

## edna: the poor students' philosopher

Farewell to all, but before you depart Highacres, take along this list of fun things to do when final exams are over.

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Say goodbye to the trees, the grass, and the chipmunks and say Hello to your summer employer.

Burn all of your Bluebooks!

Take a scenic drive to McAdoo or Tresckow.

Forget three terms of knowledge.

Buy a new pair of sneakers.

Find out if Carole Shenosky's car REALLY runs on heilupki juice!

Spurge all of your money on the bookstore sales.

Change you major (again!)

Look in the catalogue to find out that you're taking the wrong History course.

Pack to go home, to go to U-Park or to go insane.

# Whose America?

by Alan Prichard

Watching the Watergate hearings on TV and their revelations about secrecy, wiretaps, etc., forces one to realize how far we've come since WWII. Sure, we've had corruption and scandals before in our history, but not like Watergate. The men in the Watergate conspiracy were not after money, although they used money as one of many tools to their end. Rather, their goal was inside, secret information that would be used to protect Nixon and his re-election committee and as a by-product, political intelligence on the Democratic party. But the difference between the present and past scandals is that the Watergate break-in is only the most salient incident in a much wider pattern of dirty tricks on the campaign trail and secrecy in government. Watergate could be considered a product of the Vietnam War experience. The abridgement of our personal liberties in the Vietnam era in the form of preventative detention, no-knock, and increased wiretapping relates to the same pattern in past wars. War breeds its own philosophy in the minds of those in power.

The Nixon administration's paranoia about security is only the latest examples of such concerns. The Kennedy and Johnson administration exhibited much the same concerns. This phenomena has grown so gradually in the last 20 years that no one realized it until they found our leaders blatantly lying and hiding information from the American public about our involvement in Vietnam. The legacy of the Cold War dies hard.

On a different level, Watergate has become a symbol of everything Nixon's vision of the future of America represents. For Watergate was only able to grow in the atmosphere Nixon created from the top. This vision is shown everytime he speaks. Common themes appear again and again. These are the themes of hard work in life and sports, the belief in everything "right about America," "generation of peace," "peace with honor," and the reaffirmation of the American Creed.

It would be easy to attack these statements in light of the record of the Nixon administration, but they appear so many times, and are spoken with such fervor, that it's obvious he really believes them. The real vision of Nixon's America as demonstrated demonstrated the last four years with such fervor, that it's obvious he really believes them. The real vision of Nixon's America as demonstrated the last four years bears little relationship to this public rhetoric. His policies have favored the unblack, unpoor, namely the powerful. He caters strictly to the middle-class, white, "silent majority." Rarely has a national administration followed one policy so consistently.

Personally, I feel this conception of America and her people is not valid for most of us. This was best shown during the anti-war demonstrations of 1970 in Washington. In an eerie, strange and possibly poignant moment, Nixon appeared in the early morning at the Lincoln Memorial and spoke with the protesters. But he only talked about the weather and sports. The reporters (and protesters) could see that he was trying to relate to the protesters, but the gap was too great. After Vietnam, Americans can't relate to Nixon's values anymore. No longer do we believe, "our country right or wrong" which Nixon has stated again and again but in different words. No longer do Americans believe their own government, rather we usually assume it's lying until proven otherwise. And Americans dearly want to believe again, but they can't. That is the legacy of Vietnam and Watergate.

No, we must reject Nixon's America and fight for our own. We can't wait, expecting Nixon to be impeached. This will probably never happen. If Nixon will not support civil rights, the

end of secrecy, the cutting of the defense budget, of the end of cutbacks in domestic programs, we must fight for them ourselves in Congress and the courts. We can limit the effects of the Nixon administration the next 4 years, but we can do more. We can ensure that we have two good candidates, a real choice for most Americans in 1976. Watergate is a symbol of what America can become in a very short time-Nixon's America. Only we, as the best-informed and best-equipped of the nation, can spearhead the change that can form a new America where everyone can believe their government, where there is equal opportunity for all. You CAN make a difference. The blue collar workers and poor aren't going to do this. Only YOU can. Your participation is more vital now than when Eugene McCarthy beckoned you from New Hampshire in March 1968. It's your country, your choice, your responsibility. The future is now.

## How's Your IQ?

### (Insanity Quotient)

by Deborah Berger

5. What is your opinion of grape jelly?

- a. It's great fun to finger-paint with
- b. When you try to clean it out of your ears, it only gets under your fingernails
- c. It doesn't go with hot dogs not marked "all meat"

6. What is your definition of the greatest feeling in the world?

- a. Knowing somebody loves you
- b. wearing a velvet undershirt inside-out
- c. Smelling like a Tahitian lime

7. How and where do you take out your inner tensions?

- a. Counting to ten before you fall asleep
- b. Kicking at telephone poles and cussing
- c. Fixating hamsters

8. What are your plans for the future?

- a. To become a professional college student
- b. To find happiness
- c. Presently, you're too busy living in the past to think about the future

9. The game of ping pong was originated by:

- a. Two oriental characters named Ping and Pong
- b. A couple of fixated hamsters let loose in the SUB
- c. Gussie Verbonitz

10. What is your opinion of questionnaires like this?

- a. They're more fun than finger-painting with grape jelly
- b. No comment
- c. \$%&\*@!+\$%&\*

Now you'll want the results of your exam. To begin with, there is something to be said for you if you actually got out a pen and answered it: you're probably fun to know. Anyway, for those of you who did bother, here are the simple directions for figuring out your score and its significance:

1. If you had more than one D reply, you need glasses.
2. If the number of A answers exceeds the sum of the square roots of C and B answers, you're in love.
3. If the number of B answers minus the number of A answers times 3.1416 plus the number of C answers divided by the year of your birth is half of the sum of A and B answers, you would be happier putting bands on cigars in Puxatawney.

Well folks, until next year, keep smiling, and remember me as your friendly neighborhood fanatic.

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