

Midd women Take Back the Night

by Lori Landau

Last Thursday approximately fifty women and men marched in the annual "Take Back the Night" march sponsored by the Women's Union to inform Middlebury students of the serious dilemmas women on campus face every day.

Historically, many myths surround the origins of the Take Back the Night march; however, its true origins can be traced to a group of Arizona women in the late 70's, who organized themselves to walk in a dark area of town where they spoke out against violence. They consolidated, so that they might symbolically "take back the night."

Although there is no formal nationwide date for the event, it typically is scheduled to take place in April. Last Thursday's walk at Middlebury, planned by Tracey Merrill '92 and Vranna Hinck '93, began at 8:00 pm inside Upper Proctor Lounge. Led by the members of the Women's Union, the participating men and women each

lit individual white candles and followed in a march.

Despite the rain, they paraded through town, in front of Pearsons, outside the Chateau, down to Johnson parking lot, over the footbridge to the Marble Works, and then back up College Street to Proctor Terrace. During the procession the walkers chanted "Women Unite, Take Back the Night." Middlebury police officers and Middlebury College security guards blocked off the roads, in order to provide clear paths for the sizable number of marchers.

Participants assembled at Upper Proctor after the march, where Merrill, Assistant Professor of Music Susan Cook, Jeffrey Spencer '93, and President Timothy Light spoke about women and violence. Merrill spoke first about the some of the issues that relate most directly to women at Middlebury, specifically the poor lighting on campus.

"This is just a time to say that there is violence all around. It's tragic that

women can't walk where they want to walk, because they are potential victims," Merrill said. "Women walk faster when they are by themselves; they will hold keys between their fingers and hold on to their bags. Things change when the sun goes down. Where men and women are able to go changes."

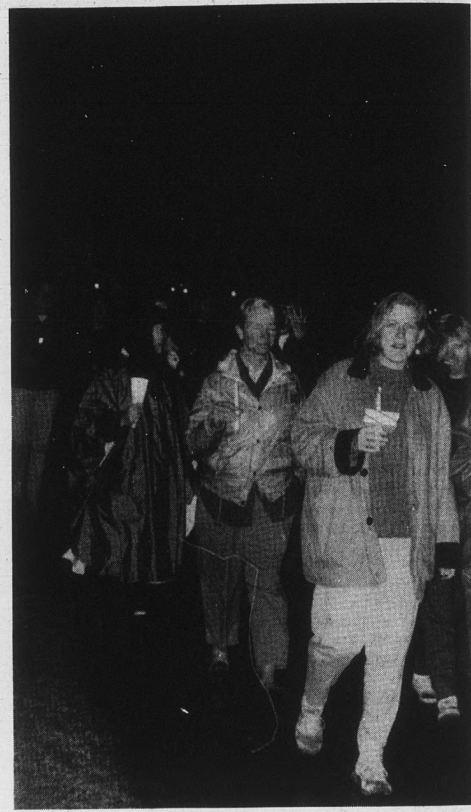
Merrill also offered a number of startling statistics. According to her numbers, approximately one out of two women will be beaten in their lifetime by her husband or spouse. She mentioned FBI statistics from 1987 which state that a woman is more likely to be killed by her husband than by a stranger, and rape, based on 40% of those which are reported, is currently one of the four major violent crimes in the United States.

While other speakers reminded us that rape is happening right here in Middlebury, Light's brief address to the participants illuminated his feelings about the evening's proceedings. He said, "[Rape] is happening in cities and increasingly in towns."

Cook spoke about the woman's role in the world today, and Spencer introduced feminists as activists who are similar to gay/lesbian activists in that both are fearful subjects.

"Homophobia and sexism are inextricably linked. It is a scary world for a lot of people. Events like this are really encouraging. They show that even if people have to be fatalistic, everything is not all bad," said Spencer.

The evening culminated when Alicia Mathewson '92, Aimee Young '93, and Laura Wells '93 sang their emotional rendition of Tracy Chapman's "WHY?", a song which focuses on domestic violence.



Marchers take back the night by candlelight. Photo by Jamey Brenner

Graduation speaker search hits dead end

by Marika Holmgren

After an ad hoc committee formed to investigate the possibility of a second graduation speaker, Charles H. Clark will remain the sole speaker for Commencement 1991.

When it was announced several weeks ago that Clark, the headmaster of St. Paul's School in New Hampshire, would be this year's graduation speaker, a group of seniors organized in an effort to seek a second speaker, in addition to Clark, who would be voted on specifically by the students. The group formulated a list of five people including Coretta Scott King, Bob Woodward, and Cokie Robert, that was presented to the senior class in a vote taken in the mail room. Of 285 seniors that voted, 257 voted to have a second speaker, with only 28 seniors opposed.

Subsequently, contact was made with Coretta Scott King, a leader in social service and the widow of Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., who received the majority of the nominations from students. When King said that she was unavailable to attend due to a previous commitment to attend her nephew's graduation that same day, the group contacted Bob Woodward.

Woodward, whose recent book has

been the subject of enormous talk, also is unavailable to attend due to a trip to California regarding the book. According to a member of the group, had Woodward been contacted earlier in the week, prior to the release of the book, his schedule would have been clear.

Finally, Cokie Roberts, a reporter for National Public Radio, the third choice among students, was contacted on Tuesday night and also is unavailable, bringing the search to end.

An agreement made between President Light and the ad hoc group stated that after contacting the first three choices, the fourth and fifth choices would not be contacted.

"President Light told us we were only allowed to contact three [of the choices]," said Karen Hamad, one of the group's members.

When asked why the group was not permitted to be contacted the fourth and fifth choices, Light said that he saw the need for "an ending point."

"At some point it gets ridiculous. By some [administrators], it is considered embarrassing to be calling around so late," said Light.

Light said that he feels the admini-

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Alum charged with indecent exposure

By Ryan Jennings

Stephen Lauterbach, a 1990 Middlebury graduate and a Syracuse Medical School student, was arrested by Middlebury Town Police outside of Delta Upsilon Sunday, April 28 after both campus security and town police received numerous complaints about Lauterbach running nude around DU's front lawn. Lauterbach was arraigned the following day and charged with disorderly conduct, a misdemeanor, to which he pleaded guilty.

"We received 23 complaints from different motorists and when the town police responded they made the arrest and handled it," said Director of Security Peter Chenevert.

According to an affidavit from Addison County District Court, Officer Scott Fisher received a complaint at 4:19 pm Sunday that someone was nude at DU. Two patrol cars responded to the call. When Fisher arrived at DU he observed Lauterbach pulling up his blue jeans up over his naked body from his knees.

At that point Officer Michael Bolduc

approached DU and was told that Lauterbach would not continue indiscreetly changing his clothes.

An hour or so later at 5:22 pm the dispatcher called Fisher and told him she had received six more calls and that Lauterbach was now running around nude in the street.

Officer Fisher drove to the Campus Security Office where he was told that Campus Security Officer Michael Blount was handling the problem.

When Fisher arrived at DU at 5:40 pm Officer Blount informed him that Lauterbach was an alumnus and not a student.

DU brother David Boyle '92 told Officer Fisher that he and some friends had brought Lauterbach into the house where they dressed him and put him to bed after the officers responded the first time. Boyle said that the next time he saw Lauterbach he was running around nude on the front lawn again, flexing his muscles at passing cars and then running still nude across South Main Street to the Tavern-Sig Ep side of the road.

Lauterbach was arrested at that point and brought to the Middlebury Police Department for processing. Lauterbach submitted to an alcosem test at 6:30 pm, which indicated .30 percent blood alcohol level.

He was taken to the Addison County Jail at 6:45 pm where he was lodged until he was sober the next day. He was arraigned Monday, April 29 before Judge David Jenkins. Lauterbach waived his right to an attorney, and represented himself. He entered a guilty plea.

Lauterbach received a one-year deferred sentence. As part of his sentence he must not purchase or drink any alcoholic beverages nor have any in his possession. In addition he must satisfactorily complete an alcohol counseling program in New York.

Lauterbach graduated cum laude as a Chemistry major last May, according to Alumni Records. A College Scholar, he chaired the Chemistry Department's Student Advisory Committee and was a member of the varsity swimming and golf teams.

Campus Security Advisory

According to a safety advisory issued Tuesday, students are warned to take extra precautions against theft. In May, the advisory states, thefts rise dramatically and students should be aware of the potential danger. "Some local residents consider this time of year as sweep week and they'll come up to the campus and take anything they can get their hands on," said Director of Campus Security Peter Chenevert.

Students are advised to lock their dormitory room doors and vehicles, make sure valuables are not left in the hall ways, and report suspicious persons seen in residence halls to security.

"The last few weeks of school are considered easy times for thieves to come to campus with the sole intent of ripping you off," states the advisory. "Protect yourself and watch out for your fellow students."

Chenevert reiterated the need to be cautious this time of year. "Middlebury College is considered an easy target. Anything Security can do to eliminate so of the opportunity will hopefully discourage some would-be thieves," he said.

According to the advisory, thefts at the end of the academic year often double and sometimes triple.

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