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THE FIXER

"In a sick country, every step to health is an insult to those who live on its sickness."

Bernard Malamud, The Fixer

Vol. II, No. 19

Aug. 9. Last summer issue

DRUGS?

This fall I hope to get together with other interested students in an effort to study the drug situation of today. It's taken me all last year and this summer to finally come to the conclusion that we students are going to have to get together to study this "little" thing that's affecting our lives so much.

Parents are being urged to find out about drugs so if and when their kid "comes in stoned" they won't jump to the asinine conclusion that "it must be LSD." Teachers are presently being informed about drug use (and abuse) through programs, one of which is located at Madison during the summer. Our "superiors" here at Madison seem to be ignoring the students until there's a raid which shakes them up a little.

Our Counseling Center has a library with a considerable amount of reading materials on drugs and society. The Sociology Department has offered, in the past, several programs concerning drugs. Is this enough? Are we accomplishing anything besides every now and then bringing up the subject only to the aggravation of those who say they don't care about the situation.

Would it be possible to bring about a synthesis of truthful knowledge on drugs and society? It's been done elsewhere but what about here?

At U.Va., Medical and law students drew up an extremely objective synthesis of drugs (pardon the pun) and compiled it into a handbook-like pamphlet called "Drug Use." Why can't we do such a thing to help rid ourselves of the prejudices and superstitions of the general student body at Madison? If you started ridding yourself of these things, would it take you a year and a half too? A better question is, would you

even spend a year and a half doing it?

I would like to beg "forgiveness" of those people I knew last year--those people that I ostracized due to my ignorance at the time of that situation. You were just as much at fault as I was, but I was the more close-minded of the two. Yes, I was scared because I found out too late that I knew hardly nothing about your drug. I also discovered what a hypocrite I was because of my own abuse of the drug, alcohol.

Am I getting too melodramatic? Perhaps--but that knife in the back "sort of" changed my viewpoint. The knife was Dr. Helen Nowlis' book, Drugs on the College Campus (the Doubleday edition). Dr. Nowlis finally clarified the problem for me.

Why don't we get together as a student body and exchange "knives"? You stab me with your beliefs and I'll stab you a little with mine. As soon as we've bled somewhat profusely, maybe we'll be able to find some answers. Get your "band-aides" ready and I'll see you in the fall.

Bill Connolly

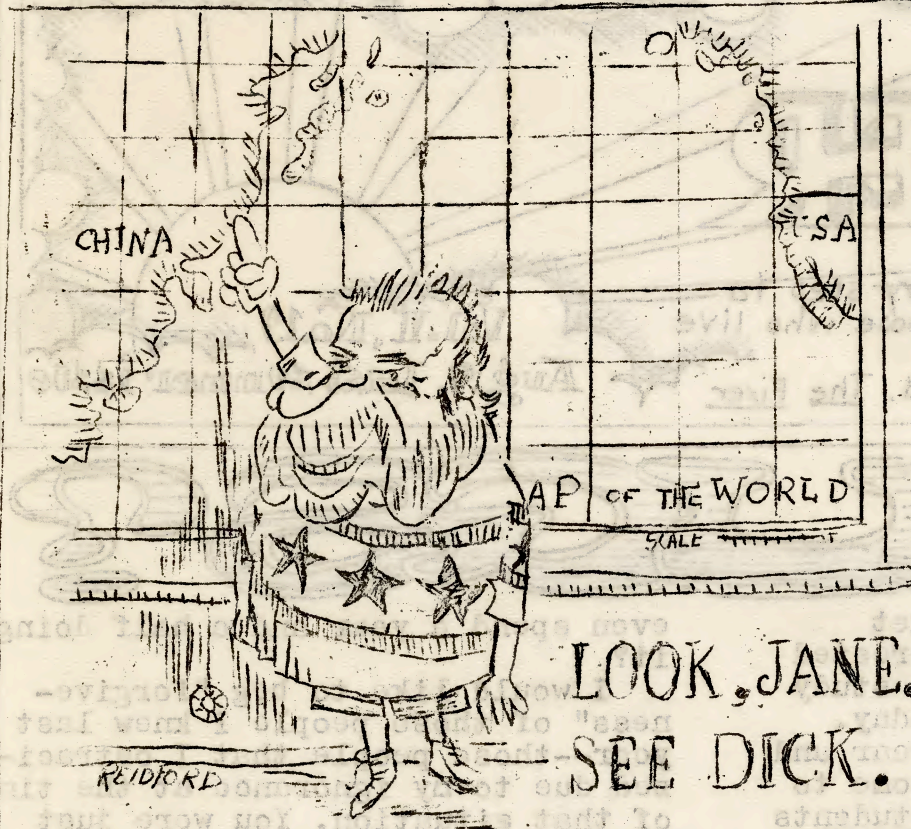
P.S. If you have any ideas on what we could do in order to study the situation, WRITE and let me know what you're thinking.

WOMEN Birth Control Abortion

FREE BIRTH CONTROL AND ABORTION COUNSELING is available through Charlottesville Women's Liberation. Virginia's new "liberalized" law now allows women whose mental and physical well-being will be impaired by brining a pregnancy to term to have an abortion. Call Barbara at 296-9009 or Dianne at 296-4403 if you need help or want information. Lack of money can be overcome.

The Virginia Weekly

BIRDS OF
BIRDS OF A FEATHER



LOOK, JANE.
SEE DICK.

DICK HAS DISCOVERED
A NEW COUNTRY.

DICK HAS DISCOVERED
CHINA!

THE LORE & MAIL

The Senate Judiciary Committee, headed by famed white racist and parasite Sen. Eastland (D.--Miss.), recently approved President Nixon's appointment of right-wing extremist and John Bircher Otto Otepka to a full four-year term on the so-called Subversive Activities Control Board. Otepka's record shows that his notion of a subversive is a person who fights against racism and nazism.

--Muhammad Speaks

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"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who are cold and are not clothed.... This is not a way of life at all. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron. Is there no other way the world may live?"

Dwight Eisenhower, 1952

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The heritage of Western Man has produced a whole civilization that lives in a constant state of fear and uncertainty. Support for this statement is found in the evolution of the Christian religion. Western Man has invented and worships a God who has the contradictory characteristics of being both just, all-wise, and yet at the same time vengeful and punishing. This combination of anamolys impossible to conceptualize has resulted in Western Man's tendency to compartmentalize everything. What we must do and teach our children to do is to see the whole progression of mankind and to be able to identify one's place in society by a reference to all humanity instead of a particular generation. This of course is rare - the popular thing to do is to reject what has gone before as old fashioned and irrelevant. This happened in the Renaissance and it is happening today.

In order for Western Man to retain any sanity whatsoever, he has to sublimate himself into his work. This, of course, has produced great technological advances but it also has produced the specialized man who rarely understands the purpose of his work and almost never sees it as a necessary part of a whole system or understands that system in relation to the rest of the world. As a result of this non-self, God has been so dissected that people cannot relate to Him at all. It is an understatement to say that this is not the best of all possible worlds.

What we need to do now is to stop the specialization process for it can only lead to a type of computer society in which everyone is controlled because he will not be able to know anything about anything else. He will be too narrow to even know where anyone else is much less see beyond his own immediate goals to attempt to change a society he knows nothing about. So what can we do about it? The answer is to recognize the essential role which a liberal education must play in our society. By liberal education I mean not serving up a smorgasbord of introductory courses, but courses which allow for the maximum freedom to explore the subject's relationship to the whole system. The teacher should help the student to conceptualize the whole system. The teacher should tell the student who in the course of history has thought what he has thought and who has differed with him and how each idea fits into the general progression of history.

--Judy Reed



Another exciting episode with the Cycle Shite

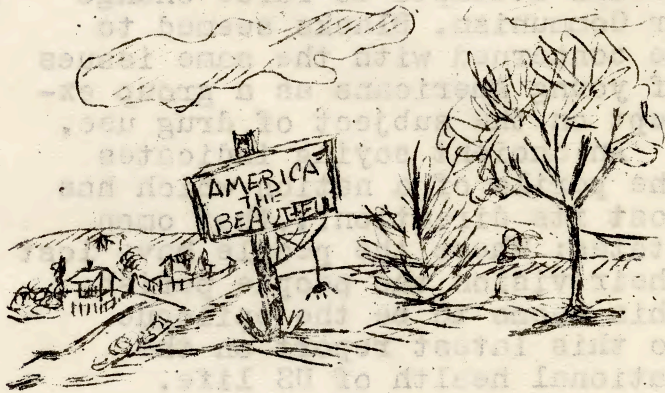
Even with monsoon weather right on the corner, my riding partner Bug, and I manage to sneak out every once in a while for another exciting twirl of good old Harrisonburg. Every once in a while our little ride is nothing more than a driver-passenger-other-traffic-ride but not very often. Just the other night, in fact, brought a totally new and unique experience for both of us. As the night wore on and travel was coming to an end, we stopped off at a small place before heading back to the good old dorm. All of a sudden, a varoom noise came from out of nowhere but on closer observation, it was noted that the cause of the hideous noise was the motorcycle that made ours look like a ladybug. That, thought wasn't the extent of it. From around the corner, in hot pursuit of cycle number one was cycle number two through seven. Ahhhhh!!! Our first encounter with a real, live motorcycle "gang". Since it seems to be the unwritten law of all two-wheeled riders to acknowledge each other in passing, we were ready to encounter anything from crude sneering to sheer disbelief. Fortunately for us, though, their conversation consisted of an invitation to join in the fun and go riding off with them for a night of unexpected thrills and spills. For our benefit, they proceeded to do wheelies, (not with one rider but with two!), gun their motors in perfect precision, and do various tricks to arouse envy. Ahhhh! If they only knew how we wanted to join in and learn these little goodies, I'm sure they would have twisted the arms and encouraged us with words concerning our hidden skill. But Bug and I had to rationalize the whole situation out. Would it be fair, we asked ourselves, to become the pledged members we so badly desired when one tire was the size of our whole cycle??? After all, has a robin ever been a flying companion to the Boeing 747?

--Cycle Shite

Communism
is not a religion.
I neither believe
nor disbelieve
nor have I tasted pure water
but I am often thirsty
and drink
fight
for the springs of the earth.

--Lucy Marx/LNS

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POLL SHOWS MAJORITY THINK COUNTRY HAS LOST DIRECTION

WASHINGTON--The majority of the American people believe that their country has lost its proper sense of direction, according to a national survey conducted recently in 200 communities.

Definite feelings as to reasons did vary from group to group, dissatisfaction was found among every group in the country, spanning racial, age, economic and sexual differences.

People were asked if they felt things in this country were basically going the right direction now, or did they feel that things had gotten out of hand.

Sixty-four per cent of those questioned said they felt the country was on the wrong track while 23 per cent felt America was going in the right direction. Forty-seven per cent of the people believe there is going to be "a real breakdown in this nation."

The national survey, conducted by the Roper Organization, attempted to find out what it was that people saw as major causes of the nation's problems and asked each person surveyed to choose one or more of 13 possible causes from a list.

Forty-seven per cent of those polled chose the use of drugs as a major cause, 40 per cent picked the war in Vietnam, 33 per cent chose racial tensions, 31 per cent said the problem was people forgetting the Golden Rule and 30 per cent felt there was a
(con't on page 4)

(LOST DIRECTION cont.)

lack of strong leadership.

Concern with the drug problem was most evident among Blacks, people with a grade school education or less, residents of the Northeast and those over 49.

Only 12 per cent of the Blacks surveyed thought the nation was on the right track, whereas 25 per cent of the whites were optimistic. Blacks showed none of the concern whites did over permissiveness, youth and its values, racial attempts to force change or Communism. Blacks seemed to be concerned with the same issues of young Americans as a group except on the subject of drug use.

An ancient saying indicates the perils of a nation which has lost its direction...That omen states: Where the people have lost their vision the people perish. This seems to be the epilogue to this latest report on the national health of US life.

Muhammad Speaks



"I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORKED HARD FOR MY MILLIONS!"

Va. Weekly

"IF SHE'S GUILTY, SHE'S GUILTY"...
WOMAN SENTENCED FOR FLAG SACRILEGE

TUCSON, Ariz. (LNS)--The saying that "anyone can get a fair trial in America," has failed again, this time in Tucson, Arizona. On May 12, Sharon Crosson was convicted of burning and desecrating the flag in a ROTC building following a demonstration against the invasion of Cambodia a year ago.

Despite the testimony of ten witnesses that Sharon was outside the ROTC building talking on a bullhorn during the time of the flag burning, and a film of the sacrilege itself which showed Sharon to be nowhere in the building, it took the jury only one hour to reach its verdict.

The "honorable men" who com-

posed the jury all own flags and fly them regularly. Several of them have affiliations with the American Legion, Veteran of Foreign Wars, and the Armed Forces. The foreman of the jury was a retired Navy man. Twenty-two year old Sharon Crosson's "peers" averaged 55 to 60 years in age.

In the words of one jury member who claimed that his personal feelings wouldn't influence his decision, "If she's guilty, she's guilty."

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WHO CARES?

In our affluent society, which supposedly values so highly the worth of the individual, is it not ironic to think that every day, thousands of America's children are brutally battered, maimed, and many times killed--by the hands of their own parents? This is something to which most of us give little, if any, thought yet over the course of the past decade, it has grown to become one of America's major and most shocking social problems. Each year, over one million innocent children are maliciously beaten, starved, stabbed, suffocated, sexually assaulted, and used as human ash trays by their own parents with weapons ranging from screwdrivers to plastic bags, and hundreds die as a result. In fact, statistics show that this stigma, commonly referred to as "battered-child syndrome", causes more deaths among young children than do automobile accidents, leukemia, cystic fibrosis, and muscular dystrophy combined.

Although most victims of extreme child abuse are under six years of age, there was one case reported to the Juvenile Aid Division of the Philadelphia Police Department in which a young teen age girl was tied to a tree in the backyard of her home and forced to eat food after her father had urinated on it. As if this wasn't enough, following each meal she had to repeat the phrase, "Good to the last drop." This was her "punishment" for keeping late hours...Another young girl, age six, was discovered by a Chicago policeman several years ago

(cont. on page 5)

(battered children can't)

badly beaten, curled up against a tree with a dog collar around her neck. Her father had taken her for a "walk" after forcing her to eat dog food - her daily diet.

The most astounding aspect of the child abuse situation is the fact that the parents who mistreat their own children usually receive little or no punishment. At the most, they will be given a light sentence or placed on probation, and the injured child is returned to their "care" nine times out of ten, only to be beaten again. In extreme cases the youngster is usually removed from the home environment, but there are very few facilities available to these helpless young victims. Several large cities now provide emergency care centers for these children, but this is not nearly enough. Many times a cat in a corridor is the most that can be offered, but even this tiny refuge brings a wealth of comfort and relief to a child who finds home the most frightening place to be. After all, what kind of mother would lay her infant child on a boiling radiator because he wouldn't stop crying?

Eventually, the physical scars inflicted on these young lives may heal, but the mental and emotional scars will never disappear. This nation is slowly realizing the needlessness of much of its social and economic hardship, but we are too busy chanting anti-war slogans and sending rockets to the moon to notice these tiny victims of social neglect. It is those crushed and terrified children who now suffer for the disappointments and frustrations of preceeding generations, but ultimately, society will pay the price for its injustice - for these are the children of tomorrow...

--Meeeeeeeeee!!

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AN OPEN LETTER TO SGA, DEAN FOX, DEAN RUEBUSH, HONOR COUNCIL, AND DORM MOTHERS:

Now that I have served my required time at Madison and am about to graduate, there are a few things I would like to say to the above-mentioned people:

First of all, dear ladies and gentlemen, I'd like to inform you that you have failed. You have failed (Thank God) to turn me into a Madison Lady. All the little rules and regulations you designed to mold me into a "lady"--I have obeyed them out of fear, not out of any belief in their fairness. You say these rules are for my protection, and so that I will be shielded from the temptation to follow my lower impulses such

as drinking. I have news for you dear Deans, no one can protect me from my lower impulses but me. Furthermore, there is no logic in unfair application of the rules to girls only. Do you think that our male students have no lower impulses to be protected from? Or are only girls at Madison worthy of moral salvation?

And let us not forget those other guardians of our cleanliness and morals, and the authoresses of those yearly little reports on our behavior--our housemothers. Their judgments of you are based not on you as a person or as a student, but on how clean your room happens to be the one hour of the week they decide to look at it. If your room does happen to be messy, poor unclean student barbarian that you are, you have to sit there while they exude gentile southern superiority over you and this from someone who has a maid to clean up her room, and no tests, term papers, or projects to worry about.

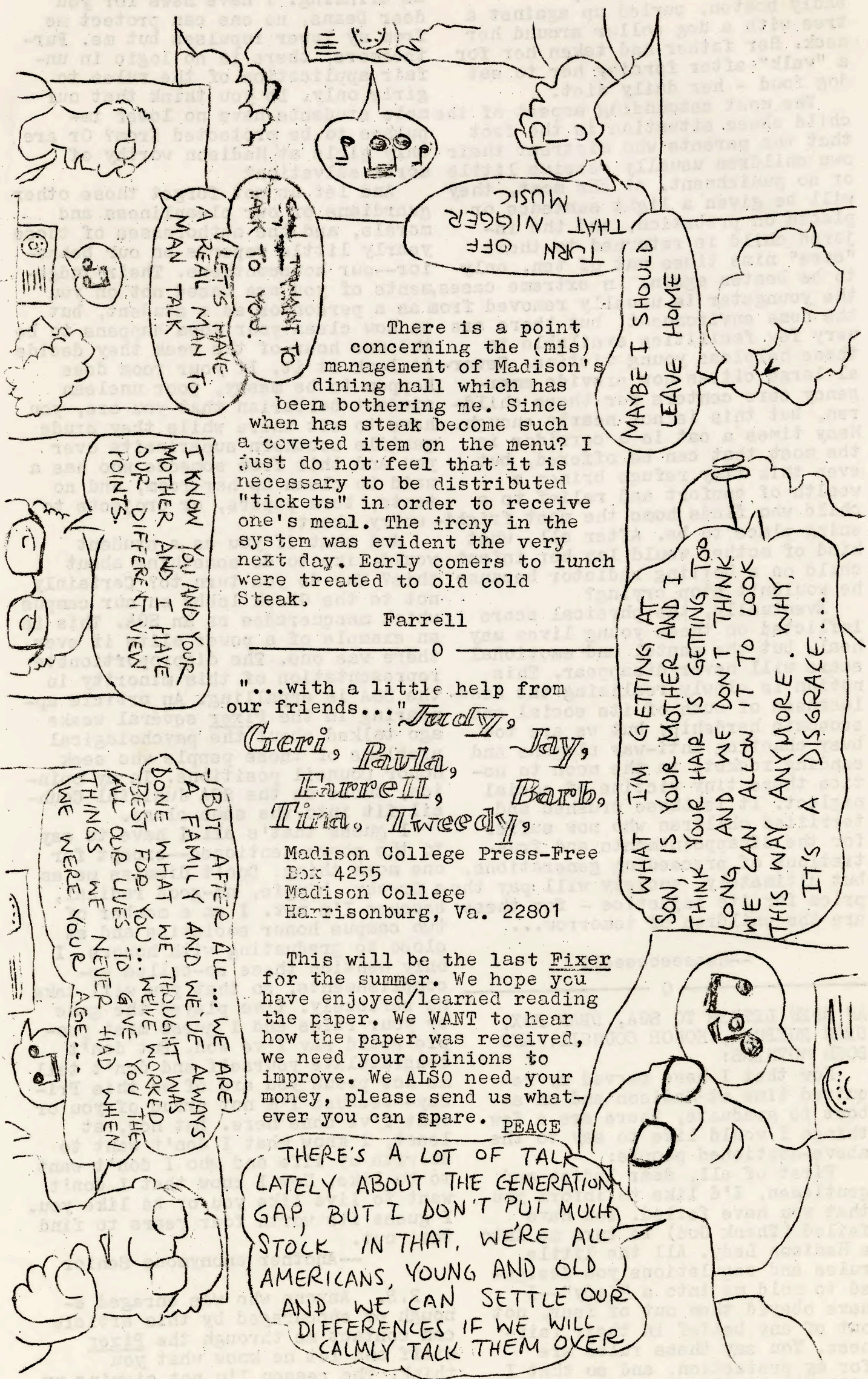
And what if you as a student would like to do something about this? Who do you turn to? Certainly not to the Greek lobby on our campus which masquerades as an SGA. This is an example of a power elite if ever there was one. The disproportionate representation of this minority in the SGA is appalling. An article appearing in the Fixer several weeks ago talked about the psychological problems of those people who seek Honor Council positions. In my opinion, those on the SGA Judicial Council fit into the same class.

I guess that's all I have to say to the above-mentioned--except for one more thing. Don't dismiss me as a freaky, hippie, no-good radical, because I'm not. I am a member of two campus honor societies and am close to graduating with honors. I only mention these so-called accomplishments, so that you will take me seriously. I've played the game by your rules and I guess most people would say I've won. But don't congratulate yourself and don't tell me how proud you are of me this Friday--because I'm not proud of you or what I've done here. But now, at least, I know what I don't want to do with my life and who I don't want to be like. Now I know that I don't want to live like you or be like you. I guess its worth four years to find that out.

--Another anonymous Senior

P.S. Anyone who was enraged enough or encouraged by this article can contact me through the Fixer staff and let me know what you think. The reason I'm not signing my name is pure cowardice.

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There is a point concerning the (mis) management of Madison's dining hall which has been bothering me. Since when has steak become such a coveted item on the menu? I just do not feel that it is necessary to be distributed "tickets" in order to receive one's meal. The irony in the system was evident the very next day. Early comers to lunch were treated to old cold Steak.

Farrell

"...with a little help from our friends..." *Judy, Geri, Paula, Jay, Farrell, Barb, Tina, Tweedy,*

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This will be the last Fixer for the summer. We hope you have enjoyed/learned reading the paper. We WANT to hear how the paper was received, we need your opinions to improve. We ALSO need your money, please send us whatever you can spare. PEACE

THERE'S A LOT OF TALK LATELY ABOUT THE GENERATION GAP, BUT I DON'T PUT MUCH STOCK IN THAT. WE'RE ALL AMERICANS, YOUNG AND OLD AND WE CAN SETTLE OUR DIFFERENCES IF WE WILL CALMLY TALK THEM OVER