Naked came Polonsky

The counter-culture

For those of you who do not keep abreast of the sociological trends in modern North American society (pardon my continentalism) you may not have been aware of the emergence of a growing number of very vocal and visible individuals, who collectively refer to themselves under the broad heading of THE COUNTER-CULTURE. This varied assortment of vagabonds have as their spokesmen, a whole spectrum of solid citizens ranging from Abbie Hoffman to Allen Ginsberg, and from Alan Watts to Frank Zappa. Some of these people smoke pot.

Well, now that I have your curiosity aroused, you would probably like to see one of these counter-types live, and in person. My advice to you is to drop by Winters Common Room anytime Monday through Friday, where the York University branch of Freaks Inc. have their daily sessions. And if you think that you find these people interesting to study, why these people find themselves so fascinating, that they decided to enrol in a course devoted to an intellectual and spiritual examination of themselves. Thus, Hum. 386, the counter-culture course.

Every Tuesday evening about 30 weirdo types gather together in a plush senior common room here at York — all counter culture freaks insist on pleasant surroundings to discuss the decadence of capitalism and technology - to discuss the importance of themselves

Heavy rap

"You roll the most equisite joints, George. I might go so far as to say that they are out of sight.

"You just laid a heavy on me Sarah, not to mention my joints. And speaking about joints, will you go to bed with me? Because if you don't I'll tell the counter-culture professor that you are hung up, not together, and generally not an all-around good guy and you'll get kicked out of the culture."

"George, you're such a poet." It is into this setting that at the last in-stallment of Freaks 386, the Grand Master of the Humanities Division entered into our midst with a student of sociology and one of humanities to help with the course until Christmas, since the regular professor will not be able to resume the course until then. The two professors proceeded to lay out a fairly loose direction that could be followed for the next six weeks. The professors no sooner bared their ideas to the gathering, when the slings and arrows of outrageous freak fortune were unleashed upon them.

"Are you forcing us to follow your suggestions?"

'You're going to give us grades aren't you? You grade-giving academic."



One of them?

And so went the conversation, lambasting the professors that in a course on the counterculture, it was actually being suggested that some work would be done in the classroom. I am not one who must be convinced of the folly of the grading system. Nor am I one who must be convinced of the folly of an omnipotent academic bestowing his words on to the masses below.

Yet the issue is, that for two months 30 freaks have got together and have said absolutely nothing to each other in their weekly three hours of freak rap. For two months 30 people have got together in the freest possible format that one could imagine a course having, and yet despite these ripe conditions, nothing healthy has been produced.

You would think that a group of people, especially of the counter-culture variety, would thrive in a conversation focused on the apparent failure of the group to get anything dynamic happening in the weekly sessions. Instead, what occurred were two hours of paranoid platitudes on the authority structure in the classroom.

Yet the session of freaks did produce one interesting querie: How much freedom should be maintained in a classroom structure? And more importantly, does this freedom include the freedom to do nothing?

Well, it is on this note, one of nothing, that I leave you, to ponder this question and all other great concerns which have puzzled men down through the ages.

But remember my friends, Much to do about nothing makes the fart fonder.

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Gourmet food

is promised in new cafe

A French cafe has opened in Stong College that promises to serve gourmet meals in the French style for under or about two dollars. The university's food services department is looking for a way to compensate for the debts of the college dining rooms and has decided that diversification is the answer (or is that di-Versa-fication). Besides the six college dining rooms, food services now runs a bustling cafeteria in the Central Square, the Buttery in Complex I, the Pizza Pit (also in the Square) and the new cafe in Complex II.

The Cafe, built with funds supplied by Stong College but run by Versafood, doesn't open till sometime this week, but the menu indicates a lot of ambition - entrees cost one dollar, and crepes are 75 cents. Coffee will cost 15 cents, but a college coffee shop just down the hall should sell it for a dime when it opens.

As well, the local product at the Pizza Pit is by no means inferior to the imported variety, which is an unusual accomplishment for the denizens of Versafood.

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