

News Briefs

ON CAMPUS

By COLLEGE RELATIONS

Students at State University College at Cortland may now apply for three Sigma Delta Phi Scholarships valued at up to \$1,000 each for the 1989-90 academic year.

The scholarships are sponsored by the College Development Foundation of Cortland, Inc., and are available to undergraduates who have completed at least two full semesters at Cortland and who have at least one full year of study remaining before graduation.

Applications may be obtained from the SUCC Office of Financial Aid. The deadline for submission of applications is Friday, March 17.

In observance of National Foreign Language Week March 5 to March 11, 1989, the Department of International Communications and Culture will hold a German Total-Immersion Day on Saturday, March 11, in the Media Lounge of Corey Union from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Participants will be SUCC, Homer and Cortland high school students of German, and teachers of German in the Central New York area. Participants will sign a pledge to speak German only for the duration of the workshop. Various group activities and games will be featured, stressing speaking and listening skills. Workshop facilitators will be Sylvia Kunzeja, German teaching assistant for the Ithaca area from West Berlin; Sieglinde Schwinge, SUCC graduate and teacher of German, Syracuse, and Professors Victoria Stiles and Irmgard Taylor, ICC. All four are native speakers.

During a total-immersion workshop, real life situations in the second language are simulated, helping learners of the language practice their skills in a setting beyond the traditional classroom. Even a one day experience such as this is beneficial for the linguistic self-confidence of learners, since they find themselves in a supportive environment. Total-immersion days are conducive to real communication in the second language, the approach favored under the Regents Second Language Mandate in New York State, and generally fostered nationwide through the so-called proficiency movement.

This year the Total-Immersion Day is funded by grants from the Auxiliary Service Corporation (ASC) of SUCC and the New York Second Language Assistance Council (SLAC). For further information call -4303, ICC Department.

"Real life" unwanted pregnancy a considerably big problem

Special to The Press

On television, unwanted pregnancy is usually a minor crisis. Abortion is available, nobody worries about the cost, and women don't die from botched, illegal abortions.

Furthermore, television college and high school students don't generally have sex and, if an unwanted pregnancy is part of the story line, "warnings" announcing the episode dealing with this "sensitive" subject are aired for several weeks in advance.

That's television. Real life is very different and, if the Right Wing succeeds in convincing the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion, most students won't recognize the America they will be confronting...and that will be confronting them.

For instance, only 20 years ago the state of California allowed only "therapeutic" abortions. To get one, a woman had to prove that there was a valid medical reason for an abortion, such as an imminent threat to her life, or she had to provide a certification from a psychiatrist that she would become mentally unbalanced if she was forced to carry a pregnancy to term.

Some women, the fortunate few with significant financial resources, were able to go to one of a handful of states where abortion was legal, or to a foreign country where the procedure was legal.

But for more women—and even more so for teenage girls—the choices were grim. They either carried an unwanted pregnancy to term, ultimately electing to keep the baby or give it up for adoption, or as was the case with an estimated one million of them, risked their lives and irreparable damage to their reproductive organs in secret, back-alley abortions.

What were the conse-

quences of the latter choice? An estimated 100 of every 1,000 women and girls who put themselves into the hands of medically untrained abortionists died from the operation. Thousands more were maimed to the point that they were never able to conceive and bear children.

Because it could happen again—not years from now but months from now—the National Organization for Women is organizing the April 9, March for Women's Equality/Women's Lives in Washington, D.C.

In fact, NOW President Molly Yard is predicting that the anger and fear generated by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to hear a major case challenging legalized abortion will result in the April 9 march being the largest March for women's rights in U.S. history.

"The surge in organizing for this March is unprecedented in our experience," Yard said, "and NOW has a long history of organizing marches and other street actions. Clearly, people from every part of the country and from every walk of life finally have realized just how real this threat is to the fundamental right to decide to terminate an unwanted pregnancy, and they are responding to the march call in larger than ever numbers."

Yard noted that among those groups displaying the greatest response are college students. "Right now, nearly two months away from the March, there are student organizers signing up people for buses on at least 100 campuses," she said, "and the number of campuses participating in the march grows each day, with each phone call our organizers make."

"College and high school students—the young—have the greatest stake of all in this fight to keep abortion safe and legal," the NOW President said. "It's their future we're fight-

ing for; they're the ones with 20 to 30 child-bearing years ahead of them. They're the ones who must feel the greatest urgency to retain the legal right to decide when, and if, they will have children and how many children they will have."

On Jan. 9, the Supreme Court announced it would hear Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, an appeal to uphold the constitutionality of Missouri's abortion law which also seeks to challenge the constitutionality of Roe v. Wade. Missouri's law has been declared unconstitutional by both a federal district court and a federal circuit court of appeals. On November 10, 1988, just two days after President Bush's election, the U.S. Department of Justice sent a message to the Court asking it to hear the Webster appeal and to use the Missouri case as a vehicle for reviewing the Roe decision for the purpose of overturning it.

Yard said an overturn of the Roe v. Wade decision would mean a return to compulsory pregnancy for American women and girls, or create situations where they would risk their lives in back-alley abortions and would be prosecuted as criminals if they survived the ordeal and were discovered. "Not only must every woman and girl in America care about this fight, but so also must every man who cares about the women and girls in his life, whether it's his wife, his girlfriend, his sister, his daughter or, yes, even his mother."

Campus groups and individual students interested in organizing a delegation or simply participating as individuals in the April 9 march should contact their local or state NOW chapters or contact the National NOW Action Center. The address is 1000 16th St., N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D. C. 20036-5705, and the telephone number is 202/331-0066.

FACULTY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

DEADLINE: Monday, March 6, 1989.

The Faculty Memorial Committee announces that applications and guidelines are now available in the Financial Aid Office (Room 301, Miller Administration Building) and in the College Library Lobby for Freshman who meet the following criteria.

1. **Have at least a 2.5 cumulative average**
2. **Are a second-semester Freshman**
3. **Have financial need (as evidenced by a processed 1988-89 Financial Aid Form which must be on file in the Financial Aid Office at the time of application)**
4. **Demonstrate promise of future service to the College community as evidenced by past and/or present service**

3 Scholarships in the amount of \$250 each will be awarded this year.