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Knothole February 21, 1996 Vol 48 No 18

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

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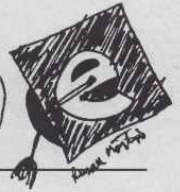
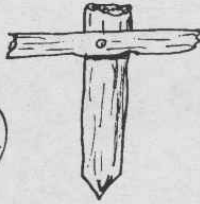
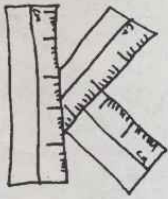
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SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

February 21, 1996

Volume 48 Number 18

Stingy Congress Targets EPA

by Eric Mucha, News Staff

As the Democrats and Republicans consistently fail to reach an agreement over the budget, the Environmental Protection Agency sits on the edge of its seat, hoping no further losses will occur in its previously belittled budget. The results of last year's budget reduction and the recent government shutdown are reflected in the EPA's reluctance to employ more workers, its inability to catch up to its backlog of work, and its failure to prevent specific programs from being cut. Fortunately for ESF, EPA research grants to the college will remain at their current levels.

To start with, the EPA was given 14% less money this year than last year, and since the recent government shutdown, they're operating with an additional 24% reduction in funding. Also, an extra \$105 million is needed by the Environmental Programs and Management Account, which funds work on air and water pollution, pesticides and toxins, and carries the salary money for contract workers, as well as federal employees.

ESF graduates may have a more difficult time finding government employment, due to the funding reductions by Congress. Since the House has proposed deep cuts in the

EPA budget, EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner said she began a hiring freeze and stopped all promotions in July. They need \$52 million to avoid large scale firings, and if current spending restrictions continue. The EPA would have to send virtually all of its 18,000 employees home without pay for 18 to 19 days between now and September 30.

Efficiency levels of the past cannot be matched today due to the lack of funding. Spending restrictions prevent the EPA from catching up on a backlog of work resulting from the recent partial government shutdown and spending cuts imposed since last October. The EPA cut its enforcement inspections by 40%, and will be unlikely to catch up to normal inspection levels. Industry toxic-release surveys were expected to be delayed for several months.

The cuts the EPA may have to take will force them to retarget the money they give away for grant programs, taking 2-4 months longer to review grant requests. Of the 400 requests for research grants every year, only two or three may be approved, and ESF is often one of the approved grants. Staff Associate of Research Programs, Bill Nicholson, says that of the \$7 million ESF re-

Computing with Alberto

Do you know what e-mail and the World Wide Web are?

If your answer is just one of them or neither of them, then on February 25th, Sunday at 2:00pm - 3:30pm, in the Moon Library Cluster, there will be a tutorial done by yours truly.

It will be on how to use pine (e-mail), tin (bulletin board stuff), and "the web" effectively for getting information (i.e.: job listings) and disseminating information (i.e.: asking for a recipe).

Here is what you need to do before you attend the tutorial:

You need an e-mail account. Don't have one? Well, go to 116 Hinds Hall and ask nicely for one.

Once you have an account, you are ready to attend the tutorial.

*note: remember your password accurately! (case sensitive)

don't lose your password!

do not let anyone else know your password!

**Disclaimer: person(s) doing the tutorial do not claim to be the guru, nor have the knowledge to know everything about computing. Please be nice to that person(s).

EPA continues on Pg. 8



Policy/Deadlines

The Knothole is the student publication of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. It is published every Wednesday during the school year. **The deadline for submitting pieces for publication is WEDNESDAY at 4:00 pm on the week before they are to appear. On disk or by e-mail, the deadline is THURSDAY at 12 noon.** E-mail submissions may be sent to KNOTHOLE@MAILBOX.SYR.EDU. Our world wide web site address is <http://web.syr.edu/~knothole/paper.html>. Letters to the Editor will not be printed unless they are signed. Articles must also contain the writer's name (names will be withheld upon request). The opinions expressed are those of the writer only and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the paper's staff or anyone else affiliated with the College. We strongly encourage any counterinterviews, articles, notices, suggestions, and new staff members. The Knothole staff meets in Room 22 in the basement of Bray, Wednesdays at 6:30. Phone: 470-6892.

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To the editor



To : the Editor
Re: BS, by Rick Rutland

In the Knothole issue of the 7 February, 1996, Rick Rutland wrote a piece on the Presidential State of the Union Address. This letter is to clarify a few points for the Knothole readers that were perhaps misleading in Mr. Rutland's piece.

The annual State of the Union Address is a constitutional duty of the President. In Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution of the United States it says that the President shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.

So, in a sense, Mr. Rutland is correct, it is "an annual event that allows our leader to tell us how things are." But the State of the Union Address is not to be taken that lightly, it is also the time when the President outlines his agenda for the coming year. In so doing, the President is asking Congress to address particular policy issues; in short, he is setting the political agenda. The President is doing this because he is required by the supreme law of the land.

Mr. Rutland is also somewhat correct in stating that the Address has a "ritual-like formality" to it. As ritual is the accretion of patterned behavior over time, and the State of the Union is a constitutional requirement, it is an official act of state.

Stalling on State Senate Bill Hurtful to Residents

Dear Editor,

Currently, the New York State Senate is stalling on bills that would allow all New York residents to find out about our exposure to toxic chemicals. One bill already passed by the New York State Assembly would add power plants to the list of facilities required to compile and release information regarding their use, storage and emission of toxic chemicals. A second bill would require reporting of sales and use of pesticides. Passage of these bills will result

in the establishment of a database that would enable health researchers to examine the links between exposure to toxic substances and breast cancer and other diseases. Both bills will await Senate action.

Many of the toxic chemicals covered by these bills may be linked to breast cancer and other diseases. It is recommended that in a state where 31 women a day are diagnosed with breast cancer, the Senate needs to pass these bills to make sure that important public health research can



BS *continues on Pg. 10*

Senate *continues on Pg. 11*

Around Campus

Join Onondaga Audubon

The Onondaga Audubon Society encourages students interested in ornithology and environmental issues to become involved with the local chapter. Onondaga Audubon hosts field trips open to the public on most weekends. If you are contemplating a career in wildlife biology, the identification of birds by sight and sound is an important skill to possess. There are over 270 different species of birds found in Central New York in any one year. How many are you familiar with?

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM at the Dewitt Community Church (Opposite the Shoppingtown Mall). The rare bird alert number is 668-8000 and provides sighting information and announcements.

Onondaga Audubon operates two sanctuaries on Lake Ontario. Derby Hill, located near Mexico, NY, is a premier location to observe the spring migration of hawks and eagles. Noyes Sanctuary located near New Haven, NY, was the site of research which documented the migration of long-eared and saw-whet owls along the shore of Lake Ontario.

Of local interest, a pair of peregrine falcons have been in downtown Syracuse since June. They are exhibiting territorial behavior and may nest this spring. For the fourth consecutive winter, a pair of merlins have been using Onondaga Park as a roost site. Onondaga Park is a city

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT - 1996

The College Work-Study Program And You!

Are you planning for the Summer of 1996? Do you know what you will be doing?

Some of you are already aware of the job opportunities that are available to eligible students through the College Work-Study Program. We want to be sure that more of you KNOW what is offered to STUDENTS, so please, read on!

Summer jobs are available at each of the E.S.F. regional locations as well as on the main campus in Syracuse. The jobs range from lab and field, to para-professional and office work, to buildings and grounds maintenance.

Students can earn \$6 per hour during the summer and can gross from \$225 to \$240 per week (depending on whether they work a 37 1/2 or 40 hour work week). For those who can work all summer (May 13 - August 23), that means a total of almost \$3600 in earnings. Therefore,

park located on the west side of Syracuse near South Geddes in the Strathmore area. Oakwood Cemetery and St. Mary's Cemetery are good locations to look for migrant passerines.

For more information about Onondaga Audubon call Andy Leahy at 428-8505 or Mary Alice Koeneke at makoeneke@aol.com.



summer savings can be quite high, and will help meet the academic year costs.

Students who must attend one of the summer programs at Cranberry Lake or Wanakena, or who need to take summer courses here in Syracuse, may still apply for a summer job - that can be scheduled around their academic commitments. Not many employers can offer summer jobs to students who must take four (4) or seven (7) weeks off, in order to pursue an academic program. ESF can make such provisions for its students. There are many benefits to be derived from the College Work-Study Program.

To apply for employment through the College Work-Study Program, students must have filed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the E.S.F. College Financial Aid Application (both forms are available in the Financial Aid Office, 115 Bray Hall after Dec.1). The deadline for early consideration is March 1. However, applications will be accepted beyond that date and will be processed as funds allow.

Should you have questions about filing your application to indicate your interest in the program, come to 115 Bray and speak to one of us. We are here to help.



Sounding Off

With Greg Bubniak

Newtonian Grumbings

I would like to first address the comments made last week in my absence by Matthew Sheehy. I am not surly, at least I don't think so. I just try to tell it like it is. I apologize to Mr. Sheehy if this bothers him. I hope he doesn't feel tweaked.

Along the lines of feeling tweaked, I would like to comment on the ill feelings I have heard towards the recent visit of Newt Gingrich. The illustrious Speaker of the House came here on February 19 amid much protest. One organization stated that they were going

to organize a protest and invited ESF student groups along with them. When a representative of this organization was asked what was to be protested, the person replied that every club probably had their own gripes with Gingrich. This may have been an antagonistic answer, and came off somewhat arrogant when I heard it. My concern is that this is the exact sentiment of many students in the student community here. It seemed quite personal, like the guy is some monster. Yikes!

The funny thing is that only

Newt could really get this type of reaction. Just think about it for one moment: what if Tom Foley came to town to do the same thing? Remember Tom Foley? He was Gingrich's predecessor as Speaker of the House. Foley was a Democrat. I'm sure he still is. He wasn't a flamboyant media magnet like Newt apparently is. I firmly believe that the reason Foley would not have received the same amount of attention as Gingrich just got is because Foley is a Democrat.

What I am witnessing is a chorus of whimpering because Gingrich is a

Republican.

I was speaking with a graduate student right before I finished writing this column. He has spent a lot of time on college campuses, upwards of ten years. He has admitted, after being here and another campus a good distance away, that an academian atmosphere just isn't the real America. This is what I am going to attribute the prevailing attitude towards Gingrich to. Across America, the guy is getting mixed reviews — many are more positive than the ones he's getting here.

Higher Education

Lobby Day February 26, 1996

Albany, New York

Tell your representative what you think about:

TUITION INCREASES/ AID CUTS

For more information

call NYPIRG at 443-1401 or 476-8381

Gamma Delta Theta News

Erin Fitzgerald

Hey everybody, rush is finally over! I would like to say thank you to all those who attended rush and congratulations to those who received bids. The sisters are very hopeful that this pledge period is going to be a turning point in the sorority.

Aside from rush, we haven't had time to concentrate on anything else. However, Autumn and Leanna are in the process of creating a new activity to raise money for The National Audubon Society. In the past the sisters have held a dart tournament, but this seems to be limiting, partly because not everyone can or wants to play darts. Hopefully this year we'll have a large turn out.

This Friday the sisters are participating in a winter carnival for the CYO and on Saturday a few of us will be parking cars for the basketball game. Keep the $\Gamma\Delta\Theta$ house in mind when you can't find a parking spot. The lot is between Bird Library and Watson Hall, on Waverly. Hope to see you out!

ATTENTION:

Please note that **all** submissions to the *Knothole* (except for images intending to be scanned) should be handed in on a 3.5 in. disk (preferably formatted to Macintosh) accompanied by a printout of the entry displaying the file name. Thank you for your cooperation.

The *Knothole* Staff

27th Annual Creativity Contest

The Knothole

is soliciting entries for its 27th Annual Creativity Contest

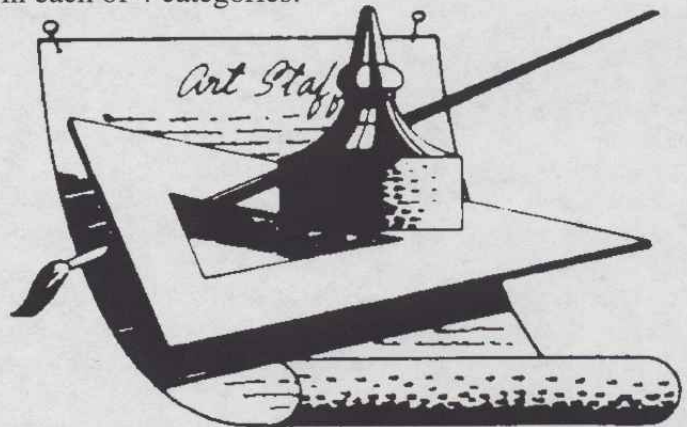
There will be 3 cash prizes in each of 4 categories:

Artwork
Photography
Short Story
Poetry

First place: \$30

Second place: \$20

Third place: \$10



Send submissions to the Knothole, 22 Bray Hall via campus mail, or drop them off in person.

Complete list of rules and regulations is posted outside 22 Bray

Deadline for submissions is 3:00 pm, March 1, 1996

1. *The Knothole's* annual Creativity Contest is open to any ESF student, undergraduate (including the Ranger School) or graduate, excluding *Knothole* editors or staff members and their immediate families.
2. Judging will take place either at a series of TG's, or as works displayed in Nifkin Lounge over a two-three week period with ballots collected at a central location. Members of *the Knothole staff*, their advisor, immediate families, and contestants are prohibited from casting ballots. Ballots will be tallied by *the Knothole staff*.
3. While *the Knothole* has organized this contest, solicited materials, and screened entries to ensure compliance with the following criteria, it is not responsible for the content of or message portrayed in work shown.
4. Entries must clearly indicated the category in which it is to be considered: short story, poetry, artwork, or photography.
5. **Short stories and poetry MUST BE ON DISK FORMATTED FOR MACINTOSH.** Name, phone number, class and curricula must be clearly marked on the disk.
6. Short stories may be no longer than 3 pages.
7. **Photographs** must be 8 x 10, black and white. Entries may not contain name of photographer. Rather, a second copy or description of piece containing name, phone number, class and curricula should be included separately to permit anonymity in judging. No electronically altered photographs will be accepted.
8. **All other Artwork** must be black and white, 8 1/2 x 11 or smaller. Title and description of piece containing name, phone number, class and curricula of artist should be included separately.
9. All work must be suitable for inclusion in a news oriented publication. That is, in the event of libel, profanity, nudity, racism, sexism, other -ities, or -isms, the decision to further include the entry in the contest will be determined by *the Knothole staff* in consultation with *the Knothole* advisor.
10. Prizes will be awarded as follows:
 - a. Three prizes will be awarded in each of the four categories, (First, Second, and Third place).
 - b. In the event of a tie, monies for that category will be reapportioned to split the two prizes. For instance, rather than \$30 for 1st, \$20 for 2nd, \$10 for 3rd, money will be distributed as \$25 each for 1st place tie and \$10 for 3rd place, or \$30 for 1st place and \$15 each for second place.
 - c. In the event that not all prizes are awarded, these monies will be reapportioned to other winners, or to cover additional ties within categories.
11. The pre-determined and published **deadline** (3PM Friday, March 1) will be strictly enforced.
12. Entries become property of *the Knothole* Publication, and will be offered to *The Empire Forester* Yearbook for inclusion in that publication if they see fit to use them.
13. These rules will be published within the first 3-4 weeks of the fall semester, and will be available at the Knothole office thereafter, until prizes are awarded.
14. Concerns about these rules and regulations should be addressed to the Editor-in-chief(s), Contest Manager, and Advisor (Mr. Patrick Lawler), for discussions and reconciliation of said concerns.
15. By entering this contest, entrants agree to these rules and regulations and agree to abide by the judges decisions.
16. Award Certificates and checks will be presented at the Spring Awards Banquet and/or will be published in the Knothole prior to the last day of the semester, such that award materials may be picked up at the Knothole office unless other arrangements are made between the entrants and staff.

BS

By Rick Rutland

Hi. My name is Rick, and I'm a computer-illiterate. They say admitting that you have a problem is the first step to recovery. I hope they're right.

It all started on that fateful day back in high school. It was time to make our schedules for our junior year. I needed to find a third period class, and my only choices were typing and computers. Now I don't want to date myself, but the computer course was teaching BASIC at the time. I thought about this life-altering decision for all of sixty seconds and then made up my mind. It seemed that all of the, how shall I put this, coolness challenged individuals (geeks) were taking computers. The typing class, on the other hand, was filled with girls. The choice was clear.

I used to make excuses to set my mind at ease. "Computers are just a fad," I'd say. Or, "Women dig guys with typewriters." Who was I kidding? The whole country was racing past me on the "super-highway", and I was stuck at the tollbooth without a token. It got to the point where I wanted to get on, but where did I start? The opportunities were there, I just didn't know which one to take. I felt like a hobo sitting and watching the trains go by. Each train led to the "real" world, but which one should I jump on? And if I do decide to get on one, how do I know it won't pull off my arms in the process?

Well, my train finally arrived. For the first time in my two years here, a few of my professors required the use of e-mail. I searched for hours and finally found the key to connect me with the rest of this small planet—my password. It was the one they issued on the first day of class. You know, the one that contains enough symbols for a cartoon character to swear. So I took this ever-powerful word and looked up some friends in low places; that's right, the basement of Moon Library.

Now don't get me wrong, it's not that I'm lacking in intelligence. I don't feel that intelligence has anything to do with it. It's more a matter of intimidation. Some people might think of the world wide web as a vast source of information—not me. The web, for me, just conjures up pictures of really big spiders. And it's not just the spiders, there's also the fear of doing something wrong. One bad click of the mouse and poof! The whole SU system goes blank. That would really cheese some people off!

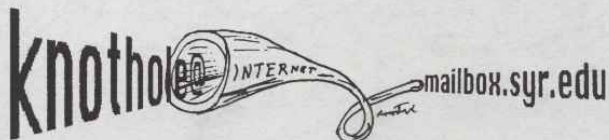
Well, I've managed to put my fears aside and climb over the wall that has separated me from the rest of the world. And with the help of a friend, I finally sent my first e-mail. This might not sound like much to most of you, but hey, we all got to start somewhere. So, from now on you know where I can be found—rprutlan@mailbox.syr.edu!

Kappa Phi Delta News

Hey guys (and girls),

It's the article you all look forward to reading every week. Kappa Phi news here again. Unfortunately, I can't give you election results just yet, but trust me they are on their way; hopefully next week. We would like to congratulate our two new pledges Ron Kempney and Jay Moore. We are still accepting new members if you are interested. If you have any questions, call. Things are pretty normal around here right now. The brothers here at Kappa Phi would like to congratulate Pony on his successful mission. The Clapper has once again returned to our humble house. Maybe I'm the only one but Spring Break is not coming fast enough, the natives are getting restless. Coming up, there will be an informal discussion on the word purple; it should be fun. One thing that we at the house are looking forward to is our spring formal next month in Ottawa. We would like to thank the sisters of Gamma Delta Theta for accompanying us to it. Until next week, try and survive those exams, drink lots of fluids, and remember, we care.

Passionately,
Rick



Dinosaur BBQ -Home of the Blues

By Karen Andrews — *Knothole* Staff

Suggested Eatery: Dinosaurs BBQ (So. Clinton St.—short walk from OnTrack)

Suggested Dish: The “Mother” of all Samplers (\$9.95, can double meat for only \$3 more)

Critique of suggested dishes: Good mix of meat.

Rating: <u>Category (max pts)</u>	<u>Total pts.</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Atmosphere (10) Comments: Great motif, love pro-meat bumper sticker, cool decor	75/90	=83%
Price (20) Comments: Prices a bit high for students to frequent	154/180	=86%
Portion (20) Comments: Excellent portions	164/180	=91%
Service (20) Comments: Fast, good considering volume of customers	159/180	=88%
Quality (30) Comments: Great stuff!, Best ribs around	234/270	=87%
Bonus Pts. (5) Bonus awarded for: playing blues and having a “Texas Fun Country” flag.	23/45	

Additional Comments:

“The place wreaked of health.”

“Hot, fast and expensive.”

“Plenty of choices in table condiments.”

For the week of February 12th, Dinosaur BBQ received an 86%

Casual Dining for the Economically Challenged Contest

Have you ever eaten somewhere near ESF/SU and wanted to tell everyone how great the food was? Better yet, was it economical to eat there? Well, here's your chance to let us know about it.

Pick your favorite eatery in walking distance of ESF/SU area that is fit for the economically disabled, and the Knothole staff will eat dinner there and rate it against all the other eateries suggested by other students. We would also ask that you tell us what particular menu item you like the best, and we'll try it. The winner will have lunch on the Knothole at the end of the semester.

All you need to do is fill out the entry form below and turn it in to the Knothole student organization mailbox (basement of Bray) or in the folder near 22 Bray.

Name: _____ Major: _____

Phone: _____ Class (please circle): 1 2 3 4 5 Grad

Name of Eatery (One per entry, please): _____

Location: _____

Menu Item (please include approximate price): _____

Elementary Humor

Hello people! I must apologize for my unannounced hiatus the last two weeks. I ran into a very uncooperative computer and ended up missing my deadline. However, this week there were no unruly computers to stand in my way of bringing you your weekly dose of humour.

With the recent birth of the *Knothole's* homepage on the internet I thought we might take a look at an aspect of the internet that effects many college students, internet dependency. Yes folks you know what I'm talking about: that insatiable urge which drives people to chuck it all and virtually *live* in cyberspace. To help you identify this sickness here are **15 SYMPTOMS OF INTERNET DEPENDENCY:**

1. How many times have you checked your e-mail today?
2. How often do you wonder who's written you on e-mail?
3. How often do you ask other people to use their terminals to check your e-mail?
4. How often do you ask people to send you e-mail?
5. How often do you send e-mail to someone who lives right next door to you? Or is in the same room

as you? Someone you see everyday?

6. Do you search your address book for someone new to e-mail that you barely know? Or don't know at all?

7. Do you get more excited when someone e-mails you, rather than writing a letter or calling by phone?

8. Have you ever e-mailed someone you don't know, and have never even seen before, just to make some smart-ass comment and see if you get a response?

9. Do you spend Friday or Saturday nights in front of your computer screen on e-mail or the Internet?

10. Do you call people just to get their e-mail address, and then hang up, only to e-mail them immediately afterwards?

11. Do you have other people e-mail people you've e-mailed just to encourage them to get on their arses and e-mail you back?

12. Do you write senseless things on e-mail late at night or in the day and send them to friends just

for the heck of it?

13. Do you call people just to tell them you e-mailed them, and then hang up so they can read their e-mail, and hopefully respond?

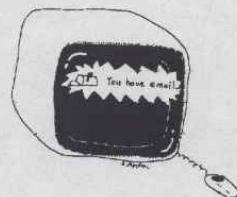
14. Does e-mail and the internet distract you from obligations and time spent with loved ones?

15. Do you find yourself sitting in front of the screen wondering what new, screwed up types of things you can put on the internet (*i.e.*; pictures out of words and punctuation marks, or smart-arse quizzes like this?)

This list came with the following paraphrased admonition. If you answered yes to any of these problems get away from the computer screen (if you're near one) and take a long walk! You've become addicted to technology and are having your mind sucked out of you! You have a serious problem and need help. Be careful, stopping cold turkey can leave people twitching, typing in thin air, senselessly mumbling addresses and passwords that have been changed. For help contact professionals at:

~~weknowdp@ntischnvncdyle~~

Okay! Well folks if you or anyone you know begins to exhibit any of the above symptoms you know what to do!



EPA continued from Pg. 1

ceives for research every year, the EPA grants them \$160,000. Each research project the college undertakes may take an average of 2-3 years for completion.

However the new budget turns out, odds are likely that the EPA

will not be a top priority, but hopefully ESF will not suffer with them in this current trend of having environmental maintenance take a back seat in the government car.

What are people saying about the Spring Awards Banquet?

"The social event of the year!" -- *Gentleman's Quarterly*

Date: March 30, 1996

Where: Hotel Syracuse

Time: Cocktails 6:00 PM
Dinner 7:00 PM
Dancing until 1:00 AM



In addition, the Robin Hood Oak Awards and Maple Leaf Awards will be presented.

Tickets will soon be on sale!

Keep looking in the *Knothole* for prices and date of sale of the tickets.

Want to Speak at the Spring Awards Banquet?

Topic Focus: "Reflections of My ESF Experience"

Length: 4-5 minutes

Qualifications:

- Must be receiving undergraduate degree in May 1996
- Must have cumulative GPA of 2.2

Process for Selection:

- Submit a one page typed (double spaced) summary of the comments you would make at the Banquet if you were selected.

- Due March 8 in 110 Bray Hall

- Summaries will be reviewed by a committee of students and administrators. Selection will be based on: focus on topic, clarity of presentation, general content.

The screening will determine the final two or three possible speakers. An audition will follow for those selected. Auditions will take place on the week of March 11.

The speaker will be notified by March 19.

BS continued from Pg. 2

There are formalities observed during official acts of state. The State of the Union Address is no different from a treaty signing or a formal state dinner. There is ritual because of the significance of the occasion.

A state of the Union Address has two primary functions beyond its constitutional requirement. First, it is to inform the Congress of the current state of the domestic and international affairs and to suggest to them those actions which the President believes necessary in light of that prevailing situation. The second function stems from our newer electronic age. The Address serves to inform the public, immediately, of the Presidential policy agenda for the coming year and, as a result, to encourage public participation to help achieve those policy goals.

If, as Mr. Rutland suggests, "a good indicator of the success of an address is how cheesed-off the other team gets," then it must also be true that government is simply another Great American Sport. Since political outcomes and policies affect individual lives daily (how many of you stopped at a traffic light or stop sign on your way to campus today? had your garbage picked up? know how much of the money you earn or spend today goes to taxes?), the 'politics as sport' analogy leads to greater apathy and inaction than is already occurring in the United States. In other places voter turnout for elections is in the 90% range. Some countries, like Australia, fine people for not voting. Others, like Puerto Rico, consider voting and political debate a civic responsibility. Here in the US it seems that we are all too ready to critique the actions of any-

one who does something, whether it is Speaker Gingrich (the one who was "cheesed-off") of President Clinton (who said "nothing important"). We should be more concerned that the political debate involves us, our own issues, and not those which the media (to whom Mr. Rutland is really responding) choose for us.

In saying "there will always be unemployment, and the education of our youth will suck year after year," Mr. Rutland again is partly correct. Those without a good education in an increasingly technological society will not find the job market a friendly place. A good education, however, must be *active* not passive. In listening only to the media discussion of how President Clinton will support his wife during the debate or whether the junior Republicans would behave during his speech is a limited education. To listen to the President's words and discover their meaning for yourself is active learning that we have to do ourselves. Too often today's citizens listen to the media tell you what *they* think is important about how the President spoke. As a result those citizens get a passive political education. Mr. Rutland may choose to passively receive his education, but I would warn those who would follow in his footsteps: you may find yourself with a government that you deserve.

Sincerely,
Sara E. Keith
Visiting Instructor
Environmental Studies

TO: Faculty
members

FROM: USA
Academics
Committee

Again this semester we are trying to gather a campus wide listing of Faculty office hours. We would like you to take a few minutes and jot down what your hours are, or if you have a by- appointment policy. If you have an open door policy there's no need to respond because we are listing all non responses as open door policy in the published listing around campus. We at USA are trying to be a part of the ESF student education process. We think the posting of office hours is one of the ways we can help facilitate learning here at ESF. Please respond by **Friday February 16** in USA mailbox in basement of Bray. Thank you for your time.

**Make sure you
are heard!**

Vote!

Undergraduate Student Association
Elections will be held on **March
5,6,7.**

More to come in future issues!

ESF Folk Society

An informal weekly gathering of music making and singing.

All are welcome—singers, hummers, whistlers, hand clappers and people who smile.

Bring your voice or bring your instrument, regardless of skill level.

Learn new songs.

Tea and cookies will be served.

Don't forget your mug.

Mondays, 8:00 pm, Nifkin Lounge.

Next meeting: Feb. 26.

Questions? Call Ben or Dave 423-4513.

Society of American Foresters Reveals Semester Plans

The Society of American Foresters has huge plans for the rest of the semester. Activities ranging from the ragin' Spring BBQ, planned for May 4th at Heiberg Forest, to plant sales in Marshall Hall, to chapter elections on March 27, to an all-star lineup of guest speakers at chapter meetings are already on the agenda. We are also selling the immensely popular "ESF-Stumpies" hats, exclusively available from the SAF. If you are interested in joining the SAF, attending meetings, or purchasing merchandise, please come to our meetings Wednesday nights in Bray 300 at 6:30, or call our President Sean Karn at 423-0985 or smkarn@mailbox.syr.edu for further details.

Senate from Pg. 2

take place.

NYS Senator John DeFrancisco needs to make sure that the Senate passes these bills this legislative session. New York State residents, especially those already suffering from illnesses like breast cancer, can't wait longer.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Ventura, NYPIRG's Environmental Project Leader

Hey there, May graduates!
Would you like to see yourself in the **Senior Slide Show** during Commencement Weekend? It can happen!
Just turn in your pictures to 110 Bray Hall with your address on the back, and you will have them mailed to you.
All pictures should be addressed to Greg Bubniak.

Want to have fun?

Want to be involved?

Want to participate in USA?

All you have to do is get in your letters of intent for the position you wish to run for by Feb. 23rd. The letter is just a statement of what position you wish to run for and a little supporting information. Turn the completed letter in to 110 Bray or my mail box in the basement of Bray (1st Vice-President). Letters must include the position desired, GPA, class, and major.

Positions available are: President, 1st and 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Programming Chair, Board of Trustees Rep., ESF-SU Senator, and Senior Class Chair.

1st Vice-President
Mike Wichrowski

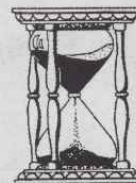
T.G.I.F.—Nifkin Lounge

February 23rd, 4:30PM

Free Pizza, Beer, and Music
Hosted by ΑΞΩ Honor Society, the *Knothole* and *Empire Forester Yearbook*

Featuring local acoustic legend
Michael Crissan

In The Near Future...



Thursday, February 22

Recycling Club Meeting, 5:30 PM, 241 Illick

Friday, February 23

Undergraduate Student Association Letters of Intent Due, 22 Bray Hall. (see page 11)

TGIF! Hosted by Alpha Xi Sigma, the *Empire Forester* and the *Knothole*, 4:30 PM, Nifkin Lounge. Music will be provided by **Michael Crissan**.

Monday, February 26

USA Meeting, 5:30 PM, Nifkin Lounge

Tuesday, February 27

Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) Meeting, 6 PM, Nifkin Lounge.

***Knothole* Staff Meeting**, 6:30 PM, 22 Bray Hall

Student Faculty Mixers

These mixers will be a time for students and faculty to meet under less formal settings than the classroom or lecture hall, and of course, food will be served. The following dates and times are listed for each curriculum:

Tuesday, February 27, at 6:00, in Nifkin Lounge

Forest Engineering
Paper Science Engineering
Wood Products Engineering
Chemistry

Wednesday, February 28, at 6:00, in Nifkin Lounge

Landscape Architecture
Environmental Studies**
Forestry