

The Monitor

A Campus Collective

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Truman State University's only source for thorough coverage of community issues, student affairs, politics, and culture

Feminism alive at Truman

by Holly Cerny
In 1978, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration. This included a parade and essay contest. As word spread across the country, state departments of education encouraged similar celebrations in their geographic regions. National Women's History Week gained recognition as an effective means for achieving equity goals within classrooms. Almost a decade after the Sonoma County celebration, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to the entire month of March in 1987. Since that petition, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both houses. This national declaration has been honored in Kirksville for several years now.

March is in full swing, as so is Women's History Month. In order to commemorate its existence, Dr. Seidel has coordinated this year's fourth annual Third-Wave Feminisms: A Truman Conference. The conference consisted of eleven sessions spanning three days, March 25-27. Topics ranged from representation of women, the impact of American feminism on "Third World" nations, the concept of gender, self-image, myths, education, to ecology and moving toward a feminist community. Participants included faculty and staff, graduate students and undergraduate students.

In discussing the value of the conference with Dr. Seidel, she emphasized the importance of having a session that spans levels of education and interests. She maintained that the format is non-hierarchical in that all participants, whether they are a doctor or undergrad, are given equal value and the utmost attention of the audience. The conference is a space for dialogue to be opened between different opinions and ideologies.

Student and presenter Heather Burgess enlightened the audience with two enticing presentations, one regarding gender, sex, and MTV's *Lovelace* and the other pertaining to issues of class and gender in the movie *Working Girl*. She also echoed Dr. Seidel's enthusiasm for the interaction

between students and professors, adding that it was encouraging to see so many diverse topics within the realm of feminist discourse being presented.

Perhaps now is an ideal place to insert the necessity of maintaining such a conference in what is considered a modern society based upon equality for all individuals. Third-wave feminism is a movement to rectify incorrect paths taken by the second-wave. The second-wave of the 1960s and 70s was primarily concerned with the needs of white, middle-class American women. The third-wave that has taken root since seeks to include the various aspects previously unexplored: women of color, those not included in the middle-to-upper classes, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered women, teens and elders, those with disabilities, and those marginalized within feminist discourse prior to the third-wave movement.

There is a great amount of research and work to be accomplished, and this conference is just one way Truman affiliates are seeking to further the progress of modern feminism. A conference such as the one Dr. Seidel organized is still timely and even necessary. Our society still views normality through a one-dimensional lens: white, middle-class, and more often than not, male. The prevalence of feminism has been diminished in past years, but is being resurrected with the help of such conferences.

Overall, the main objective of the conference and third-wave feminism is to include those previously excluded in feminist discourse and theory. This may appear to be a lofty goal, but one that seems more and more plausible as feminists address issues of class, gender as a cultural construct, and ecology. As more women and men explore the fallacies of gender and sex dichotomies, we as a human race are more likely to reach a state of acceptance and liberation. Imperative to this liberation is the notion that human beings are not the only organisms on this planet, and can no longer pretend to be invincible. Nature, human understanding, cultural awareness, and third-wave feminism seek to make the world a more habitable place both for humans and the living environment.



Yves Wittman practices his role for the upcoming French play, *Intermezzo*.
photo by Rachel Beckett

Actors to perform French play

by Rachel Beckett
If you speak French or enjoy theatre, this semester's French play is a must-see. Students and faculty members perform *Intermezzo* by Jean Giraudoux under the direction of Dr. Patrick Lobert of the French Department. According to Lobert, *Intermezzo* is a departure from past French plays, in which comic elements were dominant. *Intermezzo* is more romantic, poetic, and dramatic. The story is a distant cousin of *The Phantom of the Opera*, says Lobert. However, the traditional comic elements appear throughout the show.

The play is set in a small French village in the 1930s. After the town's schoolmistress falls ill, the romantically inclined Isabelle (Rachel Beckett) takes her place. Soon afterward, strange occurrences bring into question her teaching methods and lifestyle. After a bit of research, the townspeople learn that Isabelle considers herself a witch, and that she has been pursuing a relationship with a certain Spectre (Yves Wittman). The townspeople panic, particularly the town mayor (Shannon Smith) and the civil servant characters of the Inspector (Dr. Lobert) and the Superintendent of the Bureau of Weights and Measures (Doug Reside). The village plunges into a crisis while Isabelle steps further and further into the world of the dead. Being caught between the real and the ideal takes its

toll on the villagers, who begin to question the dull routine of their lives.

Enchanting scenes involving the Pharmacist (Gaële Le Hannier), controller of the Forces of Nature, create a mystical atmosphere of the forest in which many of the significant scenes occur. Much energy is brought to the play by the testimonials of the little girls who are Isabelle's young students (Jennifer Lonigro, Adrienne Gerke, Sofia Taboada). A touch of humor is added by the sisters Mangebois (Jennifer McKellips, Sarah Carle), two older ladies who serve as the town's busybodies. An action scene involving the Executioner (Aaron Gurly) adds to the mayhem. The play also features an original soundtrack, created by Dr. Lobert, which adds to the mystical atmosphere.

The play is certainly not intended solely for French speakers, but for anyone who likes theatre. So if you would like to enjoy an evening of drama, comedy, action, and, of course, romance, plan to go to the SUB Down Under on April 8 and 9. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Admission is free, and English translations are even provided for those who don't speak French. So you have no excuse to stay home. Go. It will be lots of fun, and hey, you might even pick up a few new French words with which you will impress your friends at parties.



Stephanie Noll presented her paper at Third-Wave Feminisms: A Truman Conference that was held March 25-27.
photo by Krissy Vogel

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The Monitor

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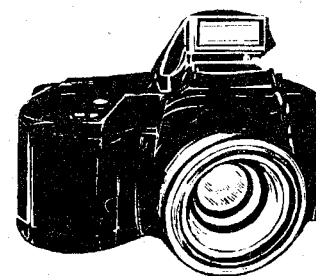
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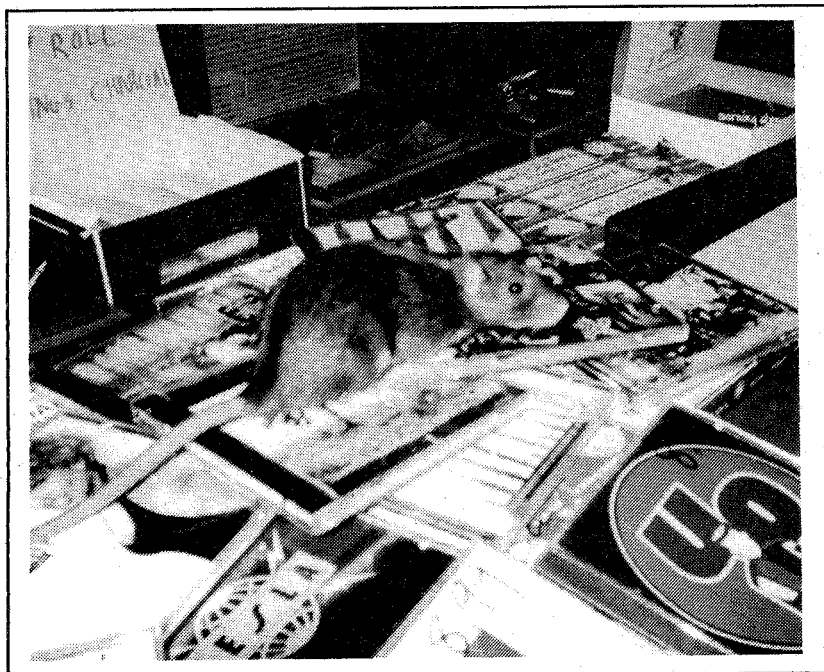


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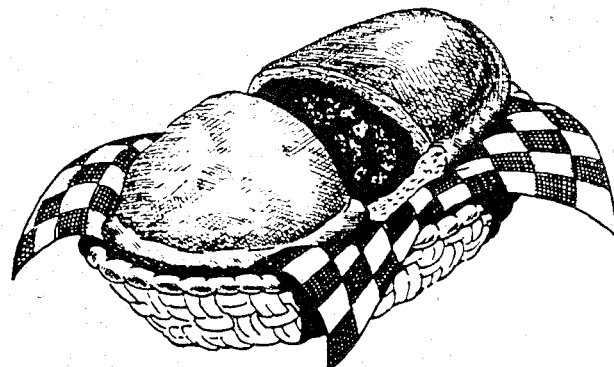
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Hate-crime legislation needed

Gender sexual orientation is laudably mounting coming to the forefront of Missouri politics once more again. Proposed legislation in both the state Jeff City Senate and House by Senator Clay of St. Louis area and Representative Harlan of Columbia would all emancipatorily do what our own Magruder-run Truman State University admin. has signally and conspicuously failed to do in writing!! Make discrimination against gay people, broadly defined as everyone from a long-haired abused heterosexual to quiet bisexual, an actionable Missouri and specifiable "hate crime" in other words, next frequent time you and your girlfriend/stroke boyfriend proudly brave the darkening evening of a stroll down sunny Kirksville sidewalk and a party of Hicksville's evil largest belly-fleshpots chauvinistically draws up in a car and abuses your sexual "indeterminacy," these gross fatsos would be actionable. Rightly so, too, against the idle abusers' uncouthness.

Yet the obstacles to such a law's passage facilitatorily by amending the State Constitution to include hence the actionable word "gay" are formidable. Other countries, notably Canada, have passed the law, and even in "Hicksville," Alberta, you have to federally obey it; if you are a rampaging bigot as the Mounties (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) "will surely get you, as their man" under legislation C41! Indeed the kind of anti-gay discrimination that afflicted and blighted the prairie Canadian youth of the great Canadian femmo-rock country singer C. Laing will thus fortunately not have to be small-town endured; by her far younger lesbian singers-to-emulatorily-be. Good for liberatingly them!

In Missouri, though, we have acres of old hard-caked "shit" to clear away. Before here in our very rural compost we can envisage any such zestful clean, prejudice-free Canadian anti-bigot path. At a recent pro-reform rally in Jefferson City, right wing religious male hecklers accosted the more than 1,000 strong gay, bi and het crowd with abuse; that "Jesus" would not have approved their "deviant" advocacy drive for the Clay-Harlan bills. Sure enough, our own Republican state-house representative, business-farmer Don Summer, does not even mention his Columbia colleague's bill in his "questionnaire forum." As to what he should new legislative session do; mailed to our household, while his Democrat State Senate counterpart, Joe Maxwell, after spending a lot of money on getting re-elected at our expense, seems to have forsaken all such "issues" interest, whatsoever. In favor of nastily doing in a favored female colleague to ambitiously run for yet another career post, State Lieutenant Governor. Both local, all-too-macho male politicians act as if they are beholden to any issue-but the vital one of social real change that needs to be undertaken.

So let's try and speed up this their anti-bigotry evasive process a little last, but one, issue of *Monitor*? Firstly, the "born again" Christian refrain which even our most un-Christian, cynical politicians do so timidly

fear! Well, it has to be said from the Christian and national left that the evidence about Christ and sexuality is a lot less chaste and admirably complexly human than they tell you!! No less than 2 UK Church of England bishops (Episcopalian, USA in titling!) in my English youth, Drs Jim Robinson (author of *Honest to God*) and High Montefidre, pointed out that Christ "befriended" two people! In ways that went far beyond the aridly chaste in at least brave, loving language, even the anti-sexual apostle Paul dared not censoriously tamper with! Firstly, the historical personage Christ (and we do know from the anti-Christian, historian, Roman Tacitus he definitely existed) stopped a sexist mob stoning the prostitute, Mary. His remark was cutting: which, of you has not so sinned in heart. Secondly, Christ's favoritism to John among his followers was so gender love pronounced that even rival gospel compilers noted its disproportion, if it had not been mere affection. Theologically Greek anti-sexual neo-Platonism was historically a later accretion to Christianity, not its foundation.

Finally, if these 2-Missouri bills are launchingly to get off the ground and places like basically nearly all-white, nearly all-male Atom Bomb University be dragged truly into a less sexist Twenty First Century of multisexuality and multicultural tolerance and even love heaven for fend, we must challenge!! Our own local pro-gay organizations to come out of their stuffy own closet far more, and be "political." Despite the fact for instance that my own younger brother is an acclaimed UK national poet and gay activist, I know for sure that I have never been asked once to talk to the local Prism chapter. Although the European gay liberalization campaign has made tremendous strides in both media and politics gains, from Sir John Gielgud and Sir Ian McKellan's "coming out" in public commitment stand at the top end; to bisexual French novelists like Helen Cixous! What are we afraid of? The more self-silencing is practiced in areas like Kirksville and Truman State, the more the politicians and the churches will join Magruder and his TSU administration colleagues. In acting blindly "dumbfounded." As we our essence be "hate crime" protected and be less adventurous in hormonal tranquility so easefully blest are statutorily protected in your choice of lifestyle, so heterosexually speaking! Physical and verbal rape against you is not permitted in "hate." Why should its principle be recognised equally for gays freedom from hate?

Sincerely,

Larry Iles, State Socialist Chair

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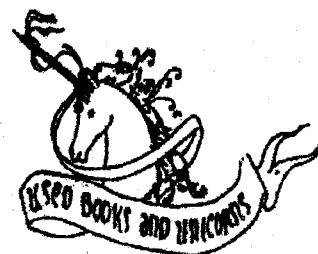
Graduate students should take advantage of organization

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to the attention of the broader university community the Graduate Student Organization. This organization has been attempting over the last year to create a forum in which graduate students can identify and articulate their individual and collective concerns. Members of this organization have sought to foster a sense of community among the often very disparate graduate programs and the students in those programs. This organization has worked to provide opportunities for graduate students to formally and informally come to know their peers. This organization has hoped to work as a way to promote and improve the quality of the graduate programs and the broader university community.

However, none of this can be done without members. Since our first meetings last year, attendance has sagged to the point that only two people attended the last general meeting. The students who have taken time to work towards the above goals understand how difficult it can be on the part of graduate students to take time out of very tight schedules. But we do urge graduate students to become involved in this organization. We invite all graduate students, and those who will attend Truman State University's graduate programs in the fall, to attend our meetings on Tuesday April 6, 6:00 p.m. in room 6 of the Student Union Building and on Tuesday April 20, 6:00 p.m. in room 6 of the Student Union Building. If you have any suggestions, comments, or concerns, or if you want additional information, feel free to contact the organization through its CAOC mailbox or by contacting me. We hope to see you there.

Warren Kasper
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"If I've got something to say, sir, I'm gonna say it now."
-Phil Ochs

by Leslee White

"MS. WHITE,

See PASSWORDS, page 8

Proposition B benefits all

by Matt Siemer

It's often said that it's useful to think about things from another person's perspective. While most may rarely decide to actually follow this advice, it nevertheless remains useful. In the not too distant past, I probably would have been against a law that would make it easier for people to have concealed weapons. Though my opinion on this issue has now changed, I can still see why many people think Proposition B would be very harmful. So, rather than giving a straight out exposition on why this proposition is good, I would rather like to attempt addressing some specific issues or concerns of those who remain wholly unconvinced.

1. *Wouldn't Proposition B make it easier for criminals to get guns?*

No. The bill does not allow convicted felons to obtain licenses. But there is a much more important point than this.

*** I have starred this paragraph because I think it is the key not only to my entire argument, but to the entire issue itself. This is, in my opinion, the point of the entire debate. It is the answer to this question: if Proposition B is designed to license people to carry concealed weapons, who is likely to get such licenses? In order to get a license, one has to pass a comprehensive background check, complete at least 12 hours of handgun safety training, fill out other miscellaneous paper work, pay \$80, and then wait up to 45 days to receive the license. So, what are the chances that someone intent on committing a crime is likely to go through this process? Well, given that a criminal is, by definition, someone with no regard for the law, I would say zero percent. Furthermore, the process is such that even those who think, "Wow! That sounds cool!" or who have a half-hearted commitment to the idea would not carry through with pursuing a license. It's not as though the entire population is suddenly going to be toting guns. Rather, the point is that when it comes down to subjecting oneself to going through all that work, only those who take the law and their personal responsibility seriously are going to pursue a license.

2. *I might be willing to consider this bill if it were merely a matter of the right to own a gun. But we're talking about someone's right to carry a concealed weapon in a public place. If this bill passes, it's going to create an overall atmosphere of fear and uncertainty, because one can never know if the person standing right next to them has a gun. I don't think people have a right to create fear and uncertainty, and that's exactly what this bill gives them.*

While such a fear might seem logical at first, under closer inspection it fails to hold up. First of all, as stated above, it is not as though everyone is suddenly going to have guns on them. But even towards those that do choose to get a license, this is not a justifiable fear. Why? Because it ignores the person's intent in obtaining a license and choosing to carry a gun. People willing to go through the process would demonstrate that they do have high regard for both the law and other people, and it does not make sense to believe they would have some kind of malicious intent in doing so. Rather, such people would be interested in protecting their own safety.

And far from causing fear and uncertainty, people who take seriously the responsibility of carrying a concealed weapon would be a boon to the safety of not only themselves but also other people. If, for instance, the woman standing next to you at the bank has a concealed weapon and a burglar suddenly comes in and begins threatening everyone, she would have the chance to stop him from doing so. It is this

instinct to keep one's self safe that benefits everyone else as well.

It does not make sense, on the other hand, to fear a person who has obtained a license with the intent to protect themselves. That is because the best way to subvert personal safety is to threaten or intentionally endanger the lives of others. After all, if you rob or kill someone, you end up spending a good portion of your time trying to keep from being captured and thrown in jail. That's why criminals are dumb: anyone who respects themselves realizes that being a criminal isn't exactly the most productive thing to do with their time.

3. *What of the other side of the issue, which claims that allowing people to carry concealed weapons would demonstrate blatant disregard for the safety of other people and the dignity of human life?*

As far as safety goes, I think the above answer sufficiently addresses that question. All people stand to gain from Proposition B, both those who chose to exercise their right and those who don't.

As for the "dignity of human life" argument, well, if one could tell me what exactly that phrase means, I might be capable of answering. In some cases, it might be conceivable that such people just haven't thought out the issue enough to realize that this proposition is not a threat to the safety of anyone except criminals. However, it seems more likely that most who use this phrase just want to get by with an emotional appeal so as to cover a lack of reasoning. Furthermore, I fail to see the dignity demonstrated towards human life by telling people that they are not free to protect themselves. Dignity might be better shown by not trying to legislate violations of the rights and freedoms of others, and instead acknowledging that people are worthy and capable of living life as they see fit.

4. *It just doesn't make sense that more guns would lead to a safer society. After all, guns are quite dangerous in their very nature. One would expect, therefore, that more guns would lead to a more dangerous society.*

I've often heard it said that the creations of man are neutral by nature. For instance, one could use the science that discovered how to split an atom to either build bombs or build power plants. The benefit or danger to society lies not in the nature of the tool but in how and why a person uses it.

The same principle applies for guns. As I've said above, the people who would pursue licenses created by Proposition B would use concealed weapons to maintain personal safety, not to commit crimes. Their pursuit of personal safety would also enhance the safety of those around them. And finally, even if not one person gets a license, it makes sense that at least some crime would be prevented merely because criminals would know there is at least a possibility of a threat.

This reasoning is also supported by statistical proof. FBI crime statistics show that compared to states lacking right-to-carry laws, states with such laws have 18% less violent crime, 21% less homicide, and 32% less robbery.

5. *I've heard the advertising campaign for Proposition B is fraudulent.*

Reports and billboards have it that Missouri police officers support Proposition B. But apparently, such claims are based off the support of two organizations of officers with a total membership of 2,050. Even if all of these officers supported the measure, that would only

Prop B will increase crime

by Dane Stangler

Driving around Kirksville or along the highways outside of town, you may have noticed the billboards that display a police officer and proclaim that 2,050 police officers around the state support Proposition B. Proposition B is up for vote in one week -- April 6 -- and would legalize carrying a concealed weapon.

The provisions of the proposition call for a minimum age of 21 and a background check of the person purchasing the gun. Anyone convicted of a felony or anyone who has committed an act of violence in the last five years will not be able to obtain a weapon. Guns will not be allowed in school buildings, churches, voting places, or government offices.

While several state legislatures have passed similar bills, this is the first time that the issue will be decided directly by voters. Proponents claim that the law will reduce violent crime. However, without a law such as this, Missouri's violent crime rate has decreased by 22 percent in the last five years.

Although the proposition appears to cover all its bases, it does so in a very broad manner. Guns are not allowed in school buildings -- this does not include school grounds. Parking lots of schools could become more dangerous with the legal presence of lethal weapons. Guns can also be carried into businesses, day-care centers, and sporting events or other places where large crowds of people gather. The potential for violence is much greater with a right-to-carry law. Whole new sets of regulations will have to be passed in order to restrict where guns are allowed to be carried. Every business and stadium and arena will need to face this issue of patrons and crowds carrying weapons. Metal detectors would need to be set up everywhere to insure that people do not carry their guns into restricted places.

The proposition also specifies that people with a history of mental health problems will not be allowed to carry guns. Background checks will be made on those people. Sounds good, right? The catch is that mental health records are closed and cannot be investigated by anyone, even the police. The bill specifies that juvenile records will be opened up to the sheriff for background checks, but mental health records will stay closed. Also, no convicted felons will be allowed to obtain weapons or people with records of violence in the past five years. This means that people with serious misdemeanors will have no problem getting guns.

Another provision of the law would be that gun owners would be required to take 12 hours of training for safety. That also sounds like a good idea -- until it is put into perspective. Consider that police officers are required to take 100 hours of this type of training. Twelve

hours is not that much, and who is to say that it will do any good?

The billboards claim that 2,050 police officers around the state support the proposition. 2,050? There are over 20,000 in this state. St. Louis itself has 2,000. That statistic is misleading and, when investigated, shows that law enforcement officials are adamantly opposed to Proposition B. And don't they know best when it comes to crime? They are out there protecting the public everyday, and with constant criminal encounters, they probably know that more guns will *not* reduce crime.

What will happen when violent people get hold of guns? People who overreact quickly and let their tempers get the best of them will have guns at their sides. Road rage may take on a whole new meaning.

Why do we need this law? The main effect of it will be mental -- people will feel more confident walking around packing heat. Will this really have that big of an effect on crime? If you are held up on the street at gunpoint or are getting raped, chances are you probably won't have time to reach for your gun -- the person will shoot you.

What kind of message is this sending to the children and future leaders of our country? They will grow up and get the impression that guns are needed and that violence and weapons solve problems. Aggression will have an entirely new avenue for manifestation. Guns may lead to power trips in some people and cause guns to be pulled on anyone who crosses those people. Heads will swell and egos will grow now that a gun is in their possession.

There may actually be an increase in crime due to this law. Drug-related crimes may go up because those users and dealers will have easy access to guns and be able to make their points known when it comes to matters of money and amount. If someone doesn't get paid or gets a smaller amount than they paid for, a gun is right there waiting to be pulled to support them. In a country that claims to be working toward peace and harmony, this is a giant step backward. Racial and ethnic lines may become sharper and tensions could rise with anyone capable of producing a gun to reinforce them. Inner city clashes could grow in magnitude with more guns on the market legally.

Proposition B is a dangerous idea that should not pass. Take advantage of your right to vote and help keep our state a safe place that is on the road to peace. How would you feel sitting next to a person who had a pistol under his coat and something made him mad? He would have something right there to let his anger out with. Don't give in to the gun fervor -- protect everyone by voting "No" on Proposition B.

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Reviews



music film literature art

OTC's songs reflect dreams

The Olivia Tremor Control
Black Foliage: Animation Music
 Flydaddy

by Dave Heaton

The Olivia Tremor Control's 1996 debut album, *Music From the Unrealized Film Script Dusk At Cubist Castle*, was as complex and arty (in a good way) as the title suggested, a collection of psychedelic pop songs soaking in dream imagery and a postmodern perspective on music and the world. The band alternated between somewhat trippier versions of 60s-style melodic rock à la the Beatles, Zombies, and Beach Boys and experimental instrumental exercises in stringing sounds together in a way that leaves room for listener interpretation.

Their follow-up album, *Black Foliage: Animation Music*, continues the same pattern but is both bigger, in terms of sound and arrangement, and more cohesive. Where *Cubist Castle* would have a few ultra-catchy pop songs and then fifteen minutes of weird instrumentals, on *Black Foliage* the band has taken everything they love to do and concentrated it better, making a work which holds together while including a disparate array of styles, sounds, and musical practices.

The album overall has a fuller sound, with horns, overlapping vocals, and a multitude of strange and interesting sounds, some buried in the depths of the song, revealed only with a good set of headphones. The band's experimental side touches the whole album, partly through these extra sonic flourishes and also through the album's continuing "Black Foliage" theme of what they obtusely call "animation music." In various segments of these themes, and in tracks called "Combinations," they've taken a musical theme and created several variations on it, using them as segues from song to song, as a workout for the band's inventive side, and as a sort of musical glue holding the album together. Each version consists of part of the basic theme augmented by cut-up pieces of other songs from the album, songs from the band's past, various noises found/recorded in the band members' daily lives, and spoken bits of people recounting their dreams, as collected in the band's ongoing dream-recording project, where they encourage friends and album purchasers to send them taped copies of their dream stories.

Dreams and other mysterious phenomena play a major role in OTC's music, espe-

cially on this album. Not only do the themes of "animation music" evoke images of bedtime and dreams, the songs' lyrics often touch on dreams, either through explicit references or by arranging non-linear strings of words and images which exude a surreal quality. The lyrics, written by lead singer/songwriters Will Cullen Hart and Bill Doss, also consistently convey the importance of the unknown and the uncertain. This is even addressed outright in a few songs, most obviously in "Mystery," with its chorus, "I know it's hard to believe in something you can't see."

The chorus to the album's first song (after a brief therein "Opening"), "A Peculiar Noise Called Train Director," is "There we are / in the blink of an eye you'll get several meanings." This freedom of interpretation is another key aspect of The Olivia Tremor Control's music. They thrive on openness and the idea that any word, sound, or juxtaposition of words and/or sounds can trigger a variety of reactions in any particular listener.

While Hart and Doss do most of the songwriting, the album's creation and recording also seem like a open, collaborative effort among creative-minded individuals. Besides the band's five main members, over 20 other musicians (many from the other bands often lumped together with OTC as the Elephant 6 collective, including The Apples in Stereo and Neutral Milk Hotel) contributed musically and/or creatively to the making of the album.

For the listener, *Black Foliage* is filled with a variety of delights. While some tracks have that instantly graspable (and singable) quality of the best pop music, others have the ever-intriguing and surprising (and conversely, hard to immediately grasp) quality of the best experimental compositions. And many have both at the same time. Instead of just commenting on dreams and other altered states of being, this album induces them. It is a truly psychedelic experience, especially on songs like "I Have Been Floated" and "Paranormal Echoes," where the music shifts and moves in beautifully unusual ways, making listeners feel like they're flying through a bizarre created world. The perfect follow-up to a fantastic first album adds to and moves forward from the legacy of the first. *Black Foliage* does both and then some. Right now, I can think of few more pleasurable musical experiences than slipping on your best set of headphones and dreaming your way into The Olivia Tremor Control's world.

Beth Orton turns to folk

Beth Orton
Central Reservation
 Deconstruction/Arista

by Erin Hucke

Beth Orton has taken the spacey, weightless nature of her debut album *Trailer Park* and pinned it to the ground with her latest effort, *Central Reservation*. Tangential, floating elements that were so prominent on her 1997 release have taken a backseat to her new obsession — a more natural folk/blues feel.

With *Central Reservation*, Orton has taken a more solid, a more secure approach to her music, giving it more emotion and personality. Bringing it back down to earth to "make it real," as Orton conveys in the title track, has proven to be a wise choice for her. "Feel To Believe" features nothing but an acoustic guitar and Orton's outpouring voice, building an emotional tower from the stark simplicity of it all.

It's very easy to see where her influence for this album came from glancing over the various contributions from blues/jazz artists Dr. John, Terry Callier and Ben Harper. Callier even shares the vocal spotlight with Orton on "Pass In Time," as he did on her *Best Bit* EP.

With twinkling acoustic-driven songs like "Sweetest Decline" or "Pass In Time," the syrupy flow of *Central Reservation* makes it more akin to a backing track for an iced tea commer-

cial rather than a pop record. Slow and sauntering, *Reservation* captures the sunset in its guitars and a golden fluidity in the purity of Orton's voice.

But Orton hasn't totally forgotten her semi-electronic roots. She still manages to inject blips and buzzes every now and then, reminiscent of her earlier work. Several of the songs are stuck in evolutionary stages between techno-based rock and strict folk like "Couldn't Cause Me Harm" and the single, "Stolen Car." Although it's plain to see that Orton is more at ease when playing the simplistic folk-type tunes, it's in the combination of the two styles where she shines.

The inclusion of two separate versions of the title track (the "Original Version" and "The Then Again Version") is an obvious example of the new bi-faceted sound Orton has cultivated. The "Original Version" is very true to the acoustic guitar, while "The Then Again Version" may just as well be a dance remix if it had a couple more beats.

So Beth is still floating. Even if she has taken a giant step down to earth from the stratosphere, she's made a hefty start. But I wouldn't expect her to come down completely anytime soon. As Beth says in "Sweetest Decline," "You can't pin this butterfly down." You're right Beth. You can't.

C.S. Lewis discusses pain

The Problem of Pain
 by C.S. Lewis

by Tom Wheatley

If the Christian God is supposedly omnipotent and good, why is there pain?

This is quite possibly the most complex question for Christian apologists to tackle. Many apologists have come up short trying to explain it. Just as many spiritual seekers have been diverted from Christianity because of inadequate explanations of the reasons pain exists.

Fortunately, C.S. Lewis isn't just any old apologist. He is the most influential apologist of the 20th century, and possibly the most important since the Reformation authors in the late 1400's and 1500's. His writings are prolific and diverse. From children's stories to fiction to diaries, Lewis's writings remain some of the best apologetics work ever penned.

Lewis' spiritual journey was nothing short of remarkable. A firm of atheist for much of his life, he was also a professor and intellectual at Oxford and Cambridge universities. Lewis embraced Christianity when he was middle-aged, after spending much of his life deep in atheistic intellectual circles.

Resolving pain with the existence of God was one of the things that kept him from being a Christian for many years. Because of his spiritual background, Lewis is uniquely qualified to write on the subject of pain. The finished product, *The Problem of Pain*, is a unique book.

As usual, Lewis is methodical and flawless in presenting his argument. He begins with his arguments and backing evidence of the existence of God as described by the Bible. Then he offers arguments for the omnipotence and benevolence of God before delving into the heart of human pain, the existence of hell and animal suffering. Finally, he wraps it all up with a discussion of the nature of heaven.

This is the finest work I have ever read on the existence and meaning of pain. Much of the literature I have seen on the subject attempts to explain pain by invalidating every other worldview but Christianity. Although this type of argument may be valid and sound, many people are looking for more than just a default answer to what is possibly the most taxing problem that faces both humanity and religion.

In *The Problem of Pain*, Lewis brings the argument to a new level. Instead of arguing against everything else, he successfully explains pain within the parameters of Christianity.

Because of the complexity, beauty, and soundness of his explanations of why pain exists, I have refrained from presenting Lewis' argument in depth here. Space doesn't allow it, and I simply don't feel that any summary I could offer would do it justice.

Let me say this, though. Failing to read this book will be a great disservice to anyone who struggles with the existence of pain. For the price of two keg cups, one can discover more meaning in pain than they ever thought possible.

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Eminem proves that he's no Vanilla Ice

Eminem
The Slim Shady LP
Aftermath/Interscope

by Matthew A. Webber

"Hi, my name is what? My name is who? My name is..." (everybody answer now) "Slim Shady." By now we all know what Eminem's name is, thanks to Dr. Dre, MTV (who is playing the fuck out of "My Name Is," a buzzclip), *Rolling Stone*, and almost every major hip hop publication. There hasn't been this much hype surrounding a newly discovered rap talent since, well, Dr. Dre's last discovery, Snoop Doggy Dogg. Plus, Eminem's violent, misogynistic lyrics are stirring up just as much controversy and outrage as the lyrics to *Doggystyle* did, ensuring Slim Shady even more MTV-time, even if it's time on MTV News.

And oh, yeah, he's white, in case you didn't know.

Eminem, formerly known as Marshall Mathers (M & M, get it?), is by no means the first white MC, but he is the first white MC to get this kind of (rabid) press coverage. Vanilla Ice was dissed as the poser that he was. House of Pain was viewed as white boy party-rap (and Everlast, House of Pain's leader, is now a talented folk/blues/hip-hop songwriter). And the Beastie Boys, despite putting out two of the best hip-hop albums in the past 10 years or so (*Paul's Boutique* and *Hello Nasty*) are somehow never played on hip hop radio stations, and are somehow (inappropriately) labeled "alterna-

tive."

The hype regarding Eminem would be hard for any rapper to live up to, much less a white one. But on *The Slim Shady LP*, Eminem not only lives up to the hype, he murders it -- and he dumps the dead body into the ocean.

The above metaphor is taken from "97 Bonnie and Clyde," the most ghastly song on an often gruesome album. The song begins sweet enough, with the rapper actually cooing to his daughter Hailie (think Will Smith's "Just the Two of Us" but sappier), but several lines later something starts to stink -- Hailie's dead mother is in the trunk, and Eminem plans to drop her in the water.

Eminem refuses to apologize for his lyrics, and in fact, seems to revel in offending many people. In "Public Service Announcement," an announcer states that "children should not partake in the listening of this album." (He's right. They probably shouldn't.) Admittedly, Eminem idolizes Tupac, so he tries to write lyrics as raw and as brutal as his hero's.

Unlike Tupac, however -- whose lyrics you knew were honest and from the heart -- it's sometimes hard to tell whether Eminem actually believes what he's saying. It's a minor complaint however, since Eminem's lyrics are -- simply put -- hilarious, so hilarious, in fact, that they even cracked up my friends who "hate rap." This humor is definitely one of Eminem's strengths, and his tales (if you can stomach them) actually become kind of amusing.

Of course, there's the typical MC bragg-

ocio ("you ain't gonna sell two copies if you press a double album") peppered with name-droppings from popular culture. (He mentions Ron Goldman and yes, Inspector Gadget.)

There's nothing on *The Slim Shady LP* quite as catchy as the ubiquitous "My Name Is" (or nothing as annoying, whichever your preference), but that by no means equals One Hit Wonder. (He's way too talented for that.) "Just Don't Give A Fuck" is already an underground hit, and "Guilty Conscience," "Role Model," and "Cum On Everybody" are high points on the album. The beats are laid-back, West Coast-style grooves, sometimes good for dancing and other times for cruising.

Eminem's voice is crisp, clean, and distinctive. His delivery is flawless -- another strength. His sound is unique, unlike many (too many) of the 90s MCs. He's not one of the innumerable Jay-Z clones, he's not an interchangeable No Limit Soldier, and he's not (thank God) a slurred-speech Bad Boy.

Another one of the album's strengths is the lack of superstar cameos, a once-good idea that now only serves to dumb-down the product (Whose No Limit song is it, anyway?). Dr. Dre only appears on two tracks (he produces three), and Royce Da 5-9 makes a couple of appearances. And that's it. The rest of the album is Eminem's bold statement, the statement of a rapper proving he's got skills.

Eminem proves it again and again, and that is a statement which knows no color.

Gary Hill inspires at conductors symposium

by Sarah Perkins

I'm going to admit right up front that this review is probably going to be slightly skewed, biased, and somewhat partial simply because I was a participant rather than an objectively minded audience member. However, this perspective allowed me to interact with a man who is as passionate as he is talented in his work with music. On Thursday, March 18 director of bands at University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory, Mr. Gary W. Hill, joined The University Wind Symphony as the guest conductor to kick off the 1999 Conductors Symposium.

Created as part of the *Conducting Option* in the Master of Arts program in 1986, this is the tenth Symposium and Mr. Hill's second time as the guest conductor. In addition to Mr. Hill's conduction of Holst's *First Suite in E Flat*, six MAE students shared the baton with Truman's director of bands Mr. Dan Peterson, closing the night with movement four of Philip Sparke's *Dance Movements*. Including the classic suite by Holst (*First Suite in E Flat*), cheery pieces by Grainger ("Mock Morris," and "Shepherd's Hey"), a honey-boy inspired march that was not going to slow down ("Honey Boys on Parade"), a simplistic yet moving piece by Copland ("Down a Country Lane"), and the intricate and thrilling finale *Dance Movements IV*. "Molto Ritmico" the concert covered a lot of time territory. Thursday's concert provided entertainment, practice, and challenge for those involved.

Freshman Clarinetist Josh Grimes found

the experience more challenging than other concerts.

"There were a lot of conductors... with the different styles, you had to adjust."

MAE student conductor Dan Norris thought it was a "great experience. I appreciate all the hard work the band has put in so I could have that experience." Grateful for the opportunity, Dan didn't have any gushing attachments to the piece he conducted: "It was what Pete said to do."

Accompanied by her high-school aged son and his friend, Kansas City resident Gwen Brown said the concert was "awesome" and "thought it ended way too soon. I wish it could have been longer."

Other audience members shared this sentiment. Prospective student Leah Reschly attended the concert in addition to rehearsing with Mr. Hill in Wind Symphony Friday morning. She described him as a "passionate conductor" who was "really in to what he was doing."

Mr. Hill joined the band an hour before call time to rehearse for the performance. Afterwards he expressed his thoughts.

"I had a great time. The band was wonderful -- well-prepared and very flexible. Flexibility is always good."

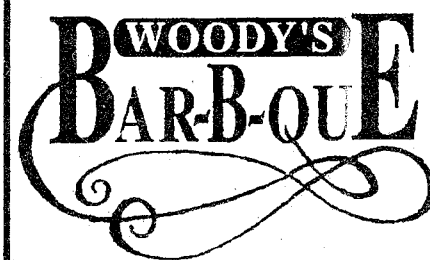
In addition to the rehearsal with Wind Symphony on Friday, Mr. Hill also presented a conduction lecture and gave private lessons with MAE Student Conductors. On Saturday, public school directors along with MAE students took turns conducting in 15-minute periods while

Mr. Hill and other Truman music faculty critiqued their performances.

It was really incredible to watch Mr. Hill interact with the conductors. Mr. Hill shared his advice and experience with the conductors who were obviously nervous in front of their peers or in a completely foreign environment by making them think but still keeping the environment comfortable and as easygoing as possible. He asked them what they felt about the music and what they heard, not just what they saw or expected to hear. He challenged them to listen, respond, react, or sometimes just step back and recognize that sometimes the group keeps an internal pulse better when simply listening on its own. He questioned them until the root of the problem or "cause of the disease" was traced to a single player or section. He reminded the conductors that "this is your instrument now. Show your musicianship."

He explained that 90 percent of communication is expressed non-verbally. He illustrated this point by pantomiming part of a rehearsal. His body moved closer and jumped back relative to what he wanted to happen, and those requests were doubled through the expressions on his face.

The comment I remembered most vividly was this: "In teaching we are only limited by our imagination related to our perception of the problem." Although I'm not planning on going into conducting and probably not teaching, Mr. Hill's advice and experience transcended the scope of music.



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Word of the Week: Restitute, v. 1. To bring back to a former condition; restore. 2. To refund.

Writing Tip #6: Variation is exciting: look for redundant words, sentence beginnings, and sentence structure.

MC 303, 785-4484

Freethinkers Society and CCC Debate

Part 2 in a four part debate.

Responses to Part 1,

"Does God Exist?"

by Campus Crusade for Christ

The Freethinkers explain that they do not see a need to offer positive evidence *against* the existence of God; rather, they assert that a lack of evidence for such a fact places the burden of proof on the theist. Theoretically, we would agree. If a person could be found somewhere, at some time, who completely lacked any evidence for the reality of God, he would be justified in disbelieving. However, as soon as such a person encountered anything that could be evidence for God's existence, the burden of proof would shift: he would now need to examine and, if he were to remain a skeptic, refute the evidence presented. While it is questionable whether anyone is or has ever been completely without reason to believe in God, the fact is that now that we have presented some evidence for doing so, skeptics are responsible for considering it.

Not all evidences are good ones. The Freethinkers point out that religious experiences may be poor demonstrators of theism, since such experiences are difficult to distinguish from fictional experiences like dreams. We agree with this judgment, but we wonder at their statement, "This does not mean that everybody who has a religious experience must be hallucinating." It seems that the Freethinkers have allowed that some religious experiences are not illusions and are, therefore, valid. We believe the reason they left open this possibility is that it is uncomfortable, even for skeptics, to collectively dismiss all religious experience. However, it seems the Freethinkers can be consistent only if they deny all religious experience, since they claim there is no good evidence for the existence of God. If there were a religious experience which were not illusory, but valid, would this not be an evidence?

The way the Freethinkers distinguish between valid experiences and fictional ones, such as dreams, is through the criteria of consistency and verifiability: if "the experiences are consistent with the rest of reality and verifiable by other people," then they are true. We are curious as to why the Freethinkers (or certain Free-

thinkers) have chosen this criterion and not another, such as: "Whatever I experience is true," "Whatever is provable through the scientific method is true," "Whatever helps me live a successful life is true," or any number of other possible paths. Why do they choose the method of distinguishing truth from error that they do? If your significant other expressed his or her love for you, it would be impossible to be sure of his or her affection using the Freethinkers' criteria. In this example, we are dependent on the person revealing him- or herself in order to know reality. We say this to point out that it is possible to presuppose reality in a way which allows you to dismiss evidence that is actually quite valid. As the Freethinkers are an intellectually honest bunch who really want to discover truth, we are confident they would never deliberately employ such tactics.

The Freethinkers also point to what they see as "a consistent progression away from divine explanations for natural events. It seems likely that science will continue to explain things as it has over the centuries," and, presumably, eliminate the need for any appeal to divine intervention. This is a remarkably optimistic (perhaps pessimistic?) appraisal of the history of scientific discovery. On the contrary, the move in science is from the simple to the complex. It seems that every new discovery in the natural sciences multiplies exponentially what we realize we do not yet know. For example, cutting-edge theories in physics require dimensions beyond time and space (super-string theory requires twenty-two). We are not postulating that God inhabits these dimensions, but we cannot help but notice that science has defined realities that, by definition, will never be measurable by human senses or scientific instruments. It seems irrational to dismiss God on the basis that He is not empirically detectable when science itself demands realities that would have to be rejected on the same basis.

While it is debatable whether the burden of proof is really the theist's to bear, we feel that even if it is, history, science, reason and experience provide shoulder enough to bear it. There is good evidence for the existence of God, and we feel that the truly open-minded will conclude that the theistic position is the only valid option.

by the Freethinkers Society

In the last issue, the CCC brought up the problem of personality: how do we explain the existence of free will, emotions and morality? This is certainly a natural question to pose, and we have pondered the same issue. They contend that the ability of Christianity to account for personality is one of its strengths and that the lack of this ability in non-theistic perspectives is a weakness.

However, we find the CCC's account of personality unconvincing because it does not explain anything. It states that "God made personality," but is silent on *how* God made it or how it works. Therefore, we think it is unreasonable to submit as evidence of His existence.

If we observe a phenomenon and wonder about its origins, it is possible to account for it in a (practically) infinite number of ways. For instance, if you had no knowledge about the world and you observed snow, you could theorize that it's snowing because birds are flying south for the winter, because the god of snow decreed it, because water vapor is condensing in the atmosphere, or any number of other explanations. But if you were to stop there and choose one explanation at random, then that explanation would be arbitrary and unconvincing.

If, however, you had supporting evidence (i.e. the snow god revealed himself to you) or had empirically observed a mechanism by which one of these explanations operates (i.e. dew, when chilled, turns to frost), then that explanation would be preferable to the others. But if CCC has any such supporting evidence, they didn't mention it in their last installment. In short, we agree that God *might* account for personality, but it is only one of an infinite number of possible accounts unless supporting evidence is presented.

For the record, we want to point out that other explanations for personality have been proposed. For instance, some scientists speculate that personality (and consciousness in general) might arise from the way that neurons are connected in the brain. We don't have space to include a discussion of this idea (interested readers can consult Hofstadter's *Gödel, Escher, Bach*), but it's at least a *possible* account. In fact, such an assertion is consistent with many recent discoveries in neuroscience that find that impersonal neurotransmitters directly influence personality.

We don't advocate this as the gospel (so to

speak) truth: it's never been proved, and the explanation behind it isn't complete. But we think it's at least as plausible an explanation (we think more plausible) than simply: "God made it."

Furthermore, we think there's a weakness in the theistic account for personality: if God is the fountainhead of personality, where did His personality come from? The CCC implicitly asserts that all personality has a source. But why should this law apply to everything except God? In this light, a materialistic account for personality is actually stronger than the theistic account because it doesn't fall into the same trap.

The CCC identifies three possible positions that a non-theist could take on the issue of personality: 1) that impersonal matter can give rise to personality because personal reality is already present in matter (an evasive response); 2) personality is just an illusion (a counterintuitive response); or 3) that's just the way it is and there's no need to ask why (an apathetic response). But we hope they realize that there are more reasonable stances to take. Namely, our position is: "We're not sure where personality comes from, but it's a fascinating question."

At this point, one might object: "Since you don't know where personality comes from, and Christianity offers an explanation, why don't you accept it?" To see why this is a bad idea, consider this analogy:

Imagine you're working on a difficult math problem. Noticing your struggle, I offer to help and tell you that the answer is three. Curious, you ask me *why* the answer is three or how I came to that conclusion, but I can't reply except to say, "Well, the answer *could* be three, and you admit that you don't know yourself." Obviously, it would be a bad idea to take my advice.

Our point is simply this: sometimes it's best to admit you don't know. The fact that a possible answer exists does not mean that it is correct. Of course, your mind should be open to all possible ideas: after all, it might turn out that the answer really is three. You should not reject any answer out of hand, but you shouldn't be satisfied with it until you ask me to "show my work."

We don't think the CCC has shown their work, and we aren't aware of any theory within Christian doctrine which does. This does not mean that God definitely did not create personality, but that there's no reason to prefer such an account over any other.

RIGHTS, from page 4

sexuality, I have to wonder -- would Jesus have done that? Do the Christian leaders even think about that? Do they think that Jesus would have shunned someone and refused to help that person just because they were attracted to members of the same sex? My guess is that Jesus would *not* have done that.

Our country is founded on democracy and freedom -- why can't we follow those ideals? Homosexuals are human beings just like everyone else, but are regarded as animals. The Christian right has already brainwashed millions of people into believing that homosexuality is a filthy sin. It needs to be stopped.

Cameron claims that homosexuality is only about getting a satisfying orgasm. Wrong. I used to have two lesbians as neighbors -- their relationship was just like one between a male and a female. They were fond of each other, got along well, and made each other happy. Isn't that one of the goals in life, to be happy? Who cares whom it is with? Homosexuals are not in it just for the sexual acts -- they can love each other, too. Their relationships are based on emotion and feeling just like heterosexual relationships.

Cameron goes on to say that marital sex is boring and so people become homosexual for more exciting sex. What that says to me is that Cameron doesn't have much physical contact with his wife, and their sex life is nil. How can heterosexual sex be boring? How could anyone claim that?

Homosexuals are not the undermining influence in our society -- America will not collapse with increased acceptance of them. The negative influence here is the Christian right. Our schools teach Abraham Lincoln and the Bill of Rights to children, and students learn that everyone is equal and nobody should be discriminated against. Then, along comes the Christian right, telling everyone that these people and those people are inferior and should be denied jobs and federal housing benefits. What kind of message is that? Do we want an America whose future is bigotry and hatred and intolerance? Or do we want a country in which everyone's voice is heard and people live in peace and harmony? In order for this happen, these so-called followers of God need to come down off their high horse and recognize that everyone is equal and deserves equal rights.

PASSWORDS, from page 4

word, the one that I knew and loved. Take that, computer!

Of course, the computer wasn't fazed. It wasn't about to let me use my beloved password. Now, the rule was that I couldn't use any of my previous 13 passwords.

THIRTEEN? Come on! I don't have thirteen passwords at my disposal! I don't even know thirteen words that are over six letters long.

But there was once again no compromise from that %\$#@ computer. So I concocted password number four. I'll even tell you what it was (don't worry, it has since been changed). It was %\$#@ passwords. I went home madder than ever.

Which brings us to last week. I had to change the password again. So I did it quietly and without any fuss. I gave up. The computer had won. I went home a defeated, broken shell of a man.

That wasn't the final insult, though. The final insult came three days later when I went to the lab and discovered that I had no earthly idea what my new new new password was. I

went home in tears and killed my roommate. er, cat in frustration.

This whole password business, in a word, sucks. It's inconvenient, confusing, and (watch out, I'm pulling out the big guns!) stupid.

Let's get some perspective here, folks. This is Truman State University. It isn't the Pentagon. It's a state school for undergraduates. And after going here for three years, I can say this next part with complete and utmost confidence. NOTHING IS HAPPENING AT THIS SCHOOL THAT IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH, EDUCATIONAL ENOUGH, DANGEROUS ENOUGH, OR SECRETIVE ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY THIS LEVEL OF COMPUTER SECURITY OF MILITARY PROPORTIONS. Appropriate security for this campus would be hiring a blind guy to sit by the entrance to the computer lab and ask people if they intend to log on to anyone else's account.

Computer people, please lose the security. I can't promise that I'll keep weapons out of the computer lab much longer. If I can't reason with the computers, I'll use force in order to use the campus computer system. After all, I have big, secret things to do.



Queen Astra!

Let the Stars be your guide!

Aries (March 21 - April 19): Getting your point across seems awful difficult lately. Maybe you need to take a class in assertiveness training. Maybe you need to get a new look. Or maybe you need an attitude adjustment. Smarty pants.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): Follow your dreams this week, Taurus. Now is a good time to explore those underdeveloped talents. International terrorism is not out of your league. Just gather your confidence and some explosives and show 'em who's boss.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): Springtime is here! Take off all those layers, but be careful, there are hazards involved. Although shedding those threads may be tempting, applying sunscreen to those delicate areas should take care of the danger.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): So you haven't caught any of that sweet spring sunshine yet huh, Cancer? You may have to give up your part-time job as a porn star. Either that or hand out sunglasses and blindfolds as a

kind gesture.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): Buddah says: Weigh the true advantages of forgiveness and resentment to the heart, then choose. Queen Astra says: Revenge is more fun.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): In theory, shaving your back is a good idea. It could give you the self-esteem boost you need right now. However, finding a friend to help you get the hard to reach spots may be difficult. Not to mention razor burn. Consult a Gemini.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): All this emotional drama is dragging you down. Your best bet would be to just lay it all out on the table, unless that's your problem. In that case, get up, get dressed and for God's sake apologize.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Nevermind the saying, "When you eat, just eat. When you walk, just walk..." Puff, puff, give damn it.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): Take into account that it's honor, not happiness, Sagittarius. Be proud you eat an unusual amount of soy products. Be humbled.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): Feeling like a social outcast? Ever thought about

starting a band? Turn your flippant personality into something constructive — like music. Make a flannel shirt, hum and sacrifice to ensure success.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): The cosmos are moving in your direction, Aquarius, and you know what that means. Or maybe you don't, and that's why your reading this. All I can tell you is stop procrastinating.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): Love is all around you, Pisces. It's too bad you won't be getting any. Sabotage someone else's relationship. That should make you feel better.

Feelin' blue? Springtime gotcha down? Hey, perk up lads and lassies! There's no excuse for that crappy attitude when Queen Astra is around to help you with your problems. Drop her a note courtesy the Monitor mailbox, located in the CAOC, SUB basement.

Or spill your guts via e-mail at monitortrm@hotmail.com. We just can't leave you in a state of turmoil, can we? (Oh. Well technically, I guess we can.)

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GUNS, from page 5

account for 12% of all 17,000 in Missouri.

Shocking and perhaps scandalous, but not especially surprising during a political campaign. While such behavior is far from laudable, it neither validates nor invalidates the arguments outlined above. Basically, it's irrelevant.

I would hope that as college students we are intelligent enough to make decisions based on our own thinking rather than on billboards and hokey, emotion-driven television commercials. I would also hope that we have enough integrity to make the decisions we think are correct regardless of what authorities or other people think. As far as police officers go, it is

interesting to note that many such civic leaders in other states that opposed right-to-carry laws changed their minds after such measures passed and proved to lower crime. But more importantly, it doesn't really matter what other people believe or say. What matters is what is real, what can be reasoned out to be honest and truthful. What matters is one's own ability to think and decide for oneself.

I would refer readers to both www.mocw.org to explore more evidence in favor of Proposition B as well as to www.kcstar.com (type in "Proposition B" in the search line) for opinions against it if they want to do further thinking on this issue.



The Musician's
Choice!

Repair
16 track Digital Recording Studio
Fender, Peavey
Gibson, Crate
Alvarez, Roland
Pearl, Zildjian

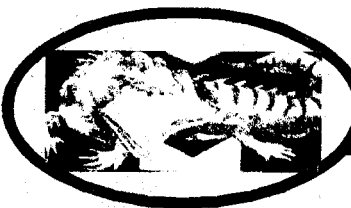
We're moving
to

218 N. Franklin Street
Next to Minn's Cuisine
665-9090

The Task Force on Diversity, which has been charged with identifying critical issues of diversity on the Truman campus, will be holding a public forum to discuss diversity issues with the university community.

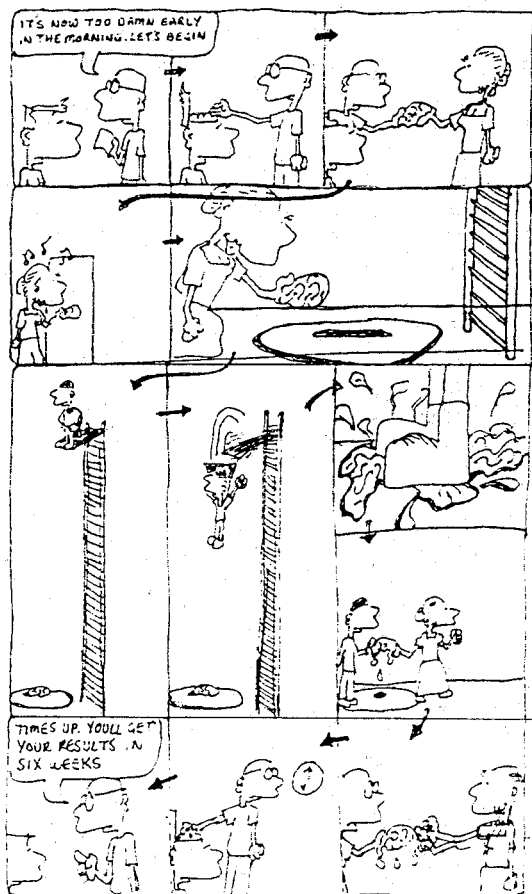
**The forum will be held
Tuesday, March 30, 1999
from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. in the
Conference Room of the SUB.**

All interested parties are urged to attend and share their ideas and experiences.



Cartoons!

THE JEE SAUFFY GUIDE TO THE GRE



THE DODGE CHRONICLES BY ANDY DANDINO



I like twinkies.

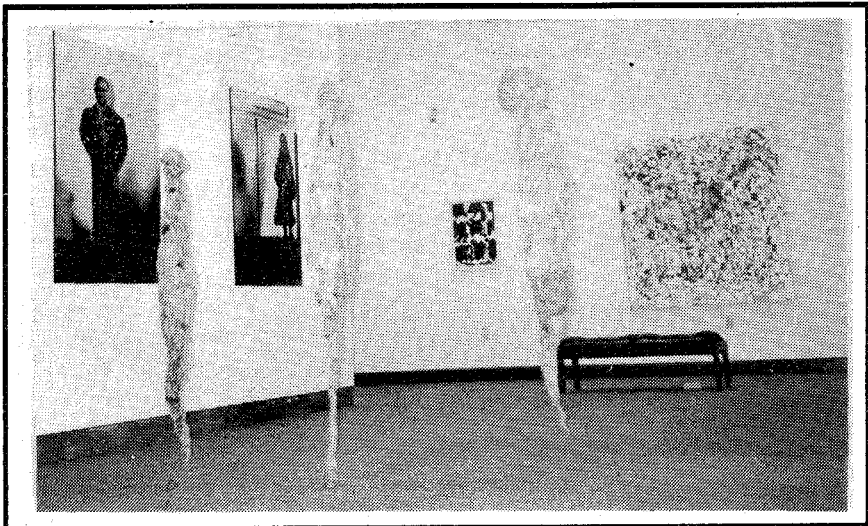


Kjell Hahn

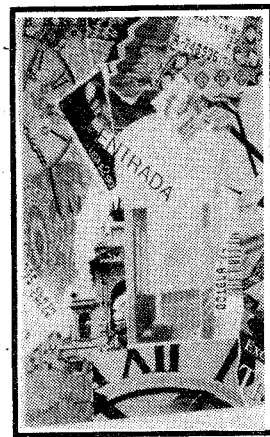


Art on a Page:

Current exhibition in Truman Gallery's:
very special 11th Annual Art Competition.



"Witness"



"Entrada"



"Andriah"

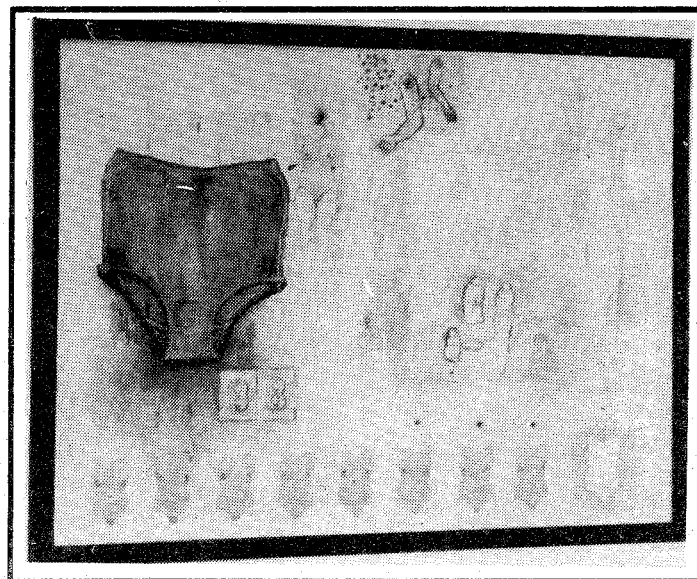
"Latecomer"



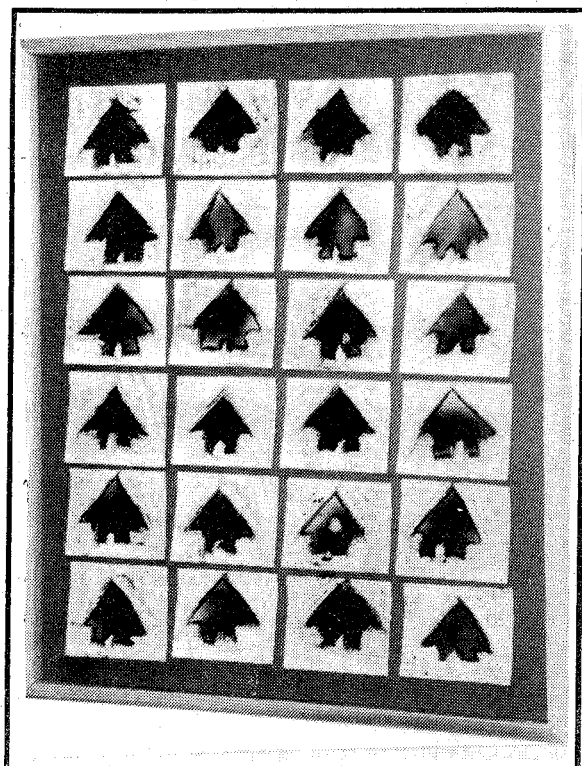
"Waiting for Godot #1"



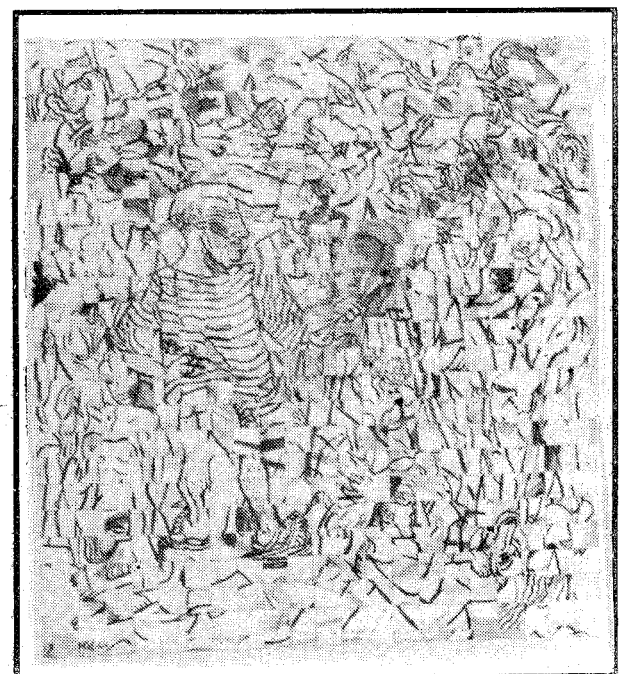
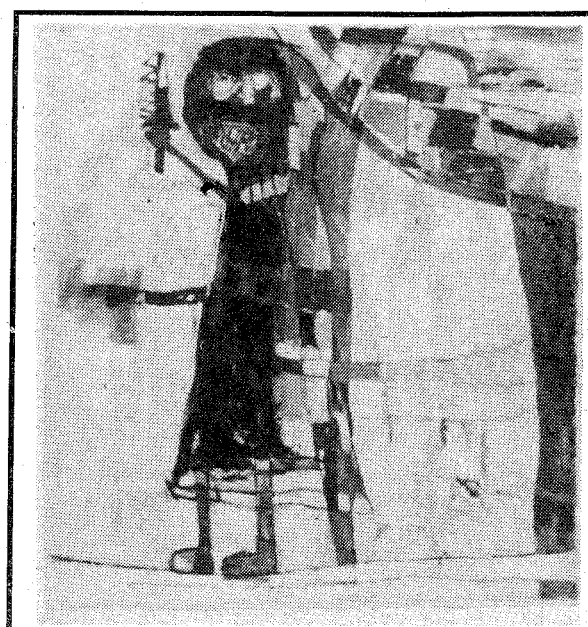
"Pink Panties"



"Dog Houses"



"Picasso, etc."



—Jennifer Griggs

-Larry Iles

--Travis Brown

But I cannot escape his eerie calling,
that his crown of thorns is a victor's crown,
and if I am to share his glory,
I too must be nailed down.

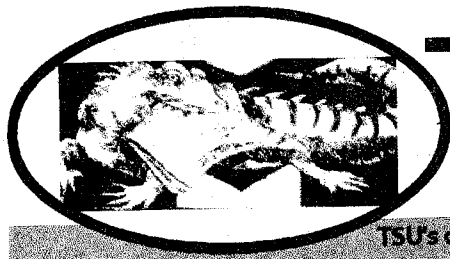
—kenny boyce

--ItD

--The Trio LTD

-Stephanie Dolbeare-

**My Back Pages still needs
your poetry. Keep on
dropping those poems in the
Monitor mailbox. CAOC.**



The Bombitor

A Campus Destructive

31 December 1999

Volume 2, Number 2

TSU's only source for keeping you warm 'n cozy through those cold, cold, post-nuclear, post-armageddon, post-Y2K nights

KIRKSVILLE BLOWS UP!

by Philip Meatlick

A loud "KABOOOM!!!" could be heard in surrounding Adair County yesterday when a 300 megaton nuclear bomb was set off in downtown Kirksville, destroying nearly everything in the surrounding area. There were no survivors. Everybody died.

However, witnesses in the Adair County region described the explosion as a white flash that blinded their eyes and burned their skin.

Frank Warren, a farmer in the region, said "Well, I was just gettin' ready to drive into town to go to the Wal-Marts, when I saw this big flash of red light and heard a thunder-clap like you wouldn't believe. Man, it was so hot my overalls caught on fire. I proceeded to 'stop, drop, and roll' to put the flames out. I was so pissed; those were my best pair! But I wasn't half as pissed as when I got to town and saw Wal-Marts in a smoldering ruin! Gawd-dammit!"

Firefighters from neighboring towns arrived within an hour after the blast to put out flames and search for survivors.

"When we got into town, everything had been blasted. Fire everywhere! Man, was it beautiful," exclaimed one firefighter.

"Unfortunately, we couldn't save anyone because the few survivors were melting and getting their burning flesh all over my new car. I couldn't have that!"

Like Wal-Mart, nearly every other building in the Kirksville city limits was destroyed and burnt to the ground, including the college campus. "Like we're gonna be missin' those damn punk kids!" one area Menonite exclaimed.

The only building still fully intact is the local McDonalds, because nothing on this planet could knock over great value and the home of America's Favorite Fries.

"Well, he seemed kinda wierd, with that third arm and all, but I guess he was nice, except when he announced to the restaurant that he was 'gonna blow this place to fuckin' Hell. I

Destro...hell, they even fought the Decepticons in the comic book." Snake-eyes and Lady Jay were rumored to be leading the search for Skurm. Also, the nation of Bangladesh has offered an

army of 100 war elephants to help in the search.

Though still only a suspect, Skurm last month issued an ultimatum to the town of Kirksville in sky-writing which authorities are now studving, perhaps linking Skurm to the explosion. The ultimatum read in the sky: "Give me a hot meal at a fair price or the town will blow up!"

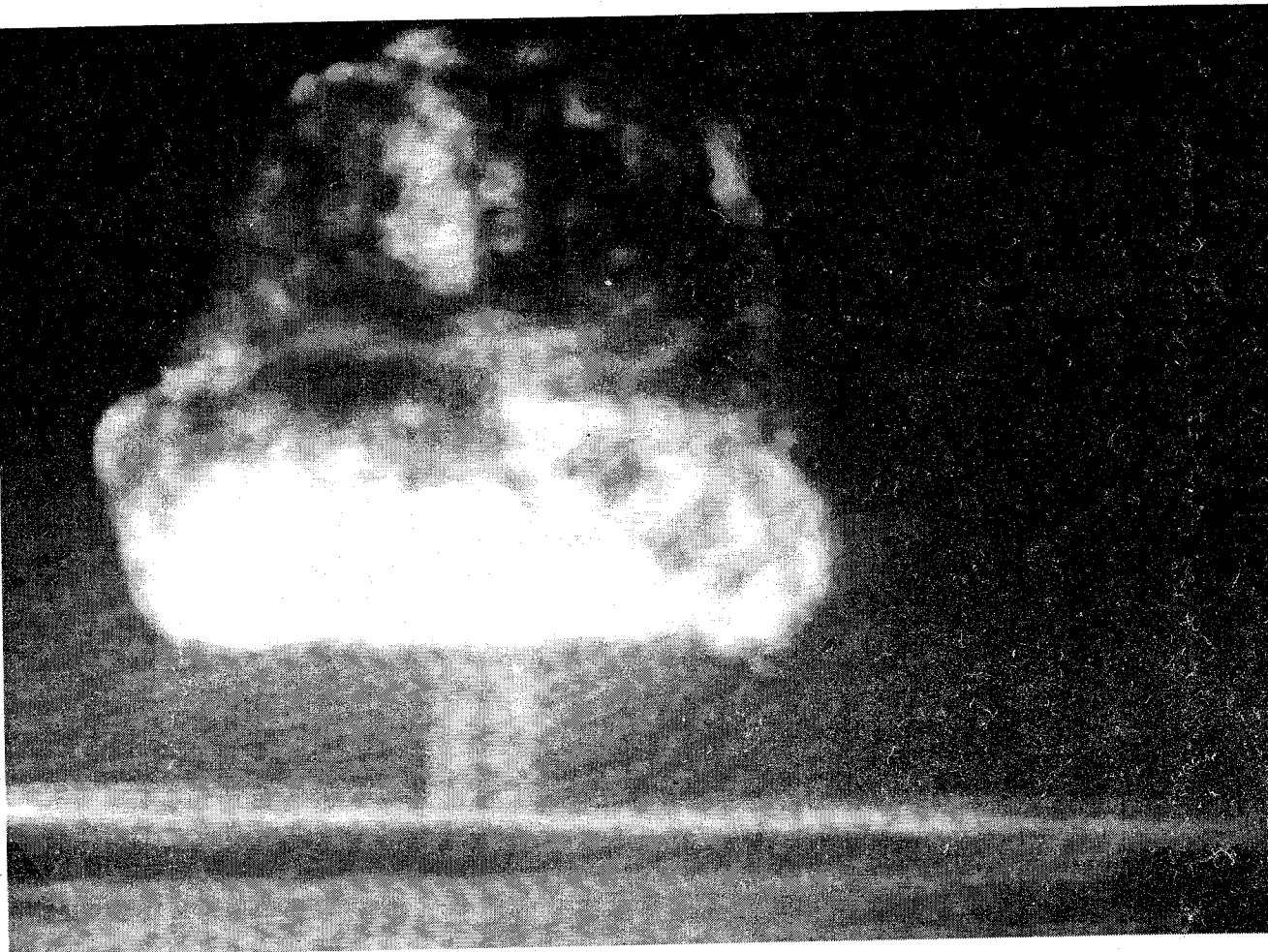
Agent Hooka said, "It was just too bad that Skurm didn't know about Pasta and More, where he could have gotten bread, salad, and spaghetti for only 4.95. Such a tragedy it had to come to this!" Skurm, not only known for his criminal mischief, was also known for his saavy bargain-hunting skills.

Reacting quickly to the area's tragedy, President Clinton declared Kirksville a national disaster area.

"Because I feel your pain and struggle, I will be allocating federal funds to offset the damages caused by this flood...er...hurricane...no...nuclear bomb. I will also be stopping by the Kirksville

McDonalds for a delicious Filet-O-Fish." News of federal aid was met with a cold silence as the populace of Kirksville, college students and all, lie rotting in the streets.

A benefit concert featuring Britney Spears and Marilyn Manson will air on January 10 after another heart-warming episode of Seventh Heaven on the WB.



think everybody got a good kick out of it. He was a hoot!"

The government has also brought in special help for this case.

"We're employing a special team of military specialists known as 'G.I.JOE.' They've handled these kinds of things before," said FBI Special Agent Hooka.

"They've defeated Cobra Commander,

Though the perpetrator of such a vile crime has not yet been caught, Adair County Police and Interpol have their suspects. Top on the list is one Bobby A. Skurm, ring leader of a notorious international terrorist organization known as "F.I.R.C.H." Skurm was seen yesterday morning enjoying a tasty beverage at North-east Cafe on the Square.

A visitor from Macon recalls his visit:

Hey hey, Fallout Boy!

This is an April Fools edition of *The Monitor*. So come out of your bomb shelter and read up! The contents of this issue are purely fictional and not to be believed except by the stupidest of the stupid. Please do not inflict any pain or humiliation upon any individual member of our staff because you are disgusted with any particular topic that lies within. Oh yeah...don't sue us either.

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Nuclear reactors!.....	5
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TNT!.....	7
Poems.....	8

Behold our Lord and Savior, Kevin Spacey

Another sign our Lord hath given unto us concerning Kevin Spacey's divine nature is a little less obvious. However, if we are to fully understand Kevin Spacey's connection to God, we must look deeper into all possibilities. We can prove a link between Kevin Spacey and Jesus Christ through simple math. If we take the numbers that correspond to each letter of "Kevin Spacey" (A=1, B=2, etc.), the sum of Kevin Spacey's name in numbers is 130. In addition, if we take the numbers that correspond to each letter of "Jesus Christ", the total number is 151. Now, if we subtract 130 from 151, we get 21. Twenty-one divided by three, signifying the trinity, is seven – the most holy number. Seven is used many times in the Bible as a holy number. For example, in the Bible there are several examples. There are seven:

- parts of clean animals
- lamps around Jericho
- golden lampstands
- seals
- angels

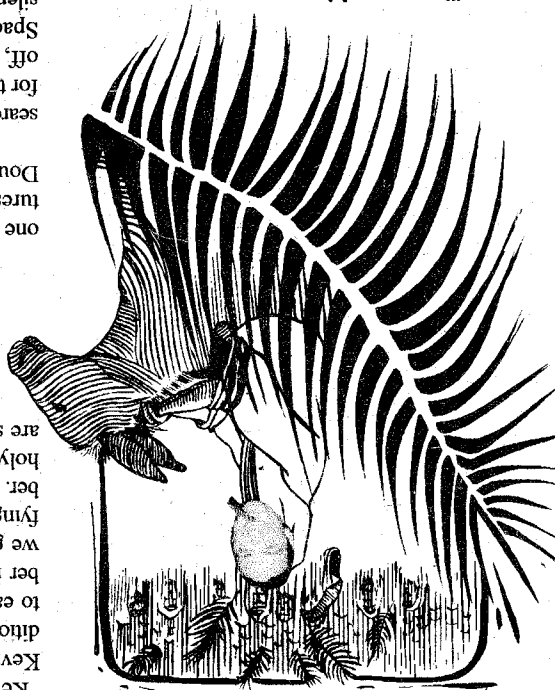
Revelation 8:2
Revelation 5:1
Revelation 1:12
Joshua 6:4
Genesis 7:2

The list goes on and on. Not to mention, one of Kevin Spacey's first major motion pictures was titled *Seven*. Coincidence? I think not.

Doubling Thomas.

I tell you fellow wanderers in this world: search no more. We have waited many long years for this Second Coming. Now, the wait has paid off, and then some, with the arrival of Kevin Spacey. Let us join in a moment of prayerful silence to pay homage to our Blessed Lord and Savior Emmanuel Kevin Spacey.

**"Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey" -
Zechariah 9:9**



by the earthly name Kevin Spacey.
Now, my friends, many false prophets have come to you claiming the name of our Lord. Do not be deceived. Kevin Spacey is the one true God-incarnate. I know some of you will be skeptical of our new Savior, so I have compiled irrefutable, scripture-based evidence of Kevin Spacey's divinity. By the end of this testament, I am certain you will all head to your local video store to rent *The Usual Suspects* and God's blessing be upon us and the reading of the Holy Scripture.

Malachi 3: 1 - "See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight." This scripture is, indeed, referring to our Savior Kevin Spacey. The film industry functions in this scripture as the Lord's temple unto which Kevin Spacey has come. And he emerged without warning onto the film scene - coming suddenly to his temple. There is no one - again, yea, I say - no one in whom we delight more than in Kevin Spacey. His films bring joy to so many and have prepared a golden path of cinema splendor fit only for the Lord's descent into His world.

Isaiah 42: 1-3 - "Here is my servant [Kevin Spacey] whom I uphold... he will bring forth

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otherwise noted.
The Monitor is published every other Tuesday.
Each writer is responsible for his or her own
work.
We've had just about enough of your tripperies,
Charlie.
—Olde Monitor proverb

Monitor Obituaries

Student Jimmy Kuehnle was found dead on the Nason stairwell this last Thursday. Kuehnle, an art major, was an active member in CCF, College Republicans, and the Fanatical Jihad Club. He was also a prospective rushee of the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity. Kuehnle is survived by his brother, sister, and both his parents. Funeral services will be held at a temporary parlor, since Kuehnle's self-made tomb is not yet completed. Family and friends are invited.

Kuehnle's cause of death is not known at this moment, though police investigators believe he was choked, beaten over

the head with a wheel of government
cheese, and then thrown down the stairs.
Police also have a chief suspect: me.
But, hey, I didn't do it! Why would I
do a thing like that? He's my roommate,
fer Chrissakes! What do you take me for?
A cruel bastard? Well maybe I am a cruel
bastard! Are you perfect? I didn't think
so. You try walking up a 4:30 in the morn-
ing and plowing a field! Let's see how you
like it!

Oh, so now you sayin' I've got a prob-

tem holding back my anger? Well why don't you try mindin' yer own business! I've got enough problems of my own to take care of without havin' you breathe down my neck. You people make me sick! Okay, I'll admit it, I've got a drinking problem. Sometimes I might drink a little too much and break everything in sight. Okay, and sometimes I might wake up in a

Chang Wu Xci, 19, an exchange student from Shang Dong Pencil, China was found Wednesday at approximately 1:30 a.m. mummified in pile of art history books in the third floor of Pickler. Public Safety was soon called in to deal with the mummified body. Adair County coroner came and proclaimed time of death to be "some-time in the past three years."

Spokesmen for Pickler apologized to the Chinese government and Xci's family. They blamed library workers for their loss of Xci for over three years. Xci is survived by his father and mother and four sisters. "I remember Xci as a quiet boy, and I am sorry to hear of his mummification," a math professor of Xci's said.

of happiness and make-believe!

gutter. But is that hurting you? Why don't you go back to your little fantasy world

maybe I did make a mistake. You didn't have to live with him. He was always coming into the room with his cheap drugs and his cheap women. He's was always pointing that gun at me! He stole my Chaos Orb card from my Magic! The Gathering deck! I had to get him back. And I beat him over the head with a log of sausage I bought in Herman, not a wheel of cheese you pig-headed fools! Go ahead, try to arrest me! You'll never take me alive!

revenue next year, but we are going to have to take measures to keep supplies at acceptable levels," said Bill "Old Rugged" McCowan of Cowan Crosses of Kirksville. "We cannot accept a little white cross gap!" They are looking for new apprentices to learn the time-honored skills and traditions that are necessary to make little white crosses. "It takes guts and a lot of gump-tion to make a good little white cross, and even more balls to sell them to grieving people who don't know any better," McCowan said.

Not only do they intend to get new apprentices involved, they also want to pass legislation to expand the remainder of highway 63 to four lanes. "We wish those blood-sucking li#@% in the state legislature could see that this road needs to be expanded or they are going to be responsible for the deaths of hundreds of innocent people, and the complete eradication of the Cross Maker's Guild!" said Pete Gross, the president of the MACM, in a powerful speech last Thursday. They admit that they have a long, hard fight ahead of them to get this road expanded to four lanes.

"America is the greatest nation ever. We put folks on the moon, invented velcro and football, but yet can't expand, a highway to a rural area of Missouri because they're impoverished" and "not worth our good money" as the fat cats in Jefferson City would have you believe!" Gross said. "I'm so angry I could spit!" Well said, Gross, well said!

by Xaphen Wappacplel

White cross supply is at an all time low says the Missouri Association of Cross Makers last week in its quarterly report. They blame the non-expanded highway 63 as the main suspect in the increased demand.

Steve Robertson, spokesman for the guild, stated, "The people of Northeast Missouri just want to show their grief in a public way, and what better way to do that than to place replicas of the Cross that our Lord died on for our sins on the side of the road?"

He went on to state that the guild prides itself on fine cross fabrication. "You can't rush a good cross!" Robertson said. That is why some are concerned that the rapid rate of death on this particular highway may just outstrip stockpiles of white crosses.

"We have to plan for the future, you see, and with the year 2000 on its way, we have to up production for the entire region," Robertson said.

But "the death zone" (as they like to call the particular strip of Highway from Macon to Kirksville) itself is taking up most of the excess supply that the Cross Maker's Association is depending on to curb demand when the unavoidable string of plane crashes, riots, and car accidents occur a year from now when our senseless overdependency on computer technology kills, by their estimates, 15% of Missouri's population.

"Yes, we expect to see a 50% rise in

US/Lilliput relations break down

—Lilliput (AP Services)

After months of rising tension between the United States and Lilliput, violence erupted at the American Embassy in Lilliput on Monday. A small group (no pun intended) of radical activists stormed the building, armed with lima beans filled with tear gas and those little plastic novelty swords found in fancy drinks. According to intelligence sources, the activists, who are calling themselves LIL (Lilliputians Interested in Liberty) originally planned their attack on the embassy last week, but it took them a few days to make it up the human-size stairs. At present, all but four of the building's occupants have made it to safety, having eluded the wily activists through sheer luck, or else by merely stepping over them as they calmly left. Among the remaining hostages is ambassador John Swift, whom the LIL hold responsible for recommending the trade sanctions Congress recently imposed on Lilliputian imports in the United States. The ambassador was allowed to make the following statement to the press regarding his condition: "The little bastards keep pokin' me with toothpicks!"

Last November, U.S.-Lilliput relations began to crumble after Congress passed a bill which imposed a 100% tariff on Lilliputian goods which entered the country, specifically eraser heads and Tic-Tacs. Numerous politicians in Washington expressed support for the bill, citing the fact that American machines can produce millions of each item per day, whereas Lilliputian workers manufacture each by hand, sometimes taking hours to complete a single eraser head.

"Sure the little guys make some quality products," conceded one senator. "But who really gives a fuck where Tic-Tacs come from?"

The history between the U.S. and the nation of 6-inch tall citizens has not been without turmoil. In 1989, scandal rocked the White House during the first meeting between the Lilliputian ambassador and the Bush administration. The visiting diplomat was eaten by the president's dog Millie, who had "mistaken the ambassador for a chew toy" according to a statement from the press secretary. As a goodwill gesture from an apologetic President Bush, the funeral was paid for out of his own pocket — the ambassador was buried in an old Pro Wings shoebox in the Rose Garden.

An embarrassing international incident occurred in 1992, when an American businessman was held by Lilliput authorities in connection with the death of an exotic dancer. The woman had apparently been giving the man a lap dance, and when the tiny dancer asked him to "hold me closer," the American shifted his leg, and crushed the woman to death with his thigh. Murder charges were later dropped after the death was ruled accidental by a Lilliputian jury; however, the family of the dancer received a cash settlement in a wrongful death suit in small claims court.

And in 1996, the world held its breath as the Two Minute War between the countries began. Lilliputian warships positioned themselves off the coast of Florida in response to a refusal by the U.S. government to turn over an alleged terrorist — an eight-year-old American tourist boy who lit a cherry bomb under the Lilliput Senate building. The war ended when a drunken sailor leapt from a U.S. Navy warship and yelled "CANNONBALL!" as he hit the water. The resulting wave wiped out the entire

See LILLIPUT, page 6

GDI unable to "bust a move"

by John Entwistle

According to freshman partygoer Hank Morrison, last Friday night's Pi Phi Pi Everyone's Invited, All Night Dance Party "sucked ass."

"A Pi Phi friend of mine told me I could come, if I wasn't doing anything else that night," said Morrison, 19 and a GDI. "Since I live in Kirksville and there really isn't anything for a college student looking for kicks to do in a 100-mile radius that doesn't involve Pancake Shitty or cow-tipping, I told him I'd go to his so-called 'All Night Dance Party.' Now, I regret ever making that choice. I mean, I've toured around the world from London to the Bay, and this was the absolute worst party I've ever attended. They wouldn't let me bust a move."

Despite what the Pi Phis proclaimed on their posters, according to Morrison, the party was neither "all night" or a "dance party."

"My favorite Right Said Fred song came on, so I looked at my friend and said, 'Yo, VIP, let's kick it,'" Morrison said. "My friend just looked at me as if I was crazy. Then I told him to look out because 'O-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh, o-oh here comes the Hammer' and I started just busting a move. He didn't even budge when I said 'Let's get this party started right, let's get this party started quickly, right?' I wondered what the hell was wrong with him and why the hell he didn't want to pump up the jam, pump it up, while his feet were jumping. When I looked around, nobody else was pumping up the jam either. I asked my friend why and he told me to 'shut the fuck up and have a beer.' But I didn't want a beer. I wanted to shake my booty!"

Morrison said that he then began to "get out of his seat and jump around, jump around, jump up, jump up, and get down" before somebody, most likely a frat member, stopped the music.

Thinking the music would continue in a second, Morrison continued "shaking his rump like a rump-shaker" before getting pummeled beyond all recognition by plastic cups of "Natty Lite."

Then, the frat boys kindly asked Morrison to leave.

"Well, I wouldn't really say 'kindly,'" said Morrison, with backwards "BVD's" pressed into his forehead. "I would probably say more that they picked me up by the elastic strap of my underpants and threw my happy ass in the mud outside the frat house, laughing all the while and continuing to drench me in that horrible, cheap beer while kicking me in the nuts, the one guy holding the elastic strap of my underpants never letting go. I guess I would say that *that's* how they threw me out."

Morrison said that his first frat party ever disappointed him. He equated the party to giving some "funky cold medina" to your dog and seeing him "do the wild thing on (your) leg."

"I was never cut out to be a frat boy, I guess. I mean, when I go to a party, I just want to go buck-wild on the dance floor to all the hot, 1987-1993 dance hits by recording superstars ranging from Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch

to Color Me Badd, available at one party for the very first time," Morrison said. "I always think: I must act now. A party like that is a limited offer, available for a short, short time and not available in stores."

"And there's nothing else to do in Kirksville," Morrison added.

Although Morrison has never found the party of his dreams, he has twice been billed the low, low price of \$17.98 plus shipping and handling for goods he did not receive. He also has the option of purchasing additional parties in the series, like *The Ultimate Disco Inferno Party*, featuring "YMCA," "Jungle Boogie," and "Staying Alive," and *The Golden Collection of Honky-Tonk Greats Party*, featuring nothing but Hank Williams Jr.

Being the death of the party is nothing new for Morrison. His friends say he's an "ass monkey" who "needs to get laid to loosen up a bit." His friends all agree that his taste in music sucks.

Morrison's Pi Phi friend, the one who invited Morrison to the party, called Morrison a "dork who really needs to stop thinking that frat parties are somehow peddled on late night TV."

"What a doofball," said Walter Joplin, Pi Phi Pi President, about Morrison. "Why the hell would we sell a party on TV, much less a party which features such shitty late '80s, early '90s pop music? Besides, his moves were wiggety-wack. He really deserved his monster wedgie. He wanted to 'bust a move,' huh? We should have busted his kneecaps."

Joplin added: "(Morrison) sucks major ass."

Morrison is weighing his legal options, debating between pressing assault charges against the Pi Phi who gave him the monster wedgie and suing the fraternity for false advertising. Or, if unsatisfied with any aspect of the product, he can simply return the party within 14 days with no further obligation.

"All I know is that those assholes *did not* let me dance all night despite what their posters proclaimed," Morrison said, "and therefore, I did not get my money's worth. I am not in any way satisfied. I think the whole thing's a travesty, since I wasn't endangering anything at the party but my own already dorkish reputation. All I really wanted to do all night was zooma zoom zoom and a boom boom, just shake the rump. I guess some frat boys just don't take kindly to GDIs who wanna shoop, shoop doop, shoop doopa doopa doop at their parties. I would have made that party too legit, but those assholes made the party quit. Get it? Too legit to quit?"

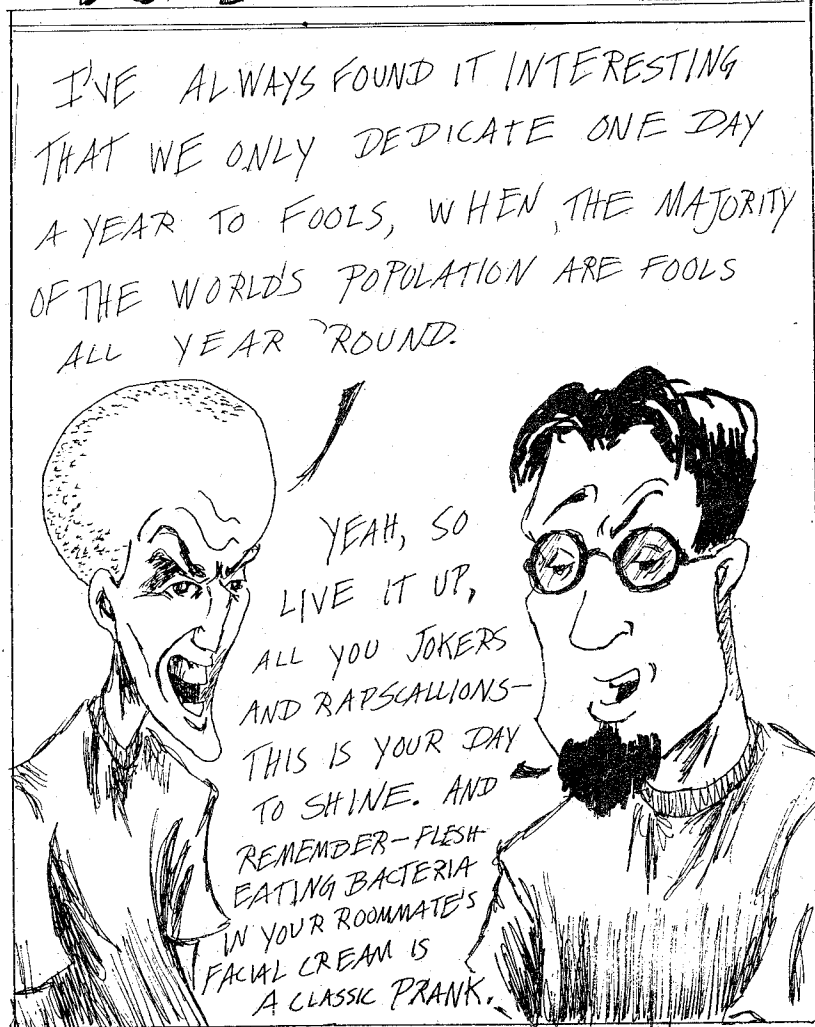
Morrison then made some frantic hand gestures.

"Damn," Morrison said. "I never could get that right."

Morrison will not totally forsake future frat parties, however.

"What I really want is a lap dance," Morrison said. "Or a goat. Some things in life are priceless."

THE **DODGE** CHRON-I-C-L-E-S by ANDY DANDINO



Remember...

we made all of this up.

Nothing is real.

And nothing to get hung about.

Satan makes a comeback

by A.D. Mohr

reference Tuesday, responding to allegations that he is no longer doing an effective job as the Ruler of Hell and Lord of All Evil. Rumors have been flying these past few weeks after a young girl came forth claiming that "The Devil approached her outside her grade school and bought a box of Girl Scout Cookies from her."

"Of course I bought a box," Lucifer answered when confronted by reporters. "I may be Evil Incarnate, but I can't get enough of those delicious Thin Mints."

Critics say this incident is just more evidence that "The Devil is losing his malicious and immoral character -- a charge which Satan called 'unfounded.'" Addressing the press, he went on to say:

"Anyone who's seen my recent work -- ethnic cleansing in Bosnia, the Teletubbies -- will realize that I've still got what it takes to preside over Hell and tempt the hearts of the weak. I'd like to assure the world that Satan is still Satan. My presence can still be seen in areas such as promiscuous sex movies, heavy metal music, and liberal arts colleges. The youth of America will soon be mine!"

In a surprising speech, Lucifer went on to chide the members of the press for lack of loyalty. "You bastards are supposed to work for me! The media serves the Forces of Evil -- how am I supposed to spread plague and famine when I have to answer questions from my own minions? Have some sympathy!" said the Devil. He continued, "I know for a fact that many of you here personally sold me your souls in exchange for becoming big-shot anchormen!" and pointed at Ted Koppel.

Satan got his start back before Time began taking over in 2000, a year which many fanatics consider to be the year of the Second Coming of Christ, the Devil responded:

"See, back in the day, God and I flipped a coin to see who gets to rule the world for a few thousand years of the current calendar, and I got the second half. As a matter of fact, you can pick up your Centuries of Satan calendars at any bookstore for \$19.95. They're all illustrated by the same guy who does the Ziggy cartoons!"

"I was big back in B.C.," Satan said. "After A.D. came around, I decided to keep on the misery and suffering."

ter A.D. came around, I decided to keep on the misery and suffering. "I was big back in B.C.," Satan said. "After A.D. came around, I decided to keep on the misery and suffering."



sidelines a bit: cause the Black Death, incite a couple hundred wars, whisper a few sweet nothings to Hitler and Stalin, possess a person here and there -- you know, hobby stuff. People started forgetting about me, and blaming 'human nature.' I got a pretty big kick out of that. After keeping a relatively low profile for a few millennia and not making any personal appearances, Satan re-emerged as a celebrity in the late '70's and early '80's, starting in the TV sitcom *The Devil Made Me Do It*, a Jackaluster program in which the Prince of Darkness played a single father to a precadolescent Scott Baio (prior to *Charles in Charge*). The show was cancelled after the infamous "Blood of the Innocents" episode, and Satan remained a producer and consultant in Hollywood. In the past two decades, he has focused his work on mass media, world politics, and a restaurant franchise. Lucifer will be touring the country for the next few months, promoting his new self-help book, *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus, I'm from the Depths of Unfathomable Evil*, a sequel to his 1993 bestseller *Seven Habits of Highly Effective Devil Worshipers*. At the press conference, he outlined a few notable appearances in the near future:

"I'll be appearing on Conan O'Brien on Friday night, and I'll be making a special cameo on *Dawson's Creek* -- in this episode, Dawson accidentally calls me forth with an ancient spell, I possess that Katie Holmes chick, and end up throwing him in his goddamned creek where he's killed by electric eels. A truly...shocking episode, to be sure."

In a closing statement, Lucifer urged the world to prepare for his reign. "The new millennium is coming soon -- the Age of Darkness is upon us!" When asked why he would be taking over in 2000, a year which many fanatics consider to be the year of the Second Coming of Christ, the Devil responded:

"Oh yeah," Puff Daddy said, trying to stifle his raucous guffaws. "Just for the record, Mase is not retarded or anything. He just raps so slow and slurs his speech so much that you can't tell what the fuck he's saying."

Mase grinned, displaying all of his pearly white teeth.

"You gotta admit he's kinda cute," Puff Daddy said.

had been seen eating 23 burritos, giggled like a child.

Puff Daddy, who earlier in the morning had been seen eating 23 burritos, giggled like a child.

"Sometimes I think I be smellin' shit for real."

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Monitor mom gives her opinions on today's music

by Dave Heaton and Judy Heaton

Ever since last year's *Monitor* exclusive, my mom has been dying to make another contribution to *The Monitor*. So we chose this special issue to give my mom the chance to be music critic again. Here she again takes the "phat tracks" and gives her motherly opinions and ratings (on a scale of 1-10, 10 being the best).

Desmond Dekker: "007(Shanty Town)"
rating: 6

Judy: 7, is that what they're saying?

Dave: 007.

Oh, like in that movie. The beat does remind me of 1960's movies. Are they speaking English?

Yes.

Oh, it's hard to understand. What are they saying?

Something about rude boys.

Rude boys have beads? "Shanty tone": that's not English.

Shanty Town.

Oh, they must be from another country. This has that calypso beat. Do you know how to do the calypso? (gets up and starts dancing, apparently doing "the calypso.")

Southern Culture on the Skids: "Camel Walk" rating: 5

(With a confused face), is this a take off on that other walk like a camel song?

You mean, "Walk Like an Egyptian"?

Oh yeah, that one...I can picture some kind of guy strolling around on stage, singing and walking in a weird way. It has a good beat, but it's the same thing over and over. I think they're trying to copy that other song.

Poison: "I Wanna Rock and Roll All Nite"
rating: 5

Right there, I just pictured the band going "Whoa!" with their guitars and jumping in the air...This is too fast for me to dance to. If you rocked and rolled all night to that beat, you'd be exhausted. But I could see something like this coming on at a wedding reception and

people getting excited and dancing. This would be played really loud if you had to hear it in person.

It's originally by Kiss.

Oh, I don't like how they look, with their faces all decorated up.

Goo Goo Dolls: "Iris"

rating: 5 ("everything is just average today")

(Swaying back and forth). He sounds depressed...Oh, he does. It think it'd make you sad if you listened to it over and over. (Repeating the lyrics...) Did he just lose his girlfriend or something?

He's an angel, I think. It's from that City of Angels movie.

I would think an angel would sound a little nicer, a little more happy...So, he's having a turmoil with the devil?...The music's all right. Now's it fading out; he has to make some kind of decision. Since you said he's an angel, I wonder what he's doing as he's singing, floating around in the air?...He sounds troubled.

Built to Spill: "Big Dipper"

rating: 4

He sounds off key, doesn't he? But you can understand the lyrics this time. He's looking at the constellations of the stars...Ah, the stars are talking to him.

Yep.

"Chemicals"? Ooh no! He's on drugs, and it's making the constellations look strange and they're talking to him. I don't like this anymore. Those earlier ones are starting to sound better, that calypso one...This part right here is supposed to sound psychedelic, like woo woooo. I'd want to know more background about this; it doesn't make sense to me. Dave, you've got some weird music, huh?

DJ Jazzy Jeff and Fresh Prince: "Parents Just Don't Understand"

rating: 5

This is a rap. I don't like rap because I have no idea what they're saying. (listening to lyrics) That sounds like going shopping with Dan (Dave's brother)! That sounds like something I would say! For rap this isn't bad, but I think he's exaggerating the kind of clothes his mother bought him...I bet later in the song he's going to go to school and everyone will have on the same clothes as him! This is making fun of moms, saying moms have no taste in clothes... He sounds like a rebellious youth. This isn't that annoying, but I don't like that he puts down his parents.

Radiohead: "Karma Police"

rating: 2 (words), 6 (music)

I like this music part here...Do you only listen to depressing songs?

Why?

He just sounds sad...doesn't he? He sounds like "Oh, woe is me!"...(listening to lyrics), If he's a fighter, he sure is fighting in slow motion. Is he supposed to sound sad and depressed? Caramel police!

No, Karma Police.

So, he's supposed to be a police man. If he is, he's not going to catch many crooks. If he's strolling over to them going "This is what...you'll...get", he's lucky if he catches an old wino. What's karma?

(Dave briefly explains the concept of karma).

Oh, like "what goes around comes around" or "you'll get yours" or "if you do something bad it'll come back to you"...This is another psychedelic one; he must be another druggie. (song nears the end) Oh, now we're getting a bad connection.

Mountain Goats: "The Recognition Song"

rating: 5 (music), 3 ("on singing quality")

These are hearing tests, to understand what they're saying...It sounds like he's singing like this (holds nose...) So, he's stealing candy?

These songs have a thing about doing things your mother wouldn't want you to. He got

caught, I think. That's a good thing -- she'd probably make him wear bad clothes, like that other guy.

Brian Setzer Orchestra: "Jump Jive and Wail" rating: 6 (beat), 4 (words)

The music reminds me of music from the 1940's. It's like somebody's trying to have a takeoff on the big band era...It's a little peppier than the other things you've been playing...He doesn't sound depressed; he sounds kind of happy.

Minor Threat: "Seeing Red"

rating: 4

You can't understand him, but maybe I wouldn't want to. It's too noisy. I would turn it off...I would say, "Close your door Dave, it's too noisy." (song ends) That's it? Oh well...(laughs).

Robert Pollard: "Town of Mirrors"

rating: 3

He sounds English.

He's from Ohio.

Well, he's trying to sound English...(listening to the lyrics) Did he just go into a mirror? He's looking in the mirror and the music changed so he must have stepped through it...Is he saying "jubilation" or "mutilation"? *Mutilation.*

Well, of course if he went through the mirror he'd be mutilated. He started out all right with him singing about this mirror but then it jumped to noise and him singing about mutilation.

Modest Mouse: "Dramamine"

rating: 3 or 4 (singing), 6 (music)

Kind of a good instrumental...it reminds me of a Beatles song from the Yellow Submarine, with that kind of repeated twangy sound. He said "dramamine"; why do they write so many songs about drugs? Cause they're all taking drugs? I don't mind listening to the music, it's not so heavy sounding. I just can't understand what he's saying.

NOTLG sets up Christian state in Kirk

by Spiney Winkerbean

CCF declared Kirk Building the first Protestant Vatican Thursday in a move to separate themselves from state influence.

"This might come as a shock to some people, to have an independent Christian State on campus," said a spokesman for the newly declared "Nation of the One True and Loving God," "But we want everyone to know that they are welcome in our sovereign nation and can find true Christian love there. Anyone can find love there as long as they follow a few simple rules."

"To maintain a truly Utopian Christian nation, there are rules that have to be adhered to," said the newly appointed Minister of Christian love. These rules include strict restrictions against Gambling, Smoking, Loud Music, Pants For Women, Haircuts, or "Frolicking", among a long list of others. The Minister has only just begun to enforce these rules among the population of NOTLG and expects compliance by the end of the week.

Life inside the small fledgling nation-state is Hard, especially since the nation is always at odds with the professors and other campus workers who share Kirk Building with it.

"For the most part, they don't bother me and I don't bother them," one history professor

said. "The early morning songs of praise and group prayer sessions get noisy, and having to go through their checkpoints and showing my papers just to use the bathroom gets old sometimes."

"I understand that they saw this as the simplest way to free themselves of criticism for receiving state funds to run their 'Church,' but the fact that they have plans of expanding their nation keeps me awake at night," said a secretary in the Residential Living office.

In the first few days of their sovereign status being proclaimed, they took over all the stairwells of the building and the bathrooms. Only the ground floor is still controlled by the United States. Secretary of State, Madeline Albright, plans to set up an embassy to the NOTLG within the next few months.

"God loves us and we know our cause is true," said one new citizen of NOTLG.

"All the heathen nations will fall on the Day of Judgment, and the Nation of the One True and Loving God will survive and usher in our Savior's 1,000 years of Peace and Light," a newly converted citizen said.

The NOTLG has the support of many conservative Christian leaders, including Pat Robertson and Jerry Fallwell. "This new nation should be praised for its conviction and

love for Jesus Christ," said the Reverend Fallwell, "and it is one of the few places on Earth free from the perverting influence of Purple Teletubbies, the true agents of Satan."

Campus planners and the school's administration could not be reached for comment on this new development. It is rumored that they actually approved the creation of the new state in return for eternal life in Heaven.

"The CCF and TSU administrators were known to have met a few weeks ago to discuss the status of their FAC funding," said a member of the Freethinkers Society who tracks CCF movements. "All I can say is that they certainly used brainwashing on the administrators to get their charter changed over to a Declaration of Independence for their nation," he said. "CCF is sneaky like that."

It remains to be seen just how the NOTLG will survive, seeing as how they have no industrial base. Most analysts predict that they will survive on tithes and the selling of stamps, just like the Vatican in Rome. It is comforting to know that no one's civil liberties are being wronged and that public funds are not spent on religious organizations any longer on the Truman campus. That should be solice enough for us all.

Thought Place

I've often wondered what kind of April Fool's Day jokes God plays.

Maybe he has a big ole' afterlife switcheroo, like when kids get to be parents for the day.

St. Peter: Congratulations Frank, you've made it in.

Frank: Oh good.

St. Peter: Just walk down the corridor to your left and take the first door on your right. They'll set you up nice.

Frank: Okay. Thanks.

Frank walks down the hall. God tiptoes out from behind a curtain. He and St. Peter watch as Frank stops at the door.

Frank: Feels hot.

He touches the door knob.

Frank: Ouch! Goddamn it!

God and St. Peter start snickering.

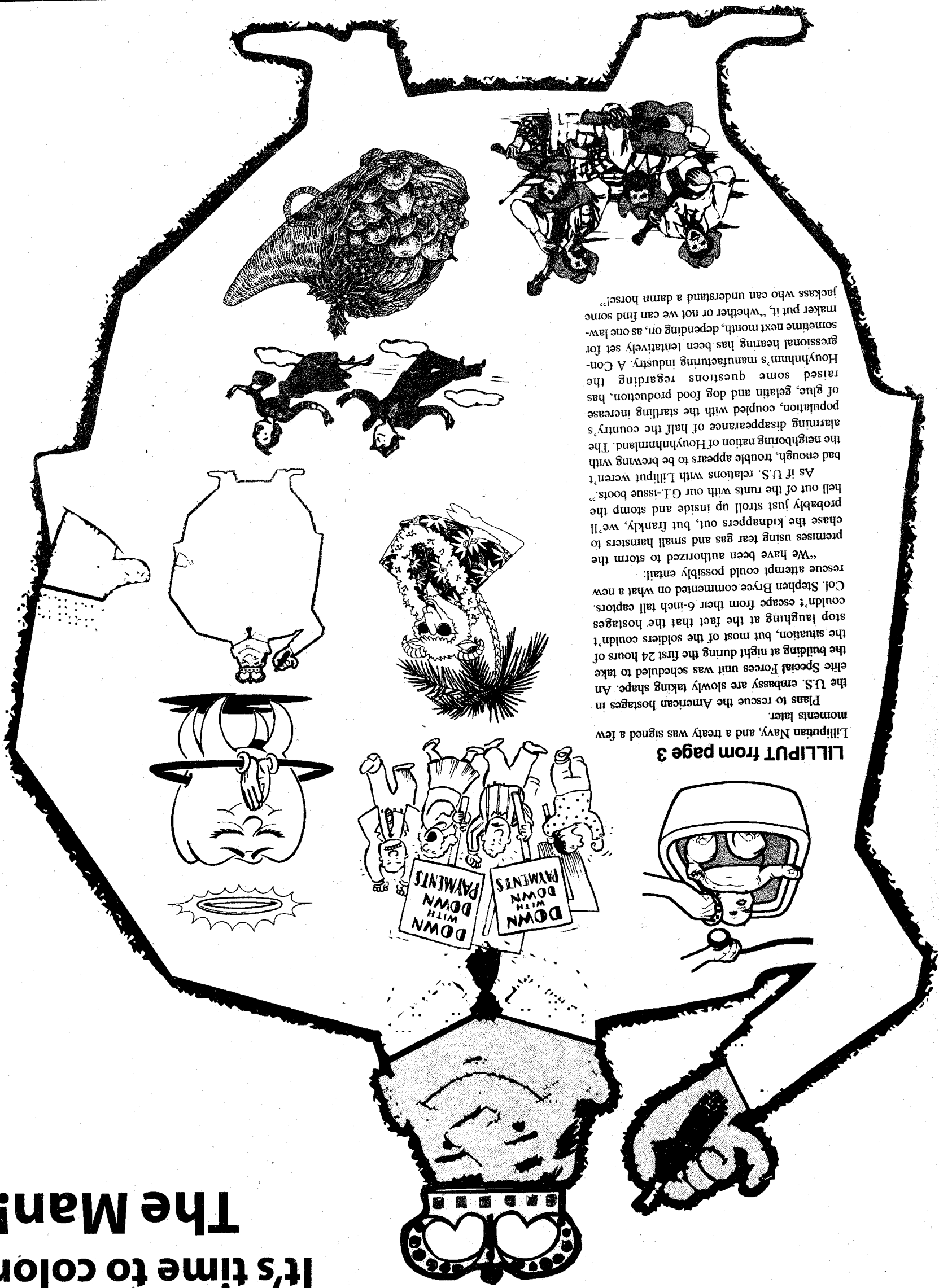
Frank turns and looks at them.

Frank: What the hell's so funny? *God and St. Peter fall to the floor laughing.*

Frank: Some way to treat a guy who's just made it into Heaven. Hey Peter, who's your friend? *God curses under his breath and disappears in a puff of smoke.*

Peter: Don't mind Him, Frank. Just go right ahead. They've fired up the barbeque pit to greet you.

Get your crayons, kiddos...
It's time to color
The Man!



LILLIPUT from page 3

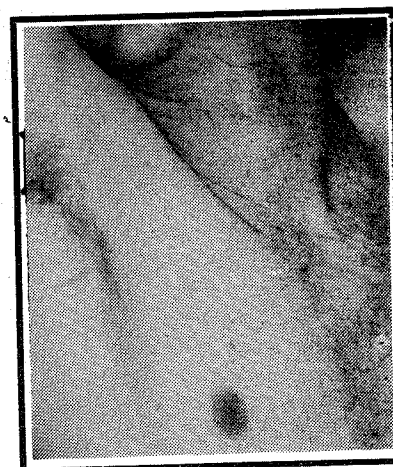
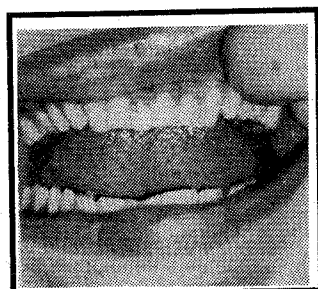
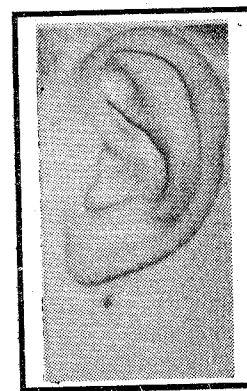
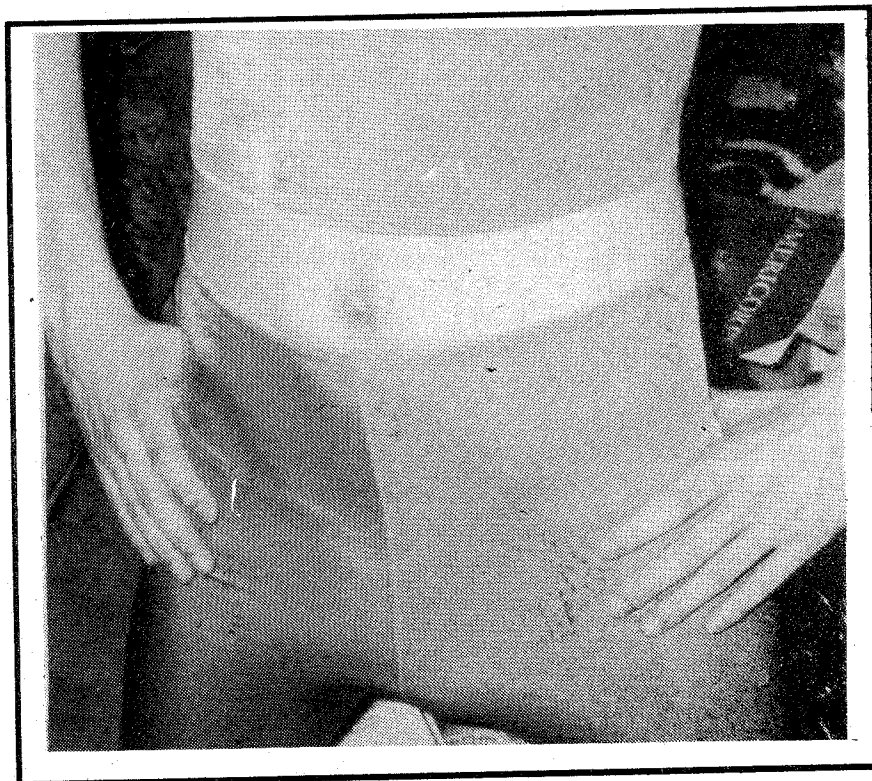
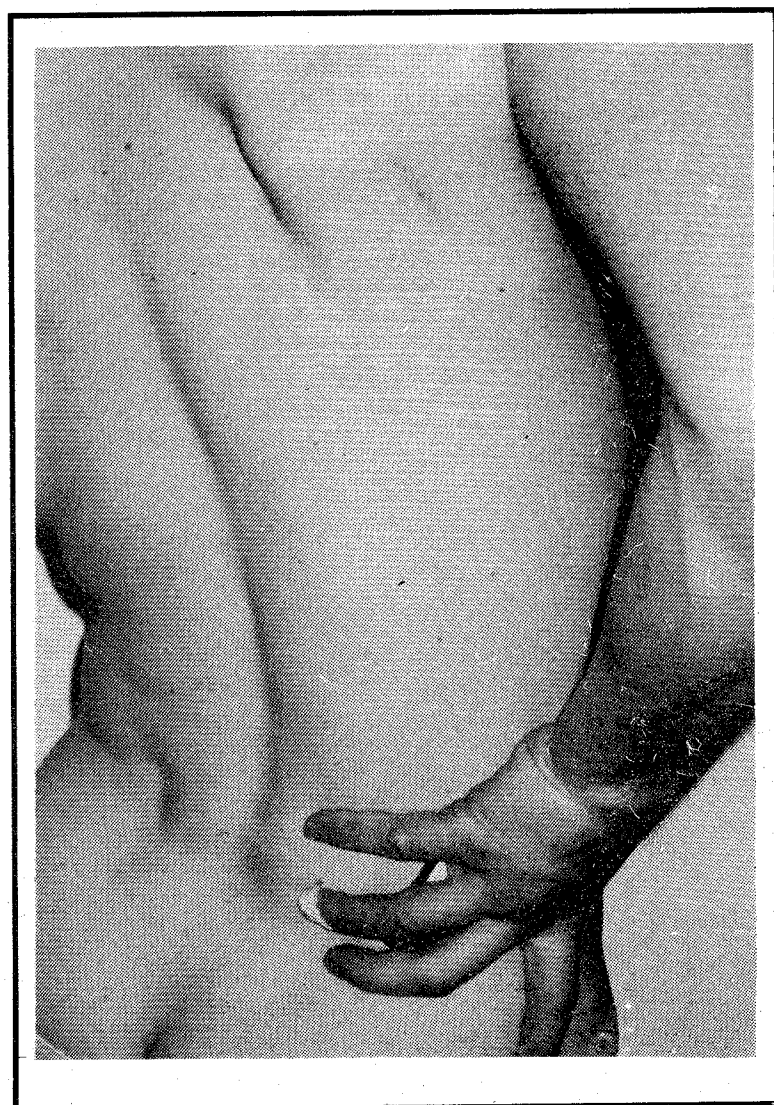
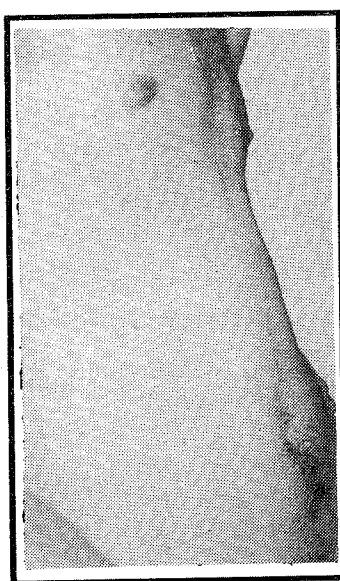
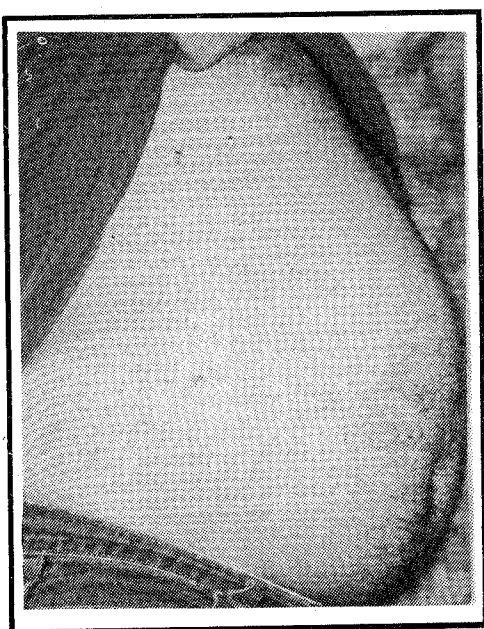
Plans to rescue the American hostages in the U.S. embassy are slowly taking shape. An elite Special Forces unit was scheduled to take the building at night during the first 24 hours of the situation, but most of the soldiers couldn't stop laughing at the fact that the hostages couldn't escape from their 6-inch tall captors. Col. Stephen Bryce commented on what a new rescue attempt could possibly entail:

"We have been authorized to storm the premises using tear gas and small hamsters to chase the kidnappers out, but frankly, we'll probably just stroll up inside and stomp the hell out of the runts with our G.I.-issue boots."

As if U.S. relations with Lilliput weren't bad enough, trouble appears to be brewing with the neighboring nation of Houyhnhnmland. The alarming disappearance of half the country's population, coupled with the startling increase of glue, gelatin and dog food production, has raised some questions regarding the Houyhnhnm's manufacturing industry. A Congressional hearing has been tentatively set for sometime next month, depending on, as one lawmaker put it, "whether or not we can find some jackass who can understand a damn horse!"

ART PAGE...

This very special week we look into the art and beauty which lies within the human form.



My Campys Graft!

Depledge

while

you

still

can't

Don't become

brainwashed

by

fucking

Greeks!

SAVE

YOURSELF!

--desk in Pickler

This could be the best time of your life

I really hope sitting here on my ass is

not the best time of my life

me too

--Ophelia Parrish, women's

What to do, while we wait?
Some take time to masturbate,
Others have a different fate,
They just come and contemplate,
Some just worry because their late
Or is that psyche test another date?
Why doesn't she reciprocate?
O Well, at least this shtter is really
first rated

--2nd floor McClain, men's

Anything you can think to write has already been written.

--2nd floor McClain, men's

After a good dump it's Miller Time!

--2nd floor McClain, men's

Laure

&

Brian

4-ever

--desk in Pickler

--Ophelia Parrish, women's

Rusty bathroom walls
up in bathroom second floor
where are all the words with all
the information I adore

I don't know

about all you boys.

but I say its better

to be from Illinois

We can grow

and smoke

our own weed

that's why it's better to be from Germany

By your intelligence it's

plain to see you've

smoked a lot

--1st floor Barnett, men's

You are now pooping at a 90 degree angle

--3rd floor McClain, men's

Is anyone else
afraid of diseases on
the toilet seats?

--Ophelia Parrish, men's

NO! I already have AIDS.

I love
my girlfriend

I know

why

A least he has one. (I don't)
Would love to be with one
in bed

--1st floor Barnett, men's

--2nd floor Barnett, men's

I just fucked
a high school
cheerleader
in the physics lab

--1st floor Barnett, men's

IT DOESN'T COUNT
IF YOU GIVE IT
TO YOURSELF

I got a
great blow job
right where
you're
sitting

--desk in Pickler

I am a goatfucker
don't you wish
you were, too?

Umbros
are good
for sex
and Addidas
Pants
Also Listen to
her heart & lungs
with a
stethoscope 1st
(then fuck her like hell)

--desk in Pickler

how's!

da

rock

Socrates

and

Plato

--2nd floor McClain, women's

17 year old peach fuzz
bisexual alcoholic gambler (male except on weekends)
looking for 92 year old biracial
South African expatriot bi curious
amaphrodite interested in
a 3-some with my
cannine lover & I

--3rd floor McClain, men's

nor quite as death

not as fast as ignorance is

y mi cabeza

education is killing the human race

--desk in Pickler

Who cares about the greeks?
Smoke weed
and listen to N.W.A.

NWO 4 life

--desk in Pickler

Your Vampire Games Suck

--desk in OP

get
lives

--desk in Pickler