

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be limited to 350 words, should be typewritten, double spaced, and must be signed. Signatures will be withheld upon request. The Daily Illini reserves the right to reject any letter which is salacious or in bad taste, and to delete portions as may be necessary for copy fitting.

James Scholars

To the Editor:
Don Shapiro, James Scholar Student Advisory Board President:

In reference to a letter which you sent to all James Scholars asking them if they were in favor of supporting candidates pledged for peace and canvassing for them, I would like to know what gave you the idea that James Scholars were in favor of the "peace" candidates in the first place. The James Scholar program is politically neutral and was not established by the University to be a political organization.

I am sure that there would be many individuals who support the University through taxes or donations who would consider it a waste of funds for this non-political organization to ask for political support for candidates. Even if you were to use the James Scholar Program as a political lead, it would have been proper for you to first take a poll to find out exactly how the members felt in regard to the political issues.

It would also have been proper to be more specific as to the candidates whom you wish to support. President Nixon has stated that he was pledged to peace. Does that mean that you will support him?

LARRY E. NAZIMEK

Transmitting

To the Editor:
March 27, Lloyd Humphreys wrote a letter to the editor in which he stated that accepting a difference in principle between recruiting and free speech is "arrant nonsense," a statement which seems to challenge the upper limits of dogmatism and pomposity. He then argued that recruiting is "precisely the same right as the freedom to speak" and that freedom of speech is a shortened expression of the freedom to communicate.

Webster defines communication as "an act or instance of transmitting." It is clear that many forms of communication are denied on campus. I am sure that fornication would not be allowed, and yet it certainly is "an act of transmitting." Why doesn't the University provide space for this form of communication?

Humphreys says he would offer the use of his office for recruiting if students tried to ban it by majority vote. If he is truly in favor of the right to communicate, in a broader sense than just freedom of speech, then it follows that if people tried to ban fornication from campus, he would extend the use of his office for purposes of this communication, too.

It is unlikely, however, that the constitutional right to free speech was intended to include communication with any purpose, in any form, and at any location. I strongly suspect that its intention was to insure that person be able to publicly express his opinion on social and political issues, not to insure that a business or the military be able to publically recruit for profit and death.

I would like to emphasize that industrial and military recruiting, contrary to a speech on social issues, (1) is not expressing an opinion, but rather is procuring people to fill a position in an organization; (2) does not further one's education; (3) in the case of the military and companies like GE, helps support organizations which lead not just to destruction of property, but the killing and maiming of hundreds of thousands of people; and (4) could take place off campus at the expense of the recruiters.

If a speech, such as that of Kunstler, can be banned on the grounds that it might lead to property damage, surely we can ban those activities which do contribute to the destruction of vast numbers of people. The students, faculty and staff, of which this university consists, have the right to determine whether their campus will be used by a business or military activity which helps destroy human life.

JAMES R. BROWNING

Governance

To the Editor:
Before our brothers and sisters go "home" to speak with "adults" about the

issues of the strike, I would like to present two syllogisms.

Children do not and should not have the same rights in governance as adults. A distinction between students and adults implies that students are children. The common distinction made by students, non-students, and the media between students and adults therefore implies that students do not have the usual adult right to power over their governance.

Non-residents of a community do not and should not have the same rights in governance of the community as residents. The statement that students "go home" for vacation implies that students are not residents of the University community. Such a statement, therefore, implies that students do not have the usual rights of residents to power in their governance.

The traditional age of adulthood is the age at which society demands military service. American society demands military service at 18. Regardless of the competence or lack of competence of the 18-year old, he can claim, as a traditional right, all the rights, duties, and responsibilities of an adult.

Further, John Stuart Mill implies that full liberty is proper at such time "when mankind have become capable of being improved by free and equal discussion." If University students are incapable of being improved by such discussion, then the University is bilking the people of the state of millions of dollars each year by fraudulently claiming to provide productive University education.

There is no logical argument on what a person should feel his home is. I will note, however, that people just passing through are notoriously ill-mannered and destructive. If the majority of University students don't feel that the University community is their home—then we're all in for trouble.

RICHARD D. ERLICH

Call answered

To the Editor:
Contrary to public opinion, people still respond to the call for help. Recently, as I was on my way home from work, I attempted to start my car which was parked in a University parking lot on Chalmers Street, across from Sherman Hall. In attempting to start the car it became flooded. A spark ignited the excess gas and started a fire. Being a woman, I was at a loss as to what to do.

Thanks to the quick assistance of two students who were walking by, the fire was put out by a fire extinguisher obtained by one of them in a nearby residence hall. If it were not for their quick assistance, I am sure the damage would have been much more extensive.

Once again, may I say "thank you" to the two students.

BARBARA D. SMITH

Unjustified critics

To the Editor:
The rhetoric which has accompanied the events of the past several weeks has left some undeserved scars on individuals from all sides of the issues. The criticism of Chancellor J. W. Peltan was particularly heavy especial, it seemed to me, in respect to his integrity and social values.

I cannot accept this personal criticism of him. I have been greatly troubled by the one-sidedness of much of what I have heard and read when my own experience with the Chancellor has been completely to the contrary.

My comments relate specifically to the interests and well-being of approximately 6,000 working men and women who make up the nonacademic employees of the campus, and the needs of the poor and disadvantaged of the Champaign-Urbana communities.

The chancellor's active interest in their welfare demonstrated to me beyond any question the high priority which he places on human values. He has willingly given his time to discuss matters of concern to nonacademic employees and has shown a remarkable capacity for understanding and relating to the needs of working men and women.

The support of the Chancellor has been a vital factor in providing nonacademic

employees the respect and dignity on their jobs which they deserve. If this has not been accomplished, then it is the failure of those of us who have been given every opportunity and encouragement by the chancellor to develop programs to this end.

TOBY KAHR

Real conspiracy

To the Editor:
Recent backlash to campus demonstrations, as shown in such incidents as confrontations between construction workers and police in New York City and on the Illinois State campus, has led us to believe that there is a conspiracy in this great land of ours.

However, it is not coming from the left, but from the right! It is obvious that the Vietnam War is ripping our nation apart. The Communist failure to negotiate shows that they want this war to last, for prolongation of the war only increases our internal division and weakens the country.

Therefore, all those not in favor of immediate withdrawal of our fine young fighting men, are obviously commie sympathizers. Furthermore, various strikes on the part of the American working class show that the Reds have an insidious stranglehold on our labor unions and in our governmental bureaucratic structure.

Soon, by calling for a mass strike, the commies will use this force to render our country vulnerable to a complete physical takeover. If you doubt the far-reaching effect of the Communist infiltration into our working class take notice that no arrests or injuries occurred between construction

workers and policemen at the ISU campus May 19.

NAMES WITHHELD

Forum needed

To the Editor:
Campuses throughout this nation shuttered after the Kent State massacre. We turned from our separate paths and stood as one united. We who were privileged to be students when this happened have expressed our wonderment in many ways. Somehow, we say, things will never be the same. I think we should extract every bit of meaning from this experience.

For a short time, then, our old frustrations were replaced by a new sense of hope. We had fallen back before the onslaught of the system endlessly, but then we regrouped and took a stand. It worked. Before November we will see politicians jumping on the peace bandwagon like fleas jumping on a hairy dog.

This country and this world is in a hell of a mess. The pros can't lead us out of it because they're too locked into the system to think. We must form our own policy so we can walk forward into the future and regain some of the ground we as human beings have lost.

I suggest that our student newspaper take the lead by calling for a national board of editors to formulate editorial policy for student newspapers across this country. It is the task of our generation to define the future. We live in a time of crisis. We're right in the middle of the splash. We need a forum.

WALLACE FLINT

The critic's opinion . . .

Ladies of the Canyon

on records

By MALC DALKOFF

One of the best things about the release of a new Joni Mitchell album is the sense of order that it creates in a small corner of the musical universe.

Simon and Garfunkel might labor two years in the creation of a new disc only to come up with a mediocre product.

Paul McCartney might string together the works of an entire career and come out with a piece of work that is just fair.

Judy Collins does excellent work with other people's songs but only rarely recording her own very fine work.

In sharp contrast to all of these is Miss Mitchell, who sings and plays well, writes songs unsurpassed for their beauty and poetry and records only her own material.

Her most recent album, "The Ladies of the Canyon," more than bears this out. There is not a bad cut on the entire record.

Some songs are certainly better than others. But even the lesser songs are very good.

There is more variety on this album than on any of the previous two. "Traditional" Joni Mitchell songs are in abundance with near-tearful laments of lost

loves and relationships that never materialized.

Sadness and loneliness are more than in evidence through material like "Rainy Night House" and "Blue Boy." Also in evidence is a new Joni Mitchell whose sensitivity is channelled toward the world outside of herself.

"Morning Morgantown" is one of the most beautiful pieces she has yet composed. "For Free" may well be one of the most effective message songs to come out of the current vogue for message songs.

Her style is not forceful nor in the least pretentious. It serves to fit in very well with her shy, wind-like voice.

Perhaps this is the reason why no one can sing one of her songs half as effectively as she does. Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young may have recorded her song, "Woodstock," but for all the feeling they put into the lyrics they might just as well have been describing bath day at Mayor Daley's house.

To hear Joni Mitchell do the song is to get a feeling of what that almost legendary festival must have been like; soft rains and breezes; much, very much understanding.

Conrad's cartoon



'John, is there any way we could dissolve the Senate?'