

Pilgrimage, TV Series: Tools for Utopian Activist

Street People of Isla Vista

A Way of Life

By Gale Holland

All through history, the power of the riff-raff has been ignored. I.V. park habitue, nameless at his request

NOT UNMINDFUL of the lumpenproletariat's potential to energize revolutionary change is David Williams, modern-day prophet for paradise on earth.

In his Trigo St. apartment, a handful of "street people" for the past month have slept and eaten food, all gathered for free by Williams and his wife, Caroline, from the refuse of merchants: fruits and vegetables from the trash bins in back of the markets and Sunburst, old Good Shepherd sandwiches, day-old doughnuts. The street people seem largely impassive to the handmade signs and leaflets on the walls heralding Williams' projects: Paradise Psibernetics Productions, The Great Planetary Peace Pilgrimage, and newspaper clippings detailing his concerns: parapsychology, nuclear research, street culture.

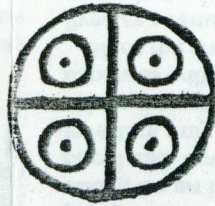
Williams hopes to expand his free kitchen and shelter to other apartment units, eventually buying the building and establishing a new kind of rehabilitation center to get the people off S.S.I. (welfare for the totally mentally and physically disabled).

This activity he calls the "pre-production phase" of his central project: the pilgrimage, which he expects to film himself and sell to a major television network as a prime-time weekly series. In Williams' vision of future shock, mid-April will see an encampment of 1000 New Age fellow travelers in the empty lots of Isla Vista, who will trek through a major international symposium on humanity in Pasadena, to the Black Mesa in the Four Corners area of Arizona to stop the coal strip mining there and establish planetary peace.

Then next season, we can break from the intergalactic hype of "Mork and Mindy" and "Battlestar Galactica" for the intercosmological consciousness of the weekly saga, "The Great Planetary Peace Pilgrimage — A True Life Adventure" which Williams bills as "the most popular television series ever."

Williams' non-violent sword for change carries many New Age edges, but basically his all-inclusive Mission Pac for a new future is an integration of his insights as a scientist and as a spiritual seeker, toward the goal of paradise here on earth: "true peace, harmony among all life and free natural abundance," freedom from war, want and ecological disaster.

Williams believes our energy needs could be filled worldwide by the development of already conceptualized technology that would incidentally also eliminate the



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Street People

A new-age prophet promises to save the world with Tesla Energy and Isla Vista street politics.

Isla Vista

• *Tesla World Energy System.* Nikola Tesla, a Yugoslavian scientist who discovered the alternating current, left encoded in four different languages instructions for a new world-wide energy system, Williams says. A natural electric field surrounds the globe because of its polar magnetism, this theory goes; it could be tapped into and broadcast wirelessly, almost limitlessly, Williams believes. Black Mesa is one part of the planet with a high electro-magnetic potential, Tesla stated. This is corroborated by the Hopi's insistence that the spot is important, that the strip mining there is spiritually devastating for the whole earth. Williams thinks a plant built there on Tesla's principles would have easy access to the globe-girdling field.

• *Radioactivity Decay Accelerator.* One outgrowth of the heavy particle research in physics that is winning Nobel Prizes these days, Williams thinks, could be a device to sap radioactivity out of objects — say nuclear waste — and use it as energy, discarding the resulting harmless inert byproducts. If scientists can manipulate the mass of these sub-atomic particles, Williams reasons, they should be able to manipulate the rate of decay, based on Einstein's theory of relativity between mass and time. I remember that one in sci-fi novellas as why, after 100 years in space, I'd weigh one ton but age only two years.

• *Tetron Natural Unified Field Theory.* Williams has developed a set of mathematical equations, an update on Einstein's revolutionary $E=mc^2$, that he thinks describe all natural phenomena Einstein's didn't. Such as "psi" phenomena — Uri Geller bending metal spoons with his consciousness. Key Williams' postulations include "c" speed of light, not just as visible light, as Einstein defined it, but as all light, inclusive of the spiritual sense of the word, as in "Let there be..." his addition of a term signifying the "human mind's consciousness orientation function of light" and another term equating the mind function with the essential nature of any energy system. In other words, the outer reaches of physics and spirituality merge; spiritual consciousness is light, the light or faith within each individual is the light of the world. All this presented in mathematical notation.

Williams thinks his theory of tetronics can be applied so that individuals can get in vehicles, hone their consciousness to the correct beam, levitate the vehicles and travel without any other energy support system wherever they wish.

This type of application, which appears to this observer distant, could be enacted rapidly by using the science of cybernetics, Williams thinks. Cybernetics is logical and persistent goal attainment. It was first invented in war; it was discovered that a gunshot could make its mark more easily if, when it missed, all measurements related to the miss were relayed back, and the shot repeated, based on the new information. This line of reasoning, Williams says, put us on the moon.

Putting aside for the moment the reality function of Williams' ideas, he sees, through his popular TV series, that people will begin to realize that people can live in harmony and abundance without strife; that technology is available to provide limitless energy with no pollution or natural destruction: so next stop (12 years, by Williams' calculation), paradise on earth.

From Disney To Discovision

Who is this man and why is he saying these things?

Williams, 33, the son of a film and television industry administrator, grew up in Panorama City, a suburb of L.A. His Boy Scout Explorer Troop, made up of sons of workers in the film industry, was funded by Walt Disney to make movies. So at 13, Williams was the head of a motion picture production company. He feels he knows the business and his series will sell, and will make it in the ratings.

Not, perhaps, with the usual deodorant et al sponsors; "The Pilgrimage" will be sponsored by a different type of product, Williams suggests discovision, a new product by MCA-Phillips (the combined effort of one of the top entertainment companies — MCA is Universal Studios — and the top European electronics manufacturer). With discovision, a color film and stereo sound can be played off your record player and into your TV set. Williams sees segments in his series in which discovision is used by a participant to "see" the future or the past, according to the fads of the moment (now, it would be a Star Wars spot) to enhance the show's entertainment value.

Audiences will like the show, he feels, because so many of them will be on it, as the pilgrimage passes through their cities; and because best-loved local and national entertainers and speakers will be performing at pilgrimage encampments.

Williams has a Bachelor of Science from the California State University at Northridge in chemistry, but his business career was as an insurance underwriter and insurance and investment salesman. From this experience he has written a prospectus for Paradise Psibernetics Productions, Inc., asking for an initial capitalization of \$10,000, which is being circulated now. The company will be for profit, but the investors only will realize it; the employees will receive no salary or commission, but all their business and living expenses will be paid.

Since the crash of his business career in 1973, Williams has lived as a renunciate, developing his Tetron field theory and preparing spiritually and otherwise for the inception of his corporation.

Does he have support? Last January, a group of a dozen or so walked with him from Isla Vista to L.A. for a New Age gathering, including Nipponzan Myohoji Japanese Buddhist monks, who walk for peace in their country. Using walking en masse as a tool to force public opinion is not new; in Japan, they walk in the tens of thousands, beating the type of drum Williams carries around I.V. In our country, the Tricentennial walk and the Indians Longest Walk have been similar activities.

Williams also claims the support of Kote Lotah, the spiritual leader of the Chumash; of I.V. community activists; and of street culture. All may not walk, he says, but will be ready in April to welcome those who come to walk.

Williams also expects members of the Rainbow Family and other roving New Age activists in April. The Rainbow Family, a group that defines itself as not an organization, is responsible for the Rainbow Festivals, week-long gatherings for the past few years around the Fourth of July at remote, idyllic camps in New Mexico and Oregon. Everything is free and everyone is welcome; yet there is always enough food etc. for everyone, and all bills are paid.

Last year 25,000 people attended; this year the festival will be near the Black Mesa. And the Rainbow Family wishes to leave behind a permanent settlement, sanctioned by the government authorities, to live self-sufficiently and in harmony with the land. So they will join Williams to reach Arizona early to prepare for the permanent outpost.

The L.A. focus for the first leg of the Isla Vista to Arizona walk will be the World Symposium on Humanity, April 7-14. The gathering will take place simultaneously in L.A., Toronto and London, hooked by video satellite, with movement and other stars appearing at one of the locations from Ram Dass, Carl Sagan and Frances Moore Lappe to Dick Gregory, Ellen Burstyn and Marcel Marceau. Williams here can expect to get television coverage.

This is by no means an exhaustive list of Williams' plans and ideas. He can, and does, talk for hours of the upcoming technological revolution as he sees it; a world without money, ruled by a one nation/one world set-up; peace temples to be built all over the states; walks from Jerusalem to Moscow then to Peking for the second and third seasons of the television show; drugs to improve our access to our own human intelligence; and many others. Often his language is alienating, too heavy on the symbolic layering and scientific jargon embedded in otherwise easy to grasp metaphysical concepts. His knowledge is vast, which is not to say it's accurate. But it's hard to dispute his contention that 12 years before those events, the nuclear bomb and moon walk seemed as remote as paradise here does now.

Williams will stage a preliminary walk January 10, from Isla Vista to Pasadena, to attend The Rainbow Rose Festival, the International Cooperation Council's world celebration, with Norman Cousins and Buckminster Fuller. Those interested can contact him at 6571 Trigo #3, or at an L.A. telephone, (213) 780-3348.

