that reflected his half-baked liberalism, Mondale denounced the President's "reckless bravado," and called for a freeze on nuclear weaponry. "Now is an excellent time for negotiations because we're in a position of strength," he said, professing the nuclear superiority of the United States. He had the right idea, but his facts were wrong. In a press conference prior to his public address, Mondale fielded questions in the same wishy-washy manner. When asked by a Reviewer whether he would endorse the Pacific Four's proposal for no first strike, Mondale replied: "Well, I might support it if we had conventional superiority." When asked by another Reviewer about his shift toward a more Hawkish stance against the Soviets since his days with the Carter Administration, Mondale denied his shift. Later, one of his aides had the guts to approach the two reporters and tell them that Mondale was impressed with their questions. What's this guy doing...trying to win votes for something?



## Hoover College?

President Reagan recently launched a campaign to allow prayer back into the classroom. In 1962, Chief Justice Earl Warren — after whom UCSD's Warren College is named — effectively outlawed prayer in public schools in the wake of other decisions endorsing communism and extending the rights of criminals. Dwight Eisenhower, who appointed Warren to the Supreme Court in 1953, later said it was "the biggest damnfool decision I ever made." Accordingly, the naming of UCSD's college after this liberal dictator is indicative of the negligence for which the university system is so famous. We find it necessary that UCSD's Third College (which has no other official name) be christened J. Edgar Hoover College so that this vacuum of Americanism will be plugged.



## Tolbert: competence, not color

May 20th marked the first anniversary of the History Department's bold recommendation to deny tenure to an incompetent professor. And next week marks the anniversary of the reactionary sit-in at the chancellor's office by Third World student groups who felt that professor Emory J. Tolbert was being ousted because of his blackness. That just wasn't so. Tolbert, a professor of black studies was denied tenure because of his lack of scholarly research. True, he did publish a new book last year, but according to a member of the History Department, the book was essentially a revised copy of his doctoral dissertation which had been seen in "three different forms" since he was hired eight years earlier. Still, the students insisted that Tolbert's teaching ability and his dedication to students had been short-shrifted in the overall evaluation. Their fondness for Tolbert was understandable. As one prof said, "just take a look at one of his exams and you'll see why he is popular; he's easy." There was one other reason for Tolbert's dismissal, a reason that was unpublicized. Tolbert had been moonlighting at another job at a local community college. Talk about dedication.

## Restaurant Review:

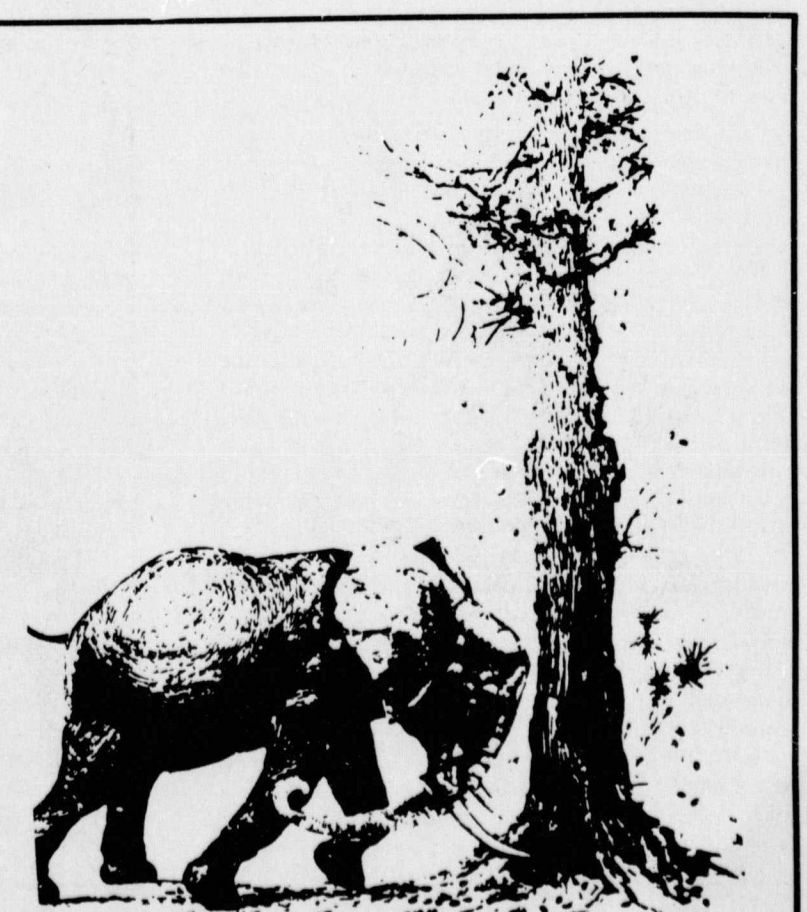


## Che Cafe

If you're *truly* hungry, a visit to the Che Cafe may be justified. The food is cheap and remedial. The surroundings, though, are revolutionarily autistic. Eddie "Che" Guevara, that lowrider-at-large (now serving as fertilizer in Bolivia), is the muralized hero of this progressive co-op. His memory lives on in gruel bread, raisin cookies, and other grainy specialties of the house. The squirrels seemed to like the place, so we thought we'd give it a try. The stoic Brigadier Editor approved of the gruel bread, as did the Editor-in-Chief (who fed hers to the squirrel); the President said he'd prefer clay. The raisin cookies received an unanimous thumbs down and were mistaken for road apples by the President. Overall, we award the Che Cafe a rating of 2%.



## Join the UCSD College Republicans





# George Gilder on Men, Women, and Money.

by Suzanne L. Schott

In early May, Dartmouth conservatives led by *The Dartmouth Review* and English Professor Jeffrey Hart, an editor of *National Review*, engaged George Gilder to speak on campus. Dining in the Hanover Inn prior to the speech with members of Dartmouth's CIA (Committee on Intellectual Alternatives) and editors of *The Dartmouth Review*, I heard Mr. Gilder humorously recall the controversy surrounding his previous visit to the College several years ago. This facetious anecdote so perfectly illustrated the frustrated ignorance of campus liberalism, that he couldn't resist incorporating it into the introduction of his speech.

Gilder commenced: "I'm really delighted to be at Dartmouth again. The last time I was here, I was invited by the Tucker Foundation, I believe, and I was about to arrive on the campus when I received an urgent telegram which announced that my invitation had been withdrawn — because I was a sexist, a racist, and a hate-monger! This was the charge of fourteen members of the junior faculty at Dartmouth, and the Dean immediately capitulated to this insight, which took me by surprise, and dispatched a telegram to me, which took me by surprise. It also, perhaps, took Jeff Hart by surprise! But, in any case, he got all the conservative organizations together, and I got invited up here, and I liked it so much that I stayed a week and got larger audiences, I think, than I would have received under the auspices of this ... Tucker ..." (As he thus trailed off, the audience broke up in laughter and applause, for the Tucker Foundation, a bungling bastion of liberalism, has deservedly been the butt of recent *Dartmouth Review* abuse.)

In a charming, informal style, Gilder exercised his wit and rhetoric, cutting to the heart of current issues, and dispelling any doubts regarding the common sense of his theories.

In the early seventies, Gilder's theories in *Sexual Suicide* caused serious problems with feminists as well as junior faculty members!

"Essentially," he said, "I was charged with acknowledging differences between men and women — differences between the sexes — and this was considered very outrageous back in the early period at Dartmouth when they were just contemplating co-education and were very uncertain in this area. But since the discovery of these differences had been the single most delightful event of my adolescence, I then devoted several years to exploring the matter further and wrote two books on the subject!"

Indeed the facts which Gilder "uncovered" and consequently exhibits in *Sexual Suicide* may seem "very outrageous" — to feminists and homosexuals. The majority of Americans, however, would agree with Mr. Gilder. As his wife added in a January interview with *The Dartmouth Review*, "George says fairly normal things that people over-react to."

Gilder describes traditional male and female roles as "absolutely crucial" to the perpetuation of "civilized society." As Margaret Mead said, motherhood is a biological fact, fatherhood is a cultural invention. It is "by love and marriage" that "men are linked to children" and "long-term commitment." Gilder advocates commitment over promiscuity with regard to sexuality, and a paternal provider over a federal provider regarding the nurture of children.

The crowd again applauded Gilder during the question period, when a member of Dartmouth's Gay Students Alliance, still confused concerning the definition of the family, began: "There are as many men who want to be single parents as women, and I don't see where the family has to comprise" — when Gilder cut him off, acutely rebutting: "How do they do it?" — Thereby manipulating this student's ambiguous choice of words and emphasizing his thesis by means of biological reality.

Gilder denounced the feminist assertion that there is "no difference" between the sexes and that we are all equal — as "human beings." He referred to this "human being" as a "strange species I've yet to encounter in any of my travels, finding only men and women!"

He continued to make this point manifest, providing enough statistical evidence to convince even the most needy of financial-aid recipients present of the virtues of supply side theory.

"The point," Gilder said, "is that you don't get into the top bracket, in general, by being stupid. And if you're in the top bracket, and you find yourself faced with rates over 50%, it behooves you to spend more than 50% of your time trying to avoid these tax rates. And if you aren't stupid, you ordinarily succeed. Rich people invariably succeed in sheltering their funds from these high tax rates."

Thus, our current high progressive tax rates "don't tax being rich, they tax getting rich," and you consequently have less movement from the lower to the upper classes.

"Equally outrageous," Gilder continued, "is the peculiar notion that our current social programs, our welfare systems, as increments of the War on Poverty in the Great Society, actually help the poor in America."



Today it is a fact that 55% of all black children in America's inner cities are born out of wedlock. With such chaos in more than half of urban childhoods, it is little wonder that ghetto blacks have such a problem with upward mobility, in light of Gilder's assertions on the importance of the family.

Although this illegitimacy statistic has "caused great mystery among sociologists," Gilder finds the reason behind it obvious.

"Imagine that you're a sixteen year old girl in a crowded apartment in Harlem, with several siblings in the house, with occasional men coming by, general tension in the household, and you don't have much additional money around. It's really a very harsh life that you're enduring. You then are confronted by the government, and the government says: You can leave all this, you can get out of this house, you can have your independence, on one condition — that you have an illegitimate child. You have that illegitimate child, and we'll give you a free apartment, monthly payments, free medical care, access to legal services. We'll give you the whole array of social programs which the Great Society created — all on the condition that you have an illegitimate child."

"If you're a woman with children and don't know who the father is — that's someone who is really truly needy, and there will be no questions ever raised about your welfare application."

"If you've got a husband somewhere in the picture, then you may not be so truly needy. You may be thrown off the roles if they have a welfare crackdown or if your husband is so imprudent as to get employment for an extended period of time."

"So, the chief thing you learn in welfare offices is — keep it simple, be truly needy, and the government will love you. You won't need a husband!"

Thus, many inner city poor are reduced "to this position of utter dependency that resembles most the plantations of the past. And so we have these new Liberal Plantations which liberals describe as compassionate, just as the plantation owners in the past used to describe their plantations as being in the best interest of their slaves."

Gilder praised the Reagan program, "trying to reverse this course," as "thoroughly courageous and commendable."

"Shocked at reading Adam Smith," Gilder next spoke out against the "prevalent view of capitalism," as a system "based on greed and avarice," whereby we "deal with the devil" and "get rich by being greedy" — where "businessmen are bastards, but the way to have a good bountiful society is to let the bastards loose, and may the biggest one win!"

Gilder also denounced many of today's libertarian writers "particularly intense in celebrating self-interest as the foundation for capitalism," who "completely despair of the real capitalism in which we live."

"They predict the coming Currency Collapse, the impending Great Depression, the coming Bad Years, and they recommend that people not invest in productive businesses in the economy. Instead, they tell them to buy gold and collectables, and retreat to the boondocks with guns and dried food, and wait to defend their cash from the hoards of poor who are going to come and steal their goods from them, in the Economic Catastrophe!"

In the true spirit of rugged individualism, Gilder reminds us that the economy has always and will always be perilous.

Gilder's capitalist businessman doesn't "retreat to the Cayman Islands," once he turns a profit. Unless he faces devastating tax systems, he will re-invest, thereby stimulating the economy.

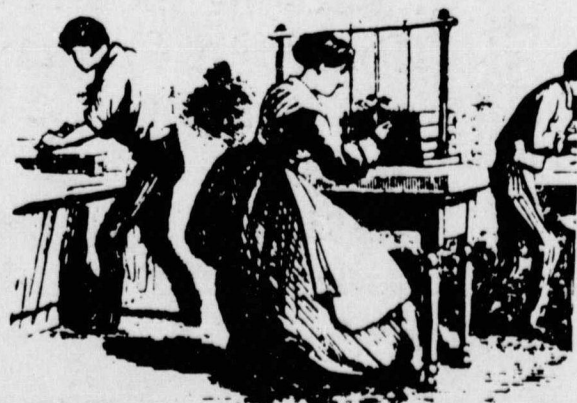
During the question period, Gilder undauntedly defended capitalism, Reaganomics, and morality with consistent, witty replies. Touching on topics of interest from motorcycles in Japan to contraceptives in Sweden, he so animated his audience, that time ran out before eagerly raised hands.

Indeed, George Gilder stands for much more than a supply side economic program. He stands for our very American Way, which social liberalism today threatens to subvert.

Moving on, Gilder discussed his current bestseller, *Wealth and Poverty*. "Perhaps the worst charge that is being made against Reaganomics, and by extension against my book, is that these policies widen the gap between the rich and the poor. This idea is propagated nightly on every television news program, preoccupies most of the editorial writers of major American newspapers, and it is total garbage."

"When you cut taxes across the board, you always invariably get greater tax payments from the rich and smaller tax payments from the poor."

Suzanne Schott is California Review's Dartmouth Correspondent.



## Notes from the Brigadier

H.W. Crocker III

THE SOUL OF MAN UNDER CAPITALISM

Wealth & Poverty  
by George Gilder  
Bantam Books, 365pp., \$3.95



George Gilder's *Wealth and Poverty* may be the most important book of the decade. Combining empirical fact and philosophical adventure it has challenged the tenets of Adam Smith and flattened the liberal opposition. A bestseller, a Reaganomics manual, and an evolution from Gilder's previous studies on sex (*Sexual Suicide* and *Naked Nomads*) and black penury (*Visible Man*), it is a masterful statement of capitalism's moral virtue.

Welfare legislation, soak-the-rich tax policies, and other invidious vestiges of liberal dementia are based on the view that capitalism, while profoundly efficient, is profoundly immoral—that is, selfish and unjust. It is not. Gilder offers copious and intriguing evidence that capitalism is based on giving. The capitalist has faith that if he gives, and his gift is approved (the capitalist must risk, create, and invest

with the public's interest in mind), he will be given unto. The reward, however, is uncertain. Even if it is forthcoming, the capitalist does not hoard wealth, he reinvests it and creates new products, services, and opportunities. Instead of selfishness, capitalism rewards those who forgo immediate gratification in pursuit of higher aspirations. It rewards those who seek to produce rather than consume.

A morbid hatred of wealth motivates leftist economics. Ironically, punitive tax rates, especially on so-called "unearned-income (i.e. dividends), make job creating capital scarce by minimizing its returns and maximizing the affordability of luxury items: (if you are going to lose the money to taxes anyways why not invest in a Rolls?). Capitalists are altruists, but they are not martyrs.

Wealth can grow and benefit all when it is distributed by the marketplace and private charities (thereby solidifying social contracts and individualizing responsibility.) The supposed ruling junta in America, the WASPs, has been surpassed in per capita income by Americans of Jewish, Irish, Oriental, Italian, German, Polish, and black West Indian stock. All of these groups outworked the competition at low-level-low-paying jobs, were supported by strong families, and had faith in their ability to succeed. These are the ingredients of progress.

Black Americans are poorer than other ethnic groups because they have been wards of the state. Especially damaging has been welfare legislation. In 1979 the median American income was \$16,500 and the average welfare family of four received \$18,000 worth of subsidies. Welfare programs have devalued work, allowed black men to become wandering studs without financial responsibilities (fifty-five percent of black children are illegitimate and sixty percent are brought up in fatherless homes.), and created an

adversary political culture ignorant of a fundamental law of morality and economics: One must supply in order to demand.

Gilder's spirited defense of capitalism is as icon-busting and intelligent a tract as one is likely to find. By putting truth above ideology and the current wisdom Gilder has shamed conservatives and decimated liberals. Always exciting in its originality and statistical validity, *Wealth & Poverty* is a lapidary achievement. At \$3.95 the paperback edition is affordable to the most indigent would-be scholar. Buy it.



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# Reagan on Reagan: California

Neil Reagan, the elder brother (physically) of President Ronald Reagan, is a good-humored, gruff-voiced gentleman of enormous magnanimity. He agreed, on short notice, to chat with the editors of California Review at the Rancho Santa Fe Inn. We were treated to coffee and orange juice, and he was relieved, temporarily, from having to pack for his flight to Eureka College to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Ronnie's graduation.

**CR:** Why do they call you Moon?

**REAGAN:** Well, my brother wrote a book, a little paperback called *Where's the Rest of Me?*, based on a line in a picture he did called *King's Row* where he had his legs cut off. Supposedly, his remark when he came out of the anaesthetic was "Where's the rest of me?" In that book there is a picture of the family when he was probably about two and a half or three, and I was about five, and it had him standing on a little box. I was alongside of him and my mother and father were standing behind us. He had bangs, blond hair, and a big fat face, and I had hair parted right down the middle and slicked down, and my dad at some time or another had said that he looked like a fat Dutchman and I looked like Moon Mullins in the comics. We were Moon and Dutch from that time on.

**CR:** Why didn't you become President instead of your brother?

**REAGAN:** Well, you just think of the long, long list of possibilities for activity or work or whatever you want to call it in these United States, and I would put the presidency pretty well down at the bottom. It doesn't hold any interest for me at all. It's one of the few jobs that I know of in this country where not only can you not please everybody, you can please damn few.

**CR:** How does it feel to have a brother who became a big Hollywood star, then a governor, and finally the President of the United States?

**REAGAN:** The only thing I can think of if he hadn't become president, or even if he hadn't been in the movies, is that I wouldn't be talking to you now.

**CR:** Is Bess jealous of Nancy's wardrobe?

**REAGAN:** Is Bess what?

**CR:** Envious?

**REAGAN:** No. Strangely enough, my wife makes most all of her own clothes. She is awfully hard to tear away from the sewing machine. She just finished a very beautiful—and I am told by her and others that the material is very difficult to sew on—ultra-suede, three-quarter length coat.

**CR:** How do you feel about all the publicity you received after your brother was shot last year?

**REAGAN:** I don't call that publicity, I call that invasion. I'll tell you how I learned of the shooting. Every Monday prior to the Rotary Club meeting there are about fifteen or eighteen members who gather in the Vintage Room here, and at about 11:30 they take all the table settings off the tables and pull them all together to make one long table. The bartender arrives early, and we have about a thirty minute attitude adjustment hour. Well, all of a sudden this door banged open and a member of the Rotary Club, on the dead run, ran right through and never stopped, ran right on through, shouting at the top of his voice: "The President has just been shot! The President has just been shot!" Just screaming. My remark was, "So what else is new?", because all I could think of was that it was a gag on this guy's part. He disappeared out through the back and in two

**CR:** In your childhood, who was better in sports...you or your brother?

**REAGAN:** Well, I don't know if I could put it on a 'better' basis. We both played football. He never made any touchdowns in high school or college. [He did in the movies.] I did, and that was principally because I was an end, and he was a guard. He didn't have the opportunities I did.

**CR:** How often do you talk to the President?

**REAGAN:** Well, we don't have a set schedule.

**CR:** Do you and your brother always agree politically?

**REAGAN:** I registered Republican (we were both born and brought up Democrats) about six months after Roosevelt was elected for the first time. From that time on, every time the subject came up I always, very quickly, let my brother know that I thought he lacked good common sense by continuing to be reg-

*"I'm the younger brother...theoretically..."*

minutes he came running back screaming: "The President is dead! The President is dead! He's been shot! The President is dead!" And I just made some remark to the fellow sitting next to me: "Why the hell doesn't somebody put a halter on him and tie him outside?" At which point the manager or the owner came in and whispered in my ear that the President had just been shot. And then, right at the time he did that, coming in from the meeting hall was Neil Morgan. He took me by the arm and walked me out and said, "Your brother has been shot, but contrary to what the fellow just screamed as he came through here, he is not dead. I want to take you home." Well of course by the time we got down to the house, in just those few minutes, the TV trucks were there, remote trucks, and the press, and neighbors. You couldn't drive a car through the street. They were packed from one side of the street to the other. It was a shambles. There were Sheriff's cars there.

istered as a Democrat. Not that I changed him. There were several things that switched him over to where he registered Republican not too long after Eisenhower was elected. But he came out and endorsed Eisenhower publicly as soon as Eisenhower announced he was going to run. I think his experiences with the General Electric association, plus his experience of six terms as president of the Screen Actors Guild—nobody had ever been elected for a second term, but he was elected to six terms—are where he began to get his teeth knocked out, theoretically, by so-called liberals like the present president of the Screen Actors Guild, Ed Asner.

**CR:** How do you feel about Ed Asner?

**REAGAN:** I think he ought to find a country that's more in line with his thinking.

**CR:** How often do you give your brother advice?

**REAGAN:** I never give him any advice.

**CR:** Never?

*"Incidentally, what publication is this?"*

# Review Interviews Neil Reagan

**REAGAN:** Well, I won't say I never do. I certainly don't give any advice as far as the presidency is concerned. I give him advice on other things like what horse to bet on, what football game to bet on, but no, I don't give him advice. Once in a while he gives me advice.

**CR:** Do you think Ron will run for another term?

**REAGAN:** I don't have any idea. There's no reason why he shouldn't. Did you know that we worked for the same radio station? I used to have a better voice than he did. I started on the microphone. You see, I'm the younger brother...

**CR:** You're the younger brother?

**REAGAN:** Theoretically, association-wise and everything, and unconsciously. I didn't go away to school when I got out of high school; he did. And I was two years behind him in college. Incidentally, what publication is this?

**CR:** California Review.

**REAGAN:** Well, I was smarter than college professors when I graduated from high school so I didn't see the need of going away to college.

**CR:** When you did go to college, what did you study?

**REAGAN:** We both graduated in economics.

**CR:** Have you ever heard of UCSD?

**REAGAN:** Oh sure.

**CR:** What do you think of it?

**REAGAN:** I think it's alright. Once in a while the state school system goes a little off track.

**CR:** Do you mean the students or the professors?

**REAGAN:** Oh, I mean the Board of Regents. The professors are probably not different from any other faculty.

**CR:** Do you think conservatism has a chance on the college campus?

**REAGAN:** Sure, I've always thought that. Back about fifteen years or more when the famous wild eyes were students and professors, when you counted them up it's kind of funny. There's a demonstration at UCLA. How many students are at UCLA? Thirty or thirty-five thousand? And all of a sudden there's a big demonstration down at Westwood, headed by some of the well known names, and there would be say a thousand, and right away, quick the next morning you would go down and they would be talking about the student body out at UCLA and blah, blah, blah. "Look what they've done," and blah, blah, blah. "Look what they've said," and blah, blah, blah. "Look what they're trying to do," and so on and so forth. There's only one answer to it as far as I'm concerned. Look, there's a thousand

down there, and what are you doing? Damning the other 29,000? They didn't bother to show up. They probably thought it was just as crummy an idea as you think it is. The only thing that didn't happen was that the big bulk of the students were not activated to speak their piece. That's what we used to call, in a lot of instances, 'losing by default.' They didn't show up; they thought it was going to rain. I've always thought that the other side should have as much right to speak their mind.

**CR:** Why are you supporting San Diego mayor Pete Wilson for United States Senator?

**REAGAN:** I really didn't intend to support anybody. I was going to try and stay out of politics, because I knew right off the reel that I had a problem. The minute I said I was in favor of somebody the press would come from all sides—and they did—and say, "You've talked to your brother and he just offhandedly said to support so and so." But I was aware enough of what goes on that I knew this would happen. But I also knew that I hadn't talked

to him about it and that I respect his eleventh commandment that no Republican shall speak badly of another Republican. I guess the reason I decided was because my niece decided she was going to run for senator and I did not approve of that. So I just decided I would come out for somebody running for senate. I also wanted to come out for George Deukmejian, an old friend of mine. I knew that even mentally President Reagan wouldn't object to Deukmejian, because George was very helpful to Ronald when he was governor and George was in the legislature. When George got out, he was elected Attorney General. He has a good reputation and can handle himself well in the state legislature. As far as Pete Wilson goes, when it came time for me to pick someone running for senate I picked out the person I thought would do the best job.

**CR:** When will Dutch be in town next?

**REAGAN:** I don't have any idea?

**CR:** One final question. Are you a cowboy too?

**REAGAN:** I'm not so sure that he is a cowboy.



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California



Review





## ECONOMICS IN AND OUT OF TOWN

by Michael C. Litt

### PAPER SHACKS NO MORE

The 20 percent unemployment figure in Oregon is due largely to a depressed lumber industry. But one small sawmill has turned things around by exporting all of its lumber to Japan. "It wasn't easy," says Barbara A. Webb, President of Webco Lumber Inc. "The usual two-by-four measures 1 1/2" x 3 3/4" and about 75 percent of the studs produced are reasonably accurate. But when they (the Japanese) say 90 millimeters by 90 millimeters they mean it." The Japanese insist on overseeing the cutting process and often halt production to check measurements. On top of this, the Japanese demand Cascade-type lumber, a slower growing, tighter grained wood. Despite the stringent demands, Miss Webb admitted that without the Japanese orders she would be forced to close the mill. "The abrupt change in our (the U.S.) lumber situation has convinced us never to turn our backs on exports."

### TRAVELING?

If you plan to travel abroad this summer, it might be a good idea to exchange your dollars for foreign currency as soon as possible. Right now the dollar is stronger than it has been in a long time; but if the Fed's decision to lower the interest rates, then you'll see the dollar plunge against major foreign currencies.

### UNFRIENDLY SKIES

U.S. airlines together are losing more than \$6 million a day, and lost more than half a billion during the first three months of this year. The biggest first quarter losers were: United, \$129.3 million; Pan Am, \$127.3 million; and TWA, \$102.7 million. Only U.S. Air showed a first quarter profit: \$10.8 million. And don't forget that Freddy Laker turned a London to Madrid flight around in Mid-air when it was announced that his Laker Airtrain was bankrupt.

### NOT FOR PEANUTS

The DeBeers diamond, the fifth largest in the world at 234.65 carats, failed to sell at a recent auction even though the highest bid was \$3.16 million. It is believed that the owner was looking for a bid of \$3.5 million. The highest price ever paid for a single diamond was \$4.6 million for the 41.28 carat White Polar Star in November of 1980.

### NEIGHBORS

General Dynamics Corporation — you might remember getting stuck in one of their 5 pm traffic jams on your way to Del Mar — announced at its annual Stock holders meeting that their net annual income for this year should be "up some" from the \$121.1 million, or \$2.25 a share, earned in 1981.

### GET A JOB

Unemployment is on the rise and it seems that no one is exempt — just ask over 3,000 FedMart employees who will be looking elsewhere for jobs come June. In the Midwest, the story is the same. Each morning the unemployed line up outside Dubuque's Job Service of Iowa office. "There have been three jobs I can't handle," says an unemployed Dubuque packer, "and two of them were babysitting."

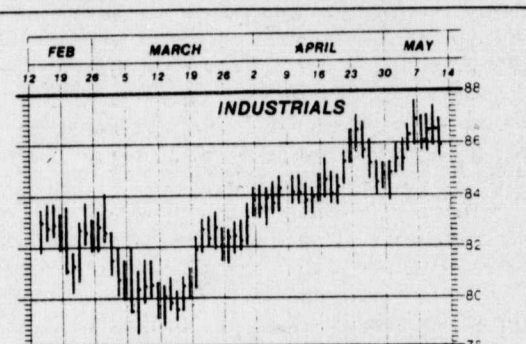


### COUNTRY DOCTORS

Competition is forcing more doctors with specialty training to locate in smaller towns that weren't served previously, according to a Rand Corp. study. "Our study contradicts the old and still prevailing theory that doctors don't react to market forces," said Albert P. Williams, one of its authors. A current strategy of the Reagan administration is to restrain rising health costs by encouraging competition among health providers. The study said that, if the supply of physicians advances at the projected rate of 30 percent over the next decade, the diffusion of medical specialists to small towns will occur at an even greater rate.

### HOG BELLIES

Hog and Pork Belly prices rose to near record levels recently, \$60.37 per 100 pounds on June deliveries. The highest Hog future price ever paid was \$64.60 per 100 pounds in October 1975. Inflation is down, but it's going to cost more to bring home the bacon.



The Dow's current up-trend, which began in mid-March, will be short lived. The bright indicators that initiated this movement will be upstaged by continued business woes. Interest rates will fall as the senatorial elections get close, but concern over the federal deficit insures a return to the presently high rates. Look to 900 as a forecasted top end, and watch for a very heavy day of trading closing near or at the hourly low. Followed by a couple of down days this marks a change in the current trend from bullish to bearish. Some say the bottom will be 820, others say 750, and a few are hollering figures of 550. Market Analysts are suggesting holding in the market be cut back on the current up-trend to about 15%. Other funds should be kept on the sidelines in short term T-bills or money markets. Liquidity will be important at the end of this year; the market should be offering some good values at that time. Utilities are in vogue and are the surest bet, get in or stay with those showing heavy insider buying.

## The Anachronism of Affirmative Action

Affirmative action has run its course and must go. It is discriminatory to whites, discrediting to blacks and unfair to all.

At a recent UCSD affirmative action meeting for black pre-law students, several black lawyers conceded that no "special obstacles" confront black law school hopefuls other than "insecurity and incompetency."

To question whether a pre-law student of the non-minority genre will be evaluated upon a basis equivalent to that of a minority is ludicrous. He will not. However, the issue of opportunity for the less privileged extends beyond impartiality and equality for all; it embraces a much broader problem — that of a contradiction between intention and result. The purpose of equal opportunity has ballooned into a promise of equal outcome, which not only is impossible, but is antithetical to liberty.

Since LBJ's 1965 executive order introducing affirmative action in the high hope of ensuring "employment for all" regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, the tenor of American life has shifted. The incentive for hard work has been depressed by a modern form of institutionalized racism.

First among the "self evident" truths in the Declaration of Independence is that all men are equal in the eyes of the law. But the policies of affirmative action have hacked this principle into loosely-defined standards slithering around the meaning of "equality." Few of the competent undergrads applying to graduate schools are intimidated by quotas and the policies of reverse discrimination, but many are aware that they will not receive a fair and "equal" evaluation simply because they are "too fortunate" to share an ethnic background with their contenders.

According to one of the lawyers at the meeting, the recruitment, admission, and graduation of blacks at most law schools is conducted by a deliberately "biased" committee that "argues your case" against non-minority applicants. Surprisingly, this same lawyer warns pre-law students that "the name of the game is hustle" — that it is a road of hard work that leads to success. If someone is handed something hitherto earned only through competition, the important "hustle" attitude wanes. A handout from the silver-platter of affirmative action can only disturb the competitive spirit and incentive among aspiring black pre-laws.

Contradiction is again manifest from another

## Young Ideas E. Clasen Young



statement made by the lawyer: "the black isn't treated any differently than the white in the legal profession...there's no affirmative action in the courtroom." Simple logic — dubious among quota-philosophes — would lead one to question why the absence of "special obstacles" in the legal profession is not paralleled by a lack of obstacles in the pre-law curriculum.

The claim that obstacles should exist for some but not for others must not continue to excuse discrimination in ushering blacks through law schools and into jobs. At UCSD, black students live in the same dorms, attend the same classes and inevitably apply to the same graduate schools as their fellow white students. Black students, however, have a better chance for acceptance. The black pre-law student will receive an extra-boost, supposedly making up for some handicap, while the "special obstacles" are shoved into the path of the white student.

Ask any liberal and he'll tell you that this nouveau-racism is an advancement toward racial equality, because blacks have been denied opportunity in the past and they deserve a chance to "credit their race." Again, logic might imply that giving something to someone where credit may be less than due is actually discrediting.

A black student who is handed a free ticket to law school signs no contract binding him to crusade for the "black cause." It is likely that instead, our affirmative action lawyer will weave his way into the mainstream — often in the name of civil rights — and climb the economic ladder by personal incentive.

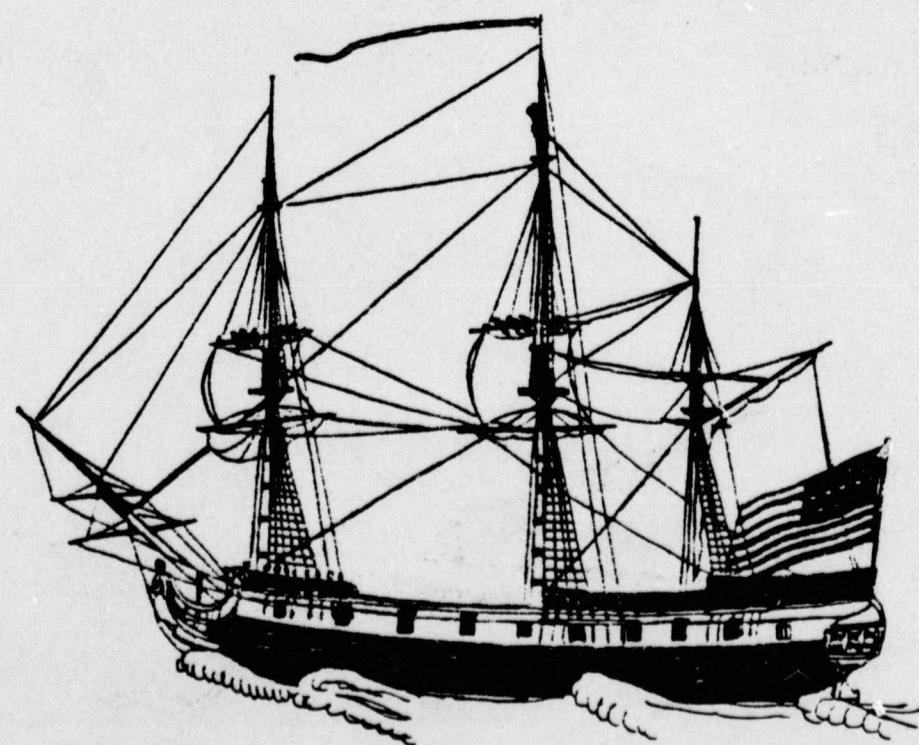
"Not enough blacks have made a commitment to the community" said one of the black woman lawyers, "we haven't seen it as important enough...as a group we must, but it hasn't happened."

Personal sacrifice is not *de rigueur*: "I won't give up my Mercedes" she said. "Poor people are not happy people...if I've sold out to the poor...well...good-bye." "But I'm black" said one man from the audience, "and I don't care what society says; I'm going to help my race if I'm given an extra chance."

Before he could finish, one of the lawyers on the panel shook her head. "Don't count on it," she said. "We all must suppress some of our fantasies to get ahead."

Is it money that lures the black lawyer from the "black crusade"? Actions stem primarily from an individual's interests rather than the community's. Like all men, blacks have personal incentive — if it is true equality they want, then it is affirmative action that has to go.

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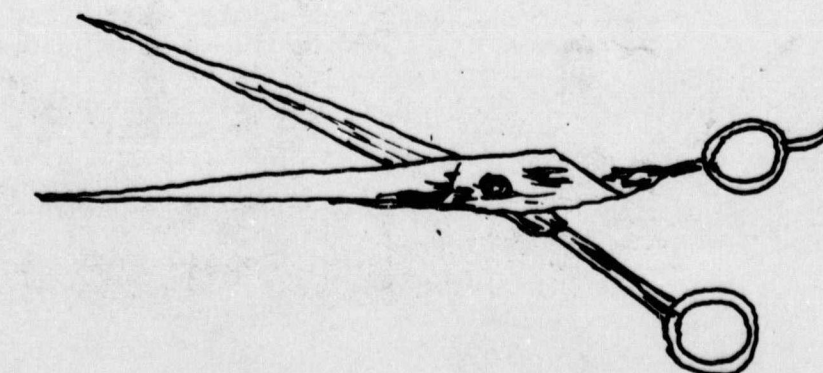


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## Financial Aid After Reagan

by C. Brandon Crocker

It has been compared to the struggle in Poland. On March first, students from all over the country flocked to Washington D.C. with signs, slogans, and 35mm cameras to tell the world that cuts in financial aid would force them out of school. Higher education will still be available for these meandering mendicants. Reagan just isn't mean enough.

Tom Rutter, Director of Financial Aid at UCSD, says that by including a \$1,000 bank loan in each aid package, all qualified students getting their applications in on time will suffer no decrease in aid next year. The grace period for repaying loans has been shortened from nine to six months after graduation and the interest rate has been upped from 7% to 9%. Some graduate students may suddenly find the real world enlightening as they will no longer be eligible for subsidized loans. Fortunately, students studying abroad will still be eligible for financial aid.

UCSD financial aid comes from student education fees. Administrative costs, which run about \$600,000 a year, are also partly covered by education and registration fees. Every UCSD student not receiving financial aid from UCSD this year paid about \$290 to help send someone else to a UC school. Put another way, if the UC financial aid programs were dropped altogether, the cost of attending UCSD would be about 25% cheaper.

For many recipients, financial aid is an option, not a necessity. Anyone who works on campus has probably heard fellow workers talk about reducing their hours or even quitting their jobs in order to keep their earnings low enough to satisfy the eligibility requirements for the work/study scheme. I found one student who used his aid to buy a car stereo, another who paid off a loan for a BMW, and many others who used the public's money to buy drugs. The "truly needy" exist but they are truly few. Even the student trotted out on a front page story of a March UCSD Guardian was not on financial aid out of necessity. She stated that losing her aid would mean working over the summer, remaining at home to save up some money, and possibly asking relatives for assistance. She did not say why receiving aid from relatives was less desirable or appropriate than getting aid from the government or other students' fees. Abuse of financial aid is actually encouraged by

some financial aid personnel. A Warren College financial aid counselor told one student that income from summer employment would not be investigated. Robert Nagler, a senior at UCSD, decided to refuse financial aid this year. Before he could get a financial aid counselor to ignore his application, he was encouraged to apply for a budget extension to increase his allowable earnings and was even asked "Why don't you stop working?"



A recent survey by the General Accounting Office shows that twenty percent of Pell Grant recipients are maintaining grade-point averages below their schools' graduation requirements. UCSD has no GPA requirements for aid recipients but Tom Rutter thinks little money is wasted on failing students at UCSD. Though other schools may spend substan-

tial sums on failing students, Mr. Rutter believes it is less than the GAO report indicates. He believes the GAO was just out to embarrass the schools in the survey.

The cry of some students that after the cuts only the rich will be able to afford higher education is ludicrous. Much of the cutting is aimed specifically at students of greater means. Students from families earning more than \$30,000 a year must now show need, and those from families earning over \$75,000 will be dropped from consideration. Moreover, between 1979 and 1980, funding for the most popular student loan program, the Guaranteed Student Loan, increased more than three hundred percent. Federal appropriations for the GSL in 1983-84 will surpass 1980-81 outlays. Put together, all the cuts in financial aid amount to less than the increase in the GSL program alone from 1979 to 1981.

In economic times far worse than today's, without any federal aid programs, those from backgrounds of poverty were still able to attend college. Frank Capra, the famous Hollywood director, put himself through school, participated in extra-curricular activities, and held down two jobs. He was an honor student. One of my high school teachers financed his education by (corny but true) selling his stamp collection. He kept himself afloat by cleaning septic tanks and dancing. President Reagan grew up in poverty but was still able, albeit by the skin of his teeth, to attend college without government aid.

Options exist even for students who are unwilling to work while going to school. Putting college off a year to work and earn money for school does not seem excessively harsh. There are also programs offered by the Armed services to finance delayed college expenses.

Some students, however, don't think Reagan will let higher education survive. As one student asserted: "Reagan is trying to ruin higher education so nobody can get a job [a great strategy to win votes and get the economic plan going] so we'll all be willing to go to El Salvador to fight for the big corporations [which would be so worse off if El Salvador fell to the Marxists than if the domestic economy collapsed]." Alas, you just can't pull the wool over the eyes of some of our more enlightened students.

## Das Boot: Boating at its finest

by Michael C. Litt

Along with paying high admission prices, movie audiences today are often compelled to see films of little cinematic quality. Challenging plots, fresh scripting, and novel cinematography have been replaced by steaming green bodies and sex. In creating *Das Boot* director Wolfgang Petersen paid no attention to Hollywood. Individual style is the password for his film.

One might inadvertently jump to the conclusion that *Das Boot* is a war film since the story revolves around a German U-boat during World War II, but war is not the film's most striking issue. At its outset it announces that three out of four men who went to sea in a U-boat never returned; it is the last time technical war issues are dealt with in the film. It is easy to forget what nation these sailors are fighting for as the good-guy-bad-guy genre of the war film is disposed of by Petersen. In its truest sense this is a film about men above and below the sea, those who have been there before and those who have not. For one of them war is the Fuhrer and Aryan youth. For another it is propagandist lies coming over a loud-speaker. For the rest it is the world of an isolated band, living in a cramped industrial tunnel, searching for Allied tonnage and running from predatory destroyers; hunters, yet hunted. The one stray character is a writer working for Goebbels, Hitler's Minister of Propaganda, assigned to gather information

about life aboard the submarine. His presence cannot be completely understood until the end, which points to him as the story's narrator.

The war is being fought somewhere in the distance. The enemy is a dark shape among ocean swells, or the seeking sounds of a radar blip; but conflict is most easily grasped from the human expression itself. In one scene Petersen draws attention to this direct personal experience by filling his screen with the faces of huddled sailors, looking up, waiting for depth charges to explode. The shot works to create space in the submarine, a place where space is virtually nonexistent. The tight living conditions are inescapable and reiterated again and again with conflicts between the men and by composition emphasizing large vertical space against a lack of horizontal space. Attention to these details heightens the urgency of Petersen's camera in hot pursuit of a sailor rushing through compartments towards the engine room for 'correct' damage reports. Concentration is focused on these smaller, yet more realistically noticeable conflicts. Another important part of the film's style is the camera's noticeable ability to zoom quickly or swoon freely among a crowd. This could come off as exaggerated or awkward, but in this case these irregular perspectives tend to mirror the emotional direction of the scene.

Petersen had a vision for his U-boat; a role as the wild hunter. A scene often repeated is the U-boat's plunging through angry seas. There is an animal freedom released upon the screen by this motion, quite different from the calculated progress of a film like *Ice Station Zebra*. Below the surface the ship's interior is filmed under red and blue lights framed by dark steel borders of the ship's hull, an effect as tranquilizing as any soundtrack. Half-way through the film U-47 finally encounters an overt enemy—a destroyer. Victories are not easily had in this film and in this instance the periscope proves to be a fallible device. It loses sight of the target and a quick cut to the oncoming bow of the destroyer is enough to slump many a posture.

*Das Boot* is tightly conceived and carried out. It follows the U-boat from its launching to its burial ground, developing an unusual affinity with its audience. Petersen has taken chances with his shakily depth charge effects and slim character development, but attention to detail and the tenuous life depicted aboard ship justifies these risks magnificently. For those who have become estranged from the cinema, *Das Boot* is a film which should quickly bring you back. A plethora of adjectives could be used in describing its effect, but let the tremendous applause received at its end suffice to say that this film is a must.

## Interview with Libertarian Guru Nathaniel Branden

by J. Stevens Valliant

photos by Todd Crossley

Psychologist Nathaniel Branden's name has become almost synonymous with "the psychology of self-esteem." Dr. Branden was born in Canada on April 9, 1930. His matriculation began at U.C.L.A. in 1949, but was completed at New York University in 1956 with his M.A. (He returned to get his Ph.D. in Los Angeles.) In 1950 he became a friend of the world-renowned novelist and philosopher Ayn Rand and thereafter his name was closely associated with her philosophy, Objectivism. With Miss Rand, who died on March 6 of this year at the age of 77, he co-edited the "Objectivist Newsletter", the monthly journal which represented the principle voice of this philosophical movement throughout the 1960s. He established in 1958 the Nathaniel Branden Institute, whose courses in Objectivism were offered in 80 cities throughout North America and Europe. In 1968, however, he ended his relationship with Ayn Rand in a controversy that divided the Objectivist-Libertarian movement in two. He closed the N.B.I. and began a private psychotherapy practice in Los Angeles, where he has also taught graduate and undergraduate courses at the University of Southern California. His psychology has led him to found the Biocentric Institute, where he conducts his practice and research in the field of psychology. His books include: *The Psychology of Self-Esteem* (1969), *Breaking Free* (1970), *The Disowned Self* (1971), *The Psychology of Romantic Love* (1980), and most recently, *The Romantic Love Question-and-Answer Book*, that he did with his lovely wife Devers. Dr. Branden will be speaking at Mandeville Auditorium, Tuesday, May 25 at 8:00 p.m.

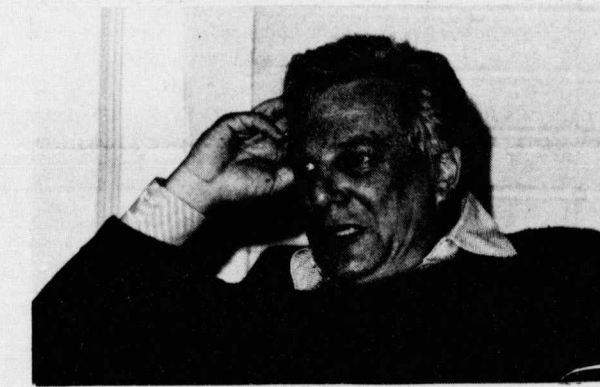


J. Stevens Valliant: May I ask about Ayn Rand? Nathaniel Branden: Sure, within limits we can.

Valliant: How did you first meet her, and what was your role in the early Objectivist Movement?

Branden: I met Miss Rand in March of 1950, when I was at U.C.L.A. and she was writing *Atlas Shrugged* in the San Fernando Valley. I wrote her a letter asking her a number of questions about her philosophy which impressed her and led to a personal meeting, which led to a personal friendship that existed for some eighteen years, from 1950 to the summer of 1968, when we came to a rather explosive parting of the ways. I began reading *Atlas Shrugged* as it was being written in manuscript in the early 1950s, at the same time that I was in school studying psychology. One of the remarkable things about her career was that years and years after *The Fountainhead* was published, people were always writing letters asking about her philosophy. I remember one evening some months before *Atlas Shrugged* was published talking about this phenomenon. I said, "You know, Ayn, when *Atlas* is published, since the new book is much more explicitly philosophical than *The Fountainhead*, we should anticipate a lot more requests for more information. It would be very interesting to have some kind of course, more structured in an academic sense, so that we can at least teach people what some of the basic ideas are. I think I'd like to teach such a course." So I just began by writing people in the metropolitan New York area who had written her letters. Later I learned that there was such a thing as advertising in the *New York Times*. I rented a little hotel room at the Sheraton-Russell on Park Avenue and 32nd Street,

and in January of 1958 the first course on the Basic Principles of Objectivism was given. I was then twenty-seven years old. It was given for the first time to thirty-two students, then to sixty-five, then to one-hundred, and then it was offered for ten years, twice a year in New York City. Then several of my friends in the New York Circle I invited to give courses on various other aspects: history, philosophy, and so on. We offered a tape program and ended-up offering it in about eighty cities across North America and Europe. What was interesting was that in the early years, when I first advanced the concept, most people thought I was crazy and couldn't think that there'd be any interest. A novelist, you know, and I wasn't offering any University credit. I wasn't cheap, either. I didn't know what the hell to charge, so in blissful ignorance I charged what I later learned was probably a high fee. It was \$70.00 for the course, and in 1958 that was a lot of money. Anyway, I'm just as glad, it all worked out for the best. Miss Rand, herself, though, was sort of skeptical. She didn't really believe that a program of this sort could be successful. She certainly gave me her intellectual support, but she was not involved financially or in any other way. It was entirely my own project. She had kind of a malevolent view of the world, and the culture. She looked on with benign incredulity as the whole program really took off and began to become more successful. So I suppose what the Nathaniel Branden Institute, as it came to be called, accomplished was that it took the work of a novelist and generated out of that an intellectual or philosophical movement. I remember



a year or two ago there was a big Libertarian convention here, and they asked my wife and I to sit on the main dias. I agreed, but everyone else at the table was doing something, speaking and so on, except me. So I said to the person who had invited me (this was David Bergland's wife), "I don't get it. What am I up here for?" But she laughed at me and said, "What? Are you being coy? Without the Nathaniel Branden Institute there would be no Libertarian Party." And then I realized that probably every founder of the Libertarian Party had been a graduate of the N.B.I. courses.

Valliant: Would you be willing to discuss the exact nature of your dispute with Ayn Rand?

Branden: It isn't that I'd not be willing to discuss it, but I'm planning to write a memoir. Since it's very personal and very complicated, I don't want to discuss it casually when it's not possible to really explain in depth. When I finish the book I'm now writing called *Honoring the Self*, which I expect to finish the end of 1982, tentatively (I haven't signed a contract yet) my next big project for 1983 is going to be the writing of a memoir. If I do, that will be a pretty historically valuable document, as it will involve much, much more than my personal relationship with Miss Rand. I'm interested in the whole phenomenon of intellectual movements. I'm interested in Objectivism as a philosophical movement. I'm interested in Libertarianism as a political movement. About Ayn Rand, I know, of course that there have been all kinds of rumors and gossip for many, many years. I've heard a lot of nonsense. Barbara Branden is, of course, writing a biography of Miss Rand; I'm sure that will be very interesting. I have access to information and materials that no one

else possesses, and I have a rather more personal story to tell.

Valliant: You have said that there is, and I quote, "a subtle, but powerful bias against emotions in Objectivism"—could you explain?

Branden: Oh, yes. The simplest example is in *Atlas Shrugged*. Anytime, almost, that Miss Rand wanted to characterize a villain, one of her chief methods is to show him acting on his feelings. If she wanted to show someone being good or strong, one of her chief methods is to show him or her setting their emotions aside. Now you do that over several hundred pages and you don't have to officially tell people that emotions are something fearful or dangerous. The message is encoded into the story. Because I'm a practicing psycho-therapist and because of my background, you can understand that I get a lot of people in my practice who are or at one time were interested in Objectivism. They almost all have been adversely affected in terms of being very inhibited, very fearful of emotion and spontaneity. There is a terrific suppression of the playful part of their own personality and a feeling that they've got to walk around looking grim all the time, because they're busy playing, God help them, what they think is John Galt or Howard Roark. Some rabbinical teaching once said, "When I stand before God, he will not ask 'Why were you not Moses?' He will ask, 'Why were you not you?'"

Valliant: If I can turn to politics, what do you think of Ronald Reagan? You've said that you are an advocate of laissez-faire capitalism...

Branden: I have very mixed attitudes on Ronald Reagan. I have a hunch that he's a man the press has



tended to intellectually underestimate. People who I don't know, who I don't think are dumb at all, and who know him personally, which I don't, tell me that he is a very shockingly knowledgeable man concerning economic matters. People who were initially skeptical and very reluctant to get involved changed their minds. Not in the sense of agreeing with everything he says, but at least realizing that he's not the lightweight that the press makes him out to be. I've heard this from such people as Arthur Laffer and Martin Anderson. I certainly don't like his position on such issues as abortion. But I can't imagine a president that I'd agree with on everything that he does internationally and domestically. I don't think that he's the unfeeling, unsympathetic puppet of the rich that the Left portrays him as. I think that he is a man who genuinely wants to do the right thing. I think he's displaying a lot of courage if you consider the amount of adversity he's contending with. 1982 is, to say the least, a nerve-racking year for all of us. But I'm a little nervous about his foreign policy. I'm nervous about what the hell we're getting involved in in El Salvador. But I don't think that many of us are eager to see a communist-controlled country so close to the United States. But on the other hand, most of our attempts to get involved in the affairs of other nations haven't left us coming out looking so good.

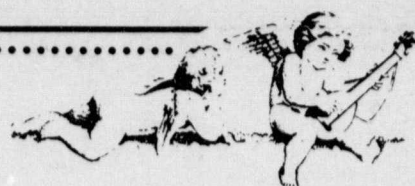
Valliant: One final question. If given enough warning, could you come and speak at U.C.S.D.?

Branden: Not only could I, I'd be delighted to do so. There's a talk that I want to give entitled "The Benefits and Hazards of the Philosophy of Ayn Rand", and if you could set it up, I'd be very interested...

J. Stevens Valliant is a Libertarian and a member of W.O.R.C.



# For the Umpteenth Time: No Handgun Control!



by Emmeline de Pillis

"Stop the Madness!" "Remember John Lennon!" They accost passersby, thrust petitions, and press pens into reluctant palms. They are the proponents of the California Gun Initiative, a proposal which is likely to be on next November's ballot.

The preamble to the Initiative states: "The people of the state of California see a direct correlation between the number of concealable handguns in circulation and the number of violent deaths and injuries inflicted on innocent persons." Intrigued by this statement, I investigated the issue further.

The full text of the Initiative is found on the back of the petition in miniature print. It has thirty-one sections and more than a hundred subsections. I breezed through it in less than four hours. Fascinating reading. Should this Orwellian masterpiece be added to our penal code, the following is certain to happen:

—I will move to Arizona.

—All handguns will have to be registered with the Attorney General by November 2, 1983. Of course, guns are already registered at the place of purchase. The buyer is required by state law to file his name, physical description, and date and place of birth. He must be over twenty-one and have a crimeless record. He cannot be a user of marijuana or narcotics, have been judged mentally defective, or have been dishonorably discharged from the military. He cannot be an illegal alien or have renounced United States citizenship. His answers to these questions are checked by the Department of Justice and the local police department. Liars are prosecuted. Verification takes at least fifteen days, and the buyer cannot carry the gun out of the store until approved.

—There will be a freeze on the number of handguns registered in California, as of April 30, 1983. All unregistered handguns will be confiscated and destroyed. The measure is retroactive. You may register only one handgun after January 1, 1982. If you purchased more than one gun after that time, the extras will be confiscated.



—Once handguns are registered, the State Legislature will have power to further restrict handgun ownership. Despite what you may have heard, Section Three of the Initiative is only a statute and therefore cannot restrict the power of the Legislature in any way.

—Certain people will be exempt from the Initiative's provisions: Law enforcement officers, security personnel, antique gun collectors, and show business producers who use firearms to portray acts of violence.

—Nonresidents will be prohibited from bringing unregistered guns into the state. After November 3, 1983, newcomers will have forty-five days to dispose of any unregistered handguns. The only legal way to do this will be to surrender them to the local police. New residents will not be allowed to register handguns and no compensation will be made for confiscated handguns.

Will this Initiative lower the crime rate and save innocent lives? No such luck, I'm afraid. This initiative is modeled after a Washington D.C. statute which took effect in February 1977. Although crime was falling in the district before the statute was enacted, after it went into effect, the murder rate rose 36 percent and the overall violent crime rate rose 45 percent. Washington D.C. now has higher rates of murder, robbery, and overall violent crime than any city of comparable size in California.

A series of studies at the University of Wisconsin, the University of Massachusetts, and the University of Indiana have shown that during the latter half of the 1970s the national per capita number of handguns increased by 25 percent, handgun involvement in homicide fell by 7 percent, and firearm involvement in violent crime dropped 10 percent.

A criminal, who doesn't care that robbery and murder are illegal, is certainly not going to care if his unregistered handgun is illegal.

As a law-abiding citizen who does not own a gun, I believe handgun registration is a stupid, expensive, dangerous idea. But don't just take my word for it. Sometimes those who support handgun registration reveal more about it than those who oppose it. In 1935, Adolph Hitler registered all firearms; shortly afterwards he confiscated all handguns.

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Simple things...Walking, running, tying your shoes. But many children—and adults—can't. They have muscular dystrophy. Please support the Muscular Dystrophy Association, helping patients today while searching for the cure. Dedicated to the idea that "No disease is incurable...there are only diseases whose cures are yet to be found."

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Their hope lies in an all-out scientific attack on neuro-muscular diseases.

### Muscular Dystrophy Association



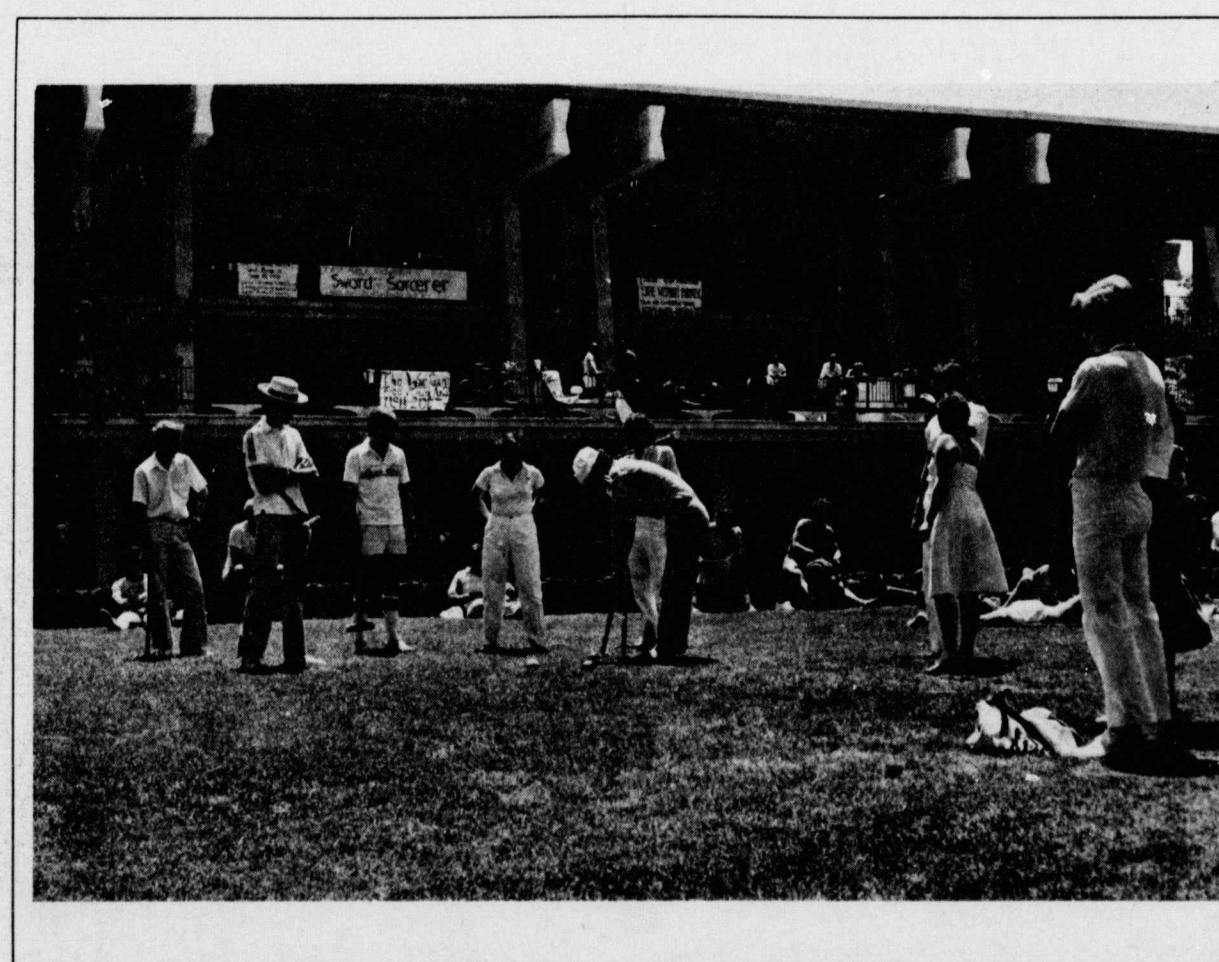
Be sensible: Don't waste your money on Jonathon Schell's latest horror story called *Fate of the Earth*. This book may be the worst of the forty some books on nuclear holocaust to hit the market this spring. Like the other authors, Schell intends to cash in on public hysteria by pandering to morbid curiosity. Hypocrisy is the ruin of Schell's thesis; while he concludes that war is a political and moral problem rather than a strategic, technical problem, it is he who dwells on the atrocities, the very technical effects of nuclear war. He offers no rational solution nor any aspirin for the headache he gives.



Golfers played through IQ-zero die-in.



The nationally famous croquet match that was held by UCSD's Sunday Croquet Club during Ground Zero Week received a fine share of harsh criticism from the Left. Most surprising to club members was a letter to the editor of the *UCSD Guardian* written by an accredited member of the Lesbian and Gay Organization. Apparently, the California homos believe that they have gained so much ground that they can pass moral judgements on others. They haven't.



Prestigious Sunday Croquet club in action



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