

Make 'Different Future,' Friedan Urges

BY VICTORIA LEVITT
Betty Friedan, founder of the National Organization for Women and author of "The Feminine Mystique," speaking last week at Potsdam College urged young people to "make a difference future" for themselves, to embark on a "new adventure" which would integrate feminism and the family in what she described as the "second stage" of the women's movement.

Addressing the students in the audience she said that the condition of women in society has changed to the extent that "You may not feel you need a movement. But even if you choose a (traditional) life like your mothers' you won't have a life like your mothers'. You face a more complex life (because) you are given and will make choices" that were not available to women before the women's movement which began in the 1960s. "Woman who take for granted today's choices may be 'unconscious feminists'" she said.

In the beginning of the movement, when "The Feminine Mystique" was published, women discovered that as individuals they shared a political and economic social condition with other women. Their personhood was not acknowledged by the larger male dominated society and they felt guilt-ridden for not being content with what was offered them in the "sexual ghetto of the ideal suburb, where between the hours of nine and five, nothing stirred unless it was under three feet tall." But Friedan stressed, wanting a person did not mean that a woman was not functioning as a wife and mother.

As the women's movement got underway, Friedan recalled, "We made political what was not political. We took from the Civil Rights and Labor Movements the notion of class warfare." But she said that in the zealotry of the struggle, "we made some ideological mistakes." The concept of sexual politics that pitted man, the "male chauvinist pig," against women in the "excessive rhetoric of sexual warfare" led to a period of "excess reaction played out personally as well as in the rhetoric of the movement." If that had been the major thrust, the movement would not have lasted and could not have accomplished what it has, she said.

Speaking of the ways in which the battle for women's rights was waged on the political front and in the workplace, sometimes straining the bonds of family, Friedan said, "It was necessary to do what we did. We had to do battle against sex discrimination, to fight for equality, for choice and we couldn't do it just as wives and mothers." Many of the battles, large and small were finally won, she said. "Women don't just make coffee; they also make political policy."

But there is more to be done in the continuing women's movement, she said. In today's society

women have won many of the "basic rights of personhood" but today's problems must be confronted in the second stage of feminism. "Motherhood that is chosen is a joyous liberated motherhood," Friedan said, and "part of the choices of family and marriage link you to traditional women of the past. But the complexity of choices bring different problems: how will you put it together?"

Because society is still geared to "the old kind of woman and you are the new kind of woman" Friedan said that women and men must work to "restrictive the institutions of society" to accommodate the diversity of needs and lifestyles that are possible when stereotypical roles and expectations are abandoned in favor of individual choice. "But," she said, "you can't make it work if men aren't educated." She said she feels "quizzical" about women's studies classes that are attended only by women.

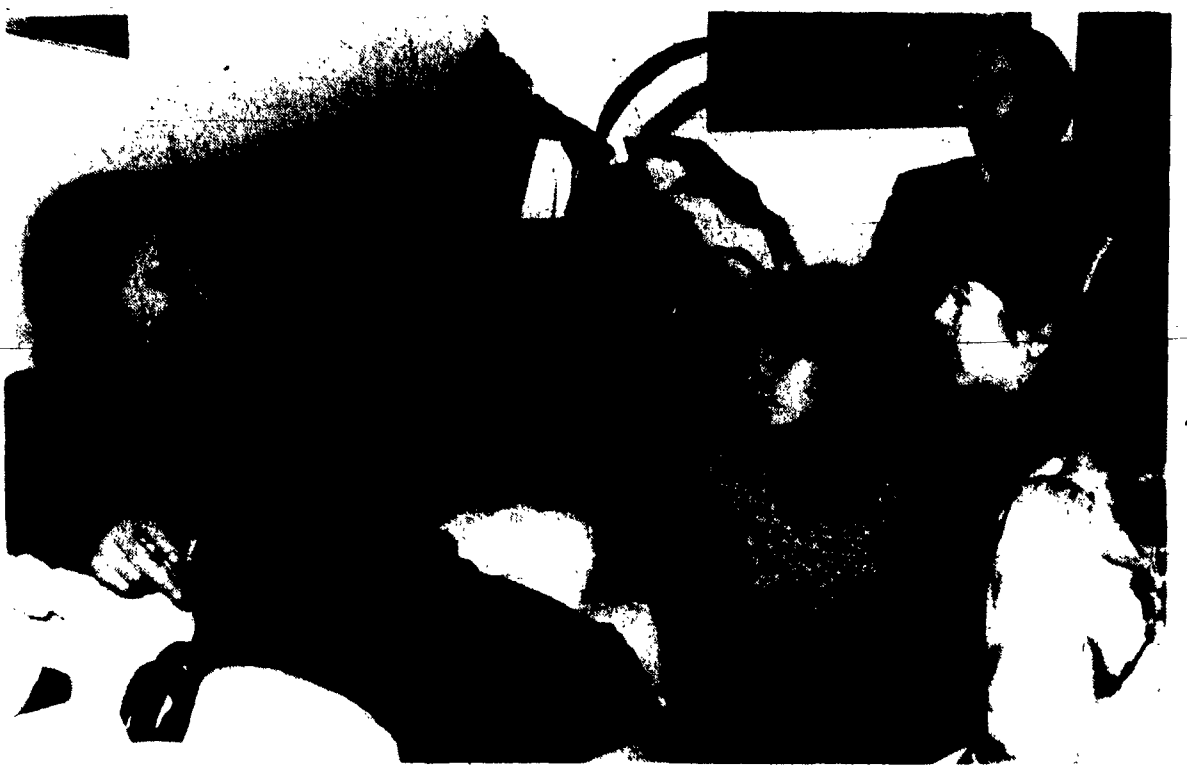
A major stumbling block in bringing the second stage of the movement to fruition is to be found in the current trend in Ronald Reagan's administration to erode many of the gains in women's rights, Friedan said, "but American men are not going to wilt and die just because women are showing their strength."

The movement, and society can-

not stop where it is today, she said. In working to restructure social institutions in terms not dominated by the male perspective, we must look at questions of adequate child care and housing that will accommodate the diverse needs of today's families. "It is hypocritical (of government and social agencies) to speak of family values without adequate child care programs," Friedan stated, citing also the lack of innovation in housing programs that would, for example, provide "new kinds of shared services for single parents and women living alone."

There is a great need for innovative community leadership that will confront the problems of today, Friedan said, but she also stressed that she feels "optimistic in the face of fundamentalist striving to return to traditional rigid roles." She said she has "great faith in the power of people to get together and solve their problems" because there is in this country "a tradition of individualism but also a tradition of community... If we value diversity we can't succumb to fundamentalism but must actively defend the individual's values."

Today's young people, Friedan said, can "make a different future," but they must work to prevent the "erosion of democratic freedom which made the original movement possible."



FRIEDAN SPEAKS — Author and social activist Betty Friedan, left, talks with residents of Dralme House at Potsdam College. Friedan spoke at the college on "The Second Stage" (also the name of her latest book) and met with students after her lecture.

Eligibility Levels Raised For Surplus Foods

The St. Lawrence County Surplus food program's eligibility levels are being raised by 25 percent a step with the increased needs established for the 1985 Home Energy Assistance Program.

If your household is eligible for HEAP payments, or if your last month's income was below this new level, you are eligible for free food under this program.

To receive food, you must present a valid identification card. If you do not have an i.d. card, you

can apply for one at the CDP neighborhood center nearest you or ask your local food distributor.

When you apply, you should be able to verify your income, household size, and place of residence.

The new eligibility limits are as follows:
Household Size Monthly Income
1, \$1,437; 2, \$1,866; 3, \$2,295; 4, \$2,724; 5, \$3,153; 6, \$3,582; 7, \$4,011; 8, \$4,440; each additional plus \$218.



DAY CARE DONATION — Clayton Conner and John Messina, far left, of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, 30 Pleasant St., Potsdam, present the proceeds of a drawing the fraternity held recently to benefit the Potsdam Day Care Center to Aly Mahama, who along with his classmates, accepted the donation on behalf of the center. Christie Nedelka, a Clarkson student, was the recipient of \$50 worth of albums and cassettes from Northern Music. Other sponsors of the event included Josie's Pizzeria II, Weston's Bookstore, and the Village Card and Gift Shop. (Ron Robertson photo)

Sunday Rock North 'n' South: Colton And South Colton News

BY DOROTHY AYERS
282-2455

Congratulations to Bing and Denise Thomas on the arrival of twin sons Jan. 15, Roy Orin and Matthew Allen. Bing is the son of Mrs. Kitty Thomas and the late Roy Thomas and Denise is the daughter of Sam and Leta Boyce. Just think, one day they had three little ones, the next day there were five.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mr. Floyd Wilson.

Fay Collins has had two bouts of surgery at Saranac General but the prognosis is now favorable, for which everyone is thankful.

Senior Racqueteer officers for 1985 were installed Jan. 15 at an evening meeting combined with a

covered dish supper. They are: president, Louis Marceau; vice president, Corinne Covey; secretary, Harriet Spencer; treasurer, Burton Chase; and alternate secretary-treasurer, Betty Ramming.

The Town of Colton has joined forces with the Town of Pierrepont in sharing the services of Dog Control Officer Donna Green, and anyone needing help with dog problems may call Mrs. Green at 282-2970.

We are reading Rose Kennedy's "Times to Remember," and the account of the long hours that household help had to work, at such low wages, makes us think of the cigarette ad, "You've come a long way, Baby!"
Quote: "We had started out with

a maid of all work who cooked, served, cleaned, laundered, with an afternoon a week and every other Sunday off, all for \$7 a week, the usual wages and conditions in those days. When the babies began coming, we added another helper, a hospital-trained nursemaid; as I recall, she was paid \$3 a week, the growing rate."

Four children arrived in a little less than five years, so just think how hard those servants had to work and then climb to a small room on the third floor at the end of the day. No wonder girls got smart and chose to clerk in the Five and Dime rather than do housework. Of course, they were married in 1914 so all this took place back in that time frame. Regardless of whether one is pro-Kennedy or not, it is interesting reading.

PET OF THE WEEK...

I'm Loretta, an orange and white tiger. I'm 3 years old and have my distemper shot. I'm very intelligent and friendly. Everyone should have a friend named Loretta. I'd like to be yours.



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Many-Many winter items now priced for clearance:

Ladies cords-Men's & Ladies sweaters-Shirts & Jackets

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A Sample of Our Savings! And There's Much More!

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Twin Size waterbed, controlled flotation..... \$449 \$299	Barcalounger wall recliner \$640 \$499
One Piece Entertainment Center ... \$389 \$299	Queen Sleeper Sofa Herculon Tweed \$799 \$549
La-Z-Boy Rocker Recliner \$409 \$299	2 Pc. Livingroom, Sofa, Chair \$1,078 \$699
Oak "6" Gun Cabinet \$429 \$329	3 Pc. Livingroom Sofa, Chair, Ottoman..... \$1,387 \$799
Barcalounger Rocker Recliner..... \$540 \$349	2 Pc. Clayton Marcus Livingroom Sofa, Chair..... \$1,348 \$799
Butcher block china cabinet..... \$599 \$399	7 Pc. Livingroom sectional \$1,799 \$1199

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