



## editorial/opinion forum

Girls' and Boys' States have received much criticism since the last session when Regina Hicks, from Marshall U. High, was refused the right to attend the Washington, D. C. conference.

The reason given for Regina's exclusion from the Washington conference was that her viewpoint was too radical in the statements that she made.

In essence what she said was that she did not love her country but rather respected it and wanted to change it for the better.

Regina, by making those statements was exercising her constitutional rights in saying what was on her mind at the time, something

## Regina's ruckus

which more of this country's elder statesmen ought to do more of.

Regina was then rejected for saying what she thought, being denied a right for exercising another.

This brings to mind a question; What exactly does the American Legion believe in?

They indicate that they are standing up for America. However when they say that do they indeed mean America as it is today, unchanged regardless of problems which arise which indicate a need for change?

Or on the other hand are they in support of the concept of America in which every person is allowed their rights (including freedom of speech) and are not punished for using them within reason.

By their actions the American Legion seems to indicate the first of these two beliefs, and if this does indeed prove to be the case, then Ramsey and all the other high schools in the nation should not engage in the Girls' and Boys' State and Nation programs.

## Holman's Heroes

### HATE-MAIL TO HOLMAN

by Jeff Holman



No columnist can have a successful year unless he receives at least one unkind letter. I have now had a successful year.

It was sticking in my typewriter when I came to school one morning. It was addressed "Dear Mr. Holman," and it read as follows (spelling and punctuation corrected to make it readable):

"If in future issues of Blueprint you will proclaim yourself 'the' or 'a' representative of the Ramsey student body, please ask our permission first so that we may tell you beforehand that we think that you are not fit to show yourself off as a reasonable faction of us. Furthermore, your wit (?) is not only depressingly bad, but it is a destructive crucifixion of things that desperately need answers and not cruel spitting at. Keep an open mind to everything, especially you. You are not as cool as you think you are. Please try to control yourself when you get the urge to kick somebody when they're down."

Well, naturally I did some soul-searching. I had always tried to keep an open mind as a journalist, even when threatened with a closed fist. I had not recalled claiming to be the representative of the student body;

the letter-writer had obviously already filed for the position, and felt free to tell me that "you are not a reasonable faction of us."

I wish somebody had told me when the elections were held among reasonable factions of the student body. Not that I would have voted, but I would have liked to cover them.

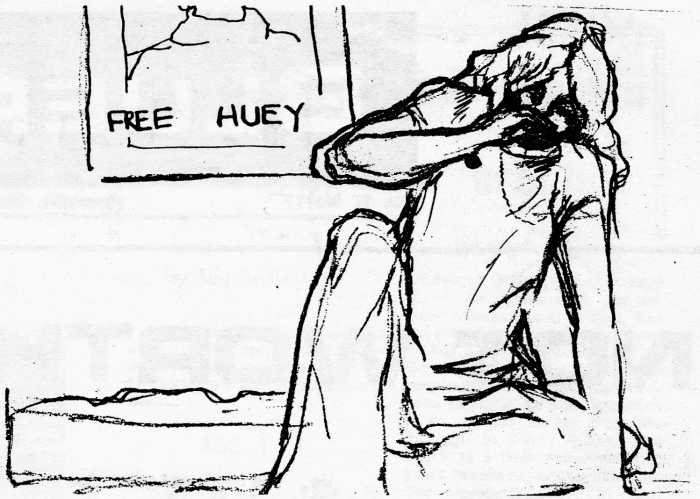
But who was this self-appointed representative of the student body? He was a spokesman for self-control, open-mindedness, and apparently was against crucifixion, except maybe of newspaper editors.

There was an outside chance that the letter was written by an administrator. Maybe St. Germain had felt I had gone too far in using "St. Bernard" in a recent column. I did show him the letter, and asked how he'd been feeling lately.

"Pretty good for a run-of-the-mill mutt," he answered with a gleam in his eye.

I just said "arf" and continued with my investigation.

Perhaps the Student Council was mad at Blueprint's "destructive crucifixion," of them, which I felt was constructive crucifixion. But although I agree that the council is a thing that "desperately needs answers," I don't recall ever having cruelly spit at



## COMMENTARY ON the radical

by Ruth VanAntwerp

Blueprint's portrayal of Jesus as a radical and revolutionary is certainly more truthful than the weak, angelic softie concept. But the comparison of Christ to the radical of today is very distorted. Your writers and artists seem to be uninformed about the teachings of Christ and the life he lived.

On the cover of the last issue it is stated, "... this bearded revolutionary challenged the established government..." Jesus' beard had little to do with his feelings toward society. In his time, a beard was not a symbol of rebellion but an accepted thing, especially for a rugged outdoor man. The established government of his time was the Roman Empire. In the four gospels I can find no challenge of Rome's authority. In fact, when asked if it was right to pay taxes to Caesar, Christ said, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." (Mark 12:17) When taken before Pilate, the Roman leader of that area, Pilate found no guilt or crime that Jesus had committed. The people pressured Pilate until he allowed Jesus to be killed, and even then said he was not responsible. (Matthew 27)

Blueprint goes on to say, "... he associated with criminal elements..." This is true, Jesus did not cut anyone

off from his love. The main incident of Jesus' associations with hated and crooked tax collectors and outcasts is found in Luke 5:27-32. Jesus ate dinner at a tax collectors house and when he was criticized, he said, "I have not come to call the respectable people to repent, but the outcasts." Jesus was involved with the people, not their criminal acts.

Not only are your concepts of his life distorted, but your pictures are even more untruthful. You have written "Conspire" and "Revolution Now!" on Jesus' clothes. Jesus' revolution was not one of overthrowing the government or the established church, but a turnover in man's heart. Why did the same people who praised Christ and announced him as King of the Jews, less than a week later cry, "Crucify him?" It was because he did not take over Jerusalem and set himself up as their ruler. The people wanted this kind of revolution. As for conspiracy, the only conspiracy done was against Christ by the leaders of the church and one untrue disciple.

The other picture shows Jesus smoking a cigarette or grass, (I'll assume the latter). This picture is absurd, Christ had something far better than marijuana to turn him on. Some of his comments are as follows:

"I am come that you might have life, and have it more abundantly." John 10:10

"But whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:14

I am disappointed in you Blueprint. You are usually more honest in your ideas and articles. We shouldn't try to change Christ to fit our purpose, we should change ourselves to fit his.

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