April 3rd 1985

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200th Anniversary Constitution Celebration

Two nationally recognized scholars, a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and the author of the most widely used constitutional law casebook, will present major public addresses at Cal State, San Bernardino April 8 and 9 as part of a conference celebrating the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution.

Dr. Leonard W. Levy, whose "The Rights of the Fifth Amendment: The Right Against Self-incrimination won the 1969 Pulitzer Prize in history, will deliver the keynote address at 8 p.m., Monday, April 8 in the Lower Commons. Dr. Levy is the Andrew W. Mellon professor of humanities and chairman of the graduate faculty in history at the Claremont Graduate School. His talk will focus on "The Making of the Constitution, 1776-1789."

Gerald Gunther, an attorney and author of Constitution Law, will speak at 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 9 in the Recital Hall of the Creative Arts Building. The Stanford University law professor will discuss "The Role of the U.S. Supreme Court in Setting Forth Constitutional Norms."

"Both of these men are distinguished authorities in their fields and we invite the public to join in hearing their presentations," said Dr. James D. Thomas, professor of political science at Cal State and coordinator of the three-day conference which is funded by a $48,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Approximately 30 junior and senior high school teachers from San Bernardino and Riverside Counties have been awarded scholarships to attend the conference, which is titled "Equity and the Constitution."

"Through presentations from distinguished speakers followed by discussion groups, the program hopes to give those persons who teach about the U.S. Constitution, a better feeling for the concept of equality as it has been defined through our history," explained Dr. Thomas. The three critical periods which will be discussed by the speakers are the founding years, the Civil War and Reconstruction and the present.

Defining the concept of equality as it was demonstrated in the early years will be Dr. Henry V. Jaffa, professor of political philosophy at the Claremont Graduate School; Dr. Gordon Wood, an award-winning professor of history from Brown University; and Dr. Susan M. Leeson, professor of political science at Willamette University.

The Tuesday morning (9:30 a.m.) speakers, who will address equality during the Civil War era, are Dr. Harold Hyman, the William P. Hobby professor of history at Rice University; Dr. Glen Thurrow, professor of politics at the University of Dallas; and Stephan Markman, chief counsel for the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution for the U.S. Senate.

Equal protection in the present period is the focus of the afternoon (1:30 p.m.) session featuring Mr. Markman, Dr. Leeson and Dr. Edward Erler, professor of political science at Cal State, San Bernardino, who has published numerous articles on the U.S. Constitution and spent a year in Washington, D.C., as director of the Office of the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

The public also is invited to the morning presentations, which begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Lower Commons, said Dr. Thomas. The afternoon seminars are limited to the speakers and the teachers.

Cal State faculty who will chair the morning sessions are Dr. Ward McAfee, acting vice president and professor of history; Dr. Carol Goss, professor of political science; and Dr. Elliott Barkan, professor of history; Dr. Thomas J. Pierce, acting dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, will introduce Dr. Levy and Dr. Frances Coles, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, will present Professor Gunther.

Information about attending the events is available from the conference office, phone 880-7939 at the University.
Introducing the Chair of the Economics Department: Dr. Charkins

Jim Charkins is a funny guy. Just how funny you ask? Well, funny enough to re-enact the "Big Fig" Fig Newton commercial in its entirety before his economics classes. You are no doubt familiar with the tune: "ooey gooey rich and chewey inside, golden cakey tender flakey outside," etc. Quite a performance and not the normal fare found in most economics classes, especially those taught by the Head of the department.

Meet Dr. Jim Charkins: enthusiastic Chair of CSUSB's Economics Department and singer of funny songs. Although he possesses a great sense of humor, he takes his economics and his job as a professor very seriously. When not imitating the figs, he is busy counseling students, scheduling classes or fulfilling one of his many duties as Department Chair.

In recounting his background, Charkins discloses that his aims was not originally aimed at economics, but that he entered the field because, as he puts it, "The English department didn't appreciate my talents." After graduating from the University of Santa Cruz with his Bachelor's Degree, Charkins entered the Ph.D. program at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, with the mistaken belief that it was a Master's program. He graduated with his Ph.D. in 1970.

Charkins taught economics at, among other places, the University of Nairobi in Kenya before accepting a position at CSUSB in 1976. As Chair of the Economics Department, Charkins is supported by an enthusiastic staff, and in turn has gained high praise both from his colleagues and from his department. "I think we do take pride in doing a good job of teaching the students," he says, "and we're lucky to have the people in the department."

Some people are tempted to do anything to avoid discussing economics. But Charkins is vehement in his belief about the benefits that an education in economics can provide. "Economics gives people an opportunity to think about issues of social, political and personal, in a somewhat objective light," he adds. "People studying economics learn to analyze costs and benefits, and can see that those who benefit from a program do not necessarily bear the cost."

A resident of Wrightwood, Dr. Charkins is married and has two teenage sons. So like Jekyll and Hyde, Charkins thinking about cookies and just as easily explain the workings of the crowding-out effect. He trains, a dull, boring subject into a dull, boring one.

There promises to be an atmosphere of great fun, excitement and energy with a variety of dance groups ranging from Liturgical to Break dancing, touring musicians and troubadours, bagpipe players, clowns, jugglers and magicians! You can participate in the atmosphere of great fun. Bring a picnic lunch and relax under the shade trees.

Dr. Jim Charkins
HEALTH CORNER

Welcome to the Health Center!

Welcome to new students and to you healthy folks who haven't discovered the Student Health Center yet. A new quarter is beginning, and we want to encourage all of you to become acquainted with our staff and services.

Do I Need To Make An Appointment?

Yes, unless it is an emergency. Those people who have appointments will be seen first. If you just walk in to the Health Center, you may have to wait.

What Services Are Available To Me At The Health Center?

We can diagnose and treat acne, strains, sprains etc. We offer family planning services, including pap smears, pelvic examinations, birth control, and pregnancy testing.

What Can I Get Medicine For?

We are open from 8:30 Monday-Thursday, and from 8-1:30 Friday. Only limited services are available from 12:30-1:30.

What Services Are Available To Me At The Health Center?

We offer family planning services, including pap smears, pelvic examinations, birth control, and pregnancy testing.

Who Can Use The Health Center?

Anyone who is a registered student and has an I.D. card is eligible for services.

Is There A Doctor In Attendance?

Yes. The Health Center staff includes two doctors, James R. Savage M.D. and John Preston Miller M.D., a nurse practitioner Vivian McCarthy, a registered nurse Lois Ljunggren, a pharmacist Peggy Geane, and three dental personnel Dorinda Thurman, Gayle DiGioia, Mary Rae Schmidt, and a student assistant, Karin Christie.

Can I Get Medicine Through The Health Center?

Yes. Most prescriptions written by our staff can be filled right here in our pharmacy. All of our medications are available to you at a very low price. The average prescription will cost less than $1. Off-campus prescriptions can be filled if we stock that medication. If you have a question about a particular medication, stop by or call our pharmacist.

April 3, 1985 The Chronicle page 3

BE IN THE FOREFRONT OF TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY AS A SCIENTIFIC-ENGINEERING OFFICER

Our scientific-engineering officers are planning and designing tomorrow's weapon systems. They are seeing their ideas and concepts materialize. They have the finest, state-of-the-art equipment to test their theories. The working environment is conducive to research. And Air Force experience is second to none. You can be part of this dynamic team if you have a scientific or engineering degree. Your first step will be Officer Training School. Help us shape our future as we help you start your career. Be a scientific-engineering officer in the Air Force. Contact your Air Force recruiter.

"Magicians From MARS!"

In an attempt to explain the point of my art, I need first to invoke the names of perhaps the two most influential artists of our century, Picasso and Kandinsky. Picasso, early on, restricted the subject matter of his art to his studio; models, guitar, canvas and easel, circle of friends—because he was trying to suggest a new way of seeing things, a truer way, one in keeping with Einstein's scientific breakthroughs. If he had painted unrecognizable human and animal forms, the point to his painting would have been lost. In much the same way, Kandinsky was striving to depict the Spiritual Realm as he and the theories of Madame Blavatsky perceived it. He saw the artist as a part of a spiritual crusade, education in the realm of the visionary. His point was lost, and his art labeled Abstract or Non-objective.

My art is based on the popular theories of Quantum Mechanics and Parallel Universe. "What if?" figures prominently. For example, "what if the multicausal feature portraits of Picasso's cubist period had been true representations of visitors from outer space?" Yes. However, my work is not intended as an ironic pastiche of popular painters. Rather, there's been the attempt to bring the carnival atmosphere of a Twilight Zone episode or a Trip to Outer Space to this eccentric, obsessive nature of the true naive artist, who paints mainly for his own amusement. Or is it? Perhaps, in the next world together with Picasso and Kandinsky, a truer way, one in keeping with Einstein's scientific breakthroughs, is second to none. You can be part of this dynamic team if you have a scientific or engineering degree. Your first step will be Officer Training School. Help us shape our future as we help you start your career. Be a scientific-engineering officer in the Air Force. Contact your Air Force recruiter.

GIVE BLOOD
It's the Gift of Life

For Blood Drive!!

Unit Recruiting Donors

have to do is donate a pint of blood. Come to the Health Center (located just north of the Commons) on Tuesday, April 9th, from 1000 hours to 1500 hours (10:00 to 3:00 p.m.). A mock MASH unit personnel from the Health Center. Just head for the big tent and start the registration process. Then proceed to the Health Center waiting area where MASH personnel from the local Blood Bank will assist in your blood donation. After that, you can spend 10 to 15 minutes in the canteen area that, you can spend 10 to 15 minutes in the canteen area where k-rations will be served. You'll also have time to see some of the supplies used by MASH units, courtesy of ROTC.

Everyone who donates is also eligible to win one of 12 MASH t-shirts, again courtesy of ROTC. Dorm students, keep in mind that you're also competing for the Blood Bank plaque, now on display at Badger House. The dorm with the most donors gets their name engraved on this plaque and it is displayed in their dorm until the next blood drive.

Don't forget the real reason for the Blood Drive. New donations are necessary to ensure all faculty, staff, students and their immediate dependents of a supply of blood if necessary.

Now Hear This: MASH Unit Recruiting Donors For Blood Drive!!

Welcome to the Health Center!

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Welcome to the Health Center!

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The Gay and Lesbian Union will be having its first meeting of this quarter on Thursday April 4th. The meeting will be in SS 171 (Admissions and Records Building) at 12:00 Noon.

Bring your lunch and share your input on the GLU’s upcoming Gloria Altred forum in May. For further information please call Dr. Craig Henderson at 887-7824.

Club Calendar

Sirotnik, Steve. Lew, Gene faculty members including Deans Hal Hoverland and has several outstanding 1972. In addition to u

CSUSB is represented by the «

GPA of at least 2.5. The administration major with a

Psi you must be either an

Psi. The strong sense of

Kappa Psi's social calendar.

Kappa Psi maintains a strong professional side, Alpha

government, touring local

and regional businesses, and

jects.

12-1 p.m.; SS 171.

Gay Lesbian Union Mtg.;

Newman Club Mtg.; 12-1

Treasurer, and Deanne

Hendricks—Secretary.

Steve Kemp—Master of

Rituals, Denise Gojenola-

mance, Millie Paulino—Vice

President, Mary Carranza—

Treasurer, and Kim Sch-

Brian Kind—Master of

Rituals, respectively.

The Associated

club or organization believes that it has an event idea worthy of the title "special event," please contact Mike Page through Associated Students, ext. 7405 or Joanna Roche (coordinator of Special Events, ext. 7406) and pick up a fund request form. The deadline for Spring Quarter event submissions is April 12th, and May 24th for the 1985 Fall Quarter. Event if you do not belong to any organization, but simply have an event in mind that you would like to see on campus, the Special Events Committee would be happy to hear your suggestions. With your help and ideas major events may soon be a part of the CSUSB campus. For further information on the Cal State US Festival may no longer be a dream, but a reality.

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THE
"We Need STUDENTS to Run This Place"

There are a number of committees on our campus that have various names and responsibilities: Student consultation and participation in the governance of CSUSB must happen through these committees. These committees implement CSU system-wide policy, and make it relevant to the CSUSB community. As a student, YOU are the constituency they serve. YOU should inform yourself of the opportunities to effect policy change and implementation on your campus. You may learn as much here from your experiences outside the classroom as in. Now is the time to investigate these educational opportunities for the 1985/86 school year.

There are presently six Faculty Senate Committees: 11 campus-wide, and 8 Associated Students committees which have student representation. Students sit on these committees either by virtue of holding another office, by appointment, or through an application process. Applications for all committees are easy to complete and are available at several locations.

**Faculty Senate Committees:**
- Faculty Senate Office: B1 21, Student Union, Office of Student Union, Activities Office, SS 122
- Campus-Wide Committees: Student Union front desk, A.S. Office, Student Union, Activities Office, SS 122
- Associated Students Committees: A.S. Office only

**Application Deadline for Faculty Senate Committee Positions:**
- May 1, 1985

General information about all committees can be obtained by contacting Clare Sharlinski, Activities Advisor, in SS 122, or call 887-7407.

**Academic Eligibility Requirements**
- To be eligible for appointment, a student must have a GPA of 2.00 (minimum) and must have earned a 2.00 or better in 7 quarter units (minimum-5 units for graduate students) during the term in which the appointment is made. Students must meet the other eligibility requirements for A.S. student office holders at CSUSB. A list of these requirements is available in the Dean of Student Offices, SS 114.

**Faculty Senate Committees**
- Faculty Senate Committees are normally the heart of the academic program and decision making at a campus. Involvement here is essential.

1. **General Education:**
   - Reviews all proposed changes in the general education curriculum, submits and carries out a complete review of the general education program every two years and makes recommendations to the Curriculum Committee.
   - Membership: ONE student, six faculty, and one administrative representative.

2. **Continuing Education:**
   - Originates and reviews proposals for courses, programs, conferences, etc.; initiates and reviews policy recommendations affecting Continuing Education (e.g., extension, summer sessions, open college).
   - Membership: ONE graduate or upper division student with 30 or more quarters completed at CSUSB; six faculty and one administrative representative.

3. **Curriculum:**
   - Reviews all curriculum proposals, including experimental courses; approves proposals for undergraduate special majors; implements campus policy on course deletion.
   - Membership: ONE student, six faculty and one administrative representative.

4. **Graduate Education:**
   - Reviews all curriculum proposals, including experimental courses, develops and reviews policies and procedures for Graduate Education.
   - Membership: ONE graduate student, six faculty and one administrative representative.

5. **Student Services And Programs:**
   - Advises and assists in the development of student services and programs (e.g., career development, Learning Center, intramural programs, housing, counseling, outreach, retention, scholarships and awards), develops and reviews policies and procedures for action on student grievances involving non-academic matters.
   - Membership: THREE students, three faculty, and one administrative representative.

6. **Educational Equity Advisory Committee:**
   - Advises on campus policies, procedures, and plans for programs and services responsive to the needs of underrepresented students; advises on the development of a long-range plan for the recruitment, retention, and graduation of these students.
   - Membership: THREE students, five faculty, and one administrative representative.

**Other Campus-Wide Committees**
- **Grade Appeal Panel (Academic Grievance Procedures):** Reviews academic grievance petitions filed by students.
- **Tenure And Faculty Appointments:**
  - Student Appointments to the panel are made by the Associated Students BOD.
- **Student Services Budget Advisory Committee:**
  - Reports to and advises the President about the allocation of University funds among various campus-wide and departmental student services; has broad authority to gather information and make recommendations in order to effect the best balanced use of available resources.
  - Membership: ONE graduate student, THREE undergraduate students.

**Questions?** Call Joanna Roche, Orientation Coordinator at 887-7405.

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**National College Television**

**April 8-14**

**Mon-Fri 11:00 am**
- **Bauhaus:** Shadow of Light
  - England's most revered cult band performs "Bela Lugosi's Dead," and more. Filmed in London. 45 min.

**Mon-Fri 11:45 am**
- Camille Lavington of Lavington, Ltd., talks about tuning your style to the company you work for. 15 min.

**Mon-Fri 12:00 pm**
- **The Birth of TV Toons**
  - A special surprise package of cartoons from the early years of television. 30 min.

**Mon-Fri 12:30 pm**
- **1941 (Part I)**

**Mon-Fri 1:00 pm**
- Host Meg Griffin delivers the best in new music videos. Includes #1 club video, top ten countdown, special guests and more. 60 min.

**Mon-Fri 2:00 pm**
- **Jump Start and Variete**
  - "Jump Start" from Tim Roper at Univ. of Texas, Austin and from Points Park College, Pa. "Variete." 30 min.

**Mon-Fri 2:30 pm**
- **Nick Mazzuca: Biography of an Atomic Vet**
  - A former soldier's experience as a participant in the U.S. open air atom bomb test. 30 min.

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**Student Union Lounge**

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**The Fabulous Sixties**

**Mon-Fri 7:00 pm**
- **1961 Peat**
  - Peat I 96 I

**Mon-Fri 7:30 pm**
- **The BIRTH OF TV TOONS**

**Mon-Fri 8:00 pm**
- **The World of TV**

**Mon-Fri 8:30 pm**
- **The New Wave**

**Mon-Fri 9:00 pm**
- **The Oldies but Goodies Show**

**Mon-Fri 9:30 pm**
- **The Best of TV Toons**

**Mon-Fri 10:00 pm**
- **The Best of TV Toons**

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**Student Union Lounge**

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Academic Eligibility

Con't from page 5

identifying and discussing problems and activities which will result in improvement in the quality of student life at CSUSB and a food service, which will be located on the first floor of the new Library Building. Membership: TWO students, Associate Dean of Student Life, seven staff.

10. Foundation Board of Trustees: Organized to serve and assist the university, the Board provides certain services (including the operation of the Bookstore and a food service), which will be located on the first floor of the new Library Building. Membership: TWO students, Associate Dean of Student Life, seven staff.

11. Instructionally Related Programs Board: Allocates the $20 annual IRP fee paid by each student and any state money received for programs that are related to instruction; makes annual budget recommendations to the University Committee on Academic Affairs; all school deans, Dean of Students, Dean of Extended Education, Business Manager/Treasurer of the Foundation, and three faculty.

8 Health Planning Advisory Council: Advises the President, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Director of University Relations, Vice President for Academic Affairs, all school deans, Dean of Students, Dean of Extended Education, Business Manager/Treasurer of the Foundation, and three faculty.

9. University Life Council. Provides a forum for identifying and discussing problems and activities which will result in improvement in the quality of student life at CSUSB and a food service, which will be located on the first floor of the new Library Building. Membership: TWO students, Associate Dean of Student Life, seven staff.

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Congratulations To All the Intramural Champions of the Winter Quarter

Biathlon: Dave Evanovich
Field Goal Contest: Greg "Barra" Walker
Arm Wrestling: Hans Bolowich (Regular Guys), Bill Chapman (Big Guys) & Martha Rivera (Women)
Pongball Singles: "The Roadrunners" Becki Cortin, Irma Delara, Christi De Rouen, Laurie Marscher and Alma Zarate.
Family Feud: "The Roadrunners" Becki Cortin, Irma Delara, Christi De Rouen, Laurie Marscher and Alma Zarate.

Finals May Have Cost Tennis Team A Match

The Cal State women's tennis team suffered a 9-0 defeat at the hands of Cal Lutheran on Friday, March 29th. The team had a 2 week layoff during finals, which partly accounted for their sub-par performance. Both the men's and women's team will play Thursday, April 4th, at 2:30 p.m. The men (8-7) will face Christ College, while the ladies will host Cal State Stanislaus.

Intramural Schedule For The Spring Quarter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free Throw Contest</td>
<td>Apr. 5</td>
<td>2:10-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Carnival</td>
<td>Apr. 6</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blood Drive</td>
<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Run Derby</td>
<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-ed 3-pitch</td>
<td>Apr. 15-June 10</td>
<td>2-6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-ed Volleyball</td>
<td>Apr. 16-June 4</td>
<td>Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-ed Basketball</td>
<td>Apr. 17-June 5</td>
<td>7:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball</td>
<td>Apr. 18-June 6</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eight Ball</td>
<td>Apr. 19-June 7</td>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>Starts Apr. 22</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archery</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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</table>

For further information contact Mr. Joe Long, Intramural Director, at 887-7564 or stop by his office P.E. 124.

Advertise With Us

OFFICIAL CAR AND TRUCK U.S. VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION AND NATIONAL TEAM TRAINING CENTERS

"Get off to a great start with Ford"
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

There has been some controversy in the past regarding funding of the Children’s Center by Associated Students. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the Associated Students Board of Directors for their support of the Center. In addition to the $1,000.00 that we received earlier this year, the Board has allocated another $1,500.00 which brings this year’s total allocation to the

The Racing of Arms

by Emily Latella (as told to Etrond Lawrence)

What’s all this fuss I hear about stopping the arms race? Do you think this is fair? Don’t! Now I’m not too clear about all this talk, but I think it’s just one more kind of discrimination going on. We can’t do anything wrong with an arms race. I mean, what can be all that bad about one? Of course, I’ve never been to an arms race before, but it all seems quite innocent to me. And although I’ve never heard of an arms race, what harm could there possibly be? Arms are just as much a right to race as anybody, don’t they? It’s pretty cruel to deprive them of the chance to get out and be like other people for once. And although there’s probably 100,000 races all over the place, I think that it’s time for us to start something new.

The War Against Pornography Continues

by Greg Timpany

A new twist in the never-ending saga of the battle against pornography appears to be taking place. Legislation like that now before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is popping up before state and federal legislatures across the country. The proposed L.A. county ordinance would allow any woman to refuse to produce, distribute, or exhibit any material that she deems offensive to women. The proposed ordinance is patterned after an Indianapolis law which was found to be unconstitutio

nal.

It is a permissible for a storm of litigation which would only add to the already overburdened court system: a tangle of cases that can lead to increased costs to lawyers, but disaster for the rest of society. The broad scope of the legislation will make it difficult to distinguish the courts from other forums to determine the constitutionality of the pictures. It is a violation of the First Amendment's protection of the marketplace of ideas. Alternative publications, avant-garde art, and even recorded music or videos could be deemed as pornographic.

Much of the steam behind this wave of anti-pornographic sentiment is premised on the belief that all pornography is violent in nature. This aura of violence is thought to increase the amount of literal violence against women. This argument is not as sound as it may seem. Many of these images which could be included as pornographic under the L.A. ordinance are those of mutually desired sex. No coercion or violence by either party, just something that is mutually desired. The proposed law would suppress many of these non-violent images and written accounts, but would leave untouched images of explicit non-sexual violence.

In addition, the causes of violence against women are structural and complex. There is little reason to believe that sexual images are at the core of the problem. The small size of our culture that is pornography can hardly be blamed for all of the acts of violence toward women. Anyone who watches the television news or an act of sensational television programs is exposed to as much or more violence than is commonly seen in the marketplace.

The appeal of these anti-pornographic ordinances is quite clear. If people are told that they amount to blatant censorship no different than the censorship imposed by the Puritans, Hitler, Mussolini, or the Communists. To my knowledge there is no law requiring people to purchase or view pornographic materials, just as there are no laws that require people to eat at a certain restaurant or watch certain television programs.

Our society values the freedoms of choice and expression. Many of these anti-pornographic ordinances seek to limit or eliminate those freedoms. A much saner and more rational method of dealing with pornography is to let the marketplace make the decision. If pornographic materials lose their allure, the industry will lose its profitability and will eventually cease to exist.

The Federal Depository Library Program

The Federal Depository Library Program is generously appreciated.

Letters to the Editor

Children's Center Funding

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The Racing of Arms

by Emily Latella (as told to Etrond Lawrence)

What’s all this fuss I hear about stopping the arms race? Do you think this is fair? Don’t! Now I’m not too clear about all this talk, but I think it’s just one more kind of discrimination going on. We can’t do anything wrong with an arms race. I mean, what can be all that bad about one? Of course, I’ve never been to an arms race before, but it all seems quite innocent to me. And although I’ve never heard of an arms race, what harm could there possibly be? Arms are just as much a right to race as anybody, don’t they? It’s pretty cruel to deprive them of the chance to get out and be like other people for once. And although there’s probably 100,000 races all over the place, I think that it’s time for us to start something new.

The War Against Pornography Continues

by Greg Timpany

A new twist in the never-ending saga of the battle against pornography appears to be taking place. Legislation like that now before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is popping up before state and federal legislatures across the country. The proposed L.A. county ordinance would allow any woman to refuse to produce, distribute, or exhibit any material that she deems offensive to women. The proposed ordinance is patterned after an Indianapolis law which was found to be unconstitutio

nal.

It is a permissible for a storm of litigation which would only add to the already overburdened court system: a tangle of cases that can lead to increased costs to lawyers, but disaster for the rest of society. The broad scope of the legislation will make it difficult to distinguish the courts from other forums to determine the constitutionality of the pictures. It is a violation of the First Amendment's protection of the marketplace of ideas. Alternative publications, avant-garde art, and even recorded music or videos could be deemed as pornographic.

Much of the steam behind this wave of anti-pornographic sentiment is premised on the belief that all pornography is violent in nature. This aura of violence is thought to increase the amount of literal violence against women. This argument is not as sound as it may seem. Many of these images which could be included as pornographic under the L.A. ordinance are those of mutually desired sex. No coercion or violence by either party, just something that is mutually desired. The proposed law would suppress many of these non-violent images and written accounts, but would leave untouched images of explicit non-sexual violence.

In addition, the causes of violence against women are structural and complex. There is little reason to believe that sexual images are at the core of the problem. The small size of our culture that is pornography can hardly be blamed for all of the acts of violence toward women. Anyone who watches the television news or an act of sensational television programs is exposed to as much or more violence than is commonly seen in the marketplace.

The appeal of these anti-pornographic ordinances is quite clear. If people are told that they amount to blatant censorship no different than the censorship imposed by the Puritans, Hitler, Mussolini, or the Communists. To my knowledge there is no law requiring people to purchase or view pornographic materials, just as there are no laws that require people to eat at a certain restaurant or watch certain television programs.

Our society values the freedoms of choice and expression. Many of these anti-pornographic ordinances seek to limit or eliminate those freedoms. A much saner and more rational method of dealing with pornography is to let the marketplace make the decision. If pornographic materials lose their allure, the industry will lose its profitability and will eventually cease to exist.