

THE STONY  
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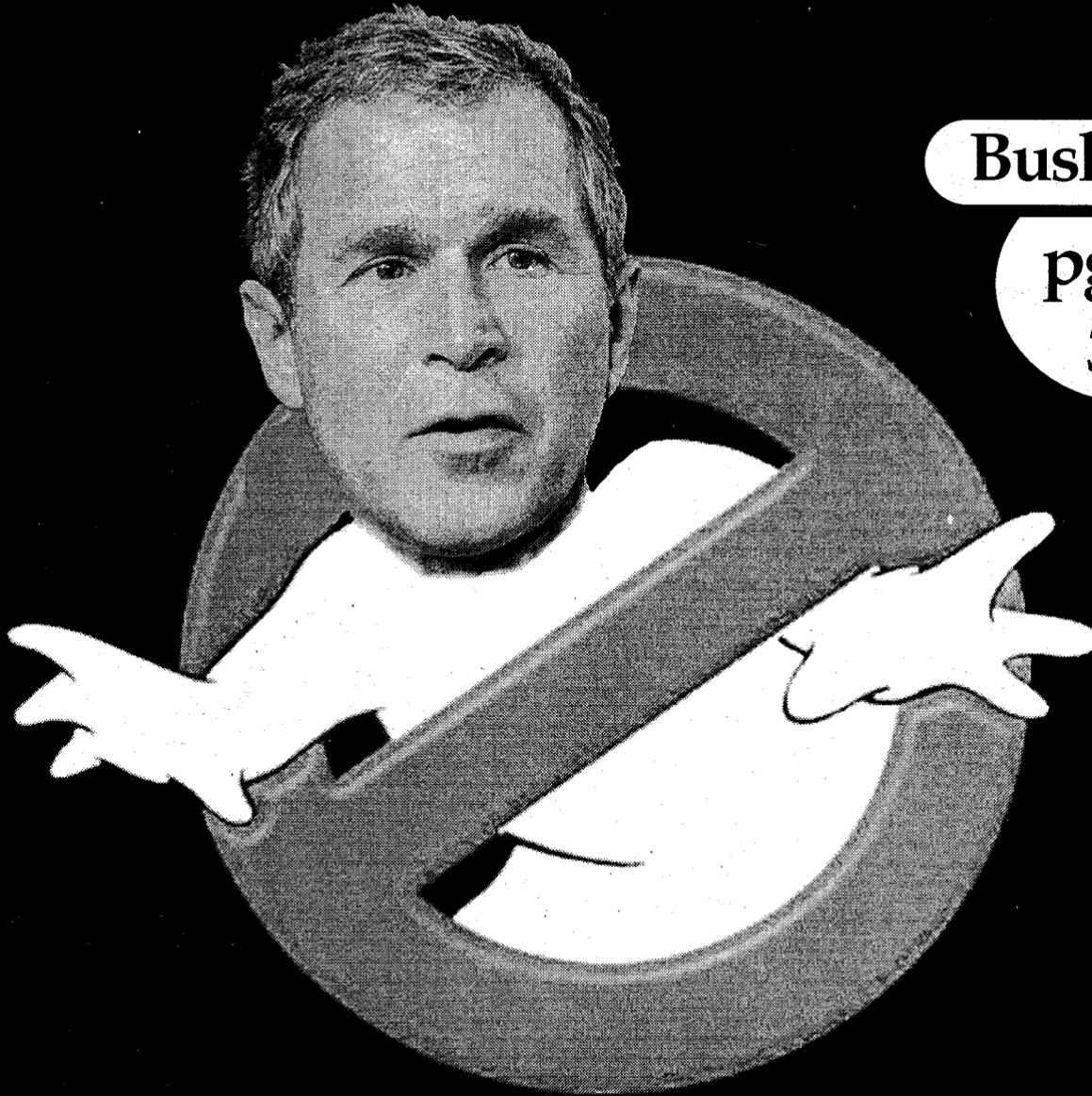
**PRESS**

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"God's Balls"

October 2, 2002

# BUSH BUSTERS



**Bush Sucks!**

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**Stony Brook's A Cult!**

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**Tim Connors!**

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# The Frontline is Everywhere

By Jackie Hayes

It's Only a little over a year after September 11th and the Bush administration has already turned America's eye from Afghanistan to Iraq. It is easy to confuse the facts regarding U.S. foreign policy, especially with a president who prides himself on being a C student. The media has given little, if any, coverage of the downsides to the alleged "War on Terrorism." The truth is that the Bush Administration has been less than perfect in its dealings with Afghanistan, in fact it has been downright shameful. Themes have emerged in U.S. foreign policy regarding the "War on Terrorism": the misuse of power, a disinterest in the welfare of civilian populations, and the exploitation of nationalism and fear to support U.S. war objectives.

The Bush administration paid little attention to the condition of Afghanistan or the people when deciding to bomb locations near Karam, Kabul, Herat, and Kandahar. Afghanistan is a country struggling with internal conflicts, drought, and poverty. Fifty percent of the population lives in poverty and 7.5 million people depend on external aid. After the bombings they were left with little infrastructure, no highways, and no factories. As of early November 2001 it was estimated that 300,000 refugees and civilians weren't receiving adequate nourishment. This was attributed to the drought, the fleeing of aid workers as a result of U.S. bombing, and the U.S. closing off Afghan borders. The U.S. attempted to compensate by dropping food, yet the amount was ridiculous given the thousands that were starving. Micheal Albert from Znet stated that the U.S. dropped, "only a pittance compared to the need generated by closing the borders in the first place and by removing larger sources of aid." U.S. negligence didn't stop there; few ground troops were sent to verify bombing locations, which lead to needless civilian deaths. An estimated 3,000 to 5,000 civilians were killed as a result of the bombings, which is more than were killed in the September 11th attacks.

These tactics are comparable to the sanctions on Iraq with the main reasoning being, to uphold the group in power, whether it is Saddam's army or the Taliban, by starving the population. Cruel, yes. Effective, no. As illustrated by the Persian Gulf War civilian populations cannot overthrow their oppressive governments with little resources or food. The U.S. has a tendency to support the idea of Democracy only as far as it's benefiting the U.S. This was seen in the Persian Gulf War and again in Afghanistan.

Although the U.S. has given some support in the way of food and resources, most money has been budgeted towards government programs and building a national army. The new

military academy established in Kabul as a learning place for the new and improved Afghan National Army will be backed by \$4 million U.S. dollars and trained by U.S. military personnel. The justification being that the army is a, "critical component of Hamid Karzali's plans to remake Afghanistan." Troops will be paid roughly \$30 a month to partake in daily prayers, watch foreign movies, learn English, and of course undergo military training that has been compared by Time magazine to, "what soldiers go through at Fort Benning, Georgia." Fort Benning, Georgia being the infamous home of the military academy formally known as the School of The Americas, established to carry out U.S. objectives in South and Central America by way of military force, torture, and terror. It is hard to see how fighting for freedom and democracy translates to building an army while thousands are starving.

Securing U.S. power doesn't stop with U.S. foreign policy regarding the "War on

Exploiting the attacks has helped Bush to expand military spending, justify a possible war with Iraq, secure military presence in Afghanistan and the Philippines, curb civil rights, and cut government spending on education, health care, and social services. In the words of Micheal Albert Bush uses Americans' fear of terrorism to, "justify all kinds of elite policies from reducing civil liberties, to enlarging profit margins of military industrial firms, to legitimating all manner of international policies aimed at enhancing U.S. power and profit."

It is funny, not laugh out loud funny, but a bit humorous that the U.S. has declared war on terrorism when its actions towards Afghanistan could be considered terrorist acts. Nagasaki, Hiroshima, and Kosovo also go under the title of terrorist acts carried out or supported by the U.S. government. Terrorism is defined as, "the use of violence and threats to intimidate or coerce, especially for political purposes." The unnecessary bombing of many Afghan buildings and villages constitutes terrorist acts, especially given the high number of civilian casualties. It is also a bit humorous that in Bush's State of the Union address he stated the U.S., "saved a people from starvation" while thousands of Afghan people are still starving. Then later proclaiming that; "we are winning the war against terror" even though the war itself has no clear objectives or ultimate goal.

The king of fuzzy math is becoming the king of fuzzy foreign policy, not far behind Reagan or Bush Senior.

Take away Bush's babble on freedom, democracy, and fighting terrorism and you are left with the truth: Bush aims solely at securing U.S. power on an international level. The Bush Administration will continue with the War on Terrorism as long as the U.S. people let them. The media has been used as a tool to exploit the September 11th deaths, nationalism,

Terrorism." It hits a little closer to home. The threat of terrorism has been used by the Bush administration as an excuse to tread on the Bill of Rights. The USA Patriot Act was passed in October 2001 allowing government agencies during investigation to go into credit reports, bank histories, and educational records. According to the Associated Press the "government may monitor religious and political institutions without suspecting criminal activity to assist terror investigation." Government may also search Americans' papers without probable cause, monitor jailhouse conversations between inmates and their attorneys, and hold closed immigration hearings. Thousands of Arabs living in the U.S. underwent police questioning after the September 11th attacks, many being held by immigration violations, others being held without reason.

and fear to coerce the general population into believing there aren't many choices. Yet there are options. The U.S. has the option of using the UN as a forum to prosecute terrorists and negotiate foreign policy. The U.S. can also end military support to dictatorships, and reevaluate a foreign policy that has caused international outrage. There is no easy answer in dealing with terrorism or international relations but there are wrong answers. It is wrong to flex U.S. military muscles at the expense of civilians and to give rebuilding a military priority over supplying resources to starving refugees. It is time to take down the American flags and send the message that although there is sympathy for the victims of September 11th, there is no support for current U.S. foreign policies.



The Stony Brook Press

we gots couches

room 060 SBUnion  
every wed 1pm

# Stony Brook Gears Up to Oppose War With Iraq

By Walter Moss

For the past few months the corporate media have been burning up with war fever. Newscasters and pundits alike are giddy for the war on Iraq being thrust upon the world by the Bush regime. You cannot turn on a TV or read a paper without being treated to the latest weak rationale given for the necessity of war with Iraq. To listen to the corporate media, one would think that the limits of the intellectual discourse in the U.S. have been reduced to the specific numbers of troops needed to occupy Iraq. The whole issue is framed with the implicit message of an inevitable conflict in the future. But this conflict is neither inevitable nor justified. It is the immoral act of a regime in crisis.

The declining economy, rocked by public scandals of corporate malfeasance, is taking its toll on Bush's popularity. Joblessness, insufficient healthcare, environmental disasters and a slew of other domestic issues are being so poorly handled that a crisis of confidence is growing within the American populace. Can anyone truly think that the millionaire son of a billionaire will ease poverty with tax cuts for the rich? Are there those that are so credulous as to think that this corporate criminal will now turn on his cronies? Of course not! We're not stupid, and polls are showing that on domestic issues, Bush is very unpopular. We're not stupid but we do have short attention spans. Bush and Company are now exploiting this unfortunate circumstance to the fullest.

The country is in shambles, Americans are pissed; let's distract them with a bloody conflict. Bush, and to a great extent Republicans in general, are trying to divert attention from the disastrous consequences of conservative rule in America. War is a tried and true tactic for accomplishing this. Sadly, we Americans are all too ready to be whipped up into a militaristic frenzy when times are tough. It's difficult to face our actual enemies, poverty, disease, unrestrained corporate power, but easy to believe in the necessity to confront external (but fictitious) enemies. We'll all get behind the President, as we did in the Afghan campaign. This is what they were counting on when they planned this war of aggression on the people of Iraq. Though, this is a very different situation.

There is no evidence that Iraq is in the process of building weapons of mass destruction. No one with an ounce of credibility would say otherwise. Listen to Scott Ritter, a former top weapons inspector for the U.N. weapon's inspection program in Iraq. He spent five years in Iraq with a team of experts looking into the Iraqi weapons program. Now he has come out very publicly, repudiating all the claims of those flunkies in the Bush cabinet. Go onto the web, see the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, or the Federation of American Scientists. Both organizations have detailed information on the utter impossibility of a viable program in Iraq for the production of weapons of mass destruction. If you will excuse me, the whole idea is bullshit. It was never meant to be anything else but bullshit, to give some excuse for an unprovoked war in Iraq.

Here is a quick refutation of some of the

most common "justifications" for this war of distraction:

1. "War on Iraq is important in fighting terror." This is not true. There is no evidence that Iraq in any way supports Islamic fundamentalism. Quite the opposite is true. Hussein is a tyrant in the secular western tradition. His regime lives because of its ability to suppress domestic fundamentalist movements. In fact, when the White House met with Iraqi dissidents last month, one of the largest groups present was an organization for Islamic revolution. Will they be the next U.S. funded Taliban?

2. "But Saddam has used chemical weapons on his own people!" Well, this is true in a sense. If you count Iran backed Kurdish separatists as "his own people" then this is true. However, this horrifying act of brutality was conducted with our blessings. If you cut through the Orwellian image of our conflict with Iraq presented in the mainstream, you might remember that at one time Hussein was our great ally. He had access to our money and weapons for his U.S. sponsored war against Iran. Our government didn't turn a blind eye when Hussein used sarin gas against Iran and the Kurds; it gave its enthusiastic support to him. Also important to note, the U.S. government actually has used biological and chemical weapons on its own people! In the May 24 issue of The New York Times you can read an article by Thom Shanker about the SHAD program. From 1964 until the early 70's the U.S. military injected sarin nerve gas and several biological agents into the ventilation systems of several navy ships. This was done without the knowledge of the sailors on-board. Essentially making them human guinea pigs in the cynical experiments conducted by our government.

3. "Saddam is a threat to the whole world." This is probably the saddest reason given for a war on Iraq. Since the end of the Gulf War, Iraq has been a nation under siege. Under siege militarily, with constant bombing raids by the U.S., and under siege economically. The sanctions put upon Iraq have caused enormous suffering on the Iraqi people. The astonishing toll on human life taken by these sanctions sparked the resignation of two top U.N. officials a few years back. They have crippled this country, turning it into a desperate third world state. Should Saddam Hussein wish to threaten the world, he would lack all the necessary resources for doing so: Having a monopoly on the world's starving and sick children doesn't exactly add much to Hussein's military might.

So, hopefully it's clear that this proposed



war is a total crock. What can we do about it? Well, here at Stony Brook you have a few options. If you've ever wanted to break into campus activism, now is certainly the time. Several events are planned in the future to help foster opposition to this war.

On September 25th at 2:00 there will be a talk by Anthony Arno in the ballroom B of SAC II. Arno is the editor of Iraq Under Siege. This lecture will be followed by a workshop on nonviolent resistance tactics at 4:00.

On October 6th a delegation of Stony Brook students will be attending a protest in Central Park. Following this, we will have our own protest on Wed. October 16th during campus life time (12:40-2:00). It's important to have a large showing for the Stony Brook peace rally, because they are usually well covered by the media. This is an important chance to show that students are not going to sit by while America and the world go down in flames.

These events are being organized cooperatively between several campus groups. If you, dear reader, should wish to receive more information or even assist in organizing these events, please send e-mail to the following addresses:

The Social Justice Alliance: [justice@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:justice@ic.sunysb.edu)  
Students for Peace and Humanity: [sbdoves@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:sbdoves@ic.sunysb.edu)

Let's get on the ball folks. We can't let this idiot Bush waste lives, money and resources on a self-serving and immoral war. We have problems to solve here at home, which are more pressing and vital than this diversion. Peace.

**SBU TV**  
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

SBU-TV, on Channel 3, is Stony Brook's student run, student operated television station. If you're interested in any aspect of TV production, call us at 2-9379 or write to us at [sbutv@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:sbutv@ic.sunysb.edu). Our office is located in the basement of the Student Union, room 059, so come by or give us a call!

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

## Editorial: Blair: Jumping on the Braniac Bandwagon

It seems as if the common sense of our democratic world leaders is being drained. We all know of the intellectual atrocity known as George W and his inane foreign policy. But who would be blind enough to join forces with a man who's thoughts are as coherent as rice pudding? Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair is either as stupid as Bush or has empathy for the mentally challenged. Blair's recent dossier on Iraq's military development is just the excuse Dubya is looking for so he can justify an attack on Iraq.

Has Blair had his head up his ass for the past year? Soon after September 11th, he said he would stand by Bush in the "war against terrorism" and committed British troops to the cause. His public approval rating at home quickly dropped due to his actions, but that was early in the conflict. It becomes more and more apparent to the American public and the people of the world that Bush really doesn't have a clue as to how to approach this terrorism problem. Why hasn't Blair realized the same thing?

Blair says action should be taken quickly. Is this necessary? Should we attack a country full of suffering people because their ruler may have weapons of mass destruction (or WMD for the acronym savvy)? In addition to the biological, chemical and alleged

soon-to-be nuclear weapons Blair mentions, he also notes Iraq's long distance missiles can reach a distance of 400 miles from its borders. Are we supposed to be worried about this? Who is Saddam going to attack with these weapons? Clearly the rest of the Middle East should be worried more than the U.S and Britain.

Fortunately, there is minimal support for Blair's dossier in the international community, and reasonably so. The French, who we frequently refer to as "obnoxious" (and therefore dislike), want to look deeper into the report. Russia, who we still repeatedly mistrust say they will back the UN. The consistently dubious Chinese government also favors UN involvement. Why do these political leaders have a more rational view than Blair and Bush?

Maybe Blair will finally open his eyes. Since the release of his report, there have been numerous protests around the globe. Notably in London, where a reported 150,000 people came out to protest a possible war with Iraq. Perhaps the Prime Minister will realize that he is siding with a man not much more mentally stable than Saddam Hussein. World powers such as the US and Britain can do better than resort to bloody conflict, especially in this day and age.

## Editorial: Being Handicapped is No Walk in the Park.

There are many things we take for granted. A bed to sleep in, a constant supply of food, sometimes even the place where we can get an education. Most often however, we take our working bodies for granted. We don't often think about what it would be like to live the life with a handicap. We just brush it off, thinking almost nothing of what a disabled person has to deal with.

Many people are born with disabilities that make everyday living different for them. What we look at as a hard way to live, they only know as the norm. It is quite a shock when someone becomes injured (especially for life) and their daily routine is made much more rigorous. While we do not advocate self-inflicted wounds, the best way to understand what it is like to be disabled falls upon us when we sustain an injury.

Fortunately, this campus is one of the best places to hurt yourself. With a hospital right across the street, you are never far from help. Returning to functionality in school may appear difficult, but it is not. Ever look at the bottom of your class syllabi? The Disabled Student Services is there to help. They can get you back on track with school. A free bus service is available for those who cannot easily get to their classes. People will survey the buildings you need to enter for handicap accessibility.

Yet there are things that are not so apparent on this campus. Sometimes you may have to fight to get the things you need. You may need

others to get your food for you during your healing time. Ask the meal plan office for help. They may be unwilling at first, but they have made allowances allowing friends access to an injured student's meal plan card; making the chore of getting food less overwhelming.

If you need a handicap dorm, things may not be as easy. Apparently, handicap rooms are not like handicap seats on a bus. Ever see the sign that says, "You must give up this seat if a handicap person boards the bus?" Campus residences has yet to adopt this idea. A fully functioning student can request a room, but no allowances are made for those who are injured after the semester begins. The least they could do is leave a few rooms vacant for students who injure themselves during the year.

With all this being said, things should go well if you are disabled on campus. However, you may need things the University claims they can't help you with. Never feel alone if this happens to you. It is their duty to make your life as easy as someone who has a fully working body. Mention the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and if that does not help you get what you need, contact the ADA Information Line. They are there to help you. Remember, if you are disabled, never feel as though you are stranded, at this university or elsewhere. Speak up and use the resources available to make your life easier.

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### Letter:

To the editor;

In your September 19, 2002 editorial "Post 9-11, are we really better off?", you state "Hell, you probably think Giuliani was an amazing mayor, and are completely willing to ignore the fact that before 9-11, Giuliani was headed out of office carrying the reputation of a racist and adulterer." Who says Mr. Giuliani was a racist? The editorial board of The Stony Brook Press? The residents of New York City certainly did not. The fact is Mr. Giuliani restored New York City back to a civil, manageable city. He fought crime, and fought those who practice it as a way of life. Before Mr. Giuliani came to office over 2,100 people were slaughtered yearly in New York City. Crime was everywhere, and hope for the future of the city was clearly in doubt. Even The New York Times questioned if New York City could be managed. The bridges out of the city were full of moving vans carrying New Yorkers out of the city.

When Mayor Giuliani assumed the reins of city government, the city was a cesspool of crime, and fiscal ineptitude. Eight years later, the crime rate was a fraction of what it had been under David Dinkins, and fiscal balance had been restored. Tourism was again a major industry, thanks to the efforts of the Giuliani administration. Thanks to the efforts of Mayor Giuliani, crime

rates plunged in the poorest sections of the city, saving countless lives in these neighborhoods. The achievements of the Giuliani administration were considerable before 9-11-01, the events of that terrible day brought out the considerable decency and compassion of Giuliani the man.

- Karen Cole  
Stony Brook, NY  
Dearest Karen,

You've sent out little paper letters of this sort in the past, and we still don't understand why. No one here denies the things that Giuliani has done for the city, like ruining Chinese New Year celebrations, reducing the horrors of Jaywalking, and other crimes. And by the way, the bridges and tunnels are still carrying people out of the city. If by fiscal balance, you mean the removal of minorities from the city, then yes, he was an amazing mayor. All anyone can say about him is that he "reduced crime." To say anything else was accomplished before 9-11 is either an outright lie, or simply untrue.

-xoxo  
The Stony Brook Press

### Letter:

In the July issue of the Stony Brook Press, Gregory Knopp listed a number of reasons why many people are wary of the DNA-sequencing of the human organism. He left out, however, the most significant reason for concern: The attempts by corporations and the researchers that they hire (many right here at Stony Brook) to "colonize" the human cell and privatize the information obtained, for profit.

Thus, we now have Iceland SELLING the genetic makeup of its entire citizenry; indigenous people having no say over the private patenting of their genetic code by foreign corporations and agencies; and pharmaceutical companies marketing products for women who are told their cancer is a result of their "deficient genes," instead of dealing with the overwhelming majority of cancers that are caused by environmental pollutants, not genetic predispositions.

One salutary note is that scientists were stunned at the relatively few number of genes in human beings -- around 80 percent fewer than had been predicted. And almost 90 percent of the human genetic complement is exactly the same as in ..... mice!

Proof that there is indeed a God, and she has a truly perverse sense of

humor!

- Mitchel Cohen  
Dear Mitchell,

Thanks for the feedback on the issue. It's good to note what's going on in the rest of the world in regards to such an interesting and provocative topic. All we can say is that if any of us lived in Iceland, we'd be trying to find ways to get rich off our DNA.

While the problem of copyrighting DNA has actually been something that has been going on "under the radar" for some time, it's good that these things are finally being brought to light. It's also very sad that care for the environment has become a horrible thing in modern times. While it may be true that genetics play a role in cancer, pollution and the like almost certainly have a hand in the matter.

The perverse sense of humor that some deity may have is an interesting topic that will be left for another time, and another place.

Thanks again,  
The Stony Brook Press



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
July 2, 2002

**"The National Society of Collegiate Scholars Inducts Mila Mintsis"**

**State University of New York at Stony Brook -- Mila Mintsis of Bronx accepted membership in The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and will be honored during a campus ceremony this fall at State University of New York at Stony Brook.**

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is a highly selective, national, non-profit honors organization. Founded in 1994, NSCS recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel academically.

The Society was established on the principle that with scholarship comes a responsibility to develop leadership and a duty to perform service.

"NSCS provides the opportunity for students, like Mila, to be recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments early in their college experience", said Steve Loflin, NSCS Executive Director. "Mila will also have the opportunity to join other high achieving college students in developing leadership skills and a sense of civic responsibility."

**For additional information contact: Mila Mintsis at home; The National Society of Collegiate Scholars in Washington, D.C. at 202-265-9000; or visit the Society's web page at www.nscs.org.**

By Tim Connors

Robert Whitaker has written a the book *Mad in America: Bad Science, Bad Medicine, and the Enduring Mistreatment of the Mentally Ill*. The book is a chronological recounting of the history of the care provided to the mentally ill. Rather than focusing on the entire history, his analysis of the current situation will be the topic of this article.

Neuroleptics serve as the basis of care provided by the medical profession. These drugs are meant to stop the symptoms of Schizophrenia, such as hallucinations, paranoia, and a host of other symptoms that vary from person to person. Whitaker points out some of the problems with these medications.

There are several problems with this theory. According to the world health organization, countries that do not use these medications have a better recovery rate than those that do. "The W.H.O. first launched a study to compare outcomes in different countries in 1969, a research effort that lasted eight years."

"The results were mind boggling. At both two-year and five-year follow-ups, patients in three poor countries - India, Nigeria, and Columbia - were doing dramatically better than patients in the United States and four other developed countries. They were much more likely to be fully recovered and faring well in society - 'an exceptionally good outcome characterized these patients,' the W.H.O. researchers wrote - only a small minority had

become chronically sick."

The United States has the highest percentage of schizophrenic's using this medication and also has the worst recovery rate. These numbers would indicate that although the symptoms may be controlled, the end result is that schizophrenic's end up more susceptible to psychotic breaks over the long term.

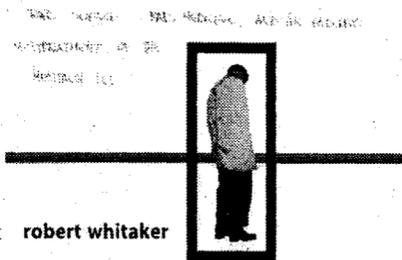
Whitaker makes many good points about the collusion between drug companies and the American Psychiatric Association. In general, the book is a little long, and will only be of interest if for some odd reason you want to know all about the screwed up history of psychiatric care in America over the last two hundred years.

Well that's it for the book review, and I still have four hundred twenty five words left. Anyway, on the first Friday of September I went into the old city part of Philadelphia to check out the art galleries. They open them up on the first Friday of every

month, which is why it's called "first Friday", go figure.

I liked the portrait work, especially the charcoal stuff. It was a tie for most disturbing artwork; one artist had a reoccurring theme of men with assault rifles shooting people in street settings, the other was trippy tied dye type paintings that left me with a flash back that lasted well into the next day. Oh, Petite 4 has awe-

## MAD IN AMERICA



robert whitaker

some cookies, particularly the banana and chocolate covered ones.

I've had to cut back on the cookies and cheese steaks, since I ballooned up to 294 pounds. Through diet and exercise I've cut that down to 267, but I still look pretty fat. I went from 206 to 294 in about eight months because of a medication called Depakote. It made me eat like six or seven big meals a day; they should give this stuff to anorexics.

Three months ago I went for a physical and it turned out that my liver had an excess of two enzymes, which is an indicator that liver trouble maybe developing. So, I was able to talk my shrink into cutting out the Depakote, and to switch an anti-psychotics and cut way back on the other. So I stopped eating so much, and with a little exercise I lost the weight. Not that this is particularly interesting, but it's the kind of stuff that one deals with when one has a mental illness.

The up side of exercise is the time spent in a gym, which is to say that the physically fit women in exercise clothes can be glanced at. I still have yet to figure out how to approach anyone in the gym without sounding like a jerk, but that's hardly surprising considering I have that problem everywhere I go.

You might be wondering what's going on with this article, well I spend way too much time reading the book. So, it seemed natural to write about it. I let some time pass after I started the article, and can't really remember the whole book. I don't know if the editor's will print this one, but who cares, I enjoyed writing it. [Editors Note: Tim Connors, you are Gods personal warrior]

## War With Iraq

By Ejima Oyibo

Random but related Bushism: "There may be some tough times here in America. But this country has gone through tough times before, and we're going to do it again."

Today at 2:00 I was told that there was going to be a presentation by an author about the position of Iraq and this possible war between "us"[or U.S.] and "them." This event's main speaker was Anthony Arrove, author of "Iraq Under Seige." He was a very affluent [if sometimes dull] speaker on this subject and his stance was clearly against this war. This event was hosted by the Students for Peace and Humanity, a student run organization around different campuses [which was inspired by the massacres in East Timor]

What Arrove said in his own words was "nothing new," and really wasn't. Unless you've been living in a cave you can see that our own un-democratically elected president is milking the unbelievable tragedy of 9-11 [of which a close relative of mine was a survivor of] to further his campaign to control oil reserves in the Middle East. Now he's goin' after Iraq jus' like daddy did back in 1990 in an operation which was considered to be one of the worst botched missions since Vietnam. Now he plans to start another full scale war in a country that has sanctions so tight they can't get the simple luxuries of foreign aid and the kids that aren't dying of radiation sickness are stepping on land mines that our county "forgot" to disarm. Let's not even talk about the fact that Iraq gets bombed almost everyday by orders of this country. Let's not bring up the fact that right before

"Operation Desert Storm" Sadaam Hussein, a U.S. supported and placed dictator was given advice by leaders of this country about "improving his image," after gassing 1,000 people in an "ethnic cleansing" and routinely using weapons of mass destruction purchased from the land of the free.

Favorite Bushism: "This foreign policy stuff is a little frustrating."—as quoted by the New York Daily News, April 23, 2002.

The coffin nail in the whole thing not being what it seems is the fact that our good ole' boy G.W., right after pretending to care about Sept. 11 attack victims, gives a speech about attacking Iraq in a time where inner rebuilding and healing is obviously more important. Since then he has pushed this improper agenda as a "call to arms" against Iraq so far and so fast that not even the U.N., which could be considered a U.S. lapdog and the originator of the unjust and brutal sanctions on Iraq, will back him up on his crusade to wipe out those that don't support U.S. oil interest. From this event I heard again the mention of the so called "weapons of mass destruction" that our President uses to intimidate us into believing that Sadam's nation is a threat to us. The interesting point that Arrove brought up was the fact that of according to a the last inspection[quoted from a "New York Times" Article], Iraq has a whopping 40 battle ready missiles that have a pathetic maximum range of about 390 miles which means these weapons don't have a chance of smelling the U.S. much less threatening it [I'd be worried about sealife though!!]. But never the less, our

brainiac of a president not only doesn't really care about that He is willing to go above the Congress, UN and common sense of a donkey bring on, what he calls, a regime change in Iraq. Anybody with half a brain can realize that whatever "regime change" he plans to put forth on the impoverished Iraqi people will be a "boy" of the U.S. oil drilling companies and will turn the country in to one big Texaco Station and destroy the power base in surrounding oil rich companies for the benefits of rich oil tycoons like himself  
Random Bushism: "Do you have blacks, too?"—To Brazilian President Fernando Cardoso, Washington, D.C., Nov. 8, 2001

I think our president select should focus on things more relevant to positive change like upgrading his 50 word vocabulary, learning how to watch TV and eat pretzels at the same time and finding a new ghostwriter cause at least bubba [Clinton] can keep an important speech coherent for more than 30 minutes and not have the audience going "what a moron". And if he thinks America or any other nation not in the pocket of the U.S. govt' will just blindly accept another war under the guise of defending the United States against terrorism from an inept, impoverished country like Iraq he is in for a suprise. I think he should just stick to quiet illegal operations to overthrow governments like George Senior did when he was CIA director. I do give him props, however, for being responsible for canceling SURVIVOR BAGDAD (woohoo).

# Drunks Against Mothers

By Tim Connors

To a drunk it is obvious that mothers are responsible for all the bad people in the world. From Hitler to Stalin to Bush, they all had mothers that didn't expect their children to grow up to lead evil empires that slaughter innocents needlessly.

So what to do about this damn mother problem? Well I think we should follow Star Wars Five (Sorry but I'm not buying that prequel numbering bullshit) and clone people instead of having mothers recklessly bringing people into the world. Not that fathers don't play a part in this, but let's face it women do nine months of work, and men just bust a nut.

So whom should we clone? I think Chris Sorochin would be an excellent choice, and while we're at it we could alter his DNA to contain Miracle Whip and Velveeta cheese DNA. This would give him a vastly longer shelf life, and a pleasant orange complexion. Of course an equal number of Beverly Bryans should be cloned, after having their DNA spliced with beer and Wheat Thins.

But you argue that someone would still have to raise them? Well, that could be done in developing countries where peasants could be paid a pittance to raise little Sorochin's and Beverly's. Defective clones could be put to work in factories in the third world, and the more promising mass produced humanoids could be brought back to this country for education. The world would be a wonderful place with creamy orange people, and bubbly crisp people who were genetically altered to be happy.

This is a parody of how eugenics might play out, given the current technology. Eugenics was developed in England as an off shot of Darwin's theory of survival of the fittest, supported in the States, and implemented in Nazi Germany. It's a breeding theory applied to humans. It was really popular in America dur-

ing the beginning of the last century, and given the success of the book *The Bell Curve*, it seems that the public is still open to these ideas of selective breeding, and an inherent inequality among humans.

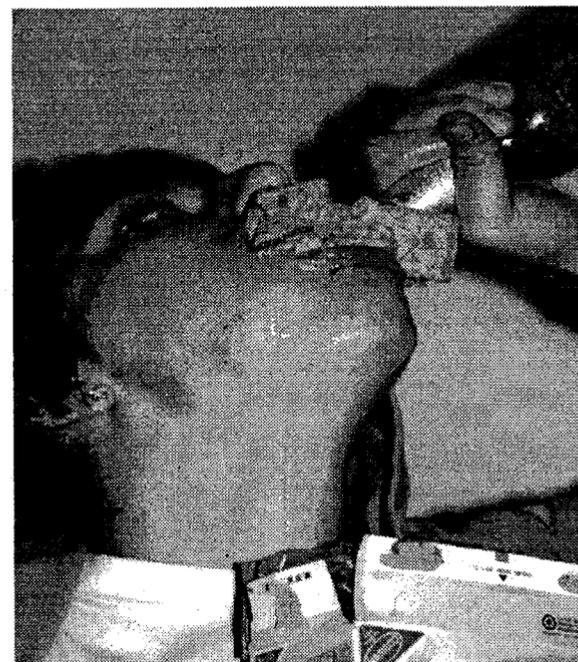
So, it's not just the drunks against mothers, but the scientists too. That's reassuring since mothers tend to be popular for some reason. The more people against mothers the better. Let's get these creamy cheese flavored Sorochins into this world as quickly as possible and end this unpredictable random reproduction thing as quickly as possible.

Of course sex will have to be discouraged, and the remaining population will have to be made more cooperative, so neuroleptic medication for schizophrenics will have to be added to the water supply. That should take the edge off of that whole indignation thing, and make guys who are still able to get a hard on about as scarce as a Titanic survivor.

The designer of the Titanic had a mother, and she and some worthless sot were responsible for bringing that incompetent bastard into this world. Well, you might think, what about the Exxon Valdez, and that drunken fool who crashed it? Well, he had a mother too. A genetically altered Chris or Beverly wouldn't have messed up like that.

Perhaps, Chris and Beverly could be combined into a hermaphrodite, that way there would be no gender differences. The question as to what would be the desired attributes in a genetically altered person is wide open to debate. Just as there is a problem with quantifying desired traits that a eugenics program should try to produce.

I was just kidding with the drunks against mothers thing, but the eugenics scientists don't seem to trust mothers with natural reproduction. I don't know anything about genetics beyond a layman's understanding,



however this science could well be used to alter humans in unnatural ways.

I object to this on moral grounds, but scientifically it will be possible within the near future. There are scientists who do not have a moral standard, as exemplified by the stem cell research with fetuses. We can clone sheep, and genetically alter plants, so how long before we genetically alter people to be disease resistant? Once that line is crossed, what else will we try to improve?

Who is to say what an improvement is? The movie "Gattaca" put forward a society that was based on genetics. In the movie, predetermination of a person's whole life was based on their genes, and also their social position. It was like discrimination with a sniper rifle instead of the shotgun approach.

## Life in a Group Home

By Tim Connors

Yes, I did graduate from Stony Brook, and almost three years later I live in a group home for mentally ill people. Life hasn't turned out the way I hoped it would, say from age eighteen to thirty one. I turned thirty-one on September 16, 2002; you can e-mail your birthday wishes to timconnors2001@yahoo.com.

So, how does one encapsulate the thrills of a group home? I suppose I could start from the beginning, or cover a normal day, but you'd be expecting something like that. It seems clear that randomly recounting memorable events is the way to go.

The Old Country Buffet provides fine holiday dining for under ten bucks a head. Yep, we load up the ole van with the middle aged mentally ill, and pack off down the busy Baltimore Pike. The best part of the ride is all the stares that a van full of oddly dressed men engender from the other motorists.

But the thrills don't stop there, what with the hygiene issues of my compatriots; the stares at the buffet are just as priceless. Perhaps the staff should provide training with regards to the proper use of cutlery and portion size. Sure, you're wondering why I don't just duck out of it, say that I have to iron my shoelaces or something. Well, all I can say is you haven't lived until some mother tells her child not to stare at you.

This kind of attention is inevitable every time we go out, and that's about once a

week. Still, only about half the people I live with have freakish dress styles. But we all have definite personality flaws. From loud Guffaws to just plain belligerence, we cover the spectrum. For some reason I seem to fit right in, go figure.

Smoking cigarettes is more than a bad habit with us; it's like God's gift to the mentally ill. Cigarettes and coffee just go so well with the heavily medicated mind. The little buzz becomes a mellow high. It's the little things that balance out the occasional suicidal thought.

It's an eclectic bunch. There are some college grads and students, a multitude of interests that range from UFO's, pirates, and vampires, to poetry, music, reading, writing, sloth, caffeine, and nicotine. Considering there are Eleven people in the two homes that make up this site, the list of interests could go on and on.

That's about all there is to a group home. I guess there's more to it, like holiday parties and such, but who cares anyway. There's a definite art to ironing one's shoe laces. At least I think there is, I've never tried it.

Let's see: what else does my life in a group home consist of? There's coffee at Borders, plus you can read as many magazines as you want and nobody says anything. And right across the street there's a bread shop that makes a mean turkey sandwich, because the bread is like really good and stuff.

I think back to some of the articles I

wrote in the past, and I must say I'm losing mental ability slowly. I used a ton of clichés in this article and I have another third of it to go. Well a bird in hand is worth two in the bush.

I did a lot of summer reading, specifically: *Dharma Bums* by Kerouac, *Brave New World*, a Kurt Vonnegut book, *Mastery* by Hazart Inayat Khan, *Animal Farm*, 1984, and parts of the Bible. This gives you an idea of how much free time I have. Plus I played computer games incessantly.

The highlight of the summer was a camping trip. Four whole days in the great outdoors. Sure, we stayed in cabins, but it was a change of scenery. Not only did we get to go canoeing, swimming, and sit by campfires, but I also got the e-mail address of the cashier in the general store.

So what's the moral of the story? I guess everyone will take something different from this. For me though there are several. A Stony Brook political science degree will allow you to have in depth conversations about Marx with those few eccentrics who still care about him. Second, people at group homes know that everybody looks at them when they go out in public, well at least some of them do. Lastly, you can be grateful that you don't live in a group home.

# Stony Brook University - The single most dangerous cult on campus?

By Nina Zakharenko

As an incoming freshman, I had high hopes for college. After years of being brainwashed about how 'cool' college would be on TV, I couldn't wait to get here. If only I knew beforehand the horrors that awaited.

The worst part of my current experience had to be the 3 days between August 31st and September 2nd when the campus hosted an event called Freshman Welcoming and Orientation. After failing to understand how and why these 3 days of torture existed, I finally picked up a helpful pamphlet that fully addressed my concerns. It was titled "Dangerous Cults on Campus, How to Recognize them and avoid getting Involved." It provides these useful insights on "the strategies [that] are used to gain and retain control [by cults]."

1) Instant Love and Acceptance - Expressed by the college recruiters who talked to you in high school, and RA's and other staff members who you know really aren't that happy to see you. Also expressed by many clubs and organizations who want your soul.

2) Vague Answers to Questions -I'm sure this sounds familiar to both freshmen and upperclassmen alike.

I suppose this is what is part of the "Stony Brook Experience" If it's something you really need to know, Stony Brook will make sure to make it as difficult as possible to find the answer.

3) Invitations to free meals, lectures, and workshops.

Which is basically what freshman orientation is all about. I would have to say my favorite part of orientation would be waiting on line for a lecture or workshop for 30-45 minutes, finally getting to the door, and then being told the room was full and that we should all go home. This wonderful treatment brings us to the next point.

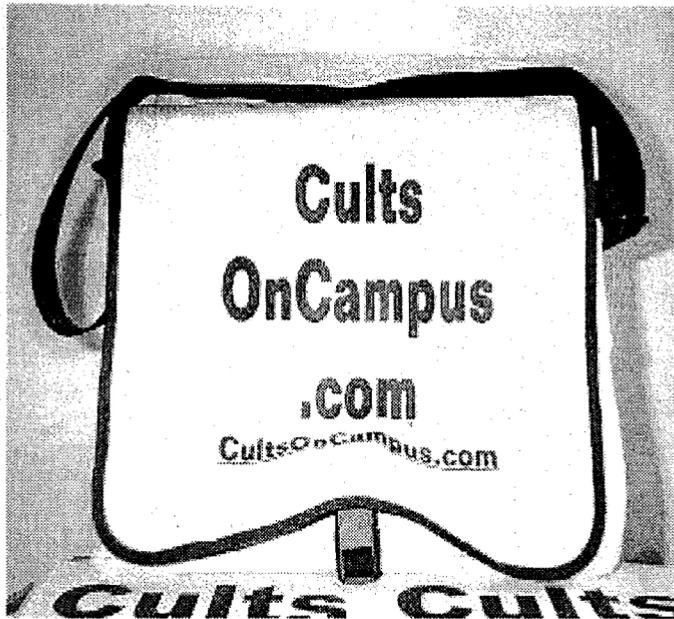
4) Pressure to get you to come to meetings.

The "mandatory" parties all freshmen were required to go to, and 3 days of mandatory breakfasts, lectures, speeches, and other general bullshit.

Scanning your ID cards for attendance, threats to call you at home, or the threat to force you to do make-up work for not attending backed up their threats.

5) Conversation steered away from what you want to discuss -Another wonderful

part of freshman orientation. After finding someone to ask questions to, the people would either generally ignore you, try to run away



because they have better things to do, or avoid your question completely and try to get you to join some group or find a job and otherwise distract you.

6) Claims that your old thinking of beliefs are the problem to ever the work of the devil.

Drop your ideas that your college cares. Your college really does in fact hate you, and only wants your money. Deal with it.

7) Grandiose claims about the group's purpose or achievements like saving humanity, achieving enlightenment, peace, or true happiness. All the people in the top positions at the school talk about all the "famous" people who have graduated from here. They talk about actors, actresses, musicians, and politicians. Unfortunately, they never drop any names. This leads me to the conclusion that they're either lying or that the people from this school who are in fact famous either dropped out or don't want to be associated with this place.

8) Claim to be a very special group, with special privileges.

A lecture I'm sure everyone has heard before. At Stony Brook you get buses that go nowhere, a train that takes two hours to get to Manhattan, wonderful research facilities you're not actually allowed to use, and easy access to computers in public areas, that you have to wait on long lines to use. That's not all, of course.

9) Control of your environment (What you see, hear, read and who you communicate with) -The University chooses the cable stations that you can watch. The University controls the choice of books contained in the library. The University controls your Internet access, and blocks off Napster, Kazaa and other media sharing programs. The University imposes restricting "quiet hours". The University controls the books used as class material, and chooses pamphlets to distribute on campus and in its buildings. The University runs your phone lines and controls your mail. The University puts up advertisements for corporations in private buildings, even though you pay for your tuition. These are just a few examples, and I'm sure many more can be found.

10) Physical weakening to reduce clarity of thought.

During Orientation, made to stand on a ridiculously long line in the freezing rain outside to hear some unimportant lecture by the higher-ups of the university, who we probably won't see or hear from again until it's time to graduate.

Constant attacks by killer bees. Slow destruction of digestive system and other bodily organs by campus "food."

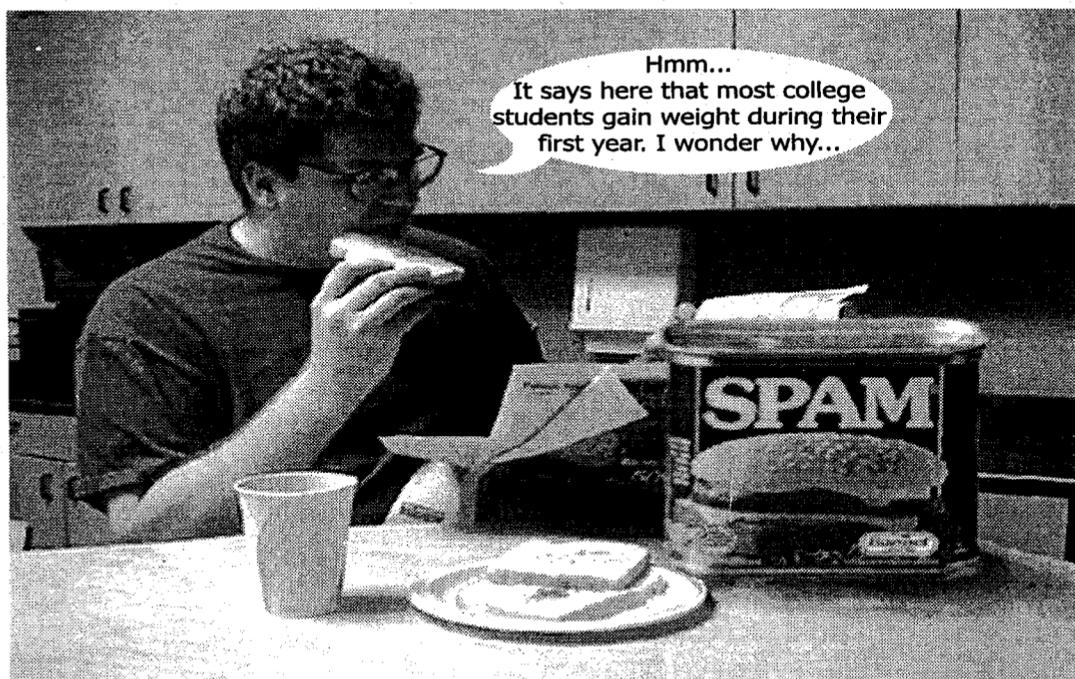
11) Alternate reward and harassment. Another thing absolutely everyone should be familiar with.

12) Meditation and other stress reduction techniques used to keep mind open to suggestion -One of the workshops offered at orientation and certain campus run groups claim to teach you these techniques.

13) Monopolize your time with tedious tasks, leaving no time to think or question, go to class, do schoolwork -Between running around the bureaucracy, trying to find answers to questions, and running from the evil bees, it leaves ONLY time to go to class and do school work.

This pamphlet is available at the student union and other university buildings. It's yellow and labeled "Dangerous Cults on Campus, How to Recognize Them and Avoid Getting Involved."

After scoring 13 out of the 16 characteristics of cults and their brainwashing strategies, this leaves little room for thought. Stony Brook University - Dangerous satanic cult or government sponsored school?



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# A Feather in Beck's Cap

By Jamie Mignone

One of the most versatile musicians to hit radio waves in recent years released a new album on the 24th. Beck's *Sea Change* is the newest edition of the genre-defying artist. His sound this time is of an elaborated rootsy type; an acoustic foundation with a pleasant compliment of studio innovation.

Beck indulges himself and returns to his early style on *Sea Change*. The album features a remake of his lo-fi song *It's All in Your Mind*, which adds a heartland feeling via the use of slow gentle string voicing and a low-key whispery growl, a change from his classic broken acoustic guitar strumming accompanied by falsetto. The rest of the album, which is all new material, follows suit with a comforting warm vibe which is also found on his Grammy-winning *Mutations*. The two albums were created in the same way according to the official website, [www.beck.com](http://www.beck.com), both having followed the format of one song per day, day after day. Unfortunately, the two may be falsely considered interchangeable due to their emphasis on acoustic charm, but Beck elaborates on this record. Slide guitar, some well placed piano, vocal harmony, and a few backward loops of vocal track for a little outro flavor make this record uniquely balanced in a way that surpasses his earlier studio projects.

*Sea Change* shares with *Mutations* an honesty and simplicity that one can only use to

actually sell records after one has already gained the attention of the commercial radio masses. His music of the mid-nineties was heralded as innovative and experimental, and his



albums achieved commercial success, but ironically, it wasn't until the release of his more straightforward and polished *Mutations* that Beck received recognition for his talent. The edginess in his beats and samples of previous LP's was set aside and supplanted by country

ditties from the soul. Then Beck made what he said was to be "a dumb-ass party record". He switched tracks and rapped and funky and blew his horn all over *Midnight Vultures*, and he did it wrapped in pleather with a Grammy in his back-pack.

His songs are personal in mood and lyric on *Sea Change*, somber on some tracks and introspective throughout. Along with its well thought out poetry, the songs of *Sea Change* suggest that Beck made this record as an autobiography. He focuses on conflict between heart's desires and their lack of fulfillment in reality in *Lost Cause*, *Guess I'm Doing Fine*, and *End of the Day*. Each piece tries to find a solution to life's dilemmas and each comes from a different perspective. In *The Golden Age*, he tells of his struggle for a grasp of the world, an attempt to have some control in life. The songs Beck sings on *Sea Change* all have a dignified therapeutic quality that justifies introspection; They all seem intent on healing themselves of hurt they've experienced through failure. As he says on the B-side of the original 45rpm recording of *It's All in Your Mind*, "Disappointment is a feather in your cap." The songs on *Sea Change* are beautiful and insightful, despite the troubles

of the world.

To listen to *Sea Change*, you can stream it on Beck's website, or you can come with me to the Beacon Theater on Halloween to see Beck and the Flaming Lips. Rock!

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# Battle of the Century

# VS

Rudolph Giuliani

The Real Ghostbusters

# TOP TEN

# "Fun"

# Facts

- Out of office.
- Fixed that heinous jay-walking problem.
- Ain't afraid of a little crossdressing.
- "There is no Donna, there is only Zuul."
- SNL made him funny.

- Throws spooks in containment unit.
- Ernie Banks.
- Ain't afraid of no ghosts.
- Phone number easy to remember.
- Deemed worthy by the editorial board of the Stony Brook Press.
- The Fright Feature Screaming Egon Spengler action figure where the eyes bug out.
- Saved the city from the third layer of hell.

- Throws "spooks" in "containment unit."
- His son is a sniveling weasel.
- When someone asks him if he's a God, he says "Yes."
- Strange preoccupation with the Yankees.
- IS the mayor who let the city sink to the third layer of hell.

# CON

- They fall for the "Man-Eating Toaster" gag everytime.
- The "Extreme" Ghostbusters.
- One of their members has a strange preoccupation with a 50ft tall marshmallow man.
- Toy ectoplasm gathers lint and crumbs.

10 If you rearrange the letters in the words Mr. Mojo Risin, Mary Queen of Scotts will appear in your mirror and kill you, your family, and your dog.

9 In space no one can hear you scream, but you can piss fire.

8 You can fit a pool ball in your mouth, but you can't get it out.

7 The French have no word for obnoxious.

6 Starfish have no brains.

5 Zombies eat brains (Thus ruling out the possibility of a complete zombie-starfish ecosystem).

4 Being intoxicated had desirable spiritual significance to the ancient Egyptians. They often gave their children names like "How drunk is Neffra" or "How intoxicated is Hathor."

3 The United States cannot technically go to war without winning approval in 2/3 of congress.

2 Paul Ruben had sex with everyone on Pee-Wee's Playhouse. EVERYONE - That means Chairy!

1 I woulda been your daddy, but the line was too long.

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# 8 Dollars for Leftover Crack

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By Joe Flippazzo

Have you ever downloaded a song just because it sounded good but you couldn't quite make out the lyrics? While playing the song, a humming, semi-in tune accompaniment escapes your vocal chords and that involuntary spasm in the back of your neck lightly bobs your aesthetically pleased pre-frontal cortex. Sure you have. You download some more songs, bob some more cortices, and never learn the words to any of the songs, cause it just sounds good. At this point, one acquires an extensive library of music from this particular band and one even considers oneself a fan. So what if you stammer along while the true enthusiasts sing! So what if the band's name is Leftover Crack! The show's eight dollars U.S. and besides... you're a fan now.

Monday, September 1, 2002. The Knitting Factory was beating the all-too-familiar pulse of free-spirited punk rock as the hand-stamped legion of patches and piercings spilled into the main room. Leftover Crack was... interesting. They wore black and white KISS-esque face paint and started their set with my favorite song, "Infested", it's amazing how much clearer the lyrics were live.

I am about as open-minded as they come and Leftover Crack's message of "Do a lot of drugs, hate the government and abolish religion" was nothing new to me. In fact, I was unfazed by the twin, six foot tall papier-mâché World Trade Center buildings loaded with smoke bombs. Nor did the backdrop of the upside down American Flag with the words, "Fuck World Trade" have any influence on my writing this article. I'd like to be absolutely clear on something...it wasn't this ideology that took me aback. Instead it was the shameless stereotyping, the repetitious nihilism of their set, and the astonishing political and social ignorance of the band. Let me run it down for you...

1) All cops are crooked, self-serving murderers and should therefore be shot in the face.

2) A thought not induced by coke is like a day without sunshine and infected, track line-riddled forearms merely mean it's my big toe's turn.

3) Blow is the solution to depression, fatigue, boredom, headaches, capitalism, acne, writer's block, nothing on television, and coherent reality.

4) People of religious affiliation should give me their money to buy some blow and then die.

5) Murder = Good. Here's an example...

"let's kill the cops, the C.I.A

the F.B.I , the P.T.A

the N.F.L, the P.M.R.C

let's kill you and let's kill me."

This last one I don't quite get. I agree that police brutality does happen but how do you say that all cops are to blame and should be killed? I hope someone breaks into the author's house, ransacks the joint, kidnaps his dog and steals his car. I'm really curious as to who he calls. And why would you hate international security? That's the equivalent of hating vaccinations. The P.T.A. isn't so bad either. Yeah, they might make decisions "in your best interests" you don't really agree with but you're also 12 years old. If we killed the teachers, you wouldn't be educated enough to compose these songs. And if we killed the parents, who'd make those tasty lunches? Kill the N.F.L.? I'm going to allow this. Kill the PMRC? I don't like music censorship either but homicide is hardly the solution. (Keep in mind; it's rare that I say that.) Besides... those "explicit lyrics" labels are a voluntary action of the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) in 1990. There are actually no laws enacted and the PMRC never succeeded in legally censoring music production.

Don't get me wrong. I loathe the PMRC for their course of action but I respect their misguided yet noble intentions to "protect" impressionable minds. I don't want Leftover Crack censored in any way and I don't think music can be held accountable for the actions of abnormal chil-

dren. In fact, no direct link between anti-social behavior and exposure to the content of any form of artistic expression has ever been scientifically established. How can serious social problems like violence, racism or suicide be solved by covering children's ears? According to their music, Leftover Crack would certainly agree. But while scapegoating artistic expression as a cause of social ills is simplistic, intense hatred for an organization only because it is run by people with a more conservative view than yourself is just bull-headed, one-sided and ignorant. I just wish Leftover Crack would make some better educated assumptions and more careful observations concerning the issues their music tackles. In other words, lay off the pipe and read a book. Don't shoot the crooked cops; thank the straight cops and write a song about ponies. I haven't heard a good pony song since '95. Weee! Ponies!

I'd like to think of myself as a pretty liberal guy. As a staunch advocate of the first amendment and rights of the individual in general, I feel that I really appreciate the freedoms granted to me as a citizen of the most fantastic country in the world. (I'm referring to America, smart-ass.) Probably the greatest tenets of our Constitution is our entitlement to say whatever we Goddamn please and let the folks in charge we know when they're ripping us off and abusing their authoritative positions. But I truly hope that this is all old hat to you. Using the first amendment to say dumb, unfounded stuff is your right. It just seems like an abuse of power on the citizen's part to put so much stock in their freedom of speech and then turn around and undermine, and disrespect it with ignorance. True, it is your opinion... but it's also idiocy when everything you have to say is unsubstantiated and revolves around your tour-funded dope habit. Oh yeah, buy a t-shirt for fifteen bucks and hate capitalism with us.

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## Movie Review: You Won't Die If You See The Ring

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By Sam Goldman

The weird trailers for Dreamworks' The Ring, which opens October 18th, may mislead you. It's not quite a horror film in the Freddy Krueger sense, which is what I thought when I first saw them. No, The Ring is devoid (for the most part) of any real gore, but after seeing it you won't mind, it's still a well-done and suspenseful scary movie. It suffers from a few flaws, minor enough that you can overlook them and spend an enjoyable evening at the movies, if getting freaked out is an enjoyable thing for you.

"The Ring" stars Naomi Watts (Mullholland Drive) as Rachel Keller, a Seattle journalist who sets out to investigate the deaths of four young girls. At a mountain cabin, she discovers an unmarked tape. The tape itself, which contains the ring on which the title is based on, is pretty creepy in and of itself, but that's not the worst part. After she views the tape, strange things start happening. Scenes from the tape begin to show themselves in real life, like a huge ladder appearing, a horse drowning or pictures of Keller's face seem distorted, like they were in a funhouse mirror. But here's the (pardon the pun) killer: you see, everyone who sees this tape, including the four girls, is dead within seven days.

After her son Aidan (David Dorfman) and her friend and former lover Noah (Martin Henderson) view the tape as well, the quest to discover the secret behind the tape and the murders

becomes a race against time. Rachel's investigation eventually leads her to a small, close-knit island and the Morgans, a family who raised horses and whose child was either an innocent victim of an insane mother, or a powerful evil force responsible for the ruin of her family and their horse stables.

"The Ring", a remake of a very good 1998 Japanese movie, was directed by Gore Verbinski (The Mexican), and overall, he does a good job conveying a dark and creepy mood throughout the film, using some staples of recent horror/suspense movies. For instance, the movie is, as most horror/suspense movies are nowadays, shot in a dark, bluish hue, but it works especially well here. The ominous ringing phone, which has also become something widely used in horror movies, is also done here, and also done well. Until the very end, no special computerized effects are used, not even on the tape, and none are needed. Verbinski especially makes use of close-ups throughout the film - a pen frantically scribbling, the display on a VCR that turns into nonsense, a fly that magically comes through the videotape onto Rachel's hand, but most of all, shots of Watts' beautiful face. Unfortunately, she seems to return to the exact same look of shock/disbelief/horror every time the camera zooms in on her.

Besides that little complaint, Watts does a fine job showing the wear and tear one should

have when they know that they're in a race to save the lives of themselves and their children, and don't know the cure. Dorfman, whose last work was in the CBS show Family Law, does what he can in very limited screen time to make Aidan seem genuinely scared. Henderson, as the skeptic that every movie of this kind seems to have, seems to be kind of just there. Veteran actor Brian Cox, as the steely matriarch of the Morgan family, is great and his scenes shouldn't be missed.

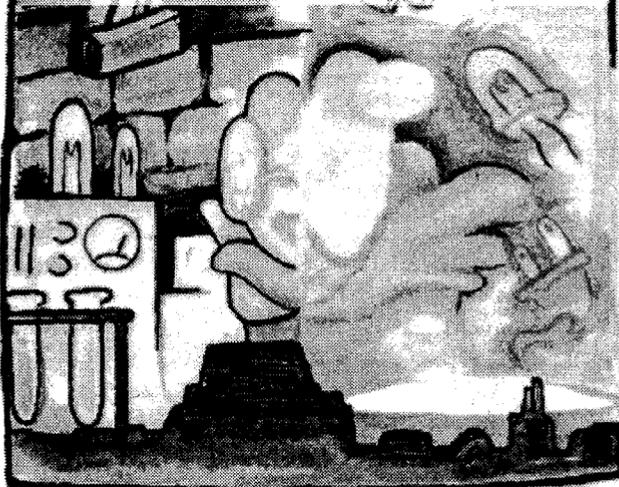
The script and the plot are very well done, unraveling slowly but definitively, like a crumpled piece of paper that you know is going to slowly flatten out into something readable. The movie makes sure to keep track of how many days it's been since Karen first viewed the tape and the movie keeps the pressure building on Karen and Noah as they get simultaneously closer to the secret of the mysterious tape and the seven day deadline. You seem to know which way the movie is heading, but there is a twist that allows for a very satisfying ending (not to mention a ready made sequel). Rarely, scenes didn't make sense, like a scene where Rachel seems determined to pet a horse despite the fact that the horse doesn't particularly seem to enjoy it (you may find yourself yelling, "Stop touching the horse, stupid!" like I did). The payoff to that scene, however, will make sure you don't look at a horse quite the same way again.

# THE COMICS SECTION

## The Fantastical Adventures of Model 110

Phil Young and  
Michael Prazak

there once was a man, Dr. Kalamazoo,  
who loved circuits,  
and didodes and transistors too..



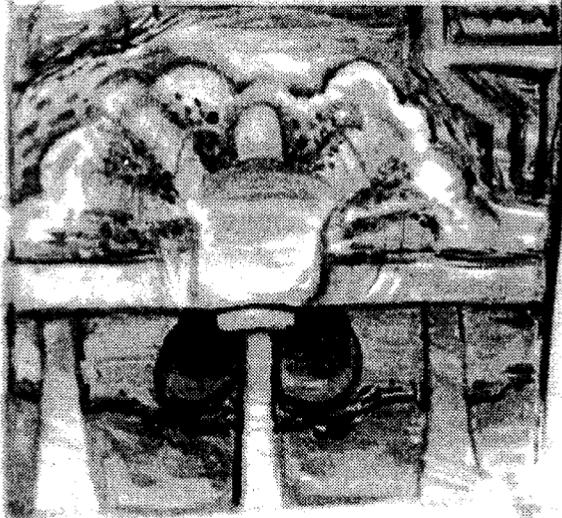
All of these things he felt  
had a spark.



they could walk  
they could talk!

He exclaimed with a start...

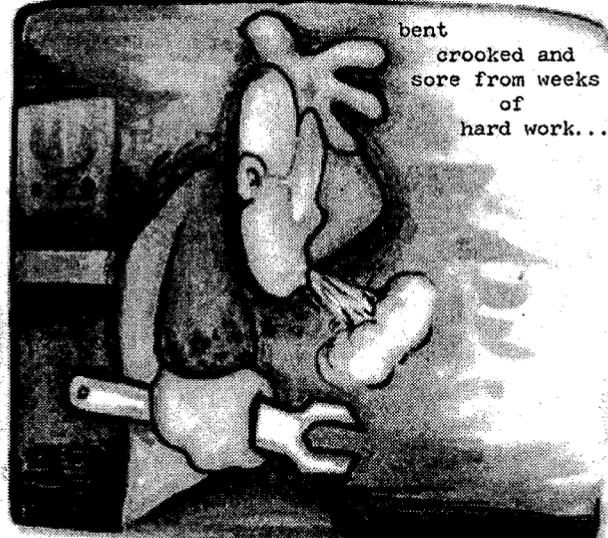
And so he began work with feverent glee,



He was bent at  
the elbow...

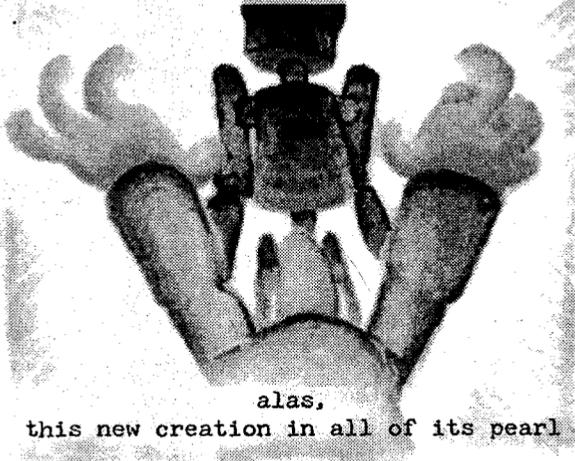


He was bent at  
the knee...



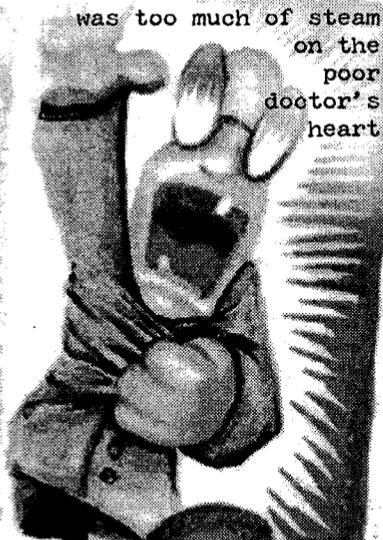
bent  
crooked and  
sore from weeks  
of  
hard work...

Still his creation stood, proud  
unique on this earth

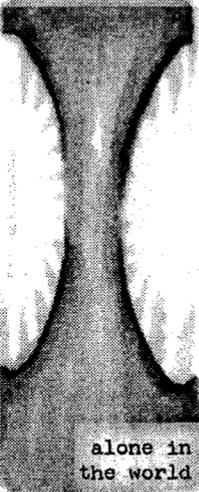


alas,  
this new creation in all of its pearl

was too much of steam  
on the  
poor  
doctor's  
heart

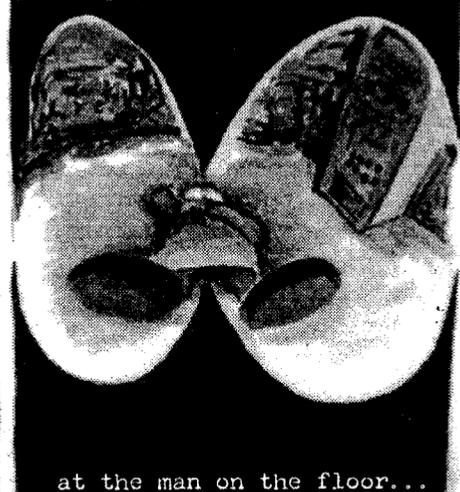


Thus the creation  
awoke...



alone in  
the world

peering puzzled and distressed



at the man on the floor...

what is this thing  
at my feet?

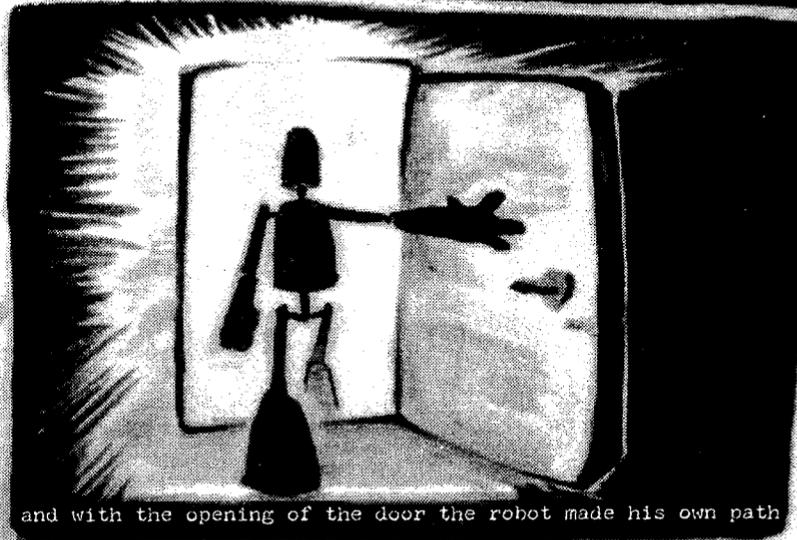


is it father or  
brother?

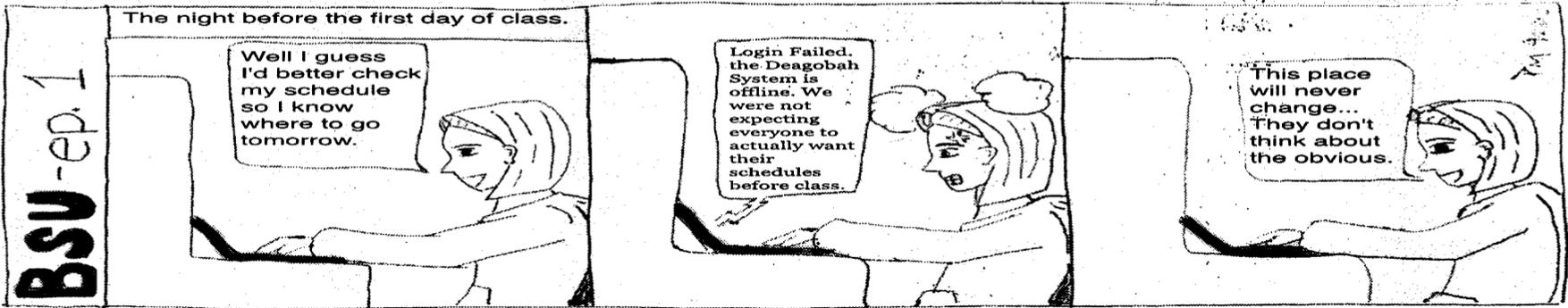
or is it just meat?

am I to mourn?

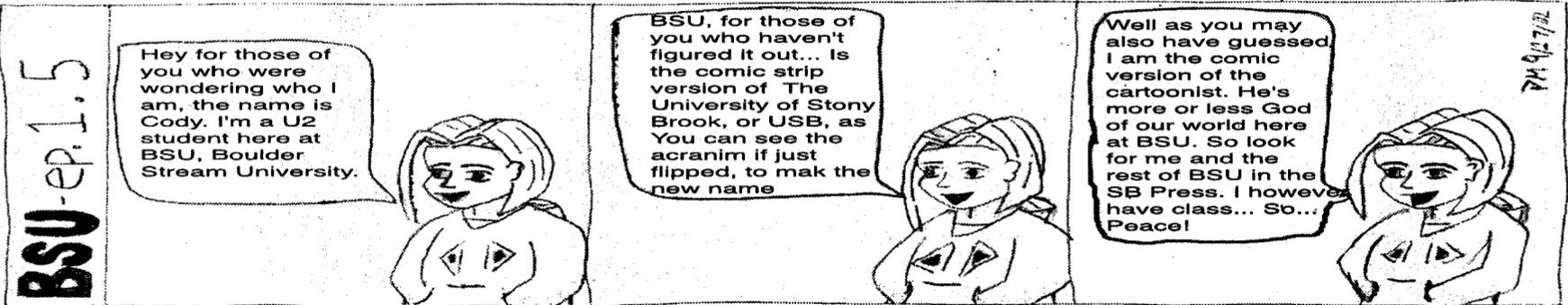
or to laugh?



and with the opening of the door the robot made his own path



Boulder Stream University - By Paul Morro



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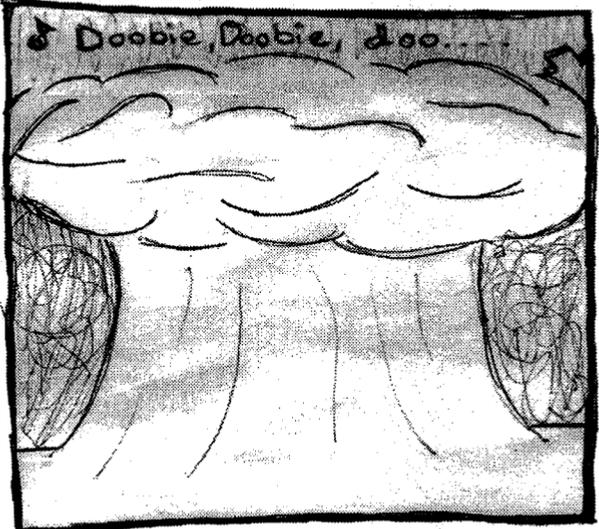
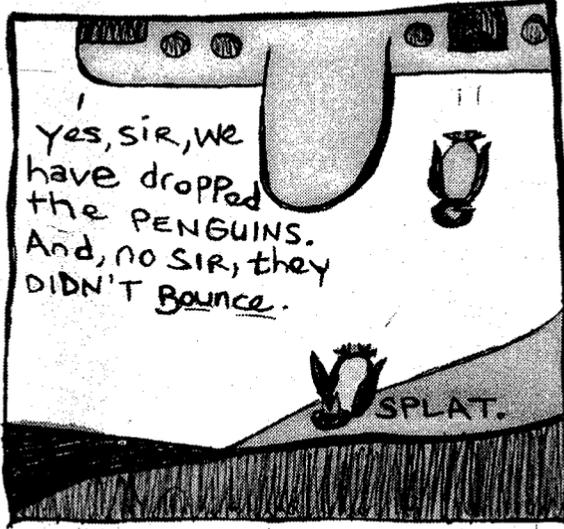
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OPEN DOOR



Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Penguin



# Ask Pixiedust

Pixiedust1369@hotmail.com

Dear Pixiedust,

Are the rumors true? Is the science fiction forum really just a room where geeks have sex? If so, how do I join?

Sincerely,

The Lonely One

Dear Lonely One,

Well, Mr. Lonely, why don't you go ask the Sci-fi forum for yourself? Obviously writing to a campus newspaper might get you some info about their existence, but as I haven't taken a step in there (and probably never will) I could never know everything that goes on in their office. That aside, I do know that there is a porn site (actually a couple) that features a story written by a forum member. You can read it at: [www.totse.com/en/erotica/erotic\\_o\\_to\\_p/partynit.html](http://www.totse.com/en/erotica/erotic_o_to_p/partynit.html). Or you could e-mail the author of the story at: [dweingar@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:dweingar@ic.sunysb.edu). If you're still interested in joining after reading the story, you can find them somewhere in the basement of Harriman Hall. Personally, I wouldn't waste my time reading, e-mailing, or trying to find it. You should find a better way to get sex like buying a hooker—I know a few cathouses you might like...

Best Wishes,

Pixiedust

Dear Pixiedust,

I have had this problem with my new roommate this semester. My sneaking suspicions have not been confirmed yet, but I am very worried. I feel ashamed to say this but I think he masturbates a lot in the room. Sometimes I think he does it when I am trying to fall asleep. Our dorm is split in the middle by our desks and sometimes in the day when I get up to walk around the room he's by his desk and he tells me he's changing... for twenty minutes! How do I get him to stop?

-Hiding

Dear Hiding,

STOP MAKING FUN OF ME!! Like it's not bad enough that you told everyone on our floor what I do, but now you have to write to the paper I work for, and expose my secret to the world? How cruel can you be? When I get back to the room, I'm going to pretend that your dresser is my litter box. Then I'm going to use your computer as a scratching post. It's amazing how insensitive a roommate can be. Meow, just because I can lick myself doesn't mean you have to complain and embarrass me. If you wanted to join me you should have just told me, and not everyone except me.

-Pixiedust

Dear Pixiedust,

My girlfriend has given me an ultimatum: it's me or my Chihuahua. What do I do?

Help me,

Dog lover

Dear Dog lover,

Drop them both, and go for a cat. You sick bastard.

Good Luck,

Pixiedust



Ladies and Gentlemen,  
The fate of Bob is in  
Your hands. Although his  
life was cut short by  
an assassin last sem-  
ster, the creator will  
allow him to be  
redeemed by the will  
of the masses. So  
contact us. Only you  
can save Bob.

Vote: **A** - I want more Bob  
**B** - Kill the motherfucker  
**C** - I hate Bob so much  
that I can't help reading

**CONTACT US @** [JamieMignone@hotmail.com](mailto:JamieMignone@hotmail.com) or  
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learned me  
to steal  
from Kelly.

