

revonitor

A Campus Collective

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

urglars enter dorm oms in middle of night

udents awakened by invading strangers

ry by | Takeshi Noto

Seven female students at Truman State sity were the victims of burglaries last

The Department of Public Safety has raised suspects responsible for these burglaries, as yet to arrest anybody. None of the incisinvolved violence or a the use of a weapon. There are many similarities in the circumes of incidents. The burglars are mainly ting unlocked female dorm rooms at night. ost of the cases, burglaries took place while aim either slept or left a room unlocked. goods were either cash or valuable prop-Some of the stolen properties were found the scenes of the crimes later.

The descriptions of suspects gathered from sses and victims indicate the existence of or three suspects.

don't think it's caused by one person," Abbott, the Assistant Director of Public y, said. "I don't say dozen, but at least r three groups are around."

Julie McCulloch, a freshman, had her wallet stolen on the night of August 23. All three residents in her room were asleep when the burglary took place. When the burglar came in and turned on the light, one roommate woke up and saw a man. The roommate took no action against the burglar, because she did not fully comprehend the circumstance and the burglar left the room quickly.

McCulloch's roommate described the burglar as a dark skinned male with a blue hat. McCulloch's wallet was recovered the next day soon after she reported the incident to security. Cash and her driver's license were missing.

"My roommate said [the burglar] knocked on the door very lightly before he came in, McCulloch said. "So, he didn't wake up anybody, but looked normal."

Elizabeth Lind, a junior, had her checkbook, watch, and wallet stolen, while she left

See BURGLARIES, page 10

Evolution deemed not part of Kansas state standards

story by | Matt Reeg

On Aug. 11, 1999, the Kansas Board of Education voted to remove all wording regarding evolution from the state's science standards. Local school boards are technically still in control of what is taught in their school districts, but because evolution is no longer part of the state's education standards, questions regarding evolution will not be on the state's standardized tests starting in the 2000-2001 school year. This causes many educators, parents and scientists to worry that many school districts simply will stop teaching evolution as it will no longer be used to assess student performance and ultimately assess school districts themselves.

This recent action taken by the Kansas Board of Education is only one battle in an idealogical war between creationists, those who believe that a divine being created the universe as it is now, and evolutionists, who support the scientific theory that all life adapts and changes over time. Kansas is the first state, however, that has completely removed evolution from its educational requirements.

Creationists across the country have been crying louder and louder for school districts to teach both evolution and creationism. They argue that both evolution and creationism are just theories that should be presented as equal in their attempts to explain the origin of life. Evolutionists affirm that the word theory in science does not have the same meaning as it does in everyday speech. It is an accepted belief in the scientific community. They remind creationists that gravity is also just

a theory According to the New York Times, in the small town of Pratt, Kan., the local school board has already arranged to discuss a book called Of Pandas and People: The Central Question of Biological Origins. This book supports the notion that "intelligent design" by an "intelligent agent" is more effective than evolution at explaining the origin of life. This book is used in other states, but if Pratt public schools decide to use it, they would not be required to teach evolution as well. Simi-

lar events are occurring in towns across Kansas despite letters sent by the ACLU to all 304 school districts in Kansas explaining new Supreme Court decisions outlawing the teaching of Biblical creationism in schools.

The Kansas City Star reports that a negative image of Kansas' education system is already evident. Kansas State University is having difficulty finding new professors for the biology department. Some out-of-state agencies are suggesting that students not look for employment in Kansas because their kids might not be exposed to evolution. Both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Chemical Society stated that the Kansas School Board's decision was a setback for

Even the governor of Kansas, Bill Graves, said that the school board's decision was "a terrible, tragic, embarrassing solution to a problem that didn't exist. State representative David Atkins said he would support a bill that requires applicants to Kansas state universities to have knowledge on evolution.

This decision does not affect science class only. The new edition of one Kansas state history book will not include a chapter on prehistoric Kansas. The publishers believe that the book's discussion of 150-million year old fossils would offend some Kansas creationists who believe in a much later date of creation.

Creationists like Linda Holloway, chairperson of the Kansas Board of Education, wonder why supporters of evolution are so angry by the board's decision. They claim that they are simply allowing local districts to decide what to teach their students. Dick Kurtenbach of the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri, asked the Kansas City Star, "Why have standards at all ... if it was about local control, the state board would eliminate all standards and go out of business." The Kansas state legislature might be thinking the same thing as there is currently talk of introducing a bill to begin the process of eliminating the state Board of Education.



alband Slowride performing at an SAB Campus Coffeehouse last semester. SAB plans to ace this event with a more-inclusive one which would feature visual art and poetry along music. Story on page 7.

The U.S. Military Matt Arnold



The controversy surrounding the arming of DPS officers. Story on page 6.



likens The Sixth Sense to other classic Hollywood thrillers. Review on page 8.

continues to bomb Iraq and everyone is focused on McGwire. Opinion on page 5.



The Monitor

Campus Collective Independent Quality Since 1995

Volume 6, Number 2

CAMPUS ADDRESS

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The Monitor is published every other Tuesday. Each writer is responsible for his or her own work.

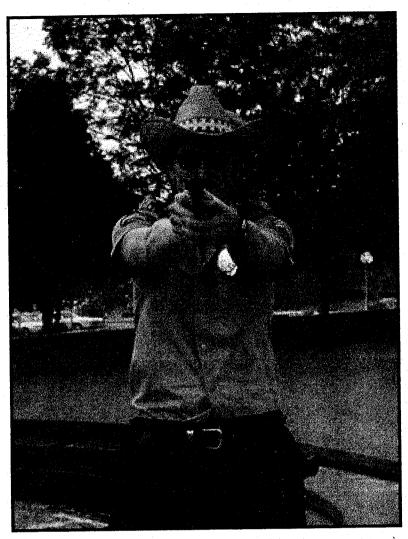
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"Among people who have learned something from the 18th century (say, Voltaire) it is a truism, hardly deserving discussion, that the defense of the right of free expression is not restricted to ideas one approves of, and that it is precisely in the case of ideas found most offensive that this right must be vigorously defended. Advocacy of the right to express ideas that are generally approved of is, quite obviously, a matter of no significance."

— Noam Chomsky





Officer takes aim at pesky Monitor photographer.

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letters

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ot something to say? Write a letter to The Monitor. Letters must be typed to be considered for publication.

founding Fathers were mostly Christian

To whom this may concern:

While reading the article "Ten Commandments in schools violate rights" from he August 19th edition of The Monitor, I me upor a mistake. Referring to the bunders of our nation, Leslee White states: "If memory serves, most of those guys were deists or atheists." This is enurely untrue. Of the 55 writers of our nation's Constitution, 29 were Protestants, 8 were Calvinists, two were Methodists, wo were Roman Catholic, two were Lutheran, one was a Quaker, and only one was a deist. I am not trying to start an argument; I am only stating a fact.

Furthermore, the words of President Harry S. Truman, a very popular man on this campus, also relate to the subject. They are as follows:

Fundamental basis of this nation's was given to Moses on the mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from teachings which we get from Exodus and St. Mathew, from Isaiah and St. Paul. I don't think we emphasize that enough these days. If we don't have the proper fundamental moral background, we will finally wind up with a totalitarian government which does not believe in the rights for anybody except the state."

Sincerely, Jessica Lindsay

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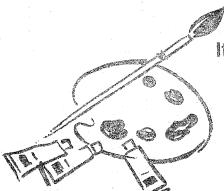
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Tweak Your Mind

What would you do if your hands turned into cheese?



"Give them to somebody who will want to make a sandwich."

- Anita Stoyanova



"Eat'em."

- Crystal Schooler



"I would put them on a hamburger and feed it to the head of John the Baptist."

- Queen Astra



"I quess I'd have to get some crackers. That would be it."

- Larry Asberry, Jr.





"I'd replace the Rat King on the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

- Justin Kelly

"Do they regenerate, like, if they get eaten? I guess I'd have lots of mice and rats for pets."

- Paul Stock





opinions

"If I've got something to say, sir, I'm gonna say it now."

Phil Och

Thank the Lord for the Religious Right

opinion by | Leslee White

This past summer was the best, brightest time in our nation's history. For the first time, real steps were taken to combat the evil that confronts us everyday. I am speaking, of course, of the recent war waged by Congress against sin. The conservative-leaning Congress, with the help and influence of the Religious Right, is ensuring that we will be able to shift into the next century as "One Nation under God."

It is about time the youth of today learn about consequences and the importance of boundaries. Thus, I am relieved our Congress has both declared the posting of the Ten Commandments legal in the U.S. and put pressure on large movie theaters to strictly enforce ratings rules.

There are many reasons the Ten Commandments should line the walls at all public schools. For too long our children have wandered the halls of countless public schools without hall passes. Many are said to have been "truant." However, with the Ten Commandments posted in the hallways, the would-be wrongdoers will see the laws of the One True God so close to their prospective sin and certainly see the error of their ways.

Also, many fights, which sometimes escalate to greater violence, begin at school. The best way to resolve a fight is to realize we are all members of the flock of the Lord Jesus Christ, and our differences melt away in His Holy Light. Thus, we should not fight, but be brothers in Christ.

The most important effect the Ten Com-

mandments will have is in showing non-believers the error of their ways and preventing the Lord's Chosen from going astray. We all know the pressures of high school, and we have seen those who try to prevent us Christians from learning more of and teaching others about His Word. Things will soon be changing in our public schools. For now, those who practice false faiths or have no faith at all will hear the Word of God from the young Christians who will derive strength and support from the school walls.

I have heard some opponents to the bill claim that posting the Ten Commandments is "a clear violation of the Establishment Clause and the 'Wall of Separation' between Church and State as well as a violation of the students' civil rights." However, this is complete nonsense. The Ten Commandments are sensible rules for all people to follow. Students should be taught that stealing, killing, and disrespecting elders is wrong. As for the first few commandments which instruct us to be faithful to the One True God, these still do not violate people's rights because people must learn to worship the True Lord -- even non-believers must at some time acknowledge their mistake and turn to Jesus, the Risen Lord.

Hopefully, we can instill this necessity in the people at the high schools so the students grow up to live for the Lord, thus creating a truly perfect people as once existed among the Puritans.

The other helpful step Congress has taken is in pressuring movie theaters to be less lenient



about ratings policies to avoid strict government action. Therefore, theaters now serve their rightful duty as censors for our children.

Apparently, children under the age of seventeen sometimes sneak into films rated "R." These films sometimes include sex, violence, and excessive cursing. I am so thankful the youth will no longer be susceptible to such displays of sin and debauchery.

Just last month my younger brother wanted to attend a film titled, "American Pie." I purchased two tickets but was told at the door to the theater that my brother was not old enough to attend the movie sans license. At first I was angry, but I soon saw "American Pie" and thanked God my brother was not privy to such garbage. A film focusing on sex and liquor among adolescents -- they should be ashamed. On the bright side, my brother and I were able to attend

"Arlington Road." This film is about a man who teaches a class on terrorism and suspects his new neighbors are planning to bomb a nearby federal building. Though also rated "R." I understand why we were not carded upon entering this film. The values this film conveyed were valid and patriotic. The rights to condemn a government which does not adhere to Christian morals, to bear arms for personal safety and necessary action against oppressors — these are the important things in life. These are the things I want my brother to learn. Why allow your underage sibling to see a film about Sodom when he or she could see a film about God's Army?

Congress and the Religious Right have made some important strides in our country, and, hopefully, we can keep these factions in power long enough to win the war against Satan.

A drunk "yes" means "no" and other good advice

opinion by | Jennifer Wrightam

The Greeks sure are knowledgeable. No, silly, not those people in the matching t-shirts. I mean those other people. The ones somewhere over in the Mediterranean. In fact, more than 2,000 years ago it was a Greek philosopher, Publilius, who wrote, "Many receive advice, few profit from it." And I agree with him. Nevertheless, I'd like to offer you a little bit of advice on how to make your life at Truman easier. These things will help, whether you're a freshman or a senior. But if you are a freshman, chances are you're being faced with a lot of these things for the first time, so make sure you read this.

- 1. Communicate with your roommate. An uncomfortable situation can become an unbearable one if you let something fester. Don't let something build up and eat you up inside. If you at least talk about a problem, there's a chance it could be fixed.
- 2. Don't party on "hump night" (Wednesday). Give yourself at least a couple of days to recover from parties. Parties are just as good, and often better, on Fridays and Saturdays.
- 3. To the guys: If you don't already know, an intoxicated "yes" is really a "no."
- 4. Don't leave yourself open to crime. Lock your door, If you must leave your bag-

- in the cafeteria, watch it so no one takes it. Lock your doors at night, too. People have been known to walk in and steal stuff while you're asleep. More frequently, I hear about drunk guys passing out in the wrong room, or thinking Joe Scmoe's guitar case is a urinal
- 5. You got ???s, ask your S.A. They're hooked up. Plus, according to the S.A. I talked to in MO, they don't mind answering questions.
- 6. Use the Rec Center. It's free. Ask them when their peak periods are and avoid them. If you can't run, jog. If you can't lift 100 lbs, lift 50 lbs. Nobody'll notice. For all they know, you're still recovering from yesterday's triathalon.
- 7. Sleep at night. Go to classes during the day. Your G.P.A. will thank you.
- 8. Get involved in multiple organizations your freshman year. Don't give all your time to just one. This is a time for growth and experimentation.
- 9. Don't go to parties to meet people. You may meet a lot of people, but how many will remember your name? Meet people through other activities. Try and meet people from different races, religions, sexual orientations, etc. You'll learn a lot more from diversity than from the 7:30 class you never

quite wake up for

10. Ladies: WATCH OUT!! One or two reported rapes is nowhere close to the number I've heard about just from friends. If you drink, make sure you have someone to watch your back (preferably they should be trustworthy, caring and SOBER). Then, don't depend on them to do it. You are responsible for yourself. Even the girl you think is your new best friend might ditch you so she can go off with a new boy. If you're trashed, you might suddenly find yourself alone with five drunk men. Also, just because there are seven guys telling you how great the other one is, DON'T believe them. They're probably roommates, or best friends. For all you know, they're in on it together, or they've been scamming girls for years. Finally, watch your drink. Date rape drugs are surprisingly easy to get.

- 11. Make Kool-Aid for your microfridge. It's way cheaper than soda. Also, make popcorn instead of ordering pizza when you need a late-night snack.
- 12. Put money on your I.D. for laundry. When you get half-way through the semester, and you have no cash or clean underwear, you'll appreciate it (plus, the washers are cheaper that way).
 - 13. Talk to your professors. This isn't

high school. No one will think you're a suck up, and it's a whole lot easier to call them when you've screwed up (missed a quiz, etc.), if you've talked to them when you haven't. Plus, professors love it when you talk to 'em. Even if they seem like a dragon in class, they're usually great if you go to their office hours (even if you don't necessarily need help).

- 14. Get to know at least one person in each class well enough to get their phone #. Call 'em when you miss class, don't understand the homework, or want a peer reader.
 - 15. Take notes.
 - 16. Study.
- 17. Study two nights before a big exam, so you can get a full night's sleep the night before and just refresh your memory the day of
- 18. Find a study partner/study group. This is especially important in classes where your teacher talks fast (you can compare notes), classes with a lot of math (you can "barter answers"), and classes with monotonous information (Latin's more fun when you get to share someone else's stupid mneumonic devices).
- 19. Spend a couple dollars and buy your-self one of those ID-holder/key-chains. You won't lose stuff as much.

ast Timor votes on independence

mericans indifferently watch "leaders" contest for the Presidency

pinion by | Jerry Schirmer

This Monday, the Indonesian colony of stTimor held a referendum. This island, never lowed a vote on anything until now, has now wan a turnout upward of 99% of registered axis in the area. Meanwhile, the United States, which has enjoyed the benefits of mass ting rights since the 1820s, and universal votagrights since the 1960s, seems to have an axid windling number of citizens willing to put the necessary effort to go their polling place and vote. Less than 50% of registered voters old in the 1996 presidential election, and the allook for election '00 does not seem to be such better.

At first glance, the contrast seems exmely odd -- why would Americans, who supsedly have seen all of the benefits of a free
afair electoral system, be so completely unadministration about it, while the East Timorese,
alonized by the Indonesians since 1975, and
after that by the Portugese, since the 1600s,
as aggressively supportive of their elections?
The answer that a cynic would give is that
hited States citizens have had long enough to
come dissatisfied with the electoral process
with the constant campaigning and insincerity
which come with it, while the East Timorese
are only the knowledge that their current sitution does not work and must be changed.

This answer, although somewhat true, somewhat unsatisfying. After all, a great bal of accomplishments have been made by

elected officials - ranging from creating the Federal Reserve Board, the civil rights legislation of the 1960s, to winning World War II and setting up the FDIC. It is possible that the truth is more likely to be that the East Timorese are offered a much more profound decision than the Americans have in any recent election -- whether to stay a part of Indonesia, one of the rising world powers, likely to become

more and more important throughout the 21st century, or to break away from their oppressive parent state, and declare independence. The electorate in the United States, on the other hand, has had to sort through a large amount of what I call polito-gibberish to find out anything about their candidate, the anything often being that there is nothing to find. For example, the current Presidential election, already threatening to feature the highest spending levels ever, has already devolved into name-calling and personality-based campaigning, with both sides only aggressively supporting things like education and Social Security, and only aggressively opposing things like high school shootings and the drug trade, and thereby risking almost noth-



ing politically. While good for campaign coffers, this style of electioneering offers Americans very little ability to choose between a variety of positions, and certainly prevents the chance for an election in the United States as profound as that that happened in East Timor Monday.

Therefore, maybe it is time that we Americans take a hard look at the people who are running for office in our country, and decide whether or not we should support those candidates who might have somewhat lower numbers than the frontrunners, but on the other hand, have shown a degree of courage, and are not afraid of making interesting and useful decisions.



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US more focused on McGwire than Iraq Bombing continues, no one notices

pinion by Greg Brenner

I was watching TV sometime last week, ist casually flipping channels, watching nothing and everything, when a news report threw woff my couch. Well, maybe not thrown, but idd lift me off the butt imprint I was starting bleave on the couch. Apparently, we, as in the IS. Military, are still bombing Iraq. I was stocked. Wasn't this last year's news? The tory, though, wasn't even front page material, guess' taking a few potshots at some nation alfway across the world doesn't rate as a major news event.

After getting through the initial shock of ralizing that we are still preoccupied with a ration that threatens our cheap gas prices I rated to think. Thinking of course, is prohibited during the summer in some states, but I proceeded at my own risk. What the TV man rold me is that a few U.S. warplanes were parolling Iraq's northern no-fly zone when they were shot at by Iraqi air defense batteries.

Maybe a short lesson in ancient history will clarify things a bit. After some research, I found some startling information. Apparently, way back in 1991, when grunge was starting to gow beyond the confines of Seattle, there was a little international conflict called the Gulf War. After the war, Saddam Hussein still had his hands full with a Kurdish rebellion in Northern



Iraq. As long as Saddam had air superiority in the area though, the Kurds stood the very good chance of being blown off the face of the earth. Hence, the UN established a nofly zone in the north to protect the Kurds, where no Iraqi plane of any kind would be allowed.

Here it is, 1999,

and Saddam has still not recognized the no-fly zone, and Iraqi air defenses continue to fire every now and again on U.S. planes patrolling the area. This is exactly what happened that made the news. In self defense, our planes shot back. The thing that got me was that this was not the first incident in a few months, but has been a continuing thing. Why hadn't this been brought to my attention before? I was mad with righteous indignation. Why didn't anybody else notice?

After thinking for a bit, I realized the obvious. Bombing Iraq was yesterday's news. It just isn't the flavor of the month for the media. Our beloved media, the handmaiden of our be-

loved homogenizing industrial corporations, has had its hands full with more important stories than a few bombs being lobbed at a foreign country. Especially when we had to start lobbing bombs in another foreign territory, in Kosovo. Heck, with the crisis in Kosovo, JFK Jr.'s death, Woodstock, and Ricky Martin to cover we're lucky we get any other news at all. Plus, Bill Clinton and Congress have been relatively scandal free this whole summer. They don't need another major crisis in the Mideast to draw media attention away.

But I'm forgetting the most important reason of all. That is, who cares? Who cares as long as gas is cheap, the stock market keeps going up, Mark McGwire keeps hitting homeruns, the football season starts on time, and Wal-Mart remains open 24 hours a day. Why should I care if some Muslims halfway around the world are having their remains picked up by a sponge? Gee, I really can't figure out why we as a nation are hated in places like the Mideast. I can only wonder what is going on their minds as they burn American flags in protest. After this realization I did what any other normal, apathetic American would do. I sat back down in my butt groove and recommenced my channel flipping, searching, searching, until the ballgame came on. Keep blasting 'em out, Big Mac.

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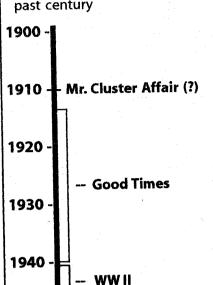
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Campus Crime Time Line

Weapons-related crimes of the past century



1960 1968

1950

only peace and love 1970

Dynamite Incident

(dynamite found on campus)

1980

1977

1990

1991

1992

1993 **Construction worker** threatened by wife brandishing fire arm while on the job

1994

1995

1996

student is threatened by other student armed with unloaded Crossman BB pistol

1997

1998

Drunken man resists DPS and is promptly doused with pepper spray

DPS officers to be armed with Glock 9 and hollow point bullets

DPS officers carrying handguns: is this right?

U.S. statistics say yes, campus history says no

story by | Matt Haggans research by | Jeff Moore

Although the announcement in late August by the Truman State Department of Public Safety that officers would soon be issued handguns might be something of a surprise, it has been a long time

DPS director Lisa Sprague says that, since her arrival on campus in 1991, she has been making continual efforts to turn DPS into a regular police force, equipped and trained just like any other local or state police. By 1994, DPS became a state-recognized and sanctioned force, and Sprague feels that the acquisition of firearms is "a natural evolution for [the] department." Final approval came from the Board of Governors on

The ten commissioned officers which serve on the DPS force will be the only personnel sanctioned to bear arms, and have already completed the training necessary under Missouri state law to carry such responsibility. But is there really a need for DPS to pack heat?

A casual glance at the most recent DPS Campus Crime Report indicates that there were no weapons related-crimes investigated by DPS or referred to off-campus authorities during the years 1996-1998. A further delving into campus history revealed that there have been few weaponsrelated incidents at TSU. In 1993, a woman pulled a gun on her husband who was working at an oncampus construction site; the situation was resolved without any weapons discharge. Lessthreatening weapons incidents involved a student threatening another with an unloaded BB pistol in 1996, and a 1995 charge involving an unidentified weapon which was less dangerous than a knife or gun, according to the recollection of DPS assistant director Von Abbot. These are the only weapons-related incidents he recalls during his twenty-five vears at Truman.

Therefore, there appears to be a lack of a pressing need for DPS officers to be armed; according to DPS' own statistics, they don't face weapons-related crime on campus very often. To this claim Sprague made an interesting and valid rebuttal: "Those past statistics are not indicators of what the future may bring. Continuing, she said that, independent of TSU statistics, "the national statistics are alarming." DPS also felt that, in order to serve the camp u s commu-nity as best it could, it was necessary for the

commissioned of-

ficers to have the

tools necessary to

do that. Firearms, in

the view of DPS, are one of

Assault Crimes '92 - '99 1% angry wives of construction workers carrying guns 4% needles and pills 1% BB gun threats 6% projectiles, spit and thrown 6% verbal assault 44% Fraternity fights 38% other pushing and shoving

Past policy necessitated that Kirksville Police Department officers would be called in if DPS officers came up against a situation they were not equipped to handle. With DPS' new acquisitions, the possibilities under which that might occur are drastically reduced. Both enforcement agencies are optimistic about their changed relationship. KPD Captain Tim King commented that Kirksville police are completely supportive of DPS' new policy, and feels "it should have happened a long time ago." Similarly, Sprague expects that the two agencies will have a better relationship: "We will be of better assistance to them and they will be of better assistance to us."

DPS' reasons to carry firearms appear wellgrounded; they seem to have the training necessary to carry such authority, and the Kirksville law enforcement community collectively feels that these new "tools," as Sprague puts it,

> are a necessity. What kind of "tools" will they be carrying? Glock semiautomatic handguns, the same weapons issued to KPD officers, will be DPS' weapon of choice. Each will be loaded with 40 caliber Smith and Wesson hollowpoint ammunition, a more or less standard bullet in the United States. Their American popularity not with-

standing, hollow-points, a type of 'expanding' or 'dum-dum' bullet, have long been recognized internationally as problematic. The Convention of the Hague of 1899 outlawed bullets which "expand or flatten easily in the human body," for war-time use. Hollow-points fit this definition, but the

United States was not a signatory to this treaty This convention has not been forgotten: the See retariat of the United Nations referenced it in 1969 report on human rights in armed conflicts, and issued a similar condemnation of such am munition. The problem of the hollow-point involves the fact that it causes more unrepairable damage, making them more lethal. The Encyclopaedia Brittanica notes: "Expanding bullets are made with an exposed nose of soft metal. which will push back into the jacketed portion to deform it on impact, enlarging the wound and increasing the shock of the impact."

As stated above, the United States. did not sign the 1899 convention (which covers only wartime usage anyway), nor has it outlawed hollowpoint ammunition. The fact that such countries as Germany, France, Japan, Switzerland, and Russia did sign the treaty is worth considering however. DPS director Sprague responded by pointing out the advantages of such bullets. Have ing researched many types of ammunition. DPS chose hollow-points because they are slowermoving, thus less able to penetrate more than one surface. As Sprague put it, hollow-points are therefore more suited to the campus environment than higher-velocity rounds.

It has become obvious that DPS has researched the issue carefully. Questions still remain, however. How will DPS officers, without an institutional history of armed officers on campus to support them, adapt to their new responsibilities? Will President Magruder's "handpicked" advisory commission have enough teeth to engage in real oversight over DPS activity? Finally, will armed officers on campus patrol change the campus' relaxed environment? Sprague addressed all of these concerns: "I think we all agree that guns don't belong on campus. Unfortunately, criminals don't recognize that boundary anymore." Maybe the time has come for DPS officers to be armed; but rather than feel relieved that such protection has arrived. Truman students should be disappointed that such protection is necessary in the first place.

Forum to discuss the arming of DPS officers

brief by | Amy Christensen

On Wednesday, September 15 at 8:00 PM in Student Union room #2, Student Senate is sponsoring an open forum to discuss the arming of ten Department of Public Safety officers, which is expected to go into effect within thirty to forty-five days, depending upon when the weapons shipment is received. Speakers will include Lisa Sprague, Director of Public Safety, David Hoffman, Interim Dean of Student Affairs, and Jessica Neighbors, Student Representative to the Board of Governors. All art invited to attend and welcome to ask questions at the meeting. For further information, contact Kristen Riebling at x4714, 207 Blanton.

New SAB event to replace Coffeehouse

story by | Shelby Floyd

If you are an artist, actor, musician, pet, dancer, comedian, filmmaker or are in any other way cre-

tive, SAB wants your

art to be seen.

This semester the Student Activities Board has decided the age-old Campus Coffeehouse that we all know and love (or have

a least heard about

through a friend of a friend) needs a face-

"Basically, we'd like to expand [Campus Coffeehouse] to include more art forms," SAB production committee chair, Alicia Ito, said. "Instead of three bands we might have poetry, dance and bands all in one night."

SAB's production committee is in tharge of showcasing campus talent organizing such events as Campus Coffeehouse and Lakeside Review.

Junior Morgan Peckosh is a member of SAB who said that by revamping the Coffeehouse the committee might better fulfill its objective of showcasing talent.

"We feel over time people have lost

interest," Peckosh said. "For the most part people only come out to see their friends [perform]. So, by expanding, hopefully we will expose people to more art forms and things they wouldn't normally see."

The "new" Campus Coffeehouse has the potential to be a gallery where one student's artwork is on display while, at the same time, a group of theater students could be improvising a skit. Or while a photography student shows slides of his or her work a musical group is performing in the foreground. The possibilities are endless.

Ito said SAB is excited about providing an opportunity for student artists who might only have one or two opportunities to display their work each semester.

Peckosh stressed that SAB is willing to work to make sure people's artwork gets out.

"If setting things on fire is your art we'll find a way to accommodate you," he

In order to get the word out and generate interest in the "new" Coffeehouse, SAB will be posting flyers, visiting art, music and theater classes and clubs.

If anyone is interested in performing or has suggestions for SAB call 785-4722 or visit their office in the lower level of the Student Union

MAA wants to be more han just a math club

tory by | Ben Braun

For the first time in several years, lyers are being seen around campus for neetings of the Truman State chapter of he MAA, the Mathematics Association of America. Due to a renewed interest in he MAA on campus, the organization, which has lapsed in the past several years, sworking to garner a larger membership of the amore active role in the Truman committy.

The MAA was founded nationally in 915, and has since grown to include over 0,000 members including college and unicrisity faculty, two-year college faculty, igh school teachers, government and corrorate workers, graduate school faculty, search mathematicians, and graduate and indergraduate students. Its primary function nationally is to "advance interest in the mathematical sciences, especially at the collegiate level" (www.maa.org). However, local chapters often vary in their focus and activities. The Truman State chapter was formed in 1990. Dr. Ron Knight, Professor of Mathematics, is the faculty divisor.

John Haney, a junior Math and Computer Science major from St. Louis, is one of the students attempting to generate interest in the Truman MAA. His own interest in the organization developed from what he perceived as a lack of opportunities for non-Math majors and freshmen on tampus to pursue mathematics individually. One of the best aspects of the MAA, ecording to Haney, is that "it's a math

organization that freshmen can jump right into and become members." This gives freshmen, as well as upperclassmen, the ability to explore elements of math which are not always provided in classroom settings. These elements include professional opportunities, graduate program information, and a social environment with an eclectic group of students who might not be in math classes at Truman.

While the MAA exists because of mathematics, the level of mathematical focus depends on the people involved. According to Dr. Tony Vazzana, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, "The student chapter should be exactly what the students want it to be." Some of the activities planned for this year include participation in inframural events as well as holiday related activities such as pumpkin carving and a night of cookie baking. Because it is a mathematics related organization, there are a lot of potential stereotypes which the MAA faces. According to Haney, "the hardest thing (about gathering interest) is getting people informed about what MAA actually does."

For anyone interested in the MAA, information can be found on the web at www.maa.org. The next meeting of the Truman chapter will be September 13th at 6.30 PM; the meeting room will be posted on campus. John Haney is hoping for a strong turnout. "The MAA is more of a social group than a math group," Haney said, "and anyone who has an interest, no matter what major they are, is welcome."

Adviser Roulette: The new Residential College Program may be the solution story by | Sarah Wienke

My first adviser switched

me to his ex-wife (who was

also an adviser) when I

declared a major my

freshman year. Then she

switched me to an adviser

in my field. This adviser fell

in love with her and they

ran off together, leaving me

with adviser #4.

A glaring white square of cardboard was delivered to me this summer from the University. It read: "Your adviser has been changed to Dr. So-and-So -- please contact him in the future, blah blah blah." I threw down the card in a fit of frustration and shouted "Number four!"

That's right -- my fourth adviser -- in the

two years I have been here. The story is a confusing love trapezoid which I somehow became part of, but here goes: My first adviser switched me to his ex-wife (who was also an adviser) when I declared a major my freshman year. Then she switched me to an adviser in my field. This adviser fell in love with her and they ran off together, leaving me with adviser #4. Realizing the game of ad-

viser roulette I was playing, I asked my favorite professor (in my field) to be my new adviser, and now all is well.

Though my story is a bit odd, many upperclassmen suffer a similar plight. We become bitter and mutter under our breath "Adviser schmiser ##@\$%!"

Many freshman have no idea about this potential dilemma. Teresa Roth, a freshman business major, said, "I didn't know that we had to switch advisers until I went to go see Barb Espe and I'm kind of confused on why we switched [advisers]."

Mike Houlahan, a freshman from Dobson Hall with an undecided major, also did not know that his adviser may be changed. "I thought our adviser was pretty much our adviser for our whole career," he said.

Houlahan continued, "It would be kind of nice to have someone who knows your history and what you're looking to do."

Do not despair, freshmen! There's hope! Mark Weidener, the Head Academic Adviser of Missouri Hall, explains that the entire advising system for freshman living within residential halls has been reworked and rejuvenated. "Assessment data on advising indicated that academic advising and access to it was important to students' academic success and reten-

tion," he said. "The University determined that having a core of professional advisers who were accessible within each residence hall would address the concerns of accessibility and allow students to develop a rapport with someone who is knowledgeable about the academic programs and policies of the University."

He continued, "Faculty advisers do a wonderful job of advising but also have teaching and research responsibilities. Allowing first time freshman to work with professional advisers gives faculty an opportunity to have more time for their other professional pursuits and also affords them an opportunity to take part in

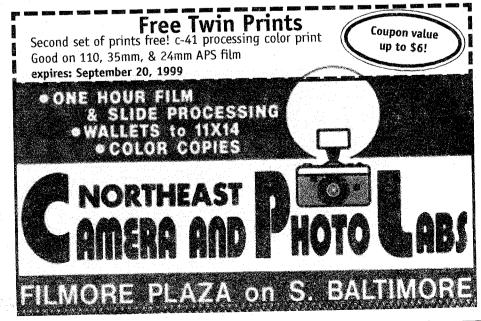
the RCP as Faculty Fellows.'

The Residential College Program is directed by Dr. Mary Ramsbottom, the Interim Dean. In each former residential college (Ryle, Missouri, Centennial) there is now a College Rector -- a representative faculty member. Also there is a Head Academic Adviser in each of the three buildings, and at least one Academic Adviser in all of the halls. Finally, there is a part-time Business Academic Adviser available.

The RCP also works closely with the Residential Living Program. "The RCP maintains a strong liaison relationship with the Hall Director and the S.A.'s," Weidener explained.

Shane Layton, a senior S.A. in Ryle Hall described the importance of the Residential College Advisers, "They are there through the whole day, every day of the week to meet with the residents to advise them. [They] help students understand the whole LSP format and to guide them through the General Bulletin, the student's Bible here at Truman State."

It may seem unfair to upperclassmen that the freshmen this year are being more closely nurtured than we were as freshmen. But it is refreshing to see that in some cases, such as this one, the system really can work.





reviews

music | film | literature

The Sixth Sense: more than a typical thriller

The Sixth Sense
Directed by M.
Night Shyamalan

review by | Matt Arnold, Film Club

Hollywood's response to The Blair Witch Project has taken less than a month. Historically, horror finds its revitalization on the heels of successful low-bud-

get filmmakers and The Sixth Sense is now the nations number one movie. In the past, smallbudget movies such as Val Newton's Cat People (1942), George Romero's Night of the Living Dead_(1968), or Sam Raimi's The Evil Dead (1982) have given new life to terror with new innovations, while finding themselves upstaged by the likes of Roman Polanski's Rosemary's Baby (1968) or creations from Wes Craven or John Carpenter. Newton, Romero, and Raimi successfully grabbed the imagination of audiences by keeping monsters off-screen or bathed in darkness, appealing to specific audiences (college) with gore-ridden special effects, or perhaps utilizing groundbreaking camera work. Unfortunately, these found themselves overshadowed by high-cost special effects, big-budget star power, or just a better all around movie. In this light, Blair Witch is the latest Sam Raimi and The Sixth Sense will be its Roman Polanski.

The Sixth Sense is a complete movie with depth of story, complimentary acting, and a classic Gothic style to over-shadow a more innovative film. The remarkable acting begins with Bruce Willis who stars as child psychologist Malcolm Crowe. Willis's character suffers unspeakably on the evening of receiving his greatest award. Though the award praises of greatness, we quickly learn Dr. Crowe too is human. One of his few failures (Donnie Wahlberg) breaks into Crowe's home and waits to accuse the doctor of his failure. The scene is punctuated by his shooting the doctor and then blowing his own brains out in the bathroom. The story continues a year later with Dr. Crowe



having become obsessed with the event. His inability to put it behind him has seemingly caused hard times for himself and his wife (Olivia Williams). His only salvation seems to rest with an 8-year-old boy named Cole Sear. The problems the young Cole suffers from are identical to that of his past failure. Cole can tell no one of his troubling problem, not even his mother (Toni Collette). Why? Because if you're Cole how do you tell someone you can see dead people?

The relationship and emotions displayed in the scenes between the characters is remarkable. Willis redeems himself, after recent lack-luster performances, with a strong, sincere portrait of a man who is a ghost of his former self searching for redemption. Toni Collete brings to the screen additional acclaim. However, both are made better by young Haley Joel Osment! The rage of emotion and interplay with the other characters are incredible for a child actor. The instability and heartbreak of Cole's life is the film's greatest distraction from the theme that fails to be revealed until the finale.

The exceptional screenplay and direction come from writer\director M. Night Shyamalan. In only his third film, Shyamalan has crafted a horror film that defies its categorization. The dramatic and thrilling elements of this film make it more than just a horror flick. The amazing execution and economy of his cinematography call to mention some of the greats in the horror genre. Individually, the many aspects of this film make it above average, but it is the film's conclusion that will make it great. Certainly worth the price of two admissions.

Book examines lives of American adolescents

A Tribe Apart: A Journey Into the Heart of American Adolescence

Written by Patricia Hersch

review by Matthew Webber

Anyone who has ever been a teenager knows of the gap between parents and their children. If a parent has forgotten, his teenage child will surely remind him. The testing of limits, the fights over rules, the disregard for curfew, dating, reckless driving. For some lucky parents, the gap is not so

big, and their children do their best to stay out of trouble. Perhaps the biggest conflict is a wanted tattoo. But there exists for many parents a generation chasm, a gulf which is widened till there can be no bridge. Shouting matches, running away, suicide attempts, teenage alcoholism. This schism has widened in the 1990s, and teenagers are left more alone, more depressed, and more scared then ever. The adolescent community is for the most part left alone, "a tribe apart" from the rest of society.

In 1992, Patricia Hersch, a journalist and mother of three children, was already well aware of the widening gap. (And this was before all the high school shootings. So things have gotten worse since Hersch began her book.) Unlike so many parents

and administrators, Hersch was concerned for and curious about the teenagers in her community. She wanted to talk to them, to know them, to understand them. She wanted to write a book about them.

In the book's introduction, Hersch describes her goals: "A lone adult wanderer, I would enter the adolescent world, get to know it on its own terms, and tell representative stories of growing up from the points of view of eight kids... from seventh through twelfth grade... over a period of several years, from 1992 to 1995, with updates to the present, 1997... What I wanted was to get in touch with the rhythms of the school, to regularly experience kids' lives on the inside."

To achieve this, Hersch went to "classes, assemblies, events" and witnessed "crises, celebrations, and the ordinary flow of several years." Hersch and the eight students "talked and talked. We talked in cars, in fast-food restaurants, in then homes, in parks, at malls, at football games, in the halls at school, in my office, on the phone." The talks went so well that by the end of the three years, most of the students were initiating the meetings, stopping by to chat with an adult who

understood them.

PATRICIA HERSCH

The stories in the book are those of eight kids. Their thoughts, their fears, their dreams of the future. All of the drama that seems so important in high school is present. Awkwardness with the opposite sex, shyness, the old party vs. schoolwork dilemma, drug trouble, working a job that you don't really like, backstabbing friends, that first sexual experience, trying to get those good grades that colleges like, family troubles -- the list goes on and on.

All of the stories are refreshingly honest. And all of the tales are fascinating. These students were just waiting for someone to listen.

The stories are things you've done before Or maybe your best friend, or that guy you never talked to, but somebody, somewhere, has done these same things. And at the same time, no one has done them. The stories are like snowflakes, each one is different-- and sometimes they change before they hit the ground.

I've heard it said that for a piece of fic-

tion to be good, the lives of its characters must be more interesting, more real, than the lives of real people. By this rationale, for a piece of nonfiction to be good, the stories of its subjects must be somehow just as interesting as those of fictional characters, and more real than the stories of the readers of the book. A reader should be able to get to know these characters, to know them like a person he's known all his life, and to maybe even miss them when the book is put away. It's been one day since I finished A Tribe Apart, and already miss the book's eight main characters.

With A Tribe Apart, Hersch did the heretofore unthinkable: she talked to eight kids and connected with them. There are a few (such a tiny
few) connections that Hersch seems to miss, like
some of the slang and a rock band or two. For
ninety-five percent or more of the book, though,
Hersch is right on target. Most importantly, she
tried, and came much closer to understanding "the
heart of adolescence" than almost every parent
For the eight kids in the book the canyon was
bridged. A little understanding was all it took,
and this is the lesson a reader learns.

Lamb delivers another masterpiece

I Know This Much is True Written by Wally Lamb

review by | Kristen Crenshaw

"On the afternoon of Oct. 12, 1990, my twin brother Thomas entered the Three Rivers, Connecticut Public Library, retreated to one of the rear study carrels, and prayed to God the sacrifice he was about to commit would be deemed acceptable."

With this first line I was completely captured by Wally Lamb's second novel I Know This Much is True. The novel is a stunning story about Dominick and Thomas Birdsey, identical twins with one big difference: Thomas is schizophrenic.

I picked up the book around the middle of June. By the end of August I was done with the 897-page story. That is why I liked the book, it was incredibly long, but quick-paced. With four different mini-stories in the book, it never slows down.

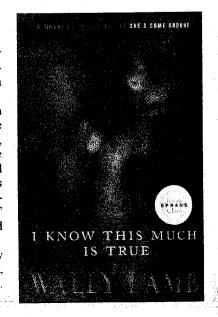
So did I read it because it was a number one New York Times bestseller? No, didn't even notice that until afterwards. Because it is one of the books from "Oprah's Book Club?" Hardly. I actually try very hard to stay away from those books. I read it simply because I liked his other book. And like his other book, by the end the readers feel like the characters are real.

In all fairness, I won't tell the ending,

that would just be mean. I will say, after the first chapter you'll want to keep reading, wondering what is going to happen next in the life of Dominick.

With lines like, "Overmedicating him when he freaks out. Look, the last time they upped his dosage after an episode, he was like something out of Night of the Living Dead. You'd go to visit him, and he'd just sit there, ramrod straight, his hands and legs twitching away like someone had plugged him into the wall socket," the readers get pulled into the demented world of a schizophrenic.

I Know This Much is True is a very good book. Lamb showed, to me at least, that he could write another powerful novel.



Beta Band creates ordered

chaos

The Beta Band The Beta Band **Astralwerks**

review by | Erin Hucke

"We're The Beta Band and we're nice and clean," The Beta Band introduce themselves on the first track of their debut album. "The Beta Band Rap" sums up the history of the band in no less than five musical styles. The song begins with a barrage of cartoon noises all chaotic and spinning around, invoking the landscape of something like

Pee Wee's Playhouse. Then the song moves to a sing-along style introduction, followed by a rap segment, which is like nothing you see on MTV these days. And last but not least, it moves to an Elvis-y 50s-type rock portion. If this sounds confusing or jumbled, let me assure you that it's completely listenable.

This, whatever it is, seems to be The Beta Band's style, combining every musical element or noise you can find into one gigantic audio collage that still sounds (surprisingly) like a normal song.



Actually. there are so many sounds would probably be easier to tell you what's not on the album, but I'll give it a try anyway Here are

some of the more unique elements: someone running on a gravel road (with some sort of Doppler effect added), a crowd cheering, clownish horns, bunches of Casio beats and loops, video game laser sounds, spacey bleeps, whistling, drum loops and so many more unidentifiable sounds. Every genre of music is represented somewhere in the mix, from orchestral to hip-

The Beta Band is also really into voice distortion and making themselves sound like



Alvin & The Chipmunks on songs like 'Smiling" and "Round the Bend." And on the opposite end, very, very deep distorted voices appear on "Dance O'er the Border" along with some Scottish beat box added to the rap.

But it's not all synthetic, sound effects or samples. The basis for every song is your standard "natural" instruments from piano to hippie-inspired bongo drums. And then all of that extra stuff is sprinkled...er...piled on top.

Now some of the basics. The Beta Band is a Scottish band that the British press hyped to no end. They released three E.P.'s before they had a crack at an album. These came out in the U.S. earlier this year compiled onto one CD aptly named The Three E.P.'s. The E.P.'s were strange, but are nothing compared to the absolute weirdness of the actual album. And their live shows are rumored to be quite a spectacle with the band always dressing up like cowboys or bandits or wearing spacesuits. The band is fairly obsessed with The Beach Boys and their legendary album Pet Sounds since they mention both in nearly three songs on this album ("I listened to The Beach Boys just a minute ago, Wild Honey. It's not the best album but it's still pretty good...")

Certainly, the most intriguing feature of this album is the enormous amount of sound on it. None of the songs sound alike. And the glue that holds it all together is the fact that everything is so unique and diversified that it actually works. You discover things you hadn't noticed before on each listen. So it always sounds fresh; almost every time sounds like the first listen.

The Incontinentals are good

The Incontinentals **Yacht Club Favorites Red Boots Records**

review by | Marie Montano

Although their name may disturb you at first. The Incontinentals are a band that you need to hear. Recently listed as an ingredient in the "Kirksville special sauce," The Incontinentals now base themselves out of Columbia, but they were once an old name on the Kirksville circuit. Their latest release, Yacht Club Favorites, is a must have for any lover of stink rock.

You may be thinking, "What is this 'stink rock' you talk of?" Well, I'm not quite sure myself. Their sound is hard to put a finger on. Although comparisons have been made to bands like The Old 97s and Uncle Tupelo, The Incontinentals' music is still their own. Folk rock with elements of alt-country and twangy soul come together to make a wonderfully



sound Soulful vocals, brilliant guitar playing, solid bass lines, and pumping drums

unique

come together for some laid-back, yet toetapping music.

The Incontinentals have definitely come a long way with Yacht Club Favorites, their third CD release. The saxophone is the newest addition to the Incontinentals sound. The sax adds depth to songs like "Johnny Online" and "I'm Yours."

Their songs are filled with smart wit that will, at times, make you laugh out loud. "Do the Disappointment" will get you to "dance like you know that nothing you do will ever turn out right." "Get off that Divan" implores a nintendo junkie to get a life. In "Elks Lodge Curse Word Handbook," the book falls into the wrong hands and "so many dear sons and daughters started swearing like they was from



If their song "Champagne Super Nover" doesn't give you a newfound appreciation in our fair city, I don't know what will. Mentioned in the song are such hot spots as the quad and downtown Kirksville. It also features a Kirksvillian who "drives a beat up Chevrolet with a redesigned front fender/And it's not hard to coax him to go out on a bender.

Make no mistake; this isn't a mere novelty record. It may make you giggle, but it will also make you appreciate good musicianship. The driving force to each song is definitely awe-inspiring guitarist Dwight Douglas. When you least expect it, his genius guitar licks make you do a double take. Sometimes melodic and sometimes rocking, Douglas is one mad guitarscientist. Sadly, Douglas has recently retired from the band. His retirement is a big loss for music world. I'm still trying to get over it. On an up note, he will play with the band until they find a replacement and he will also play on their next

Buy Yacht Club Favorites. You'll find a song that makes you want to get up and dance a crazy jig. Better yet, check them out at their next date in Columbia (at Shattered, Friday, September 10th). Trust me, it's well worth the drive. The Incontinentals are the caviar of bands.

For more information about The Incontinentals and to contact them about ordering this fine CD, visit them at Stinkville! (http://members.tripod.com/ ~Incontinentals)

Pokemon: gotta catch 'em all or they will catch you

Pokemon: Red and Blue **Nintendo** Gameboy

review by | Jesse Pasley

Hey kids! What's the craze that has spawned a cartoon show, clothes, a card



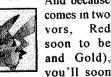
game, a plethora of video games, and a whole generation of braindead children? It's Pokemon! Gotta catch 'em all! What, you've never heard of Pokemon? Well, to start, this whole craze is brought to

us by the nation of Japan and its fascination with role-playing games and strange furry animals. Basically, it involves training cute animals called pokemon to fight against other pokemon trainers. Sound wholesome? Didn't think so. But somehow I know that parents will approve.

Probably the best way to introduce the

Pokemon craze to the uninitiated is to play the celebrated Gameboy game. Be forewarned, though. This game is as addictive as crack and more fun than trying to ride a Sh-And because

game different flaand Blue (and Yellow, Silver, means



vors, Red soon to be and Gold), you'll soon be skipping out on homework twice as much.

The game's premise is easy enough: become the best Pokemon trainer in the land, while watching out for Team Rocket's (a rival training team) devious tricks. But don't be fooled by the game's smiley face, for you

will soon know the game as the ultimate scourge to doing anything useful in life again. You might even call the game 'Satan" once you've realized how much time was wasted playing it. Plan on allotting



plenty of time for this one,

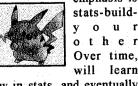
At the beginning of the game, you get to choose be-

tween three different pokemon to train: a

bulbasaur, a squirtle, and a charmander. As the game progresses, you'll get the chance to capture pokemon in the wild, compete

against other trainers, and explore the dangers of the Pokemon universe. Like any roleemphasis is

playing game, placed on ing by having pokemon fight pokemon vour pokemon



y o u r other Over time, will learn

new moves, grow in stats, and eventually 'evolve" into bigger and better pokemon.

While plot in the game is nearly nonexistent (but enough to keep children and people like me entertained), the real thrill of the game come in trying to catch all the different pokemon. There's fish, insects, rock monsters, poisonous rabbits, and countless other kinds of neat pokemon to catch. In the

game, there are exactly 150 to try to collect. While this is an impossible task to undertake alone (Red and Blue have different pokemon to catch), you can "link up" with other Pokemon Gameboy players and trade pokemon:

Okay, so the graphics are cheesy as hell and the sound doesn't exactly make me shoot my load, but there's definitely something about this game. Maybe it's the excitement of catching a clefairy or a jigglypuff, or maybe it's the idea of watching two animals fight (in a legal way). But perhaps I should leave it to you, the reader, to go out,

get this game, and watch your social life go down the drain. whatever reason, Pokemon for the Gameboy is highly recommended.



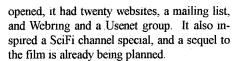
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Reaction to *Blair Witch Project* ridiculous

story by | Mouse Oestmann

Okay, we all know the story by now. Three film students go into the woods to film a documentary. They talk to some locals, get some dirt on a local witch legend, and head into the woods to investigate said legend. They never come home. A year later, their footage is found. Several million dollars down the road — Voila! The Blair Witch Project takes the film industry by storm, and is on its way to becoming the most profitable independent film ever made.

This film really does what it was intended to do, in my opinion. It scared the socks off me, and I am not that easily scared. In fact, I think The Blair Witch Project does its job a little too well. In the aftermath of this intensely disturbing story, the small town of Burkittsville, Maine (where the movie takes place) is being overrun with hundreds of visitors traipsing through the town cemetery, deluging the sheriff's office with phone calls demanding to know where the missing students are, and hunting souvenirs. One enterprising visitor made a keepsake out of the "Welcome to Burkittsville" sign shown in the movie. Other interesting facts concerning the Blair Witch Phenomenon: Even before the film



Now, come on, folks. This is ridiculous. Does nobody but me know that the WHOLE THING IS FAKE?! All of it, no kidding. The legend, the mysterious stick figures, the crazy serial killer, Heather's journal, and everything on the website was all dreamed up by the two writer/directors. Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez, probably over a pizza and a couple beers. Want to know how this film was made? Myrick and Sanchez sent their three actors into the woods with a map and a tent and told them to find their way to certain checknoints where food had been left for them. (Incidentally, the actors get less and less food each day. By the end, they were down to a banana and a Powerbar each.) Once it got dark, the directors would run around in the woods and make scary noises. and leave rock piles around the tent, and cause all the other scary crap in the film to happen. Why is everyone freaking out about a completely fictional story? Why are people convinced that three film students really died in the

woods in Maine? Do people really believe that if Heather, Josh and Mike really had died in the woods, their families would have allowed this movie to be released? I would really like to think that, as a nation, we are not that dumb.

So quit worrying, folks. Nobody died. If you need something to worry about, worry that Saddam Hussein is a CIA-controlled puppet. Worry that the squirrels on the quad are plotting to take over the library. But don't worry about the Blair Witch. She



Summer in Kirksville more than book learnin'

story by | Jay Peterson

Those steamy summer days of unrestrained disregard for book learnin' and pencil pushin' seem like a dream lost in our foggy minds since we are all now in the third week of school. But for a moment let me take you back to summertume to tell you a story.

You see, for me this was no ordinary summer. No, it was a summer in Kirksville which, as anyone who had the pleasure of staying here after the school year is over can tell you, is in no way a normal experience. For years, I had always thought that this town just folds up and shuts down when school isn't in session. You do get that feeling especially if you hang around after graduation weekend when almost everyone moves out. Imagine a campus that has an EXCESS of parking spots. No one is writing chalk slogans on the sidewalks and you only have to go to class for five weeks! There are so few people here that you feel like you are the only person around and they open the stores and bars just for you! I had the added pleasure of delivering Pizzas this summer for a restaurant chain that shall remain nameless (Clue: It rhymes with Greza Put). This job put me in a unique position in that I met the entire range of

people that Kirksville has to offer. From snotnosed kids who like to throw lit fireworks at delivery drivers, to retired people who tip big just because it's a hot day.

I knew the beautiful as well as the ugly sides of Kirksville. I had changed from just a distant observer of the people of Kirksville to an important part of the food chain. My friends, pizza, unless you are not aware of this, is truly the one great unifying force that transcends the boundaries of class, occupation, and even man's eternal soul!

I was glad that I lived and learned about Kirksville this summer by bestowing not pizza bliss to the masses and in turn learned that there is a lot more to life than book learnin. In a conversation with my mother the other day I came to a shocking revelation that at the same time frightened and amazed me. I had developed a drawl, or at least the semblance of one this summer and I realized that this is not a bad thing. I had learned to stop worrying and love Kirksville for what it was and that this town just keeps on keeping on if you like it or not. So I urge you to try a Kirksville summer sometime during your college career. You're sure to be pleasantly surprised with the results.

Actors make *The Foreigner* hysterical, chilling

For those that missed the

opportunity to see the production, it

was well worth the time instead of

that party that maybe you decided

to arrive early at.

review by | Danny March

I entered the Baldwin auditorium to see *The Foreigner* probably like most people, expecting to see a dry comedy that would make me think twice about giving up my plans on a Friday night. Wrong. It proved to be one of the funniest theatre productions I have ever seen. I was very impressed with the way that the performers convinced the audience with realism. They were focused, their mannerisms and facial expressions were natural, and if there were mistakes in the dialogue, they were not seen by the eye of the observer. For those that missed the oppor-

tunity to see the production, it was well worth the time instead of that party that maybe you decided you needed to arrive early at. It was sur-

prising to see so many students come to watch on its third night running, a Friday night for that matter.

If you want a run down of the plot, here it is. A middle-aged man from London named Charlie needs time away from his wife who has been sneaking around with twenty-three other men on different occasions, because she says her husband is "boring." During his stay in the states he finds himself wrapped up in a fight against the Ku Klux Klan who wants possession of the lodge where he is staying in order to turn it into their headquarters. The comedy comes with the fact that everyone at the lodge is convinced Charlie can't speak English. Throughout the play he undergoes a personality change that makes him a more social member of society and gives him the advantage to help his newfound friends defeat the KKK.

The actor (Brian McCue) who played Charlie could not have done a better job at pretending that he couldn't speak English. His dumbfounded looks at everyone who tried to communicate with him had the audience hysterical, especially when Betty would yell in his face, which she thought would make him understand better. It amazed me how he was able to keep a straight face while

Owen was going off on his mother, and he just sat there as if he hadn't a clue. His excitement while Ellard was teaching him what different objects were was very entertaining due to his exaggerated pronunciations of the words, and yet also a touching scene because Ellard had gained confidence in himself that he amounted to something.

One of my favorite parts of the production was the climax when Charlie went through his "being from another planet" routine and melted a Klan member, who was actually Ellard, into the ground as in *The Wizard of Oz*. The whole time he is chanting,

"I look into your bones!" This ploy was meant to scare Owen and the other Klan members, but let me tell you, I was almost at the edge of my seat with fright

as well. Charlie's voice and stance on top of the couch during the scene were so intimidating and realistic that I was afraid he might have just taken everyone in the auditorium captive while he was at it.

When the KKK appeared on stage in the dark, the flashlight that shined into the audience added to the spookiness of the atmosphere. I watched other members of the audience slouch into their seats as if to hide from the light. The outfits of the "sheet heads" and the way they crept into the room made tension grow and the suspense was so heart thumping that you could probably hear it throughout the audience. The chills that were running up everyone's spine were not only due to the Arctic temperature of the auditorium.

The Foreigner was a well-crafted mix of good casting, lighting, staging, props, and of course, the acting. It was definitely a must-see that some of you are just hearing about from your friends, so a sorry goes out to those that missed it. However, I'm sure it was a good indication of how well other shows in the future will be performed so I will be looking forward to seeing more outstanding work from the theatre department.

BURGLARIES from page 1

her room unlocked for about 30 minutes.

"I have no clue who did it," Lind said.
"I didn't realize until the next day."

Her checkbook was found the next day on the hall desk.

Sara Martin was in her room when one male entered her room and took her roommate Leslie Burton's wallet. While the burglar's face was unfamiliar to Martin, his behavior made her believe him to be her roommate's friend.

"He just came in, and took my roommate's wallet, and left the room," said Martin. "I just thought he was my roommate's friend."

Over 20 incidents including thefts, acts of vandalism, and other types of crimes, took place last month. Abbott said most of the reports were from Missouri Hall.

"There was only one burglary in Missouri [Hall]," he said. "But, most of the other

incidents were reported from Missouri."

After facing a peak on August 24, the crime rate on the campus seems to be declin-

"The crime rate has declined since last week," Abbott said. "First, it's because Kirksville has completed a couple of cases similar to ours. Probably others saw the consequences and realized what's gonna happen to themselves, so they stopped. The other reason is that we nailed down one of suspects. If we can get him, certainly it will decrease burglaries."

Abbott explains that the best way to prevent burglary is to lock the door all the time

The Women's Resource Center also provides aids of self-defense tactics.

"We will arrange a self-defense program in this month or the coming month," said Sara Denny, the Co-Director of the Women's R source Center.

BO TO THESE BOILERTS

Ames, Iowa

20 Sept. Cibo Matto, Solex - Maintenance Shop

01 Oct. Phish - Hilton Coliseum

Chicago

09 Sept. Hellacopters - Metro/Smart Bar 10 Sept. Frogs - Empty Bottle 10 Sept. Mogwai - Metro/Smart Bar 10 &11 Sept. Son Volt - Park West 16 Sept. godspeed you black emperor! -Lounge Ax

St. Louis

11 Sept. Billy Bragg, Freedy Johnson -Mississippi Nights 11 Sept. Mighty Blue Kings - Firehouse 17 Sept. Cibo Matto, Citizen King -Mississippi Nights 17 Sept. G. Love and Special Sauce -Washington University 18 Sept. The Incontinentals, Wheelie Buddies - Side Door 22 Sept.Tricky, Stroke - Mississippi Nights 28 Sept. L7 - Karma 30 Sept.The Chemical Brothers -American Theatre

Lawrence, Kansas

08 Sept. Gadjits - Bottleneck 13 Sept. DJ Spooky, That Subliminal Kid, Kool Keith - Granada Theatre 21 Sept. Cibo Matto, Solex - Granada Theatre 23 Sept. Richard Thomson - Liberty Hall

28 Sept. Jonathan Richman - Bottleneck

Columbia, Missouri

09 Sept. Blue Hawaiians, Sinead Lohan -Blue Note 10 Sept. 2 Skinnee J's - Blue Note 10 Sept. The Incontinentals - Shattered 16 Sept. The Incontinentals - Blue Note

CLASSIFIEDS

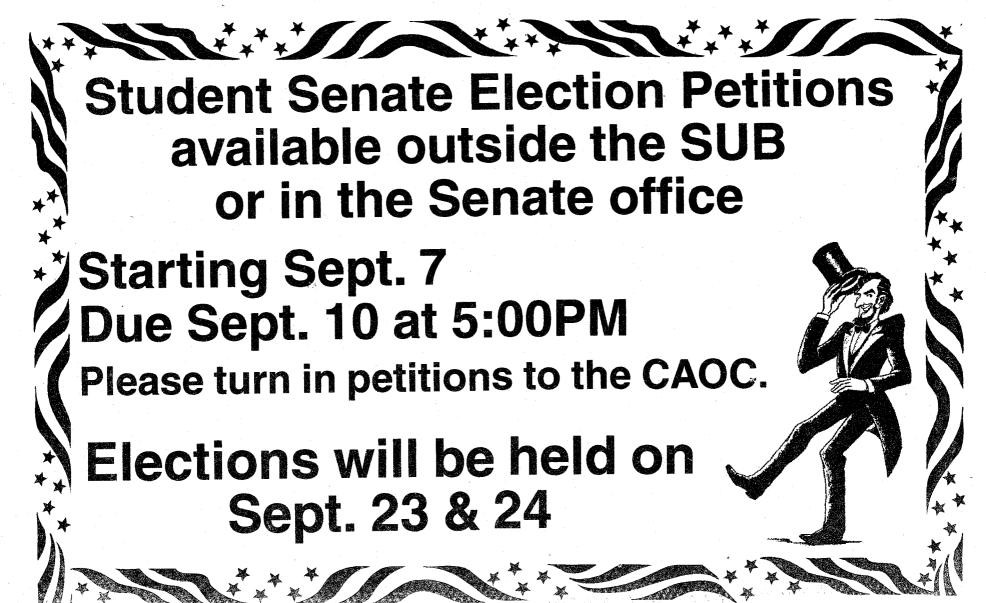
WANTED - CD's: Hootie & The Blowfish, Loverboy or Spin Doctors. Will not pay more than \$1 each. Call Marie @ 627-5350.

FOR SALE - 3Com Ethernet card for PC.10/100 Base-T.\$40 obo. Call Erin @ OASIS-97. (That's 627-4797.)

wanted - Neato lookin' stand-up ashtray. Will pay top dollar. (That's mucho dinero.) Call Marie @ 627-5350.

WANTED - Copies of Vanilla Ice's *Mind Blowin* or *Extremely Live*. Will pay top dollar. Call Matt @ 785-5571.

wanted - Marlboro Miles. Will not pay anything. Please donate to the QUEEN ASTRA MARLBORO MILES CHALLENGE EXTRAVAGANZA. Send to *Monitor* mailbox in CAOC, Lower Level SUB.



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Student confesses her "dirty little secret"

story by | Lori Vaughn

Every town I visit, every place I live, I always have one place I must check out. Sometimes I visit alone, but I usually stop by with the boy, David, who started me on it. Whenever I go, I come away feeling more peaceful, calm and at one with God than when I went in. I always look forward to going back, even though I hardly ever tell anyone about these pilgrimages.

If this is starting to sound like a confession, it's because I feel like I'm telling one. My "dirty little secret" is one I've yet to find in anyone I've met. I admit, I thought the idea of visiting cemeteries was a little strange when David first invited me, but after our first visit, I began to understand his fascination.

Cemeteries are like nothing else. Grounds that sacred and reverential, yet that public are rare; other places that mysterious and anonymous, yet that detailed don't exist. The opportunities a cemetery gives you are abundant. Just walking around and imagining the lives of the people buried there is all it takes. The man appointed to his position by President Jackson -- how did he feel when he received that honor? The parents of the twin girls who died at age three -- what were their reactions? The boy who died in 1945 when he was 15 -- did he ever get a first kiss?

If nothing else, a stop at a cemetery can be a beautiful time to meditate. The most memorable burial ground I have vis-

ited was not a nicely mowed and kept up one, but a centuries-old graveyard in Mississippi that is still being used today. I found gravestones that had been long ago uprooted by trees right next to ones from this decade. Massive, decorated statues carved with lengthy tributes to the dead and small blocks of concrete with nothing more than initials. Fire ants and countless mosquitoes drove me away, but in the short time I was there, I probably thought and reflected more than during the entire rest of my vacation.

Please believe me, I go to graveyards with no intent of disrespect or exploitation. Some may believe my actions merit that description, but I feel no regret in my visits. What is the point of a cemetery? Giving those who have died a tribute on Earth, and by going and spending the time and thought I do, I have given them just one more memory in the living.

So I have seen the beauty of decay in the gravestones in the South, visited the well-kept cemeteries in the North, and even made my own little memorial for a friend's grave back home. All of these times have aided my growth and my gratitude for what I have now, as well as helped commemorate those who have died. I have yet to visit the Kirksville cemetery, but I hope to visit as soon as I can. And maybe I will see a few more people than I would have seen before.



Thanks so much for funding The Monitor, FAC. Without you, we wouldn't be able to put out such great issues as this one.



(Plus we find you really appealing.)

NSA and so-called Echelon threaten privacy

throughout world

Big Brother has been monitoring the worlds conversations

feature by | Jesse Pasley

The phrase "Big Brother," borrowed from the George Orwell novel 1984, has long been associated with some dark future in which citizens are no longer guaranteed any form of privacy and are carefully watched by an overbearing government. But what if this thing called "Big Brother" already exists? What if our government has the ability to intercept every phone call you make, every email you send and every radio transmission you emit from home?

Unfortunately, this ability to nullify privacy does not exist in some distant time, but rather looms on the horizon, with all the key components to make such a system work already in place. In fact, the ability for the United States government to conduct domestic spy activity has indeed existed for some time. Theorized by conspiracy buffs and fully realized as truth by recent events in Australia and Britain, a worldwide system of satellites, wire taps, listening stations, and other hightech eavesdropping devices, known in the intelligence community as Echelon, have been in use for nearly thirty years.

Allegedly, Echelon is a comprehensive signal intelligence gathering system capable of intercepting, translating, and analyzing nearly every radio and microwave transmission, telephone call, fax, or data transfer. This project is supported mainly by the National Security Agency (NSA) of the United States, along with NSA's counterparts in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom. Due to the very clandestine nature of NSA's work, the Echelon project especially, its operations have been the most closely guarded secrets of the United States Government.

What is most disturbing about NSA

and Echelon, however, are the concerns from the European Union that NSA is using Echelon for commercial aims, such as selling intelligence to enemy nations or acquiring intelligence to provide companies with a competitive edge in the global

The history of Echelon starts with the mission of NSA. NSA is primarily responsible for intercepting and analyzing communications from target nations or factions. This in-

cludes language translation, code breaking, and, more importantly, sifting the important communications from the unimpor-

But at the close of World War II, the United States saw a growing concern for the Soviet Union and the spread of communism. To aid in the containment of Soviet and communist influence, a secret agreement and alliance was struck between the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, with the United States and the United Kingdom acting as the primary participants. This alliance was known as UKUSA. It was agreed upon by these nations that they would share signal intelligence with each

From 1945 on, in a project codenamed SHAMROCK, NSA systematically acquired all signals which crossed cables. This operation was kept secret until the Watergate scandal prompted questions

into NSA's activities. It wasn't until 1975 that NSA Director Allen admitted that "NSA systematically intercepts international communications, both voice and cable." Allen also admitted that "messages to and from American citizens have been picked up in the course of gathering foreign intelligence." While this program may have had no domestic spying intentions, it is clear that there was little congressional oversight NSA's activities.

Towards the end of the 1960s, in order to stay ahead of Soviet

communication technology, the United States implemented a series of programs to intercept communications in space using satellites. When it was known that the mass of information coming in from these intelligence gathering agents would be too much for individual examination, NSA developed a computerized system for sifting through this information. This system would expand to later become Echelon.

In the early 1970s, NSA, along with its counterparts in the UKUSA alliance, had combined these various facets of signal intelligence gathering into a unified, automated system popularly known as Echelon. It is thought that by 1985, NSA and its partners had tapped nearly every signal path that allowed for global communication. With listening posts in nearly every corner of the world, NSA can, in theory, intercept any communication that travels by an electrical signal.

NSA, to intercept these signals, employs a wide variety of methods and technologies. Following the legacy of SHAM-ROCK, anything sent over telephone cable is communicated to various listening stations. This is done in conjunction with the local telephone companies. In fact, AT&T for many years has provided NSA access to communications passing over its networks. Also, NSA has numerous satellites used for intercepting commercial communication satellite signals. Lastly, in the 1970s, NSA, in conjunction with the United States Navy, placed submarine tapping pods on all undersea cables.

However, with all this technology to gather signal intelligence, it becomes clear that there would be almost too much information to analyze. This is where Echelon comes in. Not only does it gather the information into its databanks in a useable fashion, but it also allows a search for relevant communications and sharing of information between the nations of UKUSA

Though initially this system of intelligence sharing was mainly targeted against the spread of Soviet influence, this worldwide spy network has grown beyond these goals over time, especially since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Because of the

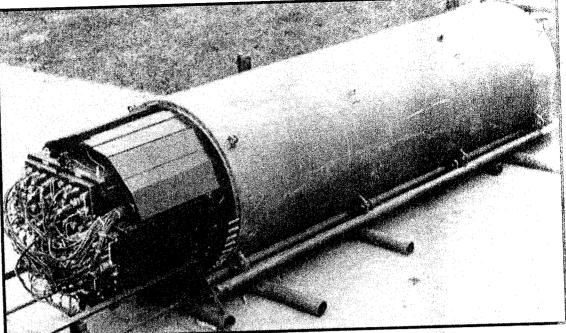
expansive nature of the NSA's capabilities, it has been feared that NSA itself has been conducting commercial spying, domestic spying, and illegal interceptions in Europe and Israel.

Because of Echelon, NSA can call up information regarding commercial opportunities to sell to American businesses. This would obviously give UKUSA businesses a competitive edge. But the real issue to deal with here is the selling out of American National Security.

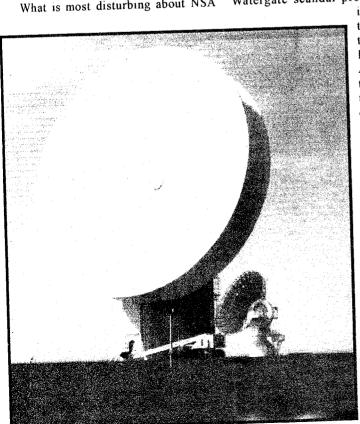
Another scaarier scenario would be the issue of domestic spying. While it may seem as if Echelon could assist in local law enforcement (which is what NSA often uses as an excuse), it becomes clear that NSA could very easily overstep its bounds and spy on private citizens.

The idea of Echelon was, for a long time, a topic strictly for conspiracy theorists and paranoids. However, due to recent events, the truths concerning Echelon and the UKUSA alliance are coming to light. This past year, a British telecom company revealed in subpoenaed testimony that they had been working with GCHQ (the British counterpart to NSA) to send all communications in Britain overseas to NSA headquarters. It also revealed that GCHQ had been sending all intercepted signals from Europe to NSA. Though this testimony pointed to a close relationship between NSA and GCHQ, NSA officials refused to publicly acknowledge Echelon or UKUSA. It wasn't until this last spring the Australian officials admitted that they, too, had a signal intelligence agency and that it was working within the UKUSA alliance. Again, NSA officials dismissed these claims. This October, the European Union will be demanding a report concerning NSA, the UKUSA alliance, and Echelon. There has even been talk of bringing criminal charges against

It is scary to think that NSA has had the capability to be "Big Brother" for many years. While its intentions may be for the good of the United States and its interests, it becomes clear that NSA and its Echelon system needs restrictions and definite oversight from Congress.



Undersea cable-tapping pod laid by U.S. submarines



Communication Interception site in Morwenstow, England

Toplessness could be hazardous to your health

story by | Laura Bolesta

I have recently noticed an increase in nakedness on campus. It's possible that I've just been unobservant for the past couple years, but I truly believe that there has been an upswing in public nudity. Shirtless guys are seen on the quad, roaming around campus, and walking the halls of the dorm -- ahem, excuse me, Residential Colleges. In fact, a troop of boys from Dobson, clad only in boxers, were seen not long ago wandering around and serenading whomever they found. Women, on the other hand, tend not to go topless for the simple reasons that it's illegal and usually uncomfortable, depending on how well-endowed one is. A certain largebreasted friend of mine stated, on behalf of all bus'y women, "We're just never really comfortable." Still, there is an abundance of sports bra getting exposed to Kirksville

How do we feel about this? For the purposes of this article. I will be making sweeping gen ralizations based upon an informal poll. Most people are in favor of public toplessness as long as the half-naked person is attractive. Unfortunately, topless-ability is in the eye of the beholder and not in the opinion of the unclothed. Guys don't really care, but most of ther especially like seeing naked girls. Girls usually don't want to see topless girls, but don't mind shirtless boys if they're good-looking.

What started this trend? I propose that this rash of toplessness has been caused by the opening of the renovated Children's Zoo in the St. Louis Zoo. A prominent feature of the Children's Zoo is the naked mole rat exhibit.



who have not seen them, naked mole rats are the most hideous creatures on the planet.

For those

Luckily, they are also blind.

My theory is that the naked mole rats are about to launch a full-scale attack on humanity and eventually attempt to take over the world. I haven't figured out how they're going to do this yet, but I suspect it involves duct tape, chewing gum, hypnosis, and reruns of MacCanver

Even though many people have not seen the naked mole rats, their power extends far beyond their physical bodies. This is where the hypnosis comes in. People who have observed the mole rats get hypnotized by their bizarre ugliness and then unwittingly hypnotize their family, friends, and neighbors. Soon, the time will come for the reruns of MacGuyver to instruct the mole rats on the proper combination of duct tape and chewing gum to achieve their evil goal.

So, the next time you get that uncontrollable urge to strip down to your skivvies and frolic in the fountain, remember that you may be bringing our civilization one step closer to being enslaved by the naked mole rats.



Queen Astra



Letthe stars be your guide!

When anyone asks you about your opinion on anything scream, "Nothing good has ever come out of Yemen!" Hold strong vour viewpoints.

Taurus (April 21-May 22): Pretend that you just lost your dog. If someone stops and tries to help you, scream, "What Tommy wants Tommy always gets!" and run.

Gemini (May 23-June 21): It's been a tough week, Gemini. To relieve the extra stress take a walk to the nearest gas station and buy microwavable enough sandwiches to fill your pockets. Have a picnic on the side of the highway.

Cancer (June 22-July 24): This week you will gain a new understanding of the words "unsightly blemish." Queen Astra knows what you've been up to. lck.

Leo (July 25-August 23): Concoct a giant igloo made of Flavor-Ice. Insist upon displaying it on your front lawn. Keep a stick handy to steer away those pesky neighborhood kids.

(August 24-September 23): Some people

Aries (March 21-April 20): think that it's wrong to eat plastic, but you've never been one of those people, have you? You're a real go-getter and make it known this week.

> Libra (September 24-October 23): Your search is over. I think the most mold will grow on the nut bread.

> Scorpio (October 24-November 22): Passion tip #3: Seduce your significant other with a pepperoni Hot Pocket.

> Sagittarius (November 23-December 21): Quite frankly, you stink.

> Capricorn (December 22-January 20): Here's a conversation that Queen Astra recently had with a "friend": Queen: I'm hungry, Friend: I have some Pez, Queen: Really? Friend: NOT!

Take the moral of this story to heart and make sure you don't make the same mistake as Queen Astra.

Aquarius (January 21-February 19): Things aren't looking good this week. Simon says, "Pack your bags and head for the hills!"

Pisces (February 20-March 20): Stop trying. You can't stop the Hammer.

ART PAGE

A whole lotta' Jereb here! Featured this issue is artwork by Jim Jereb, as shown at the last Faculty Art Show in the Ophelia Parrish Art Gallery from August 17 through September 4.



Puppet Boy 1999 monotype

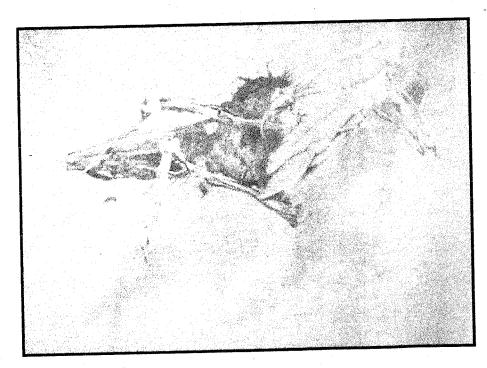


Stubborn 1999 monotype

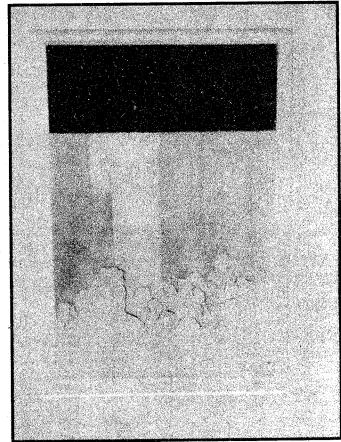


Manscape 1998 drypoint





Increasing Numbers 1998 Iithograph



My Back Pages...

Sonnet VI

What can we state about an end.
Besides, of course, that it tugs the eyes
And conjures things that we pretend
Will dilute its sorrow and make us wise?
Two roads, two trails, nothing is now one,
The idle comfort that we had
In those we did not care, it runs
Unbeknownst to loves and dad.
Comic it soon will seem
When numbness steals the memory
Of what we so suddenly deem
Nothing but a face and no key.
But do caress those who destroy the years
And remain unchanged in you heart, your tears.

--Ryan O'Shea

like unconquerable soldiers they march on no chance of escape they blowup and sear my eyelids from behind God I hate them these thoughts which collect uglies from my memories

-- Anonymous

Audrey

Her lips were closed with sealing wax lipstick, (I got them open) her dirty feet on my sheets, my mattress springs wound around her heart, (for a moment) I kissed her - without shame - and her lower lip tasted of coffee and mint, but fear was and electric fish I could not kill,

and now,
in my dark drawing room,
charcoal blackening my hands,
I draw the skeleton
the pelvis, the shoulder blade,
but it is her skin and hair,

I want

--Megan Wa**mpler**

The Ballad of Amy and Tim

It's 8:00. I watch her out my window as she waits for him.
I think her name is Amy; I name the bastard Tim.
The porch light shines her forehead and the porch light shadows face, If life's a race my heart has lost and Tim has beaten second place.
Her dress is white and tight and new it cuts off circulation.
The silver necklace is her Mom's and also is the bracelet.
I bet she smells like Famous-Barr (she rarely wears perfume at all), I know he lied and told her he'd be there at 8 when last he called.

It's 8:15. I watch her, she is starring in a dream. If nervous equaled royalty then Amy would be queen. Gemini winks and tells his twin that here's a girl who should be seen, Her lips, her cheeks are pretty pink and bathed in moonlit sheen. She paces under porch light wearing ruts in faded wood. Her Mom and Dad will go to bed she told them she'd be good. And in his face she sees the hope of love and something good, If he just asked she'd run away and leave the neighborhood.

8:45. A car door slams. He doesn't say he's sorry.
He doesn't even kiss her and he says he's in a hurry.
"Come on bitch, we're leaving now," he pulls her to the car.
I think I see a tear drop as she cries away the stars.
She plants her feet and bites a lip, her posture isn't going,
(She's so cute in the moonlight with a cotton bra strap showing).
But something weakens in her stance, Amy's shadow starts to dance,
Timmy is her only chance, she clutches him with both her hands.
Tim slimes Amy to the car, the brightest lights are dying stars,
Empty wrapper candy bars, I don't look, I search for Mars.
What will Timmy call it? Is it necking? Do they park?
I let fall back the curtain and I shiver in the dark.
I wonder it she'll let him and I bet she probably did.
I let fall back the curtain so's to keep her porch light hid.

-- Matthew Webber

Why?

Why does the sun move from east to west, why does everyone compete for the best? How come the sky can be blue or gray, and why is there conflict in places far away? Why do cowboys wear ten-gallon hats, and why do you gain weight from cholesterol and fats? Why is the Earth revolved by the moon, and why does death always come too soon? Why are secrets told so much, and why is a flame so hot to the touch? Why are children hurt and abused, and why do I always feel so used?

-- Danny March

You in the mirror...

Every day I sit and watch You insist on locking yourself in a cage No room to grow and no room to fly And not room to reveal your rage

So I sit and look, and you sit and rot.

--Suzanne Chappelow

Start the year off right, turn some poetry in, get it published. (You know it's what you've always wanted) Drop submissions in the Monitor mailbox in the CAOC.