

Scarlet and Black

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Human Resource Center Established: Tederman and Gays reach compromise



by Justin Lincoln

A Human Resource Center will be instituted at Grinnell College next fall, with a subdivision of the center to be known as the Gay Resource Center.

Shortly after an extensive parley with student negotiators last Friday, President Drake and Jim Tederman announced this decision to a crowd of rain-soaked demonstrators in front of Nollen House. Tederman said that the current Personal Development Programs (PDP) will be collapsed into the Human Resource Center, with various RA's and students comprising a committee to organize programs workshops, and seminars dealing with human development issues.

Within this setting, the Gay Resource Center will also have literature, films, and other educational materials which address gay concerns. In addition, a "steering committee" consisting of staff, faculty members, and students, will plan activities to encourage student involvement.

In response to the decision, Angie Hugen, one of the student negotiators said, "I'm satisfied with the decision. We wanted the college to commit themselves to something specifically addressing the

needs of gay students, and they did."

She also expressed her desire to see the center used for educational purposes by the entire campus.

A location for the center is still uncertain. Tederman suggested that the most likely site for the center is the current Younker Memorial Health Center. Hugen said she foresaw no problems with this, especially since the Health Center may well be renamed to accommodate for the Human Resource Center as well as the Computer Center.

Funding for the centers will come from various sources. President Drake has said that he will donate monies to the Gay Resource Center, and Tederman said that the Office of Student Affairs, which funds the present PDP, will also contribute. SGA will reportedly provide much of the programming money, and partial contributions from numerous sources are expected.

Hugen, a senior, said she is looking forward to what can be done with the programs. Matt Rickett, a freshman at the rally, agreed: "It's not a step in the right direction, it's a leap."



In Support of Star Wars

Alum scientist endorses strategic defense

by Jonathan Greising

A Grinnell alumnus speaking on campus Tuesday night brought new elements into the debate raging over the Reagan Administration's Strategic Defense Initiative program, challenging many students' unqualified opposition to the program.

Speaking in South Lounge, Dr. Stephen Rockwood, '69 suggested potential solutions to a number of common objections to 'Star Wars' programs. He laid particular emphasis on the use of charged particle beams.

Rockwood's experience includes graduate work at Caltech and three years' research at the Air Force weapons laboratory. He currently supervises laser research at Los Alamos.

Opening his talk, Rockwood noted the intense public scrutiny SDI research has had to endure. "Never before have I seen a research program evoke so much public interest or public debate," he said.

He discounted critics of the program who claim any nuclear defense system must provide complete protection to be effective, saying, "We're not looking for a perfect defense."

He defined adequate progress in his research as "adequate to allow us to step away from MAD [mutually assured destruction]."

Rockwood outlined the standards a strategic defense system must meet, citing survivability, accuracy, cost advantage and effectiveness as requisites for an effective defense against a Soviet strike.

Much controversy over 'Star Wars' has centered on fears that tremendously expensive defensive systems could be easily overcome by relatively cheap countermeasures — for example, mylar balloons released from ICBMs in flight which would be indistinguishable on radar from incoming warheads.

Rockwood pointed out that potential developments in charged particle beams might offset such decoys, pointing out that reflections from particle beams would allow a space defense satellite to discern the mass of an object. The same beam, amplified, might also disable the warhead.

"The rule is 'If it weighs like an RV [reentry vehicle] treat it like an RV'" he explained.

He said the only decoys capable of deceiving a particle beam problem would have to have the same mass as a warhead. "If they do that, you're forcing them to loft duds," he said, noting that the high cost of space launched materials made "heavy" decoys impractical.

Responding to a question, Rockwood admitted that the installation of strategic

defense systems would abrogate the ABM Treaty.

"At some point, frankly, you have to violate it if you want to deploy the fence," he said. However, he added that the terms of the treaty restricting research on such systems were on fuzzy legal ground. He also noted that parties were allowed to withdraw from the treaty with six months' notice.

Asked about European response to 'Star Wars,' Rockwood admitted the Europeans initially feared SDI was a first step in American military withdrawal from Europe. "They really fear the decoupling of the United States and the European community," he said.

However, he added, "Now what they're grasping is that a lot of SDI technology may correct a lot of that force imbalance," referring to the heavy conventional advantage Warsaw Pact forces in Europe currently enjoy.

Asked whether Reagan is sincere in his promise to eventually share SDI technology with the Soviets, Rockwood replied, "I think in this issue he's truly sincere. SDI for Reagan is like a religion. It's his mark on history."

"It's naive, perhaps, I don't know how the Soviets will respond."

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