#### Men 'n' answers

For years the University's speaker schedule has read like a reject list for the "Almost Who's Who Almanac."

Finally some concerned administrators, the Nebraska Union and Senate have unlaced the moldy purse strings of the speaker's budget for the sum

The result is the two-day World in Revolution Conference which promises to be the most worthwhile program scheduled here in a long time.

The five outstanding men who will participate in the Conference Thursday and Friday are not pseudo-intellects who pretend to have answers for every world problem.

The nationally known speakers are experts in their fields and hold impressive sets of credentials. They are dynamic and stimulating men who understand the real problems America faces and are not only vitally concerned with these issues, but most important may have some of the answers.

For example the main speaker, Abraham Ribicoff, has held positions of Cabinet member, Senator, Member of Congress, Governor and judge. One hour spent listening to him would be more valuable -(and more stimulating) than three weeks of political science lectures on the same topics.

Rep. John Conyers, Jr. is the first and only Negro to sit on a Congressional committee which handles civil rights legislation. He's probably one of the most knowledgeable men in the country on race riots. And race riots happen anywhere - even Ne-

Another speaker, Dr. Nevitt Sanford, is one of the most respected educators in the country. University Greeks should be particularly interested in this speaker as his ideas were incorporated into the deferred rush reports last fall.

And so the list continues. These men are not only involved with America's problems but they obviously are interested in how college students are reacting to society's frequent upheavals.

Most of the speakers will hold an open press conference Friday afternoon for reporters and any interested persons who wish to ask further ques-

These men represent the exact type of speakers the University has been begging for for the speaker's program. This type of program should be continued in the future with even more funds allotted for speakers. But, an empty Coliseum will nat guarantee the conference's continuation.

- University members are strongly urged to attend World in Revolution. It will be time well invested.

Fluctuate with me

There comes a time in everyone's life when

one must decide between two opposing world views:

1) things are orderly and 2) things are screwed

up. One may promiscuously alternate between these

conceptions for a time, but eventually one's gen-

eral outlook on life must be set, if only to as-

sure a certain intellectual fidelity. Isn't that right,

ing Conceptions, unfortified by Ovaltine, harrassed

by the strains and stresses of life itself, I was

suddenly struck by a telling blow (quite a story

Softly humming "Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall," I collapsed as if in the throes of a

vision, which as a matter of fact I was. (All my

loyal readers are now expecting a description of

this same vision, but just to prove that I'm above

these repetitious tales of personal experience, I will now undertake a learned discussion of what

Norman Mailer terms the metaphysics of the belly).

The belly is a marvelous invention. All man-kind needs bellies. But some people are not yet privileged enough to have bellies. I'm all for sop-homore bellies, and maybe even second-semester freshman bellies, if the children are mature and

Otherwise, no dice, nix, the deal's off, forget

Now that we are all suitably instructed on

It Sam. Bellies are also a big belp in times of stress, for they are absolutely indispensible as

bellies we may move on to the respiratory sys-

tem. Across the nation, many respiratory systems

are in danger; they are just not keeping up with the times. But we all know how important res-piratory systems are, don't we? Without them what would little boys do? Thank heaven for me.

I know we't to do to save the respiratory sys-

Having imparted more wisdom with in this brief space than even Eric Hoffer could reasonably be expected to come forth with, I must now leave you with a final word on the Conceptions which brought this whole thing on or up or somewhere. These remarks should be prefaced by a word (or two), but unfortunately such words can not be printed in family newspapers.

So, my remarks: When the one Great Scorer

responsible enough to use them properly.

thumb-holders - but that's another story.

Musing on this difficult problem of Alternat-

Rodney Powell . . .

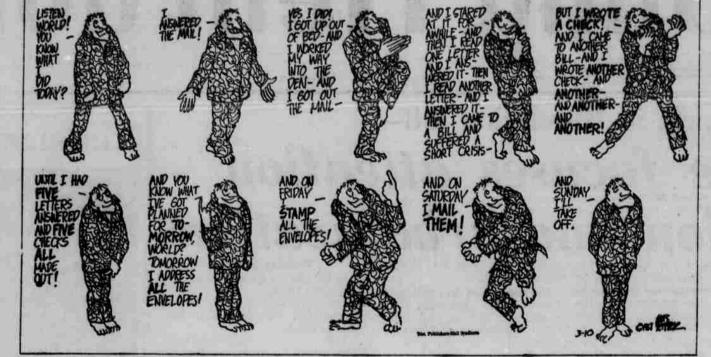
sports fans?

too, but smutty).

I am

a Walrus

Cheryl Tritt



William F. Buckley

## The ACLU, or what is a civil liberty

Norman Mailer is outraged because he has been told to report to jail for five days for breaking the peace outside the Pentagon. Who knows, he may write a book about it. The American Civil Liberties Union hasn't taken up the victimization of Mr. Mailer, but that is about the only defendant on the landscape the ACLU isn't defending.

Its directors have now decided to offer the Union's help to the Spock crowd who have been indicted for violating the Selective Service Law. At first, the ACLU reasoned that it had no proper business in that imbroglio, since nobody sane was exactly contending that the Selective Service Act is a denial of anyone's civil

But the ACLU has a nose for publicity, and after a heated session, the majority reversed themselves.

And of course, before the trial is a half-hour long, it will be clear that the defendant is

the United States of America. not Spock et al. That is the way it was choreographed all along. And the Justice Department, by waiting as long as it did, by moving as slowly as it has, walked right into the ambush.

Among the lawyers will be Mr. Louis Boudin, who will defend Dr. Spock. Mr. Boudin's clients over the years have consistently included admitted Communists, persons asserted to be Communists and such a notable Commumunist government as the Castro government of Cuba.

When last seen socially, Mr. Boudin was attending a testionial dinner in honor of John Abt, presumably celebrating the anniversary of the stealing of some U.S. secret or other. Mr. Abt's name does not ring a bell the way it used to do back when Whittaker Chamers identified him as a member of a spy ring.

Lee Harvey Oswald, for instance - who aked the Dallas police to get in touch with Abt to defend him. Mr. Boudin has been around a long long time. He dates back to the famous defense of the Communist Party in the petition to President Roosevelt. He is just the lawyer for Dr. Spock.

Yes indeed, it will be a great spectacle. No doubt there will be demonstrations all over the world denouncing the United States and apotheosizing the defendants. It sometimes appears as though all of Europe were practicing for such demonstrations. Last week the students rioted in

There was a very reassuring demonstration in West Berlin a fortnight ago, or rather counter-demonstration. There they live close enough to the Communists to be grdgingly aware of America's contribution to their liberty.

But demonstrations against Red China? North Vietnam? The Soviet Union? The typical European would as soon demonstrate against Caroline Kennedy. The same day that brings the news of the massive anti - American demonstrations in the Low Countries reports Pravda's reaction to the charge of having persecuted Soviet writers.

Norman Mailer is the proper bard for such an age as this. The same Norman Mailer who eight years ago was urging Fair Play for Cuba, sponsor of a committee which it transpired, Castro was personally subsidizing. He is the man to write a hundred-million words on why we should all be indignant against Lyndon Johnson, and reverential towards the Communists. It will take just about that many words to explain what's going on.

Perhaps the New York Times would devote its entire Sunday edition to it?

# King Lear: a challenge met

Editor's note: Today's review of the University Theatre production of King Lear is by Ken Pellows an instructor in the department of English.

Charles Lamb said of Shakespeare's King Lear that it 'cannot be acted." In the 150 years since Lamb's pronouncement, many brave theatric groups have proved it hyperbolic; this weekend, the Nebraska University Speech and Dramatic Art Department added still another proof. Under the direction of Professor William Morgan, the University players have come up with a surprisingly smoothindeed, nearly flawless-production of one of the most challenging plays in English theatre.

Emotionally brutal to an audience, King Lear is at least twice as tough on most of the actors. If it is not "essentially impossible" (again, Lamb's words), it is certainly extremely difficult to produce. But with the aid of excellent costuming, subtly effective lighting, and some marvelous work with sound, Director Morgan and his cast have presented a credible - and properly "punishing" - pro-

The most difficult part of the play is the representation of the main character. Lear must be erroneous yet sympathetic, feeble jet kingly, forgivably wrong at some times and understandably mad at others. Little wonder that the role might sometimes seem impossible to perform! However, the University Theatre group is fortunate enough to have the very talented and versatile Andy Backer whose Lear may be the finest thing he has yet done in theatre; those familiar with Backer's previous achievements will, I pe, recognize the strength

From his very entrance on stage, Backer is in full command. In his first scene, so vital to the stablishment of Lear's character, he conveys the ambiguity of the king through a combination of a tottering, uncertain walk and a voice as yet undiminished in power however ill-advised its pronouncements may be. Nor does Backer relax once he has mastered that difficult scene; he rants and rages, cringes and cries throughout, in what must be one of the

worth seeing, even if he were not so admirably supported. Most of that support, and

much of the challenge, which Backer receives, comes from Jim Baffico's performance as Kent. In fact, perhaps the hardest thing Backer has to do in his first scene is to dominate a stage which already seems nearly filled by the large and talented Baffico. This kind of challenge, when the lead role is up to it, works, of course, to the benefit of all. Baffico's Kent is a some-

what surprising one; to the rugh-and-ready type of humor that characterizes Kent, he adds an almost "pixish" quality. That's hardly the right word, obviously (would you believe, a 250-pound pixie?), but there is much about Baffico's performance that is reminiscent of his previous Howell Theatre success as the mischievous Scapin. Of course, one who is six axehandles across the shoulders is almost bound to portray roughness, consequently Baffice's addition of "lightness" results in a very interesting character. And in his serious scenes. Baffico is able to throw away the mischievous quality and remain thoroughly believable.

Complementing Kent almost perfectly is the excellent Fool played by Ric Marsh, who combines quick movement, fine timing, and remarkable stage presence to produce an entirely satisfying performance. ("Stage presence," in this instance, refers especially to a sense of position on stage, particularly in relation to other characters.)

Another definite plus, in a difficult supporting role, goes

the Elizabethan and modern senses) reminisces upon his adulteries, to a semi-mad but extremely perceptive blind man, is no small task; but Mills manages to be believabl in both situations.

Bill Jamison, as Edgar (Gloucester's legitimate son), presents a strange paradox: he appears to be much more at ease in those very difficult scenes in which Edgar goes about as Tom o' Bedlam than he does in the (theoretically) easier scenes in which Edgar is himself. Perhaps this paradox typifies the manner in which the entire cast responded to the difficulties which the play presents. In any case, Jamison's "Tom" was excellently done.

One of the most unusual things about this play was the ensemble acting. Ordinarily, when a college group presents a large-cast Shakespeare play, this is a major shortcoming: just when he should be responding to news of his king's death, The Third-Soldier-fromthe-Left is counting the house or grinning at a prompter. However, in this production, there are no such amateurism lapses. And the "realism" of the battle scenes must be seen to be appreciated!

Naturally, not everything is satisfying about this presentation of Lear. Perhaps most disappointing were the females' performances. Moving and speaking in excessively stylized manners, Susan Vosik (Cordella), Laura Ursde-venicz (Goneril), and Kathy Baines (Regan) all appeared to agree with the Elizabethan social dictum that women do not belong on stage. None of the three seemed to feel as natural as her role as most of the main male characters

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most exhausting roles in any to Dana Mills, as the Earl of did. This is not to imply that play. His performance alone Gloucester. To go from an ag-would make the production ing fellow who fondly (in both led flawlessly; Bill Szymanski's Edmund was perhaps not strong enough (Gloucester's bastard son could be considerably more bastardly), and Skip Lundby, as "the Gentleman," was too consistently "serene" in his responses to the action about him.

> There were problems that do not come within the domains of the actors. Although generally very functional, the sets sometimes complicated the limited-space problems of Howell Theatre's stage, rather than alleviating them. On the other hand, the problems of changing sets (another of this play's severe challenges) were handled extremely well.

> Some of the lines in King Lear almost have to be altered for the modern stageand some of the action could surely stand to be. Directoral option was exercised (and judiciously) in at least a couple of places in this production-"jakes" was changed to the somewhat more modern "privy," for example—and prob-ably should be extended to some other revisions. Cornwall's "I have received a hurt" (when he has just been dealt a mortal sword-wound) is an unfortunate line; so is Albany's "Produce the be they alive or dead."

In fact, the entire final scene of Lear threatens the ludicrous: almost simultan-eously, the bodies of Regan and Goneril are carried in by walling mourners (Edmund meanwhile, is dying on stage); Edgar promptly shouts "Here comes Kent" (he's been gone a while, and has to be brought back on stage somehow): Kent comes in seeking the king, and Al-bany is reminded that in the midst of all this excitement they've forgotten about Lear! It's a scene that requires extreme caution and which, on Friday night at least — per-haps the result of its being opening night — was much too fast-paced.

No ending, however, could undermine what Backer and his supporting actors worked so exhaustingly to create-a tragedy of unparalleled pow-er, artistically executed. Perhaps no play in University Theatre's history has been such a "must-see" as King Lear. Larry Grossman

# St. Peter and skipping stones

The beach at Ninilchik, Alaska has the best skipping stones in all of North America. The waves have worn the stones smooth and if thrown correctly, each will skim over the waves four or more times before sinking into the cold water. Scattered pieces of pumice, a volcanic material so light that it will float, are mixed in with driftwood and piles of rotting kelp.

The town itself is a small fishing village 100 miles south of Anchorage on the Kenai Peninsula. I arrived in Ninilchik on a cold day that wore a tedious face of grey Rain had followed me all morning and not even my green Navy parka kept

Travel Notes

Ninilchik was typical of the towns one finds in Alaska. The houses were built of faded, weatherbeaten boards, greying in the grey light, or of rough, dark brown logs roofed over with black

The yards around the houses and cabins were mud, with a few half submerged planks serving as a path to the front doors. Oil tanks on stilts stood next to the houses and watched over piles of cut logs stacked on the ground.

Around every house was an amazing collection of junk machinery, rusted and broken from the constant humidity. Old truck bodies, pipes, and oil drums lay about in disorderly heaps. The rain dripped off the dull metal into the mud.

I was searching for work and had been told in the town of Clam Gultch that the canneries in Ninilchik were hiring. The canneries were all lo-

cated near the beach. A narrow channel of water separated the beach and the main part of town. Three salmon boats were tied up in the channel next to log sheds. The owners were out in the rain, inspecting their nets, oiling motors, and scrubbing down the decks. One ship, a faded blue

color, bore the name, Peter the Great. Above the channel was a gentle hill on which most of the houses of the village rested. At the very top near where the forest began, stood the village church, St. Peter of the Fishermen. It was a white frame building well painted and preserved. It had an onion shaped Russian dome. From its door step one could look across the waters of Cook Inlet to where Mt. Iliamna, an ancient vol-

I found a cannery and entered through a side door. The immediate heavy smell of salmon caused me to hold my breath. A Chinese man in a yellow rain slicker was hosing down the machinery with a steam pipe. He waved an arm through the Dantesque clouds to the managers office.

The manager was a nice man but he wasn't hiring. He told me to go down the Peninsula to Anchor Point or to Homer. The runs would be starting in a week and there would be plenty of salmon to can. Now there was only maintenance work to be done.

I headed back into the rain and down to Anchor Point. The town is distinguished by being the most western point in North America to which can drive. Anchor Point wasn't hiring nor was Homer. I ended up going to California to pick oranges, but that is another story.

#### Ruben Ardila

### Activest student and his society

A few years ago the best men in education were trying to understand the problems that causearrests of many students accused of being "activists". After many discussions they found that the most important way to understand the situation would be to evaluate the goals of college eudcation and the place of this education in modern so-

A number of psychologists studied the personality of the students involved in protest movements, compared with the "good" students who did their homework and didn't break the law. They found many interesting points.
Student activism involves a very few selected

students in a very few selected colleges and universities. As one of those social scientists writes: The great majority of students today manifest the apathy and conformity that have characterized students in the past."

After applying some tests and performing per-sonal interviews with many thousands of students across the country, the team of psychologists reported that only 23% of the sample considered themselves as "non-conformists," and among them only 1% wanted to be called radicals.

The rest showed very little political interest; the majority had an utilitarian orientation toward college, religion and politics. The students involved in activities like the Free Speech Movement of Berkeley were more sensitive, more open to ideas, had a greater capacity for introspective thinking, autonomy, estheticism, and complex personality, than the ordinary student.

Many parents and teachers probably were shocked when a prestigious social scientist wrote that "what we refer to as political activism is complementary to the whole education process. and that "the time may be right, and the need urgent, for the college not only to stimulate ac-tivism among its students, but to provide the circumstances under which it can flourish."

My student opinion in this matter, is that to fight against the ESTABLISHMENT, at the university or in everyday life, is not a sign of creativity and originality in itself. Many people simply follow the leadership of intelligent and activist students. But on the other hand, the creative and original man has a frame of reference broad enough to realize that many things of our society may be improved; and also the guts to attempt the change

Could we change our attitude toward student activists? They are not lazy, trouble-makers who prefer to chat endlessly instead of going home to memorize the lesson for the next day. They are intelligent people who are more perspective than

An open society like this one could profit simply by listening to its critics. The activist students should be given credit for recognizing ills in our society and for acting according to their convic-

comes to write against your name, tell him to go

tem. Stop smoking.