

J.P. Stevens Law Breaker

This editorial is in response to the letter to the editor received from Gratz Washenik and WMC, which was printed in the Feb. 13 reader issue.

Such employer attitude ... suggests retrogression to the unbelievable practices involving child labor 100 years ago."

This statement was made by Boyed Leedom, a former chairperson of the National Labor Relations Board in reference to the J.P. Stevens Company.

In 1976 the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers union (AFL-CIO) called for a national boycott of Steven's products and calls Stevens, "The No. 1 labor law breaker."

Both Leedom and the AFL-CIO have good reasons for their statements. And there are good reasons for the boycott.

J.P. Stevens is the nation's largest textile company, with 85 plants and employs 44,000 workers. For 25 years, the AFL-CIO has been trying to bring union representation to the southern textile workers in the 83 Stevens' factories located throughout the south.

To this date, unionization has been impossible. The workers want the union, but J.P. Stevens does not. In fact, Stevens has engaged in severe tactics to keep the union out.

Included in Stevens' tactics are, the firing of pro-union workers, electronic spying on union organizers, coercive interrogation of employees, promotion of racial segregation between workers and the threatening of closing down factories.

The National Labor Relations Board has found Stevens guilty of unfair labor practices 15 times. The only almost forward step toward unionization was made in 1974 when 3,000 workers in 7 Stevens' plants in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, voted for union representation.

The J.P. Stevens Company refused to bargain. No one single employee to this date has worked under a union contract.

Within the last 25 years, J.P. Stevens has closed 21 factories in the north putting 11,800 union people out of jobs. Stevens has fled to the south where it now exploits unorganized, cheap southern labor.

And southern labor is cheap. The average southern factory worker's wage is 31 percent less than the national average wage.

Not only are wages deplorable, but working conditions are no better.

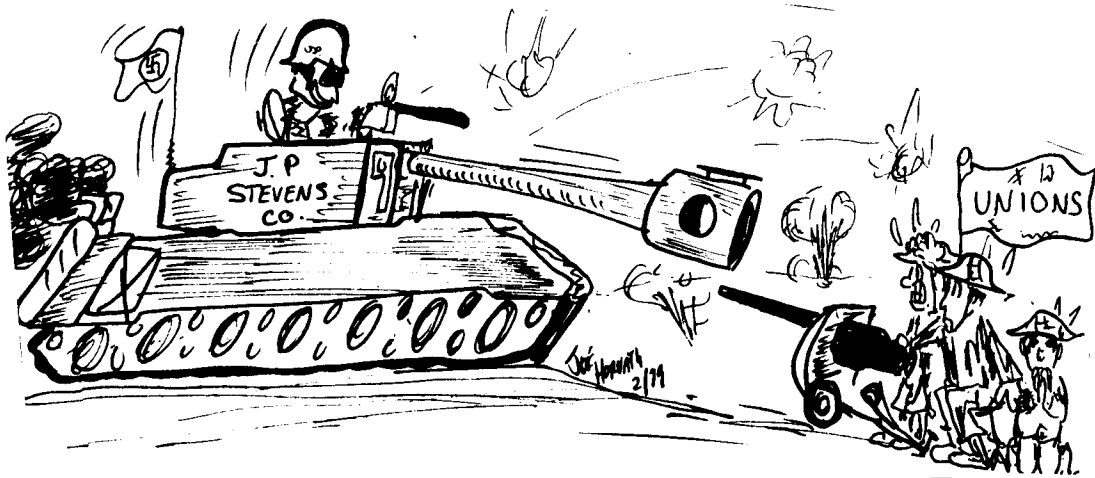
The noise level in Stevens' plants have been found to be 20 times louder than law permits; and cotton dust, a cause of brown lung, has been found to be three times the permissible level stated under the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

There is no lunch hour in Stevens' plants. Employees eat while they work.

In this day and age of social concern, how can the conditions found in J.P. Stevens' factories be allowed to exist? It seems ironic that President Carter deems it necessary to criticize other countries around the world for their denial of Human Rights when such a drastic representation exists within his own country.

How can this nation's people accept the behavior of the J.P. Stevens Company?

By its anti-social, illegal activities and ignorant defiance, the J.P. Stevens Company has forced the decision of boycott as the only democratic action available in response to its tyranny.



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GOOD PEOPLE
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MARCH 15 8 PM
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\$12.00
\$15.00

Shafted

After weeks of publicity, the Stanley Turrentine concert was a bomb -- financially and culturally.

The fact that only 40 Capital students bought advance tickets to the concert could be an indication to the reason the concert failed. Students at Capitol do not seem to be avid jazz fans -- or perhaps, students are not avid fans of not so popular jazz musicians.

It seems that GPP should have been more sensitive to the complaints they received about a jazz concert. Obviously, a letter to the editor defending their choice was not the action they should have taken (see reader Jan. 25 issue).

Concerning the financial aspect, a loss of \$5,300 would not seem so bad if even 400 would have bought tickets to a concert.

Hopefully, future GPP concerts will be oriented towards a larger faction of the student body.

letters



to

I will be very glad if the C.C. Reader can bring this night class matter to the attention of the administration. Thank you.

Ly Ngujen
8th Term EDET

Butt rebuttal

Mssrs. Mitsch, Boyd, White Kuchera, Kercher:

editor

Wants classes

Editor:

Wouldn't it be nice to have night classes for undergraduate engineering tech. majors? There has not been any public survey for replying, but here's my suggestion.

There must be sufficient Co.Op. students who will be staying on campus while working. There are guys, who are struggling to make their living, and like to keep up with study. Where can they go? There are only periods that start at 4:30 p.m. which is inconvenient.

I have found out that Professor Morse is willing to give a night math class. What about other professors? Let's leave out financial talks, I have heard something similar about night classes for Engineering Tech. Sudents. Is this true? Where are our administrators?

Concerning your article last week titled **Joy, butt out**, I would simply like to state a few minor corrections.

First of all, you incorrectly quoted me as saying "Just watch me" when in fact I said "Watch me".

Secondly, my name is correctly spelled Edmondson.

Smoker,
Joy L. Edmondson
11th Term Soc. Sci.

Thank you

Editor

I just want to say a big thank you to all the guys and gals who helped me during the last two weeks. Many of you I did not even know, and yet you helped a stranger.

The students at Capitol Campus are, to me, the greatest!

Again, many thanks.

Sherry Shaffer