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Grand Valley State College

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the Valley View



VOL. 2, NO. 16

Grand Valley State College

MARCH 15, 1967

Newsman Smith Defends LBJ Vietnam Policy

"The Communists are the aggressors in Vietnam," Newsman Howard K. Smith told an audience of approximately 200 at Fountain Street Church. His speech, Monday evening, March 4, was sponsored by GVSC and the World Affairs Coordinating Council.

Smith strongly defended the Administration's Vietnam action. (According to TV Guide, among regular TV evening newscasters, only he and Chet Huntley support the Administration's policies in Vietnam.) A Communist victory in Vietnam, he said, would mean more so-called wars of national liberation, violence and terrorism. A U.S. victory would mean the "blossoming" of the South Vietnamese economy.

The Communists, he argued, believe that they cannot be beaten on Asian soil. The U.S. should try to convince them of the falseness of this belief.

He attacked the claim that Ho Chi Minh is trying to create a united, prosperous Vietnam. Calling Ho's gang "a Mafia-like minority", Smith cited the murder, assassination, and other forms of overt terrorism that have served as tactics for the Reds.

Smith further argued that the U.S. should put more direct control over the lives of its citizens, in the form of wage and price controls, mobilization of more "fighting men", a tax increase, and the declaration of a "state of emergency".

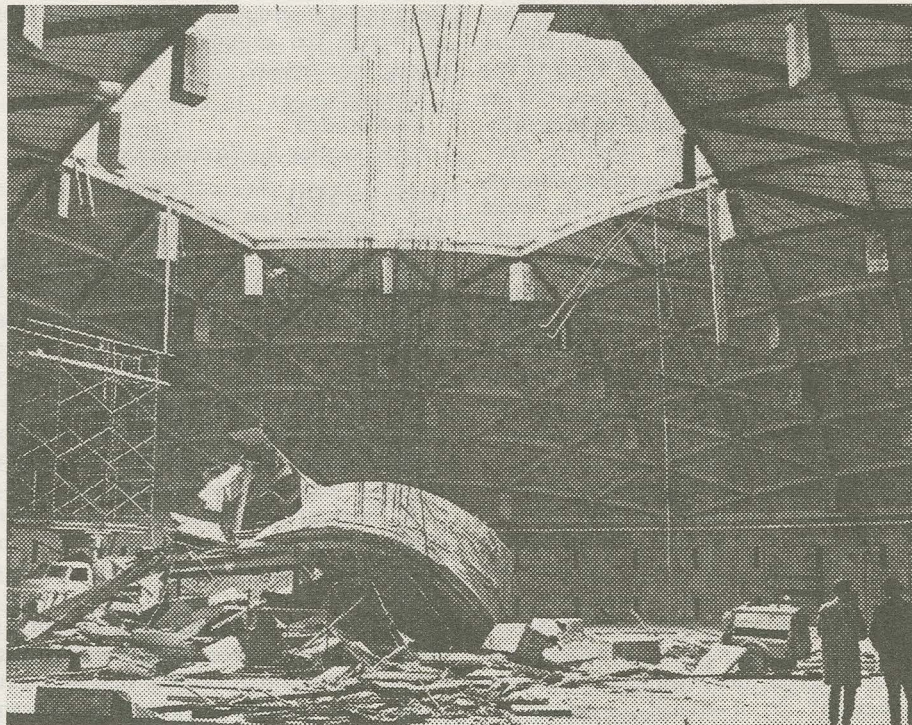
He urged the replacement of the Selective Service System with a lottery, because the draft discriminates against the poor who cannot afford college. "There is no 'color line' in the Vietnam war," he said, "only a 'money line'."

Smith, a news analyst for the American Broadcasting Company and the recipient of numerous awards for his commentary, challenged the country to "decide what's right, and do it, regardless of world opinion." He attacked the U.S.'s complacent attitude toward the spread of Marxism, and urged that we get off the defensive.

* * * * *

"I'm the only president you've got."

-- L. B. Johnson



Fieldhouse after dome crashed to floor

Dome Crashes

At 3:30 p.m., February 28, a 2,500 square foot section of GVSC's fieldhouse collapsed, and fell 50 feet to the ground. A workman was seriously injured in the mishap.

Plant Development Coordinator Robert Fansler told the Valley View last week that it was untrue that the plan adopted for the dome had failed elsewhere. A construction scheme originally prepared had been abandoned when it was discovered that it had developed difficulties in other structures, Mr. Fansler said.

While Mr. Fansler stated that "there is no way to tell at present exactly what the collapse of the dome will do to our plans", he implied that it was possible but hardly probable, that the whole dome might have to be removed.

A study by an independent engineering firm is now underway to determine the cause of the dome's collapse and whether it will be possible to rebuild it using the same plans.

Meanwhile, GVSC has other problems with the fieldhouse: "One of our greatest difficulties will be to convince people that the dome is safe after it is completed," Fansler

said. The building was to have been completed by May 1. No date has been set for its completion as a result of the collapse.

YR's Attack Draft

The GVSC Young Republicans have come out against the peacetime draft and for the legalization of marijuana.

By a two thirds majority, they have labeled the peacetime draft "both immoral and unjust". They also called for the legalization of the sale, use, and possession of marijuana, provided it be put under the same restrictions as alcoholic beverages.

On February 23, they took their platform to the state convention of the Michigan Federation of College Republicans. The Regional caucus and the Resolutions Committee endorsed the resolution and it was taken to the floor. It was narrowly defeated by what one GVSC YR officer described as "the state central controlled majority."

Grounds Dept. Replies

Editor, the VALLEY VIEW:

Since the Grounds Department seems to have been the primary victim of Mr. Mocini's beautifully colored criticism of some of GVSC's shortcomings, I, as a groundsman, feel compelled to answer the article.

I should hope that Mr. Mocini fired off his article in a fit of anger, in which case we might credit him with an extenuating circumstance; if on the other hand it was a coldly calculated attempt at alienating the Grounds Department from the student body, he grandly succeeded.

Though I must acknowledge his obviously reluctant admission that we, "the shock troops", admirably perform our primary duties, I must take him to task about his charges of favoritism leveled at our campus police officer, "the man with the simonized badge." I am not speaking as a friend but as a potential victim when I say that he would issue tickets with equal fervor to the highest college official or to the lowliest and most antagonistic student.

As the primary driver of Mr. Mocini's "custom built" bulldozer, I defy him to name one student who was snarled at or who was insulted, unless it was by the "five-day deodorant pad" odor that surrounds us as we made our daily rounds of victimizing. However, we must express our gratitude at being informed that we are the "benefactors" (?) of out and out corruption. Now all we have to do is violate a few rules and regulations and go collect our reward as beneficiaries of our favored status.

Now we come to the slightly humorous last item. Since Mr. Mocini obviously didn't check any records, I can only conclude that he judged our wages by what we do. Please inform the college officials of the up to \$3,000 discrepancy between what we are worth and what we earn.

Speaking for the Grounds Department, I would hope that the extreme emotionalism as was (sic) displayed by one of our seniors, will not be repeated by all those who find

themselves in a similar position. It is a little frightening to think that, as a teacher, he will be in continual conflict with our children. As a part-time officer himself, I am sure that Mr. Mocini will agree that things would be chaotic if everyone reacted the way he did. By the way, Mr. Mocini, with all the alleged corruption and favoritism going on, would you explain how you kept from paying your ticket?

Sincerely,
John Scherff
Representing the Grounds Dept.

Attacks SPU

Dear Editor:

I would like to point out several contradictions regarding the Student Peace Union:

1. They advocate withdrawal from Vietnam, failing to realize that appeasement is exactly what pushed us into World War II--peace (?);
2. They are socialistically oriented, evading the fact that socialist systems such as England, India, and the Soviet Union use force on their own disarmed citizens--peace (?);
3. They are pacifists, and pacifism ENCOURAGES brutes and thugs to take over (by force) the societies that are totally disarmed;
4. They state in their application form that the organization does not advocate any specific ideology (!), evading the fact that no goals can be achieved without a program of long-range ideas.

It is also interesting to note that the SPU advocates peace in the very name of that system (socialism) which produced: Nazi Germany, where millions of Jews were gassed to death; India, where people exist

in the sub-human poverty that socialism has been unable to alleviate; Soviet Russia, the bloodiest dictatorship on earth.

I submit that students check their premises and then be as unassured as they have the wits to be regarding the motives of SPU.
Sincerely,
John Wm. Trefry, Jr.

the Valley View

The Valley View is a student newspaper published weekly by GVSC students, the policy of which is decided by those students without administrative influence.

Editor Bill Bradford
Assistant Editor Steve Cox
Sports Mark Cross
Art Chriss Brown
Vulture Student's Friend
Feature Gord Wolotira

Published at Grand Valley State College, Allendale, Michigan 49401.

New Money Man

GVSC's new director of financial aids, Kenneth Fridsma, will begin his duties March 18. Fridsma is currently assistant director of student financial aids at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. Final approval of his appointment will be recommended at the April GVSC Board of Control meeting.

Fridsma received his BS in mathematics and chemistry from Calvin College in 1961, and his MA in guidance and counseling from Michigan State in 1963. He is married and father of two children.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Regular hours will resume for all libraries on Thursday, March 28.

LAKE SUPERIOR

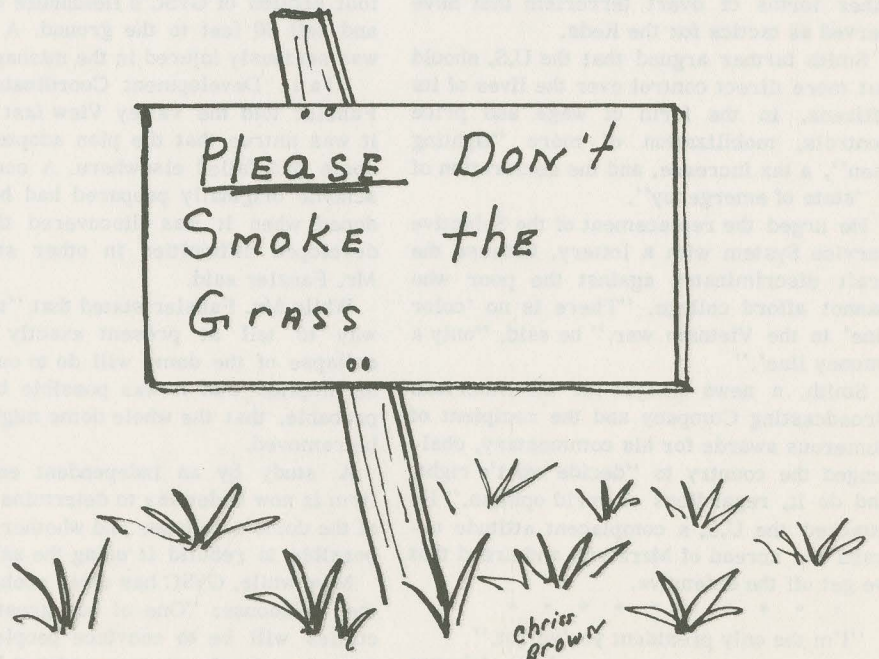
Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 A.M. - 9:30 P.M.
Friday 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 2:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

LAKE HURON

Mon. - Wed. 8:00 A.M. - 9:30 P.M.
Tues. - Thurs., Fri. 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Saturday 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LOUITT HALL

Mon., Wed. Fri. 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Tues. and Thurs. 8:00 A.M. - 9:30 P.M.
Saturday 1:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.



Cox's Column: Pro & Con Aid Deadline April 15

Cox Ignores Issues

Dear Editor:

It was with some dismay that I read Mr. Cox's review of the GVCT experimental plays. On this occasion, he seems more concerned with diatribe than with the issues at hand. It is difficult to criticize style, but this is the chief problem with the article. The fact that "two students of Grand Valley had had enough nerve to write plays, and a group of other students had been diligent enough to produce them", is perhaps, in part true, but does not present a fair picture of the situation. The students who wrote and produced these plays were by no means driven by their own need to reform "the slag heap of Grand Valley." The plays were done because there was an interest in theater on the part of some students, and if no Jean Genet was discovered on this occasion, Mr. Cox should not be disappointed.

This letter is not written to defend the plays presented, but to criticize the reviewer's article. It is unfortunate to read the review and find that "The Forever Machine" is a "play about death." Come now! Is that all that can be said? It is all too easy to criticize in a general manner, but is much more satisfying to the reader to read specific arguments concerning the subject at hand. I believe that the review has dismissed the plays all too summarily.

Mr. Cox's concern for "creative people" at Grand Valley is justified kind. But the best sort of help is to be creative on your own part. All I really ask is a reasonable approach to the problems at hand, and if this is done; I believe that creative people will be able to survive and perhaps flourish.

Gary Burbridge

Cox: Opponent of Trite and Mediocre

Dear Editor:

Steve Cox's column in last week's VALLEY VIEW, along with subconscious impressions of his earlier ones, prompts me to give what is, I hope as objective appreciation of its quality.

Certainly, young as Mr. Cox is, he has had a wide range of experiences - and is neither jealous of them or of his valuable time, as evidenced by his column and his participation in many school affairs. To borrow a euphemism from the most recent column, one surely can't accuse him of lacking 'nerve'.

But I wonder; my object was not to praise Mr. Cox, but to give proper recognition to his work.

To begin, then, his style certainly deserves comment. For example who can doubt him to be a master of the well turned phrase? If copy books were in vogue today, "stereotypes of stereotypes" and "unified

wholes" would, I'm sure, find their way into many of them. However, when one withdraws from one's reveries of concurrence in such jewels as "the cultural slag-heap of Grand Valley," one wonders if his tone isn't sometimes a little too polemical and possibly better suited to subjects other than the arts. Perhaps it is due to some residual influence of Mr. Cox's interest and activity in politics.

Another rather obvious element in his style is his particularly apt discription, e.g. "the 'experiment' was gloriously beautiful and shockingly good," or, "...those profundities were - well, 'inspiring'." Probably less appreciated in Mr. Cox's writing are the paradox and irony. I'm convinced they must flow naturally from his pen, for they are difficult techniques to master.

But perhaps more noteworthy than the paradox and irony is the imagery. One for the copy books is "meanings (that) stand like great masses of reality very near you, indeed." What more can one say?

I have become so involved in trying to elucidate Mr. Cox's style for those who might not be aware of its merits, that I have practically ignored the content of his column. I shall correct that immediately.

His subject range is truly remarkable: cinema, stage, music, fiction, you name it. Even more remarkable, if possible, is that his insights on any given topic seem to be equally penetrating as those on any other: (in reference to "Dot") "the whole thing would have been unbearably boring if it hadn't been a one-actor," and (in reference to Dylan's album) "As for meanings, they are not so much seen as almost-seen and believed." And even though his criticism is often cutting, he is not incapable of extenuation: (in regard to the fued between playwright and director of "Machine") Ah, well, the artist is never the proper interpreter of his own works."

As an opponent of the trite and the mediocre, Mr. Cox is a figure that everyone should understand and give due recognition. Certainly his departure from GV in the near future will likewise mean a loss to the student body.

Despite my already stated regard of Mr. Cox's column, I would like to mention one thing in his last column that disturbed me. His sentiments about Mr. Wolotira's performance in the "Candle" strikes one as a sort of critical nepotism. Perhaps it was simply more of the residual influence, but nevertheless a violation of the responsibility all critics have to their readers and which Mr. Cox, like the rest, must always keep in mind.

Jim Dana

Aid Deadline April 15

All students who wish to receive financial aid for the 1968-69 academic year are urged to have their completed applications on file in the Financial Aids Office no later than April 15.

Application forms have been mailed to all students who received financial aid this year. Students who will be applying for the first time this year may obtain application forms from the Financial Aids Office, 142 LMH.

Students who have questions about financial aid for next year or 1968 summer term should contact Dean Langereis.

Tele-Lectures Here

Distinguished teachers and scholars on campuses across the nation will "call up" GVSC students during the next few weeks as the college carries out its program of tele-lectures for selected courses.

Tele-lectures use ordinary long distance phone lines to bring a distant professor into the classroom. The professor's voice is amplified from the receiving telephone over a public address system to the assembled students. Questions are transmitted through a PA microphone to the professor in a reverse process.

Some concern has been voiced over the calling the lectures "tele-lectures". It has been charged that such a title implies that there is visual as well as audial reception of the lecturers. One GVSC professor suggested remedying the situation by calling them "phony-lectures." No action has been taken on the matter.

The series is financed by a grant from the Dyer-Ives Foundation. Each is scheduled to be followed by a ten or fifteen minute question and answer session.

The first lecture was "Science and Morality in Criminal Law," by Jerome Hall, on March .

Other scheduled lectures are:

April 8: John Smith, "American Philosophy"

April 10: Mark Papworth, "Human Evolution"

April 18: Richard Andres, "Computers"

May 1: Wilton Krogman, "The Physical Growth and Development of Children".

Other tele-lectures are being planned, in the fields of astronomy, international relations, and political science.

* * * * *

"The smarter the politician, the more things he believes, and the less he believes any of them."

--H.L. Mencker

The Vulture Speaks!



A THOUGHT FOR TODAY:

"Happiness is not based on oneself. Happiness is taking part in the struggle where there is no borderline between one's own personal world, and the world in general."

--Lee Harvey Oswald

ATTENTION: Victor Lundberg

The Socialist Labor Party discussion study group has grown to the point where it can no longer accomodate so large a group in one meeting. Therefore the group has split into a study group and a discussion group. For further details, give the Rt. Rev. Frank Girard a call at 453-0305.

Last Monday, I have been informed, the VALLEY VIEW office received a phone call from the secretary in the Political Science department, asking THE VULTURE's identity.

After a staff member patiently explained that THE VULTURE is the student's friend, the good lady hung up somewhat disappointed.

Apparently, a good number of people do not know who THE VULTURE is. Let us therefore take this opportunity to remind you that THE VULTURE is the student's friend, a warm-hearted, public spirited GVSC student who anonymously walks among the student body and through the world, and fearlessly report the TRUTH.

Members of the recently-formed Robinson House Council are Jerry Aue, President; Marge Spruit, Vice President; Jeanne Simmer, Secretary; Tim Westman, Treasurer; Sue Babcock, Mark Black, Lois Blocher, Bob Cole, Karen Costello, Cliff Ham, Elaine Slapik, and Paul Trybom, Representatives.

The first successful event they sponsored was the LEAP YEAR DANCE, on Thursday, Feb. 29. According to a release from the council, "The girls asked and paid."

CRYSTAL BALL DEPT: a news story of the future (courtesy "Innovator", Box 34178, Los Angeles)

March 15, 1978 -- Congress is expected to take early action on chicken eating, in order to meet a July 1 deadline, informed sources revealed today. On that date regulations concerning poultry advertising and labelling, promulgated by the Federal Trade Commission, are scheduled to go into effect.

The FTC, an independent government agency that oversees product advertising, would require that all chickens and turkeys be labeled to include a public warning on the possible health hazards of catching a bone in the throat or lungs. The FTC claims

that there is a definite statistical correlation between the eating of chicken and turkey and deaths due to choking on chicken and turkey bones. "Poultrymen have no right to choke people to death for the sake of private profit," the FTC Chairman said, "by forcing them to eat unlabeled poultry."

Sports Notes

Baseball begins . . .

After one season as an unofficial team, baseball has been sanctioned as a varsity sport at GVSC.

Pitchers and catchers have been working out for a month in the Allendale gym. Coach Hugo Salazar has been looking for a starting right hander and a lefty. The remaining eight are up for grabs. At least a dozen men have already signed up and are working out.

All games this year will be away because GVSC has no home field yet. Plans for such a diamond have been fit into the athletic department budget. Allendale has offered its softball field for workouts until a field is built.

Last year's team, although not carrying GVSC's school colors, posted a 3-4 record against such teams as Alma, Aquinas, and Grand Rapids Junior College.

Golf underway . . .

Coach Charlie Greenshields has begun forming this year's golf team at GVSC. With five men returning from last year's squad and ten others reporting in, Greenshields says that this team looks better than the ones he coached at Hillsdale (1959-63) that qualified for the NAIA national tournaments.

Some members of the squad will travel to French Lick in southern Indiana over spring break at their own expense.

The final eight or nine man squad will be selected through a tournament sometime in April.

"Patriotism assumes that our globe is divided into little spots, each one surrounded by an iron gate. Those who have had the fortune of being born on some particular spot, consider themselves better, nobler, grander, more intelligent than the living beings inhabiting any other spot. It is, therefore, the duty of everyone living on that chosen spot to fight, kill, and die in the attempt to impose his superiority upon all the others."

--Emma Goldman

From Vietnam

(What follows is part of a letter from a soldier in Vietnam to GVSC student Dick Ward.

...This last attack by 122mm rockets and grosse mortars was close; three landed within 100 yards of me. I sleep in a stolen flak jacket; the only weapon I have is my fleet feet, fleeter mind and determination that I will return with a whole body if slightly changed mind. Terror is a rocket. Terror is knowing far better than the newspaper reports just how screwed-up this war is. Terror is the thought that they are going to give every damned trigger-happy idiot on this base weapons with which to shoot each other and me. Comfort is the 5.6x10.8 sandbags that I have filled in the past 72 hours. Despair is that fact that I can't sidestroke 7,500 miles of Pacific Ocean and get the hell out of here.

When I send pictures of the damage that rockets can do to solid, 12-inch concrete walls, you will readily understand my dilemma; that I am between a hard place and a rock, and neither affords any shelter from those everpresent elements. Sick jokes, the specialty of the literate fools who would love to say that it's fun, but can't. I'm scared (read in a wee, barely-audible voice.)

Computer Course at GVSC

A course in computer programming is offered at GVSC for the first time this term -- with the computer located 15 miles away.

The Union Bank and Trust Co. of Grand Rapids provides the college two to three hours per week of free time on its IBM 360-- a gift that amounts to a substantial contribution considering the costs of computer rental.

The computer course is not designed specifically to train programmers, according to William Peterson, its instructor. He hopes to give students an understanding of the capabilities and limitations of computers as well as the ability of the IBM 360 to solve problems that arise in other course work.

The student learns a simplified language, FORTRAN, and makes use of the computer as soon as he enters the course. Operating key punches in the econ laboratory, he programs his problems. A student then delivers the key punch cards to Union Bank and printout sheets are returned the following morning.

The course is required of econ and business administration majors and is open to students in other disciplines, especially those in math and physics.