



# The Observer



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## Sparks Fly Over Police Tactics

Ruth Louisell

Tuesday morning, July 2, Mrs. Augustine Wright, Charter College secretary, was stopped by a member of Oakland's Public Safety Department on her way to work. The charge was speeding, but the surrounding issues became much more complicated. The actual serving of a ticket did not take place for about 10 minutes due to the fact that Officer Daniel Aldrich had neglected to inform Mrs. Wright of the reason she had been stopped until that time. Due to the delicate nature of their ensuing conversation, it was later decided that the case needed airing.

A committee consisting of Harvey Smith (Math Department), Manuel Pierson (Upward Bound), Charles Akers (History Department), Keith Jenkins, and Annabeth Grey (students), was quietly appointed by the Chancellor to review the incident and make recommendations and proposals to him. Further, the officer involved in the incident was taken off the campus patrol and temporarily placed on duty at Meadowbrook by the Chancellor. Immediately following the incident, Director of the Public Safety Department, Tom Strong, voided the ticket given to Mrs. Wright by Officer Aldrich on the grounds that Aldrich had made a procedural mistake in giving her the ticket.

The committee was scheduled to meet Friday to hear Mrs. Wright and Officer Aldrich. The purpose was to determine the



nature of the incident: was it, or was it not a racist incident? The major controversy involved came to be in determining who had interjected the element of racism into the conversation: Mrs. Wright, or Officer Aldrich?

### Private Meeting Becomes Public

Friday afternoon, a strangely insistent group of students and professors gathered outside of the Meadow Brook room in the Oakland Center. Upon requesting to be admitted to the hearing, the assembled body was told by Mr. Smith, the committee chairman, "it would be preferable not to have all of you here because of this sort of incident." Tension was high among the students due to a certain law recently passed by the Board of Trustees concerning an individual's right to assemble on a college campus. After thirty minutes of deliberation by the committee,

the assembled community members (35 students, 6 faculty members), were allowed to enter the room -- on the condition that they would behave themselves. The hearing proceeded without disturbance.

Mrs. Wright and Officer Aldrich were both called to give their accounts of the Tuesday morning in question. As there were no witnesses to the incident, Charter College Dean Sheldon Appleton and Tom Strong were called as character witnesses after both Mrs. Wright and Officer Aldrich gave their versions of what had happened Tuesday morning.

The committee has met in private several times to work out proposals to be submitted to the Chancellor on the basis of the information obtained last Friday. They expected to have them handed into Varner in finalized form early next week.



## Policy on Draft Resisters Still in Question at O.U.

Ruth Louisell

The National Student Association announced recently that over 40 universities have adopted policies permitting readmission of draft resisters to their universities. These universities responded to a letter from NSA President Edward Schwartz, who requested that the schools publicly adopt the policy of readmitting draft resisters, a policy first adopted by Yale University.

Dean of Students, Thomas Dutton was approached this week concerning the same issue as it would pertain to Oakland's admission policies. At this time no formal policy has been stated concerning the readmitting of an Oakland student who might have served a jail term for refusing to serve in the Armed Forces. According to present readmittance policies, such a student would be allowed to continue his studies at Oakland if his grade point was adequate, and if he was psychologically fit to pursue studies in the Oakland community.

Last April, a formal proposal was submitted by Frank Richter to the Steering committee of the Senate concerning this same issue. The proposal stated that no Oakland student who has resisted the draft or served a jail sentence for such an act, shall be refused readmission to Oakland University if he meets the normal standards for readmission. This proposal has not been acted upon as yet, due to the fact that the Senate has adjourned for the summer. Dean Dutton, however, feels that the Senate will surely act upon it this fall.

### MSU President Hannah is Cleared

On July 2, Atty. Gen. Frank Kelley issued a report clearing Michigan State University President John Hannah of any conflict of interest involving land transactions near the MSU campus, according to an article printed in the Michigan Daily on July 3.

Hannah's business dealings,

particularly the sale of a farm adjacent to MSU for more than \$1 million, were the subject of the report by the Attorney General. The Michigan Constitution prohibits a state officer from entering into any contract with the state "which shall cause a substantial conflict of interest".

## Transcript on Committee Hearing

### INTERVIEW WITH MRS. WRIGHT

**Mrs. Wright:** "On Tuesday morning ... as I entered the campus, I made a left turn in front of the library to go to Vandenberg and as I got to the exit going off-campus, there was a person driving I think it was a red Pontiac coming out the wrong way, so I had to stop and wait for this person to get in front of me before proceeding to the stop sign by Wilson Hall. This person turned right.

"As I passed the parking lot, there was a policeman sitting there in the exit where he could drive out. When I passed him he drove out behind me. I stopped at the stop sign and then drove on across and went on my way on around to Vandenberg, got out of the car and started to walk toward the building. Just as I got out of the parking lot, the policeman drove into the parking lot and called me. The first time he called me I didn't realize he was talking to me; the second time that he said "young lady, stop", I turned around and asked if he was speaking to me and he said yes. He said wait just a moment, I want to see your driver's license and registration.

"He started to walk toward me. I thought he suspected I had parked in the wrong place, and I said I work here, I am an employee, and I do have a driver's license, and I didn't steal my car -- I said it

as a joke, but he didn't take it as a teasing remark at all. He asked for my driver's license and I gave it to him. He asked for my registration and I couldn't find it right then -- I started to go through the things in my purse. I realized that I didn't have it in my purse ... and I remembered that I had loaned my car to someone about a week before and had left the registration in the glove compartment. I walked over to the car, and as I started to reach to push the button the the glove compartment, he rushed over to me, and it frightened me because I knew that he was upset with me from the beginning."

**Mr. Smith:** "His demeanor was not polite?"

**Mrs. Wright:** "No. His demeanor was not polite from the beginning. He was not polite."

**Smith:** "Can you be a little more specific about than?"

**Wright:** "I can't remember the exact conversation we had ... he wouldn't take the driver's license out of my hand. I was a few feet from him when he asked for the driver's license. I took them out and held them open in my hand, and he said 'bring them to me'. I didn't walk toward him. I said 'here they are if you want to see them'. He finally made

(Continued on Page Three)

# THE OBSERVER

"The opinions expressed in these columns are the opinions of the authors. They probably do not represent the attitude of the administration, faculty, or other students."



There are several points which need to be made concerning the incident reviewed by a faculty-student committee set up by Chancellor Varner last week. The first of these is the fact that the run-in between Mrs. Wright and the Public Safety Dept. is not an isolated incident. Many other such incidents have been reported, but with no accompanying public furor. The reason this particular incident caused a row is because it involved a V.I.P. on campus rather than a student only statistically relevant to the administering of the university.

A second related point is that the attitude of the officer in question in this specific incident -- that of racism -- is almost incidental to the total problem facing the campus in relation to the police. For many students it is assumed that the campus cops are racists. Or at least it appears, according to other incidents on the campus, that the element of racism is consistent with what seems to be the whole frame of reference which the university police (as well as most others) hold to. The police have acted arbitrarily and in an intimidating manner in more than one case. It just so happens that in this case one of the cops expressed his viewpoint in racist terms.

Suspending or relocating Officer Aldrich will do nothing to solve the problem of police-community relations on campus. For, as some students and some faculty have been saying all along, there is no need for a "police" force on campus to begin with. A "Public Safety Dept." could be useful. That is not what we have at present. We have a **police force**: the cops are here, as they see it, not to provide services useful to the community, but to keep the members of the university in line (witness the recent letters to the editor in the Observer).

Such incidents will continue to occur as long as we have men operating as a police force on campus in the traditional sense of the word. What happened last Tuesday was not the officer's fault as much as it was the fault of the men who conceived the Public Safety Dept. in the first place. Officer Aldrich was, after all, only acting like a cop.

### OPEN MEETINGS FROM NOW ON

Another issue which involves the position of the student within the university came (inadvertently) to a head at Friday's meeting as well: whether the university should be conducting closed hearings on matters which directly pertain to the interest of the student body as a whole. The issue was catalyzed by the rude and somewhat high-handed manner of the chairman of the committee, Harvey Smith. Giving the impression that he felt students had no right to "interfere" in his meeting, Smith exemplified the gap between many professors and their students.

Though Smith felt they would disrupt the meeting, the students (and 5 faculty) managed to argue their way in and viewed the proceedings with no ill effects. Afterward, they were commended by Smith for their reputable behavior.

Such pats on the back students do not need. Many of them have already accepted the fact that they are reasonable people, capable of directing their own lives. That students are such people needs to become an accepted fact: all meetings, discussions, etc. which directly involve their interests should be open to all students.

Mike Honey

# THE OBSERVER

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## OSCCR Not Radical

Dear Editor,  
I would like to object to the use of the word RADICAL in your headline on last week's article about the literature room of the Oakland Student Committee On Community Relations. This committee is in no way affiliated with any political ideology or organization as was implied by your headline.

The committee's aim is to better relations among all members of the community. While this idea could very well be radical, we prefer not to re-inforce that concept, but to make better relations among people the norm, rather than the deviation from it.

Sincerely,  
Jeremy Rose  
Oakland Student Committee  
on Community Relations



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## To The Editor Review Committee on Public Safety

Dear Sir,  
I have noted with interest that in the final paragraph of your editorial "Disarm the Cops" which appeared in the June 21 issue, you call for the formation of a Public Safety Review Board, to be instituted in the fall.

Since the fall of 1967, I have been a member of the Committee on Public Safety. Under the chairmanship of Professor Roger Marz, this committee -- consisting of faculty, students, and appropriate administrators -- conducted a review of the role of the Public Safety Department and suggested various changes in policy and procedures. Except for some matters in which our concerns overlapped those of the Parking Committee and the two committees disagreed, our suggestions were accepted and acted upon without undue delay.

We suggested that there should be some formal body to handle complaints about the department and agreed to act as such a review board. Notices of the existence and role of this "review board" were inserted in the Observer on three occasions. As a result, several cases were brought to Mr. Marz's attention. All but one of these was settled informally between the complainant and the department without recourse to the committee. In the one case which was heard, the committee found the complaint to be without foundation.

Although Mr. Marz is out of town during most of this summer, I believe that we could conduct a hearing if it should be necessary. Anyone desiring the hearing of a complaint against the Public Safety Department should contact me or Mr. Strong. My telephone number is 651-5763, and I will be at home for most of the summer.

I should like to add, in closing, that I am sure the committee, acting in its original capacity rather than as a review board, would be happy to consider any suggestions concerning policy and the role of the department upon resumption of regular meetings in September.

Harvey S. Smith

## Incident With the Police

Dear Sir,  
At approximately 7:30 pm, we were cruising down University Drive at forty mph, heading for Trumble Terrace. As we made a right turn at the gate, we noticed a county police car behind us. He motioned us to stop, and we did.

COP: "May I see your driver's license and registration." (I handed it to him.)

COP: Do you know that your right brake light does not work?

ME: Yes I'm aware of that, as a matter of fact I became aware of it 2 hours ago. . .

ME: (At the Sheriff's car.) Are you giving me a ticket for not having a brake light.

COP: Yes, I'm going to follow you to a gas station and see that you fix it.

ME: I'd rather take it to Rochester and fix it at my home.

COP: Then I'll follow you to Rochester and see that you fix it there. Either that or I'll have it towed away.

ME: After a pause of no more than two minutes, where both David Homberg, Colin Campbell and myself deliberated as to whether we wanted to go to the university or Rochester, the sheriff came back to my car. At that point, he said, "Forget it, I'm having the car towed away."

ME: (Back at the police car) I don't understand why you're towing it away.

COP: Because the car is unsafe to drive.

ME: Then why were you willing to let me drive it before.

COP: Don't get wise, we are towing it away. (At this point Colin and David, impatient, got out of my car and came to the police car.)

COLIN: (In a calm tone) What's your name and badge number?

COP: (Jumping out of his car) You son-of-a-\*\*\*, I'm going to knock you on your \*\*\*

At this point I have forgotten exactly what was said by whom but during the next two minutes the cop called us punks several times, jumped out of his car again, said he was tired of taking this "\*\*\*", said that he didn't care how we got back to Rochester, and then whistled for the O.U. cops to come over. They did and for five minutes we talked. An O.U. cop said one thing that stands out in my mind.

US: Aren't you here to help? He threatened us.

O.U. COP: We're not here to help you.

US: What are you here for then?

O.U. COP: "We're here to do the same thing he did." By this time the tow truck had arrived and we watched as my car was taken away. Then the cop came back and gave me my driver's license and registration. As a parting comment he said, "You guys have a lot to learn."

Bill Stanton  
Colin Campbell  
Dave Holmberg



**INTERVIEW (Continued from P. 1)**

a couple of steps toward me and took the driver's license from my hand."

**Smith:** He was slightly aggressive toward you then?  
**Wright:** "Yes."

\* \* \*

**Wright:** ...As I started to open the glove compartment to get the registration I didn't know what he thought but, he scared me half - - -. There was only two of us in the parking lot, and all I could think of is 'he's going to hurt me, and I'm innocent Maybe he thought I was going to get something out of the glove compartment, but he didn't give me time to open it so see, he just rushed up to the car.

"I took the registration out and said 'here it is'. Again he wouldn't take it out of my hand. He went and got in his car, and said 'come and get in the car'. I refused. At that time I was so upset I started to cry, and I didn't want him to see me cry, so I started to walk to the back of his car, and he said, 'if you don't get in this car I'm gonna get a warrant for your arrest'. I said 'I'm sorry, I'm not gonna get in the car.'

"He said I'd get in the car or else. And I said 'well, I'm sorry', and left walking. I went into the building and called O'Bear's secretary. At that time I was crying and she asked why did he stop me. At that time I still didn't know why he stopped me. I stayed in the building for about 15 minutes. I hadn't gotten my driver's license back, so I went back out to see if he had put a ticket on my car or what had happened. And when I got out there he was still sitting, writing a ticket. When I got up to him I just stood there and it took him about another five minutes to finish writing his ticket. Then he got out of his car and said 'in case you were wondering why I stopped you, it was for going 35 in a 25 mile-an-hour zone.' I started to tell him that he was wrong, I told him he must have been looking for an excuse. I said I was not going that fast and 'why didn't you tell me that's what you stopped me for?' Both of us were arguing. And he said, 'lady, I can't understand what's the matter with you people. As it is you're treated better than anyone else'. We argued for a couple of minutes, and I walked away from him ..."

**Observer:** When questioned on what she meant by "arguing", Mrs. Wright said she told Officer Aldrich she couldn't appear in court on Monday morning, and that he responded by saying if she didn't a warrant would be issued for her arrest. When asked what she thought Aldrich meant by 'you people', she said she told him that "no matter how you put 'you people' into the computer, it comes out 'you niggers!'"

She continued: "... and that was exactly the expression on his face. We had stood there. I tried not to say anything to him two or three times; I'd just stand there and he would stare at me. A couple of times we just stood there in the parking lot staring at each other. There was no doubt about what he meant by 'you people'."

Asked if the officer told her why she was stopped, she said no. When asked the time of the occurrence she said around 8:20. She stated that she went back out to her car at 8:45. When questioned about the red Pontiac she alluded to, she stated that the driver of the other car was white, and that the officer could have seen the drivers of both cars.)

**INTERVIEW WITH OFFICER ALDRICH**

After explaining his procedure in following Mrs. Wright to Vandenberg, at which time he stated that the car's speed exceeded 40 m.p.h., Officer Aldrich described the situation in the parking lot as follows: "I stopped my car and started to get out. The driver of the vehicle got out, walked by my car, and I got out and said good morning, asked for the driver's license, and the registration of the vehicle. At which time I was told, 'I don't have to show you anything'. I then said 'may I see your operator's license and registration of the vehicle?' I was told no. I said all right then, if you don't want to show it to me, I'll just take you right to the Justice of the Peace now. At which time I got in a little bit of an argument with the driver."

**Smith:** "Did you make it clear to the driver what the offense was?"

**Aldrich:** "No she didn't give me the chance."

(At this point Mr. Pierson asked Mr. Aldrich about the long period of time before Mrs. Wright found out what she was being stopped for, and why he didn't tell her what the violation was sooner.)

**Aldrich:** "Well, one of the reasons was that she walked away from the car. She left, and I had the operators license and registration and was waiting in the car."

(Discussion of the handing over of permits:)

**Aldrich:** "She took them out of her wallet and held them in front of me and said, 'here, you can see them'. I said 'may I please have them?' ... She was standing there in a defiant way, saying, 'there they are, you see them'. Finally she gave them to me. Then she went over to her car to get the registration. She got the registration, and she held that up in front of her once more, and she says 'there it is, you take it'. And I said, 'no, Mrs. Wright, I don't have to take it. You give it to me willingly, or I can just write you a violation and turn it over to the JP'. At that point she left and went into VB Hall. I sat down in the patrol car and got ready to write the violation."

"She returned to the car as I was finishing the violation. She came over to the car and asked me for her drivers license. I gave it to her, and she turned and walked away before I could tell her what the violation was or anything. I called out to her that I had given her a ticket for excessive speed, 35 in a 25 zone. She turned around and said to me, 'I won't pay it'. I said, 'I don't care if you pay or not, I'll just stick it on your car'."

"She looked at me once more and -- I believe she said 'don't you touch the car'. I said 'all right, then, here'. She looked at me again and she says 'You and your white power'. And I says Mrs. Wright, 'you are treated as well or better than the rest of us here on campus'. And then she took the violation from my hand, turned around and walked away."

**Pierson:** "Any other exchange at that point?"

**Aldrich:** "I believe she said she wasn't going to pay the violation. I said, 'Mrs. Wright, I don't care if you pay it or not. It goes to the JP, it's out of my hands. If you don't pay it, there'll be a warrant issued for your arrest'. She walked a little ways, she turned around and she said, 'You'll be sorry'. I said 'I'm not worried', then she walked a little way and said, 'I'm going to make sure you're sorry for this.'"

**Mr. Akers:** "How long did she go into the building?"

**Aldrich:** "Couldn't have been for more than five minutes."

(Observer: In questioning concerning the exchange of the driver's license, Aldrich stated that she was not holding the license out to him but was holding it close to her; he also stated that he should have given her notice of what she was being stopped for earlier than he did -- "... but for some reason it just ticked me off that morning. I'll have to admit I did lose my temper".)

**Pierson:** "At one point you indicated that her attitude was defiant, that she lost her temper and you did too. Could you elaborate?"

**Aldrich:** "Well, the fact that she said she was not going to show me anything: I thought that indicated a defiant attitude; I didn't like her attitude at all. When she said 'take it', it just added fuel to the fire."

(Observer: Aldrich was questioned on his statement about "you people", and repeated what he had said before.)

**Pierson:** "When you said that, did you mean by 'you' Mrs. Wright as an individual, or Mrs. Wright as a representative of the black race?"

**Aldrich:** "To be honest, I meant her as a rep. of the negro race."

**Pierson:** "Was it your feeling that the black people are treated as something special on the campus?"

**Aldrich:** "No it was not."

(Observer: questioned about why he said "as well or better" again, he said that given the way she said 'you and your white power', he had every reason to believe that she was making a racial incident of it, even though she never specifically stated that she thought it was a racial incident. (according to Aldrich) (Why the emphasis then? "To assure her that I wasn't stopping her or harassing her just because of her color".)

(Observer: Pierson states that the "as well or better" statement indicates an attitude. Aldrich says he just wanted to be sure that she didn't think he was ticketing her just because of her color. "To be honest with you, I didn't even realize she was colored until she got out of her car".

Not even when she passed in her car you couldn't tell she was black? Answer: No.)

**Pierson:** "The attitude you presented us with here today, that "black people are treated as well or better" may we hear some more on that?"

**Aldrich:** Well, as I stated Mr. Pierson, we don't pick on them because of their color, or I think we're just as fair -- I say we, the Department, myself -- I have various friends around here, I don't know if any of them are in the group or not, colored, that I feel are just as good friends of mine as the other students.

**Mr. Akers:** Mr. Aldrich, I would like to raise a point, and I do so cautiously because I realize this is a dangerous question, because I want you to speak for the dept. What training do you as officers get in how to stop a person who has committed a violation?

**Aldrich:** As yet there has been no formal training because we're still in the process of trying to get the dept. set up.

(Observer: Akers raised some questions about the possible dangers of a police officer losing his temper while performing his duties.)

**Akers:** "One of the most relevant questions here is, who raised the element of racism in the first place?"

**Aldrich:** "... She said it first. She said, 'you and you're white power', and then I came back with the answer I gave."

**Akers:** "The element of racism was interjected by Mrs. Wright?"

**Aldrich:** "Yes sir, it was".

(Observer: At this point "character witnesses" Sheldon Appleton and Tom Strong were brought in. Their testimony is deleted.)

(Observer: In further questioning of the two "witnesses", they mostly affirmed what they said before. Mrs. Wright stated that her part of the "heated discussion" was in arguing about the ticket -- she said she accused Aldrich of looking for an excuse to give her a ticket. In Aldrich's statement, he commented that he considered himself a representative of the Dept. and the community as a whole. Pierson asked him, "does this mean then, by your statement about being treated as well or better, as the rest of us, that Mrs. Wright, by being black, is not (or is not considered) a member of the community? Is she seen as someone outside of the university community?" Aldrich replied No.)

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# MUSIC REVIEW

David Mascitelli

On Sunday evening at Meadowbrook, the Detroit Symphony gave its second performance of works by Brahms, Prokofiev, and Respighi, with Vladimir Ashkenazy as guest soloist.

The first half of the program was devoted to the Brahms E Minor Symphony, though "devoted" is far from the right word to describe the somewhat routine reading Sixten Ehrling gave the work. What was missing was the kind of affectionate attention to detail and shading that separates an ordinary performance from a fine one.

On the whole, the first and third movements fared the best. The third movement is the kind of boisterous, extrovertish music that Ehrling is always most at home with; and the first movement profited from a straightforward, flowing momentum that kept it from lapsing into the kind of sentimental languor that one too often hears in performances. On the other hand, this same sort of straightforwardness becomes a severe liability in the second movement. Here the playing seemed perfunctory, rather than tastefully understated; while the movement requires a great deal more probing and lingering over detail than Ehrling was willing to give it. In the fourth movement, Ehrling seemed to have trouble in adjusting to the various tempo changes for a proper continuity. Hence, the sense of a granite-like structure was lost, and, instead of moving relentlessly toward a climax, the movement broke down into fragments, after which the climax seemed abrupt and arbitrary.

The orchestra, however, played with a fine, warm tone; and, happily, Ehrling kept the heavy string textures from obscuring the important woodwind voices, especially in the first movement.

Vladimir Ashkenazy's performance of the Prokofiev Second Piano Concerto was a

splendid reminder that he is one of the finest solo musicians currently appearing before the public. At 31, he displays a remarkable maturity and musical intelligence. While he has at his command all the virtuosity a great pianist will ever need, it is wonderfully subordinated to the task of putting together intelligent and coherent performances.

That Ashkenazy can play in the grand, heroic manner with the best of them was abundantly evident in the thunderous cadenza in the first movement. But, even more striking, were the delicacy, precision, and shading he brought to the lighter passages, especially in the scherzo and finale. Ashkenazy can play like an arch-romantic when it is called for, as it is in the moody first movement of the concerto. But in work that alternately verges on the sentimental and the sardonic, it is the intelligence and control that Ashkenazy exercises that separates him from a score of merely good pianists who are performing these days. On the whole, this was as fine a performance of a concerto as you are ever likely to hear.

Not to be overlooked is the sensitive accompaniment provided by Ehrling. Whatever may be his limitations in performing some of the staples of 19th century symphonic literature, he is invariably a superb accompanist for concerto performances. No doubt his opera house training and his career as a piano accompanist for several noted singers have been helpful; but, whatever the source, his ability to adjust to a soloist's tempo changes is almost uncanny, as is his knack of knowing when and how to let the orchestra sink tastefully into the background.

Respighi's "Pines of Rome" with which the concert closed, is banal enough that only a first rate performance is excusable or even tolerable; but that's just what it got. Even in a mediocre

reading, the brassy finale will invariably bring down the house. But this was a fine performance from beginning to end. The famous finale section was kept absolutely under control, so that the peak of volume wasn't reached too soon, and so that even when it was, there was still the sense that the orchestra had plenty in reserve. The opening "Pines of the Villa Borghese" section was crisp and vital and put Respighi's sparkling orchestration to excellent use. And through the middle sections of the work, Ehrling achieved some remarkably eloquent pianissimo's that brought even the cholic babies in the noisy Sunday audience to attention. Special praise to Frank Kaderabek who played the off-stage trumpet solo in the second section beautifully, and to the orchestra's first chair nightingale who is the splendid voice in the third. Given the setting, one could almost forgive Respighi for the tasteless gimmick of using the recording of the nightingale which came from the rafters of the pavilion over the amplifiers with striking effect. "The Pines of Rome" is outdoor music if I ever heard any; and if you must listen to it, Meadowbrook is certainly the right place.

## Mediocre Music on Jubilee

BARRY KLINE

Phil Spector, one of the most influential impresarios in popular music, recently commented on Les Crane's show that about 92% of today's popular music is mediocre. If one judges from four albums sent to the Observer by Jubilee Records, then 75% of popular music is mediocre.

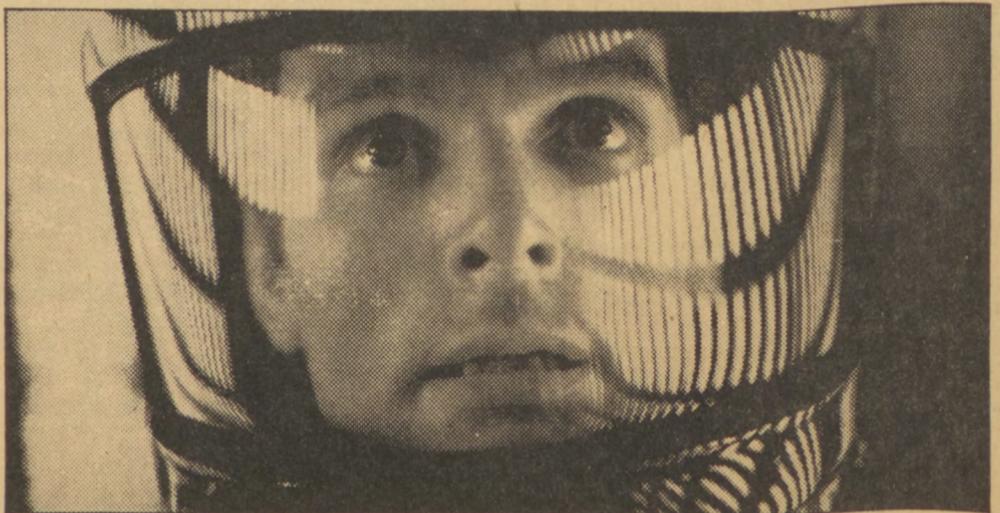
One of the albums is by an unknown East Coast group which performs a collection of "oldies". "TNT" by the Racket Squad includes some pretty "shot" material. This is the type of album which gives rock its mediocre image, and is the same kind of album that will sell for 79 cents at some department store sale before Christmas.

I know many people who "dig" it, but I never did like the Happenings' "See you in September". Now they have an album with their other hits entitled "The Happenings Golden Hits". Most of the songs are either 1960 old rock vintage (Sealed with a Kiss) or jazzed-up versions of "real" oldies (My Mammy, Tea for Two). It should appeal to the forty-year-old swinger or the twenty-year-old square.

An Album which is pop but not rock is "The Baltimore & Ohio Marching Band Plays Music from the Comics". It consists of twelve songs which at one time or other were inspired by comic strips. The type of music the Marching Band plays is as "camp" as the comic strips to which the songs are devoted. After all, one seldom hears a marching band with a featured comb player and a jew's harp. Despite the music being from the comics, it's a "novel" idea.

The best Jubilee album is "Sounds of Modification". The "Sounds" are an instrumentally capable group which, with the aid of supplementary strings and songwriter-producer Bob Gallo, place themselves a notch above the average recorded pop group. Gallo, who arranged James Brown's "This Is A Man's World" and produced sessions for R & B names like Solomon Burke, Ben E. King, and Mary Wells, has a field day with the Sounds of Modification. They are all formally trained musicians, and with brass and drums, they can really "modify" their sound. All this, and the oldest member of the group is twenty.

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## Book Review

### Limits of Power by E. McCarthy

DAVID BLACK

"Somebody has to say no. Somebody has to stand up and say the Emperor wears no clothes."

With these words Minnesota Senator Eugene McCarthy launched his campaign for the Presidency, a campaign that he hoped would offer the American people an alternative to having Lyndon Johnson as the Chief Executive for another four years. Senator McCarthy, in seeking the Presidency, claimed to have sharp differences with the policies and procedures of the present administration. McCarthy has outlined his basic theories on foreign policy in his recent book, *The Limits of Power* (available in the University Bookstore in paperback).

Senator McCarthy opposes the traditional American program of random military

assistance. He points out the United States is the world's principle sources of conventional arms; between 1950 and 1966 the U.S. Government has given away more than \$35 billion worth of military supplies. McCarthy can see no sense in the U.S. supplying Israel with Skyhawk bombers, while at the same time giving Jordan Starfighter jets so that if war were to break out in the Middle East (as it, of course, did) each side would have the most modern American weapon to further its effort to secure military victory.

McCarthy is also troubled by the "all powerful" Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He warns that this agency, under the guise of the necessity of secrecy for security, has far too much independence as its authority is not effectively

"checked or balanced" by any of the three branches of government.

While today candidate McCarthy is most outspoken when he is attacking the Johnson-Humphrey Vietnam policies, he devotes only six pages of his book to a discussion of the War. McCarthy favors a change in the present Vietnam policy because he feels that this instance of American intervention has grown way beyond any sense of proper proportion. Thus while McCarthy might favor American assistance to a viable South Vietnamese government (if one existed), he asserts that massive involvement in a conflict that has no clear objectives and little chance of success is most certainly a mistake. McCarthy never argues that it is wrong for the United States to intervene in order to "save" a nation from the threat of Communism, but he argues that the way it has been done in Vietnam has proven to be a dismal failure.

This, then, is why McCarthy entitles his book *The Limits of Power*. He feels that a President must act and react with restraint. Senator McCarthy, believing that American power is not infinite or absolute, favors using it rationally. When McCarthy speaks of "the limits of power" he is referring

primarily to the physical and practical limits on the use of American diplomatic, military, and economic power. He is not really emphasizing any moral limits on this power, and this may well be his chief shortcoming.

In this same respect, when McCarthy speaks of the evils of the CIA, he is attacking what he views as an over-extension of unchecked authority McCarthy would bring the CIA into line merely by bringing some of its activities under closer Congressional control. McCarthy doesn't go as far as to suggest that the Congress itself might be reactionary, but that it is a highly un-representative body controlled by a few "important" Committee Chairman.

But trying to decide if "McCarthyism" is really a new type of politics or just a new facade for an old brand of liberalism has become a moot point. What is becoming increasingly clear is that he will never have a chance to test out his new ideas because he chooses to remain within the old political system.

In launching his campaign McCarthy stated: "My hope is that my challenge may alleviate the sense of helplessness and restore to many people a belief in the process of American politics and of American government." Instead his campaign has pointed out just how helpless and powerless the majority of the American people really are.

McCarthy took his cause to

the people and he pulled many surprising upsets. He demonstrated to Robert Kennedy that dis-satisfaction with the Johnson reign was indeed widespread, and thus paved the way for the Kennedy candidacy. McCarthy even forced Lyndon Johnson to decide not to seek re-election. But in doing all this, Senator McCarthy has merely been able to confront the "political establishment" and has not come close to overthrowing it. By now it should be altogether too clear that Hubert Humphrey, who has not entered a single primary election, and has not dared to take his "cause" to the people, will be the presidential nominee of the Democratic Party.

Thus in a state like Indiana where 70% of the Democratic voters favored either McCarthy or Kennedy—that is, favored a change in administrations and a change in policy in Vietnam—Humphrey and his party machine were able to control the operation of the state convention and insure that the vast majority of the delegates selected would be pledged to Humphrey.

1968 may have been the year that Eugene McCarthy made his bid to involve people (and especially young people) in the American political process, but 1968 may very well be the year that this process responded by giving the American people a "real choice": will Richard Nixon or Hubert Humphrey be the man selected to lead us to disaster?

### The Hippies by B.H. Wolfe

DAVE CATTON

*The Hippies*, by Burton H. Wolfe, (available in the O.U. Bookstore) is another example of the currently popular class of books in which one of the freakier subcultures of America is investigated and reported on for the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Suburbia. The book is a failure because it is not, as the blurb promises, "a deeply understanding investigation" of hippiedom.

The method of this type of book is journalism crossed with sociology. The reporter goes out and lives for some extended period with whatever subculture he has selected, (hippies, Hell's Angels, migrant workers, etc.) observing his subjects, participating in their work and play, learning their slang, in general finding out why they think and act the way they do. In comparison with *The Hippies*, an outstanding example of the genre is Hunter S. Thompson's recent book on the Hell's Angels. Thompson's book was a genuinely "understanding investigation", made possible because Thompson himself was inately so well-equipped to participate in the life of the outlaw motorcycle gang. Before he ever met the Angels he was a hard-ass type who liked brawls, guns, and big shiny machines: one feels that if he hadn't been an intellectual he would have ended up as a Hell's Angel anyway. It was these personal qualities which made his book so successful, which enabled him to participate fully and without restraint in the life of the gang. But at the same time his always-busy intellect was able to stand off and observe what he and the others were doing, and bring to his daily activities a probing scrutiny far beyond the ability of any motorcycle thug. His understanding of the Angels was so penetrating because, in a sense, he was understanding himself.

The comparison with Thompson is helpful because it shows precisely how Wolfe has failed to give us a genuinely important report of the hippies. Wolfe has neither Thompson's penetrating intellect nor his ability to blend in with a foreign life style. He attempted to live among the hippies, but was never able to be anything more than a stranger in their midst. For example: in all the time he lived with them he seems never to have taken any drugs. Abstention from acid is perhaps understandable, but his refusal to smoke grass with the kids is an indication of his crippling aloofness from the people he was trying to study and understand. Thus, though he is able to report on the hippies' universal drug use, he is unable to make intelligent commentary on, or attempt to understand that drug use because he himself never participated in it.

Unable to participate freely in the hippie life style, he must observe it from the outside, and even at that he fails for lack of perception. One small but recurrent example of this: throughout the book whenever a hippie listens to music it is always "folk-rock". Never anything but rock; never any kind of rock but "folk-rock". Even assuming that no Hippie anywhere ever grooves on Bach or Mozart, Wolfe's observation is farcically inaccurate considering that of all the possible categories of rock music "folk-rock" is probably the smallest and least representative. And when he makes more significant observations he still fails to understand or comment on them. He reports that hippies are physically dirty but is apparently uninterested in why large numbers of middle-class kids, taught from birth to associate cleanliness with God, Country, and Motherhood, should choose to live that way.

The book must be considered then as pretty much straight journalism. Wolfe spent a lot of time in the Hashberry and saw many things, so we must assume that what he reports at least has some basis in reality. But there has already been so much reporting about the hippies that we have the right to ask for something in the way of understanding and evaluation from Wolfe, and it is this that he fails to supply.

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## Kostelanetz To Conduct

Andre Kostelanetz will take over the Meadow Brook Festival concerts featuring the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8:30 P.M., and next Sunday at 7:30 P.M. in Oakland University's Baldwin Pavilion.

On Thursday and Friday, July 11-12, his soloist will be pianist Eugene List playing the Poulenc Concerto on a program which will include Mozart's Overture to "The Abduction from the Seraglio," Haydn's Symphony No. 88 in G. Major, Turina's "La oracion del torero," Milhaud's "Le Boeuf sur le toit," and Berlioz' Overture "The Roman Carnival."

On Saturday and Sunday, July 13-14, Mr. Kostelanetz will have as his soloist, the Metropolitan Opera soprano Judith Raskin.

Miss Raskin will be heard in Benjamin Britten's Song Cycle "Les Illuminations" on a program which will include the suite "Soirees Musicales," also by Britten, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor.

The Festival grounds open two hours before each performance for picnics and buffet service.



## Self-Help Is Emphasized In California Community

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. June 14. (LNS) -- Male members of Southern California's Chicano Barrio (read Latin American Ghetto) are beginning to decide that they can resist the SSS and still retain their all-important "Machismo" -- manhood exemplified by physical strength, power and courage. The greatest examples of the new attitude are those Chicanos connected with La Raza, the bilingual newspaper of So. Calif.'s Mexican-American community. Lupe Saavedra, of the La Raza staff, has begun three actions to help his Chicano brothers resist without loss of pride.

Lupe will collect a set of opinions and statements well suited to the mores of the Barrio for use in organizing the Chicano communities. With the help of Lynn Shoemaker and Bill Smith, a crash program to provide the Barrio with a self-increasing group of native draft counselors will be conducted. Thirdly, an effort will be made to place Chicano attorneys on the Selective Service Law Committee, an organization of sympathetic lawyers who meet periodically to discuss draft cases and other influences on the

Selective Service laws.

Joe Sanchez, a young Chicano, refused an illegal induction notice on May 6. Joe was under probation at the time, and could not be drafted unless cleared by his probation officer -- a fact of which the SSS failed to inform him but which the La Raza staff did. After his release from probation, Joe will refuse any proper induction notice and become the first Chicano resister.

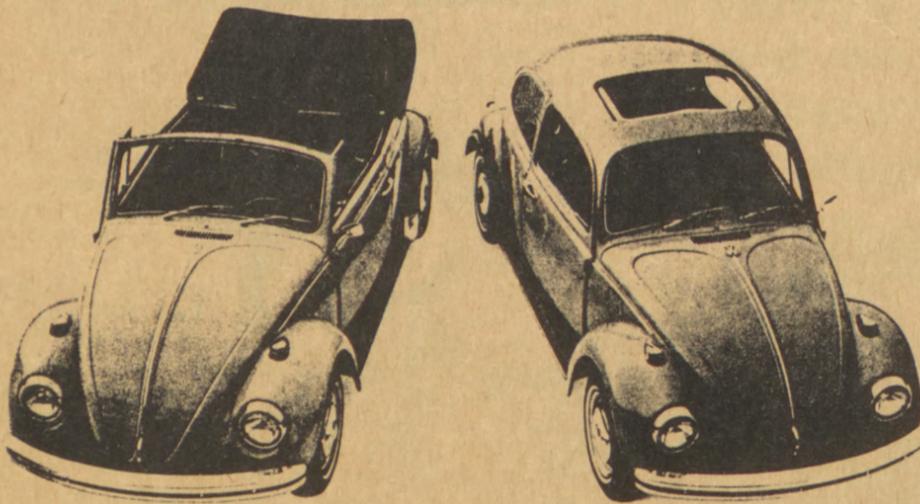


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