

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Requiem for LBJ

Last week, two significant events in American history occurred. Firstly, the war in Indochina, so much a part of our lives for the past decade, came to an apparent end when a cease-fire agreement was reached. Of course, while relieved the fighting has stopped, I am not exactly jumping for joy. Three men I knew died in that God-forsaken conflict. What more can I say. Certainly there is no peace with honor. Only a peace with profound guilt. Over 50,000 Americans and innumerable Vietnamese died in vain.

Also last week, a man whose name became synonymous with the Vietnam war died. Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th President of the United States, succumbed to a heart attack at age 64.

Continuing the policies of the late President John F. Kennedy, Johnson's Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, both measures proclaiming the equality of all Americans. Equality which should be an inherent right; a creative equality. Johnson dreamed of a "Great Society." But those dreams were crushed in faraway Vietnam.

LBJ fell into a trap. A trap which apparently grabs many liberal Presidents. Frustrated by a failure to win the war against oppression at home, he sought to win it in another land. He also fell into the trap which has snared U.S. Presidents from Truman to Nixon; that of a continual American involvement in Vietnam.

It is unfortunate that Lyndon Johnson will be remembered for committing American Military forces to wage what I term an immoral war. In my mind, President Johnson was a peace-seeking man who lost his way. I will try to remember him for his civil rights and other social-domestic accomplishments. Granted, it is difficult, but I am trying.

LBJ was a man who loved people. Here was a man who in his lifetime must have shaken millions of hands. He was a man of political fortitude.

Yet a man evidently so weary and disgusted of the war he was waging he declined to run for a second term for the presidency. With the blood of Vietnam staining his hands, he passed the office to Richard Nixon, and the blood stains came to reach Nixon's elbows.

Lyndon B. Johnson retired to the solitude of his Texas ranch in 1969. His restless energy was stilled last week.

The man who enjoyed being with great multitudes of people died alone, calling for help.

That is the saga of LBJ. He deserved much more than that.

Robert W. Bonaker

A REAL

PET PROBLEM

We have learned that many of the houses in Meade Heights are harboring thousands of pet ANTS. No one will admit to bringing them onto the campus, so we must assume that some cruel fiend abandoned them. As a result these pet ANTS have taken up residence in many of the houses. We are asking the administration to take steps to remove these unwanted pets from the Heights.

Mr. Norman Gautreau, Housing and Food Services Officer, is recuperating at his home at 909 Weaver Ave., Meade Heights following recent surgery.

He reportedly had his appendix and gall bladder removed. He is evidently in fine shape. The staff of The Capitolist wishes him a quick recovery, and hopes to see him back on the job in the near future.

Get Well

Beware of Snoopy

Reliable sources have made it known that the beloved character of the "Peanuts" comic strip called Snoopy can cause a real hassle for anyone found copying his image, in any way, without the permission of the creator of the strip, Charles Shulz. It seems that Shulz has created a four man team of investigators to seek out instances where Snoopy is appearing without the consent of his creator. So a word of caution: despite the small chance that you might be discovered using Snoopy for the subject of a poster, or something of that nature, you never know who might be watching. Better use another character. Snoopy could prove to have a bite as bad as his bark!!!

Could this Be The Answer?

In light of all the controversy which has arisen as a result of pets being confiscated from houses in Meade Heights, the Meade Heights Board of Governors met last Thursday night to consider measures which might end what many students feel is an infringement on their rights. The pet policy they laid out at the meeting contains the following rules:

(1) Anyone wishing to have a pet in the Heights must pay a deposit of \$35.00 to the Housing Office to cover any damage which the pet might cause. Part of this deposit will be returned when the student removed the pet from campus, if no damage had been done.

(2) All pets brought into the Heights would have to have all the proper inoculations against diseases.

(3) The pet would have to be licensed either in Dauphin County or in the county where the owner resides.

(4) All roommates would have to agree to have the pet in the house.

(5) In the case of complaints about the pet:

The first complaint of damage or bad behavior of the pet would result in a warning to the owner to correct the situation.

In the case of second complaint about the pet, the owner would have to remove the pet from the campus.

It is my opinion that a policy with these rules enforced could be a very feasible plan for both students and the administration of this campus. With a housing set up like Meade Heights, I think pets could easily be assimilated and that their good care and conduct could be assured by the policy I have just described. Understand that this policy is only being considered at this time, and that NO-Pet policy is still in effect. If you feel that the proposed policy is a good one and that you would support a policy like it, let those members of the Meade Heights Board of Governors know of your support. We must all work together if we hope to ever have a Pet Policy on this campus.

Mike Welliver
Co-Editor

COMBAT ZONE

by Barbara Boswell

How many times have you heard the phrase, "the real world"? The words are usually accompanied by an imaginary neon arrow flashing "out there" . . . "out there" . . . "out there"

Well, I'm coming to the conclusion that "the real world" is a shitload closer to "in here" than a lot of people realize. (Ah, ignorance is bliss!)

Quite similar to the way this nation of people, (who are clothed in near-helplessness left to them by some distant relative named "precedent"), watch the media for some obscure hint of what their highest elected official knows of their future, (it's a secret, you know), the undergraduate student body of this campus community was not informed of changes (the Student Affairs thing) by its president.

Mike Dini, our SGA president, was informed of the organizational changes within Student Affairs by Mr. Dressler BEFORE Dean Grimm was informed of them. He chose not to mention them to anyone.

I spoke to Mike about this on Monday afternoon. He said that when Mr. Dressler mentioned the changes to him, he (Mike) was under the impression that it was an "of the record" conversation. Such are the things

of which forget - the constituencies are made.

I cannot quite decide whether I am angry or disappointed with-in Mike. Perhaps the disappointment is from which the anger stems. I have this crazy idealistic idea that as student body president, Mike's first concern and allegiance should rest with the undergraduate student body, issue by issue, rather than with the administration on some occasions in order to remain "in good graces" should a particular "need" arise.

Mike knows that he is the topic of this week's Combat Zone. I told him. (An advantage that the administration did not have last week). I can see how the position of SGA president can seem like a tightrope "stuck" to the one who holds such an office. Like Mike mentioned, there's the thing about trust. (Well maybe, just maybe, trust, like love, is near impossible to give or receive unless one has it for himself. (In himself?) The undergraduate student body has invested some degree of trust in its president. Let's hope that there will be no repetition of this sort of secrecy. I think that we can afford this sort of dissimilarity to the "real world out there" . . . "out there" . . . "out there" . . .

Spring Weekend Getting Together

Planning for the Spring weekend got under way last week when a meeting was held for interested students in the Gallery Lounge. This year, all campus organizations are being asked to participate by sponsoring their own separate programs during the weekend. All events will be organized under the auspices of Mike Leasher. Two music events, on Saturday and Sunday, will be offered by Goodpeople Productions who were responsible for last year's Rock Festival. Paul Mirabile heads this organization. Don Snyder is the representative from the Social Committee, and together these three people comprise the core of the organization.

This year, the emphasis will be on a more general theme of music and arts. Attempts will be made to attract a much smaller and more collegiate crowd than last year. Space limitations have been created by the trailer village, so the music events will be staged near the engineering labs instead of in front of the Main Building.

The success of this weekend depends on the unity of the effort made by all organizations. There are many aspects of an undertaking of this nature, and there is room for help from all groups. Any organization or individual who is interested in participating should contact the Events Coordinator as soon as possible so that scheduling can be handled. Please call Mike Leasher 944-3079 if you have ideas for your group.

Fly Me To The Moon

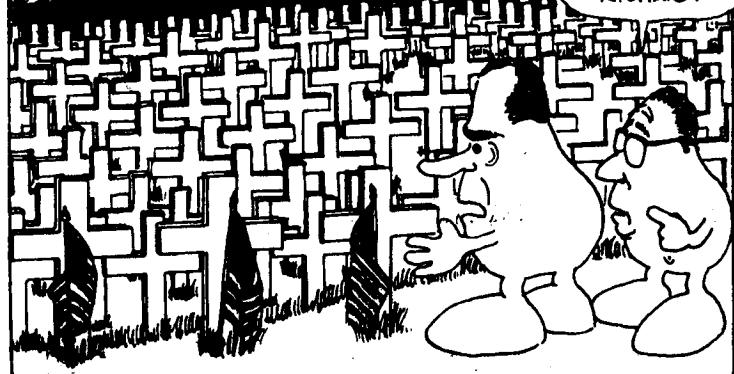
(CPS)--United States astronauts James A. Lovell, Jr. and Donald Slayton were in Brazil last week. They were often asked why there weren't any women astronauts in the American space program. Lovell's answer was,

"Well, we've never sent any women into space because we haven't had a good reason to. We fully envision, however, that in the near future we will fly women into space and use them the same way we use them on earth - for the same purpose."

Gremlin Village Gene Mater

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
THE WAR IS OVER.
CHEER GODDAMMIT!

THEY - THEY'RE
NOT CHEERING,
RICHARD.



— IN MEMORY OF BRAD BOSWELL, CPL USMC —

Signed articles and letters from interested students, faculty and staff are gratefully accepted.

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