

The Observer

The Student Newspaper of
Case Western Reserve University

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Crime

Mather Associate Dean Elizabeth Walker instituted a sign-up plan last month to curtail crime in the Mather dorms. There weren't any thefts while school was in session, but over spring vacation, when the Mather dorms were closed down and the front door locks changed, somebody broke into a Tyler House room and made off with three stereos. Ironically, the girl who lost her stereo was storing two stereos belonging to a couple of Clarke Tower residents. The Adelbert men didn't want to leave their equipment in their crimeridden dorm and thought that stowing their stereos in Tyler would be prudent insurance against theft. Tyler's housemother, Mrs. Katherine Foster, didn't know how the robbers or robber got into the dorm but said that "they went right to the room and stole the stereos."

Dean Walker's sign-up plan can't stop crime and neither can locked doors over vacations. A number of locks were forced in Adelbert dorms last week. The Case suite arrangement seems to deter robberies, but the university can't be expected to transform quads into suites. At the very least, the dorms should provide their residents with one secure storage room in which all belongings are insured by the university against theft.

Muggings and assaults which rise every spring can be deterred by the presence of Greenie foot patrolmen. The closing down of the Graduate House should free Greenies to walk the sidewalks around the dorm complexes. Also, Clarke Tower's long-neglected request for a security guard by the front door and its unheeded petition to complete the fence around the Clarke Tower parking lot must be acted upon at once. Lights, destroyed by violent winds this winter, around the dorms should be replaced immediately. In demanding these protective measures, it should not be assumed that we advocate putting a ring of Greenies around the dorms, further isolating the campus from the community. Ultimately, a solution to the crime problem will come from a close relationship with the surrounding residents.

Rumors

A tactic used in public relations to release explosive information quietly is currently in vogue. This tactic consists of dribbling rumors to the public to the effect that a certain event might happen, but then, again, might never occur. Later, when the actual event does occur as was predicted, it has become an anti-climax, and the public's reaction is "Oh well, I heard that might happen a long time ago."

This technique was used by the Nixon administration to quietly move U.S. troops into Laos. Taking a lesson from Tricky Dick, the CWRU administration is now using this ploy in its attempts to restructure the university with the possible consequence of eliminating the degree-granting program of Cleveland College.

In a series of meetings, Provost Herman Stein warned the deans and alumni that plans were being made to effect a "change" in Cleveland College, possibly removing the credit programs from its jurisdiction. It was threatened that this could happen, but then, again, it might not. According to Assistant Dean Sherwood Greenfield on May 1, Cleveland College will be notified of its fate.

Although news of impending changes has leaked to the students, it has only been in the form of rumors. Nothing official has been released. When questioned about the possible decisions, the administrators, answerable only to the trustees, say, "But it is all only rumor. It might not happen" and say nothing more.

Not even Don Quixote could fight a rumor. Lacking are the necessary, and unobtainable, answers to Who?, How?, and, most importantly, Why? Thus, those who would be directly affected are impotent to influence the direction of these decisions.

This is the way it appears on the outside and the Administration has done nothing to dispel the rumors, whatever their source. We hope that the administration clears up the confusion this week.

Quote of the Week

Saigon-(UPI)-South Vietnamese President Van Thieu said today, "American justice has done well" in convicting Lt. William L. Calley. He said, "I was confident American justice would punish anyone guilty."

Forum

Environment crisis

By DAVID R. PIERRE

Ohio is in an environmental crisis. Government has failed to meet its responsibility to the people of providing the needed control on the environment. The people of Ohio, students, faculty, and enlightened citizens, must organize to affect the state government. The organization is here. The Ohio Public Interest Action Group (OPIAG), an inspiration of Ralph Nader, is now being formed to serve the concerns of the public. Two members of "Nader's Raiders," James Welch and Donald Ross, are in Ohio coordinating the organization of OPIAG in a three-phase program:

Phase 1: Develop or find local organizations in every community which can organize and coordinate efforts to fund OPIAG.

Phase 2: Locate and recruit the highest quality lawyers, scientists, and other professionals and personnel into offices in Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati.

Phase 3: Operate as a public concern: Provide funds for educational programs and for local students and citizens to do

research on environmental problems. Utilize the research in court to sue polluters, to lobby for real pollution laws, and to reorient state pollution control agencies from industrial interest to public concern.

Right now, OPIAG is in Phase 1. A fund drive is under way to raise one million dollars by Earth Week, April 19-25. The drive encompasses the entire state, including CWRU, where the drive is being coordinated by Project Survival. If enough funds are collected to set up a Cleveland office, work will concentrate locally on urban problems—especially in the inner city where such problems as pollution and consumer frauds are most intense. And as James Welch said, "The problems here are legendary now. I hate to use the cliches, but (Cleveland) is one of the few places in America where you've got a dead lake and a river that burns." OPIAG would be able to attack the problem of the fiery Cuyahoga. There is a law that simply states that an industry must have a license to pollute any river or harbor in Ohio. That law is being com-

pletely ignored by both industry and government. Few licenses have been issued, and of those that have, almost none have been renewed. Legally, this means that most industries are polluting the Cuyahoga illegally. OPIAG would see that this law and others like it would be enforced. Also, OPIAG would see that new legislation would be enacted to provide real controls on the environment.

"Earth Day, 1970, was, to many of us, an 'all-day sucker', and many students turned off when the technical problems and social thrust did not fit their ideas of 'relevance.' The Nader OPIAG idea makes possible in the most direct way the physical and political results of concern about the environment. You want to see it happen, help make it happen. Turn on, get in, get wet, splash others. The logical result of scholarly endeavor in the environment is often political, non-partisan, and does not direct energy away from concerns about American life style, justice, foreign and internal policy. It's all the same bag." This is the view of Dr. Eugene V. Perrin of the medical school, coordinator of Project Survival.

Forum

Martin Luther King

By KEN MAXWELL

On April 3, 1968, Martin Luther King, a man with a dream, was murdered in Memphis. King was murdered because he was a leader of black people. King was murdered because he opposed the war in Vietnam. His dream was the freedom of black people and the end of the war in Vietnam. This dream still lives today.

Across the country this April 3, actions are being taken in commemoration of Dr. King. Ranging from a mass demonstration by black people in Detroit to memorial services in a number of cities, these actions have the common goal of commemorating King and fighting for what King believed in—freedom for black people and an end to the war.

In Cleveland, the Southern

Christian Leadership Conference and the Cleveland Area Peace Action Council are co-sponsoring a memorial meeting for Dr. King on Saturday, April 3. This meeting is not simply a meeting to commemorate King; it is a meeting to further the dreams of King. For this reason, the meeting will be a broad one with a wide spectrum of speakers and participants.

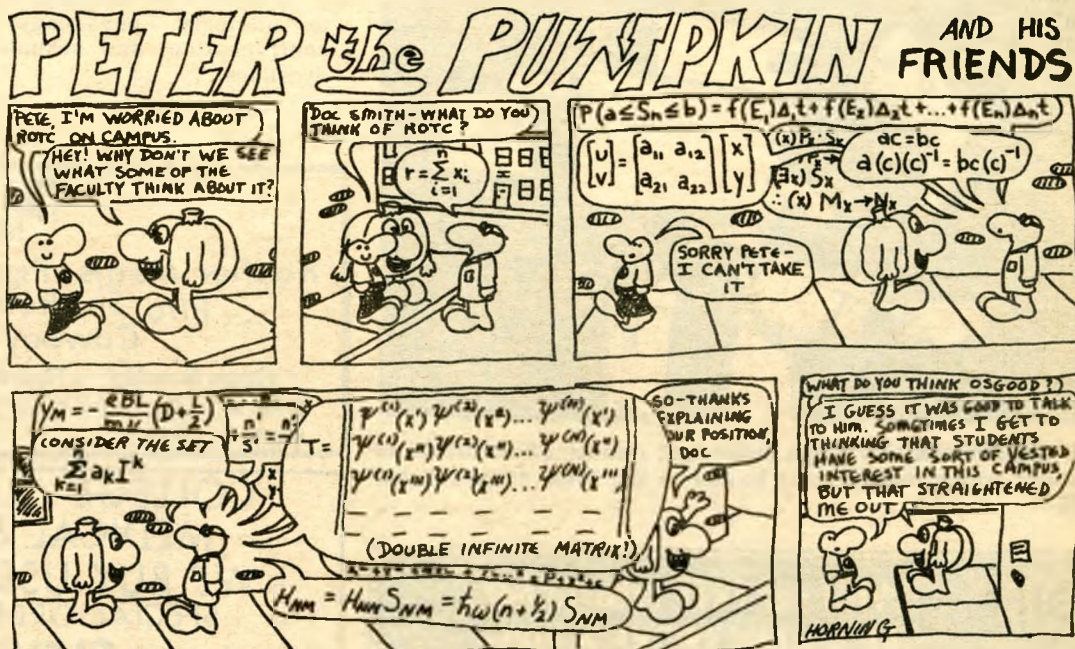
The speakers for the April 3 meeting include Mayor Carl Stokes, Rev. E.R. Osburn of Cleveland SCLC, J.T. Williams of the National Peace Action Coalition and the Teamsters Union, Rev. Robert Hull of SCLC, and Hattie McCutcheon of the Student Mobilization Committee. Entertainment will be provided by the Fabulations and the Operation Breadbasket Gospel

Choir.

The meeting is being sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Cleveland Area Peace Action Council, Student Mobilization Committee, MLK Youth House, Urban League, NAACP, Coalition for Change, New Democratic Coalition, National Welfare Rights Organization, and Women Speak Out for Peace and Justice.

All are urged to attend this meeting, both to commemorate one of the leading civil rights and peace activists and to further these causes. Join with others to further Martin Luther King's Dream.

The meeting will be held at St. Agnes Church, 8000 Euclid Ave. It will begin at 2 p.m., Saturday, April 3.



- TEST YOUR COMIC-STRIP KNOWLEDGE:
1. THIS STRIP WAS
 - A. ESSENTIALLY FUNNY
 - B. ESSENTIALLY NOT VERY FUNNY
 - C. SOCIALLY RELEVANT
 - D. COMMUNIST INSPIRED
 2. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE IDEA BEHIND THIS COMIC STRIP?
 - A. YES
 - B. NO
 - C. THERE IS NO IDEA BEHIND THIS STRIP