

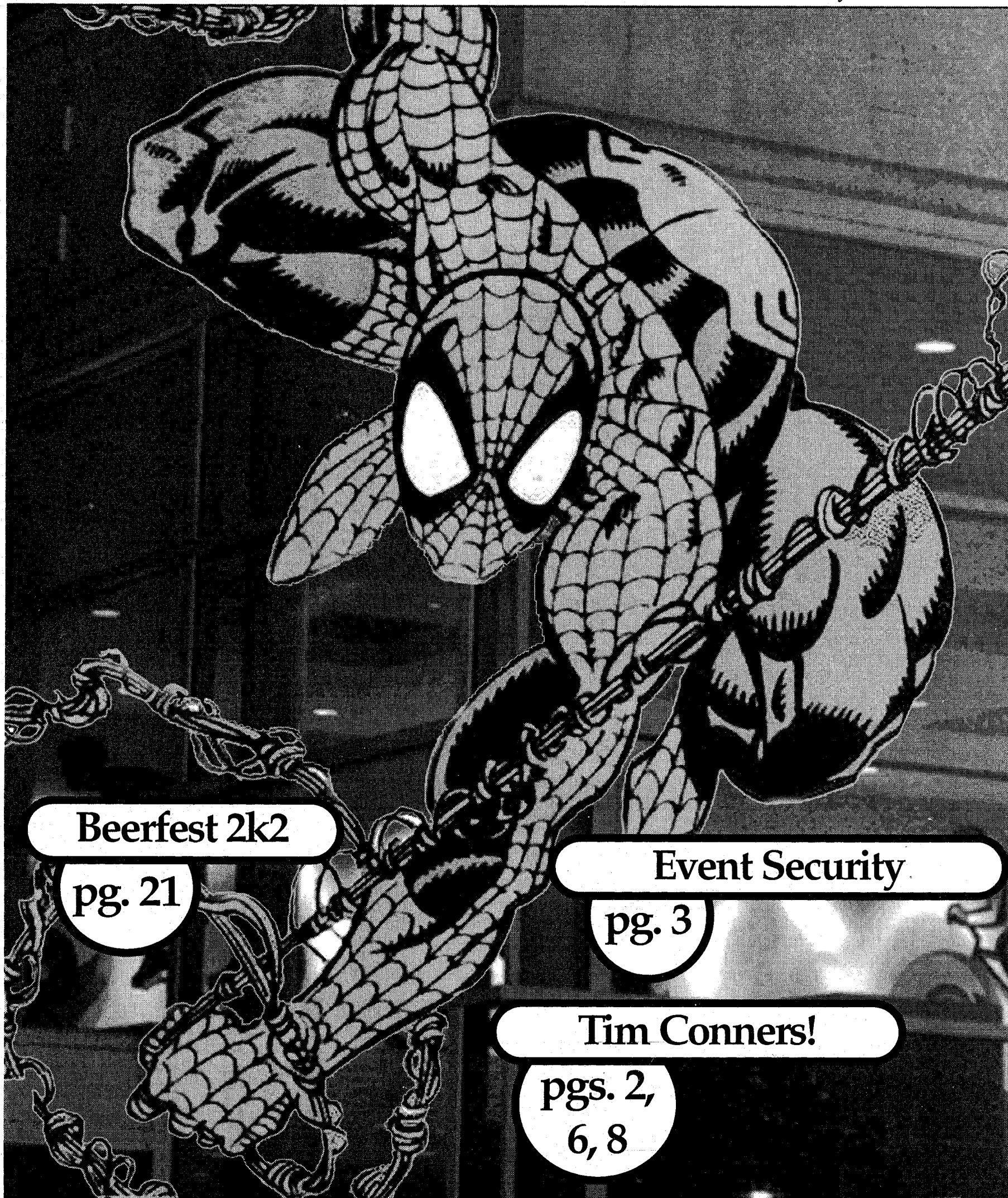
THE STONY  
BROOK

# PRESS

Vol. XXIII, Issue 14

"Jamie 1, Meatheads 0"

May 11, 2002



Beerfest 2k2

pg. 21

Event Security

pg. 3

Tim Conners!

pgs. 2,  
6, 8

# John Nash at The Free Library of Philadelphia

By Tim Connors

Nobel Laureate John Nash spoke at the Philadelphia Free Library on April 18th along with a panel of experts. Nash received some notoriety from the movie "A Beautiful Mind," which was based on his life story. The first half-hour of the presentation was a conversation between Nash and Dan Gottlieb, followed by a general panel discussion of schizophrenia.

The first topic that Dan brought up with Nash was how what the doctors call compensating, rather than recovery from the illness, was done. Nash replied that, functionally, there was no difference between the two ideas, and that full recovery is no different from compensation to schizophrenia.

Dan Gottlieb is a quadriplegic and compared his disability with Nash's in their ability to compensate. Nash pointed out the difference between a physical disability and a psychiatric one by giving the example of Ronald Reagan's press secretary's head wound as being different from schizophrenia.

Gottlieb then asked if Nash's work had aided him in continuing with his life. Nash said that it was fortunate that Gottlieb was not a postal worker, and implied that the parallel didn't hold between the two disabilities. Gottlieb didn't seem to pick up on this too quickly.

Gottlieb asked about the movie "A Beautiful Mind," and how realistic the symptoms were in the movie, and how Nash felt about the portrayal of the symptoms by Ron Howard. Nash said he played a passive role in the depiction

of the symptoms, and pointed out that it was really the screenplay that played a large part in how the hallucinations were depicted. It was later discussed that Dr. Nash only had auditory hallucinations, which were like having a cellular phone in his head.

Towards the end of the program, the

panel was discussing funding for the illness and its cost to society, versus resources allocated towards treatment and research for a cure. Nash used the example of Ted Kennedy speaking at a symposium about alcoholism and the treatment that alcoholics receive, which is not done for schizophrenics. The other panel members pointed out that there was a large disparity between funding for diseases like cancer, heart disease,

etc... when compared to schizophrenia even though both have equivalent costs to society.

He had several involuntary hospitalizations, the first coming when he was thirty and his wife was pregnant. His wife divorced him and his sister involuntarily committed him for several months, which caused a strain on that relationship for several years.

His view on hospital stays was that the first one was too short to discipline him, and the second one of several months was what he needed at the

time. Initially, he viewed himself as an enlightened prophet, the other people on the ward looked like mental patients. However he needed to act normal to gain privileges in the levels system that was in effect at the hospitals. Levels systems reward normal behavior with privileges such as going outside to an exercise yard, holding a little money and being able to buy small things.

A big shock to the crowd was the revelation that Nash stopped taking medication in 1970 because the thought police were forcing him to miss out on things. He had no regrets about that, and it was a done deal as far as he was concerned. He had developed a system of converting letters to numbers, vice versa, and had developed several computer programs.

Nash is not typical of schizophrenics, in that the age of onset of the illness is usually between the age of twenty to twenty-five, and Nash experienced the onset when he was thirty. Additionally, it is rare for people to function that well without medications, and only about ten percent of schizophrenics no longer need medication when they get old.

Nash overcame the hallucinations through rational thought, and used cognitive ability to supercede the voices. Not all schizophrenics can do this and few have had positive outcomes such as Nash has.

Nash's son is schizophrenic, and John is disappointed in his son. He feels that providing a supportive environment has hindered his son's movement towards independence. This is typical of the poor achievement levels that people with schizophrenia exhibit. As one of the panelists pointed out, most people's attitudes are regardless of medications. In the end this is still schizophrenia and there is no real hope of recovery.



## Of Mice and Mind

By Aaron Feingold

"Above the hamster is mouse, and above mouse... the Overmouse."

On May first, the annual Celebration of Undergraduate Achievement was held in the SAC. URECA, the office behind the celebration, awards grants and research fellowships based on these presentations. This year, there were 73 research projects presented by Stony Brook undergraduates. Fifteen of those were in Chemistry. Eight were in Physics and Astronomy. Thirteen were in Materials Science and Mechanical Engineering.

One was in Physiology and Biophysics.

That one project was the work of Min Yi Tan, a senior studying Biochemistry. Her project was titled, "Generation of CD36 Transgenic Mice Using the Cre/Lox System." The premise of this work is that the transport of fatty acids into cells is heavily influenced by a protein called CD36. By splicing the genes for human CD36 into mice, and then overexpressing them in one type of tissue, and eliminating them in another, it is possible to study and analyze the function of this protein.

When this gene is removed, cells in the deprived tissue are not able to take in fatty acids effectively. They cannot metabolize fat with any efficiency, and are left trying to find other things (sugars, etc) to burn for energy. When the gene is overexpressed, that is, when there are multi-

ple copies in each cell, the animal's tissue takes in much more fat.

When CD36 is overexpressed in bones, which cannot store fatty acids, they consume large amounts of the fatty acids immediately. Fat is burned, and metabolism is increased. Here, the medical possibilities of this research become truly interesting.

When it is overexpressed in adipose tissue, that is, in fat, the fat cells pull in the fatty acids, store them, and increase in size dramatically. The rotund rodent thus created is shockingly obese, hugely heavy, massing far beyond the weight of mortal mice, and while it does not grow vertically beyond mouse size, it expands horizontally, with all those rolls of fat hanging off the sides. Even if the ground does shake when this mammoth mouse moves, one must keep in mind that white mice are undeniably cuddly, and that a large, somewhat squishy, pillow-like mouse would presumably be better for this purpose.

Min was quick to dismiss what would seem, at first glance, to be the obvious use for this system. It turns out that mammal brains use only glucose for energy, no fatty acids



allowed. What this means is that we cannot create a superintelligent mouse bent on world domination (or even just getting to Thorn Valley) simply by overexpressing CD36 in its brain. It wouldn't work. Back to the drawing board, I guess.

This is all tested in vitro, so we needn't worry about out-of-control mouse/human hybrids with overexpressed fangs getting loose and seizing the university. Seventies horror films aside, that is not what this type of research is about. The point here is not the creation of rodents of unusual size, but the discovery and understanding of life's most basic building blocks, those crucial bits of information from which we all are forged.



# The Cost of Security

By Bev Bryan

Last year, at a party in the Union Ballroom, a group of performers tried to take the microphone without prior security clearance. When a member of The Student Polity Event Management Staff tried to stop them, one of the artists broke his jaw. Since that time, the student event security staff at Stony Brook has taken a more limited role in policing campus events.

Robbie Fung, the university's director of student activities, defended the change, in an interview, as being the safest thing for both attendees and student staff. "Does the university want to put students in harm's way?" he asked, adding, "And this is my personal opinion—we shouldn't. It's not worth it."

To have a party on campus now, a club has to hire a professional outfit called Concert Security Services and the Event Management Staff paid for by the student activity fee and staffed by student employees. Security costs can make up 60 percent of the tab for a social event. The presence of police officers already on duty in the Student Union comes gratis, but if the University Police determine that more officers are needed, the club sponsoring the event will have to pay for the overtime.

CSS handles security for concerts at Madison Square Garden. All CSS employees have gone through a certification program, and many are retired cops.

CSS employees perform the actual security functions. They pat down attendees and intervene if someone tries to ruin a good time. The student event management staff is not

allowed to touch anyone attending an event, although, they do receive some security training from the university police. They tear tickets, collect IDs and act as the "eyes and ears of CSS," as Deputy university police Chief Doug Little put it in an interview.

A CSS employee makes about \$ 20 per hour and Polity security employees make about \$ 6. For an event in the Union Ballroom with over 200 party goers, the estimated cost of employing 7 CSS security guards is \$ 900 while the cost of employing about 20 student event managers is \$ 984. That makes 1,884 dollars in security costs for a ballroom party. The cost for both is about half that in bi-level, the second largest venue in the Union.

Johann Brown, head of the Polity event staff, said in an interview that allowing club members to take tickets is problematic. "If you see friends and you start letting them in then you have a capacity issue," he said.

As of the middle of this semester, Polity security is free to Polity sponsored clubs. Not so, for dues-paying organizations like fraternities and sororities. As result, many organizations are moving their events to venues off campus where security costs are lower.

Fraternities don't receive a security subsidy because their members pay dues. The fraternal argument against this thinking is that since brothers and sisters pay the \$ 80 per semester student activity fee and all of its major events are open to the student body, they shouldn't be penalized.

At a recent meeting of the Inter-

Fraternity/Sorority Council, members of various sororities and fraternities acknowledged the difficulties they were having.

"Before you could charge \$ 3 or \$ 4 dollars [for admission] on campus and \$ 5 off and now you have to charge \$ 6 or \$ 7 on campus or \$ 8 off," said Desiree Henry. Henry is a member of the Omega Phi Beta sorority, which chose to hold its Domestic Violence Banquet after-party at the Park Bench, a bar off campus.

A fraternity brother who gave his name as Bernard B. said that fraternities have events to entertain but also to fundraise. "What happens is that it ends up not being profitable for us," he said.

Robbie Fung said that he recognized the concerns of the sororities and fraternities and that events moving off campus is something "we definitely identify as a problem."

Johann Brown readily admitted there was room for improvement in Stony Brook's security plan. He said he is aware that SUNY Old Westbury doesn't contract out for event security because student security employees there are trained and certified as security guards. Brown named some possible solutions being discussed, including, a volunteer event management staff and a separate polity budget to pay for CSS security.

Brown stressed that the new arrangement had been reached by a general consensus among staff and administrators involved in events planning only last year and that it was something of a work in progress. "This is basically a new solution," he said.

# The French Election

By Anne Vache

On Sunday night, I was behind one of the university computers to follow what was going on in France for the first round of the presidential elections. I am a French exchange student in Sweden and voted by proxy. Using the Internet was the only way to get to know the results, so I went to the university, connected to the net and looked at the results: whata shock! I couldn't believe it. I kept on hoping that Jospin could overcome Le Pen but I knew it was already too late. I has been some days already and I am still shocked. Yes, I am shocked and ashamed too. I would never have thought my country was full of fascist people. I cannot help wondering how this could happen. Why am I left with two bad alternatives? Should I vote for a corrupt man (Chirac is involved into seven different affairs of bribery!), or for a dangerous, racist person?

Do people really know who Le Pen is? Do they realize he is the same guy who brutalized a female candidate during the 1997 legislative elections? Do they understand how dangerous his ideology is? Do they understand that he is indeed very close to Nazism?

He wants a pure France, without foreigners. Did he forget France is actually the result of several big waves of migrations, from prehistory to our days?

He wants to stop suburban violence! Great! We all want that. But his answer is not the correct one. He is going to bring more violence; he is going to discriminate more and more, on the sole base of racial difference.

What is the most amazing is that some immigrants actually voted for him! And many Frenchmen who seemed to forget quickly that one of their ancestors was Italian, Portuguese, German or Arab! Also, many people didn't go to vote, including many immigrants living in the suburbs!

The first who are going to suffer if Le Pen is elected! I follow the news and try to understand; they believe Le Pen could go to the second round because both right and left wings were too divided this year. Indeed there were as many as 16 different candidates and it was not easy to make a choice. Some people who would have voted for Jospin voted for other leftist candidates (I, for example, voted for the ecologist movement!). They also believe opinion polls have their share of responsibility here; from the beginning they



announced a final battle between Chirac and Jospin. They were unable to foresee that Le Pen would get that many votes. Well, it is true that if I had known there was a real risk Le Pen would beat Jospin, I would have voted for Jospin. I had planned to vote for him in the second round, I just wanted to show my concern for ecology during the first round! Eventually they say the phenome-

nal record of abstention (around 30% of the voting population didn't go to vote) is one of the reasons why Le Pen has now some chance to become president.

But that doesn't change anything to the main problem: there are more and more people voting for extremist right parties! In 1995 15% of the population had chosen to vote for Le Pen. In 2002 it grew up to 17% to which we can add the 2% Mégret (another extreme right fascist candidate) got in the 1st round! Things are quite worrying. Those parties could benefit from the effects of September the 11th and from the country's helplessness in front of the recurrent suburban violence (suburbs being mainly populated by immigrants who are parked there like pigs). We need good measures to stop that violence and we need it quickly! But we need a better answer's than Le Pen's intolerant, discriminative one.

There is no doubt for me, I must vote for Chirac. Not because I like him, not because I trust him, and not even because I believe in his political ideas, but because he cannot be a worse president than Le Pen. And I must not allow Le Pen to be president. On Sunday night, I wanted to scream, to cry, and to do something... but there was nothing to do. How could I stop this? I was far away in Sweden. I still am. The only comfort I got was listening to anti-FN (Le Pen's extremist party) songs. But that was not enough. There is still not much for me to do but to vote for Chirac and try to convince all the other French exchange students to go to vote in the second round. None of them voted in the first one. I am hopeful because I know many anti-FN demonstrations are held in France everyday. But I am also worried because I know that Le Pen gains votes and membership every day as well.

## Editorial: So sad to say good- bye...

As the year draws to a close, and we're all failing our respective finals, we'd just like to say goodbye to all our loyal readers. It's been a turbulent year from the lowest level of our staff box and editorial board, all the way up to the world level with the events of September 11th. The academic year of 2001-2002 is one that will never be forgotten for reasons too numerous to list. We here at *The Stony Brook Press* felt that although this year had its low points, there were also the times that were too much fun to ever forget. As college leaves its indelible marks on all students, especially those of us in our first tender years, we look back on a

job well done. From bouts with fraternities, to the greatest Beerfest yet, we've laughed, we've cried, we've been yelled at; and above all, we've had fun. It is our sincere hope that you'll all be here again next year to read on, and rock on.

xoxoxoxoxo  
*The Stony Brook Press*

P.S. *The Press* would just like you to know that's we're looking forward to next year, where we get to kick your asses even harder. But don't worry, it's 'cause we love you... never mind, you suck.

## Editorial:

### E-Board

#### Executive Editor

Daniel Hofer

#### Managing Editor

Dustin Herlich

#### Associate Editor

Adam Kearney

#### Business Manager

Diana Post

#### News Editor

Bev Bryan

#### Features Editor

Joe Hughes

#### Photo Editor

Ceci Norman

#### koppi edetur

Michael Prazak

#### Production Mngr.

Adam Schlagman

#### Webmaster

Steve Brannen

#### Ombudsman

Russell Heller

### Staff

Tim Connors, Wendy Fuchsberg, Chris Genarri, Jonathan Gelling, Rob Gilheany, Glenn "Squirrel" Given, Cory Grimes, Jody Jarvis, Gregory Knopp, David Knuffke, Andrea Leeson, Brian Libfeld, Rich Mertz, Jamie Mignone, Walter Moss, Thomas Osborn, Andrew Pernick, Derrick Prince, Chitra Ramasubbu, Glenn Roth, Ross Rosenfeld, Tyler Schauer, Brian "Scoop" Schneider, Albert Scott, Katie Sinnott, Chris Sorochin, Chris Stackowicz, Debbie Sticher, Sarah Stuve, Doug Williams, Rich Zimmer

*The Stony Brook Press* is published fortnightly during the academic year and twice during the summer intersession by *The Stony Brook Press*, a student run and student funded non-profit organization. The opinions expressed in letters, articles and viewpoints do not necessarily reflect those of *The Stony Brook Press*. Advertising policy does not necessarily reflect editorial policy. For more information on advertising and deadlines call (631)632-6451. Staff meetings are held Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. First copy free. For additional copies contact the Business Manager.

The Stony Brook Press  
Suites 060 & 061  
Student Union  
SUNY at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200  
(631) 632-6451 Voice  
(631) 632-4137 Fax  
e-mail: stonypress@hotmail.com  
www.sbp.org





---

**Letter: Response to Jonathan Gelling**

---

I enjoy reading your publication, especially because it is not full of mainstream ideology. I was disappointed, however, by an "article" written in volume 23, issue 13 by Jonathan Gelling entitled "Angry People never did anything worth doing." He obviously misses the point of your liberalism, stating in his first paragraph that your message is that drug use and being angry will solve the world's problems. What I have received from your paper is a humorous statement of your awareness of social problems, and a call for civil disobedience against those problems. Jonathan makes an even worse mistake of attacking "the whole culture of the late 80's and early 90's," including movies music, alt-cultures, the media and Bill Clinton, by accusing them of being negative and pessimistic. I would ask Mr. Gelling to take a look at the culture of the rest of the twentieth century and see where pessimism and anger could be found. Nixon + Vietnam, Kent State="Ohio" by CSNY, compared to "Rodney King + acquittal = riot = NWA + public enemy = educating through music those that cannot afford college education. All right, positive music .... Britney Spears? Um..

Britney + guise of positive role model + middle class + corporate America = Pepsi sells more soda to 12 year old girls = fucking useless to anyone who has been subject to progressive social institutions + reliance on the welfare state + living below the poverty line. Does Jonathan Gelling think that "freak counter-culture," "violent hip-hop and grunge rock," and "Terminator" and "Robocop" can be held

responsible for the Columbine Massacre? People thought Elvis was the Devil, Apocalypse Now, Soilent Green and Planet of the Apes are not of the late 80's and 90's. I would invite Mr. Gelling to review Robocop 2 and look more closely at the brilliant social satire hidden under it's gore and attention-getting violence. Then listen to tracks like "Express Yourself" by NWA and Public Enemy's "Don't believe the Hype", "Hip-hop Hooray" by Naughty by Nature, and by then, with your mood lifted, you should be able to pay really close attention to some of the words of Kurt Cobain. They're not obviously positive, (he often inter-mixed the lines of his verses), but his cynicism and the awareness of musician's thought history have had good results. Amongst campaign-fund contributors of democrat and republican presidential hopefuls were CEO's, whereas Nader's contributors were mostly rock stars. I believe Gelling's complaint is uninformed, but with good intentions. I wish him well with his poli-sci major and remind him that an angry liberal on drugs is more open minded and in touch with reality than any gun-and-bible toting conservative who listens to Patsy Cline and who's kids love Smashmouth. So to provide an exception to Mr. Gelling's damning proclamation, I say practice civil disobedience, practice safe sex, don't share needles, go out and vote, and read, read, read. All this said and done, you just can't blame the music.

Signed

Seymour Gage.

---

**Letter: Vlad Vlad, He's Our Man...**

---

Dear Press,

You guys are doing the right thing for covering the conspiracy against Vlad Frants. I'm a current Senator and I know that things are very shady in Polity. The Administration is trying to decertify polity and I really think you should continue to cover such Polity issues. I've seen Vlad Frants on tv and saw him coming to three of the meetings I attend, and he campaigned. No candidate has ever done that! (Well, in my past 4 years anyway). He's got a friggin web site and business cards. He's damn hard working. Plus he's intelligent. How about we have someone in office who's like that for a change? You guys were doing the right thing for supporting him and for continuing to tell the public about the fucked up things

that the block of certain people in Polity keep doing to take control of our school. They vote for one another, and do everything to rig elections (did i mention that the same group manages the election---no oversight!) then allocate thousands of dollars on questionable events that target certain groups. Bad. BAD. Most of the campus needs to be informed, and that "coup de etat" you guys mentioned in the most recent article about Vlad Frants --- is just what this campus needs. Continue to inform. Something needs to be done about Polity. Vlad's got the ball rolling, lets help him up the hill.

- Concerned Student Senator

---

**Letter: More Walter Moss feedback**

---

To the Editor,

I've just finished reading the two articles by Walter Moss in your April 15 issue and felt compelled to respond. In "God Bless America: Let's Kill the World!" Mr. Moss critiques the increase in U.S. military spending since 9/11. According to Mr. Moss, the funding which is "being thrown into the festering maw that is the defense industry" is "being given to the wealthy friends of the shit-eater in chief". In "The New Intifada and International Resistance to Israel" Mr. Moss turns his attention to the Middle East. He traces the origin of the current Intifada to Ariel Sharon's visiting of the Temple Mount which he likens to "Osama Bin Laden defecating on the Statue of Liberty".

I believe I can fairly summarize my overall impression of Mr. Moss' articles by the following two points:

1. Mr. Moss is a very angry and frustrated young man.
2. Mr. Moss has a peculiar scatological fixation.

Whereas I recognize that these points in and of themselves are quite mundane and self-evident I nonetheless choose to raise them motivated by the belief that they may not be entirely unrelated.

It is well known that a certain degree of anal retentiveness can manifest itself in feelings of anger and frustration. Unfortunately, this seems to be coloring Mr. Moss' political thinking. In the interest of facilitating Mr. Moss' "stream of consciousness" I would therefore like to recommend the proven benefits of a heaping tablespoon of Metamucil and a glass of water.

I certainly hope that Mr. Moss would receive these comments in the constructive and helpful spirit in which they were intended. I would also hope that prior to sitting down to write his next article for Stony Brook Press, Mr. Moss would consider consuming 2 or 3 rather large bran muffins.

-Solomon Weiskop

---

**Letter: From Walter Moss**

---

Letter: Wow, Rosenfeld is insane!

I have been a contributor to the Press since I came to Stony Brook two years ago. I have been proud to have my work published in this paper. I think that the Press is a valuable resource for this campus, as a source of alternative culture and politics. I admit, I have written some obnoxious articles in my time. Last years anti-Christian pieces (which I have now come to regret ever writing) were silly and mean-spirited. However, while some of my work may be in poor taste, it never advocates violence or bigotry. In fact no other writer for this paper has ever written a violent or racist piece that I know of. I have disagreed with other contributor's views, but I have always appreciated their perspective and respected their ability to convey their ideas. I have no respect for the writer of "Israel, Our Ally". In the past, I had always ignored Ross Rosenfeld as the one anomaly in an otherwise fantastic publication. However, when I read the lines "Arafat, and his Palestinian Authority, and his homicide bombers and the rest of his terrorist murderers must be destroyed" I was taken aback. To advocate murder is, in my opinion, to cross an important boundary. Rosenfeld is no longer the oddball who writes obscenity-laced letters to the editors of the Press. He has become a violent fanatic screaming for blood. Had he been a Palestinian student calling for death to the "butcher" Sharon and his "terrorist murderers", I have no doubt the piece would not have been run and he would currently be being held in federal custody in Brooklyn with other "disappeared" Arab-American citizens. Rosenfeld is a violent, sad, little man. His

articles have been of poor quality and do not mesh with the mission of the Press as Stony Brook's alternative paper. And by "alternative", I mean presenting views that are not commonly found in mainstream media (one could find many of Rosenfeld's violent ilk in such outlets as The Post, or Fox News Channel). I think, as a writer, he has been an embarrassment and a liability to this publication. His silly attack on Blackworld, that was sure to alienate black readers, is a case-in-point. How much damage to the Press' reputation will you allow him to do?

When people pick up this paper and read calls for an Israeli "jihad" (sorry for using this cliché but appropriate word) to wipe out the Palestinian Authority, they must feel somewhat the same as I do; this Ross Rosenfeld is crazy, and why the hell are his violent, hate filled words, being put into this paper? It makes no sense that a paper, which in the same issue aired a great piece "The Struggle for Freedom Through the Voice of Hip-hop", should also publish Rosenfeld's murderous rubbish. Let him put his work into some far right publication, where other violent fanatics can appreciate it.

I hate attacking Rosenfeld personally (I have never done anything like this in the past). However, he is one of the most odious people I have had the misfortune of encountering. I find his message so inappropriate and hideous, that I feel driven to write this letter. Thanks for hearing me out. as can be guessed I'm pretty

Angry  
-Walter Moss

# I Can't Reach My Fucking Feet!

By Tim Connors

I can't reach my fucking feet to put on my socks, but I can still see my pecker, so things aren't that bad. One fat guy I know leans back on a couch then lifts up his feet and then lurches forward to put on his socks. Most fat guys lift their leg up to the opposing knee and put their socks on that way.

Do you ever fart in bed then wave the covers to fan the fart out? One of my apartment mates does, but he's cool. He let one rip the other day that was really rank and was proud that he could belt one out that was so prodigiously foul. Thank God it was in the privacy of his room, and not in a common area.

With such an exciting day to day existence, it seems difficult to think of bigger issues. Like civil rights for the mentally ill, which are under assault. The biggest threat is an easement of requirements to involuntarily commit people, and to forced medication of patients against their will. To suggest that medication be lowered is heresy to doctors, and there is a definite tendency to always increase medication regardless of side effects, such as weight gain, impotence, liver damage, uncontrollable facial ticks, diarrhea, and a host of other less annoying side effects.

There is a role expectation of society that mentally ill people take medication, regardless of efficacy, or side effects. There is the idea that patients try to get better when suffering other diseases, but not with mental illness. Mentally ill people are put out to pasture in stupid day programs that wouldn't challenge a six-year-old.

The typical day programs are not vocational in focus, in that the only job training provided is possibly as a maintenance person, or other non-skilled position. The choices are limited in terms of where to go for rehabilitation. In comparison alcoholics and drug addicts receive better services in rehabs than do the mentally ill in hospitalization, and subsequent out patient programs.

Even the most mentally ill people retain the capacity for rational thought. Extensive hospitalization may lead to institutionalization of patients. After release, that can hinder self sufficiency, motivation, assertion of self interests, and the ability to act proactively without supervision.

Institutionalization also has profound effects on social skills and adherence to societal norms. Long hospital stays focus on engendering conformity to rules, the deterrence of resistance to the authority of the staff, and the minimization of self directed social activities in favor of those directed by the staff in all aspects of daily activities.

Hospitals crush the ability of the mentally ill to engage in society, in that the experience of a hospital stay is traumatic to social skills, and the moral of the individual. The Byzantine hospital system does more damage to the fabric of individual character than is otherwise needed to stabilize a person on medication.

This damage is done by a staff of nurses and orderlies that day after day deal with the ill as if they were cattle, and have become institutionalized themselves. The doctors are advised as to progress and spend minimal time interacting with the patients. The patient is forced to conform

through positive and negative enticements.

The positive enticements are the levels system of psychiatric ward, which gives privileges, based on normal type obedient behavioral patterns. The negative reinforcements are forced medication, restraints, forced sedation, seclusion, and the reduction of privileges in the level system. This carrot and stick operation is meant to quell disruptive patients, and in effect break independence so that the hospital runs smoothly. This is done regardless of how this system impacts the patient's long term living skills.

This system is used on people when they are most vulnerable, and ill, with the hopes that it will aid in their recovery. But in reality it is smashing the social skills of the mentally ill, and is in large part the main cause of social dysfunction found among post hospitalization mentally ill persons.

The professionals wonder about their inability to treat the negative symptoms of the mentally ill, that being social dysfunction, and never consider that the system of hospitalization programs inflict caustic damage upon those it is intended to force into a conforming pattern of behavior. Yet, ironically, it undercuts the very social skills and hope required to independently function in society.

My other apartment mate lacks social graces, in large part due to a prolonged stay of a decade in a state hospital. He asked me, "So your dad's dead?" To which I replied yes, and then he asked, "How old was he?" I answered fifty-eight, and he queried, "How'd he die?" I said a heart attack, and he asked, "Was his hair brown, or black?" There was no lead up to the conversation, it just came out of the blue, and continued on to cover his four-second experience of death, his uncle's two minutes of death, a dentist hit by lightning, and an Amtrack crash.

This guy doesn't talk to his roommate, and can barely carry on a one sided conversation. He only talks about getting a pet ferret, getting a job in the area, and a TV and VCR for the apartment. One of the women who lives in the group home says that he's doing better than when he was in the loony bin, because when he was in the state hospital he wouldn't bathe. So he can't manage a conversation, but he doesn't smell like ass, so things could be worse.

The criminally insane aren't going to be released anytime soon, but those that have served their time will eventually be integrated into the group home system. This should make for a wonderful living arrangement for the majority of the mentally ill who are not criminals, nor violent.

A neighboring county has a state hospital that houses sex offenders, rapists and pedophiles, and the unit is managed by the same organization that runs my group home. There is a mandate to close the unit and incorporate them into the group homes of that county and surrounding counties.

This is worrisome because when we went on a protest march with some of the sex offenders, they were looking at people like predators, and crossed the line of stalling, and went well over the line of leering. Ironically the guy who runs the unit was chanting for freedom now, while at the same time running a locked down unit.



That was a weird trip, when four sites met at the state hospital grounds the head of the sex offender unit had everyone get in a circle and encouraged them to clap and sing some stupid song, followed by a prayer for the trip. There's nothing wrong with prayer, but it really shouldn't be forced, and I prefer not to have some idiot sex offender wish for Jesus to be alive today.

But I digress; the point of the article was that I can't reach my feet easily, and that the system of social control in hospitals causes a lot of the social dysfunction seen in the mentally ill. The reason that I can't reach my feet is because of the eighty pounds I gained since taking a mood stabilizer that causes six months of excessive appetite, like the feeling of starvation regardless of what I had eaten.

I read an article by Fuller Torrey, who is a self-proclaimed leading authority on schizophrenia, however he is advocating outcome based allocation of resources, and the return to forced medication and hospitalizations. He attacked the move towards rights for mentally ill people, arguing that this is a minority movement, and that it is not in society's best interests.

He's correct about rights for the mentally ill being a movement that affects a small minority of the population, but that is no reason for a disparity in rights. The outcome-based allocation of funding will return funding to institutionalization of the mentally ill, since that has the longest established outcomes record, while at the same time prohibiting exploration of new modalities of care, that would lack an established record of outcomes since they had not been implemented.

The newest trend in treatment for the mentally ill is consumer run organizations that would provide job and self-advocacy training. Torrey opposes consumer run organizations, and claims that its hippie health care that is based on sixties thinking, and the negative image of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," and the image of the evil head nurse.

The thing that Torrey missed about the current movement is that, for all practical purposes, the techniques used in the sixties have not fundamentally changed. "Hippie health care," as Torrey calls it, is a big departure from mentally ill being told what to do. Instead this consumer run model is the beginning of the mentally ill objecting to the system that depends on them, yet is harmful to them and their basic social coping mechanisms.



scared?



alienated?



angry?



sad?



pensive?



cynical?



peeved?



wistful?



lonely?



thirsty?

silly Goth  
come to....

the Spot

2nd floor  
Fannie Brice Thtr.  
thurs6to12/fri&sat6to2  
Beer/Music/Poetry/Cabaret



# Walter Moss and His New Intifada on Truth

By Gal Shalev

I have to admit that I do not read The Press religiously. I usually do not have the time to do so and prefer to allot time for my studies. The past week while I was waiting for one of my classes I picked up the latest edition of the Press and discovered an article on the Middle East Conflict, a topic close to my heart. I read the article and felt that I had to reply immediately and to put the numerous inaccuracies to rest. Here is, what I think, a more analytical perspective on the hatch job.

In the first paragraph we already are exposed to Walter Moss' ignorance and biased views. He talks about Sharon going up to the Temple Mount which is a "Palestinian Muslim holy site". Anyone who has a perfunctory knowledge of history or comparative religions knows that the Temple Mount is the holiest place for the Jewish people and is where, historically, the two Temples were situated. Hence, the name TEMPLE Mount. The Al Aksa Mosque that was built in 7th century A.D, is also more accurately an Islamic Holy Site (not Palestinian Muslim since that would be the equivalent of calling the Church of the Nativity an American Christian holy site when it is quite obvious that religion and nationalism should not be mixed in this comparison). Both places are holy to both religions!!

The author continues to explain how U.S. aid is used in order to build settlements which is obviously the exact opposite of the truth. The foreign aid was initially established after a pan-Arab war was waged against the Jews in 1948 in order to establish Israel's deterrence and balance of power. U.S. foreign aid has continued to flow because Israel has been the only country that has continually responded to U.S. interests in the Middle East. Many Israel politicians have talked about ending the U.S. aid to Israel and whether or not that is justified is debatable. To establish, though, that U.S. foreign aid is allotted to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict instead of for regional purposes is obviously false.

The author goes on to claim that "Within the past months settler groups have been responsible for bombing of mosques." Now this claim should certainly be addressed. If settlers were bombing up mosques then they should be condemned in the harshest of terms. The problem is that this is an absolute lie and if the author would like to supply evidence (which does not exist) than I will immediately go and build a mosque myself. The last time there has been any attack on a Muslim house of worship from Israeli Jews was the throwing of stones at a mosque a day after the Dolphinarium attack at Jaffa that is a suburb of Tel Aviv. There was no damage done and the people involved were not settlers. Before that event there was the famous massacre perpetrated by Baruch Goldstein in 1994, that was condemned by the mainstream in Israel. When one observes the fact the opposite has been true. The Wakf which is the Muslim Religious Council that is responsible for the maintenance of Muslim religious sites has continually thrown out Jewish archeological artifacts from the Temple Mount. When the IDF left Joseph's tomb, one of the holiest sites in Judaism, the Muslim mobs entered and burned the remaining torah scrolls and artifacts. If the author is interested in attacks on houses of worship, he should his set his eyes to France where the Simon Wiesenthal Center has reported that almost every single Jewish institute has been vandalized, reminiscent of the "Cristalnacht" in 1942.

The author, who obviously has no idea of what Zionism is, claims that the original

Zionist ideal was the "removal of the Arab population". In order to substantiate this outrageous claim he quotes a second ranked official, Yosef Wietz. Can you imagine intelligent people reaching conclusions on Islam based on Bin Laden or reaching conclusions on America based on David Duke? How can the author claim that this is the purpose of Zionism? Is he not aware of the declassified archives of the sayings of the famous Zionist leaders? Does he read the historical research of authoritative scholars such as Anita Shapira, Efraim

Karsh, and many others? How can someone just sum up a whole movement of self determination without knowing the origins and dynamics of that movement? I am not surprised that the author thinks this way since he is basically employing sources that are outright unscholarly such as the website [www.palestineremembered.com](http://www.palestineremembered.com). This website (which displays almost no academic sources) gives a polemical view of the founders of Zionism that is very far away from the facts. The picture given in the site is a completely distorted one of the Zionist leaders. The vast majority of Zionist leaders (from Herzl to Brit Shalom to the Labor Zionists) have always talked about active cooperation and assistance to the Arabs. Emir Faisal, son of Sherif Hussein, the leader of the Arab revolt against the Turks, signed an agreement with Chaim Wietzmann and other Zionist leaders during the 1919 Paris Peace Conference. "It acknowledged the "racial kinship and ancient bonds existing between the Arabs and the Jewish people" and concluded that "the surest means of working out the consummation of their national aspirations is through the closest possible collaboration in the development of the Arab states and Palestine." Furthermore, the agreement looked to the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration and called for all necessary measures "...to encourage and stimulate immigration of Jews into Palestine on a large scale, and as quickly as possible to settle Jewish immigrants upon the land through closer settlement and intensive cultivation of the soil." Emir Faisal also saw the Zionist movement as a companion to the Arab nationalist movement, fighting against imperialism, as he explained in a letter to Harvard law professor and future Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter on March 3, 1919, one day after Chaim Wietzmann presented the Zionist case to the Paris conference. Faisal wrote: The Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement....We will wish the Jews a hearty welcome home....We are working together for a reformed and revised Near East and our two movements complete one another. The Jewish movement is nationalist and not imperialist. And there is room in Syria for us both. Indeed, I think that neither can be a real success without the other (emphasis added).

Despite the growth in their population, the Arabs continued to assert they were being displaced. The truth is from the beginning of World War I, part of Palestine's land was owned by absentee landlords who lived in Cairo, Damascus and Beirut. About 80 percent of the Palestinian Arabs were debt-ridden peasants,

semi-nomads and Beduins. Jews actually went out of their way to avoid purchasing land in areas where Arabs might be displaced. They sought land that was largely uncultivated,

swampy, cheap and, most important, without tenants. In 1920, Labor Zionist leader David Ben Gurion expressed his concern about the Arab fellahin, whom he viewed as "the most important asset of the native population." Ben-Gurion said "under no circumstances must we touch land belonging to fellahs or worked by them." He advocated helping liberate them from their oppressors.

"Only if a fellah leaves his place of settlement," Ben-Gurion added, "should we offer to buy his land, at an appropriate price." The Peel Commissions's Report proved that Arab complaints about Jews stealing land were baseless. The commission pointed out that "much of the land now carrying orange groves was sand dunes or swamp and uncultivated when it was purchased....there was at the time of the earlier sales little evidence that the owners possessed either the resources or training needed to develop the land." The Commission found the shortage was "due less to the amount of land acquired by Jews than to the increase in the Arab population." The report concluded that the presence of Jews in Palestine, along with the work of the British Administration, had resulted in higher wages, an improved standard of living and ample employment opportunities.

The fact is that most of the land Jews settled in till 1948 was purchased by the Jewish National Fund from Arab landowners. Many Arabs from other countries such as Jordan and Egypt immigrated to the area under the British Mandate in order to work in Jewish owned businesses and enterprises. The Jewish settlement in modern day Israel attracted Arabs economically. The Jewish leaders constantly maintained correspondence with the Arab officials in order to reach some type of arranged settlement. So much for scholarly work on the author's behalf!!

Walter Moss goes on with the drama: "The current Zionist mission to destroy the Palestinian people." This claim is either intentional misinformation or absolutely ludicrous. It has no basis on truth whatsoever even from the most right wing elements of Israeli society. The current Palestinian leadership (that has been exposed as a terrorist organization par excellence) was established and funded by Israel. Israel elevated Arafat into a leader after the Gulf War( when he was isolated in the Arab World for supporting Saddam Hussein) and during the Oslo Peace Agreements and Israel has given annual budgets to the Palestinian Authority. The fact that the PA has decided to spend money on weaponry and BMWs instead of their educational system cannot be blamed on the Israel establishment. The statement above is outlandish and unsubstantiated which is kind of funny coming from someone who presents himself as liberal minded and objective. Walter Moss talks about the fact that five Palestinians are killed for every Israeli. Nevermind that the official statistics show that the ratio is more like one to three...but lets examine this claim. Based on the logic employed here, Germany was a righteous victim during WW2 because more Germans died than



# Ethnicity in Comic Books

By Adam Schlagman

People all over the world discuss how ethnicity is portrayed in movies, television shows, and all other factors of life, but how is ethnicity shown in comic books? Are there an equal number of black and white super heroes? What about Latino and Jewish ones? Is everyone treated the same? These are all questions that we should be wondering.

In the 30s through the 50s, American comic book superheroes were only white muscular males; the heroes' physiques reflected American admiration for being well built. They were made out to be perfect physically.

America was fighting Japan and Germany during World War II, so most comic books were about war. Comic books portrayed American heroes as defenders of truth and liberty, fighting against evil, warped foes. In one comic, a Japanese Doctor transformed into a vampire and sucked Americans' blood. Another example is the Red Skull. He is a nazi, whose head was red and looked very grotesque, like a skull and yet another was the Japanese villain the Yellow Law.

Comic books continued to portray America's enemies grotesquely after World War II. When the United States was fighting a war in Korea, they had comics that showed tough Americans, who through superior intelligence outwitted the slower Koreans. Basically comic books helped make people believe that people from other countries are evil and want to destroy the American way of life and turn it to communism.

Eventually more ethnic characters began being used in comics. This doesn't mean that it was a good thing. Most characters that were not Caucasian were used poorly or very stereotypically. Black Lightning was among the first ethnic characters to expand the superhero ranks to people of all races. Black Lightning was one of the first black superheroes and at the time was a step in the right direction for minorities but he was still portrayed too stereotypical because they had him coming from the streets and gangs. Now Black Lightning is barely ever used in comic books. Interesting enough, most of the first few black characters had a name that started with black, such as the Black Panther, who is a Marvel Comics character.

Black Superheroes are rarely ever the main character in a comic book; they are almost always sidekicks. Captain America, the famous World War II hero who came back to life in the 60s, had a black sidekick named Falcon. Falcon is almost never used nowadays though. Another example is the Spirit's sidekick, Ebony, who is portrayed with grossly exaggerated features and was often placed in humorous situations. This black sidekick was used just for laughs, which didn't help improve ethnicity in comics either. These new ethnic superheroes spoke in a tough, street lingo, and unlike their usually wealthy white counterparts, they tended to come from a slum environment.

Dani, a member of the New Mutants, is a Native American. Her power is to make Cheyenne (her tribe) chants. Because of this, meaningful Cheyenne traditions are reduced to yet one more super power to be wielded by a hero. Native Americans will be insulted by the portrayal of Dani rather than happy that they are shown in a comic book because their traditions are mocked and only used as powers instead of showing how much it truly meant to them. There have been two other Native American superheroes used in comic books. They are Thunderbird and Shaman. Thunderbird was killed off in one of the very first comics he was in and Shaman is rarely ever used; Dani is dead now too.

There are still a few more superheroes that are not Caucasian. Two of them are lesser

versions of famous characters; they are Superman and Green Lantern. The lesser version of Superman is a hero by the name of Steel. He is black but is now dead, while the lesser Green Lantern is a hero by the name of John Stewart, who is in a wheel chair and can't even use his powers anymore. All characters that aren't white are killed off or injured without a second thought. There is also currently another hero by the name of Luke Cage, who is black, but he is depicted as a major stereotype because he only helps people out for money or else he doesn't even care.

There is a Latino character named Skin in the comic book "Generation X". His ability is that he has 6 feet more skin than needed. The rather distasteful spectacle of this character of color raises the question of whether Latino identity is in some way being linked to his grotesqueness. Additionally, he calls everyone "muchacho", "amigo", or "chica" and he used to be involved in a gang. These stereotypes make people believe that all Latinos act that way.

Another group portrayed horribly in comic books are women. A considerable gap exists between comic depictions and accurate representations of how real women look and behave. Most of the original comic book women were either damsels in distress or watered-down super heroines that needed saving themselves. For instance, in the original Superman comic books, Lois Lane was always in trouble and Superman had to save her. Women have historically functioned more as objects for men to angst over or rescue than as independent, realistically portrayed women.

Females are stereotyped in comic books when having to do with relationships too. They often devolve into stereotyped objects of men's affections. One great example is a comic book heroine known as Rouge. She was originally a very spirited and independent character until she got involved in a relationship with a male superhero known as Gambit. Once this happened she lost a great deal of her personality and even her super powers lost potency, and she needed Gambit to rescue her.

Female characters in comic books generally fall into one of two categories; the helpless damsel in distress discussed before and the powerful sex object. Today, most female comic characters are not helpless, but they are still drawn to look drop-dead gorgeous and fight crime in high heels and tight, skimpy costumes. They are all drawn to look like Barbie Dolls with very large breasts. All women look like models, wear skin-tight suits, have breasts larger than their heads, and wear spiked heels while running around doing battle. One of the most ludicrous conventions of comic book art is the way breasts are drawn. They have a certain inflatable quality, are often barely covered or sometimes glazed by a spray-on bodysuit. Women comic characters are always wearing tight clothes to accent their enormously large breasts or wear clothes that barely cover their bodies. An example is the comic character known as Caitlan Fairchild from the comic book "Gen 13". Some how in every single issue of this comic, her clothes get ripped to shreds and she is semi-nude. Many women are barely clad at all, with just enough fabric to cover their basics



and little else. Their manner of dress emphasizes the disproportions within the comic female body, from the mile-long legs to the balloon-sized breasts. It is not possible for anyone to look like the drawings and this causes society to believe that people should actually look that way. Some comic books actually help out and show how being prejudiced is horrible. Portrayal of diverse ethnicities and people of color play a prominent role in some of today's most popular and influential comic books. The X-Men is one such great example. The X-Men is currently

one of the most popular comics and includes such famous characters as Wolverine and Magneto. The X-Men are mutants; a section of the human populace, with super powers resulting from random genetic mutations due to the x-factor chromosome. The X-Men are alienated from society due to their mutations. Their fantastic powers are a curse more than a gift for most mutants. The ostracized status of mutants is basically a metaphor to racism and oppression. Mutants are hated and feared by most people that aren't mutants. They should not be though. Some of them, like the X-

Men, help humanity and save the world, but they are still misunderstood by society and designated as outcasts. "Mutants are explicitly analogized to Jewish bodies, gay bodies, adolescent bodies, Japanese - or Native - or African - American bodies - - they are, first and foremost, subjected and colonized figures". The X-Men present ethnically, sexually, generationally, and genetically diverse companies of humans and mutants. The group is something more than a battle unit, and takes the form of a family basically, in which all members, and therefore no members, are outcasts. The X-Men symbolize all groups that are ridiculed and tormented just because they appear or believe in different things than the majority of people. Mutants are hunted down in comic books by mutant killing robots called sentinels. This is like how certain groups are killed or tortured by the Ku Klux Klan or the Nazis just because they are different.

Comics are now improving greatly and include many different cultures and types of people from all over the world of many different races. Once largely the domain of the strong white male and his wise cracking kid companion, the comic book world has expanded to include more female superheroes and many ethnic groups. Black Panther, a black character, has his own ongoing comic now, Triathlon, another black character, is a member of the mighty Avengers, which is one of the top teams in comics, and John Stewart, a former black Green Lantern, is finally out of his wheel chair. Even better, the leader of one of the X-Men teams is an African woman by the name of Storm. Finally one of the biggest steps of all is that in the new "Daredevil" movie, which will be coming out next February, Michael Clark Duncan from the "Green Mile" will be playing the Kingpin. This is truly significant because Michael Clark Duncan is black and in the comic book "Daredevil", the Kingpin is white. This is a big step in the right direction for race and hopefully will help put more cultures and races into comic books.



# Excerpts from Michael Moore's Stupid White Men

By Tim Connors

Stupid White Men by Michael Moore was published in the summer of 2001. The first Chapter A Very American Coup deals with the election, and the fact that Bush should have lost for a variety of reasons. For starters Gore received more votes than Bush overall, so if we didn't have the throw back Electoral College Gore would have won.

"The shenanigans on Election Day 2000 (began) in the summer of 1999. Katherine Harris, an honorary stupid white man who was both George W. Bush's presidential campaign and co-chair-woman and the Florida secretary of state in charge of elections, paid \$4 million dollars to Database Technology to go through Florida's voter rolls and remove anyone "suspected" of being a former felon.

"31 percent of Black men in Florida can't vote because of felonies on their records." "Harris and Bush knew that removing the names of ex-felons from the voter roles would keep thousands of Black voters out of the voting booth." "Thousands of voters were removed, along with many who had never committed a crime, or had only committed misdemeanors."

"Harris's office told Database - a firm with strong Republican ties - to cast as wide a net as possible to get rid of these voters." People with similar names to the felons were included, as well as those with similar social security numbers, or birthdays. An eighty percent match was sufficient to disqualify a voter.

"In Miama-Dade, Florida's largest county, 66 percent of the voters removed were black." Eight thousand additional voters were removed based on information provided by Texas that was inaccurate. The people on the list had only committed misdemeanors or had served their time and had voting privileges reinstated.

"Bush would officially be credited with receiving 537 more votes than Al Gore in Florida. Is it safe to assume that the thousands of registered black and Hispanic voters barred from the polls might have made the difference if they had been allowed to vote - and cost Bush the election? Without a Doubt."

"While Gore was stupidly concentrating on getting recounts in a few counties, the Bush team was going after the holy grail - the overseas absentee ballots. Many of these ballots would come from the military, which typically votes Republican, and would finally give Bush the lead that denying the vote to thousands of blacks and Jewish grandmothers hadn't."

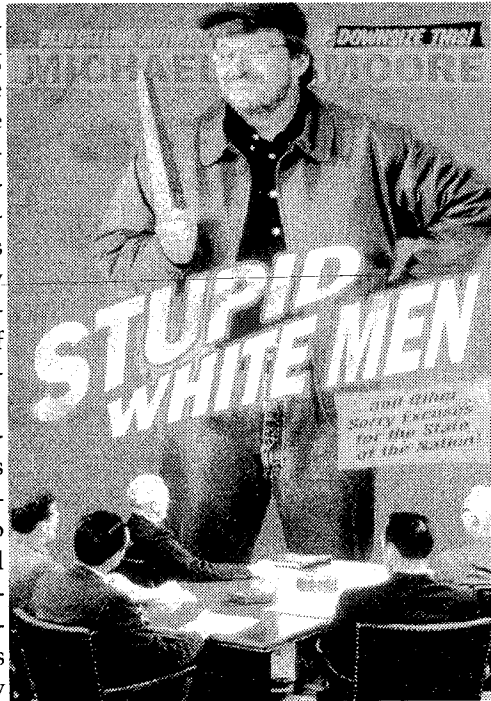
"A July 2001 investigation by the New York Times showed that of the 2,490 overseas ballots that ended up being included in the certified election results, 680 were considered flawed and questionable. Bush got the overseas vote by at ratio of 4 to 5. By that percentage, 544 of the votes that went to Bush should have been thrown out. Got the Math? Suddenly Bush's 'winning margin' of 537 votes is down to a chilly negative seven."

"On the morning of Saturday, December 9, 2000, the Supreme Court got word that the recounts in Florida, in spite of everything the Bush camp had done to fix the elections, were going in favor of Al

Gore. By 2 P.M. the unofficial tally showed that Gore was catching up to Bush - 'only 66 votes down, and gaining!' as one newscaster put it. At 2:45 that afternoon, the Supreme Court stopped the recount."

The Miami Herald printed an article that said "Bush's lead would have vanished if the recount had been conducted under the severely restrictive standards that some Republicans advocated... The review found that the result would have been different if every canvassing board in every count had examined every undervote... [Under] the most inclusive standard [that is a standard that sought to include the true will of ALL the people] Gore would have won by 393 votes... On ballots that [suggested] a fault with either the machine or the voter's ability to use it... Gore would have won by 299 votes."

"Much has been made of the 'butterfly ballot,' which made it easy to vote for the wrong person because candidates' names and punch holes were crammed unevenly onto facing pages. Thus the Palm Beach Post estimates that more than 3,000 voters, mostly elderly and Jewish, who thought they were voting for Gore ended up punching the wrong hole - for Pat Buchanan. Even Buchanan went on TV to declare that no way in hell did those Jewish voters vote for him."



## Pass the Caurvoisier, No thanks, you can keep it!

By Jody Jarvis

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the rap song "Pass the Caurvoisier" by Busta Rhymes and Puff Daddy, it's a fairly new rap song and is a promotional stunt for selling Courvoisier liquor.

(Chorus: Busta & P. Diddy)

"Busta Give me the Henny, you can give me the Cris/You can pass me the Remi, but pass the Courvoisie/Puffy Give me the ass, you could give me the dough/You can give me 'dro, but pass the Courvoisier /Busta Give me some money, you can give me some cars /But you can give me the bitch make sure you pass the Courvoisier/P.Diddy Give me some shit, you can give me the cribs /You can give me whaever just pass the Courvoisier"

About a month ago, I was having dinner with an executive of Allied Domeq, the company that is responsible for marketing and distributing Courvoisier. He told me that his company paid Busta and P.Diddy to make a rap song promoting Courvoisier. At the time I really didn't pay close attention to what he was saying but rather went back to eating my dinner. Lately, I noticed that there has been an influx of alcoholic beverages being promoted towards the Black community. The television monitor has been bombarded with prominent Black entertainers promoting alcoholic beverages. For example,



Charles Barkley has a new beer commercial and Doug E. Fresh has a Coors Lite beer commercial, with a couple of blacks reciting one of his old rap lyrics. Nas was offered the chance to do a Coors commercial but turned it down. Dr. Dre has taken up the offer, look out, for that will be soon aired on television and as of recent this rap song about Courvoisier. Busta Rhymes was on the tel-

evision show "106 & Park," boasting about the amount of money that he was paid to do the song.

This influx of alcoholic beverages being promoted by black entertainers and directed towards blacks disgusts me. There are enough problems within the black community: muggings, drugs, teenage pregnancy, single parenthood... etc. Black folks really don't need prominent black entertainers promoting alcohol. I have spoken to a couple of people about this issue. In the early 80's, there were also St. Ides commercials with Ice Cube, Scarface, E40 and other west coast rappers.

People may argue that these artists are only trying to exploit the free market and put food on their own table. Nothing is wrong with exploiting the free market, because that's what "we" do in democratic society. However, I feel that Black entertainers have a voice and should be proper role models to their communities. These artists, showing no form of integrity and only concerned about self-gain, are not concerned about the messages they send. Alcohol is a drug and just because it is legal to use does not make it correct. Messages of positivism are greatly needed in the black community and if one cannot realize that these artists are promoting alcohol, a drug, to impressionable minds; then we as a community may need to reevaluate our way of thinking.

# Shameless Author Writes Article About Self

By Ross Rosenfeld

The rage within me now is swelling. That low-life! That bastard! That class-less buffoon! It's not bad enough that we've had to deal with his worthless, trashy articles and his self-righteous causes – now he wants us to read more! More of his over-indulgent tirades! More of his idiocy! More of his putrid, not-worth-the-space-it's-written-on writing (or so-called writing, I should say).

Never have I seen such audacity!

True, his book, "A Good Place", on "www.enovel.com", may indeed be hilarious. True, it may be making many people laugh. But let's face facts: What kind of arrogant fool writes an article about himself? And how many times in one article can he mention the name of his book – "A Good Place", "A Good Place", "A Good Place"? The hell with it! I say he should've called it "A Bad Book" instead of "A Good Place"! And what were the people at "www.enovel.com" thinking? I read the free excerpts, and yeah they're funny – but so what? You know what he talks about in those excerpts? Sex! And not just sex, but God having sex! And this from the mouth of a seven-year-old character! What kind of rotten book has a seven-year-old talking about such things?

And he thinks this is funny? What kind of warped personality does he have? Is this what we need when we're supposed to be studying? – to hear jokes about stupid things like sex and playing

hooky and and and and the "S"-curse! Cursing! Oh, the curses in that book! Who really curses like that?

Rosenfeld is disgusting. He thinks that by mentioning his book and the website that it's on – "A Good Place", "A Good Place", "A Good Place" – "www.enovel.com", "www.enovel.com", "www.enovel.com" – over and over again, that he'll drum-up sales from people seeking cheap laughs. Does he think we're stupid? Does he honestly think that that'll work?

Then he tries to entice us by telling us that the book has everything from sex to drugs to war to racism to homosexuality, and a bunch of other raunchy things. Who goes for that stuff anymore?

Okay, okay... a couple of scenes are decent. Like when the main character runs all the way through town cause he's been kissed by a guy. Or when he's being chased out of a club with his geeky friend Marc by two guys he calls Bulk and Buff. That's kinda funny. But NOT funny enough to justify his repeating the words A Good Place and enovel.com again and again in this article!

And I don't care if he's also been written about in the Statesman. I don't care if he's consistently ranked within the top five of the hundreds of books on the site (enovel.com). To me, he's still a loser, a fink, a fraud. He deserves his worth – and that's nothing. When he was born, the doctor slapped his mother. His father tried to trade him

for a Cherry Coke. The name on his birth certificate reads, "Please God No!," and the middle name "No! No! Nooooooooo!" I'd call him a monster, but Frankenstein has asked me to please refrain from the insult to his people.

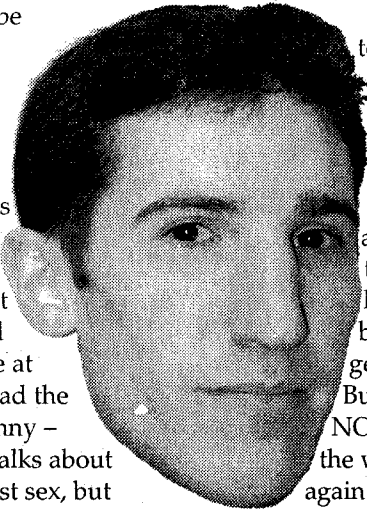
I will say this, though:

Ross Rosenfeld isn't worth the ink that he bothers us with. If any of you fall for this stupid article – this meager attempt to be funny, so that you might take a look at the free excerpts of his book, A Good Place, available on enovel.com, and maybe even buy it – then you are just as crazy as him.

So please DO NOT even glance at that trash. It may be a classic to some, but to this author, who has a respect for decent writing, it is complete and utter rubbish. Sure, it may make you laugh, it may relax you; but what about the guilt? – the guilt of knowing that you just read a Rosenfeld. What about that? Do you really wanna hafta live with yourself after that? Do you think you could even look in the mirror anymore?

You'll catch the disease! You'll inherit some of his worthlessness by reading that contagious low-life, degenerate's work. And, just like sex, it might feel good for the moment, but what about the aftermath? Surely you'll catch syphilis of the eye and never want to read again.

So boycott A Good Place! Don't go to enovel.com! Don't even read the free excerpts! Otherwise Rosenfeld might suck you into that black hole he calls a mind, and then you might never get out!



## Regatta: Hear Thy Cry of Battle!

By Joe Filippazzo

The noisy garbage trucks outside of Roth Dining Hall arrived along with the navy blue tint of the horizon – both clear indications that it was fast approaching 6:00 am. As the sun bled into the monotone night sky, five physically spent and mentally exhausted individuals placed their work of splendor on a patch of crab grass next to Roth Pond. The weary team pushed their 135-pound vessel into the mucky water as the three predetermined rowers scrambled to get into position. It floats. A sigh of relief is followed by cheers of joy and an overwhelming sense of self worth. The calculations were perfect, the taping was seamless, and the design was genius. B12's Leviathan was a thirteen foot, silver abomination yet its team of dedicated creators noticed only its beauty as the craft floated effortlessly through the algae plated reeds of the pond.

A fatigued B12 removed its ship from the water, dried it off and proceeded with minor repairs and adjustments. As the hours passed several succumbed to bed sheets and productivity declined exponentially. The two remaining members placed the finished product aside and draped a freshly spray painted banner over the cabin as the time for boat registration drew nearer.

Fast forward to just seconds before the starting gun. It was Leviathan's moment of truth. In a split-second, thousands of thoughts raced through the captain's mind. Could it bear the perilous journey? Should we have bought a 23rd roll of tape? His oar-endowed palms began to sweat as his faith in Archimedes drained down his pant leg. The gun fired and every thought instantaneously left his mind save the subconscious, monotonous chant of "stroke... stroke... stroke..."

Everything worked out in his calculations but ultimately; it was inexperience that capsized the mighty vessel halfway across the pond. Leviathan displayed its pointed hull as the three rowers spilled out into the syphilis. The crew

climbed back onto the overturned ship realizing that although the competition was over, their performance was not. The man in back grabbed on to the tail and began to kick wildly. The center man threw his body onto the boat, began laughing, realized that he lost his glasses in the pond, and stopped laughing. The captain also pulled himself onto the front of the ship. As I satirically attempted to propel the craft to the finish line by doing the backstroke, I realized something very important. I picked up my head and saw hundreds of students, faculty and staff all cheering at the demise of my team's efforts. It was amazing. I have never seen this many students in one place in my whole first year at Stony Brook. It gave me hope because I realized that this school was in fact capable of fun and exciting things with a little student participation and school spirit. I'm not talking about just going to a Seawolves football game when I say spirit. No one cares about the stupid football team. And what the hell's a seawolf anyway? School spirit in this sense is showing an interest in campus events. It's about helping organize them and promoting them. It's about creating entertainment on campus where Jack Daniels and Johnny Walker are not the only media through which one can have a good time. It's about not going home every single Friday then complaining that there's nothing to do here at school on the weekends.

Participating in one fun event per year is a sure fire way to get the most out of college. If you graduate, you may be a smarty-pants, but you're most likely an indifferent, alcoholic smarty-pants. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS! (I don't know how this turned into a motivational speech, but it did. Just go with it.) Apathy is slowly killing us, my friends. Not as slow as global warming and not as quick as President Bush, but it's killing us nonetheless. I'm sure B12 wasn't the only group of kids who sacrificed sleep, hygiene, and every single class that week to be a part of the

Regatta. Actually, I know for a fact that there were about 45 other teams not unlike our protagonists. A bunch of people just decided to get their feet wet (I apologize for the pun. I now hate myself) and build some boats. Is the prospect of a trophy the only way to get you people involved? Shame on you. Everyone's a winner at the 14th annual Roth Pond Regatta! (That what us losers tell ourselves every morning as we forlornly nuzzle the RPR 2002 bandanna weeks after the event has ended.)

This is a call to arms! Get passionate about something. Do yourself and everyone else a favor by giving a crap as to what happens on campus. The more interest you show, the more incentive the school will have to support other programs like it. If you were at the Regatta, I wouldn't believe you if you told me that the rather irregular turnout didn't impress you. The sad fact of the matter is that I'm not telling you anything new. If you go to this school, you know how dead it is on the weekends. It's ok though. You're a college student. When you're done reading this, I don't expect you to do anything but shrug, have another shot, and bitch about how hard your stupid Orgo test was.

Leviathan's glory may have ended faster than Steve Gutenberg's acting career, but it made no difference to the ship's crew. As we pulled ourselves out of the water and were greeted with a barrage of pats on the back and high fives, the three of us had an epiphany. We were surrounded by people, we went to Stony Brook, we were having fun and we weren't intoxicated. Let the Regatta be a precursor to a more enjoyable college experience. Expand your horizons and leave your dorm room. If this means sacrificing a 4.0 for a taste of sanity (or insanity for that matter) then so be it. Just don't complain about the fact that you're dead to the world at age 30 and then simply chalk it up to your delusion that there was nothing to do in college.



## By Vadim Gedzberg

I was always the kind of guy who would exaggerate everything. I went to a shooting range once and I told everyone I was a gun regular. Actually, that's not even a real example. I mean, I'm already in college, second semester freshman (two weeks till summer, fuck yeah). I think its because I always wanted my life to be significant and I didn't find it to be very significant without the extra flashy Hollywood effects. So if for a week during the summer I would drink every day, I told everybody I met (the day I remembered that) that I was a raging alcoholic for a summer. I think another good reason why I didn't always tell the truth is because I felt that if I told things the way they are I won't be liked for who I am. I think our constant need to change ourselves may (contrary to popular belief) be a good thing, because we as people aren't perfect. Change shouldn't be feared, nonetheless it should be treated with care, because a change in us can either (partially) remove our subjective aspect or add subjectivity making us more imperfect; As opposed to perfection where any induced change can only turn the perfect to the imperfect. I don't want for people to come up to me want to be my friend after they read this piece. Understand that just because I may talk about some emotional shit, or how I felt at the time doesn't make me your lilly fag girlfriend a fucking shoulder to cry on. I'm trying not to do the exaggeration thing so much now-a -days. It's not so much that I'm an advocate of everyone's right to learn the truth from me. I know how cliché this sounds but it's only recently that I began to feel comfortable with writing again, I think I had a good reason

though. Ninth grade, the most fucked up time in my entire life, I was addicted to attention (I'm still sort of, not as much anymore though). For a recent while I kind of stayed away from stories about that time in my life, I guess I was ashamed of my general existence at the time. It's very recently that I decided that its ok because everyone grows through different phases. As I was once told by a Rabbi of mine that shame is feeling of inadequacy due to the realization of not living up to full potential, since I was growing I haven't fulfilled my potential (no one ever will), therefore my shame of that period in my life is only natural. Any way getting back to why I wasn't comfortable with writing for a while. In ninth grade I went to Commack High school, worst toilet in Scotland. I would wear all black and listen to rebellious heavy metal music hanging out with all the heavy metal peeps. That phase lasted for at most 4 month. I even kept a diary where I forced myself to write shit every day. It was mostly sappy fag crap about me being so fucking depressed and waa waa waa, you just tune this out don't you Waaaaaaaaaaaa Waaaaaaaaaaaa. Be that as it may I still kept a dairy, at the time I had the fucking hard on for this one Girl Toni Costa (change to John Smith for witness protection when printing). Man I really had it for her bad, I'd drag my nuts over two miles of broken glass just to hear her fart over a walky-talky. Any way she came off like what now seems your average societal reject wiccan-wanna- be-goth, at the time I thought she was the most amazing human being on earth, I wanted to impress her with my very being but we were only in one class together, math. Looking

back at how I acted around her my first instinct is to throw up; fade to can't help but chuckle. Its not that I would get confused around her and lose control, no it's not that. Its just that my complete and total lack of experience with girls. To be honest I really didn't know her that well, but I refused to accept that at the time. Any way these two factors gave me no firm precedent or logical conclusions to act on, so I couldn't effectively impress her. As a matter of fact the harder I tried to impress this girl the more I looked like an ass. So her looking like your average Goth I turned to what appeared to me the symbol of rebellion for Goths, mister Marilyn Manson. I liked him for about a week to impress her. Turned out that it was completely pointless, she didn't even like Marilyn Manson.

I'm a fanatic, no really I'm serious, I obsess over everything fucking thing I may consider worth the while of obsession, and so I obsessed with this girl. I read a shit load about wicca, I tried to dress the mode. Well the cloths ended up growing on me. Yeah I became a rebel. Not that I was ever wiccan or anything. I think also my being rebellious had a lot to do with my wanting to act tough to make for the physical toughness I lack, I mean common i'm a scrawny 5'7 white kid anybody could take me. Any way point of story I liked this bitch she didn't like me back I wasted half a year obsessing over her, caused me to pretend to be sensitive, made me have a diary, I wrote some shit, I faked, I grew, I don't want to fake anymore, so I guess what I was afraid of is if I started writing again it would be a fake, and I didn't want that. No names were changed, no ones fucking innocent.

## Keepin' It Jewish

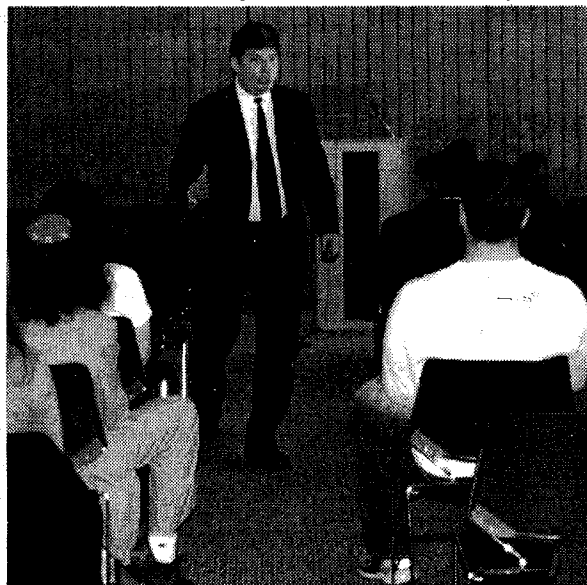
### By Dustin Herlich

In places of higher learning, one of the themes which seem to be almost universal is the move away from religion. It is seen time and time again, that the more education a person receives, the less they seem to believe in the supernatural, and especially in organized religions. There are many reasons for this. When it comes to those students of the Jewish faith, it is an interesting thing which happens. Yes, many leave faith altogether, but a significant portion of Jewish students go in a different direction completely, and convert to other religions. It is no longer uncommon for a Jewish student to embrace other religions, particularly Christianity.

In this day and age, missionaries of various sorts are active on many campuses, including our own. One of their greatest targets includes Jewish students. If Christian missionaries were not bad enough, we must also now contend with "Jews for Jesus". This is a group which actively tried to recruit Jews, and convert them to what they call "messianic Judaism." Maybe I'm just not educated enough on the subject, but considering they worship Jesus, why don't they just call themselves Christians? That's an entirely different subject though, and getting back to the crux of the matter, we should talk about the concept of the "loss of a Jewish soul". In Judaism, there is a concept that when a Jew leaves his or her faith, their soul is lost to the rest of the Jewish people in heaven. You can imagine this not being a good thing (if you believe in any of it). There is however a light in the dark, and his name is Rabbi Tovia Singer. Rabbi Singer and his organization, Outreach Judaism, have been leading the way in terms of preservation of Jews within the faith.

On April 10, I was fortunate enough to hear this man come speak at our University. The program started with a representative from Jews

for Jesus speaking to us on the importance of accepting Christ, and unbeknownst to everyone in the audience, this was actually Rabbi Singer. Usually these things are unbearably cheesy and useless. This one wasn't. Not a single person in the audience knew who he was, and people really fell for it. He did a great Job as a missionary.



Leaving, and coming back in a suit and tie, Rabbi Singer then went on to go over everything he said, and all the techniques used by missionaries to convert Jews.

Rabbi Singer also did several other very important things. The most important in my opinion was giving those in attendance to his lecture "ammo" so to speak that we could use to stave off the missionaries and cults, many of which exist right here on campus. Rabbi Singer explained why Jesus was not the Messiah according to Jews, and other reasons as such why not to convert. He was also overly explicit in telling peo-

ple not to go about preaching to non-Jews, not attacking them, nor entering in pointless debates or discussions with them, just to try and make then see that you are right, and they are not. Not only because this will inevitably fail, considering most people don't have the knowledge to do so properly, but also because this is simply not right. This is not who you should be. It's one thing to use what you do know to protect yourself, it's another to go out and use it to beat on other people. A similar concept was probably instilled in you by your 6th grade Karate class teacher.

Another Element of Rabbi Singer's lecture was that he called for questions from the audience, particularly from those in the audience not of the Jewish faith. This part interested me the most, considering his knowledge of the New Testament was rather impressive, as well as his ability to field questions flawlessly (as far as I could tell). Rabbi Singer is actually, above all, quite a speaker. It would be hard to find someone at his lectures not paying attention. Rabbi Singer also showed us materials that missionaries, in particular Jews for Jesus, use in trying to convert Jews. People were pretty much shocked to see conversion manuals, which have instructions telling the missionaries to not mention Jesus, crosses, and the like, and to refer to Jews for Jesus churches as congregations, because "Jews don't usually like the word church."

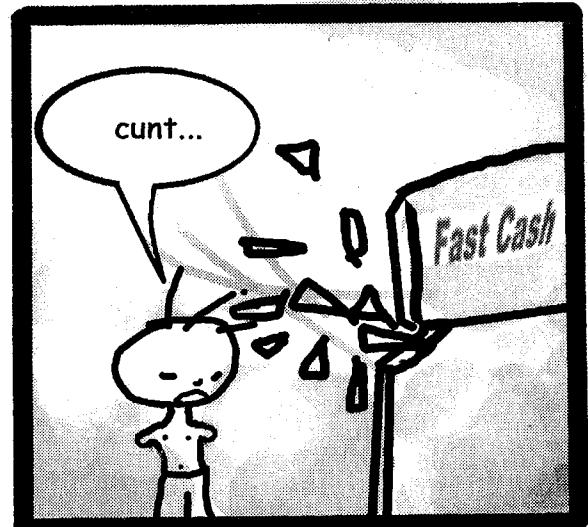
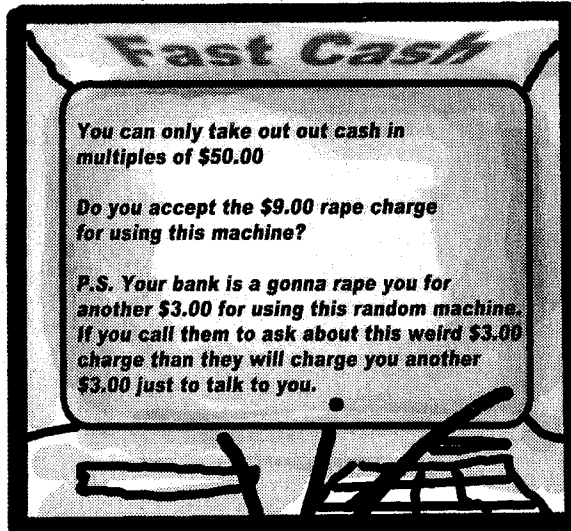
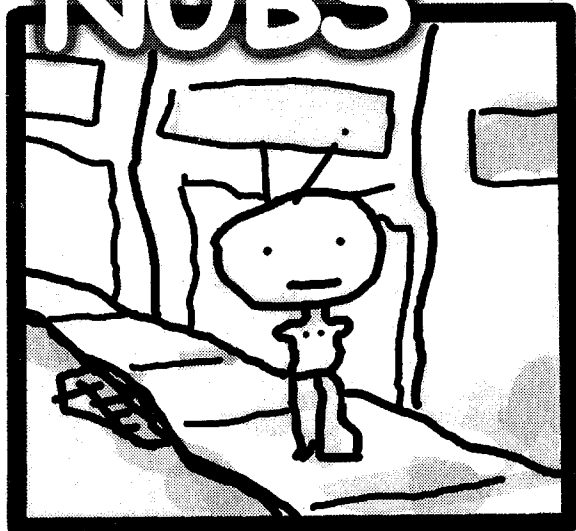
It's interesting to note the differences between Rabbi Singer and other in his position. Particularly when it comes to his fairness in his arguments, and his ability to cite from old and new sources, and not attack anyone's faith in the process.

Rabbi Singer can be reached at [www.outreachjudaism.com](http://www.outreachjudaism.com)

# THE COMICS SECTION

## NUBS

a comic by rich zimmer (6 of 2000)

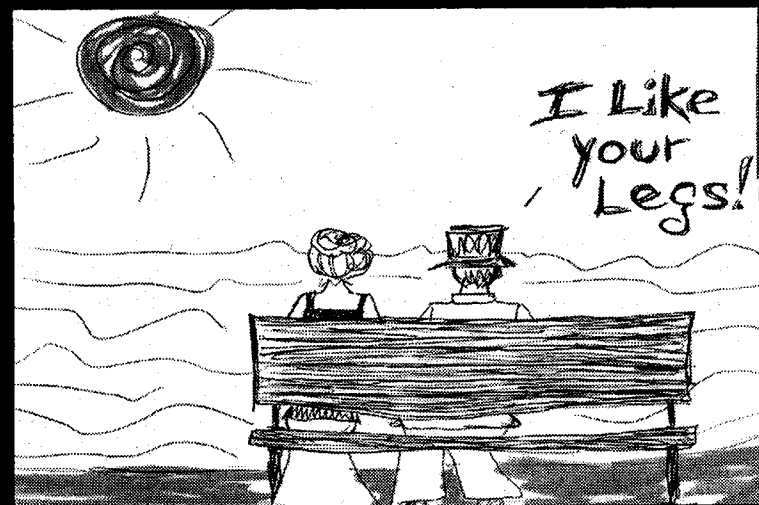


©2002 zdidesign.com

## OPEN DOOR

pixie

### THE LITTLE MERMAID...



Have a good summer everyone. Watch out for seafoam.

# STUDY BREAK EXPLOSION!

Saturday, 5/11

Featuring:

8PM- Cabaret Performance of "Evensong"

10PM- Folk Fiction

11PM- Space Robot Scientists

Midnight- Zia

1AM- Coup d'Etat

# at the SPOT!

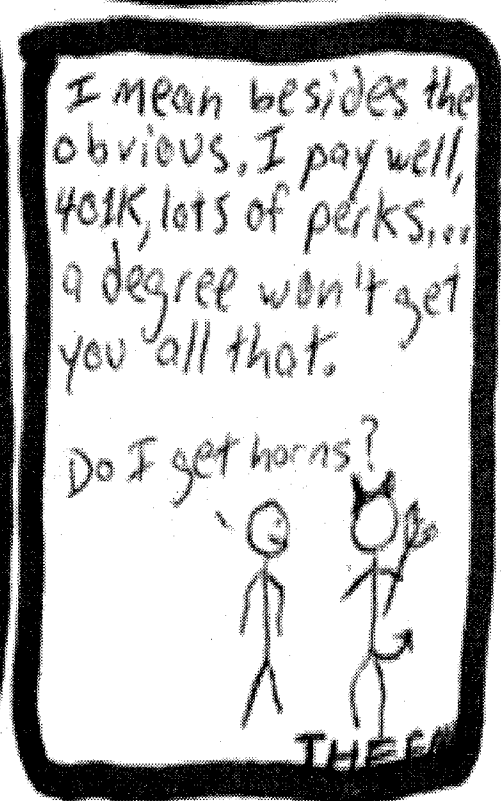
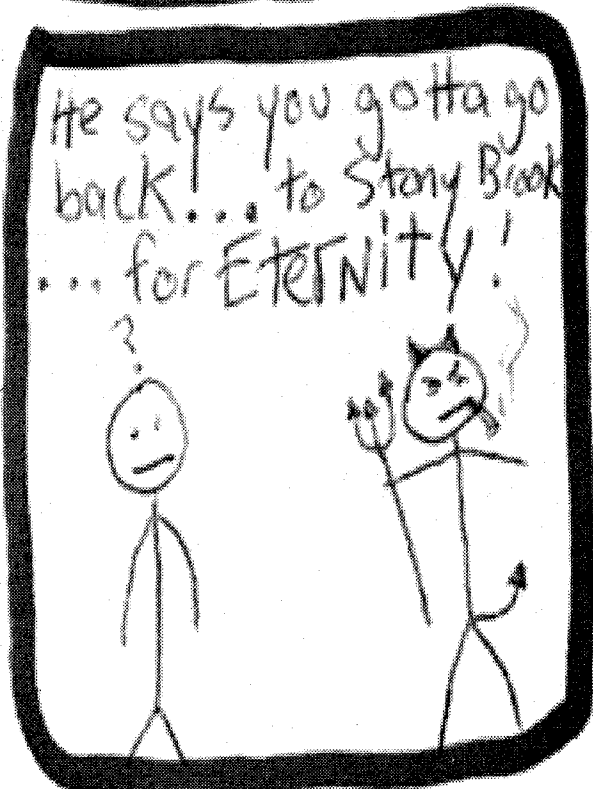
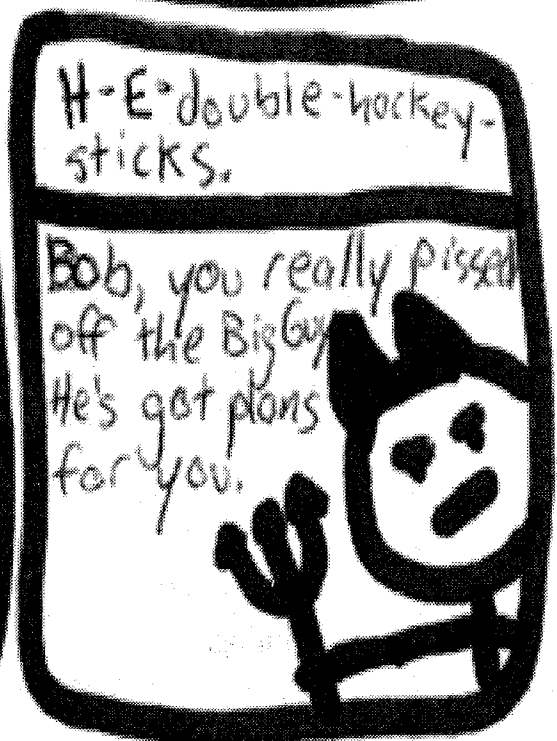
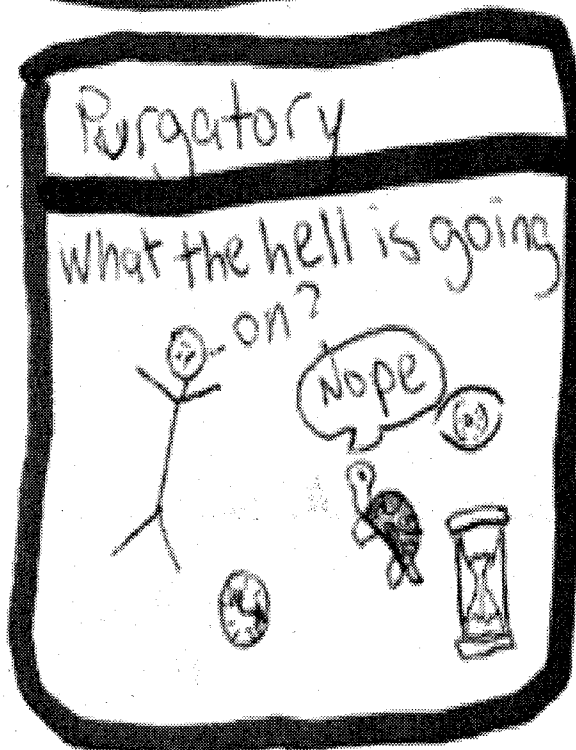
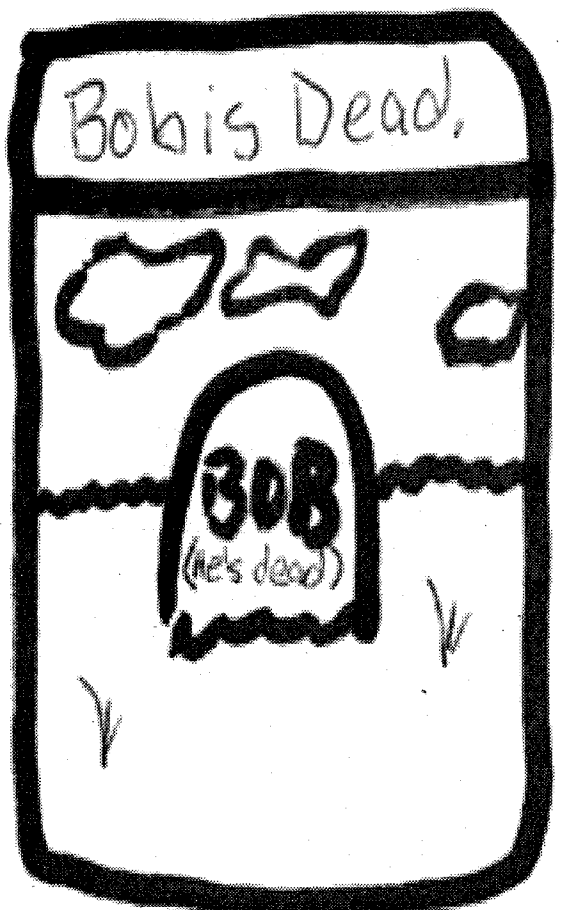
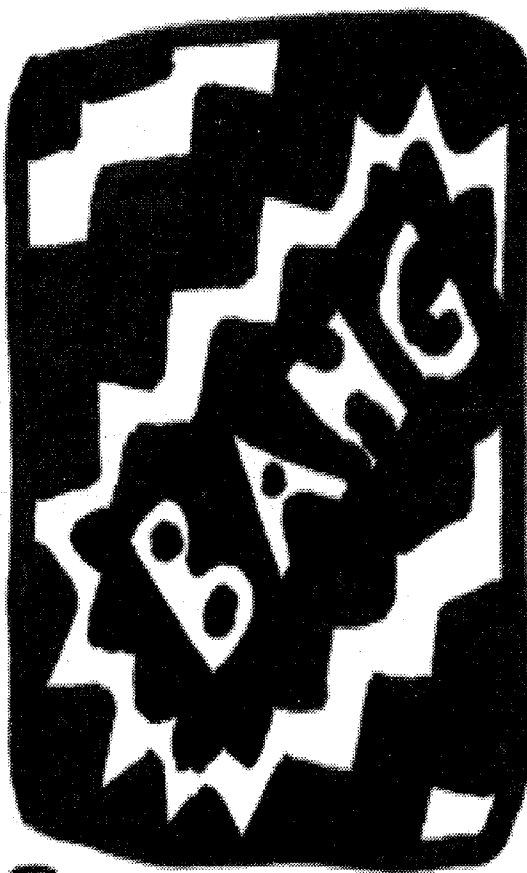
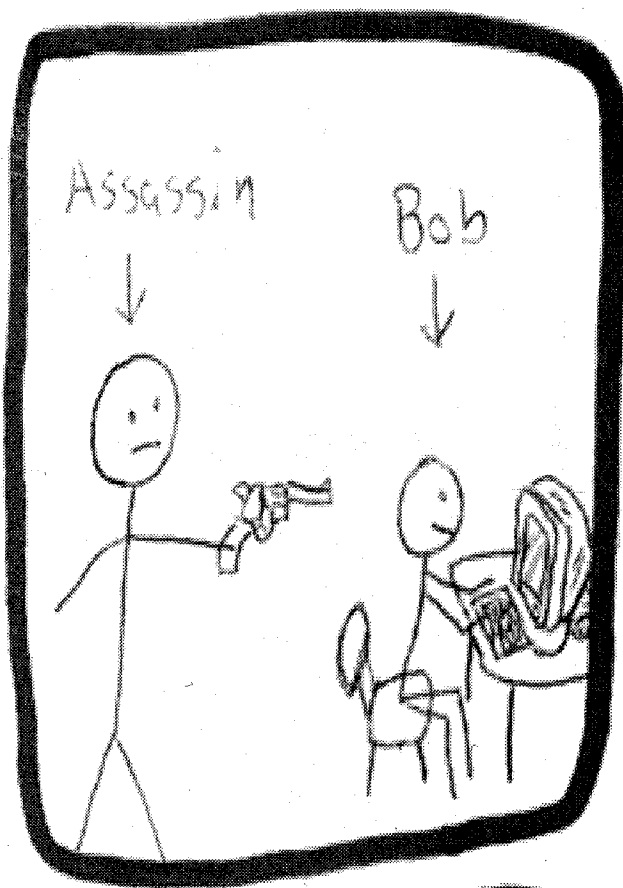
Fanny Brice Theater, Roosevelt Quad

\$3 SB Students, \$5 Non SB Students

21+ with proper ID, please



By Jamie Mignone



# Women and Masturbation

By Virginia Rodriguez

"I didn't start masturbating until I was in my first lesbian relationship. I was twenty and in love and I couldn't tell her what I liked. It was frustrating. So she gave me 'homework' and I went home and 'practiced' in front of the mirror. I'd had prior experiences with men and I was comfortable being in control and teaching them what they wanted but no one had ever asked me what I enjoyed. My homework was successful... she threw me on the bed and I could finally verbalize what I wanted." - Robby Grae

It would be simplistic to say that women masturbate to make up for the sexual inadequacies of men but the truth of the matter is that women are not socialized to own their sexuality. Sex in this society is primarily about male ejaculation and reinforcing dominance and because of this a women's sexual gratification plays second fiddle. A woman's sexuality is defined by patriarchy in reference to men. Girls are taught from a very young age to seek male approval, and a woman's worth is closely tied to her sexual attractiveness i.e. her type casting as weak, frail and in need of male protection. Thus women who attempt to frame their own sexuality outside of a male reference are seen as deviant and a threat. In this same way masturbation has become a source of embarrassment for women who are marginalized by society as hyper-sexualized oddities, if they dare engage in self-love.

"The message I got was that boys masturbate but girls don't- they don't need to or don't have the desire to or that girls aren't capable of it, girls aren't sexual and that girls who do are just freakish and really eroticized or not real people. Yeah boys masturbate and girls don't." - Del

While young boys receive ample encouragement in their sexual development, little girls are left in the dark. If they received any message about masturbation at all it is usually negative but most women do not receive any advice on the subject even from otherwise liberal parents. One could chalk this up the parental embarrassment concerning sexual matters but how do you reconcile this with the fact that other sexual matters are covered and explained while female masturbation is left (excuse the pun) untouched?

"No they never talked about it at all but my brothers and I - the way we were raised- we'd take baths together and my mother would bring me a hand mirror so I could see my genitalia and she would explain what all the parts were for and she would always explain to my brothers about their foreskin and keeping it clean and we would run around naked most of the time anyway. It was OK to be comfortable with our bodies, nothing dirty about it what so ever, they just didn't talk about masturbation- my mother never talked about it with me." - Gabrielle

Despite lack of parental information on the subject most women do figure it out for themselves and many at a very young age. Which is why discussion of female sexuality in a frank and open manner is so important, having figured it out for themselves physically girls are left to struggle with emotions that conflict with societal taboos. Something they view as pleasurable and harmless is presented to them as sick and shameful.

"Well I think I figured things out when I was very very young. I think I was dry humping things when I was like four or five and I developed a specific technique when I was in like seventh grade, fifth grade actually. When I was in

fifth grade and they started doing all the sex talks and when I started masturbating I realized that people looked down on it so I was really secretive about it. For many many years from like fifth grade until ninth grade I was very secretive about it and very afraid that my mother would figure out what was going on or anybody else." - Gabrielle

"I started when I was like 7. Masturbating. I wasn't fucking when I was seven that took about nine more years... I was really self conscious about it in like sixth grade cause that's the time when it's really taboo- I was like oh this is fucked up probably nobody does this but I still didn't really- it's not like that was going to stop me or anything" - Tracy

So one is left to question whether the societal negation of female sexuality is successful, it certainly does not keep women from masturbating but it does have some very detrimental effects on self-perception. Still it is important to note that not to all women 'figure it out' for themselves at a young age.

Sexuality in our society is situated in reference to other people and many women do not realize their masturbatory potential until they become otherwise sexually active. Even then lack of knowledge leads to confused expectations; women are not taught to expect gratification from sex much less how to attain an orgasm.

"I didn't start till pretty late not until I had sex and realized what my being aroused was like. Because when I was little I knew that people were supposed to masturbate and I was definitely interested in sex but I didn't really know what to do." - Del

"I didn't know what to do" is a very common theme. Sometimes it is women's own lack of knowledge that keeps them from masturbating but conversely it is sometimes other people's ignorance of female anatomy that drives them to it. Once women do become sexually active many become dependent on their (usually) male partner and his (usually) dismal knowledge of female anatomy.

"I was in eleventh grade when I got my first boyfriend. I was like wait I'm sexually attractive to other people too- so that is when I started masturbating more. My first boyfriend was horrible in bed and that's the only way I was gonna get off." - Gabrielle

Part of what makes masturbation so threatening to men is it sets women free to reach sexual potential on their own and thus in the United States masturbation carries a social stigma for women. The patriarchy has a definite vested interest in constructing women's sexuality around the gratification of men. A woman who can attain orgasm without the involvement of

the all mighty penis no longer has to be caught up in the charade of attracting a male partner and all the subjugation that comes with it. In all fairness some men do encourage female masturbation but not always for the right reasons.

"My second boyfriend Charles encouraged it but it made him insecure at the same time- see he encouraged me more out of his duty to be an open minded hippie than anything else... Women are not supposed to be sexually liberated we're supposed to be dependant on men- a lot of whom can't provide anyways- a lot of men don't understand anything about female anatomy. I think a lot of it is insecurity on the part of men, which is why women are so berated." - Gabrielle

So what is the solution? Not everybody is going to join a feminist collective and attend sex workshops on female anatomy like Robby Grey did.

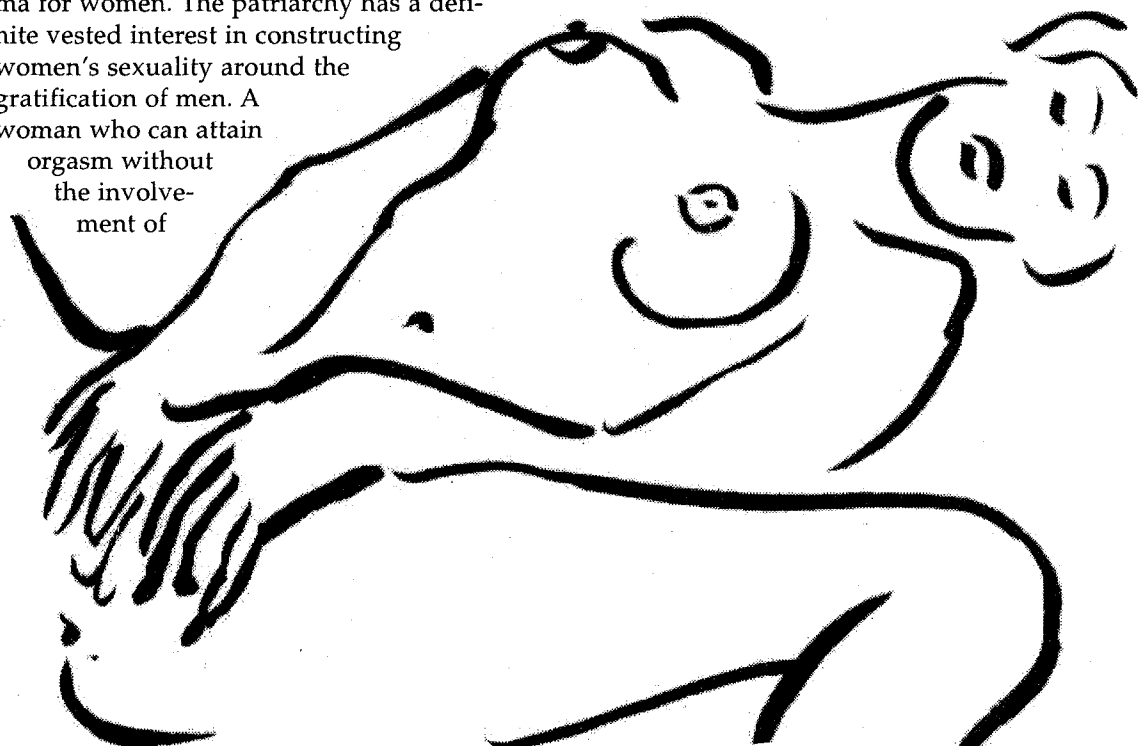
The solution is radical sex education within the mainstream. Once a woman realizes she has other options besides bending and molding herself to the societal image of a passive and subservient woman as wife she becomes freed from a million unrealistic expectations and obligations. This precisely why sex education that stresses the essential importance of female masturbation as a potent political tool towards woman's liberation is essential.

Only a conscious effort by the current generation to promote and celebrate female masturbation can accomplish definite social change, an effort that must be undertaken by both men and women.

Masturbation doesn't have to nor should it necessarily be divorced from heterosexual relationships with men, if we are going to build a more perfect society where all sexual orientations are accepted and encouraged men will definitely have a major role to play. As the main originators and source of unrealistic expectations about women, men should take it upon themselves to reject mainstream stereotypes of what roles women should play in relationships. Men should familiarize themselves with female anatomy and make a concerted effort not to reinforce negative and dismissive attitudes towards women's sexuality.

Women and men need to be taught about the beauty and intricacies of female sexuality. We should not stop in our effort until every man in America can identify, locate and appreciate the clitoris and all women are saying

"I'm the hottest thing alive. I deserve a vibrator." - Gabrielle



# Review: Corpus Christi

By Ceci Norman & Beverly Bryan

On April 26-28 in Staller Theatre III, for FREE, a cast of thirteen talented guys performed a wonderful play called *Corpus Christi*, written by Terrance McNally. If you missed it, find them and apologize profusely for not seeing it. Once you've done this go make wallets out of duct tape, then give them away. Only by doing this will you feel as rewarded as you would have if you had seen the show—because making tape wallets is one of the coolest things anyone can do, and giving them away is even better.

Giving away wallets would also be the appropriate thing to do since this play touches on Christian morals of being selfless, and treating everyone as equals. Instead of being boring and telling Biblical stories in a generic manner, it has a twist of touching on the pain and isolation of growing up gay, which becomes especially poignant when told through the story of Jesus. He is called Joshua and not Jesus because, as his father put it, in West Texas it sounds Mexican. Growing up, Joshua (and the audience) hears hammering and the voice of god. His struggle with his irrevocable and unique destiny carries two meanings throughout the play.

Joshua leaves *Corpus Christi* after graduating from High school and hitchhikes through the desert. He becomes stranded in the desert and a mirage in the semblance of James Dean offers him the whole world if he will deny that he is the son of God. Of course, he won't do that, not even for Jimmy.

When Joshua finds the city he begins performing miracles and collecting a following. I can pinpoint the moment I started crying to when the sassy, ostracized, HIV positive prostitute realizes that Joshua has healed him of the disease. AIDS is our Leprosy. I managed to pull myself together in between the crucifixion and the house lights coming up.

The acting itself was amazing. I heard one



individual walk out of the theatre that they never knew there was so much talent at Stony Brook. I agreed with them immensely. Not one of the characters was weakly played. Affection suffused the actor's gestures. It seemed that the cast as well as the characters they played were part of a close-knit group. At the beginning we were told, "we're glad you're here."

Pedicini played Jesus with a glowing innocence that illuminated the play's message of love. Conversely, Maslar played Judas with a very convincing sinister quality that perfectly juxtaposed with Pedicini's performance. Other fine acting moments were when members of the cast cross-dressed in order to show the women in the play—like Mary the mother of Joshua, and a few high school girls. And, I can't forget to mention the directing ability Tappan displayed. She set up the blocking in a manner that made it a very eye-appealing play to watch. This is proven by the amount of people who wanted to see it, and how misty eyed it made some individuals (like myself). A perfect stranger was so moved by the play that she gave me a wallet she made from gaff tape—which is what you need to do since you didn't see the show.

Although I only made it to one of the productions, I know that they were having to turn people away at the door, and added an extra row of seats after the first night. Unfortunately, they are not having any more performances this semester on campus but are working on trying to rent out a theatre in NYC or on Long Island so they can extend the run of the show.

*Corpus Christi* received its world premiere at the Manhattan Theatre Club (Lynne Meadow, Artistic director; Barry Grove, Managing director) in New York City, on September 22, 1998. McNally received two Guggenheim Fellowships, a Rockefeller Grant, and a citation from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is vice president for the Dramatists Guild, the national organization of playwrights, composers and lyricists. McNally has written a number of other plays including: *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (Winner of the Tony Award for best play), *Master Class*, *The Ritz*, *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (made into a feature film starring Al Pacino and Michelle Pfeiffer), and the books for the musicals *The Rink* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, (winner of the Tony Award for the best book of a musical). He grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas, and currently resides in NYC.

## Viva La QST

By Bev Bryan

Most students are not worried about the fate of the queer studies program at Stony Brook but the number of students who are may be surprising. In the eyes of many the fate of the minor is being jeopardized by the departure of its head, art history professor, Jonathan Katz.

Queer studies at Stony Brook was envisioned at first as a minor with some full-time faculty and a few adjuncts and non-tenure track professors dedicated to it. Katz came to Stony Brook a year ago with the goal of building such a program that could some day grow into something larger. He is leaving Stony Brook in favor of an offer of funding from Yale to start a program there.

He said he encountered no hostility but only "open interest" when he came here to start the program. He says that he may have "put the institution in a bad place" by asking for the money to create a real department after a year. The courses themselves have met with highly visible interest from the student body. The class size for Katz' course was capped at 60 and more than twice that number of students had to be turned away.

The response would seem to indicate that there are quite a few straight students interested in queer studies. Sally Sternglanz, assistant dean of the Women's studies department, said that many are psychology majors concerned with queer issues such as the high rate of suicide among teenagers struggling with their sexual orientation and gender identity.

She said a number of students on the Women's studies black board expressed dissa-

pointment that Katz was leaving.

The only independent queer studies department in the world is at City College in San Francisco. Jonathan Katz founded it in 1990 and chaired it for 10 years. One department was founded at the University of Amsterdam in the 80's but that is now defunct. UCLA, Berkeley, and other schools have programs and offer minors in queer studies that are affiliated with another department. These are arrangements similar to Stony Brook's women's studies department. Professors who teach women's studies are paid through the English department.

The first queer studies class happened in 1969 and, like many other young "studies" like women's studies and African studies, the discipline gathered strength in the mid-'80s. The concerns of queer studies are illustrated in the focus for the Representations of Sexuality, intro to queer studies class (art history, cross listed with women's studies). The course examines how "the identity which we today call gay or lesbian or queer came to mean very different things. Explicated by looking at paintings," Katz said. The class is called Representations of Sexuality because, as Katz put it, "We have a large number of students who are afraid that their transcripts would be outing them."

For this reason, course titles in the program usually do not include the word "queer". "the academy has been very much invested in erasing huge swaths of history," Katz said, explaining that the purpose of queer studies is to challenge that by illuminating such things as the

way queerness informs the work of such important artists and writers from Walt Whitman to Andy Warhol. He acknowledges the very political nature of the field but stresses that its confrontational nature pushes queer scholars to more strenuous research.

Katz is extremely passionate about his work and speaks with tremendous urgency about the significance of the field. "It's fundamentally changed the operation of a number of disciplines, including my own," he said referring to Art History, but added, "It's utterly unexplored territory in the humanities"

He also expresses optimism about the survival of the minor. "I would not advocate this program if I thought it would be dependent on me alone," he said, "no social or academic movement is dependent on one person."

Erinn Furey, an intern in the queer studies and secretary of the LGBTA, is less optimistic. "The program's coming to a screeching halt," she said. She noted that the internship program she had participated in had been discontinued and that the courses which will be available in the fall are not scheduled for the spring.

Lowell Kane, co-president of the LGBTA, said that the club is going to be "working as hard as it can, pushing as many buttons as possible to show that this is required on campus." The club plans on hosting tables in the Union, writing letters and petitioning the administration to hire the faculty needed for a program. "If they're not gonna make hires, they can at least get adjuncts," Kane said.



# Why you are secretly a member of the KKK

By Alex Bogler

Well if you ever wanted to know, I have the class for you- Honors 120 Disney's Wonderful World of Race, Gender, and Ethnicity. It will show you with arguments as air-tight as the vagina on a 83 year old Haitian whore why you are a bigoted knave and why Disney films are racist, sexist, and as a whole detrimental to children, and will cause your precious jewels, who emerged from your loins, to grow up to be racist bastards and tie up African American men to the back of their red Ford pickups and drive off at high speeds until there is nothing left but teeth. These stunning revelations were presented to me in a fashion about as convincing and motivating as a speech by a cracked out student who graduated from Yale with a solid 2.0 and then went on the run several oil companies to the ground before finally becoming... I forgot the rest of the story but you get my point. However, these highly esteemed academics, who use a \$100,000 education to bitch about how James Earl Jones was not "black enough" to be a true representation of a black man in "The Lion King" because he didn't speak in Ebonics, have taught me something much greater than why I am a white devil- they have also brought me closer to Jesus. Jesus is a wondrous man, a marvel to all the world, who just so happens washes dishes in the SAC and rides a low rider bicycle to work, but what the hell he is my savior- what up esse. I have come to see that many of these "academics" are out of their bloody minds. Many of these people probably can analyze dog shit for three years and then come out with some wonderful 200 page treatise on the existential character of the asshole of a cocker spaniel- I'm sure its already hit the presses. This class is ridiculous. Did you know that "Pocahontas" presents Native Americans in a very negative light- no? Me neither. Did you now that "The Lion King" is secretly a form of white Disney propaganda presented to small white Anglo Saxon children in order to foster their hatred for Blacks and Hispanics- hey if that already wasn't apparent to you...., you can see where this course is going. I sit in the class and often wonder what's coming next. "Ursula the sea witch is a representation of Disney womanizing propaganda, presenting women in power as ugly and vicious." Well why can't she just be an evil villain? Would it make these assholes feel any better if Ursula had a great huge set of tits and a body like Carmen Electra- no that would be bad too because it would give little girls a negative stereotype of themselves and probably send little four year old darlings straight to the toilet bowl so that they can vomit up their Carnation milk and cookies so that they too can look like Ursula. What if Ursula just looked like a normal person, let's say Julia Roberts (I know, the horse mouth on the woman kills me too but she's kinda normal looking), would that be ok then? And plus

what is the fucking difference? Just watch the goddamn movie and get on with your life; masturbate, kill yourself Oust two suggestions there are many more) but God forbid you would do anything productive. Maybe we should instead have a course about how many parents don't give a flying fuck about their kids, and these poor sons of bitches are then left to be raised in front of the TV for their whole lives until they come to college and discover marijuana and begin thinking for themselves- but no that would be to edgy- "don't you know people have to work for a living, and very often both parents cant be there to take care of their children." My answer would be, why the fuck have kids? Either tell the woman to swallow, close her goddamn legs, or you could put on a goddamn rubber too- scumbag. And I'm not sexist I don't care if it's a man/ woman (womyn if your not getting any ass) /transgender/ hermaphrodite hell, or even pink gorilla, who stays home to take care of those little bastards, but I'm just saying that one of them should wait at least until the child enters school, where he or she (unless you have a non-gendered child and in that case PAT) can learn how to walk in straight lines, use proper grammar and say the Pledge of Allegiance (sorry I'm listening to Pink Floyd I had to do it). Maybe I am being too negative. Perhaps we should have another course on why academics have one of the highest divorce and suicide rates in the nation (I was to lazy to actually look this up but when I say it with an English accent it sound really credible). I don't know. Maybe because some of them wake up one day and realize, "Holy shit I devoted half my life to studying happy children's films and attaching nearly incoherent meanings to their miniscule details, expressing my own deep hatred for the world in a manner which would be acceptable so as bring praise upon my life because I was never loved as a child; my psychologist told me that I was really an orphan after daddy refused to get me that pony." I don't know it is just a thought. The bottom line is Disney should not be responsible for your child, you should. However, this course has inspired me. It has inspired me to listen to myself and realize that maybe there are still some people left who believe that sometimes a cigar is just a cigar. Maybe I give people a little more credit then I should, because I believe that we are not just a society of overgrown lemmings who will follow the leadership of any person bearing an acronym after his name. I still firmly believe that people can think for themselves, but maybe I'm wrong. Maybe we are all just pawns being moved by a giant invisible hand known in large circles as the Wonderful World of Disney who leads us, who fill our hearts with laughter, sadness, and hatred, who writes our innermost thoughts so that we can be productive and yet surprisingly tasty and low in fat.



So, in a way yes maybe this class did affect me; it allowed me to realize that I am not fit for full term academic life. But stay tuned. I have plans to come back and teach my own Honors mini course course. I shall entitle it "How US nuclear disarmament has lead to higher incidence of impotence among three legged rodents living within the metropolitan areas of Toledo and its surrounding neighborhoods". Oh it should be a doozy. Good day.

I don't know about you but I believe that we are essentially all the same, and that the more we harp on the differences between us, the more such differences will be apparent and the more we will be polarized by them. Though the purpose of such a class is noble- hopefully setting out to cause equality- we all bleed the same color, but what we are doing now by focusing on these differences in such courses as this is that we are contently cutting people of different color, sex, and religions open with the hope that there will be a difference, but in the end all is caused is pain. However, such simplicity would seem to counteract so many years in college- so many questions asked- so many logical conclusions and decreasing fields of vision with each one. I too realize that often people are not inclined to change their view of others after they have been instructed otherwise in their lives, but those who form truths solely on what they have been told deserve to be called racist and sexist. A condition exists now that there are many people thinking for themselves, who can also see that all people are equal. What academia is doing now, by focusing primarily on our differences based on race, sex, and religion rather than our similarities is that they are swaying any mild idiots to see primarily the differences between us and not the similarity in our common humanity, which defeats their purpose in the first place of fostering equality.

None of this should be taken as legitimate. "I'm gonna enlighten the world" journalism, this represents my thoughts alone, and I did no research for any of this except by observing the world in which I live, and eating loads of Taco Bell.

## The Spot (2nd Floor Fannie Brice Theatre)

open Thur (6-12)  
Fri & Sat (6-2)

Music  
Beer  
Theatre  
Culture



By Vadim Gedzberg

I had just left the bar, I'm pissed off because this girl Jean. Fucking females. Its all cool don't worry I got it under control this is another rant, this isn't one of those whiny some chick wouldn't fuck me and I'm pissed stories. Although I am wallowing in self pity. If you really want to know its because I took this girl to a restaurant/bar. As I was walking out of the bathroom I saw her at the bar kissing another guy. I left her there figure if she's so "friendly" maybe one of her "friends" should pay for the food and give her a ride home, maybe even sodomize her with their uncircumcised penis. But that's beyond the point, I promised no whiny stories. Everything that is written is written for some one to read, yeah even your little precious diary that you bitch to at night you may not admit it but you want some one to eventually read that, hell maybe even publish it. The little words on the front that say Private, don't read really mean when I die I want this published, I want my personal little problems, the girls that ditched me or how nobody likes me published. Its like putting on a Broadway show that nobody will watch, the actors just feel stupid, nothing is written for no eyes to see. Were all exhibitionists, some to higher degrees than others, and some are just so consumed in sex that it becomes the manifestation of their internal problems. I'm sitting outside, an old man with crutches and bags was passing by,

stopping every three or four steps to wheeze heavily, he's probably in pain but right now my first instinct is to offer help but I'm too busy feeling bad for myself. The little god that is me decides my problems are more important. Besides being the good guy is boring, yeah they always fucking win but that's really getting to be repetitive. I know that when people go to the movies or a play they secretly hope the bad guy will win, somehow in the last second conquer the world. The good guy coming out of the pits is just getting repetitive. We want our problems published, we talk to people about them just because we feel we are the center of the fucking universe, everybody should know about me everybody should chant my name. We all want an entourage. One cult following with fries and a medium drink to go. It's such a shame though that attention and crowds of worshipers are a tremendous obstacle to intellectual growth. But so few people have gone through immense intellectual growth that its a big scary unknown, besides its so much easier to be worshipped for who you are than to grow. We want to be stuck in our little lives. Every body wants to be liked for who they are nobody wants to change. And even when people do consciously change a major aspect of their life its mostly because they want to be liked more by others. Here I am forcing myself to write more, trying to present you with

more of my pseudo wisdom. Nah maybe not so much wisdom as just sharing my thoughts. Back to the Jean girl for a moment. We just got to the bar, were sitting in the car and she asks me why I looked funny at her, I tell her its because I had a funny thought, she asks me what it is. I say nevermind I forgot, what I really want to tell her is this line from a movie about how I want to penetrate her every orifice with my throbbing member. The only thoughts that come to mind are what you would expect a dirty old man to say, phrases like why don't you come here and sit on my lap, or lets go back to my place for some sloppy sex. But I keep that to myself, instead I sit quietly and wait for her to finish putting on her make up. Nuf about Jean though. I wonder why people don't want their problems solved, I mean lets face it nobody wants everything wrapped up in a neat little package. That's it your problems are over, and guess what so is your life. People are defined by separate layers of their lives. Its like an onion, each layer defines you, you're a baseball players, you're someone's boy friend, your also a student, with all these layers peeled away your left with emptiness. What people are afraid of that most of these layers are their problems. We are so defined by our problems that we fear the nothing we will be left with once their peeled away. Perhaps this nothing is the only unpioneered social frontier left.

## Response Article (con't)

Americans. This is absolutely mind-boggling ignorance!! Theoretically, what would the author say if 1000 Israelis died and 1001 Arab Palestinian died? Would that one additional person give the Palestinians the moral advantage? Of course not! Should Israel intentionally kill Israelis in order to gain a moral advantage in the author's mind? Walter Moss goes on to discuss the soldier's brutality to journalists. The IDF has explained that the objective was to establish a closed military zone. Like all propaganda there is a kernel of truth. The truth is that journalists who tried to get in the way during an exchange of fires were pushed back. But to make unproved allegations that journalists have been "singled out for attack" is something that the journalists themselves, ironically, have not even claimed. Mr. Moss receives his information from the very "objective" source, namely, the Independent Media Center of Palestine. These are the same organizations that claim that 500 people were killed in the Jenin incursion and that the Jews were behind the World trade

Center attack. It is the equivalent of researching the Protestant Reformation from the archives of the Papacy. The author either despises real scholarly research or enjoys promoting his deceitful agenda.

Walter Moss concludes that he is not interested in the "destruction of Israel" as if Israelis have to thank him for even acknowledging their right of existence. "The country was born of a massive theft of land, and built on the dead and displaced Palestinians who once lived there." Since we have already demonstrated and exposed the fallacies of the author, it is not surprising that he also discusses about a "massive theft of land" despite the facts and even many statements by Arab leaders showing otherwise. The author uses the term Palestinian even though Palestinian nationalism is clearly a product of the establishment of the PLO in 1964 and the six-day war in 1967. What is the most offensive of all statements is the justification of the radical Muslims' hate for America based on what is happening in Israel. What the author is

basically saying is Al Qaeda's attack on the Western World is because of Israel and not because of their totalitarian ideology that has been rightfully criticized by moderate Muslims. The author doesn't state that the fundamentalism displayed in Afghanistan had little if anything to do at all with Israel. The argument is distorted and false. The author doesn't mention that these elements in the Islamic World have not and are not interested in peace with Israel but rather with destroying Israel. He doesn't even mention the consecutive wars waged on Israel which I can bet he has no clue about.

Finally, I think that we can all quite agree that this individual has engaged in fraudulent propaganda without adequate knowledge of the Middle East Conflict. The individual clearly has no perfunctory knowledge of the conflict and is just hopping on another radical post-modern agenda.

# the Arcade

open mon-fri  
games all day  
pool 5-11pm

basement, student union

# A New Star is Born: Lisa "Left-Eye" Lopes: 1971-2002

By Joseph Hughes and Crystal Cheng

The coming of the year 2002 could be seen as a very big deal for any fan of TLC, the best selling female music group of all time, because it marked their ten-year anniversary. The trio was in the midst of working on their fourth album when the future of TLC was abruptly shattered. On April 25th, Lisa "Left-Eye" Lopes, the youngest and most outspoken of the group, passed away in a car crash while on vacation in Honduras. She would have been 31 towards the end of this month.

Lopes had been in and out of the news throughout most of TLC's ten-year span as one of the best female music groups around. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the media, the news almost always portrayed her in a negative fashion. For instance, just about anyone who's ever heard of TLC can remember the time when, out of anger, Lopes accidentally burned down her then boyfriend Andre Rison's mansion, and her subsequent trial for that occurrence. And many can recall her well-documented, and perhaps exaggerated, bouts with alcoholism. However, what was often overlooked was all the positive things Lopes did with her short time with us. So, in this article I'm going to concentrate only on the good she did, so that her fans and anyone else who may read this, who do not know about these things can walk away from this with the same appreciation for Lopes the person that they have for Lopes the musical artist.

Lopes was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, to Wanda and Ronald Lopes. She was the oldest of three children. Her father was an ex-military man who had frequent problems with alcohol and, according to Lopes, beat his wife and children and treated their family "like we were in boot camp." Her younger siblings often looked to her for strength, a role that her brother Ronald believes she handled admirably. "When we grew up, we went through a lot of pain. Lisa was that distraction from the pain."

Lisa was a bright child who walked at seven months and could tap out movie themes by ear on a piano at the age of four. She reportedly taught herself to play the piano at age five, and soon began dabbling in fashion design, sewing, hairstyling, creative writing and rapping. Later on in life she further pursued many of these hobbies and found even more ways to express her creativity; she cooked, wrote, drew, painted, air-brushed and even built furniture.

In 1991, Lopes met Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins and Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas, who would join her in forming the trio TLC. Lopes

and the rest of TLC got their big break that same year, when the three of them signed a record deal with LaFace Records, thus making TLC a reality. Sadly, what should have been the best day of Lopes' life turned out to be one of the worst. That same evening, her mother called to inform her that her father had been killed. Despite her often tumultuous relationship with her father, after signing the contract she got in her car, "and for a whole hour, I was just dreaming about getting back with my father and trying to make things right."

T-Boz and Chilli were the vocalists of the group, while Lopes was the rapper. The unique blending of their different musical styles led them to great success with each of their three albums: Oooooohhh... On the TLC Tip (1992), CrazySexyCool (1994) and Fanmail (1999). Lopes was the one who came up with the title for each of their albums, and designed many of the outfits and stages that the group used on their tours and videos. Lopes even came up with the title of their fourth album, which was supposed to be released the end of this summer. They never had the chance to complete it but it will still be finished, and now dedicated to her. Lopes had recently released her first solo album, titled Supernova, but it has yet to be released in the U.S.

Lopes' actions outside the public eye were incredibly positive and charitable. While on vacation in Honduras, she was volunteering at a children's development center and at the Usha Herbal Resource Institute, an herbal healing center. She was also working on her autobiography, titled "One," in which she spoke about her experiences in Honduras and how it turned her life around. She often visited the country and had just recently purchased land in it. While there, she began engaging in different forms of herbal and spiritual healing.

Lopes never seemed to let her status as a celebrity detach her from her fans. Her interactive website, [www.eyenetics.com](http://www.eyenetics.com), is a treat for anyone, and a tribute to her unique creativity and imagination. In 1999, Lopes received a letter from one of her fans, a high school student from her hometown of Philadelphia, inviting her to accompany him to his prom. She was so impressed by the letter that she accepted his invitation.

While spending time in rehab, she met Trena, and the two quickly became very close. Trena was a young mother, but her life was on a downward spiral and she felt that she was no longer capable of supporting her daughter, Snow. Seeing this, Lopes adopted the eight-year-old



girl. She had previously adopted a 12 year-old boy, Jamal, when she was 20. Snow is featured in the video "Block Party" from Lopes' solo album Supernova. With Lopes gone, Snow and Jamal now suffer a great loss.

Close to 10,000 mourners attended Lopes' funeral on May 2. There were several speakers, including her brother Ronald and sister Raina. Her sister described Lopes as "very giving," and went on to say that "she would give everything she had to see you happy. She loved nature to the point where she wouldn't even kill a fly or any other bug. Her definition of love was freedom. Her mind soared beyond normal limitations. She was brilliant. I love her and will miss her dearly." Her brother added that after the crash, he was "holding her head and her hand waiting for the first signal of a pulse. I just kept hearing Lisa in my head: 'Energy doesn't die, it just transforms.'" The casket holding Lopes' body is cream-colored with engraving in gold script. The graving contains this passage from Lopes' verse in TLC's hit "Waterfalls": "Dreams are hopeless aspirations, in hopes of coming true. Believe in yourself, the rest is up to me and you."

On her Supernova album, there is a track called "A New Star is Born," which, according to Lopes, "is dedicated to all those that have loved ones that have passed away. It's saying that there is no such thing as death. We can call it transforming for a lack of better words, but as scientists would say, 'Every atom that was once a star is now in you.' It's in your body. So in the song I pretty much go along with that idea. ... I don't care what happens or what people think about death, it doesn't matter. We all share the same space." If this is so, then Lopes will forever be with us, and with her death, a new star is born.

You think you take me?  
I laugh at your petty threat!  
Come, learn the word "pain."

You in college now.  
I will be your professor  
and you'll be schooled

My class is easy  
on the mind. But very hard  
it is, on your ass



You will be lucky  
if you can get an F+  
with your sad Kung-Fu

I will go easy  
But do not ever be late  
we begin at 5.

Class is in Arcade.  
Eleven p.m. we end.  
Basement of Union.



# Israeli Apartheid

By Wendy Fuchsberg

In various conversations I have had over the past few months, I have come to the conclusion that some people in the United States support Israel at all costs. However, some people don't realize that Israel, through several of its Basic Laws has set up a system of discrimination in favor of Jews. I am not even referring to the occupied territories, which are complete with every humiliation to human dignity one can imagine. In Israel proper, there is a system established to maintain Jews as a privileged class and to discriminate against the Arab populations, keeping them as second-class citizens in the state of Israel.

Where it all started

In 1870, 98% of the populations of Palestine were Arab and only 2% were Jews. Zionism started in 1897. Israel was established in 1948, and by that time, 65% of the populations of Palestine were Arab and 35% were Jews. The point I am trying to make is that Zionism, since its inception, was a colonial movement.

Similarly, in 1948, the majority of land in what is today Israel, was owned by Arabs. Arabs own only 3% of the land in Israel today. After the establishment of the Jewish state, 800,000 Palestinians were forced to leave their homes and their land was "expropriated" and given to Jews who wanted to settle in Israel. 150,000 were able to stay, but most were displaced from their homes and became internal refugees.

These people were never compensated for this displacement or for the "expropriation" of their land, and hence you have the Palestinian refugee crisis. When people say that Israel is a Jewish state, they mean it in a very literal sense. What I'd like to demonstrate is that the state of Israel goes against everything you have been raised with as an American.

In Israel, there is no separation of church and state. Even within the green line, Israel has separate schools for non-Jews (i.e. Arabs) and Jews, with completely unequal funding and resources for the schools set aside for non-Jews (see Human Rights Watch website about this at: <http://www.hrw.org/press/2001/12/SecondClass1205.htm>). Judaism and Zionism are taught in the schools and even Palestinian children must learn certain Jewish texts. In addition, Israel grants citizenship to Jews automatically and has a specific set of conditions for non-Jewish citizenship (which makes it almost impossible to become a citizen if you are a non-Jew with the exception of the minority population of Palestinians able to stay in Israel in 1948).

Almost all of the land in Israel (93%) is controlled by the State and is given to Jewish citizens only. Applications for building permits are

routinely denied to Arab citizens. So when permits are denied and Palestinians build anyway, the Israelis take their beloved bulldozers (a favorite of the Israelis) to the newly built homes. Under the Absentee Property Law (1950), the State can expropriate lands that belong to Palestinians by demanding they produce proof that they own that land. Now, this is akin to asking a Native American to prove that the land she has lived on, or the house she lives in, is legally hers. This land and these houses have been passed on from generation to generation. Land (Acquisition for Public Purposes) Ordinance (1943) establishes that 40% of a person's land can be confiscated at any time without compensation and that all of a person's land can be confiscated with minimal compensation so long as it is for public purposes. This law is applied exclusively to the Palestinian citizens of Israel. The Agricultural Settlement (Restrictions on the Use of Agricultural Land and Water) Law (1967) prevents Jewish owners from subleasing their lands back to Palestinians. The budgets and water allotted (which is pretty important in a desert) for Palestinians is far less than that allotted to Jewish towns. And the list goes on and on.

Why am I writing this? Because as Noam Chomsky (an anti-Zionist Jew, author of many books including *The Fateful Triangle: The United States, Israel, and The Palestinians*) has said:

"To the extent that Israel is a Jewish State it cannot be a democratic state."

Now, some Jews will tell you that anyone who criticizes Israel is an anti-Semite, even non-governmental human rights organizations that routinely condemn Israel for its discrimination against Palestinians. The list of anti-Semites, most interestingly, includes Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch (who has issued an extensive report about the possibility of major war crimes committed in Jenin, available at

<http://www.hrw.org/reports/2002/israel3/>), the United Nations, The Europeans (especially European media sources who, unlike the American media, report these facts accurately), etc. I would say that this charge is used as a means to counter any criticism of Israel and it should not be tolerated.

Moreover, Jews who criticize Israel "hate themselves." Of course, such people never take into consideration that those Jews who criticize Israel are motivated by a need to speak out for what is right, regardless of what is popular. Unfortunately, because of the Holocaust, many Jews are completely convinced that everyone who isn't a Jew is an anti-Semite. Many Jews

are actually terrified of another Holocaust. It is this fear that leads many Jews to abstain from criticism of Israel. However, if Israel (not Jews who support Israel, as there is a clear distinction) is really so concerned about another Holocaust, they would ratify the treaty establishing the ICC (the international criminal court which is the international body, just established, for prosecuting war crimes and genocide).

I can sympathize with those who fear another Holocaust. At one time, I was terrified of this as well. My grandfather and his sister left Austria some years before Hitler came to power and left the rest of their family behind. After World War II, his parents, the rest of his brothers and sisters (6 children, including my grandfather and his sister), aunts, uncles, and cousins had vanished without a trace. I always knew this but I never fully realized its effects on me until I was much older. It is this history that haunted me for many years. Now, I see things very differently. It is not "in spite of" the Holocaust, that I feel a need to speak out against Israel's actions, but rather, because of it. I am not afraid of another Holocaust, however I am concerned about the "ethnic cleansing" of the Palestinians. Genocide cannot justify genocide.

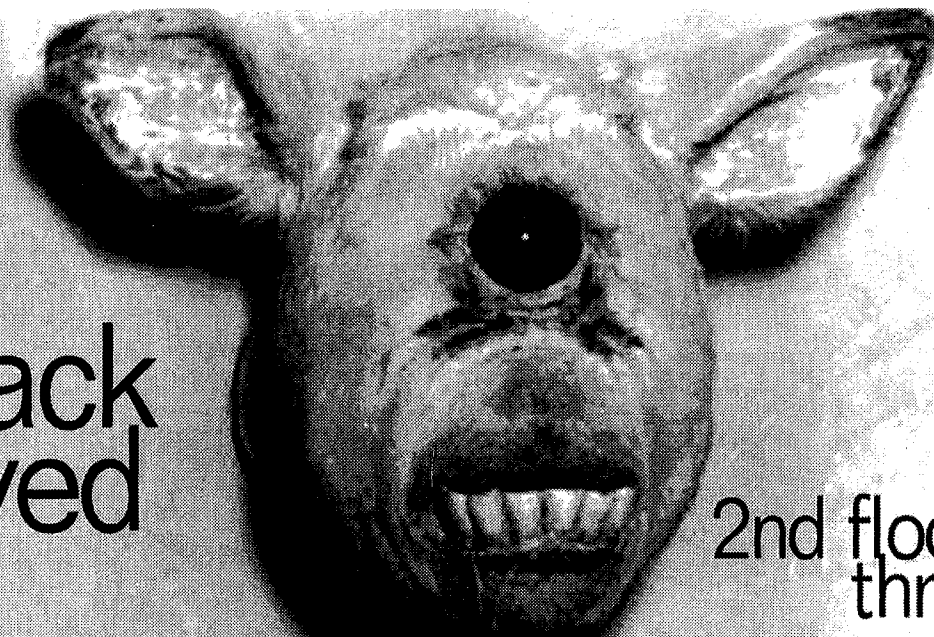
The idea that Jews are all Zionists is itself a fallacy. There are many anti-Zionist Jews (and that number grows every day). Some Jews even go so far as to propose a secular democratic state in Israel where both Jews and Palestinians have equal rights and coexist peacefully! Now, I know, a secular democracy is a pretty radical idea (wait a second, what country do we live in?), but I feel that it is the only solution to this horrific situation.

I just received an e-mail last night that I'd like to insert into this article because it was so inspiring to me:

"Irena Klepfisz, Warsaw ghetto survivor, essayist and poet, founded the Jewish Women's Organization to End the Occupation in Gaza and the West Bank in 1988. This group held weekly vigils in NYC at the offices of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish American Organizations during the first intifada.

When she was accused of being a traitor to the Jewish people, she replied: "Knowing that the world was passive and indifferent while six million Jews died, I have always considered passivity and indifference the worst of evils. Those who do nothing, I believe are good German collaborators. I do not want to be a collaborator."

all work  
and no  
play  
makes jack  
a one eyed  
mutant



work @  
home,  
play @  
the spot

2nd floor fannie brice  
thr-sat 6pm-2am

# What Happens When You Try to Produce a Play on Campus

By An aspiring playwright

I was raped. I was raped, not with an object or even a weapon. I was raped with words. I was raped with deceit. I was raped by those that I trusted. Like the victim, I felt that if my voice remained silent, than the situation would go away. But it has not. No matter what you do or what you say, nothing can change the past events or the feelings you try to bury inside. The Committee raped me, and for the first time in a long time I can finally speak about my pain. It started with a hope and a dream. I always thought that maybe one day I could write this perfect work of literature, something that could capture up all my desires in a neat, tightly bonded package. I never thought that I was an artist, but a person who felt that I must have a talent, and maybe my words were God's blessing for me. I never made that masterpiece. But a lot of ideas culminated and were launched in a play that I wrote. These ideas would be the foundation of what is "Brown Skin Girls", a play that I wrote, drawing experiences from my own life and that of other strong black women around me. It had no swearing, no sexual innuendos. Instead it had heart and emotions, and was something that I was proud of. I pitched the idea to a member of the Committee; maybe that was my first mistake. Upon talking to him, I expanded my ideas to include to actual scenes. I remember myself feeling so giddy and proud that my mother would have a playwright in her family. At the same time I was writing down these words, I was facing the possibility that the only person in the world that I loved more than myself could leave me. My mother was diagnosed with a brain tumor. I remember my feelings and passions crossing over to the pen I was holding. I made my characters feel the emotions that I was feeling. And I thought that no matter what, my heartache could find some solace in the words I was giving. Months began to pass, and my dreams seemed to become more visible. I was even asked could I possibly direct it. Auditions were set for my play and another one. With a horrible advertising strategy at the hands of the committee, I saw myself facing the possibility that what I was working on for the past few months would not ever occur. I began asking people closest connected to me to audition for the roles in this play. This was mistake two. I was so hesitant in asking them to participate, for whatever reason. I should have followed the feelings in my heart. Auditions have passed and the play was about to go forward, only one problem. No one had a script. I had written my play at least four different times, in three different ways. And realized that I needed to produce something that was finite and reflected me. I submitted three scenes that I felt most comfortable with. Not feeling completely sure about the end-

ing of the play. What happened next, I will ask for God's help to understand. The Committee decided to take the scenes and rewrite the play without the consent and hold rehearsals for the play without my knowledge. In a moment I was reduced to aspiring playwright to hopeless idiot. I felt myself drowning, wanting to just die. I screamed, I yelled, I pleaded. But nothing stopped the production of the play. It was no longer my play. I spoke with great lengths with another member of the committee, the only one that I felt I could relate to the most. She was a black woman, like myself and I saw something genuinely kind in her and felt that in the nightmare that I could trust her. We spoke and she told me that her intentions were not to hurt my play or me. So I trusted her and we began to redo something that was a tragic mistake. I made the conscious decision to work with them. Mistake three, compromising my integrity and myself for people who had done wrong to me. They stole from me, and I seemed perfectly willing to work with them to get some of my possessions back. All I can say, that sometimes love for something can make you do some ridiculous things. And I loved my play, more than anything else in this world. I went on a trip to Washington DC. This trip was probably the most wonderful and enlightening experiences of my life. During the trip I met young, progressive people from all over the nation who wanted to change and correct all the wrongs of the world. They were bright, and open-minded and being away from Stony brook helped me to clear my mind. I realized that I compromised myself and that I was stuck in a situation that I had never wanted. I wanted the play to go on and for my friends to be actors and actresses, but at what cost? My dream? My integrity? So when I came back from DC, I had no wish to work on this play or these people anymore and wanted to pull my play or change it. So at a meeting I had with the Committee, I let all my emotions and frustration explode. I cried, I screamed and like before nothing changed reality. They felt they had given me the chance to "prove myself" and give them input. I didn't want the chance; I wanted to be able to have my play. With my input or not, the play was going to go on. I became so sad; I did not know what to do. I had no spoken to anyone about my feelings prior and decided that maybe that was the wrong decision. I let people know what happened, and how I felt. Mistake four. If you are going to be outspoken and vocal, always be outspoken and vocal. You cannot be silent, than vocal. I let cast members know the situation, a very PG version of it. And even in speaking to them, I still encouraged them to do the play. I was an idiot. I wanted to please everyone so much, that I neglected to please myself. I even tried to contact a person

in charge of the Committee. She was very direct in her manner, choosing her words carefully. She seemed quite sure of herself, and that was enough to make me believe that she could help me. I told her the situation and she promised to call me back after speaking to other people. She never called me back. I called her relentlessly seeking her input, but she was never home. When I finally spoke to her, she dismissed my cause and me with profanity, ridicule and arrogance. I was insulted and demeaned by a person over the phone. My next line of action was to try again to speak with members of the Committee, in particular, the one member that I felt closest too. She was angry with me, and I was angry with her. But in my anger, and through all this I still wanted to make things right, solve everything. Mistake five. She wouldn't give me the opportunity to work with them on my own play, because I was not able to "prove myself" earlier to them. I then asked for them to at least to change the name of the play and characters. I asked the rapist, to be careful how he raped me. It was agreed and I walked away from the play. What a ridiculous situation? Let me backtrack. I needed permission to give input on a play that I had originated. That drove me near insanity. I trusted no one; I did not care for anyone. And I wallowed in sadness and humiliation for a long time. Not able to speak to many people, and secluding myself from the one thing I cared about the most, my dream. The play went on. I believe it was a success, though I could not bring myself to see it. It was such a gross misinterpretation of my original ideas that I could not in any way bring myself to that auditorium. My friends were able to be actors, at the suspense of what I do not know. The names of the characters that I asked to be changed, for the most part remained the same. The Committee was able to produce a play and get accolades about how great it was. I received no mention, no plaque, no meaningful acknowledgement or apologies and I was the black woman behind the black women's weekend play. So what now? I realized a few things. First, that the horrible situation that occurred was due to mistakes done by the Committee, and myself no party is more innocent or guilty. Second, that the Lord has a path for us all, and my path will lead to me writing a play again one day. Third, is that I realize that who my friends are and I thank them for loving and supporting me. Fourth, to all the people that raped me of my thoughts that it will be okay because I still have the talent that you did not have to write your own play. This is my story, in all its glory. If you ever feel raped in a way that you cannot understand, I understand you and remember that what they took is not as important as what you learned. I love you Mommy.



the Spot

open thur-sat  
6pm-mid  
music+beer+cabaret

2nd floor  
fannie brice thtr.

# BEERFEST 2k2: South of the Border

Beerfest. One of the greatest times of the year. With rumors of about 250 people in attendance, a brief showing by the cops, and a fight where the jocks lost (no really, they got beat), Beerfest 2002 takes the cake as the greatest yet. This year's theme revolved around the testing of latin beers. Unlabeled beers are rated on four different scales: Flavor, Bite, Aftertaste, and "Iquaqi." Iquaqi is the "Je ne sais pas" of the beer being tested. The taster either likes it or doesn't like it for whatever reason they choose.



<u>Beer Uno:</u> <b>Presidente</b>	<u>Beer Dos:</u> <b>Carib</b>	<u>Beer Tres:</u> <b>Dos Equis</b>	<u>Beer Cuatro:</u> <b>Red Stripe</b>
Flavor: 5.8 Bite: 4.4 Aftertaste: 5.5 Iquaqi: 4.8 Rank: 3 (tie)	Flavor: 4.9 Bite: 4.6 Aftertaste: 4.0 Iquaqi: 4.7 Rank: 5	Flavor: 5.6 Bite: 4.9 Aftertaste: 4.8 Iquaqi: 5.1 Rank: 3 (tie)	Flavor: 5.6 Bite: 4.6 Aftertaste: 4.0 Iquaqi: 5.2 Rank: 4
<u>Beer Cinco:</u> <b>Royal Extra Stout</b>	<u>Beer Seis:</u> <b>Negra Modelo</b>	<u>Beer Siete:</u> <b>Pilsener El Salvador</b>	<u>Beer Ocho:</u> <b>Cerveza Tecate</b>
Flavor: 6.8 Bite: 5.9 Aftertaste: 6.0 Iquaqi: 7.0 Rank: 1	Flavor: 5.9 Bite: 5.2 Aftertaste: 5.6 Iquaqi: 5.3 Rank: 2 (tie)	Flavor: 5.3 Bite: 5.1 Aftertaste: 5.0 Iquaqi: 5.0 Rank: 3 (tie)	Flavor: 4.9 Bite: 4.6 Aftertaste: 4.0 Iquaqi: 4.7 Rank: 2 (tie)

**Random (uncorrected) comments from the taste-test forms:**

"My cup smells like a Tijuana Hooker; age 12"  
"skunk milk. absolute sewage backwash. will recomend to office coworkers."  
"Velvety smooth, yet with a scent of warm piss, How do they do it?"  
"Smooth like a 9 year old"  
"I got the ass of the beer"  
"Weak like a little school girl. mmm... little school girls(drools)"  
"Tastes like my last girlfriend."  
"It tastes like my mexican cleaning lady, Musty but friendly."



# Free the Heads, Jail the Feds

By Adam Kearney

Tweakers unite. It is the first Saturday of May in New York City. The heads converge on Washington Square Park by the hundreds. Frisbees are tossed and hacky sack circles soon form, but it is not a typical spring morning- there is an extra energy in the air. Giant banners and posters displaying cannabis leaves adorn the crowds that quickly coalesce on the corner. The process is repeated in 150 cities across the world. It's half past noon and the Million Marijuana March begins.

It starts on Broadway in Greenwich Village and proceeds thirty blocks and two hours downtown to Battery Park, the entire time escorted by a large percentage of the entire police force. They are quick to pull you out of the crowd if you decide to spark a joint; contrary to some ignorant people's views on the event, it is not legal to smoke there- or anywhere. This is the reason we march. Last year, approximately one hundred people were arrested, supposedly for pointing out undercover narcotics agents, but really just for lighting up in front of cops. For those interested in participating, here's a hint: don't do that.

The March is something that definitely needs to be experienced by anyone who has ever come to the conclusion that people should not be getting in trouble for smoking marijuana. By trouble I mean fines, imprisonment, confiscation of property, loss of custody of your children, job, reputation, etc. In essence this prohibition is completely unnecessary. One day out the year the stoners make a stand. The Million Marijuana March began May 1st, 1998- after thirty years of varied protests and the annual Fifth Avenue Marijuana Marches- and was the first international event. There has also been a protest in Washington DC on July 4th for the last thirty years.

The March is sponsored by Cures Not Wars, an organization devoted to the legalization,

decriminalization, and medicalization of marijuana as well as the development of Ibogaine, a psychedelic medication for addictive disorders. I was allowed a brief interview with Dana Beal, the chief-coordinator of the March and long-time activist for marijuana reform and Ibogaine treatment, as he ran up and down the line of marchers with a megaphone shouting instructions for an effective protest. He said that when Cures Not Wars is not organizing

harsh treatment of marijuana smokers under Guiliani's "quality of life" laws. Not much has changed, except for one improvement- there are no more custodial arrests, meaning that an adult arrested for public consumption of marijuana cannot be held for three days.

There is a great deal more reform occurring now in the United Kingdom. Marijuana was lowered down to a Schedule III status and they appear to be moving toward the Dutch system of marijuana control, the "coffee shop" system where it's fine to consume in designated areas. This saves money for the police and also increases arrests for violent crimes.

When the March eventually arrived at Battery Park, there were three stages: two had bands playing and one had a DJ. The musical performers were joined by political speakers, such as Ed Rosenthal, and editor for High Times who was recently arrested for distributing medical marijuana in California. During the festival undercover cops occasionally pulled some old hippie or some teenager out of the crowd and attempted to bust them. Many of their attempts were for

naught, because of the swarm of lawyers called in for the event to defend, for free, any smoker that is caught. The only problem is that you have to call them after the fact; they do not come rushing to save you.

During the protest I heard some pretty interesting slogans for marijuana reform, from "Just like Bloomberg, we smoke herb" to "Smoke pot with your local cops." It wasn't until I was on the train home that I heard my friend say the best one: "New York City will never be a nice, happy place until marijuana is legalized."



the Million Marijuana March they are promoting research and awareness of Ibogaine, which can "...cure addiction to crack, heroin, and speed." It also makes you trip out. When I asked why, specifically, it was illegal in the US if it can cure addiction he responded, "Because, they [the government] thinks it turns cigarette smokers into potheads, but the people who take it probably smoke pot already."

I then asked him whether Mayor Bloomberg, the present champion of NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) at the moment due to his one pro-marijuana quote, had done anything to relax the unusually

## The First, The Only And Still The Best

### The Best Selection of:

Gothic and Punk  
Clothing • Clubwear •  
Lingerie • Adult Novelties •  
Graffiti • Dugouts •  
Shoes By:  
Dr. Martens •  
Tredair •  
Grinders •  
Airwalk •  
Vans •  
Naot •  
Rock Tees • Posters •  
Tapestries •



Lavalamps •  
Blacklights •  
Strobes •  
Aromatherapy Oils •  
Incense •  
Candles •  
Body Piercing  
Jewelry •  
Unique Gifts •

Ska, Punk • Hardcore  
and Goth • CD's  
EP's & LP's and  
Much More

Where the Uninhibited Shop

**U T O P I A**

3 Newbridge Rd.,  
Hicksville  
(1 Block North of LIRR)  
(516) 935-6680

2436 Middle Country Rd.,  
Centereach  
(631) 467-5463

# THE PRESS

**My Fat Fei Long Style  
will wreck you quick, into the  
emergency room**

**My Shien Kyaku is  
beautiful and deadly like  
assassin Geisha**

**Come to the Arcade  
and bring your whack fighting style  
so I can house you**



**mon-sat  
6-11**

**pool  
games  
butt-  
kickins**

**Basement  
Student Union  
Building**

## Classifieds



**Goods/Services**  
**Got Movie Trailers?**  
If you do we'll pay you top dollar for them! The subject matter is unimportant so long as it is indeed a movie trailer. Sony Pictures will give you shit loads of cash so we can have a full hour of trailers before Spider Man The Movie. We've all ready got a half hour but we know we can make them sit through double that.

**Substandard Nu-Metal Bands**  
Your "skillz" are needed by Ozzfest to complete our rapping of the genre once known as metal. If you sound like EVERYONE else and have no idea that when you down tune you need thicker bass strings, you're our band. Three Muscle Bound Males available to come to your next party, surround the keg and give everyone a hard time. We're all large and come stock with that ready-to-fight attitude that keeps us in the hearts and minds of the entire world. SEA-WOLVES FOOTBALL RULES!



**Announcements**  
**Attention Class of 2002**  
Looking for employment? Hah hah. You'll be looking for a job during the highest rate of unemployment in seven years. With love-your government.

**\*\*\*HELP US!\*\*\***  
The staff at your beloved Stony Brook Press is really really hungry and we need your extra meal plan points. No questions asked. We will unconditionally accept all donations, even something as minimal as a bag of cheetos with those 3D Star Wars things. Rm 060 Basement of the union.

**Attention Western World!**  
This is Afghanistan, we've run out rocks to throw at your missiles, our contry is destroyed and our population is pretty much all dead. Please stop, you can build the gas line-anything you want, just PLEASE STOP!

**Posse of mediievally trained swordsmen** gathering on the third day of the ides of May to take avenge our honor that has been unjustly slain in the papyrus of the Stony Brook Press. Come, gather and preserve the dignity of the larpers of the world. Bigjohn@info.com stop e-mailing me. I won't lick your 18y-o pussy, I don't want to mortgage a home I don't own, I have no use for a pocket spy cam, I don't want insurance and my credit is

fine. -Signed The Online World



**Employment**  
Wanted Girls to "go wild" for film project with possibilities of big time distribution and notoriety. Work at the beach or Mardi Gras! Minimal clothing required! I have a camera and plenty of beer. The wilder you go the better! Don't worry about being seen on TV by friends, if anything comes of this project we'll only air these commercials during the Howard Stern show and dating programs.

**HEY COLLEGE KID**  
Tired of failing your finals but need a career? We got something even you CAN pass From starting may 16th you can show up at The Admin Building, take the Civil Servants exam and if you pass, we'll give you a gun!

**Writers?**  
The fox Network is looking for poor writers willing to humiliate themselves attempting to be funny (Attention SB Press!) for our new series That 90's Show. No Exp. Necessary-and ABSOLUTELY no resumes written in crayon.



**Vehicles**  
**Minivans Are Out!**  
That's right, the minivan was a thing of the 90's and we're now in a new millennium and it's time to resurrect the station wagon-but don't ever call it that! Enter the Toyota Matrix, a sleek new family vehicle on the fringe! This is not an SUV for your parents-now you are the parents. Young attractive females (36-22-32) with irresponsible safe sex habits, family histories of



**Seeking?**  
Substance abuse and absolutely no standards required to be our new companions. Limbs and heart-beat optional but at least three holes are a must. Call 632-6451

**Desperatly Seeking**  
You, the blonde 70's chick with the whitest smile in the world from the Orbitz commercials. I have a pack of Orbitz, a pit of broken glass and I FUCKING HATE YOU.

Post in The Press' classifieds for FREE!  
Stonypress@hotmail.com

## By Glenn Given

PC: Freedom Force  
Developer: Irrational Games

Freedom Force is a serious partner in my inability to prepare for finals. I am sure that its addictive-ness will prevent my graduation and turn me into a townie. Anyway for what it's worth FF is an amazing game. It combines semi-real time strategy (like the turns of X-Com and the frenzy of Starcraft combined) with an adequate RPG character development.

But, I'm getting ahead of myself. First and foremost Freedom Force is a blast. It's a comic superhero game. It's a tactical simulation and it's a role-playing game. FF is set in the comically simplistic world of liberty loving all-American super-guys and their dastardly commie foes. The player assumes control of the heroes of Freedom Force (consisting of the Captain America-esque Minute Man, El Diablo -a barrio born Human torch - a clone of the Flash called Bullet, etc. etc.) and pick four hero squads which you employ to stop the nefarious deeds of invading aliens from the future, Insane robots, the mischievous god Pan, and those evil, evil Reds.

The combat system is solid. You can pause and give orders to you super-squad simply by right clicking on what you want them to target. Each character has a good selection of super-abilities like Laser Beams, Magical Hexes, Teleportation, Flying, and the general ability to beat the snot out of your foes who all deserve it because in this world there exists three types of people: innocent citizens, freedom defending heroes, and commie-alien-time-traveling-evil-doers bent on the destruction of everything that is good and pure.

The game even runs well on my rather dated P3 550 although I have been told that most gamers experience driver incompatibility, especially with the new GeForce and Voodoo cards. Regardless it's worth doing the work to update your drivers in order to bask in the alliteration smothered charm of the game. From Sean Connery talking Atlantians to villains who speak only in iambic pentameter Freedom Force is a vibrant four-color throwback to the abandon that made the Golden and silver age of comics so enjoyable.

Plus the art is snazzy.

PC: Jedi Knight 2: Jedi Outcast  
Developer: Lucas Arts

Jedi Knight 2 is the equal partner in Freedom Force's graduation-prevention scheme. Their simply is nothing cooler than going online and having a Jawa use the force to choke C-3PO to death and then fling him into a bottomless gorge whilst deflecting laser blasts with your trusty light saber. I mean does it get any better than that? Although I must say that there exists no sadder sight than the words: "Mission Failed, Lando Calrissian Has Died" flashing across your monitor.

I'm not one for the twitch gaming world of Quake or Unreal Tournament style first person shooters but Jedi Outcast has certainly sunk it's teeth into my computer. It should first be noted that the single-player game is a wonder. You play Kyle the anti-hero sometimes Jedi of the (?) series and their a whole bunch of back-story which is pretty interesting, but that I have no patience for as all I want to do is get my kill on. So you wander around the galaxy solving your perilous situation with either clever deception via Light Side force powers like the Jedi Mind trick, or the lethal Dark Side abilities like the choking Grip.

I still haven't finished the Single player campaign so the jury is out on whether all the story that frustratingly interrupts my force pushing of storm troopers to their bottomless pit filled doom. That aside I can say that the multi-player aspect of JK 2 is phenomenal. With support for a tremendous amount of players, AI bots, a bevy of maps and game play modes (like Free For All, Saber Only, Capture the Flag, etc. etc.) and an unhealthy large community of geeks creating character skins, maps and mods at a breakneck pace I would venture to guess that JK 2 will become a staple of the internet gaming community.

So if you have a good net connection, enjoy frying hordes of Jedi with names like "DarthBinLaden" and "XxxxNooBR4PRxxxX" with Force Lightening and the space version of a shotgun, and don't mind the tacit participation in a culture of escapism that serves as the only mode of achievement for the social troglodytes who spend their every waking hour shooting imaginary people with imaginary rockets while calling them faggot in some bizarre nerd script than this is the game for you.

Okay maybe it doesn't sound so pleasant, but that is simply the venting of my adolescent rage upon a sub-culture that has no power to lash back at me. Truth be told this is a stellar game. Kudos to Lucas Arts.

Film: Spiderman  
Director: Sam Raimi

I have just been informed that Spiderman has shattered the records for biggest opening day in movie history. It has also stolen biggest grossing weekend as well. A gigantic success for Marvel comics (hopefully they'll can put some of that funding into improving the quality of their comics), good for them.

Assuredly Spiderman should be seen by anyone who claims to enjoy comics, even if you hate Spiderman, you should see it just to support the comic industry. Everyone else should see it because it's a good film. Peter Parker's tale is one that will resonates with all people, as he is an average person, not a messiah like alien sent to save us, nor is he a haunted vigilante empowered by wealth and rage. He's just a dork who winds us with a bunch of neato powers and learns that he has a duty to use them in service of his society. Of course the media and cops don't know what to make of him, never being able to fully trust him he is branded an out law.

What Spiderman is, is a fun film that doesn't take itself to seriously. While there is a great depth to Tobey Macguire (Peter Parker/Spiderman) and Willem Dafoe (Norman Osborn/Green Goblin) there is also a childlike abandon with which creates a comfortable accepting atmosphere for the over-dramatics of the characters. Spiderman exists in a pulp vibrancy that allows for genetically manipulated spiders to pass on superhuman abilities and crazed industrialists to wage insane personal vendettas with an array of sci-fi weaponry with summoning a hint of incredulity.

This is perhaps the best quality of the film and certainly the best quality of the comic from which it was drawn. I for one am thoroughly pleased that Spiderman is doing as well as it is and I seriously urge all of you readers to get to the cinema by hook or by crook and show your support for our friendly neighborhood Spiderman



## Services:

gyn check-ups  
birth control  
testing & treatment for STIs  
emergency contraception

pregnancy testing  
options counseling  
surgical & medical abortion  
prenatal care

Call

**1-800-230-PLAN**

to be connected to the center nearest you

Center locations:

Amagansett . Huntington . Patchogue . Riverhead . Smithtown . West Islip



# A Letter to the Federal Task Force on Underage Drinking

By Chris Sorochin

A LETTER TO THE FEDERALLY APPOINTED TASK FORCE ON COLLEGE DRINKING

Dear Task Force on College Drinking:

I happened to read a brief Associated Press report of your study in the April 10 Newsday here on Long Island. It seems to me that a federally funded report on the prevalence and danger of alcohol consumption among college students hits the fan on an almost yearly basis, usually around the time of spring break, the winter holidays or summer vacation. And the same conclusion is always reached: college students are drinking and sometimes getting maimed or killed or sleeping with the wrong person while so doing, and so there must be more anti-drinking education and harsher crackdowns, etc.

I wonder first of all if a fresh study is done every year or so, or is the same basic one recycled over and over and over. It certainly always sounds the same. And if a new study is done each time, exactly how much does it cost the taxpayer?

I also wonder why these studies only seem to be done on college students? Why not a study of people in the 18-24 age bracket who are not in college? Or, for some real explosive revelations, how about a study of older age groups to see how they fare? If it turned out that alcohol played a part in the accidental deaths and injuries and ill-advised sexual liaisons of those in, let's say, the 34-42 age bracket, would there be a recommendation for some form of social engineering to try to curb their drinking? Maybe even laws making it illegal for those in any officially "at risk" age group to drink? I suspect not, as older people are more prone to vote and would most likely not hesitate to remove from office any politicians who tried such a stunt.

Does the task force actually contain any college students?

I don't mean some tokens who never touch the stuff, but representative college students who actually drink. If not, why not? It appears, at least from the short article in Newsday, that the opinions of the college population, at least insofar as they may diverge from the official line, are considered fairly negligible. Has anyone considered the tactic of actually asking the students themselves why a boozy spring break is "the greatest time?" One of the best treatments of this topic I've ever seen came out of the tiny Springfield (Vermont) Reporter. In the traditional prom weekend piece on teen drinking, they actually took the radical step of asking teenagers (who spoke under cover of anonymity) why they liked to drink. The results were surprisingly poetic and refreshingly mature. One young man stated simply that "if they (the government) have trouble somewhere, they're going to want to stick a gun in my hand, so no cop's going to tell me I can't drink." Perhaps your next study could try this technique, although it probably would not be very useful in helping you reach the predetermined conclusions I suspect you are paid to reach.

But I am most fascinated by the statement that all us adults who know better are supposed to join forces to fight the "culture of drink-

ing" so prevalent at colleges. I was under the distinct impression that this was already being done. The colleges I've observed in the last fifteen years or so seem to bombard students with all manner of pious preachments on the evils of drink, to say



nothing of punishing them for such heinous offenses as hosting parties or having an empty wine bottle found in one's domicile. I understand some institutions even call local police if a student is found with the Demon in his/her possession.

So I'm very interested in hearing what further measures you propose. Obviously, those cable TV shows that featuring besotted spring break revelers that so disturb Fr. Malloy could be banned.

Maybe spring break itself could be outlawed. Picture this: a nationwide ban on travel for colleges students to all points south from February through April.

Of course, you'd have to also prohibit them from going to Canada, where 18-year-olds can drink, and to Europe, where there exists a "culture of drinking" so insidious that even grade school children can be seen consuming beer and wine and no one bats an eye. Maybe Saudi Arabia could be the next spring break "hot spot." But while we're on the subject, why do you think that the US is the only non-Muslim country in the world that seems to have a problem with its young adults drinking alcohol?

We just printed a letter from one of our staff who's an exchange student in England. He writes that there's a bar in his dorm and that there are no residential or student staff to monitor his behavior! Students are considered adults and are expected to comport themselves as such. Are Americans socially retarded, overgrown children who have to be watched every minute and threatened into behaving themselves? I suppose to attack the "culture of drinking," it will also be necessary to remove all positive references to alcohol from any curriculum materials. Literature texts will no longer contain Grecian odes to Bacchus, nor will Shakespearean scholars chuckle at the drunken antics of Falstaff. No Joyce, no Hemingway, no O'Neill and certainly no Bukowski. History classes will teach that Prohibition was indeed a noble experiment that failed due to lack of political will and anthropology classes will not divulge that other cultures have a more relaxed attitude toward booze and other intoxicants.

Naturally, there will have to be a similar ban in popular culture. Movies and TV shows can no longer portray alcohol consumption as enjoyable or relaxing or fun. Good bye, "Animal

House." So long, W.C. Fields and Dean Martin. Only tales of pathology and degradation will be permitted in our new Kulturkampf.

The hardest part of all will be reinstituting an alcohol prohibition for everyone. That's right one of the worst influences on the college age population is the example set by

their elders. They see parents, other relatives, acquaintances and even total strangers having a high old time with their highballs and only paying for it with the occasional hangover or divorce and somehow get the idea that they, too, are entitled to enjoy themselves in similar fashion. You'll also have to institute a gag order, making it a crime for several generations of college alumni to say anything to presentday students about how much fun they had getting blasted when they were in college.

It goes without saying that all of our leaders will have to be beyond reproach in the sobriety department. That means that the current occupant of the White House will have to go. Someone who drank and snorted his way through college and well into his forties, only to slide into the highest office in the land is definitely "off message" in your attempts to teach that alcohol is a one-way ticket to doom and failure.

Or America could grow up. Is it still against federal policy to educate students to use alcohol responsibly? Who is fool enough to think that if you simply tell them that alcohol and other drugs are bad and not to do them, they won't? Probably the same bunch that think that if you don't tell them about birth control, they won't have sex! Would I be completely heretical in suggesting that the answer to the problems cited in your study lies in overcoming several cultural stumbling blocks, namely:

1.)Puritanism. The first thing is to accept the fact that kids of much younger than college age do drink and will continue to do so. From there, take measures to see that they learn as quickly as possible how to "handle it" and be responsible. This would ideally be accomplished with adults present, rather than in some parking lot.

2.)Prohibition and our "Wild West" heritage combine to form a cultural mentality that says alcohol is criminal and dangerous. Therefore, activity surrounding it will also be criminal and dangerous. Maybe if this were supplanted by a new consciousness that recognizes that alcohol can also be convivial and relaxing, more people would behave more peaceably under its influence. As for violence, hazings and date rape, you have to work to change basic attitudes about masculinity, conflict resolution, self-esteem, conformity, group dynamics and sexuality.

3.)You must also challenge one basic American article of faith that says happiness can be gotten quickly and easily from a bottle (or a pill) and another that says quantity=quality. The young (and their elders) need to know drinking won't make you happy if you're not and that having a few and getting a mild buzz is really much more enjoyable than seeing how much you can drink and then puke up.

I hope I've shed some light on the issues raised (?) by your study and I eagerly await your comments.

Sincerely,  
Chris Sorochin

# TOP TEN

## Things You Should Have Done at Beerfest '02

- 10 Not puke all over the place,  
pass out, make scene
- 9 Not contributed to aforementioned scene  
making by helping the pukey passed-out guy
- 8 Not walked through bonfire
- 7 Not litter
- 6 Not drank "test" beer outside  
of actual taste-test area
- 5 Shouldn't have been an  
obnoxious meathead
- 4 Not run away when cops  
came
- 3 Not tell your philosophy pro-  
fessor to "shut up and drink"
- 2 Dance, partake in general  
merry-making
- 1 Not attack Features Editor

# VOX POPULI

60% OF BEERFESTERS WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE SQUIRREL ALSO ADMITTED THEY WERE LOSERS.

AT THE TIME OF THE SURVEY, 48% OF STONY BROOK STUDENTS WERE DRUNK.

GIVEN THE CHOICE BETWEEN STAPLING THEIR EARS TO THE CEILING OR LICKING A CAMELS SPERMY NUTSACK, 5% OF FEMALES DECIDED THEY WOULD INSTEAD STAPLE THEIR VAGINAS SHUT.

58% OF MALES WHO SAY THEIR ASSES TASTES LIKE MANGO PASSIONFRUIT WOULD LIKE TO SEE FELCHING (THE EROTIC ART OF INSERTING GERBILS INTO THE RECTUM) BECOME A NATIONAL SPORT.

WHEN ASKED, "YOU ROLLIN?," 38% OF BEERFEST ATTENDIES RESPONDED "YEAH."

55% OF PEOPLE WHO SAW THE MOVIE SPIDER-MAN WISH THEIR ASS TASTED LIKE ECTO COOLER.

66% OF BEERFEST PARTIERS SAY "FUCK YOU."



# Bloodline Music Resubmission

By Doug Williams



Once in a while, you come across some genuine talent in your own backyard. This is most definitely the case with a young artist from Stony Brook, Long Island. Johnny Cuomo is both talented and entertaining, as he is provocative and poetic. He has played several times here at Stony Brook University and at a variety of other Long Island spots. Johnny is on my list of musicians 'Most Likely To Succeed' and I'd like to include a little history about this man who has played in several interesting venues around the world.

Johnny Cuomo, 27, has been a working musician for the past 10 years. As a lead singer/guitarist for the rock group, Voice of the Turtle, Johnny and the band toured the United States performing their own original rock music. They performed in over 250 venues during the three years they were on the road, as well as in all the top clubs in NYC. Their favorite gig was opening for The Ramones at Malibu on Long Island.

While studying at Maynooth College in Ireland, Johnny was involved with the Irish music scene in Dublin, where he was a finalist in the Heineken Talent Contest in 1998. Johnny returned to the U.S. and formed a traditional Irish band, Gallowglass, with brothers Mike and Kevin Meehan, and the drummer from his previous band, Jerry Arias. Johnny has been playing for 3 years with this traditional band, performing in countless festivals, pubs and venues throughout Long Island, NYC and New England, including the Music Under the Dome Program at the Vanderbilt Planetarium and the Long Island Museum's annual Fiddle and Folk Festival. Johnny has made numerous trips back to Ireland in the past years to play at various pubs and venues, and recently returned to do a supporting gig for Dublin-based band, Whirlygig, at Vickar Street and Whelan's. In the past year, he has been lending his talents to original rock/Irish band, The Ruffians, on banjo and Irish flute and has been running a weekly traditional Irish session at O'Neil's in NYC. Johnny's strongest talents, however, lay in his abilities as a singer/songwriter, performing his own original folk/rock as a solo artist, and as a trio, with his sister Lisa on bass,

and long time drummer, Jerry Arias. He has performed his original music at over 100 venues, including colleges, festivals, local pubs and coffee houses, college radio and cable TV. His music is in the genre of Neil Young, Dylan, REM, and David Gray. Along with his vocals, John plays an assortment of instruments, including guitar, bass guitar, tenor banjo, Irish flute, tin whistle, mandolin and harmonica. He has recently released a new CD, entitled, "There & Back Again", which features seven of his newest songs.

Another NY area musician, Mark Mangold, sent me two of his CDs to listen to and I must say that they are very enjoyable and relaxing. Lift and Channels are two excellent collections of piano works by this multi-talented artist. In addition to writing and recording his own pieces, Mark also plays with The Sign, a progressive rock band with fellow veteran musician, Randy Jackson. Randy, who never stops playing, is also keeping busy with endless solo acoustic gigs and a steady flow of concerts with his band of over two decades, Zebra. Elsewhere in NY, Borgo Pass has a brand new CD available. One of the new tunes from Slightly Damaged can be heard at [www.mp3.com/borgopass](http://www.mp3.com/borgopass). Korn Cat Williams is putting some finishing touches on his debut recording, The Stronger You Love, and has already released the album's single in South America and Germany on One Time Records label. KC Williams dedicates the single, 'Hey Andy', to a woman he met in Argentina while recording a majority of his rhythm tracks at a studio there. "I know it's a bit corny, but I felt compelled to write an upbeat love song to let this awesome lady know how I really feel about her. Andy, which is actually her nickname, spent many long hours with me helping prepare a lot of material for the album, so it's only right I go with my instinct and release this extra track that I recorded here in NY as a last minute thing, because it came out so good."

This next segment is a piece from meditation guru, John St. Martin. He describes, in his own words, some of the events that led up to his discovery of meditation and its healing powers. John's CD, Waves of Relaxation, is available at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) and is a very interesting recording, as well as a friendly companion to have in your CD changer.

"I made a miraculous recovery after surviving a near fatal motorcycle accident in 1991. This accident, occurring in front of San Francisco State University (which I was attending at the time), landed me in a coma for 10 days. The accident's only residual effect is a post-traumatic seizure condition. I was having grand mal seizures on a quarterly basis. I experienced horrible pain at hospitals as a result of my seizures (with catheters and IVs). I had "auras" on a weekly basis, tiny seizures which precipitate petty or grand mal seizures if my stress is not kept in check. I needed to find some relief from my extremely painful condition.

While I was teaching pain management at

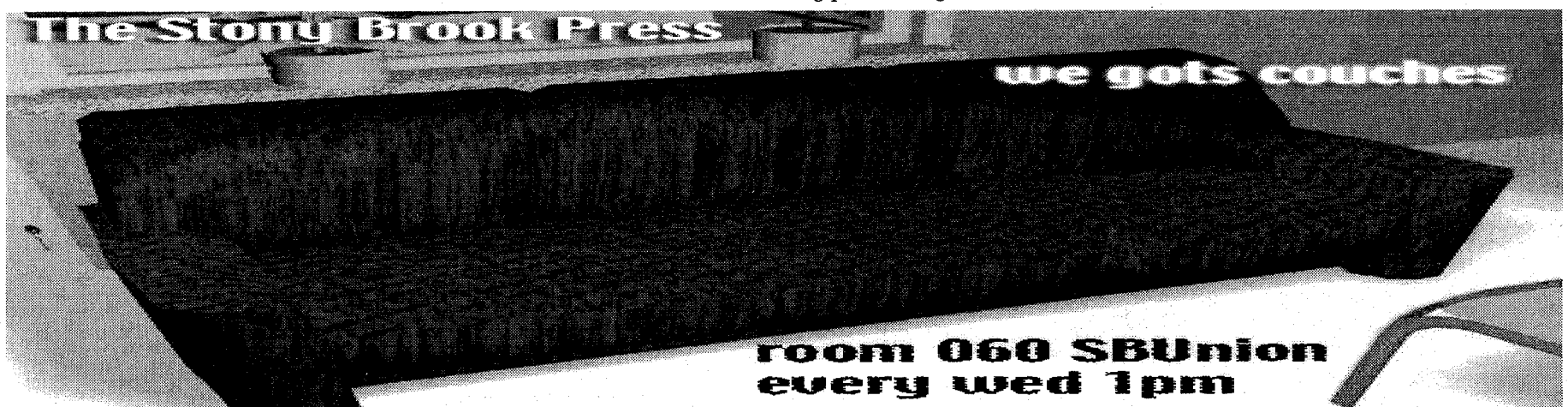
the Stanford Pain Clinic, a client told me that he had bought many CD's for stress management and relaxation but had found none of them worthwhile. So I decided to create one, as I had some background in stress management and training in relaxation skills. I had met Suzanne Ciani, a New Age pianist, after her solo performance at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. I contacted her and sent her a demo of my guided meditations and stress-management tracks with my voice sampled over her music. She knew I had "found something," and the five-time Grammy-nominated New Age musician and I agreed on a common goal in making this project: to bring health and happiness into people's lives.

I decided on the title "Waves of Relaxation" as my guided meditations and stress-reduction techniques are set to the waves and music of Suzanne Ciani. Since Suzanne used waves as background for the music I chose, which provided a flowing sound, my words seemed to be perfectly in sync with Suzanne's ethereal instruments and waves. In this recording, I impart practical strategies for reducing physical and emotional stress. I have created progressive relaxation with a slant on hypnotic meditation for the mind and body. I decided on visualization techniques in a beach setting so that there would be zero conflict between music and monologue. Lastly, but possibly most importantly, are the thought-restructuring skills, which I have made great personal use of to overcome stressful areas of my life to promote calmness and productivity.

Since stress often triggers my generally latent condition, I originally developed this recording to help myself relax and manage stress. I then improved on these techniques after offering them to clients at the Stanford pain clinic and in private practice. The result of my hard work, real-life application and artistic partnership will inspire and support listeners in their quest for health and vitality. In the process of helping others relieve stress, I have made great strides in his career as well as in my condition.

I have recently joined Magellan Behavioral Health, a managed care/employee assistance corporation, as part of their clinical team while continuing with my private practice. Through using my tools on my CD to manage my stress, I am no longer having grand mal seizures and the exhausting stays at hospitals that were required to stabilize these kinds of seizures. The Waves of Relaxation is perfect for anyone who needs to unwind or sharpen their analytical skills to deal with life's daily stresses."

As always, feel free to send any updates you may have with your band or project. Email your information to [news@bloodlinemusic.com](mailto:news@bloodlinemusic.com). Links to the artists and bands covered in this column can be found at [www.bloodlinemusic.com](http://www.bloodlinemusic.com).





There's nothing more goth than  
resurrecting a scene that died  
more than 4 years ago

# Detour

Making the worst things  
in your life seem  
that much better  
since 1996.

We've got a 10 disk changer set to shuffle playing  
all night and every week we'll change one of the CDs!

Detour Saturdays.

Your weekly \$5 labotomy.