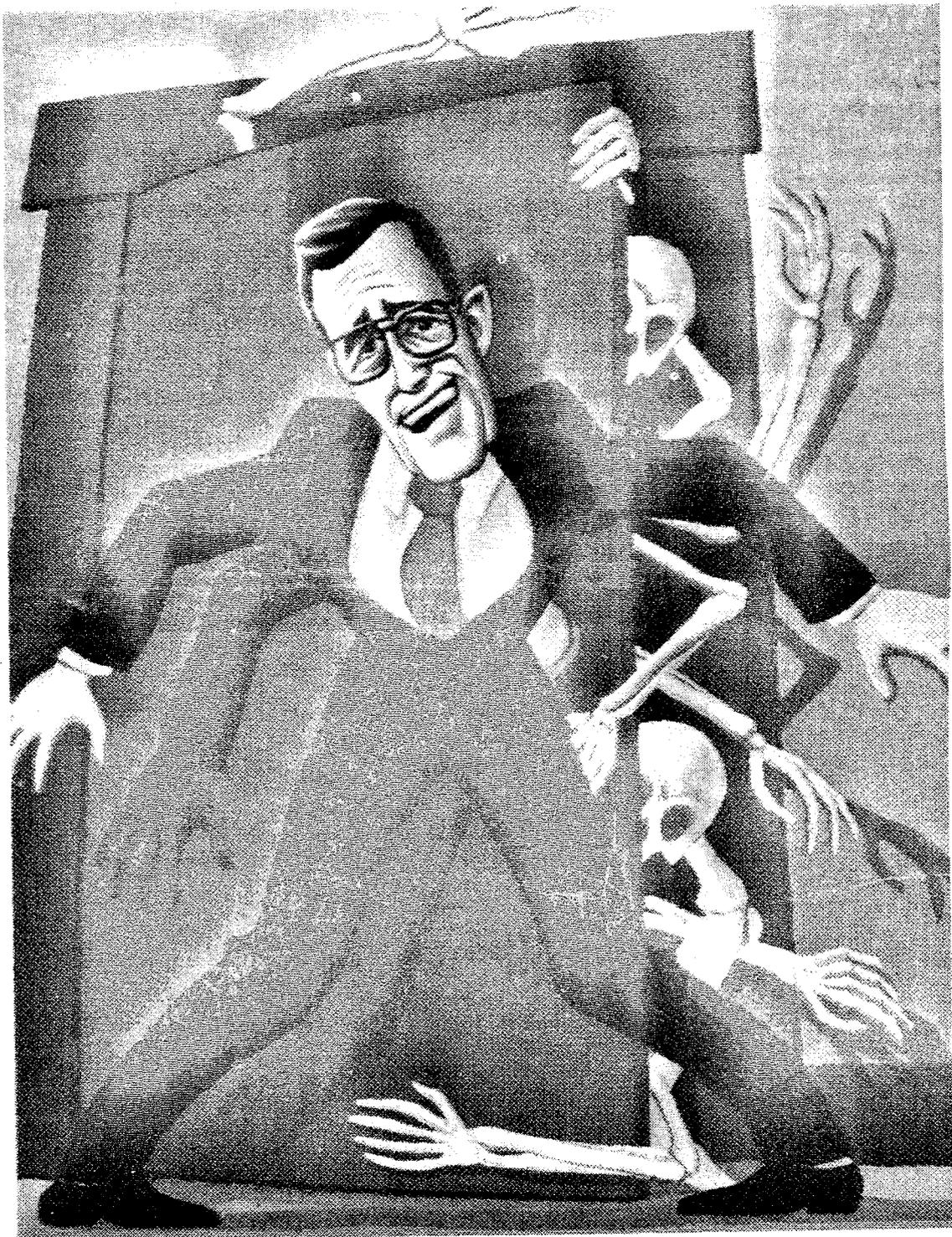


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What's In Your Closet ?

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Mystery Meat

What's else is in the food we eat

by Jurgis Rudkus

The question most frequently asked in all of the campus dining facilities is: "What is that?" Of course this question is being asked by the students and other patrons of these establishments, and the items in question are various meats and other things that are being presented as food. More often than not, the workers serving the food can not answer this question.

Certain items lend themselves particularly well to this speculation. Anything containing some sort of chopped meat and maybe some beans for instance. Perhaps if *Consumer Reports* would do an investigation on the meats used by ARA, similar to the one they just did on fish, then we would finally know what ingredients were used to make the sloppy joe's.

In this *Consumer Reports* study, it was revealed that tuna, the most popular fish among Americans, one half of the 123 samples tested were contaminated with what *Consumer Reports* termed "filth." Ordinarily I enjoy a little filth in my food, but according to the people at *Consumer Reports*, "filth" means: insect parts, rat hairs, fish scales, and

feather "barbules" which means the indigestible parts of feathers that birds excrete after preening. The FDA does permit a certain amount of filth in most foods, because it has been decided that to eliminate it would be impossible (what effect must this have on campus food?). A similar *Consumer Reports* study in 1979, however, showed that it is possible to reduce the number of contaminated cans of tuna fish from %50 to %5. It is feasible then, that when a person eats tuna fish, he should not have to expect to get a mouthful of roach legs. At least this assortment of ghoulie goodies will not do anything detrimental to the consumer. Any chance of problems arising from bacteria from these things is eliminated when the tuna goes through the high temperature process of canning.

This is not the case with fresh fish, and other fish bought in markets. *Consumer Report* found that nearly half of these fish were contaminated by bacteria from human or animal feces, and that bacteria levels multiplied throughout the shipping of the fish. Also harmful chemicals such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) and mercury were found in many samples. To add to these disgraceful findings, one third of all the fishes tested were mislabeled, meaning



consumers were often paying more money for one species of fish, and actually getting an inferior one. I don't know about you, but when I'm eating scrod, I want scrod.

And so the mystery continues. Fish are now off my list of edible items, and meat was always suspect. I suppose a little kangaroo meat in my hamburger wouldn't kill me, but the thought of biting into a marsupial's pouch is indigestible. Perhaps it is time to catch up to the times and become a vegetarian. Unfortunately, I have heard that vegetarians, although truly the heroes of a noble cause to protect bovine, swine and sensitive beings everywhere, actually consume more bug parts per annum than do carnivores. As long as I am allowing myself to become completely neurotic, I now vow to never again drink Coke since the Coke company has been sued an innumerable amount of times by consumers that have found everything from the legs of small furry animals to compact Japanese cars in bottles and cans of coke.

This problem of "what is that in my food and drink," is, unfortunately not restricted to the world of the edible. A first year law student recently told me of a case he is studying. It was before the FDA had strict laws that protected the consumer from eating something he did not expect too. The case involved a man who had a fondness for chewing tobacco. Upon taking a plug, the man became ill, turned green, and had to sit down so as not to pass out. The man, not making the connection between the tobacco and his illness, took another plug. Once again he turned green, but this time it was followed by the color purple, and he was forced to make a horrible gurgling sound when he breathed. This man, being a very curious and deductive individual, decided to have another plug to see if it was in fact the tobacco that made him sick. Upon this third attempt, his suspicions were confirmed, and he was confined to bed for the next day where he continued to change colors like a chameleon, and would roll over to the edge of his bed every so often to vomit. When he was once again

healthy, this man being incredibly scientific, once again conducted his little experiment so as to confirm his hypothesis. This time when the man took his plug of tobacco, he was treated to a human toe as well as the tobacco. With the toe in his mouth, the man began to puke violently and foam from out of his orifices. When the man sued this company, the judge who heard the case ruled that no person, when chewing tobacco should expect to find a human toe. The man was treated for his sickness, which eventually went away. Apparently, when a part of the human body begins to decay, a bacteria forms which is called, ironically, toeosis, and is poisonous to humans.

The phenomena of "mystery meat," therefore, is everywhere in society, meaning that our existence is hopelessly hopeless.

"ON TRANSFORMING THE AMERICAN MIND"



A LECTURE BY

HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

W.E.B. Du Bois Professor of the Humanities, Harvard University;
author of *Figures in Black* and *The Signifying Monkey*

Tuesday, February 18, 1992 8 p.m.

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the participants said that the health care issue is very important " My girlfriend has diabetes, national health

by Robert V. Gilhaeny

A flood of people from all over the eastern United States and Canada came to MIT for the NAMI 92 Alternative Student Press Conference on the weekend of February 1st. For all you nonlinguists NAMI means tidal wave in Japanese. All told about 200 people from 35 papers turned out for the conference. There were a variety of workshops offered. They ranged from computer layout design to political issues such as the ongoing presidential campaign.

Former F.A.I.R. (Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting) intern Kimber Simpson, who writes for the Smith College Current, ran a workshop on media bias. This workshop talked about methods on how to detect media bias in mainstream media.

Kimber Simpson pointed out how the ownership and underwriting of news programs shapes the reporting of the news. She pointed out that NBC is owned by G.E. which is a major defense contractor and a manufacturer of nuclear power plants. This is a major conflict of interest. How can they be unbiased when they are reporting on issues involved with defense spending and nuclear safety? In fact, right after G.E.'s acquisition of NBC they ran a special entitled " Nuclear Power, It Works in France". This special made no mention of a nuclear accident that occurred in France

three weeks prior to its airing. One more thing about NBC, on Sunday mornings G.E. sponsors a news forum called the "McGlaughlin Group", a group of five right-wingers in makeup sit around and rattle off their world view. I enjoy the show because I feel like I'm on acid when I'm watching it.

The McNeil Lehrer news hour on public television is underwritten by A.T.&T, a company that was involved in the overthrowing of a democratically elected government in Chili in 1973. President Salvador Allende was replaced by a bureaucratic military dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. The result was the slaughter of 250,000 people in Santiago Stadium.

F.A.I.R. did a survey of guests on major network news programs, particularly Nightline & the McNeil Lehrer news hour. The findings showed the typical guest was a white male, middle aged and typically a government source. Missing from the list were women, people of color, non straights, and critics of the government. According to the F.A.I.R. survey activists made up only 1% of the Nightline guests during the time of the study. The four most frequent guests were Alexander Haig, Bob Dole, Henry Kissinger, and Jerry Falwell. The first woman to appear in the top 25 of the most frequent guests was the arch-conservative Jean Kirkpatrick.

The discussion turned to feminism and the media. A woman from Red Stockings spoke on the role the media has on the feminist movement, "The mainstream

media uses its power to mock feminism while at the same time trying to pick its leaders." She went on to say that Gloria Steinem worked for the C.I.A., and one of the founders of Ms. magazine was involved in the JFK assassination.

The discussion turned to the presidential elections. When asked about the media's role in promoting some candidates while ignoring others keeping the assumption that the two parties are virtually the same, Kimber Simpson said that the media is the forum for mud slinging, and in the process, the issues get glossed over.

The workshop on the presidential elections was co-chaired by Archon Fung of *The Thistle*, and Matthew Black of *Love and Rage*, an anarchist news weekly. The discussion was divided between those that wanted to talk about the conventional political wisdom of the current campaign (that was disappointing at an alternative press gathering) and the *Love & Rage* call to boycott the elections. "We feel that the presidential campaign obscures politics, not focuses it," said Black. He went on to say that every four years a lot of energy goes into talking about these bourgeois politicians, rather than working on politics. Matthew Black suggested that when the percentage of non-voters turns out to be larger than the percentage of the winning candidate, that there should be a victory party.

The conventional wisdomers at the meeting got hooked up on the incremental differences between the candidates. One of

care could mean she doesn't die in five years". Another person said, "If you're a unionist the difference between Bush and Clinton, and Harkin is the difference between night and day." There was no common ground between the radicals who feel that no great changes will occur as a result of the elections and those who feel otherwise.

Saturday night the conferencers partied in the basement of Bexley Hall, one of the dorms. This basement complex was covered by ripping acid graffiti done up in psychedelic colors. Greeting you as you walked down the stairs, "Trip till you drop." Near the laundry room was the molecular formula for LSD painted on the wall. I chatted mainly with Stony Brookers, Bostonians and Canadians. We all drank and talked about our papers, regions, politics, sexuality, and anything else that struck our fancy. Later someone played the piano and we did a lot of stupid song parodies.

The conference was a great networking experience, writers got to meet and exchange ideas and make connections. The student networks from the U.S. were the New Liberation News Service (NLNS) and The New York State Student Leader, which does excellent work as a news service covering issues around SUNY, and the Canadian University Press which is a collectively run Canadian news service. The Canadian papers were very impressive, notably the *McGill Daily* from Montreal. It was chock full of news stories and features.

AT THE POINT OF NO RETURN?

by Dave Suarez

Why is it that so many office holders have come to endorse cut-backs, layoffs, closings and dismissals as anti-recession strategies? It's hard to figure out.

The nation, its cities, suburbs, and heartland alike have all been victimized, owing to the quick-fix, simplistic mind-set which has characterized the last two administrations. That utopian fantasy known as the "trickle down" theory has been suspect for some time, but Ronald Reagan's popularity succeeded in silencing dissident voices. Cross-over Democrats joined Republicans in ridiculing our Walter Mondale, who said an increase in taxes was needed. Instead, a nation which wanted to "feel good about itself" was seduced by the affable Reagan, and the march toward a deficit in the billions was inaugurated. When

adviser David Stockman suggested there might be dire consequences, he was sacked. Keep in mind that Reagan had already decided to declare war on the cities which he perceived to be bastions of anti-Republican sentiment.

Mr. Reagan's strategy seems to have originated without anyone doing numbers on what it would cost to rebuild bridges, tunnels, and highways. implicit in this decision was the desire to make these Democratic strongholds stew in their own juices. The destructive consequences we have witnessed to date boggle the mind in terms of human suffering and suggest two possibilities; either Reagan was a cynic or totally insensitive. His dismissal of Stockman suggested both characteristics.

This legacy was passed on to President Bush, expanded to include anti-unionism, class conflict, and increasing callousness

toward the poor. Recall that platitudes were rendered to farmers instead of action and in labor-management relations, it became fashionable for workers to subsidize management, an obscene give-back which reversed one-hundred years of union struggle and achievement.

So we come to the present, piling up victim after victim. In primary schools, we mainstream disabled students with average students, thereby shortchanging both. In the colleges, we raise tuition and reduce course offerings. AIDS clinics are closed and police ranks are thinned. Still, faulty thinking persists as when we are told that the pine barrens are expendable, and that there is really no problem with the ozone layer.

The mentality which says its fine to close hospitals, reduce police protection, and close parks is the same mind-set which favors vouchers to benefit private

schools at the expense of public schools. It's a situation in which the wealthier students might be inconvenienced at worst, and possibly benefited, while poorer students could be significantly be harmed.

In any case, hope springs eternal, so let's affirm that we must combine common sense with compassion and steadfastness, so that people of good will can join in common cause to solve our common predicament.

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Bijou Bush From Outer Space

by Fiona McCloud

Watching a recent Nightline which featured ex-President Nixon- he resigned in disgrace, as you may recall- I couldn't help but feel a certain amount of near, creeping respect for the man. He definitely had his act together: He seemed calm and relaxed, obviously enjoying the opportunity to hold forth on touchy political issues without having to worry about the possible backlash his words might have produced if he still held public office. He can, for example, safely let drop combustible items like: "No American President will ever deserve Israel" with an impunity which no practicing politician could ever hope to match. He has a new book out, which he didn't mind plugging; it was his birthday, so he made a few wry, old-fart type jokes; he came across as personable and well-informed- even intelligent, at least when compared to the current Commander-in-Chief or that gentleman's immediate predecessor. Mr Nixon didn't saturate his remarks with egregious, gung-ho pro-American grandstanding. He saved his "Communism has been discredited, Socialism has been discredited... the world has seen how Freedom has worked in the United States, in Western Europe, and how Freedom is the Way of the Future" comments for the end of the interview, after offering his actual, true-to-life opinions on a variety of topics, from the upcoming election to the always-changing situation in what used to be the Soviet Union. He even matter-of-factly pointed out the hypocrisy involved in any claim that the Persian Gulf war was fought to save a country like Kuwait for "democracy", since the oil-rich fatcats who run Kuwait hold free elections about as often as the Cleveland Indians hold World Series victory parties.

But what really fascinated me about Mr Nixon's performance was not what he said so much as how he said it: He was Being Honest. I don't mean he was necessarily Telling the Truth, which is a different thing altogether, and, considering the source, probably a bit too much to ask for. But he was saying what he really felt about real issues, and he was doing so in language largely clear of jargon and doubletalk. Ask yourself this question: Where have you seen any current bigtime politician deliver anything even remotely resembling an honest opinion at any time whatsoever within recent memory?

Well- nowhere, of course.

Let me clarify. When I say: "Current bigtime politician," I mean, of course, George Bush, and when I say he hasn't delivered "anything even remotely resembling an honest opinion within recent memory" I mean that the quality level of his campaign speechifying has, of late, edged past the boundary of gibberish to right next to psychosis. Few could dispute that the President's rhetoric, always otherworldly ("A thousand points of light" etc.) has

blasted off towards some odd Final Frontiers which no incumbent with approval ratings plummeting earthwards like Challenger schrapnel should be making any attempt to explore. To wit:

*His bold assertion that his notorious Japanese junket was an "absolute, unqualified success" when, in fact, he not only failed to come up with a single one of those nifty "trade concessions" he was after, but also very publicly barfed all over himself and was very publicly mocked for it by a Macaque;



*Mr Bush tried, at a New Hampshire campaign stop, to demonstrate his with-it-edness to the younger generation by making an allusion to the "Nitty Ditty Nitty Gritty Great Bird," whatever the hell that is. Maybe he meant the "Nitty Gritty Dirt Band," which is, as all you hep college types out there know, the premiere Mover and Shak

er on Today's Musical Scene; *Also from New Hampshire: "When a storm hits the seacoast here it hits me too... I care." It must have come as a great comfort to all those New Hampshire voters who can't even get a job at Burger King (no matter what Dan Quayle may say) that a savage autumn storm ruined the tennis courts at Mr Bush's Maine estate;

*The entertaining tantrum he recently threw against his critics, whom he labelled: "lightweights", "mournful pundits", "carping little liberal Democrats", "egghead academicians", "jacklegs" and "smart-aleck columnists." He also requested that the aforementioned critics stop "jumping all over my you-know-what." (I think he means his ass.) This not only constitutes the most geekified collection of insults I've ever heard in my life- I can't believe that "jacklegs" has been considered a fightin' word since about 1736- it also demonstrates a remarkably thin skin on the part of someone who, in his last campaign, produced TV commercials which strongly suggested that his

opponent enjoyed siccing convicted black rapists on po' white folks everywhere;

*Mr Bush's whining defence of his crumbling public image, namely: "I think people understand when Barbara hugs an AIDS baby or reads to a child." Yecch. I'm sure we all understand that he knows how to manufacture a whole mess of TV footage and soundbites that might make someone stupid believe that his record on AIDS isn't just short of criminal and that his record on child education and health care isn't a crying shame.

The President has retreated into what *Daily News* columnist Lars-Erik Nelson defined on Jan 24th as Mr Bush's "Goofy Mode": "Odd mixtures of euphoria, resentment, combativeness and self-pity, all rolled up in weird metaphors, unfinished thoughts, mangled sentences and old Ivy League slang." *Doonesbury* cartoonist Garry Trudeau did some real damage in his strip last week, quoting Bush directly from

White House transcripts- some of the most surreal cartoon stuff this side of Krazy Kat. And for those of you who think that Mr Bush might be "on something": he is. James Ledbetter, "smart-aleck" columnist for the *Village Voice*, alertly pointed out that Our Leader in the War on Drugs has admitted to regularly taking the tranquilizing agent Halcion, which made headlines this summer when it was banned in Britain because of its serious side effects, which can include mood swings and nausea. Hmm... could Halcion and the "Goofy Mode" be somehow related? I wonder...

Actually, though, I think it's worse. I can't get rid of the sinking feeling that Mr Bush really believes the garbage he spouts on a regular basis: All the happy horse manure about "caring" and "family values" and the tears that came to his eye at the end of his State of the Union Address when he babbled on about the Glory That Is America, and how we're all Facing Tough Times but if we All Pull Together, by God, We Will Triumph, and so on. I listened to that speech, waiting patiently for the advertised Economic Proposals which never did materialize- except, of course, for the bit about how he wants to eliminate the luxury tax on yachts. Cool. Maybe now I can pay for my textbooks this semester. Maybe now my dad can find a job. Maybe now I'll find a job when I graduate. Maybe now Mr Bush will get a tax break on that gas-guzzling floating bathtub he was

splashing around in just before a lot of people were about to get shot for Democracy in the Mideast.

I hope Mr Bush realizes that a whole lot of people are extremely angry at him. I hope he realizes that people who are out of work or who will soon be out of work will not be so eager to elect a President based on nothing more than "Message: I care" fluffiness or fraudulent campaign idiocy, like the innumerable publicity shots of the Prepsier Supreme acting all blue-collar-like that will undoubtedly be popping up all over the place in the next eight months. I hope Mr Bush comes to realize that it is in extremely poor taste for him to act like the Gulf War was fought for no better reason than to improve his chances for reelection- if only because voters who were worried sick about their loved ones involved in the action might find this just a tiny bit crass. I hope Mr Bush realizes this, and, in a fit of tormented guilt, goes out and makes himself a great big Bacardi & Clorox cocktail and tosses it off in a gully.

It would be so intensely gratifying to see this clown beaten down in November. I'm not fooling myself about the quality of the Democratic contenders- there's not a whole lot there that excites me- but I'd give a lot just to get rid of Spaceman Bush. Because when Mr Richard Nixon comes on Nightline and starts to look like an attractive option for a write-in vote, you know that something is extremely rotten in the state of the nation.



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ALONG THE COLOR LINE...

RACISM, MULTICULTURALISM, AND EDUCATION

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of Political Science and History, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 200 publications, and is broadcast by over 35 radio stations internationally.

The greatest challenge of education today is bringing the richness and diversity of various languages, religions, cultures and ethnic identities which are reflected in the public schools across the United States. That task begins first with the actions of the classroom teacher, not some detached school administrator cloistered in some office building miles removed from the students. Children experience education primary through their relationship with their teachers. If the classroom instructor's rhetoric embraces "multiculturalism", but his or her behavior is elitist and hostile to people of color, the child will quickly recognize the hypocrisy.

If African-American, Latino and other parents of color expect their children to succeed in school, we must demand a blueprint for multiculturalism and diversity, which becomes a central text for teaching and public school administration. Professor Ron Billingsley of the University of Colorado has recently published a set of guidelines, "Fostering Diversity in the Classroom," which provide helpful suggestions for an educational blueprint for reform.

First, every teacher in American schools today needs to create an environment of trust and mutual respect between all members of a class. Students will sometimes perceive differences in dress, hair, skin color, or accent as indicators of inferiority. It's the teacher's job to establish the inherent equality and self-worth of each student in the class. Courtesy and respect for differences aren't just matters of style. They are necessary for a productive and harmonious learning environment.

Second, students must be viewed and treated as individual human beings rather than social categories. No individual should be expected to speak for an entire race, religion, ethnic group, language grouping, or culture. A person may choose to speak from a particular experience from a racial or minority perspective, and as such, she or he can provide meaningful insights into a problem issue being discussed in class. But the teacher should not assume that because a student is Mexican-American or African-American, that she or he will have all the answers about the historical or cultural origins of the "Cinco de Mayo" celebration, or will know every word to the Black national anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Culture and history aren't genetic, they are learned.

Third, a truly multicultural education must adhere to the basic principle, according to Professor Billingsley, of "celebrating everyone" while "denigrating no one." The traditional curriculum in American history courses, for example, is essentially a celebration of the white, western European experience. The fifty five wealthy white men who went to Philadelphia over two hundred years ago to draft the U.S. Constitution, are constantly referred to as America's "Founding Fathers." Never mind that twenty-five of them owned slaves, including the first president, George Washington. The violent and bloody expansion of white settlers across the Great Plains, which culminated in the massive destruction of American Indian tribes and their coerced relocation to reservations, is described glowingly as "Manifest Destiny", preordained by God. Despite recent reforms in American textbooks, most children still learn a history of the United States which is largely anchored to the interests of upper class white males. Women, Blacks, Latinos, and people of color are marginal actors on the historical stage.

If we are serious about education, let us dare to tell the whole truth to our young people. We must reveal to them the complexity and diversity of other heritages and cultures, and not simply one narrowly partisan version of the past and present. We must discuss the slavery experience in the U.S. not just by reviewing the writings of Thomas Jefferson, the slaveholder who also authored the Declaration of Independence. We must also listen to Frederick Douglass, the great Black abolitionist, and antislavery orator Sojourner Truth. We must reconstruct the American domestic experience during World War II by including the fact that nearly one hundred thousand Japanese-Americans were stripped of their property, denied their Constitutional rights, and forced into armed, detention camps. Our task as teachers is not to distort the history or culture by placing one people's experience and accomplishments above those of everyone else.

Quality education for the twenty-first century must respect the unique heritages and achievements of all people. This issue is not simple an educational matter, but is also profoundly political. White Americans must recognize that at the end of this decade, one third of the United States population will consist of Asian-Americans, American Indians, Hispanics and Blacks. America's future is not "white", it is multiethnic and multicultural.

A central battleground for the 1992 presidential elections is the state of education in America. Democratic candidates are already scrambling to condemn the Bush administration's educational policies. Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton has advanced

the most detailed agenda, calling for a national program for adult literacy, a national apprenticeship program for high school graduates who aren't going to college, and a financial loan program which would permit millions of additional low-to-middle income Americans to attend college. Nebraska Senator Bill Kerrey promises if elected to expand the availability of Head Start to all eligible low income children, and to expand federal expenditures for public schools.

Although these are certainly worthwhile goals, schools must address the issues of racism and ethnic diversity, as part of the quest for excellence. This means more than changing the textbooks, or recruiting more people of color as teachers. We must rethink the entire process of learning to foster a multicultural environment and interracial dialogue.

Diversity is nourished in the classroom only when students are challenged to assume the identities of people who are different from themselves. Instead of perceiving things from one's traditional background, students should be asked to assume different roles and to learn values, beliefs and perspectives of individuals from other religions, races, and language groups. When I have gone into my children's classes during African-American history month, I have organized small skits in which the subject content is racism. A row of chairs positioned at the head of the classroom becomes a "bus", and children are asked to act out the roles of the bus driver, passengers and the police. But I ask the students to pretend the year is 1955, the place is Montgomery, Alabama, and any white children in the room must "play" the role of African-Americans. By being personally placed in the symbolic position of being oppressed and "arrested" for sitting in "whites-only" bus seats, white children can begin to learn the pain and suffering generated by racism.

Racial prejudice, the greatest challenge to democracy, is not biologically fixed among whites; it is an oppressive behavior which is learned over time, and reinforced by the elaborate system of power and privilege which dominates over the lives of people of color. Students must be taught, therefore, that prejudice is not just the behavior of foolish or insane individuals. It is a system of oppression which still exists, despite the passage of civil rights laws.

What do we mean by racism as a "system of privilege?" It means that white students must be taught that a typical white male will probably pay significantly less for his automobile or home mortgage than if he was an American Indian, Chicano, or African-American. It means that a white high school graduate will

earn more in his or her lifetime, on average, than a typical Black college graduate. Racism means access to a better quality of health care in white middle class neighborhoods than in the barrio or ghetto, so that the typical Black male dies before he can even collect Social Security. Most whites never think about the system of privilege from which they benefit personally and collectively, the system of institutional racism. The task of the educator is to make all students aware of this continuing reality, without paralyzing the white student into inaction personal attacks.

The challenge of multicultural education requires a perspective which illustrates both diversity and unity as complimentary values. By this, I mean that we can recognize our distinctiveness and cultural originality, while also illustrating those elements of commonality. A social studies or humanities course could assign a unit on "comparative perspectives on birth and death", drawing examples from Native American, Latino, Asian-American, European and African-American cultures. The course could explore the wide variety of rituals, songs, dances, amid religious ideals in which various ethnic communities mark the births of children or the deaths of elders.

Multicultural mathematics could illustrate the Chinese and Arabic contributions to our understanding of math. A civics instructor could discuss the importance of Native American political systems and their model of confederation, which helped to shape our democratic system.

To uproot the hidden values of superiority which help to perpetuate racism, white students need to recognize that no single group has a monopoly on intelligence or creativity. Human beings may take different routes to reach similar goals and objectives. When white students and teachers are as familiar with the writings of W.E.B. Du Bois, Alice Walker, Toni Morrison, and Martin Luther King Jr., as they are with Mark Twain, Chaucer, and John Updike, we will truly begin to make strides toward a nonracist future.



Enquiring Minds?

The first thing you did was rip open to this page. Why is it that more people would want to read about what goes on in people's bedrooms than issues of substance? Why are allegations of steamy love scenes at the famous no tell motel: he said, she said, what grabs the public's eye rather than issues which really affect them? The American media machine is obsessed with sniffing between every political candidate and celebrities' legs like a pack of rabid hyenas. It seems like the scenario of paranoid surveillance from 1984 may be realized by the end of the decade but not in the form of Big Brother but rather the media. The role of media in the United States is to function as a watchdog for government. Unfortunately it seems that the media has been pandering to the gossips that lurk among the populus.

Who cares whether Arkansas governor Bill Clinton has had affairs with former state employees or longhorn sheep for that matter? Who cares about this bedroom journalism? Enquiring minds do,

and it seems that in the past week fine publications such as Newsday have come to resemble The Enquirer, witness their sensationalistic coverage of Mike Tyson's rape trial. In fact the Clinton scandal first appeared in the checkout tabloid The Star. It is alarming that the national media is getting its leads from the supermarket rags. Sure some important issues have been brought to the fore from such sources, most notably the William Kennedy Smith rape trial which sprang from the victim's going public to one of the supermarket scandal sheets last year.

As a rule the yellow media of the checkout line focuses on the sex lives of movie stars and other celebrities. Over the past few years the mainstream media has come to resemble these tabloids more and more. We can see this looking at the Pee Wee Herman incident which the scandal hungry media dogs lapped up and dished out to the drooling American public. What is it about the private lives of public figures that renders them fair game for any hack armed with a

notebook? If John Q. Public woke up to find his affairs, marijuana smoking, draft dodging, or masturbation plastered all over the morning papers he would be seething with rage.

However, the danger of probing into the sex lives of movie stars poses problems besides the morality of it. The danger of this kind of reporting is that it has spread to coverage of serious individuals such as political candidates. If a poll were to be taken of the American public about what Bill Clinton's position on various issues is a good number might reply the missionary position. The media should give more coverage to the policies and proposals of the candidates than their private lives. When and if the media does probe the private lives, it should focus on little skeletons in the closet of candidates such as David Duke. Readers of mainstream media should be more concerned with what's going with politicians who wear sheets than what goes between the sheets of politicians.

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(516) 632-6451
Suite 205, Central Hall
SUNY at Stony Brook
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LETTERS

THE SONG REMAINS THE SAME

To the Editor:

Having taken HIS 107 (with Dr. David Burner) this last semester, I feel that I am eminently qualified for ripping off that Led Zeppelin name, and applying it to SUNY at Stony Brook. After all, he taught me how, he taught me deceit.

Dr. Burner caused me to question values I hold, due to his handling of HIS 107, and for that, I thank him. After all, what is a course entitled "America in the 1960's" about, if not about questioning values? Awakening to reality, and changing it. Caring, getting active, and never quitting. Making the world a better place to live in.

The youth of today quite logically blames the Yuppies' materialistic sell-out (of values), despising those who care only for themselves.

Dr. Burner taught me a lesson. In fact, a number of lessons.

1) You can get away with teaching three courses simultaneously, receiving nine hours of pay for three hours of "lectures", if you have tenure, you "publish" and the "Chair" of your department likes you personally. What passes for fraud in the real world seemingly does not bother SUNNY at Stony Brook, even in the face of planned massive budget cuts, and tuition hikes. Obviously, you have to rethink

Einstein's Theory of Simultaneity vis a vis tenured lecturers at SUNY.

2) You can arbitrarily decide that of all the hundred of so students forced to research a presentation or a paper on a topic germane to the 1960's, you are going to allow the grading of a homophobic ex-Marine's personal (and un-researched, obviously) experience while 'undercover' in Okinawa in the late 1980's, busting homosexuals and lesbians out of the military, and bragging about how 'dangerous' it was. "Relevance" obviously can be done away with, under the guise of "Professional Freedom," and controversially. "Academic Freedom" extends, seemingly, to irrelevancy to the subject paid for, and supposedly taught.

3) You can cynically, and with not the slightest empathy for the topic at hand ("the 1960's," remember?), short-change the students with film-clips, using the ole' audio-visual technique (ad nauseum) for "filler", because you have nothing to say on a topic you cannot address without flaunting your hypocrisy, your greed, and your avarice.

You therefore end classes early, quiz on reading material never covered in (sic) class, and feel totally invulnerable. The Campus Advocate, the Chair of the History Department, and the Dean for Social and Behavioral Sciences CAN'T TOUCH YOU. Because you HAVE

TENURE. You're a Master of the Universe. It is bureaucratically onerous to kick you out of the *SYSTEM. YOU'VE MADE IT!!!!*

And so what, students get a glossingover of what should be their ideological heritage? Does anybody care? Obviously not, because no-one will do anything about the abuses that you have already visited upon a system so apathetic and entrenched in its protectionist attitudes towards teachers, and its neglect of students that it does not even attempt to oust you, excise your putrescence, open sore from its body. It just allows you to stay, under the "Rules" of tenure. It allows you to teach another semester of "America in the 1960's."

Well, students, don't you think that this is just wonderful? Don't you just love it (Chick-a-boom)? After all, your education is not what it is all about, seemingly. It's apparent that SUNY at Stony Brook is about status of the teaching staff.

And damn the students- they just get in the way, and make outrageous demands - who do they think they are? Demanding that I be relevant! What total cheek! I have tenure, and can do anything I please, I can take a course on the 1960's, twist it around for an advertisement for the 1950's ('cause that's my era; I was "Clean For Gene", was hip to beat,

Kerouac and Ginsberg; my idols), show films, sell the students a book I edited (it's not sold second-hand, and it's unreturnable, from The Corner Book Store: increasing my profit-margin from this course), bring in my friends to guest-lecture (sharing the wealth), and then, when people discover that I have been ripping everybody off by teaching three classes simultaneously, not give a damn. After all, the tenure will save me from everything. SUNY needs the status I bring it by publishing, publishing, publishing..... so I can flaunt it. Do it again.

And that is why 'the song remains the same', the new boss is just like the old boss, and we are served up the same dish****, with our cherry on top of it.

David I.G. Turner

This is verifiable with the Campus Advocate. Everybody who took HIS 107 this Fall '91 Semester with Dr. David Burner, and of course, with the Chair of the History Dept., who's neck is ticking furiously about this discovery.

PROBLEMS AT CAREER DEVELOPMENT

After reading the Business Day section of the December 2 issue of the *New York Times*, it jogged my memory to when I was a graduating senior at Stony Brook in 1990.

In the article, "A College's Intense Push To Find Jobs", the earnest activities of the Career Development Office at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute are reviewed.

Several statistics are used to show the painfully obvious fact that there is a dwindling supply of jobs for new college graduates. The article explains an innovative idea created by the Director of Career Development, Ms Vicky Lynn.

To help graduates find work, Ms. Lynn conducted a "jobathon". The program is similar to fund-raising telethons in which students spend evening hours contacting parents and alumni to help raise cash for their respected school. The Rensselaer jobathon has the unique challenge of finding jobs, instead of money. Twenty-six students man telephones between 6 P.M. to 9 P.M. on weekdays and ask about job openings in their companies; urging alumni to interview their graduating students or at least send in job notices to the Career Development Office.

Mrs. Lynn welcomes other schools to try to emulate the "jobathon" program, stating that to help graduating seniors in this bear market is the most important

objective.

If only the Career Development Office at S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook had such a dedicated attitude. When seeking career guidance and job leads, I found the Stony Brook career office to be a confusing and frankly unhelpful resource in my search.

This is not to say that no qualified individuals work in the office. Unfortunately, the bureaucratic ineptitude which paralyzes the S.U.N.Y. system is ever present in the Career Development Office as well.

For example, one will immediately encounter a couple of work-study students who happen to get stuck with having no work in the Career Development Office by the university financial aid office. They are totally uninterested in your welfare in general (welfare being your most plausible job lead after wasting time in the C.D.O.).

Resume and interviewing workshops, computerized job listings, a well-stocked career reference library, and recommendation files for students are some of the advantages the Career Development Office does provide S.U.S.B. students.

However, the scant and undiversified list of companies interviewing on campus is laughable. Stony Brook is a nationally recognized university located 50 miles east of New York City, the hub of American business and industry. Why then can't the C.D.O. arrange more

interviews from companies headquartered in Manhattan? Not all of us are interested in working on Long Island for firms like LILCO and Grumman. In fact, one of Long Islands biggest employers, CMP publications (one of the biggest trade magazine publishers in the country) does not interview at Stony Brook for its entry level positions.

Insufficient funds for Career Development staffers is not a relevant excuse. Money helps, but it does not insure prestigious oldboy network corporations will recruit from your campus.

According to President Marburger, Stony Brook is supposed to be one of the most competitive schools in the nation, consistently ranked as as top-ranked academic public institution. University of Michigan, for instance, is a big state school, but their on-campus interviewing program is phenomenal.

Granted, S.U.S.B. only has thirty years under its belt, making the alumni pool a good deal smaller than most colleges. In addition, the health professions predominate at Stony Brook making the task of career placement more simple and less sophisticated in knowing how to job network.

Despite these fundamental problems, the Career Development Office at the State University of New York at Stony Brook makes little attempt to reach its sizable student body.

Tucked away in the basement of the Melville Library, the C.D.O. is only open from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. preventing anyone interested in putting forth a quality effort towards their job hunt from doing so.

There is a public relations problem inherent in the Career Development Office. Sending out press releases to campus newspaper and getting on the phones promoting your services are projects that must be carried out. Establish a working relationship with students as freshmen, and then maintain close ties with those students finding jobs as possible contacts in the future. I bet if I walked around Stony Brook and asked 100 S.U.S.B. students where the Career Development Office is, 50 percent would not have a clue.

Lastly, I honestly hope you start a "jobathon" type of program among students this coming spring semester. Whoever runs the middling institution known as the Career Development Office is getting off easy by receiving only a vilification from an alumnus published in a student published. Just desserts for your organization should be Marburger's two-faced head on a platter with a complete overhaul of all current staff at the Career Placement Office.

Drew E. Mitty

The writer is a former Business Manager and reporter for the Stony Brook Press.

WANNA-BE LIBERALS

by Aluc Ard

Many times during our experiences in life we run into people who are not what they appear to be. Though many of us ignore these types of people, simply referring to them as "phonies" or "hypocrites", there are some circumstances under which we cannot and should not ignore them. These circumstances occur when we are active in progressive organizations. The influx of "right wing" and fascist elements into the progressive left is one of the most frightening scenarios of our time. This crisis was recently brought to the attention of many by the scandal surrounding the Christic Institution's acceptance of funds from fascist organizations (Christic, of course, was guilty only of not investigating into the backgrounds of its new supporters). However, there is a lesson to be learned from Christic's crisis, the conservative elements in our society are desperately trying to halt the progressive movement. This attempt is coming not only from attacks on progressives from outside the movement, but from an influx of these right wing fascists into the movement. They come to us disguised as "liberals", human awareness and concern for the right to self-determination. However, under greater scrutiny these individuals and groups, posing as progressives, are in reality the biggest threat to the struggles of the left.

In the 60's the F.B.I. created a covert

action program called the Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELLPRO). COINTELLPRO was a "secret and systematic use of fraud and force to sabotage constitutionally protected political activity." In the book *War At Home* by Brian Glick, Mr. Glick speaks of the covert operations of COINTELLPRO and how they helped to disband activist groups across the country. Thanks to the Freedom of Information Act, we can now obtain some information on COINTELLPRO operations. COINTELLPRO was exposed in the 70's and supposedly stopped; although there is a belief that COINTELLPRO type operations still exist.

During the "War in the Gulf," eleven Palestinian men and one Nigerian woman in California were arrested for handing out communist literature. They were charged with distributing subversive literature pertaining to violent overthrow of the government. Were they arrested for the literature, or the fact that they were natives of the middle east handing out subversive literature? Gee, let's think about that for a while.

Robert V. Gilheany in an article (Vol. 11 No. 11 *The Stony Press*) stated, "The corporate buy out of Earth Day 1990 allowed corporate polluters to slap the environmental badge on themselves as sponsors of Earth Day '90 for public relations purposes." This incident led to the formation of another organization, and the formation of the Earth Day Wall Street Action which was funded by

personal contributions rather than corporate funding. Bravo to the committee for the counter attack.

The use of infiltration of right wing fascists into a left wing organization is not against the law, because people can change their ideals and beliefs. This does occur, people in the Armed Forces do at times change their ideals and file for conscientious objector status. People have had a genuine change of beliefs, so it can happen. David Duke, former Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard, had a so called change of beliefs, and almost became the next governor of Louisiana. When something like this occurs, we have to step back and take a look at what the hell is going on.

The thing that these right wing fascist bastards have to realize is that the United States insures the right for leftist groups to exist, and you can't get rid of them. To put it bluntly, we are like a boil on the ass of injustice that just won't pop, and we're never going away. Boy that really sucks for them. The funny thing about the past two wars, was that we were constantly told that the soldiers were fighting for our rights to speak out. what is so funny about it was that our rights were never threatened.

So, what should be done about the serious threat to leftist groups by right wing assholes. We can't resort to the tactics that they use, because it only makes the movement look bad. It is imperative we recognize counter operations so we can reduce the risk of being infiltrated. Get a copy of *War At*

Home by Brian Glick published by South End Press, 116 St. Botolph St., Boston Ma. The book tells about how you can prevent covert operations in leftist organizations.

Activists groups, civil liberties groups and other leftist organizations are constantly under attack by right wing groups, but when they are infiltrated by cunning and deceit, these groups risk serious disturbance and possible disbandment. Does that mean we should call everyone with a not so left ideals spies; of course not. We should look at what their intent is for being part of the organization.

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**SEE DICK RUN,
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DON'T BE A DICK,
GET INVOLVED.**

by Tom Keays

Last night (1/22/92), I received a call from Save America's Forests, an environmental lobbying and activism group, informing me that Peter Jennings had broadcast a news story earlier that evening which was strongly critical of the U.S. Forest Service's handling of our national forests. Unfortunately I did not see this news cast myself, but in it, Jennings apparently blasted the USFS's management of old growth forests, being especially critical of the practice of wide-scale clearcutting on National Forests land. Jennings specifically mentioned that, over the last twelve years, the USFS has lost \$12.5 billion through subsidizing the cutting of forests on federal lands.

While I don't know the whole of what he said in the story, Jennings expressed support for H.R.1969, "The Forestry Biodiversity and Clearcutting Prohibition Act". Save America's Forests is urging that as many people as possible should call their Congressman today, expressing their outrage of this massive mismanagement of our nation's forests, asking them to support H.R.1969. The phone number for the House of Representatives is 202/255-3121. I would add that sending a letter to your Congressperson would be an excellent follow-up to your call. No corresponding bill has been introduced in the house, so please also write or call your Senators asking them to introduce this bill in the Senate. If you feel like calling Peter Jennings' office, complementing him on the story, that number is 212/887-3605. Now, while I didn't see the broadcast itself, I do have quite a bit of information on H.R.1969, itself, which I will briefly summarize. In addition, Save America's Forests (SAF) has been lobbying for about a year on behalf of this bill, and has put together a fairly decent four-page fact sheet on it. If you would like a copy of this, I am willing to mail them out. Contact me at htkeays@mailbox.syr.edu or htkeays@rodan.bitnet. The address for Save America's Forests is 4 Library Court, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Their phone is 202/544-9219. They also have a fax number, 202/544-7462. Send them a few bucks; they do good work. Except for a few editorial digressions from me, the text that follows is excerpted, fairly intact, from the SAF flier. I hope that I got most of the typos, but I am getting this out quickly so people have an opportunity to follow-up immediately.

Introduced on Earth Day, 1991 by Congressman John Bryant (D-TX), H.R.1969 is the only bill in Congress that addresses federal forest mismanagement on a national scale. (There is other legislation that addresses clearcutting issues on specified sections of National Forest land, but H.R.1969 is the only bill to protect all forests on federal land.) H.R.1969 would ban clearcutting (even-age management) and its variations (seed tree and shelterwood cutting and group selection) on all federal lands nationwide, including National Forests, Bureau of Land Management lands, National Wildlife Refuges, Armed Services lands, and Indian Reservations. It identifies the harms of clearcutting to wildlife, the pollution of clean water supplies, impacts to our global climate, and the degradation of recreational opportunities.

It mandates the managing agencies to shift to the ecologically and economically superior method of selection management, in which only individual trees or

small groups of trees would be removed as timber at any one time. Logging would only be allowed to create small openings in the forests, never destroying the forest canopy or understory. The explicit aim of this new management mandate is to conserve and restore native biological diversity, the full range of naturally occurring species, from microorganisms to predators. The main technique used by the USFS and other agencies in their attack on the natural forests has been clearcutting and its associated practices of roadbuilding, slashburning, site preparation and poison chemical use. Since the Forest Service adopted even-age logging as the primary method about 20 years ago, the best federal forest timberlands have been wiped out,

not a natural forest, but a tree plantation. These monoculture tree farms are very dependent on human management for survival as they are vulnerable to insect pests and disease. These stands, because there is no moist underbrush, are very dry and susceptible to intensely hot, catastrophic fires. Trees are managed in this way, not to restore a healthy, natural forest, but because they are being raised as a future "crop", with the premise that someday the entire stand will be clearcut "harvested" again. Animals, driven off or outright killed during the clearcutting process, are unable to repopulate monoculture tree farms.

In addition, many times, replantings are complete failures. Repeated attempts to replant seedlings in some clearcut areas fail every time. Formerly healthy forests are now barren. Clearcutting causes massive soil erosion and demineralization, making it impossible for a large, healthy forest to grow on many sites ever again, with a final result of desertification. Massive erosion results with topsoil being washed into streams, clogging them with silt, and killing all the aquatic life, from microorganisms to large fish.

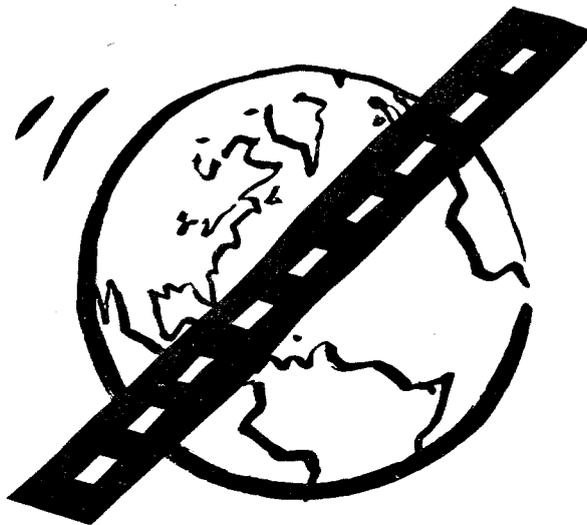
The destruction to fisheries and outdoor recreation causes tremendous economic losses and unemployment in those and related industries. Subsidized federal timber sales to large timber companies destroys the ability of small woodlot owners to manage their own timberland economically or ecologically. Workers must suffer the ravages of boom and bust cycles of unemployment. The only beneficiaries of the federal timber program are the few timber companies and lumber mills who are taking the cream of America's public forests at bargain prices.

H.R.1969 advocates selection management over clearcutting. Only individual or small groups of trees are harvested at periodic intervals. (A digression: SAF suggests that these intervals could be as little as ten years, but I, personally, don't see how old growth forests, where individual trees are often hundreds of years old, could sustain this sort of continual, frequent harvest.) The forest is able to naturally reseed itself without human labor. High quality timber is available from the same stand on a perpetual basis. Employment is stable over the long run and more jobs are assured. Soil integrity and fertility are insured since it is less disturbed initially and has natural mechanisms available to replenish itself.

Timber companies all over America practice selection management on their own land. They know selection management is good financial management. It is money in the bank, with guaranteed income on continuous timber sales for decades ahead, and all this with lower capital costs than even-age logging. (Again I digress: it is impossible for me to imagine any profit-motivated company that could successfully manage old-growth stands; the harvest intervals would have to be much longer for old growth forests where the average tree age is measured in hundreds of years rather than decades, as it would be for commercial woodlots. It seems that economic incentives would encourage too-frequent harvests. Do others agree with this? This is my own gut reaction at work here.)

Spread the word and be sure to call your Congressperson, write your Senators, newspapers, and, if you feel like it, give Peter Jennings some positive feedback. Media support on this scale is rare.

WHAT'S GOING DOWN,



mangled by clearcutting. The irony is that the Federal government is paying over 2 billion dollars per year to the Forest Service and other agencies to administer this destruction of our National Forests and other federal forests. This is a 2 billion dollar loss to the taxpayers each year. The small revenues from federal timber sales never recompensates the taxpayers for the enormous costs involved in subsidized logging, road building (\$10,000 or more per mile), the heavy machinery to clearcut, the expensive site preparation methods, the expensive hand replanting, and finally the enormous Forest Service and other agency timber-related overhead costs in the administrative bureaucracies. After clearcutting, the Forest Service subjects the site to preparation for replanting tree seedlings. Individual living trees which were not wanted for lumber, and which were left standing, are killed by various methods to "clean up" the site. These include bulldozing woody debris and vegetation into large slash piles, which are then burned, creating tremendous air pollution and wiping out the gene bank for natural regeneration of the site. Many times one or more applications of herbicides are applied to kill all remaining vegetation. Sometimes individual living trees are injected with poison to kill them..

In their place, the Forest Service replant them with stands of genetically cloned tree seedlings. The result is

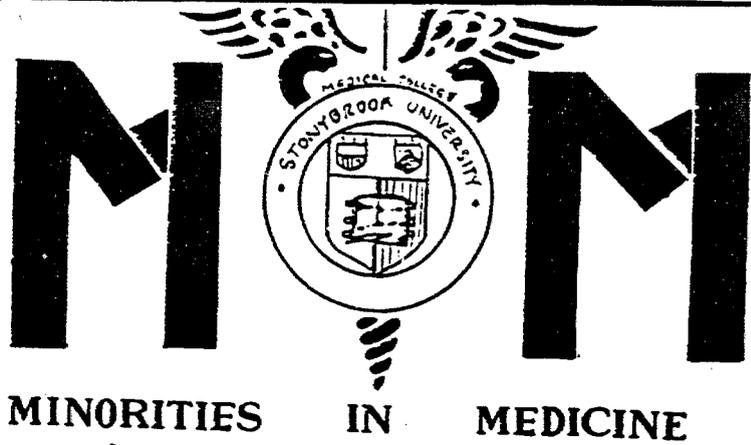


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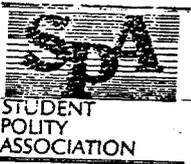
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COMMITTEE MEETING
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THE IHDE-S OF FEBRUARY: TECHNOSCIENCE AND PLURI-CULTURE

Mainstream media is a fraudulent glut of junk-vertisement, an icky macrocosm of what nineties culture is supposed to embrace. The wall-o-screen effect overtakes even the most academic and literate of persons, as the hypnosis of MTV and the deletive aspects of the newsmedia suck the creative and spiritual energies from all who are not wary.

Last Wednesday Dr. Don Ihde spoke at the Humanities Institute on the topic "Technoscience and Pluriculture" a rather high-powered study in two subjects which both plague and bless mankind. At 4:30 the distinguished Dr. Ihde who has just returned from Australia and has yet to return from Down Under, proceeded to proclaim and postulate to a rather highbrow audience of admiring colleagues and scarcely a student or graduate student on Technoscience and Pluriculture.

Technoscience, according to a Platonic definition offered by Dr. Ihde, is a term coined in the late 30's and is a broad description of industrial-military technology and science. Pluriculture, however, is a term Dr. Ihde himself coined to describe a form of multiculturalism whose reach is global and whose artifacts are the technocultural instruments of today. He likened the undercurrent of pluriculture as a "tide to all shores of the land masses," which has emerged as a result of the tidal wave of technoscience. Modern Technoscience emerged as an industrial-military establishment beginning with the German Chemical industry and interestingly the German University. These were the forerunners of our modern academic-industrial-military *menage a trois*. Big Science with its multimillion dollar instrumentation, has become a multi-cultural, a very large infrastructure embracing the cultures of Europe, the U.S. and Japan.

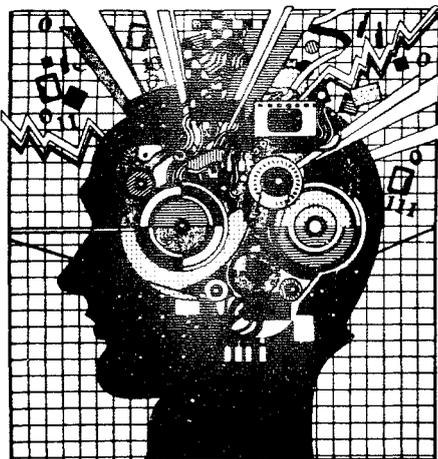
But the techno boom of the late eighties is not to be ascribed purely to the proliferation of 'high theory,' for innovative periods correspond more to periods of cross-cultural exchange, according to Dr. Ihde. The rise of Pluriculture is the post-modern form of cross-culturalism, but is much more chaotic than previous forms. Where in colonialism cross-cultural exchange was limited to souvenirs and trinkets, pluriculture is intense two-way multi-cultural exposure, televisual and cinematic, this form of propaganda is hard to

deconstruct, even perhaps for Dr. Ihde. Contemporary Pluriculture is a "prolific, virtual, daily, multicultural view," a compound screen in a newsroom, a multiplicity of reference worlds, fragmented and fluid.

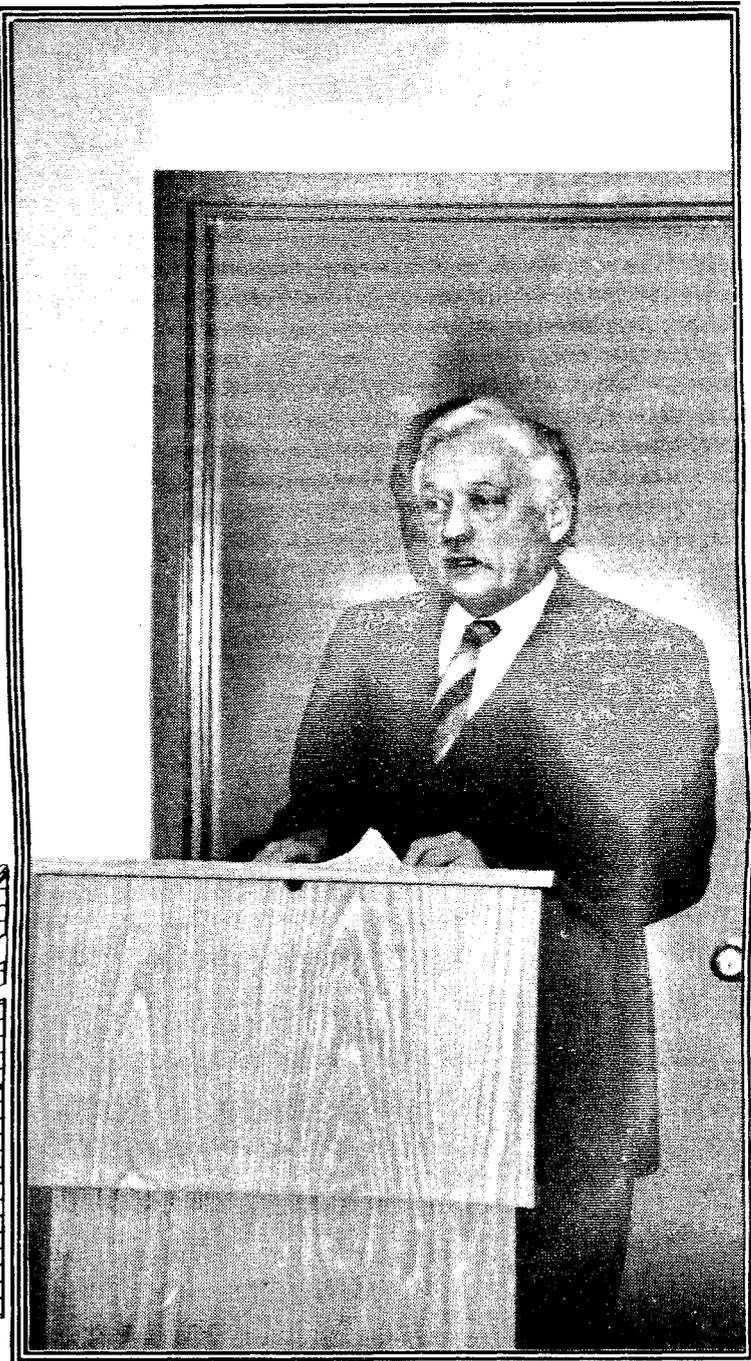
Of course if all that one were to expose himself to were the constant media barrage, and if all one studied were the mainstream masses in their fruitless materialism one would find himself a proponent of this or similar theories. Thankfully academia has not infiltrated to the darkest corners of humanity, the nightshade subcultures which lurk outside their pointed scientific probing, oldtimers trying to analyze with their intellectual instruments the plights and lights of the youth. MTV is not the final word.

Future Humanities Institute events include Professor Bruno Latour who will speak on the topic "From Postmodernism to Non-Modernism" on Tues. Feb. 11, and Mario Valdes on February 19 on "Ethnicity in the New America: the University of the Future" and see what they're missing

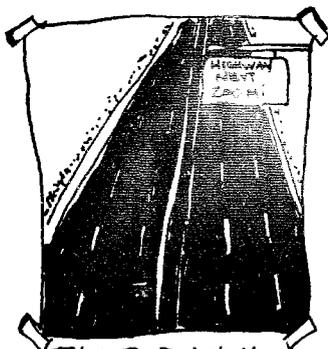
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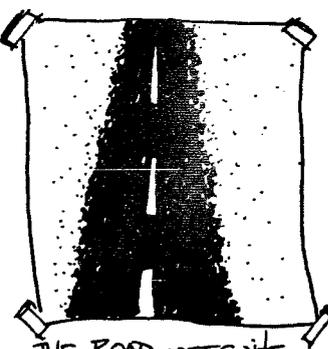
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THE ROAD TRAVELLED LESS THAN THE ROAD NOT QUITE AS WELL TRAVELLED, BUT TRAVELLED MORE THAN THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED.



THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED.

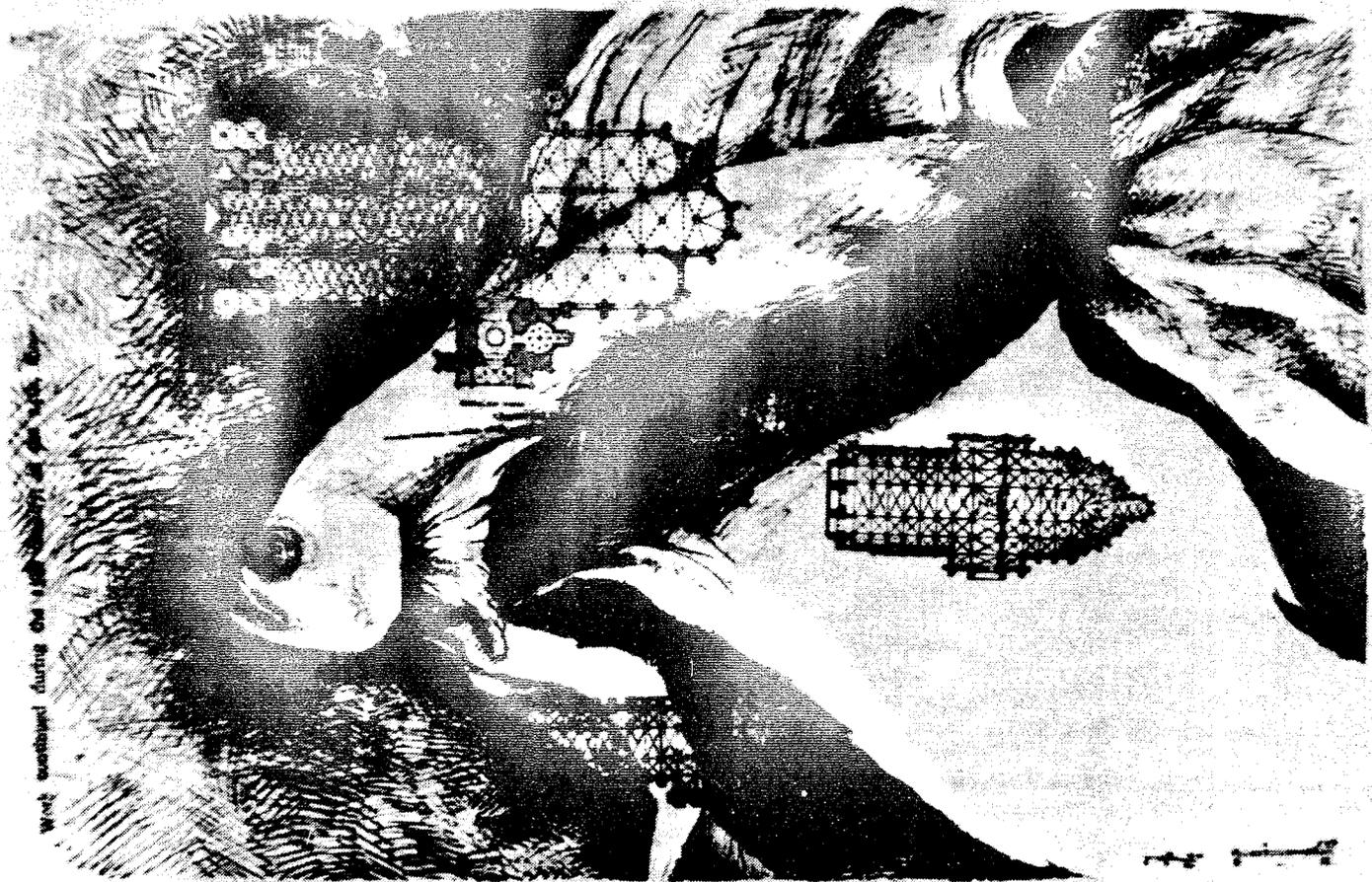


THE ROAD NOT TRAVELLED



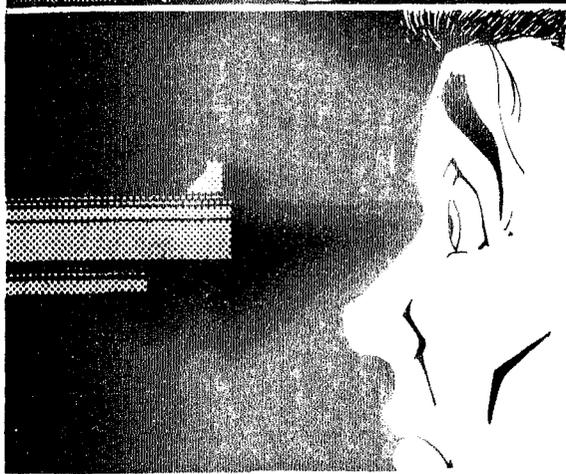
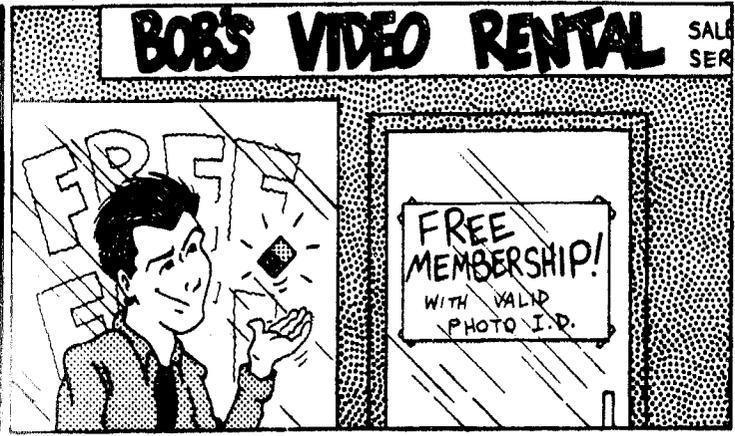
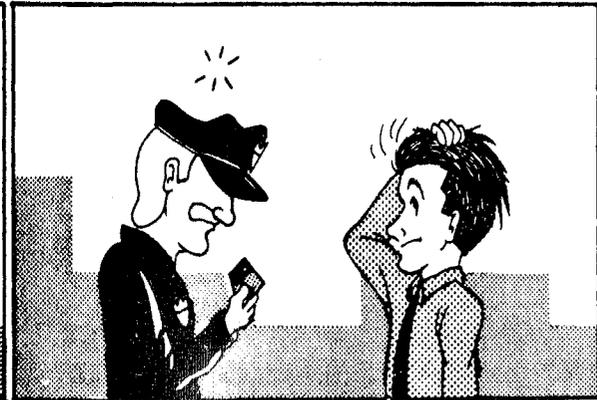
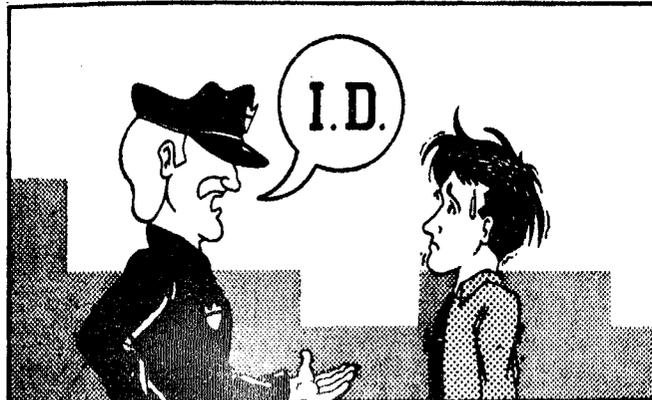
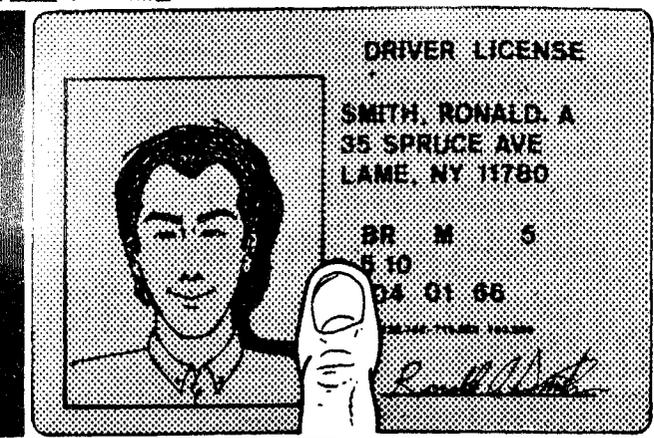
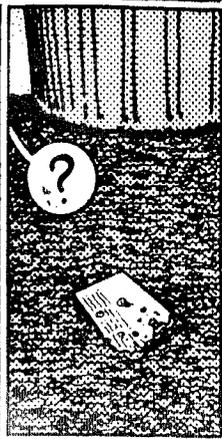
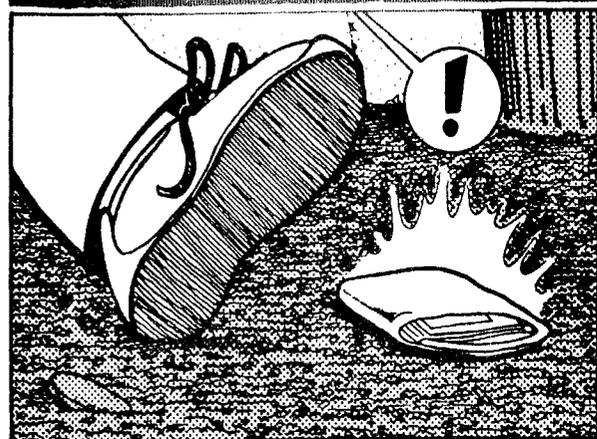
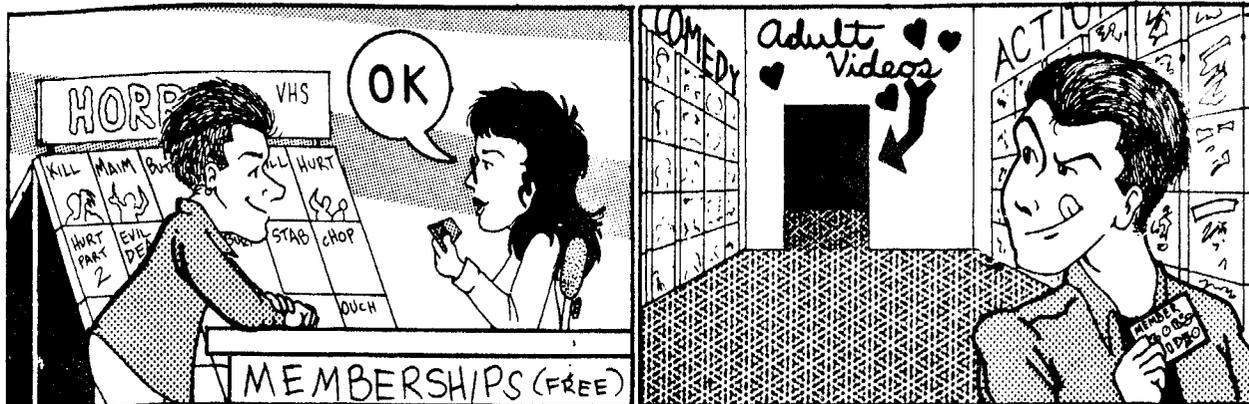
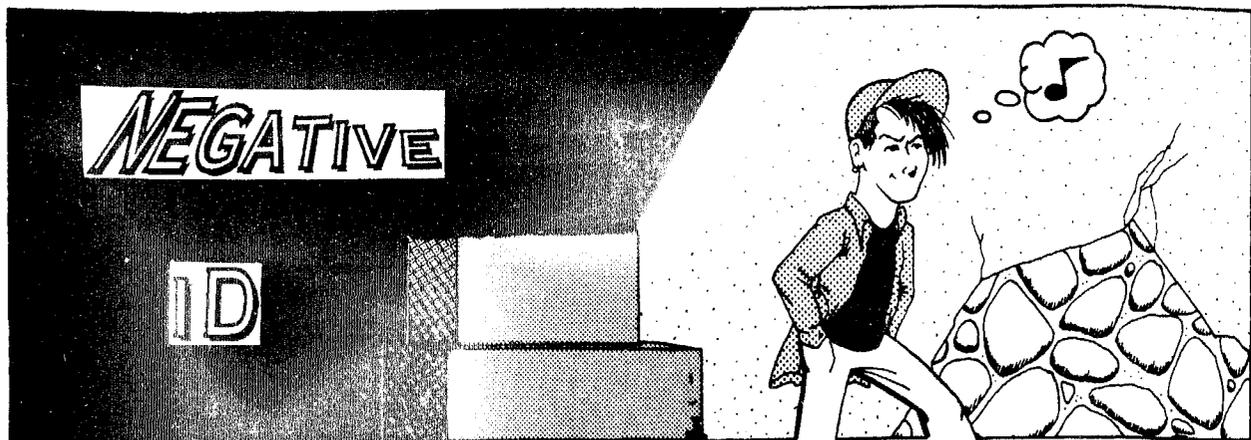
by: Jim Bacchi

Visual Arts





This photo essay represents just some of the talent that is on display in the Staller Center Gallery. Artists Jim Bouler, Ron Kellen, Mabi Ponce de Leon, and Christopher A. Yates, on display through February 26th, are students graduating from the Stony Brook Art Department's Master of Fine Arts Program and we wish them well in their promising careers.



1111 The revolution will not be televised!

MOBY

Raving a means of introspection and upward mobility?
More than music.

"On a global scale nightclubbing doesn't mean much, and it seems really shallow and petty-going out, being decadent, dancing, having a couple of drinks-but for me, I've had some of the most profound experiences in nightclubs."

Depending largely upon the mentality of the clubbers and the atmosphere of the club, sonically, socially, and visually, nightclubs may well prove to be places rich with culture and human experience. If the atmosphere is right and the mentality of the club is on a positive level, then depending upon the intensity of the individual's perspective their experiences therein may be rewarding.

However, although nightclubs may be places where an individual can be intellectually stimulated it seems that most nightclubs simply can not compete with the burgeoning rave scene. Although the rave is well established on the European continent, and is rather popular in Los Angeles, it is merely an infant in New York.

According to enthusiasts, the rave is more than a party or a night out. The rave attempts to free people of adverse social pressures and alleviate them of their personal "hang ups," thus allowing them to express themselves in a positive manner. The friendly atmosphere at the rave is how this is accomplished. Raving is akin to attending an all night dance commune, not simply an evening out, but a state of mind. This state of mind can not be bought or furnished with lights and bass bins, and at a time when the rave is yet an infant in this hostile city, one would hope that promoters and other organizers would understand the rave's purpose and not merely exploit the scene for financial gain.

And at a time when the infant is mothered by techno gangsta's it is apparent that there is a need for an emulation. An emulation of the rave, and this emulation is clearly present in a man, his name is Moby. Many of us are familiar with Moby's musical compositions, "Go" being his most successful, but as for his other attributes, one may be bold enough to say that Moby's modesty, integrity, and consciousness may increase one's affection and appreciation for his music.

Moby's musical background ranges from his early exposure to classical music to his playing in a hardcore band. Moby got into deejaying as a means to pay the rent, but he soon found himself enjoying dance music. Moby explains, "after I dropped out of college I kind of lucked into a job as a DJ and it was really through deejaying that I got into dance music exclusively. Before that I was more of an alternative rocker." However, Moby did not abandon his musical aspirations. In fact, it happened that his musical meanderings were akin to the European techno dance revolution.

When asked what drew him to the rave, Moby remarked, "the atmosphere that it creates." Although Moby's musical career has been rather successful thus far, he claims his, "main interest is the fact that I think people could benefit from a good scene. America, during the Reagan years, became a closed minded society, somewhat backwards. And hopefully through this music and

other cultural things it could develop a little bit." Moby remarked in an interview with *Disc Jockey Magazine* that he thought, "there's a real danger in getting too excited about money. In the course of my life there have been times where a bit of money has come in and you get excited about it, and that's what you start being concerned about, and it doesn't make you happy, becoming so competitive and money-hungry."

Moby's attributes are reflected in his music, as well as, in the preceding comments. One may perceive deep emotional connotations when hearing a song like "Go". When asked about the differences between his music and the hardcore Belgian sounds, Moby suggested, "one difference may be, for better or for worse, I am a musician, I studied music a lot. I think a lot of other people making records, they're backgrounds are not musical. That's not saying I am better than they are, or visa versa, its just were coming from different places. So maybe what I do is more song structured, but sometimes I think that's not such a good thing." "When making records," he went on, "as opposed to being in a nite club with 3,000 people going crazy with the lights and the hardcore beats, sitting in a bedroom late at night making music chances are its going to be more introspective."

"When I make music," Moby commented in an interview with *Discotext Magazine*, "I don't think too much, it's more of a meditative process, which is also how I approach deejaying-these are disciplines I can get lost in. The clubs that I like the most are the ones that tend to fit the description of a long dark room with heavy bass and atmospheric, primeval music-kind of one long beat. I tend to gravitate between two extremes, either really moody and dark, or really intense and hard. It is a definite aesthetic that I have, and consciously or unconsciously, I try to put that across in the music that I make." "The stuff that I've produced that I feel most strongly about is the ambient atmospheric stuff."

However, although Moby is a musician he acknowledges that the rave is not about music as opposed to the rock-n-roll tradition, where four guys get on stage and bore everyone. The rave emphasizes the crowd, not the artists, and although, "there are performances, they are not very long, and they are basically just to build the energy of the whole night. It's more of a communal thing. People getting along on a positive level, its not individualistic. Overseas in England, that is what's happening, they have that mentality where people are getting together and dancing for eight or nine hours straight. It's unlike anything I've ever experienced."

"And as for the New York side of things, it's really just beginning here. It's hard to be too critical of it because its in its infancy, and you can't compare New York to England, because its been there for years." "Hopefully things will start to develop on a more underground level, because that's when things will be good. Everyone in the club interested in the same thing. You don't get guys in the club just to get drunk, pick up women, or whatever."



When asked if he felt New York could sustain such a positive vibe, Moby remarked, "I don't know, New York is a violent place. Maybe, if people learned to relax and get out their aggressions dancing instead of being all uptight and beating someone up for leaning on their car or something, then maybe New York would be a more peaceful place."

Whether or not the rave will uplift New York's social environment, it certainly will have a positive influence on many people. Hopefully, as New York's dance scene is presently undergoing a rejuvenation, there will be more authentic personas who will emulate the rave, not merely "fitting in" or ridding the latest trend, but being real and promoting a positive consciousness.

Peace, Trepp.

Panic inc,

Panic inc. is a product of the NY underground. Our purpose is to serve and protect the integrity of our scene. A cultural rejuvenation is underway, and we will not allow anybody with the wrong intentions to damage our scene. And, if need be, some of you will answer to the punisher.

Whispers of Sighs

by Joe Distefano

A child's toy panda-mutilated fur, missing an eye sits on a glass shelf strewn with shards of broken mirrors, beyond this a darkened gallery broken up by lengths of fabric hanging from the ceiling. This image caught me off guard during a late night study cigarette. Shocked and captivated by my first impression of "Whispers of Sighs" by artists Maureen Palmieri and Vicki Arndt I decided to return to the Library Gallery the next day.

By day the idea behind the installation, or least the title was more apparent. Entering the Library Gallery one is met by disembodied whispering women floating through a room divided up by hanging pieces of white cloth creating the effect of a disorienting and somewhat haunting labyrinth. This is no doubt the intent of the artists, since the work depicts the internal problems within the dysfunctional family and the deceit and confusion which their secrecy hold for children.

At first the exhibit is confusing and disturbing because of

the unlocatable whisperings creating an hypnotic sense of something amiss. Forgetting the stated intent of the work it recalls an archeological dig of twentieth century family

families are to some degree dysfunctional.

As you progress through the eerie corridors of the dysfunctional Joneses things begin to coalesce. A

"Entering the Library Gallery one is met by disembodied whispering women floating through a room divided up by hanging pieces of white cloth creating the effect of a disorienting and somewhat haunting labyrinth."

culture. One encounters a "normal" family dinner setting, except for bits of china scattered on the floor, and an incessant muttering, "Hey don't you hear me." Something is indeed wrong at the Joneses and elsewhere. One of the underlying assumptions of "Whispers and Sighs" and much latter day psychiatry is that all

sharp contrast of the normal family dinner is presented, filled with fragmented images of childhood as well as shards of mirror taken to represent the abused child's fragmented sense of self. Despite the serious emotional weight of the subject matter there is a perverse humor in the gagged and bound

stuffed animals. The central image of deceit in this area are some surreal looking masks strewn on the table. A second more distinct voice is heard, "I feel no pain my daddy makes sure of that... So when he beat me I always noticed how shiny his shoes were." The confusion inherent in being abused by a caretaker figure is captured poignantly by a childish scrawl on a door, "He loves me, he loves me not," echoed by the voice on the tape.

"Whispers and Sighs" recreates the mental confusion and setting of the dysfunctional family by its haunting recollections and its usage of imagery depicting disturbed and confused childhood. The labyrinth of the exhibit with its hanging veils of secrecy giving way to the setting of abuse opposite the "normal" family setting is an effective symbol for the journey of self discovery and breaking through psychological barriers that members of dysfunctional families experience. It is a unique and compelling display because it addresses an issue that a whispering voice tells us, "No ever talks about..." "Whispers of Sighs" will run in the Library Gallery until February 14th.

