

The Trail

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December 12, 1985

"Don't look up!" SUB ceilings to be removed

By Michael Amend

The SUB will be closed between December 20 and January 15 to remove asbestos in the ceilings of the building, according to John Hickey, director of Business Services, and Bob Bosanko, director of the Physical Plant Department.

Hickey and Bosanko disclosed the information during a meeting held Monday with representatives of all the offices in the SUB that will be affected by the work over winter break.

As reported in the Trail last week, all of the blown stucco ceilings in the SUB contain "a small percentage of asbestos," according to Hickey. He said it is not required that the university remove the plaster/asbestos ceilings, but it is doing so to insure that there are "no future concerns about asbestos."

Hickey reported that an industrial hygienist tested the building and concluded that

the asbestos "does not present a risk to anyone."

Bosanko said there is "no hazard now" as long as the asbestos remains sealed in the plaster. But when the contractor removes the ceilings there is some risk of exposure to asbestos, so the building will be "sealed for the duration."

The removal process, as described by Bosanko, involves wetting down the plaster so that the asbestos fibers do not float around, scraping and brushing the ceiling to remove the plaster/asbestos mixture, and removing it from the building. Then a bonding agent will be sprayed on the ceiling to permanently trap any asbestos fibers that may remain.

The resulting ceilings are "not going to be pretty," said Bosanko, but the university is not planning any aesthetic improvements because of the renovation of the SUB this summer.

"Just don't look up," advised Bosanko.

Faculty demands more money

By Jill Hanson

Cost-of-living allowances, promotions, step increases, and compensation for losses in purchasing power in the past ten years are key issues being raised by the Faculty Salary Committee in the spring of 1986. At that time, the Trustees will be asked to approve a budget recognizing all four concerns.

Bill Baarsma, associate professor of business and a member of the Faculty Salary Committee, noted that college professors nation-wide are facing paychecks that have lost 16 percent of their purchasing power in the past ten years. Furthermore, graduates with a BA in mathematics are likely to receive a higher-paying job than a starting assistant professor with four years of graduate study.

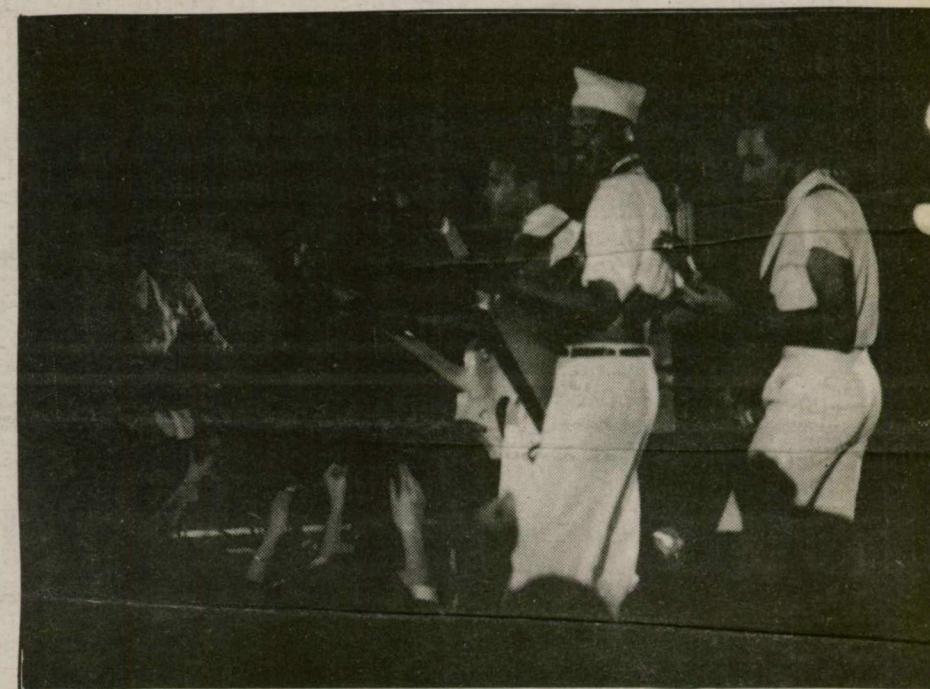
In the 1985-86 UPS budget one-third of all faculty members received salary increases that were below cost-of-living allowances. While average faculty salaries increased 7.2 percent last year, Puget Sound's salary pool increased only 5 percent. Of that 5 percent, 2 percent went towards promotion and step increases. Just 3 percent went towards yearly increases.

Thus the salary issues have prompted a high level of action by the faculty. Twenty-seven members petitioned Philip Phibbs, president of the university, to convene a faculty meeting. At that meeting, 103 faculty members were present. There the faculty directed the salary committee to meet with Phibbs regarding their requests.



Steve Lee

Freshman Erika Holt enjoys telling Santa what she wants for Christmas.



The Bus Boys move fans at Mistletoast '85.

Later, with just one day's notice, 55 members met again. At this session the salary committee was directed to discuss only the issues of salaries and compensation.

As a result, the Faculty Salary Committee has requested cost-of-living, promotion, and step increases. The committee has proposed a five-year period for salaries to catch-up with national averages. Approval of such measures by the Trustees would be seen as a "sign of good faith," according to the faculty members.

The committee has formally met with Phibbs five times. According to Baarsma, Phibbs is

to be commended for devoting a large amount of time to these issues.

Until this spring, however, nothing will be decided. The committee will continue to evaluate and strengthen its proposals and to gather data. The budgeting process itself is dependent on many interests other than those of the faculty. Particularly important is the number of full-time equivalents and the revenue of the university, which will be determined by the number of students enrolling.

Other members of the Faculty Salary Committee include Dorothy Koehl (chairperson), John Lantz, Tim Hansen, and Terry Cooney.

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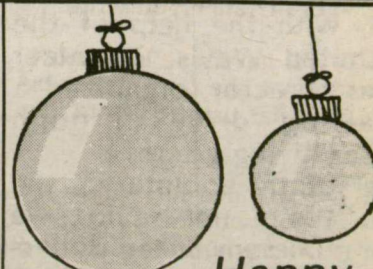
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Happy Holidays

from the Trail staff

Jackson pushes for excellence in Tacoma

By Margi Dawson

The audience roared and stomped their feet as the man introduced as "the third most admired person after the president and pope" walked up to the microphone. The Reverend Jesse Jackson addressed more than 2000 junior high and high school students at a student rally held at the Tacoma Dome.

"Will you become a great generation because you serve the need of the day?"

Excellence in education, drug abuse, sex, and self-respect were the main topics of Jackson's presentation on Monday morning. During Jackson's last visit to Tacoma, he challenged the school district to instigate his "Push Excell" program which is now in progress in many of the Tacoma schools. On this day, however, his challenge was not directed to the administrators, but to the students themselves.

"Will you become a great generation because you serve the need of the day?" Jackson asked the students. He explained that today's youth face the challenges to free South Africa, to learn to live and work with the people of the world, and to choose the human race over the nuclear race.

"You have a challenge beyond opportunity, adequate books, and well trained teachers," Jackson continued. "You must tell yourself, I have a role to play in the world."

He gave the students a quick sex talk by telling them that there has never been a time when so many babies are making babies. "Brothers, you're not a man if you can make a baby, you're a man if you can raise and provide for a baby. Sisters, young men do not make babies by themselves." A group of girls giggled and nudged their friend who looked to be at least five months pregnant.

At one point during his lecture, he had the students chanting "I am somebody! I am somebody!" The students yelled in response, "Down with dope, up with hope," "We are the world," "I can learn anything in the world."

He then invited all the students who had tried drugs on any level to come down in front of the podium. "If you want to change your course, come on down. This is your moment to say 'yes' to life and 'no' to death." More than half of the students went down to the front.

"You have a challenge beyond opportunity, adequate books, and well trained teachers."

The whole audience was soon standing when Jackson said, "if you've tried alcohol, stand."

The students stood holding hands as Jackson led them through a prayer to make a decision to say 'no' to alcohol. He ended by having them repeat, "Let this be the first day of the rest of my life."

House of Reps hotly debated

By Tom Koontz

The Senate met for the first time in recent memory outside of the library. University Hall had the honor of holding the meeting. The Senate plans to meet once a month in a different living group.

The main topic of conversation at Tuesday's Senate meeting was the controversial proposal to establish an ASUPS House of Representatives.

Senator Rick Lund saw the proposal as offering a valuable supplement to the Senate liaison system. Most of the Senators agreed that representatives would better enable overall student opinions to be voiced. Senator Dexter Van Zile, however, defended the current liaison system, saying, "it's up to the senators to get student feedback and make the liaison system work."

Representation in the proposed House was also discussed. Lund noted that allotting one representative per living group, regardless of the number of residents, would be unequal.

Sue Yowell, Assistant Dean of Students, pointed out that the House is not intended to provide equal representation by population. It would, however, provide a diverse range of ideas.

Vice President Margi Dawson then suggested that the name "House of Representatives" be changed to avoid the misconception that its goal is to give representation based on population.

Van Zile provided an alternative suggestion: "Why not increase the number of senators?" The Senate also debated the question of power. Lund suggested that the House be granted the power to submit resolutions to the Senate but not have a vote. Van Zile argued that Lund's suggestion would be dangerous in that it would separate discussion of the issues from the decision making.

Lund countered, saying, "more votes means more red tape. It would be harder to pass anything that had to go through two voting bodies."

Giving the House the equivalent of one or two Senate votes was discussed, but, despite arduous debate, no conclusion was reached.

The third major area of debate was the overall merits of the House and its compatibility with the Senate.

Senator Gillian Gawne said having both a House and Senate liaison would give students more information. It would also enable students to have a formal as well as informal voice.

Yowell asserted that the House would encourage student participation in government. "When students run, it would be just within the living groups; people would feel freer to run. This would allow for more underclass representation in the residence halls."

Chairman Ted Buck emphasized the space that would be filled by the House. "The Senate doesn't really get down to the nitty-gritty problems on campus. The House could choose the issues that are to be dealt with."

See Senate page 3

Loggers leap to aid of needy

By Amy Stephenson

UPS students skied, sledded, had snowball fights, and played in the snow during the recent snow days. But not everyone in the Tacoma area could relax and romp. Needy families in the community were hit hard by the heavy snows.

When Yumi Kawaji, director of the Community Volunteer Center at UPS learned of the weather's impact on the community, she sprang into action. Kawaji, with the help of the area United Way's Volunteer Services Director, organized a fundraising drive through university living groups.

"It's strictly voluntary," she said. "We're not saying we need a minimum of ten dollars from each group or anything like that. We won't be saying, this hall gave so much. We'll be turning in the money from the living groups at UPS."

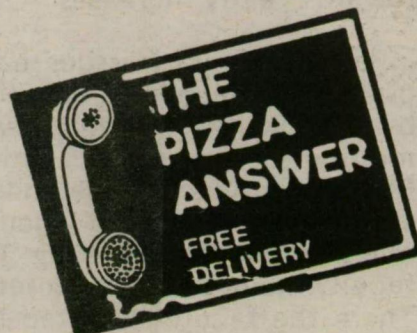
The money, which was turned in yesterday evening, went to the Salvation Army, Christmas House, Tacoma Rescue Mission, and the Martin Luther King Center. Kawaji feels that it's only fair for the university community to support the Tacoma area, since the Tacoma community supports the university.

"We receive so much from the Tacoma Community," said Kawaji, "this is our way of giving back and saying, 'Thanks, and have a better Christmas.'"

The fundraising drive was quickly organized, at a time when finals are pressing hard upon students, but Kawaji is grateful for the help that has come through.

"Thanks to everyone for helping out at the last minute and for making a better Christmas for the people in Tacoma."

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Dancers create trends

By Cynthia Nims

They have taken the dance world by storm! They have been called "brilliant," "the utmost in modern dance," "dynamic," "trendy," "ingenious," "a phenomenon of the 80's." On Monday, January 27, the Cultural Events Series will be presenting the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Co. dance troupe from New York City.

This troupe emerged onto the international scene in 1982 with the world premiere of "Intuitive Momentum" during the first "Next Wave Festival" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Prior to 1982, Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane had worked as choreographers and dancers, creating and perfecting the style that dance critic Mike Steele calls "high voltage reality."

Their company of 10 dancers has appeared in 22 states and

17 countries, and was the first place winner for best choreography at the Festival Internationale de Danse Contemporaine de Montreal in 1985.

Members of this troupe will be presenting a movement workshop with the UPS Theatre Arts Division. This workshop will be free to students.

Don't let your first week back in the spring semester be dull. Be sure not to miss this incredible evening of art and expression in motion. And don't wait for them to be presented on national T.V., as was true of Queen Ida and PeeWee Herman, who performed recently on *Saturday Night Live*. Follow the innovators—come to the Inside Theater for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Co. Tickets are \$3.00 for students, available now at the Info. booth.



The Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane & Company perform "Freedom of Information."

'Young Frankenstein' ends year with a laugh

By Mary Simpson

As a break between finals week and reading period, Campus Films is showing *Young Frankenstein* on Saturday and Sunday nights. The plot of the movie picks up where the original story by Mary

Wollstonecraft Shelley left off. The young Dr. Frankenstein comes to visit the old "haunting grounds" of his famous grandfather and proceeds to discover some very interesting and disturbing things. This sets the stage for the screenplay

written by Gene Wilder and Mel Brooks.

The main character, played by Gene Wilder, is only slightly stranger than the servant Igor, who comes with the house of Frankenstein. Marty Feldman, famous for his comic caricatures, plays the servant marvelously. Mel Brooks directs the cast with a good sense of timing and zillions of silly gags up his sleeve. Gene Hackman, Peter Boyle and Teri Garr make up the rest of the cast and provide the audience with laughs just this side of too many. The only way to label this movie is as one that will remain a comedy classic no matter how many times it is seen.

Next semester Campus Films will be bringing many new films to campus that coordinate with the activities scheduled.

Silverado, *St. Elmo's Fire*, *Das Boot*, and *A Lion in Winter* are only some of the titles. Of course there is the surprise movie for Spring Weekend. Coming also are special discounts on certain occasions.

Senate

Continued from page 2

Senator Paul Lower added, "The House would add credibility to the Senate and free up senators for more important issues."

Van Zile provided a view in opposition to the idea that a House of Representatives would increase student involvement.

"I don't see how it [involvement] is going to change, except that we would break people into an artificial little 'play senate.' That's the way I see the House of Representatives.

"There is something probably not wrong with the structure, but possibly with the way we are governing as people. It's always easier to blame the structure itself. Whenever we say the only way to increase involvement is if we have a House, that's a fallacy."

The Senate concluded the debate with a motion to refer the idea of having a House of Representatives to the Governance Committee and a Senate ad hoc committee. Despite Van Zile's attempts to block the motion, it was passed.

In other business, the Senate passed a resolution "condemning" the Dean of Students for not granting alcohol permits to Union Avenue residences and university-owned rentals during the reading period and finals week. The resolution urged Dean David Dodson to change the policy.

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Student film cops humanitarian honor

By Glenn Getz

Who would believe that two students from a university that places little to no importance on film production would receive honors from a national organization for a documentary that they both produced and filmed?

Charles (Chip) Lake, the producer, is presently attending UPS; Francisco (Pancho) Menendez is a 1985 UPS graduate. Their film, a 28 minute documentary titled "Los Ninos thinking About Others," explores the activities and ideologies of a non-profit organization that is working across the Mexican border in the colonias (neighborhoods) of Mexicali and Tijuana.

Chip and Pancho received the second place award for video from the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith as part of the Dore

Schary Awards for Human Relations Film and Video Productions.

Over 98 films from universities across the country that have well established and respected film departments were entered in the competition.

Pancho, a citizen of El Salvador, who has worked for both CBS News and Time magazine and won the Outstanding Graduate Award last year, has been shooting Super 8 films since the age of nine, but decided that he wanted a liberal arts education before pursuing a professional film career. During the 1984 Winterim session at UPS sixteen students produced several films in a class that he taught on "Film and Video Expression." Many students may recall the brilliant "Ghostbusters" parody ("GPA



Francisco Menendez, director of "Los Ninos Thinking About Others," and soundman Rhen Alderman talk with children in Mexicali.



Los Ninos is a non-profit organization which promotes an educational self-help program with an emphasis on nutrition and health in the Mexicali and Tijuana colonias of Mexico.

PLU wins-UPS unaware

By Erika Holt

Recently here on campus the UPS outhouse program sponsored a food drive. The drive was a competition with PLU to see which school could get the most food to give to local food banks. Unfortunately PLU won.

Heather Koon and Sue Reinsel, members of the outhouse program attribute the lack of response to the fact that "UPS students aren't aware of the problem." Both girls felt that the main problem was "getting the word out" and promoting awareness.

"There is always a few people devoted to it (hunger awareness programs) but the vast majority aren't," claimed Koon. Both students feel that there is definitely the need out there, especially at this time of year.

Noni Cassidy executive administrator of FISH, a central food bank, agrees that there is a great need. FISH was founded in England. Although originally a Christian organization, FISH is now non-denominational.

FISH is part of the Emergency Food Network. All food programs can be a part of this network, which is sponsored by Associated Ministries. Noni Cassidy says that FISH and all other programs associated with the Emergency Food Network are one in the same; "they all work for the same purpose, which is to alleviate hunger and need."

According to Cassidy it is difficult to say how many people they see, but she estimates it is some where between 35,000 and 40,000 per month. She says that some of the people they

See HUNGER page 5

Busters") that triumphed during last year's Foolish Pleasures Film Festival. Pancho directed that film, as well as the play *How I Got That Story* and this year's Orientation show.

Chip Lake, one of the students in Pancho's film class and the producer of "GPA Busters," was a member of a theatre family but was always more interested in the production process. On a leave of absence from the university, he hopes to produce a screenplay that he wrote ("Shattered Images") and eventually complete his degree and go on to graduate school. After viewing a slide presentation by two members of Los Ninos (Los Ninos means "the children"), he approached them and offered to produce a documentary about the work of the organization. Two months later he received a budget of ten thousand dollars to do the project. Chip asked Pancho to direct the documentary, a film crew was organized and soon they were on location filming orphaned Mexican children and interviewing volunteers involved in the Los Ninos program.

However, before any of the actual filming began, countless problems had to be solved. After borrowing over one hundred thousand dollars worth of equipment from San Diego State University's film department, somewhat unofficially the cameras had to be secretly transported across the Mexican border. Video cameras are not allowed in Mexico without special permission from the government, and this process can take up to six months. Despite the difficulties involved in working with an especially low budget of ten thousand dollars and the constant threat of being caught filming by Mexican police, filming began on schedule.

The process used in producing "Los Ninos Thinking About Others" was a flexible one: the crew began with basic themes in mind that needed to be expressed, then used film images and adapted them to the theme. There was no script, other than a rough blueprint of the final product, and the spontaneity that resulted gave an

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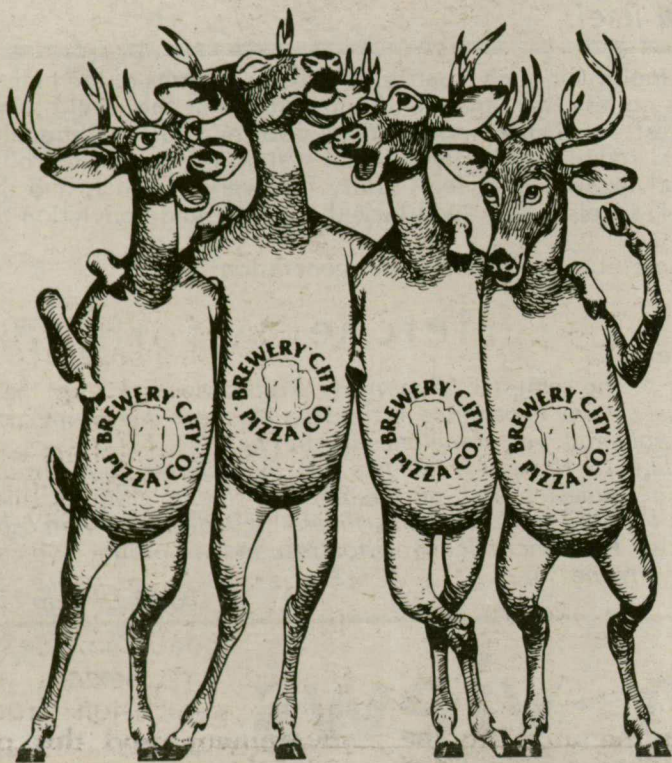
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Los Ninos

Continued from page 4

honest character to the film. For example, one unexpected surprise involved a small boy playing a xylophone in the garbage and filth that was his front yard. The picture, a moving one, was not in the original script.

"Inside Out Productions," the company that Chip and Pancho formed, has a very straightforward and honest style that is reflected in the documentary. Their top priorities include getting the message across and getting the highest production value possible at the lowest cost. Each member of the crew involved in the film was regarded as an equal, unlike other professional film crews. The respect they have for each other shows in the quality of the documentary.

The crew was made entirely of UPS students: Chip, who produced the film, supervised the editing process, developed

a budget, and insured film quality throughout; Pancho, who wrote most of the narrative script, filmed, and directed the documentary; Don Davis, who did standup (narration) and wrote additional script material; Rhen Alderman, who did second camera work, sound and lights; and Kim Wright, the production secretary—the person who, in Pancho's words, "kept us all sane."

The Dore Schary awards were established to honor the memory of the distinguished humanitarian and film maker for his contribution to the art of film during his career as a writer, director and producer. The awards are presented to the talented university students whose work in film and television has been judged to best exemplify the excellence and human concerns that were the hallmarks of Dore Schary's life.

Hunger

Continued from page 4

see are only helped once and never return. Some people come in sporadically, while others come back constantly. Their situation never improves.

There are even more needy during the holidays. There are not facts on why the holidays bring in such an increase of needy, but it is thought to be because people are trying to pay heat bills that are too high and buy gifts they can't afford.

Cassidy says there has been a great response to the hunger problem from Pierce County citizens. People at this time of year are in the giving mood. Food banks must make use of this spirit of giving by encouraging people to get excited about donating.

However, there is always the

need for more. "People are always willing to give for December 25th and January 1st, but there is need the other 363 days too!" said Cassidy. "It's hard," she added to say to people who have been giving, "Hey this is great, but we need even more."

There are over 600 volunteers in the FISH program. Cassidy estimates the number of volunteers to be somewhere between 1000 and 2000. It is hard to determine the exact number because some volunteers give time, while others give money.

The food banks need your support! As Noni Cassidy sums it up, "Even if a volunteer can volunteer only one day out of a year, if that is 100 percent of what he can give, then that is great! Every little bit helps."

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The follies of Academia

The University of Puget Sound was originally dedicated to, among other things, instilling within its students an understanding of "good government."

Today, however, this phrase is a virtual anachronism; most certainly, if it were chartered today the University would not dedicate itself to such a concept—one which we, the enlightened generation, recognize as vacuous, the product of a more naive, ethnocentric, and politically self-righteous day. We smile condescendingly at the simplicity of our forefathers. How could one be so obtuse, we wonder, as to imagine that the concept of good, particularly when applied to political institutions, is anything but relative?

The patriot, then, is seen as the antithesis of the enlightened scholar.

This attitude betrays the realization that we are in fact the beguiled, the products of an educational system which, at least at the collegiate level, is indelibly stained by Marxian pseudo-science. The fundamental and traditional precepts of our political system, liberal academia assures us, amount to nothing more than "ideology" imposed upon us by the economically powerful, the aim of which is to reduce us to mindless flag-wavers, thus preserving the status quo.

The mark of the intelligent, educated man, we are told, is his refusal to be duped by society's ploy. We have been brainwashed into seeing the staid, the given, and the traditional as the enemies of enlightened intelligence. Academia has presumptuously defined the truly educated man as he who recognizes that the fundamental precepts of his society are incapable of justification independent of a conceptual framework which is predisposed in their favor.

The patriot, then, is seen as necessarily the *antithesis* of the enlightened scholar; and the ethnocentrism, a term applied with reckless abandon by so many "intellectuals", is considered the dirtiest word, the most scathing denunciation within the academic vocabulary.

He who begs to differ with this definition of intelligence, or he who sees the political precepts of his society as largely admitting of rational justification and worthy of defense, is an outcast within academia. He risks being branded an ignoramus, an obtuse flag-waver, and stands to experience first-hand the very narrow limits of academia's tolerance. Having fallen prey to the propaganda of his society, he is considered a lost soul.

Thus the academic establishment refuses to recognize the possibility that an intelligent, rational man, upon considering the options, will come

to see the political principles embodied in our government as a worthy yardstick by which to judge other forms of government. The act of judging other political systems according to, for instance, the degree of individual liberty afforded to their citizenry, is merely another detestable manifestation of our ethnocentrism, the academic is quick to announce.

Instead, academia teaches, we should feel guilty for all that we represent. The Socratic challenge "know thyself" has been bastardized into the command "criticize *ad infinitum* thy government and all that it represents."

The wide and tacit acceptance of this philosophy is in a certain sense understandable, as it fulfills a particular psychological need. Criticism of one's society is certainly an easier and more comfortable process than is critical review of one's self. As well, denunciations of the traditional precepts of our government serve to distance us from what we may perceive to be "the sins of our fathers." We implicate our political system and, in so doing, absolve ourselves from any individual responsibility by demonstrating our moral superiority. It is thus an instrument of psychological self-pacification.

"Clearly, a civilization that feels guilty for everything that it is and does will lack the energy and conviction to defend itself."

However mollifying such an attitude may be in terms of the individual psyche, it is no less than imminently destructive at the level of the national interest. For the society that disowns, qua traditional, the philosophical foundation of its political system is doomed to collapse; "Clearly a civilization that feels guilty for everything it is and does," writes Jean-Francois Revel, "will lack the energy and conviction to defend itself."

This may well be the legacy of our generation.

Fletcher Alford, Editor

Dear readers,

Yes, the end of the semester is upon us. Reflecting back over the past months I must say my experience at the Trail has been interesting, educational, enjoyable and, yes, sometimes frustrating.

I would like to thank my readers for the interest they displayed throughout the semester, and must extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Trail staff. Their sacrifices and dedication often came at significant cost. But their collective effort resulted in a product which was a success by any measure.

Happy Holidays

Nicaragua: A revolution betrayed and a people disillusioned

By Trevor Armbrister/Guest Columnist

Encarnacion Valdivia was weeding a bean patch near his home village of La Concordia in July 1977 when a dozen Sandinista guerrillas arrived. They told the 26-year-old that the Somoza government was corrupt and exploited the poor. Once Somoza was overthrown, a new Nicaragua would emerge. Valdivia and others like him would never again have to toil in someone else's fields. They would learn to read and write; they would be given land or be taught a trade, work fewer hours and earn more money.

Camped in the nearby hills, the Sandinista force was growing every day. Victory was near. Valdivia was single; he figured he had nothing to lose. *Vamonos*—let's go—he said.

The Sandinistas made him feel part of an elite. Each afternoon there were lectures about the atrocities of Somoza's hated National Guard. The Sandinistas were not strong enough to confront the Guard head-on, so they kept sniping at government soldiers from concealed positions near the villages. This way they could provoke the Guard to bomb homes and kill civilians, enraging the populace.

Valdivia was caught up in the adventure of it all. Over the next two years he fought in several battles that proved decisive to the rebel victory. In July 1979 Somoza fled the country, and the Sandinistas marched into Managua.

Valdivia went home. But soon the Sandinistas came back and ordered him to "school". "The war is over, but the revolution is just beginning," they said. For the next three months he was trained in infantry tactics at a base in Jinotega. He and his classmates were warned that a U.S. invasion was imminent.

A devout Catholic in a Catholic country, Valdivia was at first confus-

ed, then offended by Sandinista "priests" of the "People's Church," who opposed the traditional church. These priests never mentioned God or Jesus Christ; their homilies referred instead to martyrs of the revolution.

When Easter 1980 drew near, Carlos Morales, the Cuban-trained company commander, declared that anyone who renounced God would receive a six-day pass. Soldiers who defended God began getting a red M in their record books. After the third M, they would disappear. The letter M was short for *muerte*—death.

Valdivia began to see the revolution for what it really was. The Sandinistas were breaking every commitment they had made. The land they promised the campesinos would, instead, be the property of the state. The Sandinista leaders were living like virtual potentates. While the rest of the nation was reduced to rationing, they ate the finest imported cuisine.

Before coming to power, the Sandinistas had promised the Organization of American States that they would hold free elections, guarantee human rights and remain nonaligned in foreign policy. Encouraged, the United States supplied over \$100 million in aid. Then, in early 1980, the Sandinistas signed an accord with Moscow and ratified the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Thousands of advisers from Cuba and other Soviet-bloc states arrived.

The "education" Valdivia had been promised was also a fraud. The Sandinistas just wanted to train him for war. He was sent to an advanced military course in Matagalpa. His instructors—Cubans and North Vietnamese among them—showed him how to set up ambushes.

At the end of that course, Valdivia

See VALDIVIA, page 7

two views A government for the people

By Tim Wright/Guest Columnist

As some of you may already know, I opted to trade a semester of intellectually stimulating and gratifying studies at UPS for a semester of boring travels in Central America—a tough decision, I assure you. But as quickly as I had made the choice and filled out the necessary forms with admissions, I realized what a mistake I had made. Now that it was too late to reverse my plans, I began to turn in my mind what little I knew about Central America—specifically Nicaragua, my destination.

Newsflashes and front page stories filled my thoughts. Struggling U.S.-supported Contras fighting mad communists in the mountains, a totalitarian regime suppressing an entire nation, the beginning (or continuing) Communist takeover of the world—I was beginning to get real excited about this trip! President Reagan's numerous pleas came to mind (and greatly soothed me!): "The Contras are the equivalent of our founding forefathers...fighting for democracy and humanitarian rights; we must continue our aid..."

Soon my head was swimming with a thousand different topics: The American blockade, the Nicaraguan port Corinto mined by the C.I.A., the denounced "fixed" popular elections, and as always, war-bleak eyes stared into the black night. I felt like you do before a killer exam you know you are going to fail—only worse. I couldn't just blow this one off. I was stuck.

Why couldn't I have picked some peace-loving country like Switzerland, or New Zealand? What the hell was I thinking? An American in Nicaragua, it just couldn't be safe, could it? After all, my tax dollars are financing their counter-revolutionary war. This won't make me any more

popular.

Yet my mind was set, and now I find myself in Managua, Nicaragua, my fears washed away. After a three and half week visit I have yet to find any of the communist rhetoric so blatantly printed by the American press. Furthermore, I haven't seen a single red-mouthed and foaming communist anywhere—or is that they are all hiding until I leave? It seems that there are few details left out of our plentiful news about Nicaragua that just might have an influence on how we see the country.

Nothing can put an end to your doubts and suspicions like first-hand information. Thus my revelation began at the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, my first experience with the Sandinista regime. I must admit a little anxiety ran in my blood. I had no idea what to expect there.

To make a short story even shorter, I passed through the border virtually unhindered (and was greatly relieved because of it). The border officials were more than polite and all wished me a good visit—"Que te vayas bien." They didn't even look at my luggage. Easy as 1, 2, 3.

In those first three days I learned more about Nicaragua than I had ever believed existed. First was that the paper I read was the locally stationed opposition paper, "La Prensa."

Second, and foremost, I discovered that 70 percent of the Nicaraguan economy is in private hands. Yes, privately run and owned farms, stores, restaurants, machine shops and discotheques, just like in the United States.

Also, the literacy campaign became everyday knowledge. The Sandinistas took a half illiterate nation and turned it into a country with

See WRIGHT, page 7

The Public Responds...

Father Time's ally

To the editor:

Time is on my side.

R. Dexter Van Zile

Dear Mr. Van Zile,

One wonders if time is the only thing that is.

F.A.

Trail shorts sports

To the editor:

I am disappointed in the Trail's coverage of U.P.S. women's sports.

I am specifically referring to the absence of an article in the December 5th issue of the Trail telling of how the U.P.S. women's soccer team finished 2nd in the NAIA National tournament on November 22 and 23. The article could have been especially interesting since the tournament was scheduled for the weekend of the snowstorm and it had to be moved in-

doors to the Tacoma Indoor Soccer Centre because Baker Stadium and all of the other outdoor fields were unplayable under a foot of snow.

Since U.P.S. was the host of this NAIA National tournament this year, I had expected at least a small follow-up article reporting that Westmont College of Santa Barbara, CA, captured the title, U.P.S. placed 2nd, Houghton College of New York came in 3rd, and Wilmington College of Ohio finished in 4th place.

It is frustrating to the women's soccer team that we received more recognition from the TNT than from our own Trail.

Sincerely,
Carrie Donohue

Editor lauded

To the editor:

Having spent the semester typesetting for the Trail, I must say that it

was definitely an intriguing experience. Having just transferred to UPS, I was quite surprised to see such a change from the boring newspaper that I had grown accustomed to at my previous college. A week never passed when I didn't typeset a letter to you that slammed you and your opinions into the ground, with your diligent efforts to defend your position following it. People have strongly criticized your journalistic mannerisms, and on that subject I am indifferent. What I would like to comment on, at the risk of denunciation by my peers, is you, Fletcher Alford, as a person. I have always held great respect for someone, who at the risk of being blackballed by their peers, has stated, and stood firmly by his or her beliefs and opinions, whether I agree with them or not. You had the courage to do this all semester when many may have either slacked on

their beliefs or thrown in the towel all together. To me, your journalistic abilities and opinions, as far as this letter goes, are all irrelevant. The valiancy that you displayed this semester, to me, is not.

Very Sincerely,
Lisa L. Davenport

Imperfect editor?

To the editor:

I would like to express deep and heart-felt concern over the Trail's future now that we have an editor who doesn't know *absolutely* everything.

Steve Bovingtondon

Dear Mr. Bovingtondon,

No need to worry Steve; the current composition of the ASUPS Senate clearly attests to the fact that one might even know *virtually* nothing and yet nevertheless be successful in convincing the general public of one's competence.

F.A.

Valdivia

Continued from page 6

was a man in turmoil, out of place a revolution that went against his deepest beliefs. When he asked for a discharge, it was denied. Instead, he was granted a leave to go home to La Concordia; he had been a model soldier.

I must fight these people, the model soldier thought, even though the idea of turning against the cause for which he'd risked his life was almost too much to bear. "Communism is coming," he told his friends and relatives. "Unless you resist, you will lose everything."

Then he set out, not for La Concordia but for the hills near the village of La Pite del Carmen. Unable at first to contact anti-Sandinista rebel groups, Valdivia vowed to form his own. He asked campesinos to leave their homes and join his band. Soon he had 12 men. Other campesinos gave them guns, food, hiding places and information.

When he learned of a Sandinista garrison in the village of Plan de Grama, Valdivia decided to strike his first blow for liberty. He picked a *nom de guerre*, El Tigrillo—the little tiger—and launched an attack marked more by surprise than tactical brilliance.

The small garrison evaporated. Tigrillo rounded up the villagers in a billiard hall. "I fought Somoza," he said, "and now I'm fighting the Sandinistas. I'm a good Nicaraguan, and I'm fighting for freedom. I'll welcome any of you who want to help." Several stepped forward. Then they broke into a government

warehouse and distributed food to the residents. The next day the Sandinistas stormed back into town, only to find Tigrillo gone.

In June 1985 Congress finally agreed to supply the Contras with \$27 million in aid—though only for humanitarian purposes. Tigrillo has returned to his camp to take command of an army that has grown to 4500 men. They are now somewhere inside Nicaragua. "Six years ago I fought in the hills, and all I had was a handgun," he says. "I'll just keep going with whatever I have." He knows that he may die in the struggle to regain liberty, but he's willing to pay the price.

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Wright

Continued from page 6

a 12 percent illiteracy rate.

I don't ever recall President Reagan congratulating the Sandinistas on one of Central America's most successful land reform programs ever. Thousands of previously landless peasants became landowners with farms almost overnight.

It didn't take long for me to realize that I really knew nothing about the Nicaragua of today. Everything was new to me. What, there are twelve legally practicing political parties? Really, the Sandinistas have built hundreds of schools and medical centers? You mean to tell me there

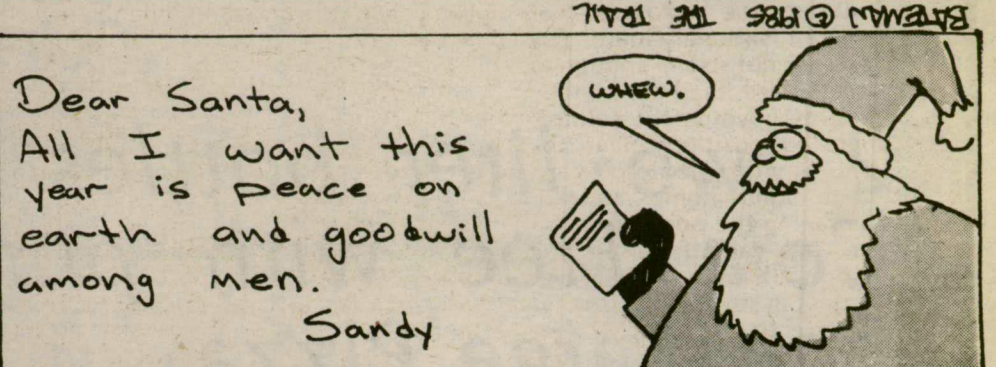
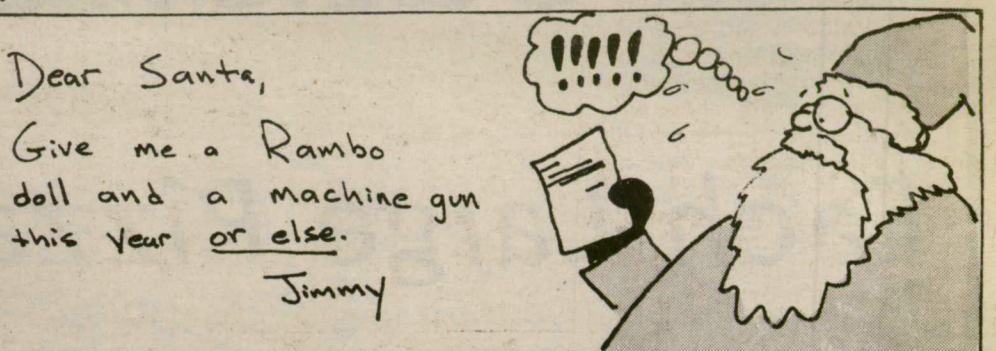
only used to be one national library under the Somoza regime, and now there are thirty-six? Incredible. I never knew. But wait, there is more: no religious persecution, polio and malaria vaccinations that almost completely eradicated both diseases and subsidized bus systems. Wait, can all this be correct? According to President Reagan the Sandinistas are nothing but totalitarians who are making life worse for the Nicaraguans. Maybe things are different here than what the American papers say.

And that is just what I found during the course of the following three weeks—life is different here. It is not a closed society run by dictatorial madmen. For nearly two weeks I

travelled throughout the country talking with campesinos, soldiers and school kids. Everywhere I found the same thing—friendly, warm-hearted people who don't hold a grudge against the citizens of America. They are more than willing to sit down with you and explain the situation as they see it. Usually a talk doesn't pass without mention of President Reagan.

He is the person the Nicaraguans hold responsible for their war and economic strife. They resent being called communists and resent the fact that the American government insists on holding their own government's hand in every decision that it has to make. They are confused as to why America must have such a dominating role in every foreign country.

Damaged Goods Scott Bateman



The Trail

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The Editorial Staff of the Trail welcomes expressions of public opinion. Please sign all submissions, and submit to the Trail office by Monday at noon. Please limit letters to 300 words. Letters without signatures, or those with pseudonyms, will not be published. However, names will be withheld from publication upon request. Address all correspondence to: The Trail, 1500 N. Warner St., Tacoma, WA 98416. The Trail reserves the right to edit all submissions, and it should be noted that the views expressed in such submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the Trail staff or the administration of the University of Puget Sound.

Here's how the ball bounces...

Men's Basketball

The 1985-86 University of Puget Sound basketball season is just five games old but the Logger prospects for a successful season look good. The Loggers had a busy week with three big games including a 91-77 win over Western Washington, a 77-64 victory over Northern Colorado and a lone defeat to Metro State 58-64. Jay Brewer and Chris Murray had big games for UPS against the Vikings with 19 points apiece while Dirk Lance and David Watkins added 15 and 10 respectively. The Loggers held off a strong second half rally by the Vikings for the victory. The Loggers also took their first "long" road trip of the season last week with a trip to Colorado to face the University of Northern Colorado and Metro State. The Loggers and the Bears battled to a 30-30 halftime score but a 15 point second half by Lance helped the UPS squad to a 77-64 final tally. Watkins added 18 to Lance's 21 while Brewer chipped in 12. The road became a little longer when the Loggers faced Metro State. A 35-26 halftime lead wasn't enough for UPS as the Roadrunners scoring surge with 8:31 to go in the game proved to be the difference. Brewer and Wayne Deckman led UPS scoring with 11 each while Watkins and Lance added 10.

Women's Basketball

A 76-54 defeat of Warner Pacific College Monday night boosted the University of Puget Sound women's basketball team to a 4-0 mark. The Loggers downed a highly-rated Eastern Montana squad last Friday 91-64 and took their first road win of the year over Simon Fraser 73-67. Coach Sally Leyse has the Loggers running and shooting as they average almost 80 points per game. This week should prove to be the toughest test for the Loggers, who will have played 5 games in 7 days, with Seattle University of Wednesday and Seattle Pacific on Saturday.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Swimming

The ten team PLU Invitational last weekend was a successful outing for the Puget Sound men and women swimmers. The Logger men finished second behind Central Washington while the UPS women took third behind CWU and PLU. Coach Don Duncan commented on the meet, "Our performance was not equal to the Husky Invitational but we had some very very good swims mainly because Central Washington was there in full force. Central always provides good competition," said Duncan. Individual Loggers took the honors at the meet as David Hayes was named the Outstanding Male Swimmer for his three individual titles and role in two relay victories. Sarah Rudolph, a senior from Tacoma, garnered the Women's Outstanding title for her three individual title and 1st place relay finish.

SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball

Saturday, December 14 UPS vs. University of Portland (away) 7:30p.m.

Women's Basketball

Saturday, December 14 UPS vs. Seattle Pacific (away) 5:15p.m.

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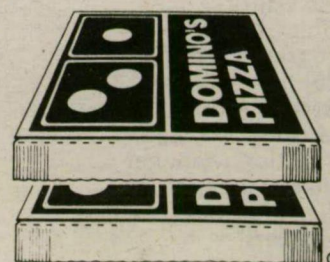
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