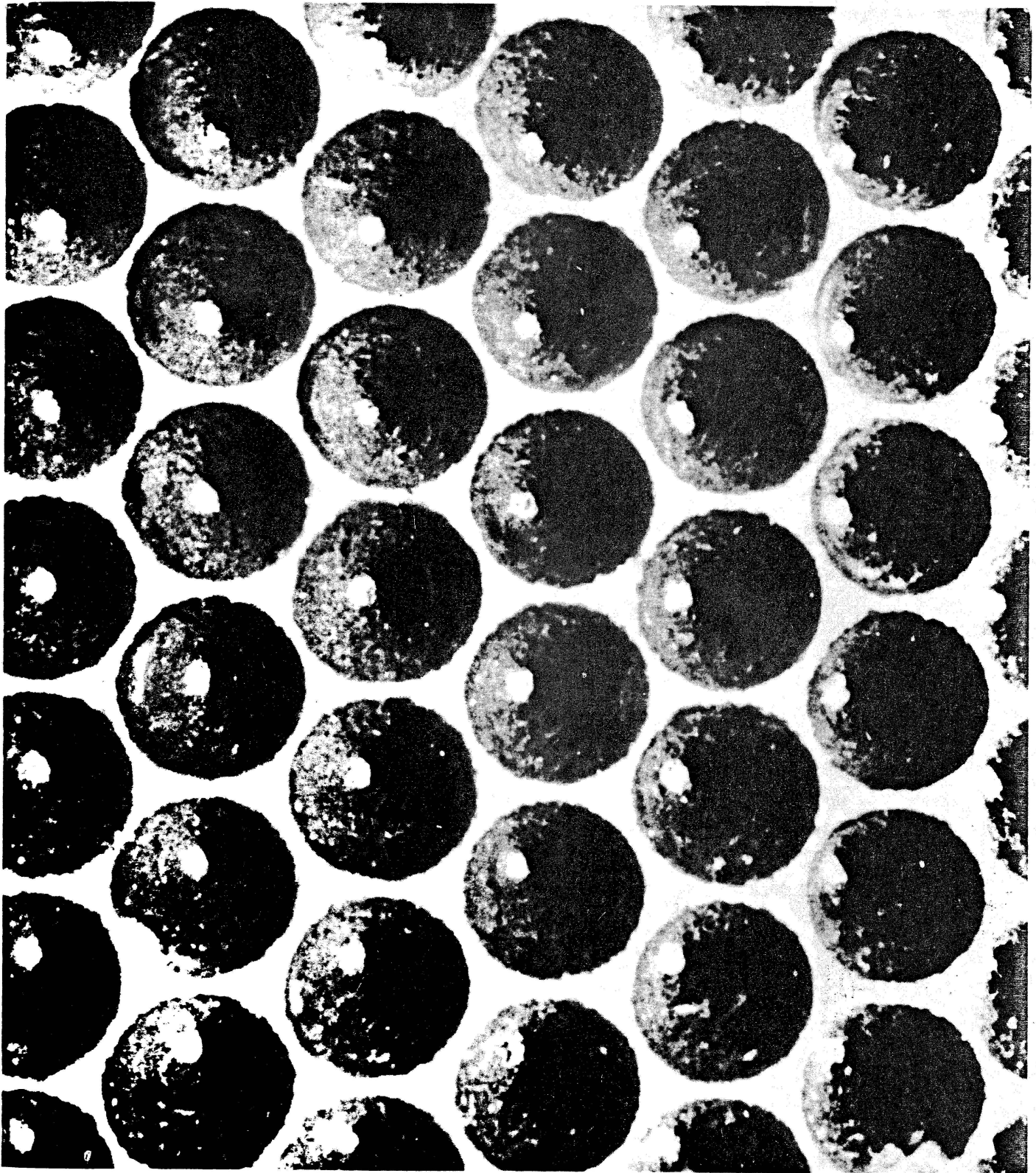


the observer

vol. 4, no. 1

april 30, 1965



the cover

the picture on the cover is a backside view of a piece of absorbtion material which is manufactured by mcmillain industrial corporation. it is used to simulate free space to an antenna or feed horn. it will not work in the speaker cabinet of your hi-fi.

staff

editor: bill lowman

reporters: mike waslo
tom hawkins
howard lambert
david sun
skip thacker

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from the editor.....

i would like to express my thanks and the implied thanks of everyone i have talked to about the observer to mr. peter good for his past job as editor. the observers he has put out speak for themselves - if we didn't agree completely with his editorial policy it was the least that could be expected.

i hope i will be able to do as well, and i'm sure that the future observer can be as good with your help. this paper cannot be a one man job. it depends on the willingness of you employees to contribute to it. you will make or break this paper. if you feel the observer is a worthwhile project, please show your feelings.

thank you.

William M. Lowman, Jr.

editor

bare visits california

claude bare visited rohr in california near san diego on monday, april 12. claude traveled via train for a change -- says he is tired of flying.

rohr is machining the 36 foot parabolic antenna using a lathe-like machine. the rotary cutting tool is controlled to a tolerance not exceeding .001 inches over the entire surface. it is believed that this antenna is the largest ever machined in one piece.

present plans call for moving the scope by road to its station at kitt peak, arizona, near tuscon. the choise of location was made because of the low content of water vapor in the air. (ed. note: green bank was chosen for nrao because of its mild weather conditions.) at the millimeter wavelengths for which the antenna was designed the absorbtion of radio waves by water vapor is appreciable. the antenna will hopefully be installed by july.

tree planting program

nrao

on april 20 the observatory began its first extensive tree planting program. about 20,000 pine seedlings will be planted along observatory property adjoining route 28 and along the north side of the 300-foot road from route 28 to the natural stand of trees to the west. next year it is planned to extend this tree planting program to other observatory roads and to the south of the 300-foot wherever the 300-foot is in view of the cass road.

the purpose of planting these seedlings will be to enhance the natural beauty of the site and to shield our telescopes for noisy ignition systems. let's hope we have a moderate amount of rain this summer so that these seedlings will be off to a good start.

300-foot telescope news by tom hawkins

by the time this gets into print the present 750, and two 1415 mhz continuum receivers will have been replaced by the famous one-hundred channel, hydrogen line, autocorelator, barring postponement. the three continuum receivers have performed well with only minor difficulties, much to the satisfaction of the many astronomers who in the last few months have observed with this system. april showers necessitated some down time. it seems the gentle spring rains originate in ferocious, lightning filled, thunder heads, and this lightning is compatable to the frequencies at which we have been working. On several occasions the lightning was so violent that it started the previously turned off digital recorder.

it has been a relatively uneventful month here at the 300-foot with news worth items at a premium, and we count our blessings for the good fortune. . . . to quote old cliches "no news is good news" or "i'll write when i get work".

don cardarella made news with a sizeable contribution to the economy of the great society when he purchased a handsome white jeep wagoneer. i always thought don was a city boy. there is a new member to the deer slayers club, myself, tom hawkins. i got mine on the 300-foot access road. we all know what a cross between a volvo and a comet is, but a mustang and a buck deer is another thing again. the club members have advised cardarella to put a deer catcher on his new jeep. i personally doubt if we have as much to fear from our cold war adversaries as we do from our own and ever increasing deer population.

140-foot telescope news by howard lambert

here's a good story for you. do you think of yourself as a good squirrel hunter? whether you do or don't here's a plan which is supposed to be helpful.

fill your pockets with acorns, hickory nuts, pebbles, or anything else which is near the size of an acorn or hickory nut. climb a tree - preferably a hickory or oak tree which is not too difficult to climb. it doesn't have to be a large one.

after comfortably situating yourself in the tree, occasionally shake a branch slightly. wait for a few seconds after shaking the branch and then drop a nut or pebble to the ground.

this, so the story goes, is an excellent way to attract squirrels. either they come to the tree to share in the food supply or to see who the nut is in the tree. really, it is supposed to work well.

it would appear that you might have difficulty climbing a tree or getting down with a gun but perhaps you can work that problem out. hunting squirrels with a partner might solve this problem.

on the more serious side, recent travelers of the 140 crew have been:

max small and bill horne on a quick air trip to boston on business;

fred crews, john ralston, sidney smith and george grove on a quick air trip to new york on business.

mr. greenwood has gone out of the station wagon business. he is trading for a 1965 pontiac catalina.

the easter sunday routine turned out to be about the usual sunday routine for howard lambert. too much food and too little exercise. he figures that he

isn't the only one with that problem however. there are lots of other people carrying pot bellies around.

lab gab by 孫大偉

editor's note -- david sun

test equipment -

have you seen a trailer parked next to the computer room and wondered what it is all about? well, the trailer belongs to electro international (home office located at annapolis, maryland). mr. sam blount from fayetteville, n. c., mr. clair stephens from altoona, pa., and mr. ken anderson from moorefield, w. va., are the three representatives from electro international. they are here to repair and calibrate all test equipment for nrao, also to make periodic maintenance checks on the equipment. their contract is for one year.

mr. sam blount is bringing his family to bartow this month. he says he has found everyone extremely friendly and helpful in green bank. mr. clair stephens and mr. ken anderson are single, so girls..... ??????

students -

the following students are returning to work this quarter:

jim west, v. p. i., at 140-ft; david sun, v. p. i., in millimeter lab; bob swensson, new student from v. p. i., data reduction; bill (charlie) lowman, georgia tech, low noise lab; jeff dunbar, georgia tech, test equipment, john czerwinski, drexel, engineering; and dorsey l. (skip) thacker, new student from university of cincinnati, digital lab.

..... continued on next page....

vrrable at masters -

bill vrrable attended the master golf tournament in augusta, ga. on april 10. we wonder if all that during practice will help his game any.

new menon -

mrs. menon gave birth to a baby girl in kins hospital on april 2. congratulations.

beetles -

the population of the "beetles" is increasing rapidly in green bank. the new green convertible vw belongs to bill lowman. he argued that the beetle is the best car one can buy. the reason is that the vw can out run a renault and at the same time is more economical than a ford.

tigers -

has the absence of the roaring of the tiger bothered you lately? while he was driving through the bustling metropolis of durbin on the evening of march 28, neil and his gto were attacked by a member of the opposite sex driving a fairlane. neil's car is evidence that a ford mashes better than a rolls royce. better get yourself john hancock insurance, neil.

fortune tellers -

bill kuhlken's wife broke her right ankle and sprained her left ankle on tuesday night, april 4 so he spent his week's vacation at home teaching his wife how to use her crutches. bill said he got an ouija board to try and determine what is going to happen next so that he will be prepared for it.

car 11 where are you???? -

after a long history of disaster, car 11 finally met its match. due to severe injury of the rear end, car 11 will never be seen again.

ieee meeting

mr. jaap baars and dr. peter mezger attended the meeting of the w. va. chapter of the ieee on april 6 in charleston, w. va. mr. baars received first place for his presentation, "cassegain attenae and normal antennae". dr. mezger received third place for his presentation, "the influence of the surface accuracy of the telescope". dr. mezger said that the best thing during the meeting was the serving of ohio beer instead of w. va. beer.

nraora news

by-laws changed -

the proposed by-law changes were approved by a solid two-thirds majority. the required majority is 114 while bob vance managed to round up a healthy 116 votes. how many lb-ft does it take for an affirmative vote, bob?

general meeting -

a general meeting of the entire nraora membership will be sometime in may. the order of business will include election of new board members. a quorum must be present to carry on business. a notice will appear as to the exact date. please keep this in mind as we need all of the members to attend.

..... continued on next page.

softball -

the softball league will be organized and started the first week in may according to bob vance. gene crist and ronnie monk will be in charge of softball this year. lists are available for those interested to sign.

bridge anyone -

anyone interested in forming a bridge club to play once or twice a month contact the editor. your response will determine whether a club is formed or not.

for sale

1956 buick special 2 door sedan. automatic transmission, radio and heater. good running condition. no oil burner. reasonably priced. see or call wally oref.



orlo's outpost

dear orlo,

i am a secretary at nrao, and lately i have been plagued by burning ears. my friends tell me this is an indication that someone is talking about me. is this true?

susan secretary

dear susan,

no, there is no scientific basis for such an explanation. you have probably been listening in on too many bull sessions.

orlo

dear orlo,

i am a highly qualified technician looking for work at nrao. what do you suggest?

wireless willie

dear willie,

get serious.

orlo

dear orlo,

i very sensibly went out and bought an inexpensive, economical, and dependable volkswagon. now all my friends are making fun of my car. how can i show them?

a. j. foist

dear a. j.

never mind showing them. in your heart you know you are right.

orlo

dear orlo,

i am worried about my wife. she keeps telling me she can hear our grass growing. can you suggest anything?.

melvin snurd

.... continued on next page....

dear mel,

i wouldn't worry too much if i were you.
i know a man with a ph.d. who listens to
stars.

orlo

dear orlo,

have you ever observed a sunspot with the
big ear?

joe gunchquatty

dear joe,

no, but have you ever tried colt 45 malt
liquor?

orlo

dear orlo,

i thought the march issue of the observer
was going to be the last one. who is the
punk that messed things up?

billy b. a.

dear bill,

don't ask me, i just work here.

orlo

dear orlo,

i seem to be having a spectacular run of
bad luck, and i thought maybe you could
advise me. every day for the last two
weeks i have had to buy coffee for both
breaks. what do you think?

anonymous

dear anonymous,

what time do you go to coffee?

orlo

words of wisdom

he who sees a need and waits to be asked for
help is as unkind as if he had refused it.

dante

what you make it to the interest of men to do,
that they will do.

edmund burke

men will wrangle for religion; write for it;
fight for it; die for it; anything but -- live
for it.

charles c. colton

a man should share in the action and passion
of his time at peril of being judged not to
have lived.

oliver wendell holmes, sr.

it is a curious fact that people are never so
trivial as when they take themselves very
seriously.

oscar wilde

words

the five most important words are
"i am proud of you"

the four most important words are
"what is your opinion?"

the three most important words are
"if you please"

the two most important words are
"thank you"

the least important word is
"i"

the 1964-1965 nraora basketball season ended the blue team leading in the standings for 15 games played. the standings: blue won 11 lost 4, green 8-7, yellow third with a 7-8, and red team with 4 wins and 11 losses. in the playoffs, the first pairings found the blue team knocking off the yellow team 75-59, and the red team knocking over the green team 77-71.

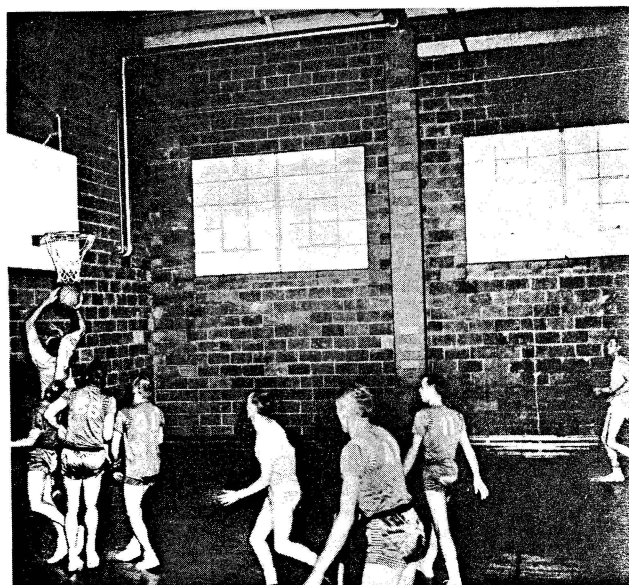


both sides hustle hard, but....

in the final playoff april 8th, the yellow team took 3rd place defeating the green team 50-34, and the final game the red team became nraora basketball champs by defeating the blue team 61-49. congratulations to the red team coached by jamie sheets. for coming out of the basement in the standings to take over the championship from a blue team who led the standings the entire season. the red team was presented with a beautiful trophy which can be seen in the pictures taken by gene crist.

the red team march to victory for the championship started back on the 18th of march when the

yellow team only shot 29 per cent against them. on march 25th the blue team shot 27.7 per cent against the red team, april 1st, the green team shot a meager 25.9 per cent against the reds. april 6th the green team improved their shooting to 33.3 percent which again was not enough to defeat the red team. and in the championship playoff the blue team set a new record by shooting only 18.8 per cent against the red team. the defense of the red team improved considerably, and the return of bill lowman frightened the red opposition to poor shooting percentages.



....green team succumbs....



nrao 1965 champs

honorable mention to the following:

- bob vance
- dr. smith
- del cassell
- carl davis
- sam taylor
- jerry shears
- jim ryder
- m. gumm

congratulations to all players mentioned above for their selection, and i congratulate all players for coming out in uniform to participate regardless of selection. with out your participation there would be no nrao basketball. in my eyes i have put this season down as a very successful one, and i'm sure this fine cooperation found among our observatory personnel will make the next one even better.

m. t. waslo
past basketball commissioner

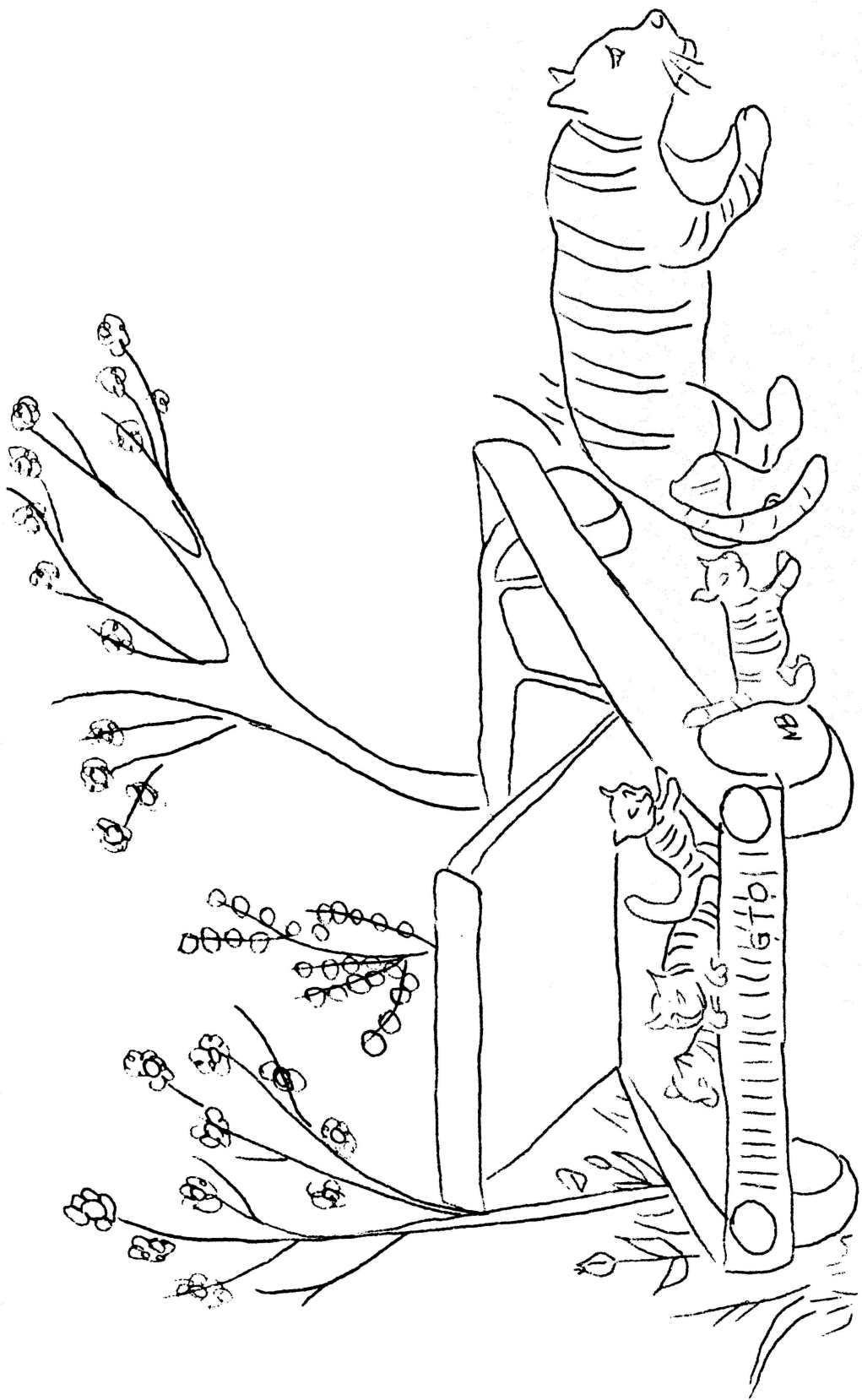
the four coaches on separate ballots picked the following;

the all american nraora basketball five

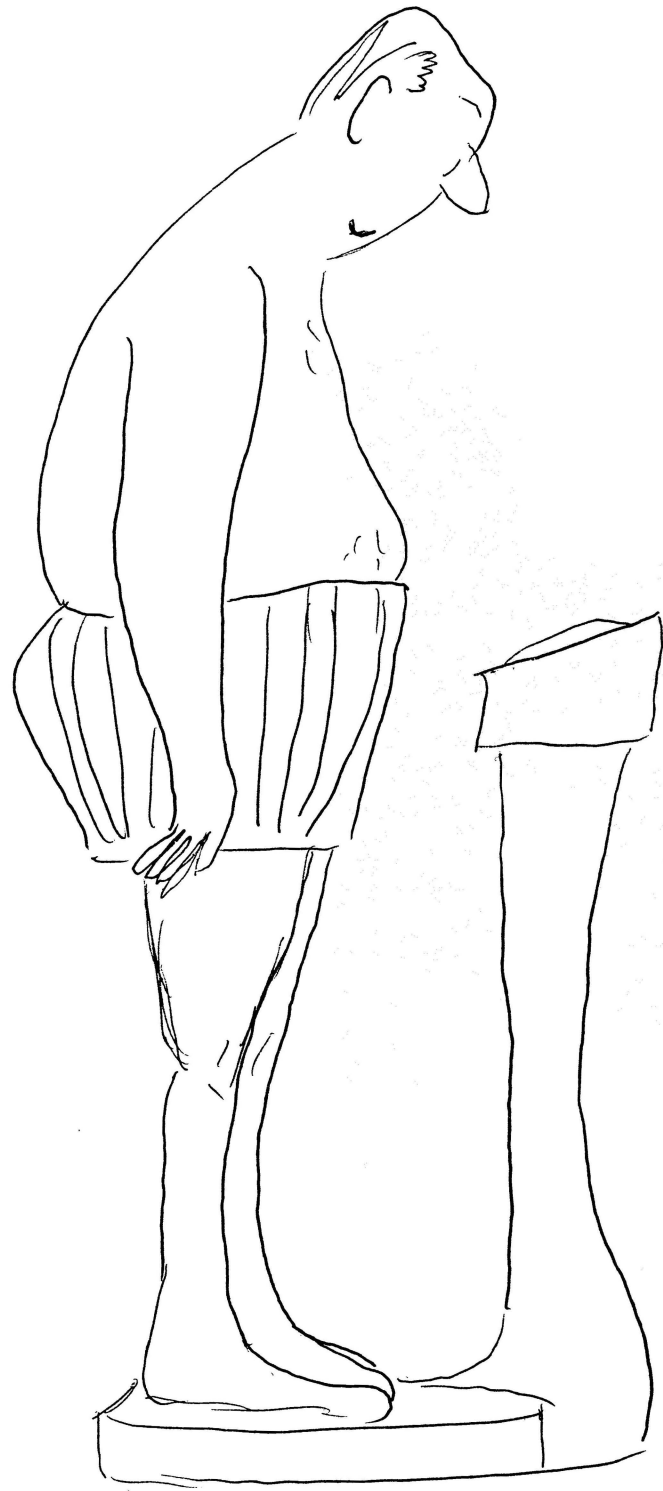
- ronnie monk
- bill lowman
- john cassell
- brown cassell
- lenny howell

each coach selected the following names which is the second team:

- bill vnable
- john ralston
- dave williams
- tom carpenter
- jim simmons



Spring is here!

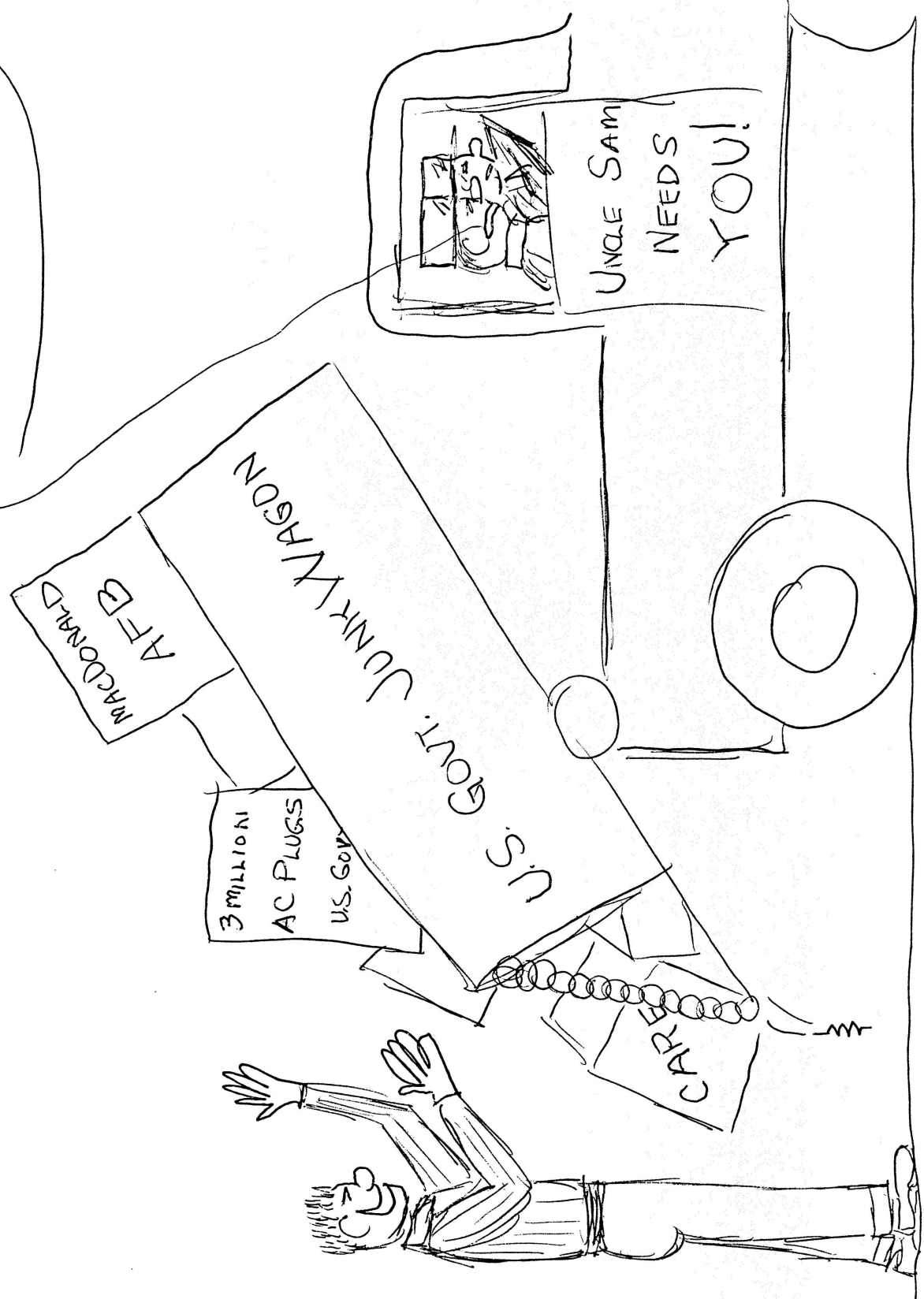


before

BARRY WHO?



SOME KIND OF FOREIGN AID PROGRAM I GUESS...



BY CHARLIE