

At The Movies

by Mike Plake

There once existed a small, dedicated group of individuals who would huddle Sunday nights in the old offices of The Battalion and become submerged in the ethereal grasp of the boob tube, and the fantastic concoctions made by the ex-half-wits in its local dispensary.

After the local news was on and off, came The Program. The Program was the center of this group's attention; once it began, the Playboy studies stopped and the marbles were put away; it was time to watch, to hope, to long.

It was time for "The Avengers," starring Mrs. Emma Peel, assisted sometimes by Steed.

MRS. PEEL provoked and promulgated the latent images of all of us in the room. When she glided across the floor in her sensuous, serpentine fashion, creaking her leather jump suit, chopping her sexy judo chops, saving the crown, we were intensely, err . . . grateful. This was the woman of our dreams; a mother-sister-lover image, fantastically wrapped up in one package. And each Sunday, this group of die-hards would share The Experience with her.

Each Sunday, that is, until the day she left. It was without warning; no previous announcement had been made to us at the Batt office, and we were totally unprepared.

AT FIRST, we wouldn't accept it. Something was wrong with that infernal machine; it wasn't right, it wouldn't show us Mrs. Peel. Then we saw the new woman companion of Steed—Mrs. Peel is only ill, we told ourselves. That's just a temporary replacement. Not forever.

Later, we found it was forever. No more scripts for Mrs. Peel. She had surrendered her leather uniform. She would not be back. We were frustrated, as were many students who were faithful fol-

lowers of Mrs. Peel. We had a Three Minutes Hate and vowed never to watch "The Avengers" again. We went into mourning, because we didn't know what happened to her.

NOW WE know. Diana Rigg, who was Mrs. Peel, has moved to longer, if not better, things on film. She co-stars with Oliver Reed in "The Assassination Bureau."

In this flick, she plays a young, virtuous woman in search of the rights of her sex in a turn-of-the-century Europe that didn't recognize women's rights. She stumbles into the Assassination Bureau, a group of highly-trained individuals who are professionals at murder. She decides to break into the newspaper business with the story of the Bureau. So forthright is our ex-Mrs. Peel that she hires the Bureau to kill its own chairman, played by Reed. All of which leads Reed and Miss Rigg around Europe, bombing houses of prostitution and Swiss banks, finally defeating arch-enemies Telly Salvalas and Curt Jergens in a burning zeppelin.

WHAT THE movie features: 19 bloodless ways to kill, if you will believe Reed's example, without really trying. There is no blood, guts, or gore involved; only painless explosions like you used to see in the Roy Rogers Saturday adventure serials.

A few short love scenes help offset the plot of many long murders. Reed dominates everything, in the James Coburn-Ian Fleming superhero fashion.

It's not worth cutting classes, but it's not showing here yet anyway. We saw it at the sneak.

The one thing it proves to us: Mrs. Peel, alas, is gone.

ENGINEERING

(Continued From Page 1)

son contended. "I submit that this may be more important than its cost."

Benson said in spite of the criticisms made of the WPA programs of the middle and late '30s, "in which I was a participant, my judgment tells me that the WPA program was far better for people in our society than is the welfare system of today."

Repeating, he emphasized "man does not live by bread alone — the spiritual values are an important element in the urban environment and our systems for planning, operation, prediction and evaluation of the urban processes must take the value into account."

HITTING at the bigness of cities, Benson remarked, "It seems that most cities, at least the organized government and business community, have a continual goal of bigness."

So long as the city grows in population, he said, it is a better city by their standards.

"This I do not believe," he stressed. "There is no correlation that I have been able to find between bigness and quality of living in major urban areas."

Benson said a general study of the problems of American cities has "led me to believe that a city size of one and one-fourth, to one and one-half million fixes a point at which added population creates more problems than it adds resources for the solution of urban problems."

From that point on, everything is "downhill" with increase in size, he observed.

Admitting many present "will disagree violently with this thesis," Benson projected an answer to urban problems.

"My answer to the major city urban problems would be the adoption of policies which encourage the movement of people away from the large urban centers so that they decrease in population," he suggested.



OUCH!

Even a pretty nurse didn't keep Mark Riser from 'squincing up' when she "needed" him. Riser was among the first students to take part in the university's annual blood drive. Mrs. Jerry Rust applies the needle.

Reactions To Blood Donation Vary

The sign read, "Pay Here."

One or two students reached for their billfolds before a receptionist said it was a mistake.

The sign was a left-over from "The Basement" coffeeshouse of the Memorial Student Center.

Another raised his head off his pillow and gazed intently when the clerk told the nurse his "expiration" date was near. It was a different expiration date than the one first thought of by the student and a few puzzled onlookers.

Some students faced the wall, closing their eyes. Others smiled and joked, and some flinched without hesitation.

Then, there was one Aggie who read a letter from his girl before studying class notes.

And one student was waiting at the door — only to become the first reject, temporarily — when workers arrived. He had not eaten breakfast.

It was all part of Wednesday's work schedule for Wadley Blood Bank nurses conducting the annual drive, a joint project of the A&M Student Senate and Alpha Phi Omega.

The drive will continue through this afternoon. More than 500 pints were collected last year.



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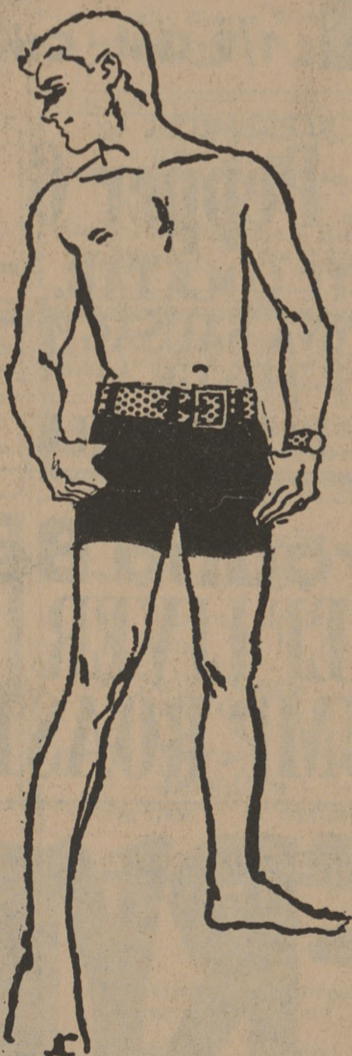
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Saturday, April 26, 1969

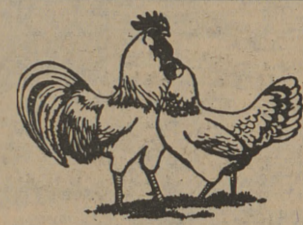
7:00 p. m.

G. Rollie White Coliseum

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COFFEE LOFT

Friday, April 18

8:00 p. m. — Folk Singer, Tommy Patrick

8:30 p. m. — The Apple Bit

"Vaudeville for two players in one act." A humorous, non-pious, replaying of the Adam and Eve story for modern man.

Discussion With The Cast.

Saturday, April 19

"The Black Man in Our Society"

8:15 p. m. — Film: "Heritage of the Negro." (30 Minutes)

9:15 p. m. — Film: "Now Is The Time." (34 Minutes)

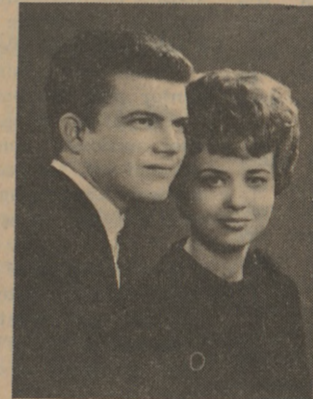
10:15 p. m. — Film: "Friendly Game." (10 Minutes) Discussion

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Civilian Student Weekend

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TICKET PICK-UP DEADLINE — APRIL 21

Tickets for the Saturday Dance and Bar-B-Que may be purchased at the Civilian Counselors' Offices.

HIGHLIGHT OF EVENTS

FRIDAY

- CSC Dance In Grove
Featuring "Gypsy Moth"
- MSC "Basement" Folksinging Programs
- "We've Never Been Licked" Showing In Guion Hall

SATURDAY

- Noon Bar-B-Que Near The Grove
& Sweetheart Finalist Selection
- Field Events — Skydiving
Intramurals
Street Carnival
- Town Hall "The Sandpipers"
- "Gemini Twin" Dance Featuring
—"Ambassadors of Soul" in Sbisia
—Western Band in MSC Ballroom