

FOCUS:

ARCHIVES

Oakland

Vol. 1, No. 4

October 29, 1969

10¢



“The Best Laid Plans . . . ”

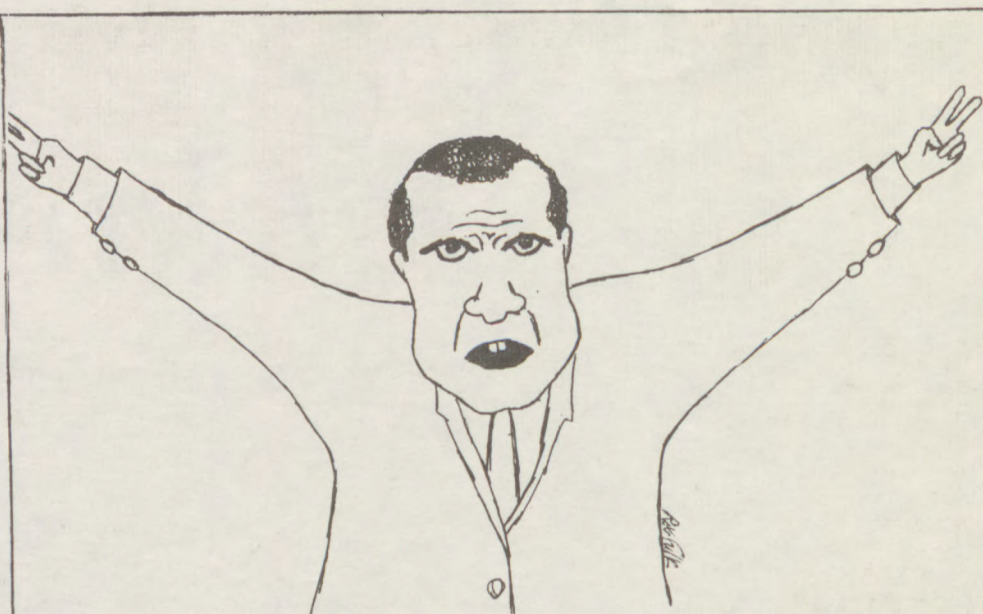
from the editor

For the first time in FOCUS: OAKLAND's history, we are out on schedule! Must be symbolic or something.

There have been some major changes over the last couple of issues, some apparent, some not so clear. We've gone through three printers, three size alterations, and several staff changes. Happily, all three seem to be resolved and signs of stability are appearing. We will, for the duration, be 8 1/2" by 11" in size, sixteen pages long, and on sale every other Wednesday.

This issue centers on the Oakland Observer, and the hassles encountered by its editor, Mike Hitchcock. Mike has inherited probably the hottest potato at Oakland University, with people from all facets of the community looking for ways to hurt or destroy the Observer. We take a good look of the results inside.

----Larry Good, editor



"WHAT, ME WORRY?"

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Editor and co-publisher	Larry Good
Co-publisher	Glenn Ordell
News Editor	Dan Kinsella
Feature Editor	Chuck Caloia
Business Manager	Bob Barkdull
Photographic director	Dick Keller
Special assistance by	Bec Francis
Business Assistant	Tracy Phillips
Circulation Manager	Steve Krugler

The End of an Era

As the bureaucracy inevitably increases, it is heartening to see a committee dissolved rather than created. Even more astounding, it eliminated itself.

The heroic souls we speak of are the members of the Publications Board. Richard Lyons and his associates have done the University Community a great service by finding a method for terminating their existence.

The committee has a long standing history of aiding and abetting free literary expression at Oakland. During the last three years, it has observed the demise of every publication it governed. In the star-studded graveyard are such wonderful memories as Contuse (Kontuse?), Oakland Undiapered, and the Ascendent. Apparently destined to join them in January is the Observer, the last remaining disciple of this well-meaning group.

With all existing publications vanishing, the Board saw no reason to remain.

We congratulate them on their courageous move. No longer will students be able to gripe about tight university controls over their publications. Any such products will now be originated by students. We wish them well.

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Censored Observer protects O.U. students

Subversive story cut by printer

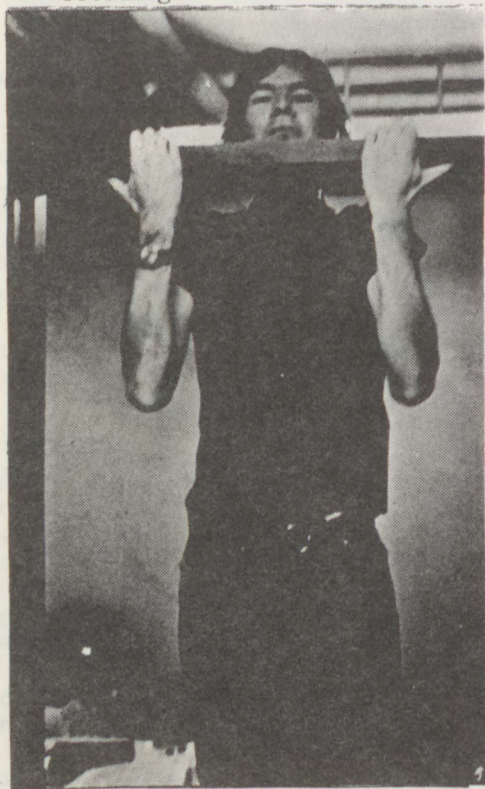
By Larry Good

"Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..."

U. S. Constitution
Amendment 1

Oakland's moral fiber received its first boost of the fall two weeks ago when the Third Annual Drive to Protect the Morals of Oakland Students took place. However, for the second year in a row, the campaign was not spearheaded by the university, but rather by a printing firm.

According to sources close to this



Observer editor keeps his chin up under strain.

year's leader, Keystone Press, the drive could be labeled a qualified success. The target was that nefarious corrupter of Young America's morals, the Oakland Observer. The Observer, edited by fiery radical Michael Hitchcock, was singled out for its obvious attempts to seduce the impressionable Oakland students into believing that the American system of government was not perfect. After seeing some of the "anti-American" comments printed in the early issues, Keystone decided that it was time to start the push.

Waiting for precisely the right moment, the crusading printer seized upon Observer #4. In the now in-October 29, 1969

famous issue, Hitchcock chose to undermine student patriotism by printing two articles that were obviously unfaithful to the American Way. One was a commentary by Eldridge Cleaver, the other was an urging for Americans to help Cuba. Hitchcock was ready to print them, but fortunately for Oakland morals, Keystone read the copy instead of just printing it blindly.

The golden opportunity for halting the Observer's inflammatory comments had arrived. By simply refusing to print the articles, Keystone stopped the possibility of an exposure of filthy sentiments all over campus. Further, to hamper the Observer effort even more, it was rapidly determined that every other printer in Detroit was highly sympathetic to Keystone's cause. All agreed not to print the filthy articles.

The ingenious scheme worked. Hitchcock was forced 1) to print #4 without the stories and 2) to cease publication for a week while location another printer.

He did find one; an Ohio firm. And he did get the obscene comments printed. But at least they were forestalled temporarily.

(An interesting sidelight to this

year's campaign was the emphatic student reaction to the stories. Three yawns and one "that's nice" were reported. There were not further comments.)

Veterans of this institution will recall the two previous "Cleanliness is Godliness" drives. Last fall's undertaking, led by Inter-Lakes Printing, trapped the Observer when it dared to print an article describing racism in America. The previous year, Contuse (Kontuse) VIII, a student literary magazine, was the offender. Chancellor Varner was the censor in that noteworthy initial Drive to Protect the Morals of Oakland Students. He made it more difficult for the editor of Kontuse to force a certain four-letter word upon the ever-innocent Oakland student.

Happily, the guardians of our freedom abound. As long as good, loyal Americans like these are protecting us, we have no worries about our constitutional rights. In fact, we have no rights left to worry about.

"All that is necessary for the forces of evil to triumph in the world is for enough good men to do nothing."

E. Burke

Warrant unneeded for search

The Oakland student is not as safe and secure as many have mistakenly thought. Contrary to commonly held beliefs, law enforcement officers often do not need a warrant to enter students' rooms or make arrests.

In an exclusive interview with FOCUS, Director of Public Safety Earl Grey revealed that warrants are relatively rarely used in the types of cases that affect Oakland students.

"If there is 'probable cause' to suspect that a felonious act has been committed," stated Grey, "no warrant is necessary."

In entering a student's room, the criterion is simply the possession of reliable information. The definition of this term is extremely vague, so it can be assumed that an entering has a great deal of freedom. If he makes an arrest in the room, the officer has the right to search the immediate area for evidence. He does, however, need a warrant to search beyond the general area.

This question arose Sunday night,

October 19, when an arrest was made in Hamlin on a narcotics charge. The entire incident took place without a warrant being used.

Further, no University officials were notified until after the officers had completed the arrest.



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an interview with . . .

Mike Hitchcock

Editor, Oakland Observer

FOCUS: Mike, what's been the reaction to this year's Oakland Observer?

HITCHCOCK: There hasn't been any.

FOCUS: No reaction?

HITCHCOCK: Well, as Mark Dublin put it, if in four semesters of continually trying to antagonize everybody only 638 people voted against us then there must not be any.

FOCUS: What role do you think the college newspaper should play?

HITCHCOCK: Well, at some place like Michigan or Michigan State, the newspaper is often the prime source of news for students on campus. The Michigan Daily and the State News are probably better than 99% of the daily newspapers in the state of Michigan. In an institution like that, when you can come out with a daily newspaper, I think it serves a valuable function, providing news for the campus. At a campus like ours, where we're coming out with 12 pages weekly, there's not really that much we could do with covering day to day news, like Nixon and all his friends, Cousin Spiro and the Judge Haynesworth events. But as far as campus news there's not really that much of genuine interest happening. We try to print articles of relevance to the students that would be both interesting to read

and worth reading regardless of the subject matter.

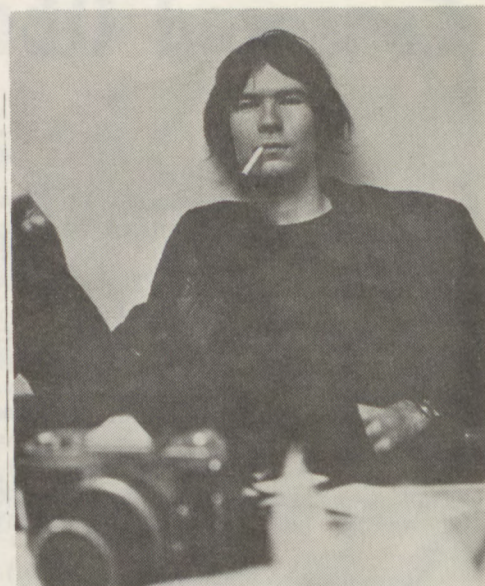
FOCUS: What do you think the feeling of students on campus is, toward radical journalism, especially the Observer?

HITCHCOCK: I think that probably the majority of the students are fairly straight, Detroit Free Press type liberals. There is a significant portion of the campus that reads newspapers like the Fifth Estate, the Metro, and other radical newspapers.

FOCUS: What major problems have you encountered since you took over the Observer?

HITCHCOCK: Well, we started out in the beginning of the year discovering that in transporting stuff from one office to the other the university had lost three boxes containing our tape recorder, all of our blank advertising contracts, and most of our supplies. We don't have our phones in yet. I still don't have a key to my office. When I want in I have to go find Ron Ewalt or the night manager. We also had another problem, not having our phones, several people called up Oakland University and asked to be connected with the Oakland Observer and were told by the operator that there was no Oakland Observer.

FOCUS: What's going to happen



to the Observer next semester?

HITCHCOCK: There could be a number of things which take place. Both students and non-students around here are interested in running an underground newspaper and I think something will get going along that line. Not necessarily in the form of the Observer, or under my editorship. I think there are sufficient numbers of people interested that something will take place.

FOCUS: Do you plan on being involved in anything next semester?

HITCHCOCK: Probably not.

FOCUS: Why?

HITCHCOCK: I don't know if I want to give you a scoop on the Observer . . . Well, like I'm going to quit school in about a week, and Dave Catton will probably be taking over as editor of the Observer for the remainder of the semester. They won't let me be editor if I'm not in school.

FOCUS: That brings up the obvious question: What do you think of Oakland University?

HITCHCOCK: It sucks. It's not the "Harvard of the midwest." It's not an intellectual community. It's a nice place for the kids from the suburbs to come and have a good time and enjoy the social life. A lot of people come here to act out their intellectual pretensions with the idea that Oakland University is supposedly a great intellectual center, and if they come here that means they're great intellectuals.

FOCUS: What do you think of the academic set-up at Oakland? Do you think there's anything of relevance or value here?

HITCHCOCK: Well, you might find something if you look hard enough. In the Sociology Department I had several courses from George Rawick that were excellent. There are a number of very good faculty members

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FOCUS: Oakland

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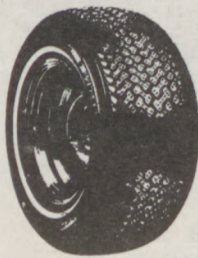
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cont from page 4

at Oakland University if you can find them before the others find you. I was at a discussion in Hill House the other night on educational reform with George Matthews and he presented his plans for curriculum reform. It's really an excellent proposal within the context of the situation. I'd favor a situation where a university could be a place for people to come and explore fields of knowledge and learn. It would be a place which would be totally free, without courses and organized divisions of your learning experience. Faculty members would be available more or less as counsellors, seminar leaders and people to discuss with. (At this point, the January 17, 1969 issue of the Observer is picked up. The portions in quotation marks were written by Mike Honey, last year's Observer editor.)

FOCUS: "I still think it's a scandal sheet. Don't you have any sympathy for criticism of your crummy paper?"

HITCHCOCK: Well, I'll just read it. "Yeah, I do, except that no one offers the criticism that I think is most valid: that we are not a scandal sheet. All we've done is jazz up our front page and print a few unpopular points of view. We haven't dug up any scandal. We haven't really analyzed our situation in the University, we haven't really exposed any inside information. That is a prime function of any newspaper worthy of the name. But most people don't realize that because the commercial press has all but given up on muchraking." That's sort of what I'd say. The main criticism that could be made of the Observer is that it has not adequately analyzed much, it hasn't really exposed anything. Last year Marc White ran several long articles on the Oakland Foundation which I guess got some of the faculty up tight, but which most students didn't even read. I think with more time and resources there is a great deal that can be done toward exploring various topics. Some of them are outside the capability of a college newspaper staff.

FOCUS: What, if any, has been the reaction of some of the other radical papers like the Argos or the Fifth Estate to the Observer?

HITCHCOCK: I don't know if they even read it. I talked to somebody at the Metro when we had the trouble with our printer and they said, "Yeah, we heard about that, and laughed a little. And when I talked to Peter Werbe at the Fifth Estate and he was, as would be expected, very upset that a newspaper was being censored because of radical political articles.

FOCUS: Why didn't the Fifth Estate print the Observer?

HITCHCOCK: The Fifth Estate has this printer who does the Fifth Estate and the Argos and a lot of other stuff. We called him up and he just didn't have the time. He's probably the only guy in the area who will print them.

FOCUS: So where is the Observer being printed now?

HITCHCOCK: Waseena, Ohio.

FOCUS: Are you going to be in Washington on the 15th of the month?

HITCHCOCK: Yes, we'll be there with our team and our cheerleaders, and we're going to go out there and fight and we're going to win. I think it will be really interesting to see how this march compares with the last one. The October '67 march on the Pentagon was actually one of the first major attempts to interfere with the war process. It was an attempt at actually confronting the military on it's own ground and to at least interfere in the process. I don't know what's scheduled for this march in November. I think it's primarily a demonstrative march, demonstrating opposition to the war. I don't think this march is intended to be as direct a confrontation as the other one, although it's supposed to be larger, with more divergent factions. It could be very interesting.

FOCUS: How successful do you think the October 15th Moratorium was? What do you think was accomplished, if anything?

HITCHCOCK: Well, it got Spiro Agnew pretty upset. Richard Nixon said, before the Moratorium took place, that he was going to ignore it, and he most likely will.

FOCUS: Do you see any hope for an end to the Vietnam thing?

HITCHCOCK: It'll end sometime-- maybe not in my lifetime. Basically the U.S. in Vietnam is faced with a very grave situation. With mounting opposition at home, they are eventually going to be faced with a situation where continuing the war is going to be very difficult on the front in

all aspects. Ending the war would be very difficult for the government on an international level as it would prove that there is hope in fighting American imperialism. If the Viet Cong can last from 1954 until now with steadily increasing American presence, I think it would indicate that other revolutionary movements in other places have a chance against the American military power.

FOCUS: To return to Oakland University, what do you think of the "revolutionary movements" on campus?

HITCHCOCK: I wrote a song about it once called "Talking Oakland Psychedelic Pseudo-revolutionary Blues."

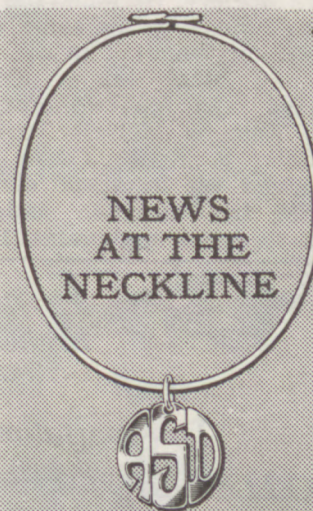
FOCUS: Why is there so little SDS activity at Oakland?

HITCHCOCK: Basically because Oakland University has people like Woody Varner and people like, well I won't mention any students' names

FOCUS: Oh, come on.

HITCHCOCK: Well, we all know who led the demonstration to keep Woody Varner here. I think Oakland University is an excellent example of what can be done at the university. You give a little bit here and there and keep the students quiet. Oakland

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Bond condemns racism

Julian Bond, one of Black America's most articulate and dynamic political leaders, made an address to an audience of 4,000 at this university Wednesday, October 22, 1969. It was a scathing, slashing speech that held nearly everyone spellbound. In it Mr. Bond, in the cool, self-effacing manner for which he is well known, very carefully and thoroughly delineated the position of the Black Man in today's society. He found the society wanting--much in the same way that it was found wanting in the days of the fiery Black leader Frederick Douglass, and his two contemporaries, Anthony McNeil Turner and Dr. John S. Rock. These leaders recognized the rampant disease of RACISM in American society and sought to speak out against its mal-

ignancy. As Mr. Bond so forcefully pointed out "those same words could have been written this morning."

The significance of Mr. Bond's appearance however, can best be expressed in the following quotes attacking "violence at home and abroad." On these fronts he said:

"Violence is when Black children are sent to school for 12 years to receive five year's education.

"Violence is where 30 million people are starving in the richest country of the world.

"Violence is an economy that believes in socialism for the rich and capitalism for the poor.

"Violence is a nation where property has more importance than people.

"Violence is a country in which the vice president declares that student antiwar demonstrators should be locked up in concentration camps.

"Violence, in summation, is Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew."

As far as the war was concerned, Mr. Bond stated that the U.S. was "stifling a legitimate (nationalist) revolution under the guise of protecting a so-called democracy."

To Julian Bond, the struggle lies bare before us. For the Blacks it lies in the so-called "New Politics", that as Mr. Bond pointed out, "didn't begin with Eugene McCarthy ...but (it) began in the ghettos, Watts and Newark and Detroit---for the whites it remains as it always has--to become humane and grant the Black Man the right to self-determination." As Mr. Bond made his way from the stage, this reporter couldn't help but think of the educative message that this rather

Continued on page 9

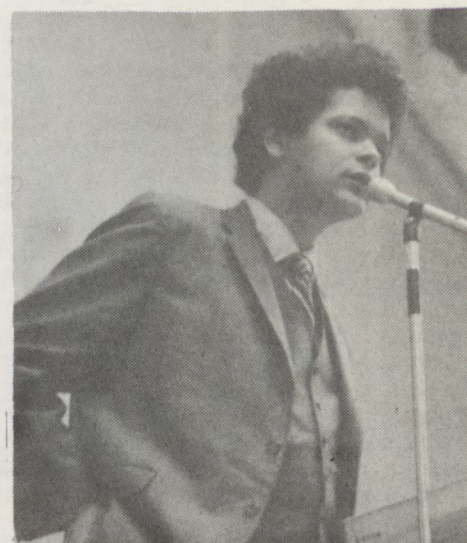
interview with . . . Julian Bond

FOCUS: Mr. Bond, what do you see as the role of Black people in City politics?

BOND: I see more and more cities becoming Black,--a majority Black. I see the possibilities of Black people controlling and running them. We also see the tax base being eroded, so these cities are not as desirable as they were 10 or 15 years ago. We can also see the possibilities of an increasing number of Black mayors, sheriffs, and councilmen. The benefits that those have for Black people generally means that those people handling our services are more friendly than the ones last time. Of course, this doesn't mean the end of the world, but instead of having a Richard Daley you have Richard Gregory. I realize that may be a little unlikely, but all it really means is that the people running the show are now more friendly toward you than before.

FOCUS: City politics seem to be in a quagmire. What do you see as the chances of mobilizing political strength in the cities?

BOND: It's much more difficult than in rural areas, because traditionally you have had the strong machines. Mayor Daley is a prime example



of a big city boss. He is not as secure as he was 5 years ago, not because he has been a "bad guy" to his machine, but because the day of the machine is over. Free jobs that people used to get in city governments are disappearing. Civil service reforms are cleaning up a lot of this, so that these machines are disappearing and disintegrating.

The process of doing this is not easy, but it is easier than it used to be.

Continued on page 9

FOCUS: Oakland



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"Charly Brown" to leave OU

Although he wants to stay at Oakland University, "Charly Brown," one of OU's oldest institutions is being retired Friday, after ten years of service to the Oakland community.

A petition is now being circulated to try to convince the administration that the "Charly" should be kept. It is felt by Cathy Bell, the originator of the petition, that because he wants to stay he should not be retired.

"I got to know him well last summer and he told me he wants to stay," Miss Bell said. "I thought



it would be good to show him the kids like him. He's one of the few people who cares about Oakland University."

The petition will be delivered to the administration before Friday, but little is expected to come from it, although many students would like to see him stay.

"Charly Brown" opened business on October 5, 1959 by selling candy bars and cigarettes from a card table in the then incomplected, dirt floored Oakland Center. He is one of the twenty original charter employees left on OU campus, and is the first to retire.

A reception for "Charly" will be held from 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 1969 in the Oakland Room in Oakland Center. This is a going-away party for Charly open to faculty, staff, and students. The celebration is for a culmination of several reasons, including showing appreciation for "Charly" for ten years of faithful service on the tenth anniversary of the university.

October 29, 1969

Julian Bond interview, continued from page 6

FOCUS: You were mentioning earlier the role of politics in the South, and about how college students can mobilize there. Do you see any chances of this taking place?

BOND: Some friends of mine and I are trying to raise the money to house and feed and transport students. We have gotten very good responses from many of the Black students we have been talking to. (We are also interested in having White students come and work in the White community.) We would like to see if there are any possibilities of work in the South because Black people control 176 counties all across the South and it would be foolish of us if we didn't attempt to take advantage of that kind of potential political support.

We just hope that we can raise enough money so that we can do the job.

FOCUS: As far as White students are concerned you mentioned them going into White communities in the South. Do you see them doing this?

BOND: Not as many as there are Black students going into the Black communities, but I think you will find some of them. I have some White friends working with Black sharecroppers in the Mississippi Delta. For the first time they can see that they have potential allies in the Black community. They see that they have the same kind of economic depression that the Black people suffer. So you can say that these people (White framers and Black sharecroppers)

are being screwed by the same screw-driver. So I think it is worth a try to go down there and mobilize.

FOCUS: Mr. Bond, this sounds somewhat like 'a rejuvenation of the Civil Rights Movement?

BOND: No, it is not quite the same thing. We are not interested in having White students, for example, coming into Black communities, and because of their articulateness and education attempting to act superior to the Black people they are supposed to be helping.

No, we are not interested in that, but we are interested in students; Black in Black communities, and White in White communities to see if we can't raise political consciousness and funds so we can go and get the jobs done.

FOCUS: Looking at the war, there seemed to be a definite lack of Black mobilization against the war on Moratorium Day. In your opinion, why is this?

BOND: There are two reasons. One; You can't fight two wars at once. You can't fight the daily war we fight here and the fight against the war in Vietnam. I don't think that Black people are uninterested -- they suffer from it more than anyone else. It is just that it is difficult fighting two forces at once.

FOCUS: Thank you very much.

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SMC works for Washington march

On November 13, 14, and 15 a national moratorium will be taking place in this country with massive marches in Washington and San Francisco. The object of this moratorium is to call for an immediate end to the Viet Nam war and to put pressure on the government to produce that end.

The Student Mobilization Committee is arranging buses and lodging for people who would like to go to Washington. SMC is charging \$15.00 to \$18.00 for transportation, a \$5.00 deposit is required when signing up for buses. The full amount must be paid by Nov. 7.

Two buses will be leaving on Thursday, Nov. 13 between 5:00 and 6:00 a.m. There will be definite housing for those leaving on Thursday for \$.50 a night. On Friday a bus will leave at 5:00 p.m. for Washington. Vandenberg Food Service will supply one box lunch for

those taking buses. Students can sign up at the tables in the Oakland Center.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 13th

8:00 p.m. Assembly
(Arlington Cemetery)

12:00 p.m. March Against Death
Begins

NOVEMBER 14th March Continues All Day

NOVEMBER 15th

9:00 a.m. Assembly for Mass
March between 3rd and
6th streets

10:00 a.m. March Against Death
Ends

11:00 a.m. Mass March to White
House Begins

2:00 p.m. Rally at Ellipse
(back of the White House)

8:00 p.m. Meetings for Future Action

OU to separate from MSU by '71

At the October 16 meeting of the Oakland University Senate, Dr. William Sturner, representing the University Steering Committee, presented a recommendation that Oakland undergo its final separation from Michigan State University by January 2, 1970 by requesting the creation of a board of trustees independent of MSU. The recommendation met unanimous approval of the senate, and was read twice during the proceedings -- a formal sign of approval that is usually omitted in normal senate business. The resolution was immediately presented to the board of trustees that now governs both this university and MSU. Oakland now awaits the decision of that board.

Sturner outlined for Focus, the reasons for the proposed resolution. The recommendation quite clearly states that OU is in no way dissatisfied with the guidance of the present board of trustees. However, a number of facts indicate that the separation would be beneficial to both Michigan State and Oakland. The task of the new president of MSU will be tremendous in itself, without the added burden of OU's six thousand students. The rapid growth of both universities, although not presently a major problem for administrators, will undoubtedly soon result in difficulties. It is far better to prevent the inception of such a problem than to alleviate it when it becomes apparent. Oakland has grown quite a bit in ten years' time. This university's administrators feel that we are ready to take our place alongside the independent self-governing institutions of Michigan. Why

continued page 9

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The March against Death will proceed in singlefile down Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol.

The Mass March, beginning on Saturday, Nov. 15, will be led by servicemen, starting in the mall area in the Capitol and proceeding down Pennsylvania Avenue.

Oakland University will have its own contingent for this march, which will be marshalled by Oakland students. The duties of the marshalls will be: to give information, to act as resource personnel, to help keep buses organized, and to give first aid. Because of their duties the marshalls are required to take buses.

Those people taking private transportation who need a place to sleep should call Tom Collins at ext. 3176.

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OU separation continued from page 8

was the resolution proposed now? The situation outlined above is just now reaching a crucial point in the development of both universities.

The separation, Sturmer added, would actually cause little change in the present management of Oakland, in respect to either the student as an individual or the university as a whole. This is because OU has always had a good deal of self-government.

Sturmer is optimistic that the resolution will be adopted soon by the board of trustees. Already a five-member committee, consisting of three board members, Mr. Lee Carr, the university lawyer, and Oakland's Chancellor Varner, has been established to investigate the situation. This committee must report its finding to the board no earlier than thirty days and no later than sixty days from now. If the resolution is approved, the recommendation must then be endorsed by the state legislature. Already Donald Bishop, republican representative to the state legislature from Rochester, has thrown his full support behind the resolution. Should it be given the OK by the state legislature, the governor would appoint a new board of trustees for

Oakland. It is stated in the resolution approved by the OU Senate that it is hoped that the new system will be in effect no later than by January 1, 1971. This date is mentioned because of the election for governor to take place in November, 1970. The originators of the resolution wish to show no preferences politically, as party control of the governorship may change with that election.

When might the proposal actually go into effect? Mr. Sturmer indicates that there are too many factors involved for a reasonable answer to that question. Hopefully, as the resolution states, it will go into effect "not later than January 1, 1971."

It is expected that the resolution will be considered at the December meeting of the present board of trustees.

Collegium Musicum to play Nov. 10

The Oakland University Collegium Musicum will present a program entitled "Music from Renaissance England" on November 10th at 8:00 p.m. in 201 Dodge Hall.


The music of such composers as Thomas Simpson, Anthony Holborne, and King Henry VIII will be featured.

The Collegium Musicum is a group of highly-skilled, versatile students who perform Renaissance and Baroque chamber music under the direction of Dr. Lyle Nordstrom. Members of the group play many of the instruments that were used in these musical eras, including the lute, recorder, shawm, cornetto, sackbut, harpsichord, viol, and crumhorn.

Julian Bond speech continued from page 6

soft-spoken 29 year-old Georgia State legislator had left us in his battle against corruption and racism so prevalent in today's society. And

as Garry Good put it in his introduction, "not only for Black people in America, but for the oppressed people in the world."



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I am a student employed by the university. What is the maximum number of hours per week I may work? Does the university have the right to withhold a portion of my net pay for hours worked beyond this limit?

-- M.K.

In general, student employees are allowed to work a maximum of 20 hours per week (40 per pay period). The withholding of student pay, unless done by the department for which you work, is an administrative action initiated by the Dean of Students Office, where problems in this area may be cleared up.

Will the Ascendant be published this year?

-- #17326

There will be no "official" yearbook this year. Last year the student body, true to form, produced no applicants for the positions of yearbook editor and business manager, so the publications board decided to suspend publication of the Ascendant for this year. If the result of the recent publications referendum is approved by the Board of Trustees, the publications board will dissolve itself and the Ascendant as we have known it in the past will be discontinued.

Recently, a group of students expressed interest in publishing a yearbook, but they will have to finance it themselves unless they can get help from the Student Activities Board.

I have to miss school for a week to have an operation. Should I tell my professors that I will be absent?

-- Freshman

You should tell the Dean of Freshmen, who will notify your instructors of your legitimate absence. While most faculty members don't take attendance, it's often very helpful to students to do this because many professors will provide students with additional assignment information.

viewpoint/

DO YOU FEEL A DRAFT?

By Dan Kinsella and Rob Fulk

In all of the commotion occurring in this country about exposing supposedly left-wing subversive movements, many organizations on the other side of the political spectrum are overlooked. Next to the John Birch Society and the Minutemen, another organization called the Democratic Republicans of America For Tyranny, also known as DRAFT, must take its place.

This institution is more powerful than any other fascist organization in the U.S., yet no widespread investigation has ever been undertaken to examine it in the light of un-American activities.

DRAFT takes members from all walks of life, supposedly without discrimination against race, creed, or color (though discrimination against sex has been noted). It is a fact, however, that Blacks are preferred. The frightening thing about DRAFT is the power it has gained over so many.

When a man is embraced by DRAFT he loses the rights guaranteed to him by the Constitution, and becomes merely a possession of the movement.

He must go where his superiors command, do what they order, and live where they say. Basically, a member has no rights, but sacrifices himself to the cause of the organization.

Initiation ceremonies are ritualistic and extremely interesting. Prospective members are examined in many ways, so it can be seen whether or not they are pure enough to join such a "superrace." Men are required to disrobe before officials of the organization. This has raised speculation as to the sexual orientation of DRAFT officials.

When the men are finally given back their clothing, they are ordered to swear an oath that amounts to nothing more than "My cause, right or wrong."

After being admitted to the institution, the men are sent to concentration-type camps, where they learn hate tactics. Here they are also taught the use of weapons, and guerrilla strategy. They remain in these camps until they are considered ready to cause mayhem.

The effects of DRAFT on the social structure of this country and of the world is that of producing and retaining a high rate of unrest. A man is taught to treat his gun as a human being; and treat human beings with a gun. Apparently, DRAFT is a major cause of violence in this country and all over the world.

Can such an institution as this exist in the U.S., home of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness? It is almost too much to believe, but DRAFT does exist. It truly makes one wonder why anyone would become part of DRAFT.

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The University in Crisis

by James McKay Professor of Mathematics

In a series of meetings of the Tenth Anniversary Committee many ideas were advanced as means to commemorate the Tenth Birthday of Oakland University. These ideas extended from gay parties with famous comedians present to scholarly conferences on new directions in research. With many areas initiating graduate programs it seemed timely to reconvene a series of new Meadowbrook Conferences and have them serve as a guide in the planning of the graduate programs.

With this goal in mind, a committee was formed which included a representative from each of the Schools of Education, Economics and Management, Engineering, and Performing Arts, and with four faculty members from the College of Arts and Sciences.

Unexpectedly, when this group came together for the first time, several members of the committee observed that a more pressing need was to investigate higher education in general. Concern was expressed that the visible symptoms indicate colleges and universities are in serious turmoil and that an effort should be made to understand the nature of the problems confronting the system. Some felt that the problems may be so severe that remedies may not work. The general sentiment was that we should devote our energies to diagnosis because without a cure for the present malaise, the effort on the graduate programs may prove to be useless.

The next step was to plan a series of activities. It was agreed to hold a series of conferences which would examine the problems, pressures, goals and desirable changes.

The speakers for these conferences are being selected with the assistance of the faculty committee, Kenneth D. Roose, Vice-President, American Council on Education, and Professor David Riesman, Harvard University. Dr. Roose will also serve as conference coordinator for the series.

Conference I (Oct. 28-29)
Present Shape (What forces have led to the current shape of higher education and what effect does college have on students?)

Conference II
Pressures (An analysis of the pressures from the many constituencies concerned with higher education and

their relationship with social change.)
Conference III

Goals (What goals from the past should be preserved and what new goals should be stressed?)

Conference IV
Structures (A consideration of the design of the various university structures and components which will



best enable the university to achieve its goals.)

Problems With Higher Education

Any observer of the national college scene is aware of the new student activism which has erupted into protests, demonstrations, confrontations and disruptions. However, there is not always a clear articulation of the basic source of the problems or frustrations which spawn these student movements. I don't have a clear view of the problems but there are a few aspects which may have some significance. Per-

haps during the year a more accurate understanding will emerge.

In very broad terms the current crisis in higher education might have its origin in the conflicts between the needs and desires of the students and the professionalism of the faculty. There are significant changes in society which aggravate this conflict. The civil rights movement has increased awareness among many groups of their human rights and possible means for attaining them. An aspect of this is the importance for a larger proportion of the college age group to attend college and compile a respectable transcript. In earlier years a person from upper social status could succeed even though he elected to avoid college, in body or in spirit, whereas many others had little chance to improve their status. This new urgency, for a presentable degree from the University from a broader spectrum demands special efforts from the University for more personalized instruction.

The old teaching approaches may have worked when the university catered only to an elite and could disavow responsibility for the drop-outs. Now we must face our proper social responsibility to help educate more students who would otherwise be educationally, socially and economically disadvantaged. Yet we lack the understanding of how to proceed. While colleges must find energy and ideas for attacking these problems, we find that the professionalism of the faculty has led them into increased research activity, with a concomitant withdrawal from undergraduate education. Adding insult to injury, most campuses support their graduate programs by

cont on page 15



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FRIGGUS OAKLAND: america the beautiful

By J. Kenneth Rabac

It is difficult to remember that you shouldn't refer to a police officer as PIG when he is grunting smutty obscenities directly into your face and threatening to "beat you so badly they will have to scrape you up and carry you to the police station in a cardboard box."

Something should be said for the idea that these smutty, brutal officers ought to refrain from acting like pigs. Then, perhaps, they will not be so widely referred to as such.

Thus, for the sake of clarity, we will define PIG as follows:

"A PIG is a human being endowed with a blue uniform, assorted badgetry, regalia and lethal weaponry, who feels that his most vital responsibility to the "Republic" is to intimidate or maul anyone with black skin or long hair (or both) in the name of an obscure, prostituted phrase, "We are the protectors of Liberty."

It was not surprising to hear of the recent incident reported in the October 15 issue of Focus: Oakland. It wasn't shocking either. We have come to realize that many policemen are not sweeties (Car 54, Martin Milner, and Mod Squad notwithstanding).

There is even a city up north where merely having long hair will get you a threat from a police bull who in-

forms you that if you don't leave town immediately, he will mangle you with his twenty-seven pound flashlight. Throughout this scene, his partner keeps his hand tantalizingly upon his favorite revolver.

Many police are simply frustrated unintelligent boars who, were it not for a metal badge and costumes of (ha ha) justice, would be beating people in bars and throwing cats up against walls.

Recently a friend of mine, who is 6'2", 110 lbs. and an epileptic, was stopped by pigs. He was held in a "private room" for two hours. They pushed him around and accused him of opposing the insanity in Viet Nam.

This is the "protector of liberty" mentality that smashes the bleeding forehead of an 18 year old girl repeatedly on the hood of a car.

This is the mentality that we see manifest increasingly everyday. This used to occur mainly in the inner city but the bigots are moving out to the suburbs and discovering the new delights of hippie intimidation.

In other words, they, the pigs, the

brutish, absurd cops, are there, wherever you go---city, suburb, country. They have one thing in mind. . . Get That Hippie (Stop Communism).

There seems to be an internal domino theory that once you let the kids have long hair, Mao Tse Tung (pronounced Mayo T. C. Tongue) and his commie-nazi-viet-cong marauders will pierce their blue cotton skin if these non-existent invaders ever did--invade. As in Chicago, it is the aim of the pig to paralyze (literally) the force he believes will paralyze him, if that force gets the opportunity.

Up until recent weeks in Chicago, that force was total myth. Now the pig can bludgeon a long hair for saying "Excuse me sir, what did I do?" and have an excuse. He can say, "Well, the kid could have been a Weather-man you know. They try to kill cops."

As for Chicago, we cannot support nor justify the action of the Weathermen. We can however, understand that the action was not unreasonable. We think that since the pigs had their Convention riot, the students must have felt they deserved one, too. Probably, it is a case of trying to suggest through violent means that at least some of the young radical community will not stand for being decapitated or gassed by raving pigs.

Still, most of us will not actively retaliate against the pigs. There are a variety of reasons why, some of which have nothing to do with cowardice. So for those of us indefensible when confronted by a pig, the future remains painful.

The federal government has, of course, required that cigarettes which cause cancer be labelled with a well-known prosaic warning.

We therefore suggest that every pig have a day-glow label pasted on his chest with big letters that say, "CAUTION: THIS PIG IS ARMED AND DANGEROUS. If you are close enough to read this sign, you had better duck fast. Being alive is at this time, definitely dangerous to your health, well-being, nose, glasses, knees, head, hearing etc. . ."

(Note: The previous remarks do not in any way implicate the Campus Security Police. At this point, it appears that our campus police are gentlemen who respect Oakland students.)

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interview cont from pages 4 & 5

is a place where the liberal illusion is the most real. There's a certain amount of freedom here, a certain amount of tolerance. There's no real open oppression, which tends to radicalize students. There's also the problem of the radical pretensions of some of the student body. They are people who see themselves as great radical leaders and you get an organization composed of ten leaders and you're not going to have much success. Where at larger universities you have different radical factions, at Oakland the tendency is for each faction to be comprised of one person. It becomes more of a personality conflict often, than it does an actual ideological conflict. Personality conflicts are much more difficult to resolve.

FOCUS: What do you think of Chancellor Varner?

HITCHCOCK: From the point of view of the people who hired him to be Chancellor, he's probably the best in the country. From my point of view, I think it's really sad that he's so effective at taking the strength out of any radical movement by giving them enough to keep them satisfied a little bit so they won't become too angry. Varner is a most effective manipulator. He's a tremendously effective talker. He can come before a group of irate students and talk to them for fifteen or twenty minutes and never actually come to grips with the topic they're irate about and have them all calm down by the end.

FOCUS: Do you feel that the student at Oakland has any power at all?

HITCHCOCK: Oh yeah, you have a great deal of power in running your own life to the extent that you can do things without getting caught. You have very little power over your academic life. There are opportunities for independent study programs and stuff like that that can be worked out, but it requires a great deal of bureaucratic form filling and all that kind of stuff.

FOCUS: So finally, what happens to Michael Hitchcock now?

HITCHCOCK: Well, I'm going to

Sports/ No Place To Go But Up

Like a petri dish left on the shelf for a few days, Oakland's soccer team is at last showing signs of life! Last week the team, after suffering just about every conceivable setback, rallied in a monumental two-game winning streak. Until the game with Central Michigan, the team was troubled with nine men on the injury list at one time. "Things are so bad," Coach Scovil is reported to have said, "that if I were to bend down to pick up a four-leaf clover I'd probably be bitten by a poison iguana (ha-ha)."

Bahram Farahmand, darling of the team, was out for a couple of weeks with--you guessed it!--water on the knee, but he rejoined the

team in the Albion game and scored two goals in the first half.

Speaking of goals, the goalie position was cursed by a nasty hex until recently; the team lost three goalies during the season. Paul Neesen, one-time forward, is now praying in the nets, and at the last two games he functioned admirably in his new job. (Pancho Palan scored the other two goals in Oakland's 4-2 slaughter of Albion).

Three more games are scheduled for this season. Perhaps the upcoming bouts will provide an answer to the oft-asked question "Is O.U.'s luck really improving, or are Albion's and C.M.U.'s soccer teams disgustingly inept???"



hang around for a while, get a job when I run out of money.

FOCUS: What does Uncle Sam say about all this?

HITCHCOCK: I don't know what the possibilities are there. I know where the bridge is, and the tunnel...

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MEADOW BROOK SEASON OPENS

By Allen

"Would you like to take off your dress?" asked Mommy.

"Thank you, I don't mind if I do," returned Mrs. Barker--and she does.

This is the curt style with which Edward Albee portrays "The American DREAM," the first of two one-act comedies presently playing at Meadow Brook Theatre. Considering our university's location, his audacity is just liable to cause more than one audience to walk out. To most students, however, the tell-it-like-it-is technique provides some long overdue freshness.

The opening scene moves slowly with the deliberately monotonous dialogue between Mommy and Daddy, as Albee presents his conception of American suburbia. Then Grandma, too old to bother with amenities, enters the room, telling everyone to go to hell and to "get the damn john fixed" with just that amount of tact.

Barbara Bryne makes her debut with the Fernald Company as Grandma. So good is her performance that one gets the impression she really believes her lines. Never have I enjoyed any Meadow Brook performer's characterization as I have Miss Bryne's.

I cannot recommend this play to the naive, or the clinging-to-innocence. Albee, as he makes perfectly clear in "Virginia Woolf," is not delicate; actually, he's brutal. Those content with Rochester/Bir-

mingham society should not attend--they'll not enjoy the assault on their values, although the experience would probably do them some good!

On the other hand, "Black Comedy" (which is, by the way, non-racial) gives more escape relief than a high on dope. Even a Rochester type can enjoy this without a loss of dignity. The beginning is disconcerting, taking place in darkness. Playwright Peter Shaffer's reasoning becomes apparent with a power failure brings on the stage lights, revealing the blind wanderings of playboy-artist Brindsley and his fiancée Carol. Carol's father is coming to meet his son-in-law-to-be that evening, and the couple, wishing to make a good impression, "borrow" the neighbor's expensive antique furniture.

Havoc then besets Brindsley's life as Carol's father, the neighbor (Harold, the fairy, who in the dark is unaware of the furniture move), and Clea (who is in love with Brindsley) arrive on the scene.

The entire "Black Comedy" cast does exceptionally well. Toby Tompkins as Brindsley does such a fine lot of stunts that I feared he'd hurt himself falling down the stairs. (I still wonder whether all the stunts were entirely intentional.)

Barbara Bryne reappears in "Black Comedy" to play an altogether different type--an English spinster who, given a taste of booze, proceeds to sot herself out of her mind. Miss Bryne's talent is as evident here as in the preceding play.

Most fun of all is Mike Lambert as Clea. She looks great in a man's shirt and she swings a wicked bottle of vodka. Her anger at Brindsley for becoming engaged to Carol is joyfully vented on everyone in a "one part imp, two parts executioner" prescription. Yet, despite all the pandemonium she is able to strike a very poignant, meaningful blow: with the play going on in "darkness" she has the characters hold hands and try to tell who is who. Carol is unable to discern her fiancé Brindsley's from Harold's, the fairy next door. Carol's father can't tell Clea's hand from that of his daughter. It is only Harold who is correct in his recognition of Brindsley's hand. Were it not for the swiftness of the comedy, one could become hung up on the

tragic insensitivity illustrated and the hopelessness of Harold's feelings.

These two excellent one-acts were well chosen to usher in what promises to be the best season yet in Meadow Brook's history. The audience response, even before the season began, has been overwhelming; Meadow Brook has sold over 12,000 season subscriptions this year, compared to under 4,000 for the previous season. Tickets are becoming scarce.

Students may purchase tickets at a 50% discount half an hour before curtain (7:45-8:15 p.m.) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. To obtain the reduced rates students must present a valid I. D. card.

I was told by Mr. Frank Bollinger, Meadow Brook's Director of Public Relations, that these were "too damn good plays." He's right, they are.

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"Don't mind if I do!"



Toby Tompkins and Barbara Bryne

Faculty Forum

Continued from page 11

usurping faculty time away from the undergraduate classroom.

Our research has carried the nation into world leadership and economic prosperity. The research activity should, and will continue. However, I believe the University could also make a significant contribution toward solving the social and urban problems by reordering its priorities, and simultaneously administer to the ailments of higher education. Universities are endowed with many bright minds which study all aspects of life and knowledge except the university. An honest respect for all undergraduate students and their educational development could improve the system and increase the percentage of people (faculty, students and others) who have a satisfying life and who foster the human dignity of others.

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