

1979-1999 - THE STONY BROOK PRESS - THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY'S FEATURE PAPER

20
years

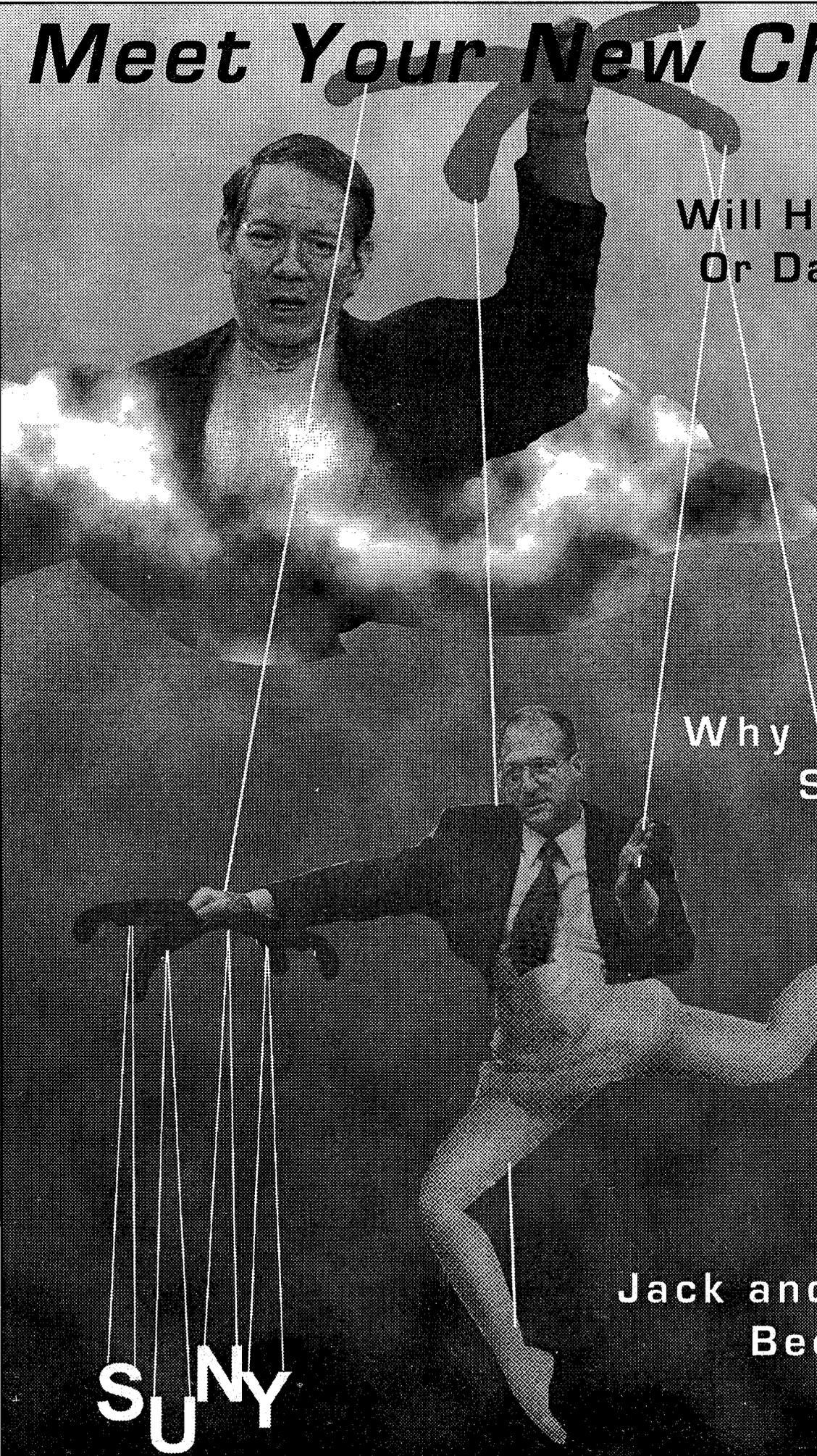
THE STONY BROOK **PRESS**

Vol. XXI No. 8

"Journalism, Schmournalism"

January 26, 2000

Meet Your New Chancellor...



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Or Dance For Pataki?
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SUNY

Campus Events

*President's Lecture Series
Celebrating Diversity*

Jamaican-born artist

Keith Morrison

"My work in this decade (paintings and prints) has explored three basic ideas: urban American pathology; American mythology; and landscape fantasies. My talk, with slides of my work, will be about my ideas and their interrelationships."

--Keith Morrison

Campus Life Time,
Wednesday, February 16, 2000,
12:40 - 2 p.m.

In the SAC Auditorium
(refreshments will be served)

Co-sponsored by the President's Office, the Office for Diversity and Affirmative Action, the Art Department, Africana Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center, the Caribbean Student Organization, and the Latin American Student Organization.

STONY BROOK DAY

Over the last few years the University Administration and UUP have sponsored Stony Brook Day in Albany. It has been an opportunity to let legislators know what is happening at the University, and to encourage them to continue their support for public higher education.

Last year two busloads from the Stony Brook Community visited legislators to promote the University and to make our needs known to them. It was an auspicious beginning!

For the coming year we would like to increase our visibility in Albany. **Tuesday, February 8, 2000 has been designated as Stony Brook Day, and we would like as many of the faculty, staff and students as possible to join the President, Provost and Deans to make our case to legislators.** It will be a long day but one which is both enjoyable and beneficial to the University.

A strong showing will demonstrate in Albany how important the University is to the citizens of New York State, while at the same time emphasizing our personal commitment to Stony Brook. We ask you seriously to consider taking part in this event. Buses will leave from the South P lot at 6 a.m. and will return by 8 p.m.

Please e-mail either of us to let us know that you will be joining us, and to reserve a place on the buses.

Aaron.Godfrey@sunysb.edu
Janice.Rohlf@sunysb.edu

Community of Hidden Artists and Poets

The Stony Brook Union Art Gallery and the President's Office will be displaying the artwork and poetry of the campus' "Hidden Artists and Poets." The work will be shown simultaneously in the Union Art Gallery and the President's Conference Room from January 20th - February 3rd, 2000. This will include the works of Stony Brook administrators, faculty, and staff members who are not "professional" artists and writers but, who pursue their creative outlets. A variety of mediums will be exhibited including paintings, multimedia, video art, original music compositions, drawings and ceramics.

The Gallery hours are:
Monday through Friday from
12 pm - 4 pm. For additional info,
please call 632-6820.

Pataki Lackey Appointed To Top SUNY Post

By Jill Baron and Joanna Wegielnik

Robert King, a close political ally of Governor George Pataki, was recently picked to become the next SUNY chancellor by a search committee that included Stony Brook President, Shirley Strum Kenny. The appointment of King as the new chancellor has generated both positive and negative reactions from key players in the SUNY system and state legislature. Critics' concerns about King's lack of academic experience and close political ties to Pataki, have been tempered by Pataki's 2000 budget package, which includes an \$80 million "increase" to the SUNY budget.

The search committee, which unanimously recommended King to the top SUNY post in early December, was comprised of three SUNY trustees, Randy Daniels, Paul Perez, and Pamela Jacobs; the chairman of the Board of Trustees, Thomas Egan; the President of the University Senate, Joseph Flynn; a student representative from Hudson Valley Community College, Fadeyibi Adeboye; and USB president Shirley Strum Kenny.

Last year, the SUNY board of Trustees handpicked the search committee to conduct a national search for a new chancellor after John W. Ryan, the interim chancellor, announced plans to retire. Ryan served as SUNY chancellor for three years, and according to the chancellor's office, he will remain a consultant to SUNY and chancellor emeritus.

According to a recent *Associated Press* story, the search committee enlisted the help of a Los Angeles consulting firm, Korn-Ferry International, in the search at a price tag of \$108,667. Legislators in the State Assembly said that the payment to Korn-Ferry was irresponsible and unnecessary given SUNY's fiscal problems and charged that Robert King was a preordained for the position all along.

"We all knew that Bob King has the inside track for this job and such a huge payment to an outside consultant just outrageous," Michael Bragman, the Assembly Majority Leader of Onondaga County told the *AP*. "As far as I know...I think there was only one other candidate besides Bob King. I question if a national search was necessary to identify a candidate from within our state government who works just a few blocks away."

King was unanimously recommended by the search committee to the Board of Trustees in early December. On December 14th, the Board of Trustees met and unanimously approved King's appointment. Critics of the appointment warn that it will strengthen Governor Pataki's influence over SUNY, further politicizing the university system.

Kirstin Swanson, President of the State University Student Association (SASU), an organization that lobbies on behalf of SUNY student interests, said that the appointment was "very odd with possible political implications." Swanson said that King's tenure as budget director for Pataki was marked by budgets that were

not beneficial to SUNY. "The governor has control over the Board of Trustees. [The appointment] seems, on the surface, another way of controlling the University," Swanson said.

Edward Sullivan (D-Manhattan), the chairman of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, has been one of the most outspoken critics of the King appointment. "Everything done by the trustees is political. [King] was politically appointed." Sullivan said that he doesn't respect the effort of the Board of Trustees in their choice because they are ultimately responsible to N.Y. State government, not SUNY interests. "The board is political, not educational. It imposed politics on education."

Charles Deister, Governor Pataki's press secretary, said that the charges being leveled that King's appointment will further politicize SUNY are groundless. When asked if Mr. King's close relationship with Governor Pataki will further inject legislative politics into SUNY policy, he responded, "That's ridiculous." Deister stressed that "the Governor has been a strong supporter of higher education" during his time in office. Pataki did, however, succeed in raising tuition by \$750 in 1995. In 1996 and 1997, he tried to raise tuition again, but was blocked by the legislature.

King's lack of concrete experience in academia and education is another concern critics cite. Mr. King's sole educational experience was as a trustee for the Monroe County Community College Foundation. Traditionally, the position of chancellor is held by someone who has experience teaching or administrating at the university level. King has extensive experience in politics and money management, but little in academia. He was chosen by the search committee over Stanley Koplick, the other finalist in the search. Koplick was the chancellor of the Massachusetts state university system.

"Without faulting him, he's a bright person...but the process by which he was chosen was faulty," Ed Sullivan said. "SUNY is the finest educational system in the U.S. The Board of Trustees should have been looking for finest educator in the US. [King] is not an educator. He's a politician."

Jon Sorensen, King's spokesperson, maintained that fiscal knowledge is just as important in running the state university system as education and that King's close ties with the Governor can only help SUNY. "Having a friend of the Governor as the Chancellor can only be good for the University," Sorensen said. Concerning King's lack of experience in education, Sorensen said that King doesn't "pretend to have academic credentials" but he has other important skills. Sorensen said Provost Peter Salins is the "academic expert" of SUNY. Sorensen added that as the past indicates, "academic experience hasn't been an answer to what SUNY needed."

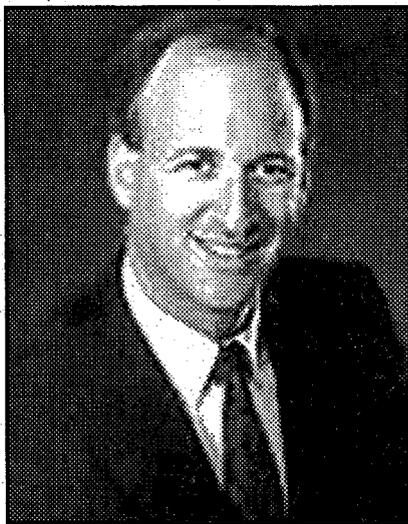
John Schmidt, Stony Brook chapter president of the United University Professions (UUP), the union representing university professors and faculty, said that while the union will take a "wait and see attitude" with King, he expressed concern over King's lack of experience in education. "The reality is that King has zero academic experience," Schmidt said. "This sends a wrong message to people involved in higher education."

While King is the first SUNY chancellor appointed to the post without bona fide academ-

ic credentials, the practice of appointing people outside of academic ranks to university posts is a growing national trend. It is not unusual to see businessmen and politicians appointed to university positions. The popular perception is that they will be better able to manage finances, and handle the budgetary concerns of large university systems like SUNY and CUNY.

The King appointment also raised concerns among many that tuition at SUNY and CUNY schools would be raised because of King's political associations to the fiscally conservative Pataki. King worked in the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform since 1995 and last year was appointed budget director by the Governor. The Pataki administration has proposed tuition increases several times since 1995.

In contrast to previous years, Pataki announced in his recent budget proposal for fiscal year 2000-01, an \$80 million increase to SUNY. However, \$56 million of the total increase has been earmarked for salary increases that have been negotiated by the UUP several years ago. The remaining \$24 million will be distributed among the 64 SUNY campuses statewide. "We don't really see it [budget] as an increase," said Kirstin Swanson, President of SASU. "Most of the money should have been added to SUNY two years ago. Most of this money is going towards fulfilling a contractual agreement with the UUP."



Robert King

The Low-Down On King

Robert King, the newly appointed SUNY chancellor, has come under criticism for his lack of experience in academia and education. He has, however, been a key player in New York State politics for over a decade.

In the late 1980s and early 90s, King served as a Republican State Assemblyman from Fairport, New York. In the mid '90s, Pataki appointed King, a Rochester native, as the head of the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform (acronym GORR, pronounced like Al Gore), a new office that was created and given the power to examine and overturn decisions of the state assembly. His position in the GORR helped win his electoral bid for the Monroe County Executive. In 1998, Pataki appointed King Budget Director. He served as budget director until December of last year, when he was appointed to the SUNY chancellorship.

King graduated from Trinity College in Hartford Connecticut with a BA and received a law degree from Vanderbilt University. He worked as a prosecutor in California and Monroe County before being elected to the Assembly. His role in the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform was often marked by controversy. He was frequently criticized by public advocacy groups like The New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) for bowing down to business pressures and ignoring environmental concerns.

In a 1995 Gannett News Service article, Larry Shapiro, former NYPIRG senior attorney, said during an interview, "It seems to me that Bob King has a very one-sided agenda to make life as easy for businesses as he can regardless of consequences."

In 1989, King and other Assembly Republicans were lambasted for proposing jail sentences for anyone who used drugs, even once. Shortly after this proposal, King admitted to smoking marijuana in college during a press conference. "Should I have done it? Of course not," said King to a group of reporters. "What was tolerable in the 1960s is not tolerable today."

The Governor's Control Over SUNY Must Be Checked

Just before Robert King's appointment to SUNY chancellor, The United University Professions (UUP), the union representing SUNY faculty, released a list of criteria that they would have liked the new chancellor to have. "UUP is encouraged that the trustees are getting close to picking the leader who will take SUNY into the next millennium," said union president William E. Scheuerman in a press release. "Only a chancellor who embodies these characteristics -first and foremost- and is prepared to fulfill this position's fiduciary responsibilities should be selected. These are not pie-in-the-sky concepts. These are the leadership qualities any good university system should have," he said. According to their criteria, the new chancellor should be:

-The most vocal advocate on behalf of the University, promoting adequate financial support, the lifeblood of SUNY programs, faculty, staff, and students;

-A champion of academic freedom, the foundation of American higher education;

-An enthusiastic participant in the principal of shared governance, ensuring that the SUNY faculty is included in all decisions affecting the academic program of the University, and;

-An independent protector who confronts any and all political expediencies--internal and external--that threaten SUNY's mission of quality, access and affordability and its commitment to the academic principles that have made the University the best public higher education system in the nation.

Does King meet these criteria? That's debatable. What's clear is that he is, first and foremost, a politician. He is the first chancellor to be appointed from outside academia. How this will affect SUNY remains to be seen. Despite comments from the Pataki/King camp to the contrary, appointing

someone to this position who has been the governor's right hand man for many years can only serve to further Pataki's political agenda, which thus far has been to downsize SUNY. The primary people who had a say in King's appointment were those whose political views are in line with Pataki's. Four of the seven members of the search committee that chose King are members of the SUNY Board of Trustees. The trustees were all handpicked by Pataki when he came into office in 1994. We question the fairness of the process by which King was chosen.

The Board of Trustees has frequently come under fire for acting in the governor's interest rather than in SUNY's. In April of 1999, the SUNY Faculty Senate and the UUP issued a joint statement that aired their grievances with the Board. These included: Allowing ideological views to dictate the academic direction of the University; diminishing the University as a comprehensive system of diverse campuses; failing to advocate for strong and financial support of the University; **and failing to conduct fair and open searches for the most senior administrative positions in the University and disregarding affirmative action guidelines.**

Since the Board of Trustees has always been appointed by the governor, Pataki can't be blamed per se for choosing people who are in line with his political views. Cuomo did the same thing when he was governor. Rather, the governor, regardless of who it might be, should not have the sole power to appoint Trustees. The Trustees wield an incredible amount of power over SUNY, and the decision of who they are should not be left up to one person. Those who are involved in the day-to-day running of SUNY, such as faculty, should have a say in such an important decision. This would prevent partisan politics from overshadowing the mission of SUNY.

Oops, Our Bad...

To err is human. This statement holds true, we hope, for amateur college journalists like ourselves. In our last issue of last semester, we ran a controversial ad from Bradley Smith, an individual who runs advertising in college newspapers across the country that question certain facts of the Holocaust. When approached with the ad, the executive board of *The Press* was unaware of Smith or his history. We hastily decided that we would run the ad even though it seemed potentially volatile. We thought there may be some backlash, but didn't give it much thought since *The Press* has seen more backlash than a... well, you get the idea. The ad was discussed with the student media council and at the time, no one remembered who Bradley Smith was. When the paper came out, the ad upset certain members of the campus community, including Hillel, a Jewish student organization. It was suggested that Smith may have had neo-Nazi affiliations, and that we acted irresponsibly in not recognizing the difference between advertising and editorial policy.

We regret that we did not conduct adequate research into Smith's background before running the ad. We also regret that we accepted Smith's view in the form of a paid advertisement, rather than allowing him to make use of the open forum that *The Press* provides in the form of an article or an opinion piece. The editorial board of *The Stony Brook Press* would like to apologize for any confusion or ill feelings our decision may have caused. On the upside, we did learn a valuable lesson, and we decided to devote our next issue to an expose of hate groups and hate propaganda, especially those that prey on college students. See the ad on the right for more details.

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WINNER

1999 NEWSDAY SCHOOL JOURNALISM AWARDS

- FIRST PLACE IN COMMENTARY
- SECOND PLACE IN PHOTOGRAPHY

1998 CAMPUS ALTERNATIVE

JOURNALISM AWARDS

- FIRST PLACE IN REPORTING
- FIRST PLACE IN HELLRAISING
- BEST SENSE OF HUMOR

Letters To The Editor

To the editors:

I was very upset to see Bradley Smith's holocaust revisionary advertisement in the last copy of the SB Press.

Bradley Smith is a Nazi. Bradley Smith works hard to deny the deaths of millions of Jews in the holocaust. Bradley Smith's mission is to make Hitler look good, and to make the slaughter of innocents acceptable. You helped Bradley Smith.

Your poorly thought-out editorial illustrates that you don't understand what journalism (and ESPECIALLY "alternative" journalism) is all about. If you thought Bradley Smith had a right to make his voice heard, you could have been JOURNALISTS and written a story about him.

Your rantings about the first amendment are even more confused. Every voice should be allowed to speak but not every voice deserves to be listened to. Smith is wrong, and there is no need for debate on the topic. The Holocaust happened. There are millions of witnesses, and we have corpses, camps and confessions to prove it.

What's next, an ad from the World Church of the Creator? Soliciting funds for Rev. Fred Phelps? A calendar telling us when and where we can attend Klan rallies? Bradley Smith is no different from any of these people. In a way, he's even worse, because he cloaks his hate in pseudo-academic terms which make the simple-minded think he's not "horribly offensive" and might be worth a listen. You took money from a hate group. You sold out your paper, yourselves and your campus for the Aryan Nation's blood money. I can't respect anyone who takes funds from the same people who burn churches and temples, beat up homosexuals, and drag black men behind their trucks. I expect this kind of stupidity

from other newspapers, but not from the Press.

Sincerely,
Paul Kellam

Dear Editor,

We are amazed with the Stony Brook Press confusion between freedom of speech and advertising choice. You had a choice not only to accept or reject the as on Holocaust Studies. You also had a choice between standing for responsible and coherent ads or being part of the sloppy thinking rampant today and represented by Bradley Smith's ad.

Please don't use the Bill of Rights to justify your careless and thoughtless decision. The University is a community that not only advocates freedom of thought but also insists on integrity and thoughtfulness in its dialogue. It is not only that we are offended as a religious community by the bigotry of this ad. We are saddened by the carelessness of your editor in accepting a statement that contributes nothing to the sense of community on our campus and our commitment to true diversity.

Sincerely,
The Rev. Dr. Robert B. Wallace, Chaplain
Nora Fluent, Program Coordinator
Protestant Campus Ministry

To: Stony Brook Press

Recently Mr. Bradley Smith took out an ad in SUNY Stony Brook to prove the non existence of the Holocaust.

It is with great sadness that over time the injustice from man to man has gone unnoticed. While it is horrifying that we realize that

Genocide has been given a deceiving name "ethnic cleansing" as if some race was created dirty by God's hands and it needs a brutal superior race to clan it up; It is more astonishing to realize that it is happening now in this century before the world's eyes in Kosovo and in Bosnia, where the Musliums were the target of human Genocide.

Well let me tell you and Mr Smith about my neighbor and colleague on the Multi faith society on Long Island. His name is Werner Reich and he is a Holocaust Survivor. He lived it and suffered from it like the 13 millions who died at that time and from them there were 6 million Jews. He told me many times horror stories his mother who was awarded the Iron Cross during WWI by the German Army and later was killed by the Nazis. At the age of 13 he was forced to live in hiding but eventually was imprisoned and beaton (sic). He spent months in Chezh camp and told me about Dr. Mengele who from 5000 people 98 were select to stay alive and he was amongst them and the remainder went to the gas chamber, and many more stories Warner had to tell over the years, because he could not forget his mother or forget how she died.

May God put to rest the souls of all who died brutally and at the hands of tyrants simple because of their faith and worship. May God help us to learn from this past century and help prevent it from happening again in the next. But this can happen only if we remember the pain of the past. May God have mercy on us all.

Thank you
Sanaa Nadim
Muslim Chaplain Interfaith Center

Attention All Campus Religious and Ethnic Organizations!

We Need Your Submissions!

The next issue of *The Stony Brook Press* will be devoted to examining and exposing hate groups in America. We need people to submit articles on the topic. We would like different ethnic and religious organizations to contribute to ensure a diverse array of viewpoints. Anyone is welcome to contribute, however. The deadline for this issue will be Friday, February 4. For more information, please email us at sbpress@ic.sunysb.edu or call us at 632-6451 and ask for Hilary, Jill, or Daniel.

South Carolina Under Fire

By Shari Goldsmith

The United States watched legacies unfold on Mon. Jan 17, 2000, as 46,000 protesters gathered on the anniversary of the birth of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., to oppose South Carolina's permanent display of the Confederate flag, hailed as a symbol of Southern heritage.

Marchers targeted South Carolina's capitol building, where the flag is on display, verbalizing their disgust for the controversial symbol by displaying slogans of, "Your heritage is my slavery."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was a major part of the central force propelling this civil rights campaign. In July of 1999, the organization announced that it would begin a boycott against the states' tourism industry aimed at disabling one of South Carolina's major economic contributors.

South Carolina's Assembly publicly adopted the Confederate flag in 1962. The state raised the flag over the state's capitol building, to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the Civil War. Flag opponents contend the true motivation was defiance against the growing civil rights movement. The battle has been waged off and on ever since, according to W. Thomas Smith Jr. of *USA Today*.

Georgia and Mississippi have also come under public criticism for having incorporated the Confederate flag into their state flags. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH Coalition has said it will announce an economic boycott against Georgia during the Super Bowl on Jan. 30, as explained in *USA Today*.

South Carolina continues to be the only state that does not officially recognize Dr. King's birthday as a mandatory holiday. One week prior to the anti-Confederate flag demonstration, 6,000 people marched in Columbia to show their support of the flag.

The new manual published by South

Carolina's legislators includes the Confederate flag in pictures on its cover. Black lawmakers have protested this display, demanding that the book be reprinted, as reported by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

Monday's demonstration has been noted as the largest in South Carolina's history, said Mayor Bob Coble. "The vast majority of South Carolina says it's time to bring down the flag now," said Mayor Joe Riley of Charleston, who is white. "We cannot ignore that the Confederate flag was taken by hate groups. It was taken by the Klan. It became a banner of the segregation-forever movement, and we cannot be insensitive in South Carolina to the feelings of our African-American brothers and sisters when they see that flag," as quoted in the *New York Times* by David Firestone.

The anti-Confederate flag demonstrators distributed a sheet entitled "Heritage of Hate." The flyer quotes the Confederate Constitution and other documents from the 1860s describing blacks as inferior and calling slavery important to the South. Civil rights leaders say the Confederate flag is a racist symbol of slavery, while its supporters say it honors the Civil War dead, reported Chris Burritt in *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*.

Local representatives defend the legislature's decision to exhibit the Confederate flag, explaining that it's a First Amendment issue and it's a matter of free speech. Conflicts have also surfaced over the federal government's jurisdiction over the issue. South Carolina declares their adoption of the Confederate

flag and their refusal to enforce Dr. King's birthday as a holiday is included under the protection of states' rights, ignoring any claims of influence proposed by the national government.

The Southern Legal Resource Center represents South Carolina explaining that they are the ACLU for the Confederate flag. "There is a concerted, well financed, well-orchestrated effort to outlaw, demonize and remove from public display the Confederate flag, which deserves First Amendment protection," reported by *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*.

The South Carolina legislature defends their refusal to focus political discussion on the flag issue, claiming that it will overshadow their ongoing issues such as education and tax relief.

The Confederate flag has even become an issue among Republican Presidential candidate hopefuls. In an attempt not to ostracize any passionate activists on either side, the candidates have attempted to skirt the issue or to toss it back to the state, according to *USA Today*.

The fight to oppose the displaying of the controversial flag has reached college campuses. Marcus Moore, an African-American studies senior at Emory University in Atlanta, has been active in campus demonstrations to persuade fraternities to stop displaying the Confederate flag, as stated in the *New York Times*.

The NAACP boycott of South Carolina tourism has cost the state more than \$40 million in conventions and other such business since it was launched last summer. Some influential groups have proposed a compromise of moving the offensive emblem to a sight designated to memorialize South Carolina's sentiment involving the Civil War. Activists impress that the boycott and public critique will continue until the Confederate flag is removed from the capital's central building.

**South Carolina
continues to
be the only state that
does not
officially recognize
Dr. King's
birthday...**

Meet Willie. He's a cute little groundhog.
He likes nuts and leaves.



One slight problem:
Unless more people get involved
with *The Press*,
we will be forced to sacrifice
him in an
honorary sorrow ritual.
Will he live or die?
Willie's fate is in your hands.
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Too Young to Die

By Michael Yeh

When he was 17, Glen Charles McGinnis was already more grown-up than most other kids his age.

That's not to say that he was already an adult when his life turned upside down almost a decade ago. After all, he was not old enough to buy cigarettes or booze. He was not allowed to vote or sign legal contracts. But under Texas law, McGinnis was old enough to be tried for murder as an adult and put to death.

On August 1, 1990, McGinnis walked into the Wilkins Cleaners & Laundry in Conroe, Texas, pulled out his mother's .25 caliber pistol, and fatally shot 30-year-old clerk Leta Ann Wilkerson four times in the head and back. He was tried and convicted as an adult in this case, and subsequently sentenced to death. Unless Texas governor George W. Bush commutes the sentence in the next few days, McGinnis, now 26, will be executed on Tuesday, January 25.

McGinnis will be the third juvenile offender to be executed in the United States this month. Douglas Christopher Thomas, 26, died by lethal injection at Virginia's Greensville Correctional Center on January 10 for killing his girlfriend's parents in their sleep in 1990. Three days later, 23-year-old Steve Roach was executed in the same facility for the 1993 slaying of a 70-year-old widowed neighbor.

These cases have caught the eyes of death penalty opponents, legal experts, and human rights activists who are trying to thrust the issue of juvenile executions into the national spotlight. The American Bar Association has written letters to the governors of Virginia and Texas urging them to commute these sentences, and the international human rights group Amnesty International released a detailed report on these cases in December entitled, "Shame in the 21st Century."

Our nation has earned the dubious distinction of being the only nation other than Somalia that has not signed the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child because the agreement explicitly bans the execution of juvenile offenders. Article 37(a) of the agreement states: "Neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release shall be imposed for offenses committed by persons below eighteen years of age."

Despite the nearly universal acceptance of this treaty and other agreements condemning capital punishment for juveniles among UN member states worldwide, the U.S. Supreme Court does

not find anything wrong with executing people who committed capital crimes when they were only 16 years old. Yet the same justices argue that 16-year-olds are not capable of signing legal documents. Some states like Virginia allow minors as young as 14 to be tried as adults. And in the aftermath of the 1998 school shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas, one Texas legislator called for the minimum age for the death penalty to be dropped to 11.

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In the last decade, 10 of the 19 people executed worldwide for crimes committed as juveniles were put to death in the United States, with the remainder divided among Iran, Nigeria, Yemen, Pakistan, and Saudi Arabia. Yemen has since outlawed the practice.

Ironically, the first true juvenile court in the world was founded in this country a century ago in Cook County, Illinois, based on the notion that minors have a diminished capacity for sound moral judgement. But while most of the world followed our example in delivering justice compassionately, we have all but rejected this principle in recent years as politicians fueled by public fears of high crime rates called for "adult time for adult crimes." For a nation that proclaims to stand for human rights, our passion for prosecuting and punishing juveniles as grownups in blatant violation of international law reeks of hypocrisy. American children do not have the same rights as adults in general, except the "right" to be executed.

For years, critics of capital punishment have also argued that minorities are executed more frequently in the United States than white convicts. While African Americans make up 13 percent of the nation's population, they constitute 35 percent of death row inmates. This discrepancy between national demographics and the death row inmate population is even more pronounced among those who committed crimes before their 18th birthdays. Of the 70 juvenile offenders on death row today, 20 percent are Latino and 43 percent are African American.

These numbers do not faze death penalty supporters, many of whom accept or ignore the fact that people of color are being imprisoned at alarming rates and are more likely to be given death sentences. Officials who prefer rehabilitation through education in juvenile detention programs are often denounced as being "soft on crime." But most crime experts agree that while the United States has areas with somewhat high crime rates, they are not off the spectrum compared to other industrialized nations.

Instead, factors such as the heavy emphasis of media attention on crime and racial biases have contributed to the widespread lack of compassion for juveniles who convict violent crimes. It didn't matter that Douglas Thomas was abandoned by his mother when he was two years old, or that Steve Roach was taken out of school at age 14 by his parents to perform household chores. It didn't matter that Glen McGinnis grew up in a tiny apartment with an abusive stepfather and

a mother who was a prostitute and crack addict. These people are seen as nothing but incorrigible predators on society who deserved to be locked up or physically eliminated.

McGinnis's attorney, Ross D'Emanuele, has filed a brief in court to try to prevent the execution of his client. He said that McGinnis was not treated fairly during the sentencing phase of his trial, in which jurors were not permitted to hear the testimony

of a psychologist who had examined him earlier. He also made references to international law as described in the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, and the American Convention on Human Rights.

The ultimate decision depends on Governor Bush, who may commute the sentence with the recommendation from the state's board of pardons and paroles. But as a strong supporter of capital punishment, Bush has allowed more executions dur-

ing his tenure than any other governor in recent history, accounting for almost one-fifth of the 600 executions carried out in the country since 1976.

It does not appear likely that Bush will soften his hard-line stand on the death penalty. If the Pope himself was unable to persuade him to commute the sentence of Karla Faye Tucker last year, it seems almost impossible for regular defense lawyers to save clients like McGinnis.

Indeed, it is almost certain that early this week, a prisoner will walk several feet from a tiny cell on death row to a small, airtight room. He will lie on a table in full view of a small audience of spectators sitting behind a plate glass window. Prison officials will strap him down, and medical technicians start one intravenous line in each arm—just in case one of them should clog or become dislodged.

Three syringes will be produced. At the warden's signal, five grams of sodium pentothal will pump through the prisoner's veins, knocking him into unconsciousness. The entire process is fast and orderly, taking only seconds to complete. The second syringe, containing the muscle relaxant percuronium bromide is emptied into the IV tubing. His chest muscles will no longer obey his brain's commands to fill and empty the lungs, and he will draw his last breath. The third lethal solution, potassium chloride, disrupts the electrical activity of the heart and stops the vital organ in its tracks.

And Glen Charles McGinnis, the young man who never had a loving family or a second chance at life, a man whose peers are only starting to enjoy their lives, shall be no more.



The brutality of the electric chair

Implausible Denials

By Chris Sorochin

Among the many periodicals that I regularly devour to keep myself on top of things is *The Nation*, a venerable progressive publication that often finds itself strapped for cash. For a while now, they've been accepting full-page ads from an organization called Facts and Logic About the Middle East (FLAME).

FLAME is hardcore paleo-Zionist and the ads brim with crude anti-Arab racism. This offends many of *The Nation's* liberal readership and the editors are regularly inundated with letters from outraged readers demanding an end to these Kahanist assaults on decency.

The editors to date have stood firm in their decision to keep running the ads. They have published several editorials (accompanied by samples of the letters of complaint) defending their decision to keep selling FLAME space. Their logic is as follows:

1. It's editorial policy not to censor the content of advertising (that inconvenient old First Amendment again).
2. The magazine needs the revenue to survive.
3. *The Nation* publishes plenty of articles that provide intelligent and enlightened commentary on the Middle East, counteracting FLAME's gutter politics.
4. Most importantly, the editors have confidence that those who read *The Nation* are intelligent enough to recognize racist drivel when they see it.

When *The Press* published an ad from Bradley R. Smith, famous for taking out similar ads in other campus papers, supposedly questioning holocaust studies programs, and raising some interesting points, I knew they'd get flak, even though they accompanied it by a disclaimer editorial expounding on freedom of opinion, etc. and they slipped it in the last issue of the semester.

A letter from Rabbi Joseph Topek of Hillel appeared in the following issue of *Statesman*, following the usual pattern in these episodes, which seems to be to accuse those who allowed the ad to be printed of knavery while refusing to rebut the charges made. This strikes me as extremely silly: by calling for suppression of these opinions without answering them, it looks as though those calling for such censorship are trying to keep something hidden. This can only aid the deniers.

Smith's ad was supposed to be an attack on the academic integrity of holocaust studies programs. Strangely, he never gives any specific example of suppression of inquiry in these courses; he merely asserts that those who raise doubts are accused of hatred without a response to their queries. I have never taken one of these courses, so I couldn't say. I would imagine that someone claiming the holocaust to be a hoax would not be warmly received, but I would hope that in an academic setting, such a query would be dealt with in a logical and scientific manner.

As a public service, let me demonstrate just how easy it is to answer such denial: if the Nazi holocaust is a hoax, it is on an unimaginably large scale, involving literally thousands and thousands of people. Many of these conspirators would be spending their entire lives posing as victims, guards or witnesses. Everyone knows that the

more people are in on a secret, the shorter the amount of time it will remain a secret. It's like a law of nature. So these holocaust deniers believe that a huge act has been put on for the last 50 or so years and no one has gotten wise. In addition, not one of the participants has had an attack of conscience about it, or bragged about it in a drunken stupor or confessed on his/her deathbed. Not one in all those years. Doesn't sound too likely, does it?

Moreover, if there were any factual basis for holocaust denial, deniers would be from more respectable walks of life, not just the neo-Nazi fringes. There would be deniers from the victim peoples. Have you ever heard of a Jew, Pole or Rom or any of the other groups that were herded into the camps who denied what happened? Noam Chomsky, the foremost Jewish intellectual of the century and tireless exposé of falsehood would be on the case and so would many others.

Have the deniers been able to come up with anyone who claims to have been part of the deception? The burden of proof is upon the denial faction to produce evidence that a commonly recognized historical event didn't happen. If they have such evidence, let them produce it. And let those who oppose them challenge them to do this, instead of yammering that some sacred trust has been breached; the holocaust is not an article of religious faith, but a historical event and therefore open to discussion.

Smith assumes that all holocaust studies instructors are carbon copies of each other; he doesn't distinguish among them or acknowledge that there's any of the disagreement that is natural to academic discourse.

Most of Smith's ad is really an attack on the veracity of Elie Wiesel, who claims to have survived the death camps and is one of the most visible authorities on the Nazi holocaust. Journalist Alexander Cockburn, one of my idols, denounces Wiesel as a self-righteous hypocrite, and I tend to trust Cockburn on the character of those he targets.

The Smith ad gives three quotes by Wiesel claiming to have been liberated from three different concentration camps, geographically distant from one another. Are these actual quotes or did Smith & Co. manufacture them? If they're false, I can't for the life of me understand why Topek and others don't demonstrate this and expose the deniers for liars. If they're actual quotes, there's a discrepancy that needs to be explained.

Of course, if Wiesel is a fraud, it doesn't mean that the holocaust didn't happen. Smith seems to think he can disprove the whole thing if he can discredit Wiesel.

Smith also quotes a statement by Wiesel advocating that Jews harbor a "healthy, virile hatred" for all Germans. He then reconfigures the quote, inquiring to the reaction to a Palestinian leader encouraging a hatred of similar health and virility for all Jews. Of course the reactions would be wildly different. There is a segment of the Jewish community who feel they're entitled to a blanket hatred of peoples who've tormented Jews, and they think that their hatred is somehow blessed and sanctioned by God (just as many Christians over the centuries have believed that their hatred of Jews and other "infidels" was an act of piety). These tend to be ignorant, spiritually stunted peo-

ple, but their bigotry quite often goes uncriticized in the media, for fear of the charge of anti-Semitism. Note the cushy reception given to Daniel Goldhagen's *Hitler's Willing Executioners*, which opines that an integral part of German culture is the desire to oppress Jews.

If Wiesel really made such a statement (or a similar one that Poles "suck anti-Semitism with their mothers' milk"), then he's as much of a proponent of hatred as whatever group Smith is fronting for, and should be similarly denied access to college newspapers, if we accept much of the logic of those who wish to suppress speech by those designated members of hate groups, whether they're saying anything blatantly hateful or not.

I also doubt that serious holocaust studies are exercises in cheap Kraut-bashing. Such things may fly in some largely Jewish venues, but a large chunk of the mainstream US traces its origins to Germany and may find such statements objectionable. In addition, most holocaust scholars I've heard (and a good place to hear them is Mort Meckloskey's show "Critique" on WUSB Mondays at 10:30 a.m.) know that things are

never so simplistically black and white, and their analyses reflect this, although again, there are those whose agenda is nationalistic or who are merely working through the darkness in their own souls.

Smith tips his hand a bit when he wonders "what National Socialists have done that Democrats and Republicans haven't." I guess he's seeking to defend Nazi philosophy, which would make him a sympathizer. The answer to his question is that the Nazis lost. The US is built on genocide, slave labor and ruthless territorial expansion, but there was no one who found it in their interest to defeat us and hold us up as an example of all that's evil. For those of you who don't know, Hitler was a great admirer of the way our forebears solved their "Indian Problem" and among the models for Nazi Germany's enforced sterilization of "undesirables" were such programs in various US states.

I was amused to see Smith himself succumb to a common real distortion about the holocaust when he demands proof that "even one Jew" was gassed in the camps. If Smith were really up on his studies of the period, he'd know that of the eleven million lives destroyed in the death camps, five and a half million weren't Jews.

Of course, he'd never know this from much popular treatment of the topic in this country, for example, the vastly overrated Schindler's List, which gives the uninformed the impression that only Jews were killed in the camps and that the Poles (of whom some 3 million died in the holocaust) were merely anti-Semites and collaborators. In Poland, on the other hand, much holocaust material would have you believe that only Polish Christians were victimized. I have just returned from that country and will devote much of a coming article to this and other issues.

One more thing: the *Long Island Voice* quoted someone complaining that the only avenue available to those offended by people like Bradley R. Smith was to write letters. I'd like to know just what is so awful about that. Debate is the soul of public discourse and it beats the hell out of censorship.

Any and all hate mail, accusations of Nazi sympathies, devil worship and cannibalism of children can be addressed to yours most controversially, care of this fine publication.

...by calling for suppression of these opinions without answering them...those calling for such censorship are trying to keep something hidden.

The burden of proof is upon the denial faction to produce evidence...

In The Line Of Fire

By Angelos K. Hannides

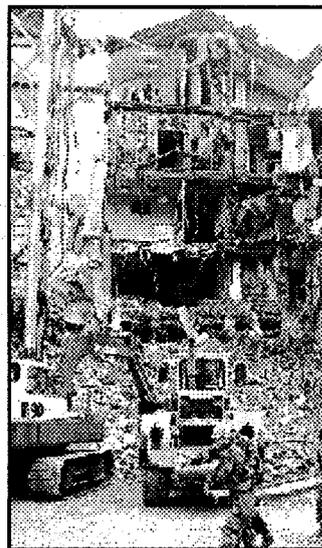
The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and the International Press Institute released in December their annual report of journalists killed worldwide during the previous year. The 1999 list numbers 86 deaths, 69 of which have been confirmed to be related to the victims' professional activities. The remaining 17 are currently under investigation but evidence and colleagues all indicate that saying "too much" is the cause behind the murders. A brief glance at the report reveals the following key points:

a) Asking for it? I don't think so - In just less than a quarter of the cases, the victims were caught up in the turmoil of covering armed conflicts of various scales and consequently died. Actually, in almost three quarters of the cases, journalists and media workers were intentionally targeted either personally or collectively because of their association with or activity in media organizations. This fact silences early on those (and there are plenty of them) who would hasten and say that reporters shouldn't meddle with trouble and stay away. Who targeted these journalists then? Read on.

b) The Institutionalization of controlled "freedom" of speech - The case which marks in red letters the pages of the chronicles of journalists killed in the line of duty is the bombing of the Radio Television of Serbia (RTS) by the NATO air force on the night of the 23rd-24th of April. NATO declared just days before the bombing, that they would not target media. However, it was apparent that RTS fell under the category of entities facilitating the Serbian government in its perseverance (which also included hospitals and the Serbian people themselves). This bombing resulted in the deaths of 16 members of the staff and put the network off the air for several hours as the newsroom and several studios were completely destroyed. Journalist groups worldwide, including the IFJ, the European Federation of Journalists and journalist associations in many NATO member-countries, readily condemned the attack, while newsrooms around the globe resounded with outrage

against the action. If one adds to these 16 fatalities those of the three journalists who died in the bombing of the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade in early May, NATO accounted for 22% of all the known deaths worldwide for the whole year. Needless to say that the cases are closed as far as the "humanitarian" west is concerned, and nobody will pay. On the contrary, everyone now must make sure that their coverage complies with the "truth" devised by NATO's tribunes and think tanks. Otherwise, it might fall on them from the sky. Literally.

c) Not playing by the rules... - ...of the government. Whether recognized or not by the international community, governments once more did take the initiative to determine for the people who's "lying" and who's not and make sure the appropriate "cleansing" takes place. According to the report, the list is subject to updates, mainly due to the difficulties entailed in uncovering other cases whose news was promptly suppressed. In this respect, governments that practice censorship (especially in violent ways) will be most efficient in masking "cleansing" practices, and will be underrepresented. The classic case in this category is that of Turkey, which is not exactly a champion of human rights. Turkey, due to legislation declaring left parties and media as illegal, has a very high number of political prisoners, including journalists working for the left press. The most characteristic example in this years fatalities, however, is that of Nawaz Zulfiqar Memon, a journalist for *The Daily Nation* of Pakistan, who, while attempting to report a disturbance and the police's indifference in pursuing justice to a Chief Executive of law enforcement, was detained by the police in



Radio Television Serbia after NATO Bombing

the Islamabad Airport police station and tortured for three days before he died.

d) In rural, impoverished areas? Not necessarily - attacks against journalists do not necessarily occur away from the epicenters of human activities. Although the gruesome record is wealthy in cases of victims dragged to remote locations and there tortured and killed, murders did take place in some of the biggest cities of the planet. And not just in the "third world." Try London, England. Also, Moscow, Russia, New Delhi, India, and Ibadan, Nigeria.

The following is a listing of the hot spots of deaths amongst journalists in the line of duty during 1999:

Yugoslavia - 16, NATO bombing of RTS
Yugoslavia - 3, NATO bombing of the Chinese Embassy
Yugoslavia - 5, Kosovo
Sierra Leone - 10
Russian Federation - 9, Russia
Russian Federation - 3, Chechnya
Nigeria - 6
Colombia - 6
India - 5
Sri Lanka - 4

East Timor, Turkey, Burma, and Angola - 2

I have attempted to outline those features of this year's report which many of us would not expect to encounter. And justifiably so. No matter how flooded we might be with images and stories of violence on a daily basis, most of us still preserve some elemental sensitivities which cry out against war, murder, torture and pain. Our patience and common sense are expectedly challenged when war is presented to us as an agent of justice, peace and happiness. Even more so, when one of our most sacred rights is oppressed in another region of the world. It is one of those cases when idealism might have something to point at. For the sake of dignity.

To view the whole report and relevant press releases:
www.ifj.org

New Film Challenges Us to Talk Honestly About War

By Norman Solomon

Toward the end of the stunning new documentary "Regret to Inform," the camera focuses on the widow of an American pilot who died in Vietnam. "I don't think he wanted to be an aggressor," Diane Van Renselaar says, her voice etched with sorrow. "I think he was unwillingly cast in that role the moment that he started flying those missions over North Vietnam, and I think he knew it."

She goes on to ask herself the kind of questions that have been scarce in U.S. media since the end of the Vietnam War: "Is your husband a hero? Is he a murderer? What is he? Did he kill people over there? Yes, he probably did. And were these people a threat to his country? No they were not. I don't see my husband as a murderer, but at the same time we have to look at it for what it is, and it is murder. And is it justifiable?"

Such questions are central to "Regret to Inform," a deeply painful movie airing on PBS stations in late January. But they're not the sort of questions that have been heard from journalists covering the presidential campaign of Sen. John McCain.

Last year, according to the Nexis database, major newspapers in the United States published more than 160 articles that used the phrase "war hero" to describe McCain. News accounts emphasize that he bravely withstood years of torture as a POW after a missile brought down the Navy plane he was flying over Hanoi. But the same news stories bypass a more-than-minor detail: Like other U.S. pilots, McCain participated in an air war that killed

large numbers of Vietnamese civilians.

If Van Renselaar and other American war widows can publicly explore wrenching questions about the actions of their husbands in Vietnam, why can't journalists ask similar questions of a major candidate for president?

After all, McCain has long trumpeted his Vietnam experience. In 1982, the slogan of his first campaign for Congress was "Ready to Serve Again." A recent McCain-for-president ad was titled "Duty, Honor, Country." Eager to enhance his quest for the White House, the Arizona senator violated a law against taping political commercials at Arlington National Cemetery.

Barbara Sonneborn ended up using the medium of film in a very different way. On her 24th birthday, in 1968, she received a telegram from the Pentagon that began: "We regret to inform..." Her husband, a soldier in the U.S. Army, had been killed in Vietnam. More than 30 years later, "Regret to Inform" - which she produced and directed - is premiering on TV screens across America.

Just prior to the broadcast on the PBS series "P.O.V.," Sonneborn and several other women who appear in the movie visited some U.S. cities to initiate a new global effort that includes an online memorial - "where war widows from around the world will register their names, share their stories and launch a campaign for international understanding and peace." (For details, go to www.regrettoinform.org or call 1-877-END-WARS.)

Among the widows on the tour was a

physician, Nguyen Thi My Hien. "The bomb dropped on top of the house, trapping my husband in the shelter," she recounts. "After the bombing, the people on the ground heard his cries for help. But the debris was so heavy, it took hours to reach him, and he was already dead. And to think, as a doctor I saved so many lives, but I couldn't save his."

Another Vietnamese woman in the film, Phan Ngoc Dung, speaks of what it was like to live in a country under such unrelenting fire. "The death and destruction were so horrible, so painful."

Here in the United States, we've been encouraged to believe the absurd myth that television brought the Vietnam War into our living rooms. When we confused fleeting TV images with the actual carnage being inflicted with our tax dollars, we didn't have a clue. In the documentary, Sonneborn describes conversations she had with her husband: "I remember before Jeff left we talked about how afraid I was that he would get killed. We never talked about the fact that he would have to kill people, maybe even a child. I realized that we hadn't ever talked honestly about what war means."

Hopefully the superb film "Regret to Inform" will help journalists and many others to talk honestly about what war means. Some might even ask Sen. McCain why he expresses pride instead of remorse about his role as a bomber pilot in the Vietnam War.

Norman Solomon is a syndicated columnist. His latest book is "The Habits of Highly Deceptive Media."

Terror Tapes: Columbine Confessions

By F.L. Livingston

What drives young people to attack and kill? Especially when their victims are other young people? For months experts and lay people alike have obsessed over these questions. All due to the recent spate of adolescent violence in America in various towns in Oregon, Oklahoma, Colorado, etc.

Theories abound. Easy access to guns is one. Poor parenting is another. Peer abuse. The general complacency of teachers, counselors, and other adults. Violent video games, movies, and song lyrics. Which of these hypotheses, if any, comes closest to the truth? And what can we do about it?

Now a set of videotapes created by Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold may shed some new light on the topic. For those who have forgotten (is it possible?), Harris and Klebold traumatized the town of Littleton, Colorado last April during a vicious rampage that took the lives of twelve students and one teacher and seriously injured several other youths. Then they turned the guns on themselves, oddly silencing forever their own voices -- the very voices that could have given us some insight into their motivation.

Or so it seemed. In reality, the two teens made five videos as a way of explaining their deadly attitude and behavior. It appears that Eric deliberately left the tapes in his room for his parents to find after the murderous mission had been accomplished. The police and the FBI are still studying these films. Also, the tapes served as the center of an in-depth report recently released by Time magazine.

These videos touch on all of the "answers" listed above. They tend to "prove" some of them and "disprove" others. They leave some questions rather open. And they dust off an old one. Hopefully, they provide us with some clues as to what needs to be done to prevent such horrors in the future.

Evidence Against Externals: Overall, the tapes give weight to the significance of gun availability. The boys speak facetiously of stockpiling such guns -- and pipe bombs, too, for that matter. Their "script" seems to cry out for tougher legislation to contain the spread of such fatal instruments.

The evidence here is not conclusive, however. (As a strong proponent of gun control, I loathe admitting that, but it's true.) The deadly duo sneer at gun legislation, boasting that it would never have prevented them from obtaining their weapons of choice. One might conclude that such laws are ineffective in forestalling acts of extreme aggression. But, for me, the arrogant ease with which the two youths approach this subject reinforces the need for these laws. We must make every effort to regulate the distribution of such lethal tools.

I'm afraid that the tapes also attest to the influence of the media. Harris specifically refers to a favorite set of books and videogames, when he prophesies, "It's going to be like fucking* 'Doom'..." This strongly suggests that media artists, producers, and so on need to carefully think through the content of their products. They need to make it a greater priority to present songs, games, etc., that tend to have a positive effect on young people. Or, if not, then ones that are not liable to impact on them in such a negative way.

This is tricky. Censorship is not accept-

able in this country -- nor should it be. We do not want the government or any kind of central business authority telling us what we can and cannot speak about, legally, in, say, a CD, or a movie. But we can appeal to social conscience and individual responsibility. And we can demand that the people involved take time to care about the kids who buy their products. (Newsday columnist Donna Brit specifically advocates a boycott of what she calls "brutal projects".)

Reflections on the Adults: The videos cast doubt on the role of poor parenting as a contributing factor. Although Eric gripes about having to move around a lot as a child because of his father's military career, he does not blame his parents for any of his actions. And while Dylan charges his extended family with "adding to the rage," he praises his mother and father as "great parents". Harris even acknowledges the ordeal that their parents will have to face, lamenting that it "...fucking* sucks to do this to them". He also tries to describe the situation with a line from Shakespeare's play, *The Tempest*: "Good wombs hath borne bad sons".

But the question still remains as to why so few of the other adults in their lives identified either of the boys as dangerous. The police who ignored a warning about the suspicious website posted by Harris. The teachers who failed to recognize

Klebold's violent essays as a glaring set of red flags. The judge and the youth services counselor

who assigned the diabolical pair to community service for an earlier infraction -- and

then pronounced them "rehabilitated". (In fact, other than Judy Brown, the neighbor who reported the frightening website to the police, no other adult seemed to view the boys as a serious threat to the safety of their town.) Is it possible that the website, the compositions, and the earlier crime were cries for help that basically went unheard?

Maybe. The video commentary here is double-edged. "People had no clue," Dylan asserts on one tape. "I can make you believe anything," boasts Eric on another. This suggests that the youths were seriously adept at playacting. And that most of the adults in their community felt that they had little reason to look for any troublesome trait in these boys beyond the usual adolescent rebellion. But, in my opinion, it doesn't let the adults off the hook entirely. Instead, it evinces that parents, teachers, and others need to be much more alert.

The Accusation Against Peers: What about the "rage" that Klebold mentions? The tapes spotlight that fury as a major motive behind the horrendous crime. It is a central theme of the videos. Despite any external factors, it seems that the boys would not have turned on their classmates and teachers were it not for the burning wrath within.

And what prompted such uncontrollable fury? The twosome blame it mostly on harassment by their more popular peers, especially the "jocks". Harris fumes at people making

fun of "my face, my hair, my shirts" Klebold traces his sense of isolation all the way back to the allegedly "stuck-up" children at the Foothills Day Care Center. But he focuses mainly on the torment that he suffered in high school and "the anger I've stored over the past four years". They seem to feel that they were alienated and abused by a social hierarchy that places athletes on the top and less conventional types on the bottom.

Harassment is emotional violence. It hurts. The wounds cut deep. And, sadly, in today's world the pain too often resurfaces as a physical -- even lethal -- form of aggression.

It is obvious to me that we need to help young people to relate to each other in a more generous and effective way, especially across any cliques. If some of them don't internalize these ideals, we have to help the others to express their outrage in a more constructive manner. And we adults must model these behaviors ourselves.

Can such goals be achieved? Yes, I maintain, though perhaps not perfectly. At Columbine, returning senior Joel Kuhns informed *Time* that several members of his class were trying to be "more open to people". Another senior, Lindsey White, explained that cliques still exist but reach out to each other more now. Many other schools and youth organizations have pertinent programs in place (Mediation, Conflict/Resolution, individual counseling, and so on.) But we need more of them. And we have to begin at the earliest possible age so that these values become part of the basic worldview of the average child.

Rebuttal and Counter-

Rebuttal: This rationale has bumped up against several objections. First, opponents argue that it is not acceptable to blame the victims. I agree. (Even though this may have been a case of "victims vs. victims".) Especially since the boys

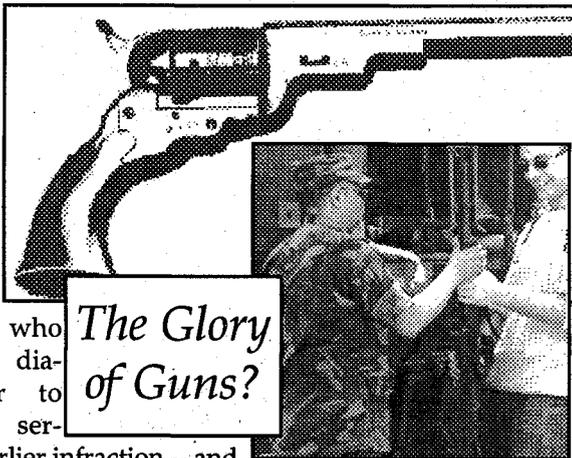
gunned down others besides the people who had allegedly mistreated them. Secondly, many parents, students, and others in Littleton protest that "teasing" is no excuse for maiming and killing. Nor is social exclusion. And they are right. Totally. But it may be an explanation.

Some people argue that even this "explanation" is exaggerated. When a *Time* reporter spoke to Columbine football player Evan Todd, he grumbled, "It's not just the jocks" who hated Klebold, Harris, and their friends. "Most kids didn't want them there."

This may be. Especially since the killers belonged to the now famous "Trench Coat Mafia," a group that frequently opted for "weird hairdos and horns on their hats," etc. But did this behavior itself cost the boys a position in the high school mainstream? Or did they join this group in order to express a social alienation they had felt for a very long time? (Klebold complains that the other kids have "...given us shit* for years".) And perhaps to try to find solace in bonding with other pariahs? (Sorry, but the tapes don't really clarify this issue.)

Regardless, it is also possible that in their tortured minds Harris and Klebold fixated on the popular "jocks" as a target for their anger. As if the highly admired sports people were responsible for the twosome's lack of acceptance!

continued on page 11



The Glory of Guns?

Headlines

G. Avery Kerbs



The National Disclaimers Editor Maximus G. Avery Kerbs asks "Why must you all continue your pathetic struggles, cease your rebelliousness now and in the future empire of the beast king you will be given the choice seats at Secret Police executions."

Ruby Dice-teeth



Managing Editor for The National Disclaimers, Dice-teeth has killed better men than you with naught but a sharpened spoon, so watch it.

Jovian Radeswhar



Jovian Radeswhar did nothing for this issue, what a pusey.

Geetch T. Toner PhD.



Geetch has has won the heart of many a North Korean lass.

My Grandparents



My grandparents still love me, despite my harmful words.

Wally das Boot

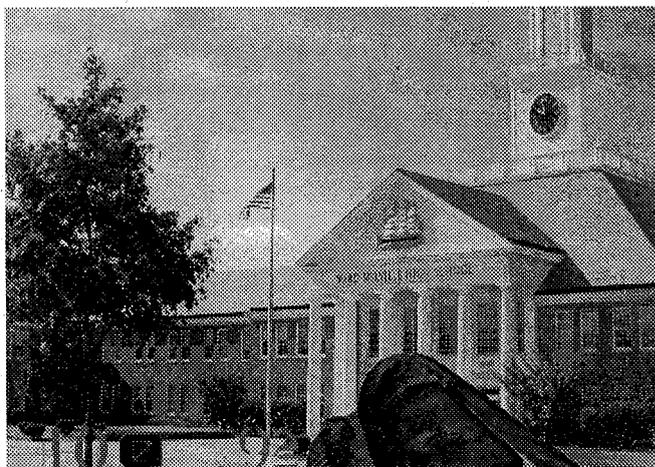


Wally das Boot, half staff writer for the Disclaimers half wolf, half man all terror. Wally once single handedly rent a man's eardrum, while simultaneously splicing him in twain.

The National

Disclaimer

○ Student Kills 12, Injures 17 in High-School "He Still Sucks at Quake," reports survivor



By Ruby Both Diceteeth Steingrundle, 16, a classmate who survived the bloodbath, "this is just the kind of crap he would pull after he lost that tournament game of Quake3 Arena yesterday. He kept whining about how it was his laggy internet hookup or his "snicker" 233 MHz processor speed." In spite of the comments of several students confirming the fact that Nollingsworth does indeed really suck at Quake, he did manage to achieve the highest kill count of the entire senior class

Both Bullets and screams tore through the halls of Ward Melville High School, as avid gamer Randy Nollingsworth, 15, opened fire on his classmates last Friday. The unexpected outbreak of lethal violence has met with mixed reaction from members of the community whose tears were put on hold just long enough to tally the dead and properly congratulate Nollingsworth on his remarkable accuracy.

"Randy is a bitch." Remarked Cleophus

cont. on 2

○ Gallagher smashes aborted fetuses to raise money for Pro-Life organization.



By G. MEMPHIS—Avery Friday night the Kerbs Memphis Civic Auditorium laughed it's way straight into the Kingdom of Heaven with the help of ribald gaggerman Gallagher. Gallagher, with his trademark Sledge-O-Matic delighted the predominantly right-wing Christian audience with his irreverent brand of

humor and rapier wit. Ribbing liberal and conservative patrons alike, Gallagher waxed on about the foibles of modern government, society and language. He ended the show on par with his classic Sledge-O-Matic bit.

The Sledge-O-Matic, for those not in the know, is Gallagher's signature act, in which he produces various fresh fruits and vegetables and promptly smashes them to giddy little bits with his comically oversized sledgehammer.

For protection purposes those attendants in the front few rows are provided with tarp ponchos to shield themselves from flying, often juicy, debris.

"I love Gallagher mainly because his jokes are properly inoffensive and he, in no way challenges my perception, or opinions of the world.

cont. on 2

○ All Millennial Predictions come true; Earth destroyed and reformed 638 times

By The Notorious Geetch Who could have possibly guessed that the destruction of the Earth as foreseen by hundreds of the worlds modern as well as ancient religions would actually occur? Did everyone else dismiss those who shouted from their high horses as lunatics? I know I did. Unfortunately I made the wrong choice for they were all right. Every single end-of-the-world prediction came true within the 24 hours following New Years Eve 2000.

On Dec 31st, hundreds of millions of us frantically searched the channels for Dick Clark's Rockin' New Years Eve and ABC's New Years Around the World, or made final adjustments on our plans to scam money from the government during the Y2K confusion. Meanwhile, the world was being destroyed approximately 26.5 times an hour or every 2 minutes 20 seconds. Although only those

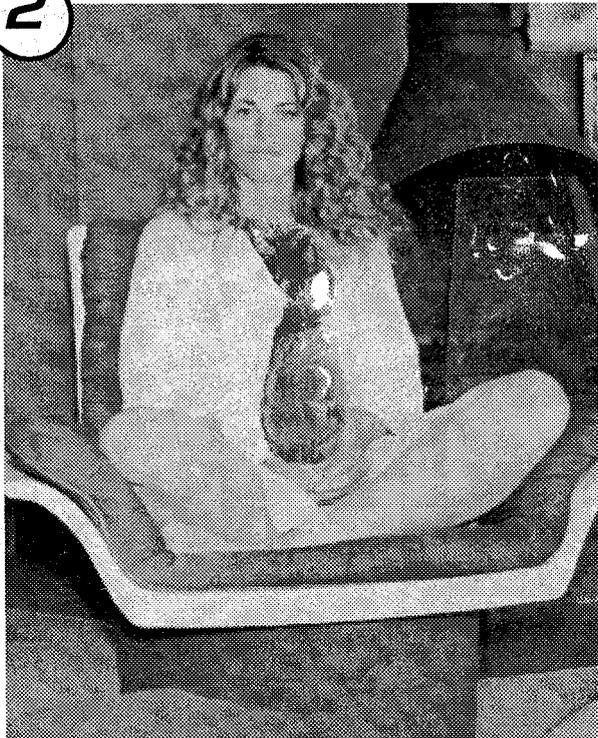
directly involved have trace memories of the incident they all agree that we owe our present lives to a devout atheist who refused to believe any of it was happening therefore counter-acting any ill effects of the planets destruction.

After spending the last 2 weeks sobering up, Our Savior showed up on the scene to tell us His story.

"It all began sometime around 4 in the morning when I woke up and saw a giant tidal wave coming for My building," began His recounting of the tragedy. "The guy I share My apartment with started praying and saying this was our doom, I just couldn't believe it."

And so we avoided being flooded. After a series of end of the world scenarios including fire, meteors, global thermonuclear war,

cont. on 3



Bionic Baby tears itself from Lindsay Wagner's womb.

By G. Avery
Kerbs

Lindsay Wagner, star of sci-fi action show, "The Bionic Woman", gave birth, sort of, to a bouncing robot baby boy this week. THD-117a is Wagner's first child. Doctors at Mather Hospital report that the baby is in stable condition and has, as a matter-

of-fact, used his bionic nanobots to fully meld himself with the hospital's computer system, thereby controlling all things electrical within the building.

"THD-117a seems to be attempting to upload his consciousness to a communications satellite where he could conceivably transfer his mind to all the computers on Earth. From there, we speculate that he will attempt to turn the nuclear arsenals of the world superpowers against each other, perhaps to soften up the Earth for the coming of his "Mothership." "But we're not, like, experts in this, so we've been keeping him warm and well fed, with fresh milk and spare Celeron processors."

Wagner remains in intensive care this week, recovering from the wounds she sustained after THD-117a performed what experts call, "a reverse-C-section" in order to escape the confines of her womb. Wagner is hoped to return to the screen later this year for the ABC special, "Bionic Honeymoon" co-starring Lee

Majors. Bionic fans across the country are rather disappointed in Wagner's departure from filming the special.

"It's just like a woman to take time off to have some stupid baby or shop or something; I always new she was the weak link," remarked fan Steve Brown.

Wagner's agent assured fans in a press meeting after the birth that Wagner would be returning to work as soon as the doctors let her.

"Frankly we don't expect her to live, she lost a lot of blood, and even though we found most of it, the transfusion blood that we have been giving her has been rejected by her bionic legs, ear and arm," reported head obstetrician Dr. Jermaine.

THD-117a or "Teddy" as the nursing staff has come to refer to the jumbled mass of spark emitting wires and lights, is the first robot baby to be successfully delivered at Mather. Though a bit put off by what staff are calling, "Man's final and most heinous abomination of God's work" most of the staff finds Teddy's birth "terribly, creepily, disturbingly exciting."

Through all this doctors were most concerned by the absence of the Mothership.

"You think it would have the common decency to attend the birth of it's own child. We'll I guess that goes to show ya, huh?" Dr. Jermaine added, "we're referring Mrs. Wagner to the Women's Counseling clinic, so she can better prepare herself for a future as a single mother."

When asked where the Mothership might be, Wagner spoke in an eerily metallic voice, "Lay down your arms, your puny weapons are nothing in the face of our horrible space technology. Beware fleshlings we have claws of metal, and once we have you there is no escape." Wagner then fell into a deep trance while her open mouth emitted a shallow static noise.

Hollywood experts praise the bravery of Wagner in not only her choice to raise the child, but also in the courage it took to admit she was a lesbian.

Cont. from 1 Friday. When asked for her opinion on whether or not this shooting spree might reflect improvement on Randy's game, local child psychologist and bleeding-heart liberal Mary Dreison stated,

"You are a sick fuck and I think you have some serious problems. I mean, what kind of monster would try to use a tragedy like this as material for comedy? Just get the Hell away from me." Although these are clearly the hysterical ramblings of a fool, they have far-reaching implications.

Apparently the principle weapon used in the massacre was a 357. magnum revolver that was stolen from the nightstand of Nollingsworth's father. Much to the chagrin of those would-be heroes who tried to disarm Randy during a reload, he also came to school Friday equipped with a custom made double-bladed chainsaw and made firewood out of anyone within reach.

Steingrundle made himself available for further comment.

"And another thing," he ranted, "what went wrong here on Friday was nothing more than a lack of practice. Everyone knows that when he [Nollingsworth] burst into the class and started fragging people, the smart move was to make a beeline for the body armor. But the only people who didn't spaz out and forget about the armor altogether were me and Donny. After zipping up, we thought about rushing Randy's position, but he gibbed Donny harshly with a long-distance headshot and I didn't like the odds of charging him alone." Steingrundle then informed Nollingsworth that he would be railmeat later that afternoon and made a tactical retreat.

Ironically, it was Steingrundle's discretion and cowardice that brought an end to the tenuous situation. Nollingsworth, in hot pursuit, foolishly tripped a lasermine by the fire exit.

"What a fucking newbie," Cleophus went on, "I figured the booby trap would just slow him down, but the shrapnel from the blast actually immobilized him long enough for the authorities to arrive. Rule number-fucking-one is get out of the building before five-0 shows up. I still say that a well placed rocket could have taken out the majority of the faculty who were a huddled mass of terror in the far corner of the cafeteria, it figures Randy would miss that one. God he sucks."

Cont. from 1 Gallagher splendidly falls short of pushing any of the boundaries, of humor, society or morality," said ticket holder Rev. Jameson Drivel, "and that bit when he smashed aborted fetuses that we took from the local 'women's clinic,' was spectacular."

"I was disappointed that he didn't smash any watermelons tonight. I really like those watermelons," stated area housewife and Paisley Circle treasurer Judith Hamfield," but those flying fetus chunks were classic."

After the show had ended, Judith was seen requesting Gallagher to autograph the small piece of fetal skull that fell into her lap, to "Judith and her best friend Claire, from your favorite funny-man, Gallagher." Upon later inspection the signed skull fragment was also found to have little smiley faces over each "I."

"I really enjoyed this crowd tonight, they were so energetic; tonight was positively laugh-tastic," stated Gallagher. "I love playing towns like Memphis, people here are a lot slower in their thinking and demand less of me. Which I'm happy to provide!"

When asked about the fetal smashing that closed his show tonight Gallagher replied, "You gotta give 'em what they want. And y'all wanted the smashed babies of sinners! Am I right?!?" The crowd outside the Civic Auditorium huzzahed in agreement with Gallagher.

"They're basically stupid people, much like me, and I think we're all working for a good cause here tonight?" Gallagher quipped. He was referring of course to the fact that proceeds from the show were going to fund the "Knights of Jehovah" a local militant anti-abortion group, bent on the punishment of irredeemable sinners that defy Gods will by performing or receiving abortions.

Knights of Jehovah president and Grand Inquisitor Rube Mallaway added, "Gallagher's monumental contribution will go a long way towards the production of Molotov cocktails and the snatching of women who intend to have an abortion; not to mention the number of Doctors we can kill with the weapons Gallagher personally donated".

Aside from the disapproval of Gallagher's proported use of contraceptive devices the night went off without a hitch.

"I hope to come back here soon," Gallagher mused, "these are my kind of people; stupid, stupid, racist people."

Virgin Mary Sues for Child Support

By Wally das

In the trial that has shocked the world and baffled both religious and legal experts, the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Messiah, has sued the Almighty claiming that He is the father of her illegitimate child and that He has neglected to pay child support for the past 2000 years.

He was never there for Jesus, said the Virgin in her testimony on Monday. "He never made any financial contributions at all to the raising of this child. When Jesus needed new robes and sandals, where was God? When you make a baby you have to accept the responsibility that comes along with that act, whether you are a deity or not."

Representing God, defense attorney Johnny Cochran has called these accusations "completely and utterly ridiculous" and has even attacked the "virgin" reputation of Mary. "I find it hard to believe that after years of marriage to Her husband Joseph, Mary was still a virgin. It just does not make sense."

Cochran has also been credited with the invention of the now famous "immaculate conception loophole". Since no sexual intercourse occurred between Mary and his client, Cochran claims that God could not possibly be held financially accountable for the birth of this child.

The Pope could not be reached for comment, but close associates have said that he refuses to take sides. Being a close friend of both God and Mary, he wishes the matter to be resolved quickly so that both parties can get on with their lives.

The lengthy trial has been plagued with problems since its onset over a year ago. Fearing the wrath of God, no attorney would agree to take Mary's case, and she has been forced to represent herself. A mistrial was nearly declared on the first day when swarms of locusts flooded the courtroom; God was summarily declared in contempt of court and fined five hundred dollars. In the second week of the trial, a replacement judge was needed after the original judge for the case was mysteriously turned into a pillar of salt. The cause of his death is still under



investigation.

Outside of the courthouse yesterday, various religious groups protested. Police in riot gear had to be called in after several fights broke out between Mary's and God's supporters. Three police officers were injured and a total of nine arrests were made. One protestor was quoted as saying "It's shocking. I've been worshiping God for all of my life and now I find out that He's a no-good deadbeat."

If the Virgin Mary is successful in her lawsuit, She will be awarded three trillion dollars in back-child support payments plus interest accumulated over the last two millennia. Due to stricter child support laws enacted under the Clinton administration, the Lord faces up to five years in prison.

Cont. From 1 the fire and brimstone of God's mighty wrath falling like rain, the gradual warming of the planet due to a buildup of "greenhouse gasses" causing the polar icecaps to melt and raise the oceans, drowning out civilization as we know it, the big white hanky, Fenris the Wolf, and a giant space goat eating all of creation; He just got fed up with the whole thing.

"I started to just disbelieve anything anyone said, whether it was 'Look out for the swarm of bees!' or 'Nice day isn't it?' or even 'Hi my name is Ray.' At this time, I would like to apologize to Ray's family, since Ray promptly blinked out of existence. My bad."

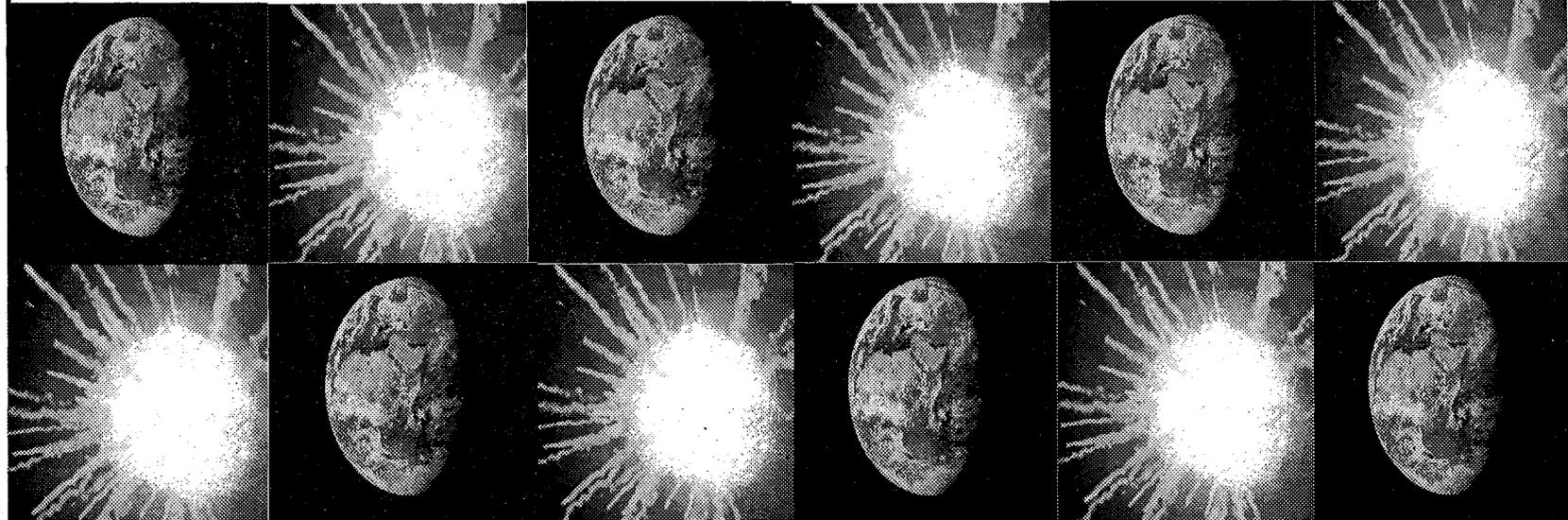
ability to destroy that which He didn't believe in.

"Eh?" He replied with a shrug of his shoulders.

Anyone has the ability to believe in things, with or without proof, but only those with special abilities can deny the existence of that which is right in front of their face.

We asked for a demonstration, so that we may gain the power of disbelief, but He refused to lower Himself to our level. Finally the secret of His gift was revealed when He told us He didn't believe He had done anything so special and he promptly vanished from existence.

For all those who wanted to thank the Savior of our planet,



The fortuitous appearance of the all-powerful Non-believer, was foretold by the ancient prophets of what is now Krijzhyekistahn, a country that has been made up because it sounds funny. In their scripture, the Krijzhyekistani monks speak of how in the Earth's darkest hour, when the very reality of creation comes under question and the armies of Hell prepare to march in apocalyptic triumph, there will be One so blasé, so Self-absorbed and so jaded by an upbringing of MTV and Crunchberries that the realization of every facet of armageddon ever conceived won't even phase Him.

When He was questioned as to what His post-apocalyptic plans were, He just stared blankly. He was told we meant His

the Krijzhyekistani High Order of Fictitious Drivel has been commissioned to predict and foretell numerous near-future reincarnations of His Blessed Self. He should be making several appearances at the openings of shopping malls, weddings, bar mitzvahs, presidential assassinations, grand jury indictments, Senate subcommittee hearings, book signings, and He should have two made-for-TV movies and an underground comic book available by Christmas.

Under no circumstances should anyone try prophesizing at home. Leave it to the professionals to blaspheme and damn themselves to hellish tortures. So sayeth the Krijzhyekistani!

4 Fun And Games

Mad Libs: not just fun, but wacky! For those of you unfamiliar with the "Mad" Lib, it is a fill-in-the-blanks word game for the friendless. The way this works is there is a story, (right side of this page) with certain words selectively omitted. Below is a list of spaces. To play, either you or a friend, (which we have already determined that you don't have), fill in the blank words according to the word-type. Then simply insert those words into the story and you have a wacky suicide note!

Give this to your friends to fill out!

Okay everybody just fill in the appropriate words

1. Name of planet _____
2. Verb _____
3. Verb _____
4. Emotion _____
5. Adjective _____
6. Name of Best Friend _____
7. Time Period _____
8. Animal _____
9. Adjective _____
10. Verb _____
11. Color _____
12. Adjective _____
13. Verb _____
14. Adjective _____
15. Name of Goth Singer _____
16. verb ending in 'ing' _____
17. Place _____
18. Talent _____

goodbye Cruel _____ ,
name of planet

Not that anybody really _____ , but this is probably the last time you'll ever
verb
 _____ from me. By the time you read this I will surely be dead.

I don't _____ any of you. How could I when none of you were around?
emotion

None of you understood my _____ pain, especially not you, _____ .
adjective Name of best friend

In these last few _____ I have seen the depths of _____ sorrow
time period animal
 and suffering. My only escape lies in the _____ embrace of the grave. Death,

the only path I _____ . My soul is _____ . This cruel, cruel, _____
verb color adjective
 world leaves no alternative.

I realize my action may _____ some of you, but rest assured the pain
verb
 you feel is nothing compared to the pain of my _____ existence.

Please take care of my pet iguana _____
prolonging adjective

I embrace the _____ of a fruitful journey into the oblivion that is
Name of Goth Singer
 the _____ from whence I came, and that I now enter once again, for all
verb ending in 'ing'
 time as I shall come to know it.
place

None of you truly understood my _____
talent

Fill out the Wacky Mad Libs Suicide Note and send it to us! If it's wacky and funny enough we won't print it but instead we'll sit around making fun of you for wasting all your time with our mindless diversions. What a Maroon you are!

Send all submissions w/ a SASE to rm. 060 SB Student Union.

Editorials by **This Just In** 5

Pymp's Unite, Take Back the Night From Womyn

Yo yo YO! All you whistle-blowing night marchers listen up and rekonize that your days are numbered. It's time for the changing of the guard. After a phenoeinally successful "Take Back the Night" rally last yea,r the womyn of this campus have made the night a very safe place. But this has gone on long enough! PYMP'S UNITE!

Grab your canes, feather boas and platform kicks and get ready to teach the lydies a lesson in nighttime security. The Center for Pymp's Concerns will be organizing a rally of determined "escort coordynators" to make the night once-again safe for the panderyrs of fine fleshy wares.

They put more lights up around the dark, scary bike paths? We put a sentry patrol of ornery muthafuckas with pypmsticks! Any bitch gets out of pocket?... and we crack them into next week. Some uppity john gets all shovey with the hands, or won't pony up the dough?... and we crack him into next week. Someone gives me five thousand dollars in cash?... and we cool baby, we cool.

'Cuz quite factually speaking, I ain't tryin to *hear* these womyns gallavanting on all this whole *other* shit. Straight up brotha love, I *ride* the night, know what I'm sayin'? Cuz yo, I'm earning fat money son, I'm trying to get *paid*. You take the night from my soldiers you might as well take the air we breathing on. No lie nigga, I can't stretch my litigations on the posthumous tip, now can I? Untold regulations go out to the futon couch/bed, cuz that's where all kinds of some *crazy* shit takes place.

Resistance is some futile type shit. By counter-pymping, you just make me nasty. Hate the game baby, but don't hate the player. Luke, join the *pymp* side... let your mojo overtake you... bitch.

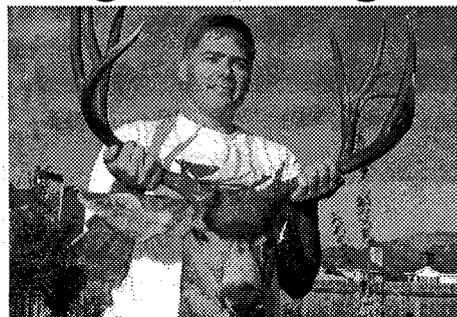
Pympin ain't easy dog. You try to flex negative energies and I might just slap your teeth out. I'll drop the ruckus at twilight just as soon as I'll drop the ruckus in the early afternoon. I get up, I brush my teeth, I drink a cup of coffee... and I drop the ruckus. 'Cuz my man is a straight-up cornmuffin. Those womyns probably juiced him and took his wallet. Aills I'm really sayin' is be real. Don't lie, front and kill yourself out like that.

Meanwhile, pymps: it's time to kick this party hardcore like it ain't no thang. Nigga, say word.



By Ruby Dice-teeth, Pymp

Ten Point Buck Dies in Tragic Hunting Accident



This past fall season, a dark cloud of sin covered the land as Joe Falken, murderer, 'accidentally' shot and killed a ten point buck as he and his 'hunting buddies' were out drinking and randomly shooting at anything that moved. Witnesses report that Joe and his friends went out there specifically and with premeditation to 'take down a deer if it kills them' by the end of the hunting season.

The local sheriff caught wind of this and went out in search of the prospective criminals before any wrong doings occurred. "While I can condone the killin' of them dar varmints like possum, rabbits and Negroes, killin deer just is outa the question" he was quot-

ed as saying. The search began with a routine shot-gunning of a six-pack of Schlitz Ice before actually

driving out to the forest. After arriving the deputies and sheriff proceeded to call out, "Here Killer, killer, killer", to gain the attention of Joe and his cohorts. Hearing shots in the distance the law enforcement agents dashed off in their vain attempt to prevent any needless spilling of blood.

Upon finding Joe standing over the corpse of the recently deceased, dazed and confused, the department began to cry in unison. The medical examiner pronounced the poor animal dead upon arrival. The sheriff then shot Joe in the foot and just for good measure, in both his knees so he couldn't run. The whole time Joe kept claiming he didn't know it was a deer, he thought it was one of those damn Negroes wearing horns as a disguise. "A likely excuse", stated the sheriff, after dealing out his own bit of justice. "This kind of senseless violence upon innocent animals can only be met with equally senseless violence as only us southerners can dish out," stated local southerner Billy-Jo Hatfield.

Landmark *Nuh-uhh! Vs. Yeah-Huh!* case reaches Supreme Court.

Today on the steps of the Supreme Court protesters gathered in anticipation of opening remarks in the controversial *Nuh-uhh! Vs. Yeah-Huh!* case.

Nuh-uhh! Vs. Yeah-Huh! reached the Supreme Court this week after having been stymied in New York circuit courts for the past 13 years.

Pro-*Yeah-Huhers* issued this statement from Supreme Court steps.

"This case has gone on for too long. All moral, God-fearing Americans know that a decision in favor of *Nuh-uhh!* is a decision against the ethical fabric of this Holy Land!"

Though Supreme Court Justice Renquist was unavailable to comment on the case, most experts expect him to lean heavily in favor of *Yeah-Huh!*

"I remember when this first came up in our town legislature, there was an instant polarization of the town," said Setauket resident Joan Killinger. "Personally I never expected it to get this far, but those damn conservatives and their bible-thumping antics can't leave good enough alone."

In local news, seven militant *Yeah-Huh* supporters were charged with the fire bombing of the Stony Brook *Nuh-uhh!* office. Luckily, no one was in the building at the time, but how long before the first *Nuh-uhh!* scientist/doctor/engineer/lawyer/carpenter is killed by the radical actions of *Yeah-Huh!* proponents?

Campus Newspaper introduces *Onion*-esque humor insert to increase readership.

In a bold move, *Stony Brook Press* editor-in-chief Hilary Vidair green lighted staff writer Glenn "Squirrel" Given's "awesome idea" this week; ushering in a monthly dose of comic satire a-la *The Onion*, intended to provoke ribald laughter whilst simultaneously increasing readership.

"Dude, I have this awesome idea," said Given at the Press's last weekly staff meeting. "We could do a monthly humor insert, kinda *Onion*-ish but, like, not."

"At first I was skeptical," reports Vidair, "cause I was like; we're pretty funny to begin with and the key to that humor is that it's subtle. You know?"

"Regardless, this idea is awesome, and it's like totally a clincher too. I mean *The Onion* is totally mint and shit, so, like, where would the harm be in snaking a bit of it for our own personal use?" quipped Given.

"Yeah," added *Press* Associate Editor Russell Heller.

Outside sources report that the new humor insert, tentatively titled *The National Disclaimer*, may not have had the best of intentions behind its conception.

"Yeah, like Squirrel (Glenn Given) is a TOTAL power whore, he'd like do anything to gain editorial control of the *Press*," stated ex-*Presser* Brian Libfeld, "personally I think he's out to destroy the credibility of *The Press* much like he did with the *Science Fiction Forum* (an on-campus organization for fans of sci-fi and fantasy literature).

"The *Sci-Fi Forum* brought all that kind of ill karma on themselves, and I had nothing to do with those outbreaks of vandalism," rebutted Given. "Listen I just wanted my - I mean-our campus paper to regain some of the satirical edge that it lost since the turnover of editorship. And I feel that a monthly insert sorta *The Onion*-like, would do that."

"May I also say that Squirrel has no intentions of slowly expanding the insert size until it's page count becomes the majority of the publication," added Heller.

New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani admits to having trouble sticking with New Years resolution to "Kill less blacks."

In this week's State of the City address, Mayor Giuliani shocked no one in the audience when he shared this personal note with the assembled press.

"To the citizens of the great city of New York, I feel a terrible burden on my evil, evil soul today. You see, this past New Years, I, along with NYPD Commissioner Howard Safir resolved to kill significantly less blacks in the upcoming fiscal year. Before I go on, I would like to reassure my supporters that neither Comm. Safir, nor I intended to waffle on the killing of spics, chinks, or cab-driving towelheads. Now then, we had made this resolution, perhaps short-sightedly, in the spirit of the new millennium; boy we're we a bunch of mooks. But, I am a man of my word; so after the giddy excitement of January first had passed, I decided to stick to my foolish oath. However thus far I have failed to keep my word."

"Since the first of the year, my secretary informs me that my black-slaying activity has not dropped below last year's daily average. In fact it seems that MORE blacks have been brutally assaulted, sodomized and killed as a result of actions taken by my staff and I. Personally, this is not a problem for me, as senselessly murdering blacks has long stood as one of the foundations of my 'Lets Make NYC Beautiful' initiative, but as it was a promise made, it should be a promise kept."

Mayor Giuliani ended the address, but not before Comm. Safir suggested, "dipping migrant workers in tar, then killing them, which might help to satisfy our blood-lust."

"Now that's the kind of ingenuity that I hire these people for," Giuliani remarked.

6) Get A Job Hippie!



By my Grandparents

You heard me, young man. Put down your mari-juana pipe, quit hugging that tree, and go get yourself a good, honest job. Don't talk to me about the rain forest and saving the dolphins. My wife and I have survived

the Great Depression, World War II, and the Clinton administration. Global warming and the hole in the ozone layer are the least of our concerns.

This country is overrun with hippie college students who get high on the pot and think that they know everything. When I was your age I was serving my country fighting the Nazis while my wife was working 63 hours a week in a steel mill. You whipper-snappers don't know how good you have it. What we need is another World War to instill the fear of God in you little buggers.

Show your elders some respect. Instead of fighting for petty "environmental causes," why not fight for issues that affect us all? *Diagnosis Murder* is undeniably the best show on television and despite the charm and charisma of Dick van Dyke, low ratings threaten to cancel the show. If this were to happen, thousands of elderly would die, having their only reason for living taken away from them. Is that what you want for your grandparents? Don't you remember the massive casualties caused by the cancellation of *Matlock*? My wife was in the hospital for a week. You ungrateful twits.

What is it with your obsession with marijuana, anyway? When I was your age, I was a raging alcoholic, but I never once touched drugs. I've never smoked a joint or a "doobie". I am completely drug free aside from thirty-seven prescription medications that my doctors have prescribed to me in my old age. My wife and I have both lived good, clean, God-fearing lives and we have worked for everything we have. Your generation makes a mockery of our most cherished beliefs.

My wife and I live in fear of the mari-juana smoking hippie. Every night I wake up at least three times to make sure the door is locked, worried that a drug fiending environmentalist will break in and steal our money and medications to feed his addiction.

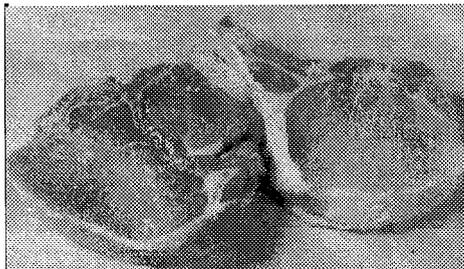
Jobs are not in short supply, young man. McDonald's is always hiring. But you think you are too good for a job like that, right? Let me tell you something. When the fire-bombs were falling in Dresden I would have given anything to be back home flipping burgers. My good wife would give anything to get back the three fingers that she lost in the tank shell polisher at the munitions plant.

I know you'd rather be meticulously cultivating and pruning your indoor forest of hemp like an obsessive-compulsive barber, but there are more pressing concerns in this world that God has forced me to share with you. Namely the undiagnosable illness that is gradually devouring the flesh from my left arm and shows no signs that it plans to stop there.

In conclusion, please watch *Diagnosis Murder* and write NBC telling them how much you enjoy the show. If the show were canceled, my wife would surely die, leaving me with nothing to do but wait for the reaper and kill hippies with a vintage WWII Bren gun that I have been saving for just such an occasion.

View/Points

Pork: The other White Meat



By the Pork Council of America

Hey America! We here at the American pork council couldn't help but notice how downtrodden all of you have been looking of late. In all likelihood, it has something to do with your diet. I mean let's be honest here folks, a healthy lifestyle might help to keep you alive, but is longevity really worth eating 5 servings of fruits and vegetables a day?

All you hear about nowadays is vegetables. Well vegetables shmegetables, have you all forgotten the guilty pleasures of meat? For reasons unexplainable, meat has gotten quite a bad rap recently. Within the current fringes of health culture there exists a belief that prolonging of life can somehow be achieved by the avoidance of meat. Of course some of you half-assed health fanatics try to skirt the issue of vegetarianism by just cutting out "red meat" from your diets.

In frighteningly McCarthyesque procedures, any so-called "red meat" is blacklisted from the dinner plates of the health-conscious. All the while, "white meats" like poultry and fish are

consumed feverishly without any second

thought. Well America, since you are all so concerned with labels, we happily present... pork, the *other* white meat!

That's right folks, pork actually looks rather white when compared with an evil meat like, *shudder*, beef. So there you have it. By the same means by which outlaws can be distinguished from lawmen in west-erns, by the same means by which taxi drivers decide on their next fare, the very whiteness of pork is its salvation. Pork is white, ergo pork is good.

We could go on and on, burdening you with the nutritional details. We could produce scientific statistics. We could conduct ethical research. But wouldn't you rather take our word for it that pork is good for you and go on with your busy lives? After all it worked for eggs. Remember eggs? Cholesterol? Salmonella? Fat? Evil? But they tell you that eggs might not be so bad for you and you just gobble it up without thinking. Let me try:

- Bacon might lower the risk of breast cancer.
- Eat ham every day and you might be able to have sex without a condom.
- God wants you to eat lots and lots of pork chops, it might be in the Bible. See, we can make up stuff too. And wasn't that so much easier to hear than all that anti-meat, granola headed hokum you've been bombarded with for years?

Your Wife: The other White Meat



By an Immense Nubian Porn-star Who Longdicks Your Wife on a Semi-regular Basis

Well, far be it for me to refute claims so supported by scientific research, but I am afraid that it is not pork, but rather your wife, that is in fact the other white meat. Shit, that woman is all the health food I'll ever need.

We ran into each other shopping one day and I was like "Damn girl, what's up with your milky toned self?" you see, your wife likes it when I "talk ghetto to her."

But in all honesty, I am in a physically demanding industry. I have to keep in shape and watch what I eat. But I do supplement my diet with a healthy complement of your wife. Low in fat, high in flavor. mmm-MM!

I am not a parasite though, rest assured that I provide nutritional

reciproca-tion. On her way

home from the gym, your wife frequently stops by my office to revitalize herself with a vanilla health shake, rich in protien.

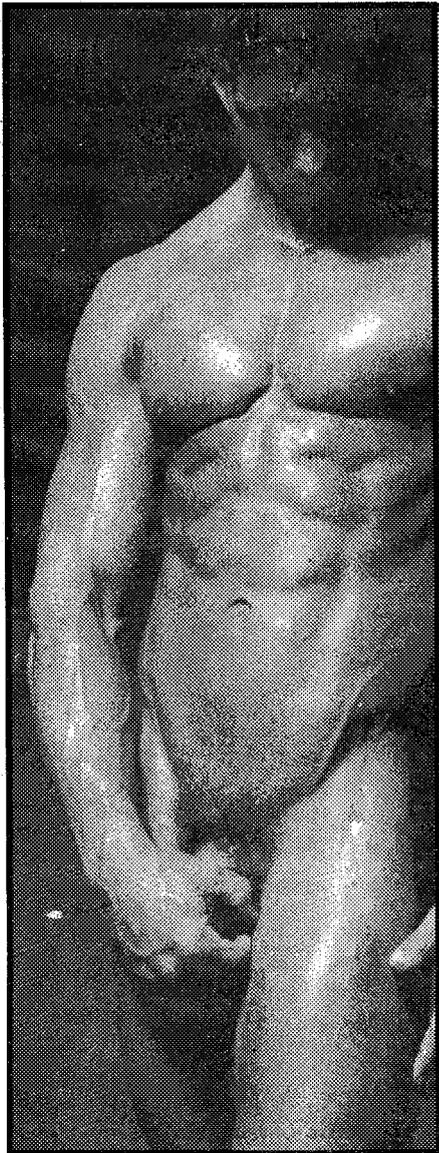
Sure pork may be the latest health craze but, call me old-fashioned, but when I need a switch from my steady intake of steak, I turn to your wife. Now I don't know much about health, but i think if my body didn't like something, it would complain. And my body has given me nothing but positive feedback regarding your wife.

I really suppose you should thank me. I mean, it's not easy to satisfy a wife like yours, and in a way I am the glue that holds your marriage together. I make it my business to leave your wife in such a state of carnal bliss that she doesn't even care about your occasional problems maintaining an erection during prolonged intercourse.

Your wife is a damn fine piece of delicate ass, so do me a favor and keep her warm for me.

BATTLE OF THE CENTURY

7



The unlimited bounds of the human imagination, it's myriad forms and functions, the very infinity that is mans capacity for dreams, the mercurial fancy of a young lad, the whistfull longings of a sultry lass, the desire of

Fantasy

- Pro: Mythic figures and far-fetched adventure
- Con: I-con
- Pro: Masturbation
- Con: Shame
- Pro: Art
- Con: Super-Bowl Advertising
- Pro: Role-Playing games
- Con: The people who play them
- Pro: Heaven
- Con: Catholic Campus Ministry
- Pro: Creativity
- Con: being shunned by the rest of the kids who only appreciate sports; forcing you to filch semi-automatic weapons and gun down your home-room class in a fit of self-loathing
- Pro: Comics, movies and television
- Con: Being 42 and living in your mothers basement.
- Pro: Inspiration
- Con: The "Hang in there baby!" kitten



The stark finality of the real. That which presents itself so undeniably, irrefutably true, that one may only submit to it's finite, but still devastating force of actual, pressence; the terrifying disappointment of



Reality

- Pro: Finacial success
- Con: Finacial success is only for straight white men
- Pro: Actual Sex
- Con: Actual diseases
- Pro: Love
- Con: Ex-lovers who boil your pets
- Pro: The National Disclaimer
- Con: The Stony Brook press that surrounds it
- Pro: Drugs, Ciggarettes, and Booze
- Con: Rehab, Cancer, and eerie homosexual trysts in the bathroom of your local bar.
- Pro: Family
- Con: Uncle "Funny-Touch"
- Pro: Friends
- Con: "Friends" on NBC
- Pro: Mutual, Simultaneous Orgasm
- Con: Mutual, Simultaneous Shame
- Pro: the "E! true Hollywood Story"
- Con: Reality-based television

8) Presidential Profiles:

The Candidates of 2000! Today!



Al Gore:

Currently the Vice-President of the USA, Gore has a good shot at the title. His policy plans would be particularly relevant here, except for the fact that Gore is actually a Franklin Mint piece, intended for display only. Hand-

carved from a sturdy block of hardwood, Gore is expected to appreciate in value.

If you could ask the president one question, what would it be? "Were her nipples Pink or Brown?"

Triple-Mocha-Chunk, or Tin Roof Sundae? "Tin Roof Sundae."

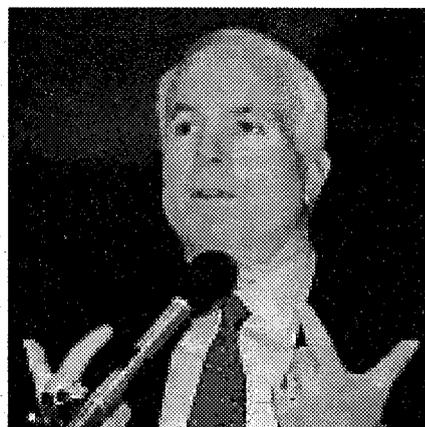
Elvis or The Beatles? "Ringo, only Ringo."

How do you feel that the collapsing economies of far east asian countries will affect on our international trade practices? "Did I mention that I created the Internet? Who needs international trade when we have E-Bay."

Why do bad things happen to good people? "How can you ask me that? I mean look at the way she was dressed she was asking for it."

What would you like to be when you grow up? "A real boy."

Who played Hot Lips Houlihan in the movie M*A*S*H? (Sally Kellerman). "I'm not sure, but the hottest lips I've seen recently were wrapped around Bill's co... I mean Natalie Imbruglia! Natalie Imbruglia has the hottest lips I've seen recently!"



John McCain

Arizona's Republican Senator, McCain was holed up in a Viet Cong POW camp for six years during The Vietnam War. What a pussy, sitting out the war in a cushy bamboo shed, why he's no better than one of those pot-

smoking hippies, why wasn't he out in the bush helping all his marine buddies he speaks so highly of? How un-American can you get?

If you could ask the president one question, what would it be? Where were you when god forsake me?

Triple-Mocha-Chunk, or Tin Roof Sundae? I prefer a hearty rice stew made with 12 secret asian spices and one thousand year old eggs.

Elvis or The Beatles? We kicked it Blue Hawaii style in Laos.

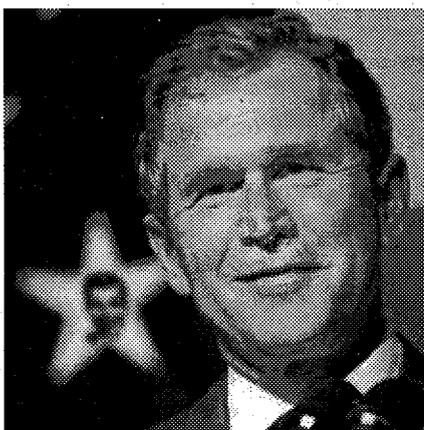
How do you feel that the collapsing economies of far east asian countries will affect on our international trade practices? Asians, my nemesis we meet at last. You took my manhood and my sanity now I will crush you under the steel-tip of the jack-boot of democracy.

Why do bad things happen to good people? Bad things only happen to asian people.

What would you like to be when you grow up? A man capable of pleasing a woman orally.

What film featured Shirley MacLaine as a prostitute and Jack Lemmon as a pimp? (Irma La Douce)

The Killing Fields.



George W. Bush

Governor of Texas, for all intents and purposes George W. is the next president. Think of it like a big frat, if you're a legacy you're basically in even if you refuse to eat the other brothers spunk in "Ookie-Cookie." We all

should get ready for a long cold, conservative winter.

If you could ask the president one question, what would it be? "When I win, will you pass on your secret for sidestepping scandal out of professional courtesy?"

Triple-Mocha-Chunk, or Tin Roof Sundae? "Triple Coca Chunk."

Elvis or The Beatles? "Better to burn out than fade away; Elvis."

How do you feel that the collapsing economies of Far-East Asian countries will affect on our international trade practices? I'm not really worried about the fate of east asia, I'm mean, why worry when all the good blow comes from colombia?

Why do bad things happen to good people? "Bad things only happen to poor people."

What would you like to be when you grow up? "Really, REALLY high on coke."

What was the favorite weapon of George Kelly and Kate Barker? (A Machine Gun) Personally I like to use a sawed off 12 guage for your basic liquor store hold ups, but in a pinch I'd go with the Heckler and Kotch P7 sub machine gun.



Bill Bradley

Democratic Senator of New Jersey, Bradley remains the underdog in the Democratic party. Bill "The Windmill" Bradley played for the Knicks back in the hood with all his boyz and shit so who knows we could see

some late game action. HE'S ON FIRE!

If you could ask the president one question, what would it be? Where's your precious universal health care now bitch? I'm taking you to the HOLE! *Imitates Slam-Dunk Sound*

Triple-Mocha-Chunk, or Tin Roof Sundae? Triple-Mocha-Chunk

Elvis or The Beatles? Springsteen.

How do you feel that the collapsing economies of far east asian countries will affect on our international trade practices? They're just so short to survive in a world ruled by the basket-ball king. A world where basket-ball players will rule supreme

Why do bad things happen to good people? Bad things happen to good people because of Republicans.

What would you like to be when you grow up? Scotty Pippin. Well for a little time I wanted to be Pippin, like from the musical *Pippin*, but then I discovered women.

Who was assigned to steal the girdle of the Amazon queen Hippolyte? (Hercules) Kevin Sorbo, or that dyke Xena.

Now, their are some secondary candidates, most of which, I think have dropped out of the race, but since they were plucky and determined for about a month we felt that they needed to be ridiculed too.



Forbes. He owns a magazine, he's a business man, and one of the last industrialists. But he NEVER BLINKS! EVER!



Keyes dropped out when he realized he was black. Crushed by the harsh reality of presidential qualifications he turned to cheap booze.



Buchannon dropped out when he realized that without Keyes the country was in no danger of an Afrocacy



Sammy L. pimpocratic frontrunner

We can only dream, people, we can only dream.

Columbine Confessions Continued From Page 10

If so, this, in itself, is a form of bigotry. It is just as unfair as the automatic rejection of the Trench Coat Mafia. And it's just as wrong.

But such stereotyping still reflects the rigid "pecking order" often found in our high schools. And it still highlights the cruelty that this kind of system tends to engender. Nor am I just speaking of the situation that supposedly existed at Columbine, but one that plagues many of our schools and organizations.

Not that vengeance is always the motive. In a recent copycat crime, a thirteen-year-old boy in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma allegedly wounded four of his middle school classmates -- and that despite the fact that he is reportedly quite popular. But most other such culprits have cited torment and humiliation as their motive. And it usually is said to have been at the hands of other teens.

Some Littleton residents insist, to the contrary, that overt abuse played no part in the social dynamics of Columbine. Still others confirm its existence but qualify their admission by stating that "things never got out of hand".

Brian Rohrburgh, father of Daniel, one of the first pupils to die, emphatically disagrees. He charges the school with neglecting "to protect students from each other" He asserts that "jocks could get away with anything. If they wanted to punch a kid in the mouth and walk away, they could".

Like beauty, I suppose, the ugliness of harassment is in the eye of the beholder.

Hatemongers and The Accusation Revisited: But back to the tapes. I have to admit that the duo's professed rage went beyond "the enemies who abused us". It also included "the friends who didn't do enough to defend us". Not to mention the fact that the boys also rail against blacks, Jews, Hispanics, gays, and even "fucking* whites". (An audio recording was recently culled from the tapes by several relatives of the victims. It reveals that the boys intentionally targeted Rachel Scott because she was an active Christian). Their hatred knew no bounds.

There are those who contend that this generalized fury tends to weaken the claim of peer abuse as the catalyst. Perhaps. But I maintain that it strengthens it to some degree. Feelings of persecution often lead people to turn against traditional scapegoats, such as blacks, Jews, and so on. As if to suggest, "Well, we may be low, but 'those people' are lower".

And the fact that the youths despised "friends" as well as "enemies"... "whites" as well as "blacks"... "Christians" as well as "Jews"? Well, I have to concede that, at this point, it becomes more difficult to continue to blame the alleged harassment alone. There were obviously other factors. But I honestly doubt that we can rule the supposed abuse out as a potent force.

Maybe such mistreatment fueled the boys' inner fury to a degree where the flames of hatred engulfed their entire being. Or, more likely, a number of sources combined to build this raging fire. Either way, we cannot dismiss the incendiary effect of peer harassment.

The Celebrity Factor and the Accusation Revisited Again: I cannot get away from the

fact, though, that the films raise another disturbing possibility. Harris and Klebold seem keenly aware of the public attention this massacre would receive. "Directors will be fighting over this story," Klebold gleefully predicts, all but forgetting the fact that he and his companion would not be around to enjoy the "acclaim". (They had planned their suicide, as well.) The boys envisioned their videos being "shown all around the world," Time tells us, as people struggled to understand "how, and why".

"They wanted to be famous," concludes FBI agent Mark Holtzlaw, "in the *Time* feature." "And they are. They're infamous". This, once again, tends to dilute the power of the peer abuse argument. Steven Meier, an English teacher and newspaper advisor at Columbine, brushed off the "bullying aspect" as "just one small piece in the entire picture" when he spoke to *Time*. He implied, among other things, that the hunger for fame exerted a much greater force on the boys' behavior. *Time* suggests that both motives bore equal weight: the desire for "pay-back" and the yen for celebrity.

Probably. But I would like to add that the one goal might have come out of the other. The wish for fame-at-any-price may have grown out of the unsatisfied yearning for popularity.

"Oh, come on," you may be thinking. "She's really reaching." Am I? Consider this: Harris asks Klebold on one tape, "Isn't it fun to get the respect we're going to deserve?"

"Respect". A big word with today's young people. And a need that most of us have.

To feel respected. To be recognized as a worthy human being. And to receive approval, if not admiration, for our capabilities, no matter how small.

Of course, there are much better ways to achieve this acknowledgment.

Most former "nerds" make an effort to "escape" that category after high school. They tone their bodies. Or they hone their social skills. Or both. Some relish the chance to enjoy their "geeky" lifestyle without criticism. Others even trade in on it and get to have the "last laugh". (Think: Bill Gates.) As Steve Meier points out, people, in general, "...wait until they graduate to try to make their mark in a positive way...". The need for "respect" is not a viable defense against the charge of murder or assault.

But it may be another clue to the steps our society needs to take in order to stem the spread of such tragedies. For some people, it seems, learning "tolerance" and "anger management" is not enough. We must encourage them to value constructive methods of self-assertion. To actually pride themselves on finding nonviolent ways to redress a wrong.

An Old Question: The "celebrity theory" revives a rather weary issue. Should we give much time and space to the analysis of such criminals? Many people say, "No". Some because they fear that publicity leads to imitation. (The case in Fort Gibson?) Others argue that we should focus on the stories of the dead and disabled -- not the saga of their attackers. (For this very reason, several family members of the Columbine victims objected to the release of the videos.) And why, still others would question, give the demonic duo the morbid "fame" that they so coveted? Oblivion seems to be the fittest punishment for such glory-seeking villains.

My Reaction: A part of me shares these concerns...So I hesitate to submit this article...My hand hovers near "Delete"...I detest giving these pathetic youths even the posthumous "honor" of having their names in print once again.

I feel this even more deeply because the boys had time to reconsider what they were planning. They

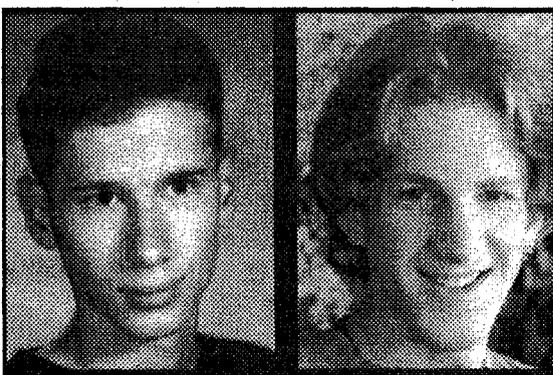
began the tapes about a month before the killings. Eric notes the time and date on one video as "1:28 A.M. March 15". And they prepared for the attack for about a year. Instead of trying to control their anger, they purposefully fed into it, intentionally working themselves into the kind of frenzy that could enable them to carry out their fatal scheme. "More rage," Harris demands on one tape. "Keep building it on". In fact, *Time* explains that he deliberately stopped taking his Luvox "...to let his anger flare..." (Another sign that we must teach people to uphold calmer responses.) Clearly, they chose to achieve their goals of revenge and recognition through violent methods -- and violent methods only.

True, they may have sent up a few signals for help. Consider Klebold's essays, for example. But there was much more that they could have done to prevent this disaster -- like reveal their toxic feelings to the youth counselor. They could have...They should have... But they did not...So I am sorely tempted to wipe their names out of my files.

Only one thought keeps my hand away from the "Delete" button. It is the one prediction that, to my knowledge, Harris and Klebold did not make. The possibility that understanding the causes of their evil act will help us to prevent such abominations in the future. The idea that it might inspire us to seek better interpersonal relationships. No, it will not "bring back" the departed or cure the disabled. But it is a positive result that the killers never intended -- and failed to foresee. (They dreamed of "kick-starting" a violent "revolution" -- not creating an atmosphere of good will and self-discipline.)

So I've used my computer to "spell check" this article. And I've searched my conscience to "content approve" its topic. I shall click on "Send Now" to forward it to *The Press*. Hopefully, the broader messages will transmit themselves to all.

Source: *Time*. 12/20/99 Volume 154 #25* *Time* did not spell out the curse words. But, hey, this is the *Stony Brook Press*.



Harris and Klebold

"Most kids didn't want them there."

SCHIZOPHRENIA

By Tim Connors

Introduction

A schizophrenic man pushed Kendra Webdale in front of a train in January 1999 resulting in her death. Her family pressed for legal reforms regarding the treatment of mental illness. The media fanfare surrounding this incident resulted in politicians passing a new law forcing schizophrenics to take medication. However, there was some debate as to whether this new law violated the legal rights of the mentally ill.

When there is a violent incident committed by a schizophrenic person, a normal individual's response is guided by several factors that influence tolerance decisions. The factors that people use to make civil liberty judgments are outlined in the book *With Malice Toward Some*. The book examines civil liberties issues around a disliked group that violates social norms.

These factors came into play with Kendra's law, and the reforms instituted as a result of the death of Kendra Webdale. The situation surrounding Kendra's death provides an example of how people respond to extreme normative violations and the limiting of civil liberties to groups that are perceived as threatening.

Predispositions

Predisposition is deeply rooted and stabilized within an individual's characteristics. The three most important predisposition characteristics are personality, a global sense of threat, and political experience.

There are four personality characteristics; extroversion, openness to experience, neuroticism, and need for cognition. Extroversion relates to a person's ability to be open and outgoing. People who are more open to new experiences are generally more tolerant of strangers with differing opinions. Neuroticism indicates the predisposition to find threat and novelty upsetting. The need for cognition is the tendency of an individual to engage in and enjoy thinking. The higher the need for cognition, the more tolerant.

A global sense of threat is the differences in an individual's sense that the world is a dangerous and threatening place. The higher a person's sense of global threat, the less tolerant the person tends to be.

Political expertise is a strong base of objective political knowledge. People with more political expertise are generally more tolerant.

There is significant variability in people's predisposition characteristics, which results in differing predispositions. A national telephone survey of 1,006 adult Americans conducted for the Janssen pharmaceutical company illustrates this phenomenon. Respondents believed the causes of schizophrenia to be drug abuse (63%), the environment in which a person is raised (53%), a nervous break down (51%), poor parenting (34%), weak will power (22%), and/or laziness or idleness (13%). In addition, a majority of respondents associate the following symptoms with schizophrenia; split personality and multiple personality (78% each); insanity, madness, or craziness (71%); and violence (68%). (*USA Today*)

A person's predispositions toward a group can have a large impact on the reaction to that group.

Standing Decisions

Standing decisions are an individual's current attitudes and beliefs applied to the domain of civil liberties and political tolerance. There are three types of standing decisions: Support for abstract democratic principles; people's prior decision about whether to tolerate a group that they especially dislike; and, threat from particular groups, which is not a globalized sense of threat.

Generally abstract democratic principles supported by positive messages result in more tolerance. Negative messages result in less tolerance. Politicians can manipulate

tolerance decisions based on the tone of their messages (Marcus p. 131).

People confront novel situations with certain prior decisions about whether to tolerate a group that they especially dislike. Survey literature shows that the extent of noxious violation of proper, orderly behavior is highly related to tolerance. (Marcus p. 60) Normative violations increase the sense of threat, which decreases tolerance. (Marcus P. 60)

According to Marcus, survey data suggests that variations in perceptions of the least liked group - as strong or weak, important rather than unimportant - are unrelated to levels of tolerance. (Marcus p.102)

Individuals perceived threat from particular groups would influence the reaction to that group. Sensitivity to threat might be a standing decision, a previously learned set of beliefs about specific groups (Marcus p. 102). To the extent that we conclude that some groups are generally inclined toward violence and disruption, we may come to believe they are threatening (Marcus p. 102).

Contemporary Information

Contemporary information refers to the availability of new stimuli from the current environment. Contemporary information has five factors. The first of which is information about unpopular group's actions. Second a probability judgment that the group will gain power. Third, cues in the information that led citizens to focus on thoughts vs. feelings. Fourth, cues related to interpreting what it means to support democratic principles. Finally, the credibility of the source that provided the information.

Contrary to popular belief, schizophrenia is not split personality and the vast majority of people who suffer from schizophrenia are not dangerous to others. Schizophrenia is a severe mental illness characterized by dysfunction of the thinking process, such as hallucinations and delusions, and withdrawal from the outside world. Years of research have proven schizophrenia is a biologically based brain disease. The brains of people with schizophrenia have elevated dopamine and serotonin activity (*USA Today*).

Media

The media shapes people's opinion and provides information about schizophrenia. The information provided usually pertains to a violent crime, or a depiction of a fictional character that is ill and acts in an anti social role. For example, Woody Harelson plays a mental criminal who takes anti-psychotic (i.e. A schizophrenic) medication and likes to rape nuns.

Most people do not have first hand experience since schizophrenia affects only one percent of the population. A trait of the disease is social withdrawal for the severely ill and those who are more functional generally don't disclose their illness because of the social stigmatization associated with it. So exposure to the disease is limited and most people rely on media portrayals to form an opinion.

Contemporary information has a great influence on individual's tolerance decisions. The news never mentions other types of medical problems in crime reports; for example "patient with diabetes robs bank" or "former pneumonia patient beats neighbor."

"This goes to show that we have a long way to go in eliminating the intuitive inference that mental illness makes people dangerous." People without a diagnosable mental disorder perpetrate more than 97 percent of violent incidents (*Psychiatric news*).

Drunken Confessions

Why write about this, who cares? I do, only

because I'm schizophrenic. If you think that's multiple personality disorder then read the first half of this article. There is a stigma attached to this disease and I had to get very drunk to write this, especially since I will be working for the University when this is published and may lose my job as a result.

That's not paranoia, but rather based on reactions to previous disclosure to employers. Specifically, Campus Residences and *Newsday*. I resigned from both jobs, however as a resident assistant, I informed my Hall Director Ed of my disability and he dogged me and gave me negative evaluations. *Newsday* asked why I called in sick twice and when I told them that it was because of my medication and what that medication was for, they told me that they would never rehire me because I was "unreliable". This was after six and half years of faithful exemplary service.

Why the State Government is Fucked

The New York State government led by the boot jacket Republican fascist Governor Pataki has passed legislation that infringes upon the rights of schizophrenics.

Basically my doctor can have me locked up and force medicated upon her request.

I would not be entitled to a trial before incarceration, and the police would not need a warrant to arrest me.

The state has been cutting funding for the mentally ill for decades. Institutionalization is not the answer to mental illness, especially since schizophrenia is treatable with neuroleptic medication. However when these people were released from hospitals they stopped receiving medication and many ended up on the streets. Those on the streets are the worst cases of schizophrenia and represent a minority of those with the disease. The promised system of care for the chronically ill was never funded.

Kendra's law will not stop violence. And Andrew Goldstein, the schizophrenic who pushed Kendra to her death, tried to get treatment numerous times; however the programs to assist schizophrenics like him were full. Some schizophrenics are violent, just like everyone else. However this does not justify infringing on those of use who lead socially acceptable lives.

My Opinion on Girl Interrupted

I'm a few hundred words short of a full page so this is my opinion on a movie about mental institutions. I speak from experience since I was involuntary committed three years ago. The profanity is much too mild in the movie; many of the patients didn't want to be there and expressed their opinions much more vocally than depicted in the movie. The movie made the bin seem like summer camp, and it's not. Interaction with other patients is important, however many are much too disturbed to hold a coherent conversation. I do have fond memories, but they are based on the ridicule of the delusions of the patients there.

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USA Today (Magazine), December, 1997. V126 n2631 p. 9

Who cares?
I do.

The Old Drunk Russian in the Kremlin Dries up Complimentary Vodka Supplies, Decides Instantly to Retire from Kleptocracy

By Jovian Radheshwar

The most common, and ridiculously stupid, remark made about Russians today in the United States is that they are Russians and thus Communists. The vice versa of this is as well, pitifully, true of the beliefs of most Americans on Russians. The memory, hangover, if you will, of the Cold War has not quite worn off just yet. This might lead me to be a little critical of magnificent Boris, in this, the *Stony Brook Press* Political Eulogy of President Yeltsin. But rest assured, for all the venomous bile I can hurl at Boris, there exists at least 25 million Russians that will call me a wimp for being too nice, and for secretly trying to allow myself to be positioned in his "favor", as if I could ever be capable of something as insidious and Machiavellian. Certainly, the Russian people are much better and are composed of far more dignified characteristics than the ones that they will portrayed with here (i.e.-paranoia, misery, etc.). But I apologize for this, as I have been reading up on Dostoyevsky recently, and literary types call him "Russia" as in an adjective describing who he actually is. That author certainly paints a bleak picture, so I'm sorry.

Boris Yeltsin rose to prominence in the Communist Party as a leading reformer and a staunch, even radical advocate of Gorbachev's Glasnost and Perestroika programs of systemic reform. As the scenario developed politically, Gorbachev became a discredited man in Russia (although revered as a Deity in Western Europe), the Communists were loathed for some time, and Yeltsin made the new game of Russian state politics in his own image of power-mongering, massive official corruption and state incompetence. Simply put, the system of reforms pushed through by Yeltsin was not comprehensive in the sense that it permitted not free-trade but rather it opened the door to "crony capitalism", where political allies and old college buddies

could be made rich, servile and politically inert. Yeltsin remade Russian politics in this way, and was greatly aided in the process by a placement of high level contacts throughout the Russian State Media and the Private Media. Certainly, the management of the current war in Chechnya suggests the efficacy of media manipulation in modern, "democratic" Russia. Like everyone's favorite gerontocrat, Stalin, Yeltsin joins the line of geriatrics with horrendous tempers and an appetite for murdering the administration's scapegoats. With Stalin, it was the Cossacks, with Yeltsin, fictitiously constructed Muslim fundamentalist terrorist training camps. Certainly there are hard-line separatists in Chechnya, but the exaggeration of the Russian media, with the prodding of the Kremlin, has been to state that essentially all Muslims are terrorists and that they all reside in Chechnya and Dagestan. Ridiculous.

What Boris Yeltsin will be most remembered for will be his continuation of the tradition of oligarchical power, and of developing a "follow the leader" ethic of political advancement in "democratic" post-Soviet Russia. The merry-go-round Prime Ministers were simply an abomination. At the beginning, there was Viktor Chernomyrdin, a business man with ties to the oil and gas monopolies then to be privatized under market reforms. As is now known, Chernomyrdin himself acquired a massive personal fortune in the process. Then came the Aleksander Lebed affair. Lebed was a former General and war hero of the Soviet-Afghan war. Upon entering politics, he was a fresh-faced, even trustworthy (an uncommon trait in Russian politics) populist. His large electoral winnings forced Yeltsin into an uneasy alliance with him to ward off his own electoral defeat for the Presidency in 1996 by Communist Party Secretary Gennadi Zyuganov. Lebed was given a top

government post, and resigned six months later to become governor of a province. This was followed by a series of Prime Ministers, Chernomyrdin again, Kiriyenko, Stapashin, Chernomyrdin again and finally the lottery winner, Vladimir Putin. Putin is of course, the current President upon the shocking news of Yeltsin's resignation on New Year's Eve this winter. Putin is in many ways a relief for many

Russians, who see in him a strong leader, however barbarous his commands for the Russian generals in Chechnya may be.

Hence, King Boris is how Yeltsin will be remembered, for the initiation of primordial primogeniture structures in selecting the ascendancy to the Russian "democratic" Presidency. The leftovers of a feudal, semi-capitalist state is the Russia he leaves behind, where the nobles (the Media, Investors, the Mafia) prosper and the serfdom in widespread to the remaining lot. The man who championed "democracy" was never

really doing anything more than paving his own fortunes out of western loans and the degradation of his own countrymen. It seems that in Putin, the Russian people can expect some stability, albeit a stability premised on the only stable thing Yeltsin left intact, that of the antagonism between two cultures intersecting at an ancient civilization crossroads. Yeltsin will be remembered as the disingenuous reformer who forced Gorbachev's own fall, and the dissolution of the USSR. History will judge the worth of these acts, and to do so now would be folly. What we do know Yeltsin has done is the degradation of the general Russian populace with highly individualistic power-gropings. In the short term, I'll be quite content blaming him for that, and inducting him into my own hall of fame of Evil Gerontocrats. The list includes Stalin, Mao, Deng, Mobutu and now Boris.



Boris Yeltsin

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AND YOU WONDER WHY WE'RE PARANOID.

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Crossword 101

"Mixed Bouquet"

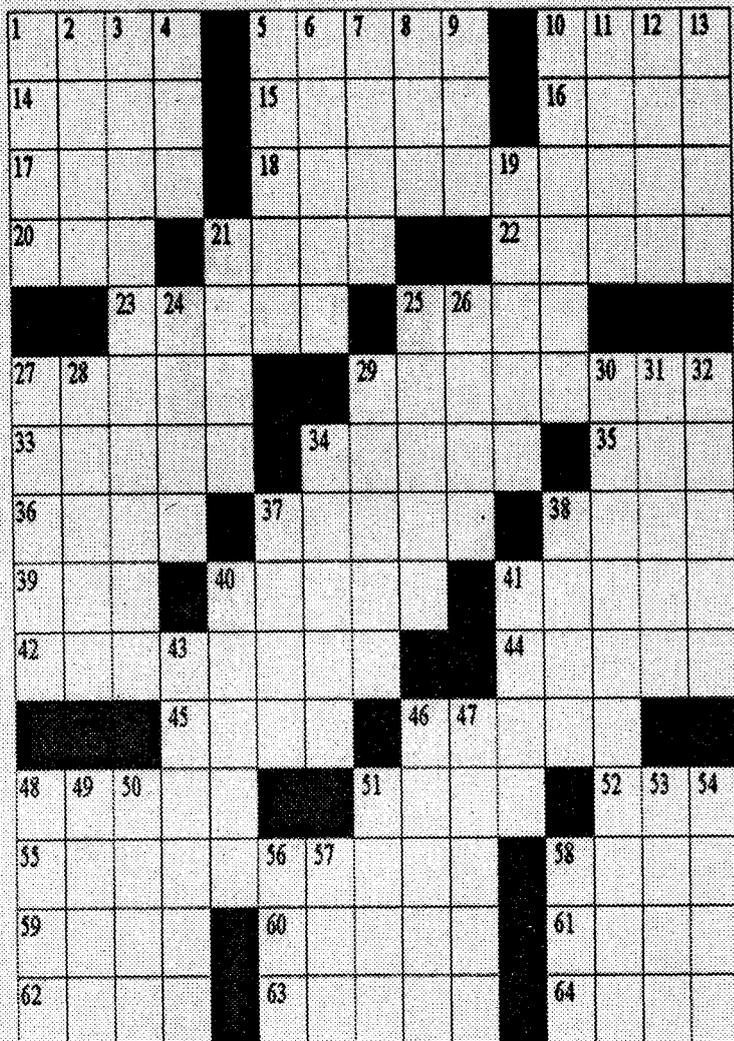
By Ed Canty

ACROSS

- 1 Chess man
- 5 Dromedary
- 10 Animal rights org.
- 14 Tony's cousin
- 15 Battery terminal
- 16 Hen house
- 17 Bombard
- 18 ACTUAL PORTS
- 20 Itinerary approx.
- 21 Jack Sprat physique
- 22 Use theatrics
- 23 County exhibitions
- 25 Gather
- 27 Seasons
- 29 First lights
- 33 A MORA
- 34 Birthplace of 52
- 35 Peacock network
- 36 Morning droplets
- 37 Pour asphalt
- 38 Rum cake
- 39 Consumed
- 40 Vaults
- 41 Recorded
- 42 Patios
- 44 Foxx and others
- 45 Primitive shelters
- 46 Clinton adversary
- 48 Beer mug
- 51 Dirt
- 52 Mr. Lincoln
- 55 AIN'T NO CARS
- 58 Teen add on
- 59 Mixture
- 60 Balance sheet item
- 61 BMOC accommodation
- 62 Pegs
- 63 Domineering
- 64 O'Neill's Christie

DOWN

- 1 Vatican czar
- 2 Illegally help
- 3 WE WILL FORD
- 4 Bottom line
- 5 Tomfoolery



- 6 Celebes oxen
- 7 Poet's word for 29
- 8 NY times
- 9 Romanian coin
- 10 Shrimp dish
- 11 Poco-a-___: Little by little
- 12 Paint layer
- 13 St. Patrick's niche
- 19 Memorize
- 21 "Friends" Kudrow
- 24 Bank drive up spots
- 25 Hicks
- 26 "National Velvet" author Bagnold
- 27 Former Egyptian statesman
- 28 Ridge
- 29 Goalies' specialties
- 30 GRANDPAS SON
- 31 Petered out
- 32 Tons
- 34 Coffee houses
- 37 Treaty
- 38 Heavyweight champ Max
- 40 Steam bath
- 41 London streetcar
- 43 Bronx Zoo residents
- 46 Sound units
- 47 Scrumptious
- 48 Glasgow resident
- 49 Fable
- 50 Part of HOMES
- 51 Gain's flip side
- 53 City in Switzerland
- 54 Humorist Bombeck
- 56 Bill
- 57 Gram or therm lead in
- 58 Oklahoma city

*Answers
in
next
issue*

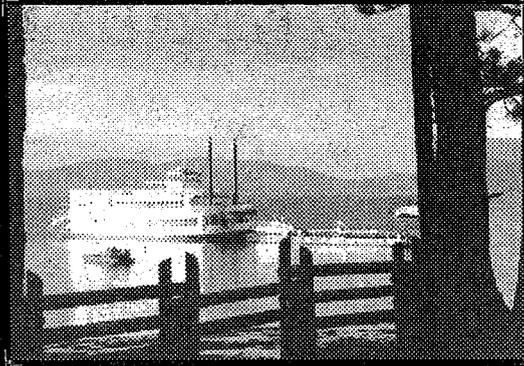
By GFR Associates E-Mail: EDC9432@aol.com

TOP TEN REASONS WHY ROBERT KING SHOULDN'T BE SUNY CHANCELLOR

- 10) Skidmarks, anyone?
- 9) Was the lead singer of RATT in 1982
- 8) Snausages!
- 7) He picks his nose and eats it
- 6) See cover
- 5) Because Pataki dresses him funny
- 4) He doesn't lick the clit
- 3) He wears white after Labor Day
- 2) He sucked Pataki's dick...
- 1)...and he gives toothy head

What I Deed Over My winter vakation

In our continuing coverage of global events near and far, we proudly present the following photo essay, "West Coast Flava in Your Ear," celebrating the beauty and splendor of the Western coast of the United States (actually, just parts California and Nevada). Driving all the way from Reno, Nevada to Tijuana, Mexico, our investigative team covered more than 2,500 miles in less than five days. This didn't leave much time to absorb the local culture and heritage, but we did manage to snap a few photos along the way. Enjoy, and remember this- if you ever find yourself in Tonopah, Nevada, for godssakes, slow the fuck down! They *will* pull you over.



Lake Tahoe, Nevada



Lake Tahoe, California



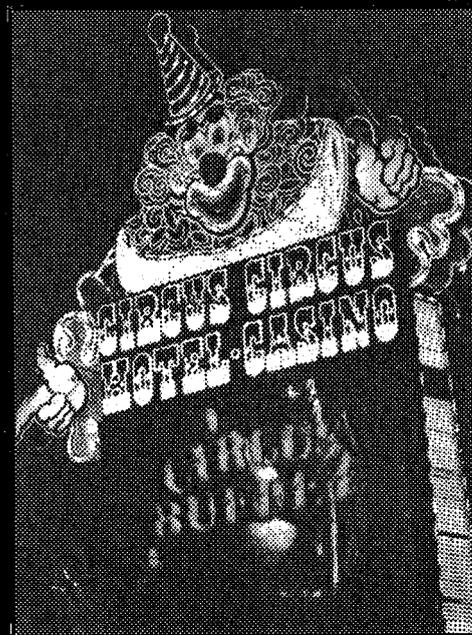
San Francisco, California



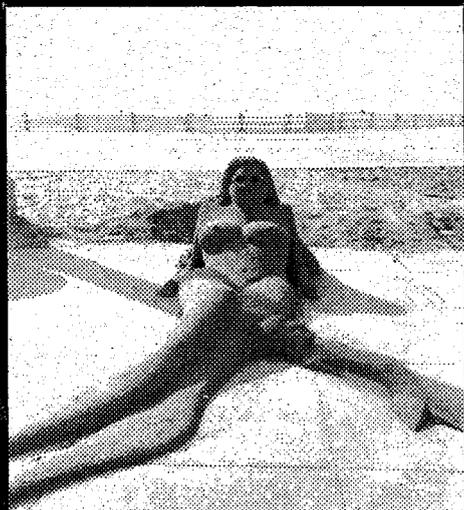
Big Sur, California



Santa Barbara, California



Las Vegas, Nevada



Venice Beach, California



Las Vegas, Nevada

Photos by Joanna Wegielnik

COMICS

Manicdotes by the artist formally known as Deborah Sticher



THEY WANTED ME TO BUY-

NOW BACK 2

RONE-MOM!

eww.

A VIDEO OF AN EVENT I NEVER WAS ACTUALLY AT?

Just hang in there!!

C'mere kids, I've got something for you!

Grandma Deb! Grandma Deb!

I watched this on TV when was a little girl just like you!!

New back to the NEW LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE...

Hun-grey!

I'm a boy, Grandma...

WHAT A MOMENTO...

What is that thing anyway?

I dunno. Grandma's crazy anyway - let's go play in the hologram room for a couple hours...

SCRUNCH!

OF A TIME WHEN YOU STAYED AT HOME TO WATCH THE FESTIVITIES BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE BLOWN TO SMITHEREENS IF YOU VENTURED FORTH INTO WHAT WE NOW QUANTILY TITLE "THE REAL WORLD"....

Kind of gives new meaning to the phrase "captive audience," right Tracy? Heh-heh-heh

TEHR HHR - It sure does TOM... and now for weather...

CNN GIVES US OUR SENSATIONAL REALITY-AND COMEDY CENTRAL AND VIDEO GAMES GIVE US A VACATION FROM THIS REALITY...

It's a good thing we started playing this - I was starting to get a little stressed out there.

Oh yeah, of course, CNN always bums you out - that's why I prefer to get my news from the Daily Show.

MY GENERATION IS THE POST-CABLE SOCIETY. WE GREW UP WITH AT LEAST 50 STATIONS TO TUNE INTO. NOW THERE ARE OVER 100. THERE IS ALWAYS NOTHING GOOD ON NOW. HOW WOULD WE LIVE WITHOUT A REMOTE?

Hear all evil.

See all evil.

SPEAK ALL EVIL!

DON'T GET ME WRONG - TV IS A WONDERFUL INVENTION. PICTURES AND SOUND MARRIED TOGETHER INTO A TOASTER-SIZE, (UP TO A FULL RANGE, COMMERCIAL-SIZE) AFFORDABLE APPLIANCE THAT MATCHES ANY MODERN HOME DECOR...

Not to toast my own horn or anything, but just wait till she gets a load of me!

He's right. He is awesome.

But that's another comic!

... HAS POTENTIAL. UNFORTUNATELY, NETWORKS DUMPS DOWN AND SENSATIONALIZE THE INFORMATION WE NEED, OFFER UP INFORMATION WE DON'T NEED (A LA ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT), AND DON'T SEEM TO REALIZE THAT THERE WILL BE A MARKET FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMING AS LONG AS THEY MAKE IT ALL KICK-ASS ENTERTAINING. MEDIA HAS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO COMBINE LEARNING WITH MARKETING. ITS TIME TO FIGHT THIS EPIDEMIC OF IGNORANCE WITH OUR MOST ESTEEMED COMMODITY - ENTERTAINMENT. RIGHT NOW WE JUST SHOW PICTURES AND SOUNDS THAT POSE AS REALITY AND DESENSITIZE US. I DON'T WANT TO SEE OTHER PEOPLE'S FARNES OR CREATE HORRORS OF HUMANITY CUS A CAMERA IS THERE. LET'S UTILIZE THESE SATELLITES & BETTER THE WORD.

A *Lame-Ass* Review of Two Movies

By Jill Baron

The Talented Mr. Ripley

This film, based on the 1950's novel of the same name by Patricia Highsmith, centers on a young man who wishes he could be anyone but himself. Tom Ripley, played by Matt Damon, is a common shmuck in every sense, except for his uncanny ability to impersonate and take on the identities of others. At a party, Tom meets Mr. Greenleaf, a rich and powerful shipping entrepreneur, and leads him to believe he attended Princeton with his son, Dickie (lie #1). Mr. Greenleaf had sent Dickie, a spoiled and handsome playboy, to Italy after his graduation, but now wanted him to return to The States and take over his business. Unable to persuade him to return, he enlists Tom to go to Italy to persuade Dickie to return home. Tom readily agrees, seizing the opportunity to shed his pathetic existence. He goes to Italy and becomes chummy with Dickie (played by Jude Law) and his girlfriend Marge (Gwyneth Paltrow). Jealous of Dickie's glamorous lifestyle, Tom quickly learns "the ways" and becomes engrossed in it. The film, unlike the book, is filled with homoerotic undertones that become apparent as Tom and Dickie get closer. However, as fickle as he is, Dickie begins to feel crowded by Tom and begins to get tired of him. One day, while out on Dickie's motorboat, they have a heated argument in which Dickie informs Tom of his growing distaste for him. Things get physical and end with Tom



Damon as Ripley

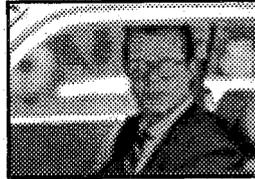
whacking Dickie with an oar, thus splitting his head open. After disposing of Dickie's body, Tom seizes his opportunity to become Dickie. This is where the plot thickens and Tom starts digging his hole even deeper. He tells Marge that Dickie has run off to Rome and forges notes from him to her. He then takes up residence there and lives under the name Dickie Greenleaf. When anyone catches on to his plan, he either murders them or rebounds with another pack of lies. He keeps up the charade until Dickie's body is found, and manages to convince everyone he is innocent, except Marge who returns to the US with Dickie's father. The ending isn't sugar coated, which is very un-Hollywood. It concludes with Tom trying to keep up his charade and digging himself deeper into his hole.

The psychotic loner role was quite a switch for Matt Damon, who generally plays pretty boys or tough guys; his Tom Ripley was believable enough though. Gwyneth Paltrow also gave a convincing performance as the gullible Marge. The best performance, however, in my humble opinion, was that of Jude Law. His portrayal of the spoiled rich playboy was very persuasive. The film has received a slew of Golden Globe nominations, including best picture, and has generated some Oscar buzz. Overall, I found it to be an interesting journey into the psyche of a deranged individual.

Magnolia

Director Paul Anderson has assembled many of the players from his *Boogie Nights* cast to star in his latest opus, *Magnolia*. John C. Reilly,

Julianne Moore, and Phillip Seymour Hoffman all reappear. This film is an intense journey into a day in the life of some very interesting and deranged people. Several different individuals' lives become intertwined through a series of bizarre coincidences, which touches on one of the film's main themes: irony. There's Donny "the quiz kid" Smith (William H. Macy), the now-middle aged loser who was a star game show contestant in the 1960's; there's Stanley, the current kid star contestant on "What Do Kids Know," the kids' game show where Donny got his start, and the aging host of the show who's daughter Claudia.....deep breath.....is a coke addict who's unable to forgive her father for things that happened years ago. There's Jim (Reilly), the do-gooder god-fearing cop, who falls in love with Claudia when he is called to her apartment for a "disturbance." Earl Partridge, a former TV executive who produced the aforementioned game show, is dying and mentions to his at-home nurse (Phillip Seymour Hoffman) that he would like to be reunited with his estranged son (Tom Cruise), who is now a male-power sex guru who holds seminars urging men to "tame the cunt and worship the cock." Linda (Julianne Moore), Earl's young trophy wife, is suddenly struck with remorse for fooling around on her husband and realizes she is in love with him now that he's dying. It's about coincidence, regret, forgiveness, love, luck....and it's just really amazing. Though the film is little over three hours long, nothing is superfluous. In other words, go see it.



Macy as Smith

The Next Movement — Live Hip Hop at its Finest

The Roots Come Alive

By Jovian Radheshwar

The motion of music in the future will inherently favor the pre-programmed traditions of techno and hip hop, as production technology has routinely replaced instrumental ingenuity. Acts nowadays such as Puff Daddy and DMX reflect the very non-artistic nature of computerized music. Certainly there are a host of bands and collaborators in the field of electronic music that are making a very important cultural statement and not to mention some very imaginative composition. Once in a while, a talented group of individuals forms, and crosses these artificial musical boundaries with ease, seamlessly even. One such group formed in Philadelphia in the early-1990's, The Roots, and the story of their last three albums; *Illadelph Half-Life*, *Do You Want More*, and *Things Fall Apart*; is a multi-platinum romance. Today, The Roots have a faithful following of fans, which due to the band's unique style represent a cross-cultural spectrum, and are underground legends for their remarkable perseverance in touring. In each of the last three years, The Roots have managed to tour 250 days of each year. Why is this important? Especially for a band like The Roots? It's due to the choice of this hip hop band to shed the traditions of rap to incorporate a fully live musical backing to the group's two primary lyricists, Black Thought and Rahzel. The intensive touring schedule has given The Roots a sharp, even remarkable, edge for a live rap band. Indeed this particular CD, *The Roots Come Alive*, gives off the appeal of a fantastic stadium hard rock band. The music on the album exemplifies the essentials of funk music, rap music, and even jazz.. Major

undertones of Rock and Roll are similarly detectable, as the MC, usually Black Thought, exults the crowd into a Roots worshipping frenzy, a la Axl Rose circa 1987.

But the superficialities of the album are not the entire tale here. The band, consisting of a guitarist, a bassist, drummer, keyboardist and DJ, has a great innovative performative fusion. The jams are very reminiscent of Parliament, as they are extended, repetitious grooves. Repetitious is not necessarily a bad thing, as any close listen of the album will reveal an intricate plan, despite the lack of guitar solos and other epiphanical performance motifs. The rhythms and switches performed by the band, while certainly elbow-deep in the hip-hop tradition, are reflexive actions, referring the listener to a previous era of black music, and the beauty of funk music. Black Thought, at times, resembles stylistically the crooning of George Clinton, preaching funk, love and togetherness for the purpose of the ultimate human theater of fun, the party. The album opens with Grandmaster Flash, the old-school legend (for all you hip-hop naysayers out there) introducing the elements of the party, as all the attendants of the party are required to give 100% of their "interplanetary funksmanship" to make the damn thing a party. Immediately, The Roots hit gold with *The Next Movement*, the hit single from their most recent album. The album never really loses intensity from this point on, with Black Thought and Rahzel's lyrical stress on long lost hippie ideas perfectly complimenting the upbeat, mood lifting music of the band. Other highlights on the album include Common Sense, an MC from Chicago, dropping by for the sequel to his own "I Used to

Lover H.E.R.", a song that he wrote about the growth of hip-hop in the 1980's and the coincidence that his life has been in that trend. The sequel, "I Still Love H.E.R.", allows both the band and the MC's to shine, painting soundscapes of musical cognition and transcendence. The lyrics on the album, regrettably, take a definitive back-seat to the band's own dominance of the stage. But the task of lyrical comprehension is up to the listener, and as a rap music band with a distinctly musical emphasis, this is not a negative in any way. In addition to the formidable and intellectual delivery of Black Thought, Rahzel and Common Sense, prominent leftist artist Erykah Badu drops in to perform a soulful R&B and Rap song about the subject of subjects, love.

The album in question here is not only a fantastically orchestrated, mixed, performed hip-hop album with layers of artistic depth and cunning, it also makes the unlikely crossover foray into the realm of party music and club music. This crossover is accomplished without any deterioration of the band's unique message of very strong black pride coupled with racial tolerance and a more peacenik vision than their gangster rap colleagues. All said, *The Roots Come Alive* is highly recommended to any avid listener of rap music, any lover of Parliament Funkadelic, and especially fans of jazz and rock musics. The tremendous effort and skill of the musicians here is quite evident, and a person with a good ear for musical weeds will find this album to be a joy of complex puzzles and layers of sonic and sub-sonic textures. The next time I throw one of my classic beach house parties, I'll be getting things started by popping in *The Roots Come Alive* into my stereo.



Welcome back!
 We want to hear from you!
 As usual, bring or mail your questions to the Student Union, Room 060, or email us at: sbpress@ic.sunysb.edu

"WHEN LOVE BECOMES WAR"

Welcome back to another new semester here in fabulous Stony Brook NY. Apparently, no one got cock for Christmas, head for Channukah, or reamed for Ramadan, because we ain't got no letters to answer. Hopefully, many of you are in satisfying, platonic relationships that will develop into lifelong partnerships. Since we have no letters to answer, we will subject you to a few thoughts we had on the subject of love.

JACK:

Ever had love turn to war? I'm not necessarily talking about in love love either. Any love can turn into war. I've warred with best friends, family members, and lovers. I know I loved each of those people with whom I have warred, but at the time, I felt the war emotion when we were fighting. Those wars are ugly and painful. Terrible things are said, and me is all we think about.

Usually, communication is the cause of these wars. We have grown, discovered something about ourselves that the other doesn't know. They don't understand us but it is we who control that understanding. Often our partners don't make it easy for us to share, but that is only because they don't understand, because we haven't shared with them. Lack of communication leads to distance and from a distance it is easy to be cold and not care what you say. If you find yourself in this situation, or approaching this situation, let me give a little advice (advice? how out of character of you, Jack) : Stop! Take a deep breath and ask for a hug.

I know, it sounds lame but it's the best thing you can do in that situation. If there is and I haven't thought about it, let me know. The only other way to "win" that war is to be the first one to end the relationship. If you end the relationship, you lose.

On the other hand, some people are emotionally handicapped and unable to satisfy your need for physical comfort and emotional honesty. These people are dangerous to you and themselves, and if they aren't willing to work with you, fuck 'em. Let them be alone. If you are being sincere in your attempt to make love and not war, you have the emotional strength to walk away. Find someone who can really take care of you.

Parents.
 You only have what the universe has given you. There are millions who have it worse than you.

Don't be too hard on your parents. They had it hard too. Many of our parents were only a little older than us when they had us. Imagine it, it ain't easy.

Parents tend to get old, and old people tend to die. You never want to stand over the body of your parent and wish you had told them you loved them. However evil your parents are, there is a little part of everyone that never stops loving our parents. Tell them. If they are pricks about it, fuck 'em. Know that there is a little part of them that never stops loving you.

HIL:

Whoever said that all is fair in love and war was lying. Either that, or they were just plain stupid. Nothing can be fair in a battle between two people when they are close. We all have experienced something along these lines. Words are said that are damn well meant to hurt because it's easy for you to figure out what buttons to push. Threats are made easily, because you always know what's threatening. Hurting the person is the easy part.

Why? Why would we want to hurt those whom we love? Often, the issue is a communication problem. It's really easy to avoid talking about what's wrong. Sometimes the reason for doing so is because you can't figure out what's wrong. Maybe you understand the gist of it, but it's not something you can put into words. So it builds up inside of you. All the little things, the flaws you once accepted, maybe even embraced, suddenly become overwhelmingly unbearable. You get angry, maybe you decide that if things don't get better, you're out of there. For lack of a better solution, you start to bicker over every little thing, because every little thing starts to annoy you. It hurts to realize that you can no longer deal with a situation the way things are, so you may try to fix it, because under the anger, there is fear of loss. Especially when you know that you can't formulate one concrete reason for feeling the way that you do. Behind fear is sadness.

You may sit there for hours mulling over it, yet when asked what the problem is, you go blank. This is extremely frustrating. What now? It often helps to discuss it with somebody else. After doing that, a great way to organize your thoughts is to put them onto paper. That way, you can actually look at how you're feeling. I emphasize FEELING. It's important to put aside what you think for the time being and deal with how you feel. Love is not about logic, it's about emotion. After that, it's time to suck it up and deal. Focus on the grand scope of things, not every little argument that you've had in the past few weeks or so.

If you still can't verbalize it, physicalize it. No, I'm not suggesting a major fuck fest. I'm talking about a human touch, a hug, an acknowledgement that although you're having problems right now, you love each other and will try to work it out. A temporary barrier is not a reason to end what is usually a loving relationship. That's just evasion.

Remember, you do love the perspn. When we love someone, we want to protect them from pain. It is important to keep that in mind. Reeevaluate the way you are dealing with the issue. Hurting them is easy because you know how to, but think about the consequences. You are going to drive them further away. Even if they are hurting you, an eye for an eye is not on the road to a healthy relationship. When you love someone, you want to work with them, not against them.

FORTUNE:

You Will

Become

One Of Us.

JOIN THE PRESS.

Or You Will Die a Fiery Death!

COME TO OUR OPEN HOUSE!

Wed. February 2 at 1 p.m. Student Union Room 060

