

# The Monitor

## A Campus Collective

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

## Oral HIV tests not available in Kirksville

Student looking for an alternative to traditional blood test is turned away

story by | JJPionke

On October 8, 1997, Leo Kirsch was refused an HIV blood test at Adair County Health Department. On September 21, 1999, Dan Ribaud was refused an oral HIV test at Adair County Health Department. What exactly are the differences? Well for one, Kirsch was looking for a blood test and at the time the OraSure test was just coming onto the market. OraSure is the oral HIV test that can be given to those seeking testing. Ribaud was seeking an oral test as he has an extreme dislike of needles.

The OraSure test, which is made by Epitope Inc., is supposedly just as effective as the blood test, however the test does cost more. Upon talking to Claudine Frasier of the Adair County Health Department, it was learned that yes they are giving the blood test. They seemed to have learned from their mistake with Kirsch and now offer HIV blood testing year round. Currently the clinic schedule for testing is Monday 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m., Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m. - 12 noon and 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Currently Adair County Health Department has no interest or inclination to learn how to use the OraSure test. Their reason for not offering the test is that they are not trained and that the oral test is to be used on-site like at a health fair but not at a clinic. It was also implied that only health educators and counselors would learn to use the oral test and that it was somehow below a nurse's station to be trained in the use of the oral test.

All of this aside, Ribaud has a valid point. He was refused an oral test, though to the defense of the Adair County Health Department he was also refused an oral test at the Student Health Clinic and Planned Parenthood. It is not that they refused to test him for HIV, they refused to test him orally for

HIV. He still could have gotten a blood test. I, too, have an extreme dislike of needles, but that would not stop me from going and getting a test, especially if I have little or no money.

Though Ribaud is outraged that he was refused an oral test, he did get one from somewhere else and he did state that as an absolute last resort he would have gotten a blood test. Apparently he heard of the oral HIV test method and received an oral HIV test at the Health Fair here at Truman from the Nurses Association. OraSure is not as widespread as some would think and I for one had never heard of it until writing this article.

If you need to get an HIV blood test, Adair County Health Department (free) and Planned Parenthood (for a fee) both offer HIV blood tests. As always you should call and make an appointment or find out the clinic hours before you go to the HIV testing location.

Ribaud brought up a rather valid point however. He said, "Everyone should get one (HIV test), I don't care who you are." He also stated he did not believe that the students were made fully aware of their options when it comes to HIV testing and other sexually transmitted disease tests.

Since many students wait until their senior year to take the dreaded Health and Wellness class, students seem to be left in the dark as to where and why they should be tested frequently for HIV especially if they are sexually active. In the end, of course, it is all a matter of preference. Blood and oral HIV testing are available, though the blood HIV test is far more prevalent than the OraSure method. Perhaps the best lesson to take from all of this is that you should get tested no matter what method you choose.

## City to remodel downtown

story by | Leslee White

Rumors have been circulating for a few weeks now on a possible renovation of the square in downtown Kirksville. Are the rumors true? Will Kirksville soon be a bustling metropolis? Not many people know the answer to these pressing questions, but I am about to enlighten you lucky Monitor readers.

The truth is, the city is planning to rejuvenate downtown. An official announcement is scheduled for this week to provide more specific information.

According to Scott Veach at the Public Information Office in Kirksville, the renovations will be focused on the west side of the square and additions will likely promote student and community interac-

tion. For example, one project is a multi-plex (as many as six screens) movie theater.

I'd like to put a personal suggestion in here for the Petite Three -- don't try to compete with the new theater; turn into an independent/foreign movie theater. Some of us would pay an extra dollar or two to see things other than *The Waterboy*.

Basically, the bulk of the information on the additions to the Kirksville Square is under wraps. I contacted many officials and got little or no information because no one wanted to spoil the big "unveiling of the plans" ahead of time.

Or perhaps something much, much darker is in the works.

## English department may change credit hours

story by | Kristen Crenshaw

The English credits are changing and this change could occur very soon. When changed, the credits will go from four credits for three hours of class to either three credits for three hours or four credits for four hours.

Wenying Xu, an English professor, said the English department proposed four credit hours for three class hours for major courses in 1993. It was approved, but, years later, the English department is the only one like this on campus.

"The rationale was that a liberal arts institution should nurture a contemplative culture," Xu said. "Students should have time to read, write, and reflect rather than be loaded down with five or six courses per term."

But what does this mean for students, especially English majors? For some this has little to no affect on them. Jodi McKim, a sophomore, is undecided, but she doesn't see herself majoring in English. She doesn't think it will affect her.

Amy Coxwell, a sophomore English Elementary Education major, isn't sure how it is going to affect her.

"I'm not sure because the change will be in the middle of my school career," Coxwell said.

Half of her years were the way they

are now, and the other half will be with whatever the English department decides.

Kathryn Tyler, junior English major, on the other hand knows she will be affected.

"I'll either have to take more classes or go to class more," Tyler said.

For some students it is yet another subject they did not know about until after it was over.

"It was wrong to go over our heads. We make up the campus, they need to get students opinion," Coxwell said.

Other students felt the same way.

"I think they should talk to us about it because we are the ones who have to do all the work," Tyler said. "We are the ones that really see how much time we're putting into the class."

Yet some students don't think students should have a choice.

"If students had a choice, they'd just say, give me more hours," Katy Jamieson, sophomore Spanish major, said.

Overall, the opinion of whether the courses should change or stay the same, depends on how it will affect the student. For English majors, some think it should stay the same. For other majors, it doesn't really matter.

"I don't mind the change at all," Jamieson said.



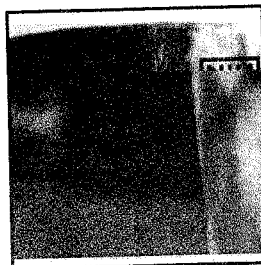
photo by Marie Brazillier

Downtown Kirksville will get a facelift. City officials plan to release plans later this week.

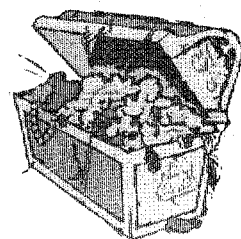


The old John Kirk house is now one of many white apartment buildings. Story on page 6.

*The Fragile* is both profound and primal. Read the review on page 10.



In part one of "Kirksville's Hidden Treasures," two Monitor staffers ride along with the KPD. Story on page 8.



# The Monitor

Campus Collective  
Independent Quality Since 1995

## Volume 6, Number 4

### CAMPUS ADDRESS

CAOC, SUB  
Truman State University  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
Fax (660) 785.7436

### OFFICE ADDRESS

Monitor Tower  
202 E. Pierce #1  
Kirksville, MO 63501

monitortrm@hotmail.com

### MANAGING EDITORS

Erin Hucke  
Jesse Pasley  
Matthew Webber

### STAFF WRITERS

Sara Biggs - Laura Bolesta - Ben Braun  
Greg Brenner - Kristen Crenshaw - Shawn  
Gilmore - Steven Hanson - Peter Hough  
Jimmy Kuehnle - Benjamin Nelson  
Morgan Peckosh - JJ Pionke - Shanna  
Sandmoen - Jerry Schirmer  
Leslee White - Sarah Wienke

### COPYEDITORS

Olivera Bratitch - Andy Dandino  
Marie Montano - Cameron Moore  
Paid Paul - Jay Peterson - Leslee White

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Marie Brazilier

### ART PAGE

Jimmy Kuehnle - Andy Dandino - Kjell  
Hahn

### MY BACK PAGES EDITOR

Shawn Gilmore

### ADVERTISING ROYALTY

Kristen Crenshaw - Sara Krogman

### PASTEUP-PASTEUP

Marie Montano

### SPECIAL HELPERS

Danielle Camarota - Kim Schultz

All contents Copyright © 1999

The Monitor Campus Collective unless otherwise noted.

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

We meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00pm in OP 115A.

Subscriptions are available to out of towners -- you just pay for postage. Send a check or money order for \$5 to the address above for a semester's worth of Monitors. That's really cheap, huh?

"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



Monitor staffers caught on The Man's surveillance camera.  
Good thing they weren't working on Project Señor Pooglines.

95¢ Margaritas  
ON Tuesdays  
\$1 Domestic Beers  
ON Thursdays

BIENVENIDOS A



SAVANNAH'S  
MEXICAN FOOD  
RESTAURANTE

for great Mexican food!

106 S. ELSON

627-0870

11-9 everyday

"We Can Fix Any Orders To Go"

Sound  
Shopper

DVD'S  
BUY & RENT  
SELL & TRADE

10AM - 8PM  
Monday - Saturday

112 South Franklin

5.2565



05 October 1999

# letters

Hey  
Monkey...  
Where  
you at,  
Monkey?  
T.A.

Send complaints or praise to the mailbox in the CAOC  
or e-mail us at [monitortrm@hotmail.com](mailto:monitortrm@hotmail.com)

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

## Writer was wrong about Kazakhstan

To whom it may concern,

I could not help but be incensed by your recent (rather pathetic) attempt to link Kazakhstan and North Korea in some sort of global atomic conspiracy.

I think your reporter needs to get his facts, implied or otherwise, right before printing such a story.

Kazakhstan is, first and foremost, a peace-loving nation undergoing a severe economic crisis, one not seen in this country since the Great Depression, if even then. Kazakhstan is not a Marxist state; far from it. It has both presidential and parliamentary elections, in a democratic system similar to that used in the US.

There are no "elements" in this country that would "favor aiding the North Koreans in the development of a military." This would in no way improve Kazakhstan, either internally or in terms of its foreign policy. Kazakhstan is in no way prepared to fight a war; if it was, do we somehow imagine the two nations uniting to take on the remainder of the world? I doubt it. Also, Kazakhstan's premier economic advisor, for much of the past seven years, has been the much esteemed Dr. Bang, of SOUTH Korea, by your own admission North Korea's premier enemy.

As to the issue of the six MiG fighter jets Kazakhstan sold to Korea. Completely ignoring the USA's sale of 12 Falcon fighter jets to Pakistan, already a nuclear power, imagine a nation so poor it cannot adequately feed its citizens, let alone attempt to improve other living standards. MiG fighters, I imagine, would be worth quite a large amount of money. In such a case, the sale of the planes should be completely justified. And I don't think Kazakhstan "admitted" this action. There is no sense of shame; the sale makes good sense.

One last thought: in an article about the North Korean arms program, why place a picture of an independent, democratic nation immediately under the headline? Also one so erroneous: Kazakhstan's capitol is not Almaty. It is Astana, placed roughly in the middle of the nation, as far from the Marxist state of China as it can be.

Kazakhstan is a nation that wants peace, not war; and it is distancing itself as quickly, and as much, as it can.

Andrew Torpen

## The Monitor not as radical as it used to be?

Dear Letters Collective,

I remind *The Monitor* that upon your masthead is the CLAIMED inscription, TSU's "only source for thorough coverage of COMMUNITY issues... politics" AND VERY apropos stuff from Jewish American libertarian socialist, Noam Chomsky, in paraphrase from my fellow European, VOLTAIRE about the validity of "DISAPPROVING" ideas. Especially so, in places like our own vicinity wherein

the "American" ultra-conservatism, particularly of males, is so strong that the official local paper did not print a SINGLE, anti-gun letter in the spring "concealed guns" 1999 vote and debate; even though, even up here in rural Adair county, over 25 percent of those voting were emboldened to vote "NAY" to yet more legalized mayhem on this neighborhoods streets.

If you are now "regressing" to *PUNDIT* predecessor days in similar non-publishing of even typed letters, conservatively, in stark contradiction to such proclamations you cite, could you please change the logos? So we, out there, know not to waste our time contributing on issues.

I say this not just out of mere personal grievance, but because other people including STUDENTS, FACULTY AND UNARMED STAFF have noticed how "conservative" your first 3 issues this fall have, taintingly, become. Some brief examples! CULTURALLY, you carry only "rave" reviews of both my national Shakespeare's *MERCHANT OF VENICE* even though many of us balcony-confined did not think such essentials as Portia's or Shylock's soliloquies were even a quarter as well "interactively" done as a PROFESSIONAL traveling company should have been "educationally" expected, or that *THE FOREIGNER* had "homegrown" acting not even remotely as good as *NOISES OFF* accomplished, very recently.

Finally, not a single student has their speech reported as anything but and I quote "RAGE" in your account today of the 100 plus strong meeting we "NON-PERSONS" September 15 attended. While for a SECOND MONITOR running, Ms. Sprague is allowed to give thus totally unchallenged Magruder proguns opinions, although heaven knows your reporter spoke to me long enough and I GAVE HIM THE NAMES OF PEOPLE WHO, LIKE Ms. Sprague, are not STUDENTS. Where are they??

Larry Iles

(Ed. Note: Because *The Monitor* is a campus forum of sorts, we welcome any and all opinions to be heard. The slant of our paper is based upon these opinions. It is left up to those persons who wish to be a part of the Monitor staff. No slant is intentional. If we don't represent a certain political stance it is because the writers themselves don't represent that stance.

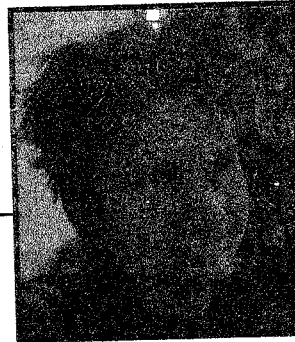
And the topics our writers wish to discuss are totally self-directed. We, as editors, do not hold the same responsibilities of "typical" newspaper editors. We edit for spelling and grammar and generally assemble the paper. The staff puts in a lot of time and effort to give Truman a second voice.

Does wishing to become more objective equal being conservative? In the past we have been blamed for being too opinionated, and now we are being accused of having a conservative slant. I implore you to ask a true conservative whether or not our paper has reached that level.

Our directive is to be impartial, so therefore, impartial we are trying to be.)

# Tweak Your Mind

Q: What the fuck?



"I'm living with one of his kidney's and he won't leave me alone."

-Kevin Buckley

"That dude owes me, BIG TIME."

-Mort Burke



"I just can't get enough."

-Gap Girl (token female)



"I don't know, why does my hand stink?"

-Brian Dockins



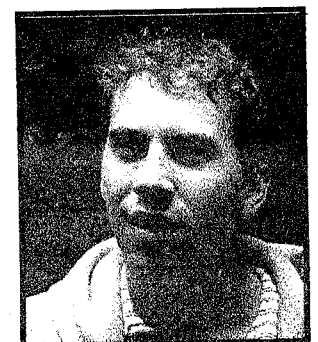
"Seriously, dude, what the fuck?"

-Bryan Westhoff



"I am Skeletor, spawn of the hell-beast. Bow down and pay homage to my awesome Red Power."

-John Balven





## opinions

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

- Phil Ochs

# Make eye contact, wave, and say hello to people

opinion by | Ben Braun

I admit it: I like to smile at people and say hello as I walk by them. Yeah, I'm even talking about TOTAL strangers, people I have NEVER seen before. Crazy you say? Under a spell? Well, I probably am, but I don't think smiling at people is one of the effects. No, I just enjoy saying hello to people, and I enjoy it when people smile back. A generally friendly atmosphere is one of the things that makes a wonderful campus, in my opinion, so I do what I can. Unfortunately, it seems I am misinterpreted by many of the people I am smiling at. Most passersby turn their heads, avert their eyes; as a matter of fact, they look everywhere except at me. Why? I have no idea.

I've talked with many of my friends, and they all have noticed this trend with themselves as well: as a matter of fact, we notice it every year. After about a month, once all the freshmen have gotten settled in and the weather starts to get cool, most people stop smiling like they did in the first few weeks of school, when freshmen were still searching for a niche and upperclassmen were also still searching for a niche. (It never stops, really.) Everyone gets comfortable, gets into their routine, and it seems to be taboo to smile or even make eye contact with other people on campus. Ya know what? I think that sucks (to use the official terminology).

Wouldn't it be awesome if, on a really horrible

day, when it's nasty and cold and rainy and you've just had a really bad Lit quiz returned and you didn't understand Algebra at all, someone smiled at you for no reason other than the fact that we're all in the same boat? I think it would be, though I know I can only speak for myself. Even on the worst days, we're all in it together. This past week has been hell, pure hell, for me, and it seems like it's been hell for everyone I've talked to. That's all the more reason to go up to someone new and say hello, just because they are there. It's all the more reason to hold the door for the person passing you on your way into the library and say hello and smile like a goof; that may just brighten their day and remind them of something they've forgotten about this life we live. It may remind them to pass on that smile to the next person on the sidewalk, and we all know what happens from there. It may not be the solution to all our problems, but it certainly can solve some.

Sonext time you're walking to class, look around you and say hello. Strike up a conversation with someone sitting alone at Main Street Market; the worst that could happen is they might think you're crazy and tell you to go away. And if they do, just take a walk around campus, and someone will be there to smile back at you. It will probably be the person you would have looked away from yesterday.

# First comes love, then comes eternal ball and chain

opinion by | Greg Brenner

I heard the hints and the rumors during the summer. Something was spreading around the students of Truman State, something evil, deadly and menacing, with a facade of pretty flowers and baby's breath. It's that illness confined to middle age people that confirms the worst fear that yes, you are getting old. Yes, you know what I mean -- marriage.

As this semester has rolled on, I have been horrified to learn of the scope of the marriages and engagements that are occurring around campus. Since most of the people that were confirmed cases were in CCF, I was going to dismiss this as one of those weird group/herd things. Unfortunately, marriage, and its harbinger engagement, has not been confined to any particular group on campus. Other friends and people I know are getting ready to tie the eternal ball and chain that lead into blissful, banal middle age. This is a much bigger problem than was first thought. The big question, of course, is WHY? Why marriage, why now?

There are two different schools of thought to contain this disease, and as of now I am leaning toward the second method. The first is the realization that you don't have to go down the aisle just to get in the sack. This realization seems like the logical cure but it doesn't work, since this whole thing is campus wide and not just part of one group. I trust this second realization. For Pete's sake, you are (enter age here). Life is just beginning, no one should have to be tied down to further responsibility. You will not be as free as you are now. I encourage you to enjoy it. Go to Spain. Ride motorcycles. Play in the rain. Eat fattening ice cream.

Now a lot of you are probably thinking, "You idiot, you can do all those things while you are married." You are right of course, but you are missing the point. For one thing, it is harder to do these things when you are married because of the added responsibility. More importantly, marriage is the beginning of the end of your life. Mortgages, taxes, work, and retirement. They always left this part out of that stupid "Sittin' in a Tree" song. It always ended at "first comes love, then comes marriage, then comes the baby in the baby carriage." Kids still leave out the part about busting your butt to support your family.

Also, I have to point out that you can do all those 7-year-old things and be in love without having to get married. So savor the moment. You are young and in love, this is the greatest time in your life. Marriage is no guarantee this will last. I'm not saying no one should ever get married. It can certainly wait though. We should all enjoy the freedom we have right now before we go off to settle down to wait for death.

So, for those of you that are not yet sick, please be careful! No one really knows who will get infected next. Anyone could be carrying the disease inside them, either as some cultural parasite passed by parents, or it could be some recent strain transmitted by friends or herds of people, or it could be transmitted at random. The scariest part of this disease is the randomness with which it can strike.

For those of you that have been afflicted, I am truly sorry. I sincerely hope all those bad things I said about marriage and middle age don't happen to you. But they probably will.

# Introduction of guns will destroy Truman's utopia

opinion by | Jesse Pasley

The issue, by now, has been nearly beaten to death, dragged through the mud, and talked out to ludicrous proportions. A few backers of either side of this issue, which seems to be the only hot topic on campus, have gone to ridiculous ends to make some sort of point. Yes, I am talking about the whole soon-to-be arming of DPS fiasco. Of course, there has been the petition, the Student Senate vote, the protests and the ill-fated forum featuring a rather uninspiring Lisa Sprague.

However, a dark cloud of confusion looms over my head as I try to make sense of some of the knee-jerk reactions and really ignorant comments that are being thrown around in this debate. The first thing that really gets my goat is the truly inane reasoning that Lisa Sprague and her backers use in attempting to explain why, exactly, DPS officers need these guns. History has shown that the Truman campus is a mostly stable and peaceful place, yet this faction wants to throw history right out of the window, deeming a case of alleged preparedness for their argument. Yeah, prepared for what?! A kid cleaning his AK-47? Oh yeah, this really warrants the use of an armed stand-off. Oh, wait, that whole situation was resolved by the SA! Yes, let's be prepared for situations like Columbine, situations that have absolutely nothing to do with this campus!

Also within this camp of pro-gunners is the body of students that don't really care. In a letter to the *Index*, a student chalked up other students' efforts to induce change concerning this gun issue to nothing more than "wasted effort."

Not only that, but he went on to write that the Board of Governors have made their decision and that "nothing we do is going to change that vote." Perhaps there is nothing the student body can do, but the above comment basically equates to saying "Yeah, sure, I don't mind taking it up the ass for the Man!"

But then there are the reactionaries on the other side of the fence. No, I'm not talking about the protesters or the petitioners. Most of these people seem rational concerning this issue. I speak in reference to one flyer. It hasn't been hanging up everywhere, so maybe this facet of the argument isn't quite so widespread. The flyer depicts an image of a young woman, kneeling and crying over another person dead on the ground. I think this is a photo from the Kent State shootings, but feel free to correct

me. Yes, it's a sad photo, but to compare something as horrible as that to something that will be happening at Truman is ignorant. It seems that many students are concerned about students getting shot, whether it be purposeful or by accident. These may be honest concerns, but I highly doubt that life on the Truman campus will be filled with bullets flying through the air. However, if such an accident or incident occurs, I can guarantee that the student response will be swift and grating. Hopefully, things will not go this far.

To me, though, the greatest argument against the arming of DPS officers is that it will change the general spirit of campus life. Life on campus is rather utopic; crime is not near the extent as that of other universities, and violent crime is nearly nonexistent. To disturb this utopia and bring in things as uncivilized as guns is rather unwise and will not help any in creating a place to learn and grow.

In closing, it is important to note that the Board of Governors has made this decision without attempting to consult the feelings of the student and professor body. Even worse, they did most of this over the summer, probably thinking they could quietly sweep this matter under the rug. Whether you agree with the decision or not, we both pay a hefty chunk of change to attend this university and it seems to be a sign of extreme lack of intelligence on the part of certain officials to ignore those who chip in for their paychecks. Frankly, I was sick of being treated like a kid in high school, and I really don't appreciate being treated like one now. Board of Governors: you people are not our parents. Listen to the will of the student body.





# The evolutionists vs. the creationists: why all fuss?

opinion by | Steve Hanson

After the Kansas State School Board decided that they would no longer require students be tested in statewide tests on the theory of evolution, an uproar ensued in editorial columns around the nation. However, no editorial, whether written by Pat Robertson or Stephen J. Gould, escapes from the rhetorical arguments that have plagued the coexistence of creation and natural selection.

Very few persons involved in these arguments even remotely understand evolution. These Creationists see evolution as a threat to their religion, since Natural Selection operates without God. These evolutionists know very little about the actual process of evolution, and their support for evolution lies not in the scientific evidence but only to spite Christians.

In reality, there should be no argument. Creation, whether from Judeo-Christian texts, Chinese mythology, or Native American tradition, begins with man being created out of clay by a god. Creationists may assert that this implies fixity of life.

Two things are wrong with the idea of fixity. One, we have substantial proof that most organisms alive today did not have ancestors of similar morphology several million years ago. Second, people must interpret their religious text to say "fixity of species." The Bible does not actual say that species are fixed, but believers hold this to be true. I can't argue with their faith, and I am not going to try to. I only wish to point out that Creation does not necessarily rule out evolution, because evolution does not concentrate on the origin of life, rather the origin of species.

Evolution, also, is misunderstood. So many people have Darwin fish on their cars, but do they actually know what evolution really is. I imagine I

could sell Lamarckian theory to them as Natural Selection, and they would never realize it. Unlike Creationism, evolution can be very difficult to fully understand. With Creation, God made man in His own image. With evolution, life originated somehow, and through complex atomic changes, different traits became more advantageous, and those individuals had a higher fitness, so more of their genes were passed on to the next generation; and this happened repeatedly until life as we know it came to be. And that is a hugely oversimplified version of the theory of Natural Selection, the main force behind evolution (but not the only part).

Creation has a much more simple approach, since it lacks mechanisms to things. Evolution, on the other hand, must provide mechanisms so that it can be understood and accepted in the scientific community. A person wrote into *Time* last month saying that it takes more faith to believe humans evolved from "apes" than it takes to believe in Creation. This man evidently has more trust in the Bible than scientific evidence, which I can appreciate, although I do not agree with his logic.

Evolution is not something that can be simply understood like Creation. Evolution is a complex set of theories that tie together to form a unified theory of how and why species change. I wouldn't expect to find many people, even Biology majors, who really understand evolution. I have spent a considerable amount of my past year studying evolution in depth, and I still find it complex enough that I still question whether or not believe it. But I don't assume then that Creation is the correct answer, since I don't agree with one idea in the great machine of evolution.

# Crime changes perception of high school acquaintances

opinion by | Kristen Crenshaw

I got a call Tuesday night from my older sister. Not a big deal, it usually happens. Then she asked me if I had known the kid that got killed from my high school.

Uh, excuse me?

Apparently, three teenagers stabbed another repeatedly in the stomach. Why? Because the kid was going to tell the police that the others were planning on robbing a grocery store.

My sister told me to watch the news; it would be on the 10 p.m. news. So I sat and watched. I didn't know the kid, Jimmy; his name sounded slightly familiar, but he was three years younger.

I watched with a sigh of relief and a look of horror on my face. This happened one mile from my home. I couldn't believe it. Then the shocker, the three defendants walked in. One did the stabbing, the others were there when it happened and helped him plan it. I literally fell off the edge of my couch. I sat there on my floor and watched as two people in handcuffs and orange suits were presented to the judge. I watched as two of my fellow 1998 graduates were charged with first-degree murder.

Jim, the oldest, I have known since

eighth grade. His little brother and I were friends and I had art class with him, sat right next to him. He is the one that stabbed Jimmy. If convicted he could get life without parole and possibly the death penalty. He is 19 years old.

Lindsay, the only girl of the group, was a volleyball player with me in 1997. We had history class together. She was shy and quiet and never even said a mean thing about anyone. Her bond is set at \$1 million. If convicted she could get first-degree murder also, though her sentence will be lighter.

My graduating class was small, and nothing out of the ordinary ever happened. We weren't the type that was on the 10 p.m. news. At my high school, things like this didn't happen, until now. This got me thinking. Jim and Lindsay and two others were going to rob a grocery store. Jimmy was included, but then said he was going to tell the police. For that, he got lured into the woods and stabbed, many times, in the stomach. What would have resulted in a fist fight just a couple years ago turned into a planned murder of a 16-year-old boy.

I thought I knew Jim and Lindsay; I thought I knew a lot. I guess I was wrong, I've got a lot of learning to do.

# George W. Bush and the four Republican dwarfs

opinion by | Jerry Schirmer

After reading the news yesterday, I came to the realization that the Republicans do not seem to behave like human beings normally would. This became somewhat obvious when I discovered that the behavior of many of these "people" seems to be rather off-kilter and irregular, considering the manner in which normal, logical humans would conduct themselves. I soon came to see that Republicans are better fit by being described by a single adjective, much like the Seven Dwarfs that Snow White found in the forest.

I'll start with James "Dan" Danforth Quayle. Clearly, he can be characterized by either the adjective "stupid," or perhaps, more accurately, "oblivious." I'm not saying this because of a few spelling errors, because the media can often give people a bad rap about stuff like that. No, I'm talking about the more subtle stupidity. For example, the belief that he held until this week that he stood any chance of being president, after all of the press he had already gotten as vice president (not to mention the whole Murphy Brown thing).

Now I'm glad I saved the word "stupid" because I have yet to get to Pat Buchanan. This guy actually had the gall to say the Nazis were not a threat to the United States in 1940, and that the war was caused by Allied promises to Poland. Nevermind that Hitler had an A-bomb program, and may have taken the USSR over... He wasn't a real threat. As for the second statement, it is so insanely stupid that I won't even bother responding to it. Furthermore, this guy actually seems to think he can be a viable national political candidate, and may join fellow kooks Jesse Ventura and Ross Perot in the Reform party.

the national elections, George W. Bush. This guy can barely muster the courage to tell the press "no comment" when confronted with questions. Of course, considering his opposition for the Republican nomination, I can hardly find his position surprising... at least he hasn't said anything that is incredibly stupid.

One cannot forget "old" however -- yes, everyone's favorite, Strom Thurmond, born December 12, 1902 -- the man ran against freakin' Truman for president. People sometimes wonder about how much Washington officials have gotten out of touch. Maybe it has to do with having men so old they could be our grandparent's parents making the decisions which shape our government.

Then comes Jesse Helms, who obviously gets the name "grumpy." It almost seems this guy's entire purpose in the Senate is to block legislation. It is almost insane how dead set the guy is against any sort of foreign policy changes at all. All he does is try to block this, and block that, and rattle on about how the proposed change would supposedly destroy the United States' position in the world, causing the complete destruction of our fair country and blah blah blah.

So in conclusion, perhaps what the Republican party needs is Snow White to straighten them out. You know, keep them from living in such a political mess. Encourage "oblivious" to be quiet, "stupid" to start talking to his wall instead of the press, "silent" to start saying something or get out of the spotlight, "old" to retire, and "grumpy" to forget about politics all together. But then again, could the Republican party ever seriously give that much respect to a woman's decisions?

# Protest wastes time and does not solve anything

opinion by | Jimmy Kuehnle

Guns, guns, guns. What's the big deal with guns? I don't know, but at this university they are a big deal, well at least lately. Suddenly the campus has blown up over the issue of Public Safety carrying guns. I say the excitement is unfounded and frankly immature and whiney. DPS has taken a lot from the student body because they didn't carry guns. I remember many incidents of students screaming at officers and carrying on because of their lack of guns. It is almost as if students believe guns are what make people respect cops. Not often do students thank DPS for protecting the campus, or for patrolling parking lots, or for providing secure access to campus buildings.

This is an issue that is all hype. The University does a lot of things for publicity and this is no different. The so-called gun protest that happened was nothing more than a few friends with clip boards getting signatures. There was no reason to raise such a fuss about this unless the intent was just to annoy people. The big argument is that students should have been asked about the change in policy. Well then, we should have asked all previous students, or maybe we should ask all potential incoming students, since changes will affect them too.

To all the gun protesters: "Shut the hell up, I am tired of you babies whining." Let DPS have weapons. They probably won't use them and if they do use them, then the decision to

give them weapons was correct. And let's go to the worst case scenario. DPS uses the guns at a time when they shouldn't have and students are shot and killed; you were standing in this group of people and you are also shot and killed. Who cares if you or anyone else dies? Other than the thought, "glad it wasn't me" people will pay no attention.

The point of the DPS officers having guns is in the case they need to use the weapons, they have them. How would you feel if you helped take away DPS's guns and one or maybe all of them are shot and killed? Will you be able to sleep at night thinking of the agony they suffered because of you? Well, you should be able to sleep because the whole thing is pointless. If you could only realize the insignificance of your lives, then you would see that there is no reason for all of this.

There are plenty of puppet people on campus; why can't you be just like them? Go along with the status quo because when you don't, you look like an idiot. If you are going to protest do it right. Instead of annoying people, genuinely piss them off. You will get better results. There was a great opportunity to slander the University while incoming students and their parents were here. Nothing happened because the issue is pointless. The whole issue is a waste of time and I hope that this article is the last of it.



Washington Street

Java Company

Real Mochas.

Real Sandwiches.

Real Bagels.

Real Cheesecake.

Real close.

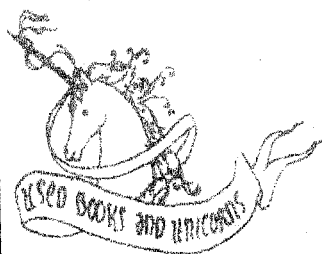
Hours

Mon-Sat 7:30a-11:30pm

Sunday 10:30am-4:30pm

107 W WASHINGTON  
DOWNTOWN KIRKSVILLE

Midterm Break:  
Relaxation,  
recreation  
through  
reading.



Used Books and  
Unicorns

305 S. Franklin  
627-1772

Hours:

Mon.-Fri. 10-7  
Sat. 9-6 Sun. 12-6  
Open on Sunday!

# Old Kirk mansion has been modernized

story by | Peter Hough

Some see it as the pungent advance of capitalism, but others welcome a refreshing dose of modernization. Just in time for its 90th birthday, the melancholy, discreet brick house one block north of campus on High Street got a makeover that has raised some eyebrows among the University community.

The mansion of former University President John R. Kirk was completed in July of 1909. It stood as one of the first symbols of culture in Kirksville, welcoming such visitors as President William Howard Taft (who visited twice). The house was built in the tenth year of Kirk's presidency, and he lived there until he died within its walls on November 7, 1937. The house remained a family possession until 1949 when it was sold. After passing through the hands of several owners, Phi Kappa Theta bought it in 1968. (Incidentally, there have long been rumors of phantasms associated with the house, especially concerning the ghost of Kirk.)

The recent history of the house began in 1975 when Gail and Mary Novinger purchased it. Sickened by the dilapidated state of the interior of the house, they remodeled it and sectioned it off into seven apartments. For the past 24 years, the Novingers have rented the house primarily to students. Driven by a desire to provide students with good housing close to campus, the Novingers have slowly acquired the entire block on which the old Kirk mansion sits. The symbol of their progress toward this goal is the exorbitant ration of white siding that only recently swallowed up the old brick house. Once a unique symbol of class, the house, coerced into uniformity, now silently prepares to welcome inhabitants again.

The new look of the house, in all its shining white splendor, has bothered some people at Truman. But will the defacing of an ancient -- albeit forgotten -- relic become the rallying point for a generation with no purpose except rebellion, and no motto save "Down with the man?" What is hearsay and what are the facts upon which we may build such a unifying revolution of purpose?

The first point of debate concerns whether or not the old mansion is on the historic register. The source of such rumors is as fleeting as the supposed footsteps of Kirk upon aged floors of his mansion, or the gentle rapping of his fingers on old furniture. According to representatives of the University Archives, the house is not on the historic register. They

said the process for such an action is long and requires, at the very least, the owner's consent and cooperation, two things they don't think could have been obtained from the Novingers. However, Gail Novinger, a 70-year-old farmer, claims no one ever approached him about putting the house on the register.

"I assumed no one wanted it," he said. "I didn't aim to destroy history, I just thought no one was interested."

But bits of hearsay have been making their way into conversations about whether or not the University tried to buy the house from the Novingers. Some say the owners set such a grossly high sale price that Truman was unable to make the purchase (but those \$5,000 signs in front of some of the buildings on campus sure are nice). But their accounts sound like part of an REO Speedwagon song, "I heard it from a friend who, heard it from a friend who..." According to the Novingers, no one from the University offered to buy the house, though they did sell some land on the west side of High Street for the building of the parking lot.

The precipitating cause of the debate is ultimately the white siding, the contagion that so recently infected the old Kirk mansion. This is the heart of the matter. In 1996, one of the employees of the University Archives took a picture of the house, fearing that the predatory advance of Los Blancos, as it came to be known, would soon overtake a vestige of history.

But according to Gail Novinger, the hostile takeover was necessary. He said when they were replacing the old windows with more effi-

cient modern ones they noticed that a lot of the bricks were loose. They found out the bricks were not held together with mortar, but with a loose limestone and water mixture that "you could dig at with your bare hands like a cat scratching at a sofa." Indeed, the 1996 picture shows clearly some deterioration of the brick, especially under the west windows. Mr. Novinger said they never intended to cover the house with siding, but they had no economical choice once they discovered the problem. Much of the brick taken from the house was sold to Jason Haxton, Director of Residential Living, for an addition to his house (which is from the same period as the Kirk Mansion).

The Novingers are proud of their apartments and see the modernization of the 90-year-old house as both necessary and good.

"It's like an antique car," Mr. Novinger said. "It needed to be modernized because it wasn't operable in the shape it was in."

But others on campus disagree, seeing the modernization more as a disgrace. Perhaps the covering of his house has angered the ghost of John R. Kirk, or perhaps the emotions of the deceased lay as silent and undisturbed as his bones in the grave. Those who will live there in the future must answer the question. They will decide for us if the creaking and soft tapping in the night is the angered spirit of a University patriarch, or simply the deep sigh of 90-year-old boards packaged for a new millennium.

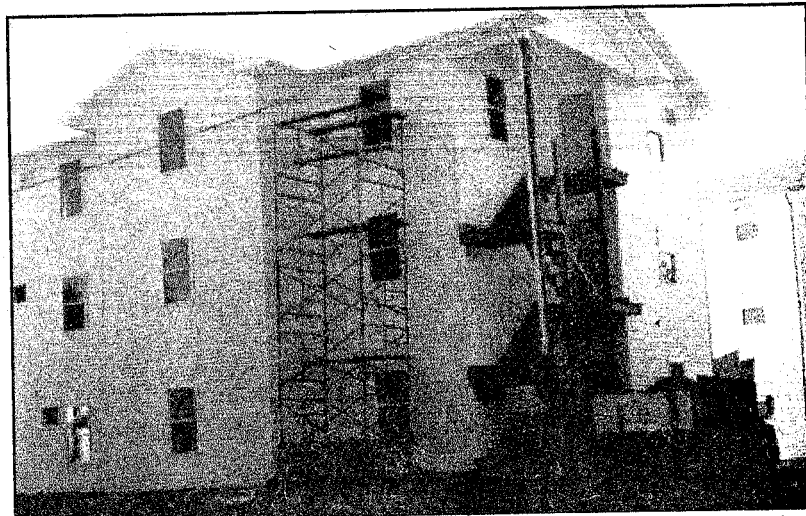


photo by Marie Brazillier

The old Kirk mansion on High Street has been covered by white siding.

## Prepare to be rocked by CMC Music Factory!

story by | Morgan Peckosh

The Campus Music Collective doesn't want much to do with acts, we want to deal with people. When you come to a Campus Music Collective show, don't expect flashy lights and smoke. Expect to hear good music. Expect to have a good time at a small expense that will go directly to the bands. Expect to hang out after the show and talk to the bands or other people who love music. We are trying to put the focus back on music, not on a show.

The music collective was started a couple years ago with the sole purpose of bringing techno music to campus. Me and my compañeros took over the organization this year and although we would still like to bring a techno show, our focus has expanded to include any kind of music. Since this summer, we have already brought five shows to the Kirksville community. The kinds of music range from punk rock to metal to that old-time gospel rock. Before this year is over, we would like to bring some hip-hop, zydeco, and maybe some Celtic rock. This all depends on you.

Think about the name Campus Music Collective. It means getting people who love music together to figure out ways to see more music. We want to deal with musicians who love music and love creating music, not because it is their job. When we have a show, we want to set it up so you can see what the band is doing and so you can talk to them after the show. Most of the time we will have a party afterwards. Bands have a million stories about traveling or playing, why wouldn't you want to hear this stuff firsthand?

We can do this because we aren't dealing with rockstars. Think about it. Do you think bands like the Urge are still playing because they love music and want to evolve as musicians, or has their art form just become ritualized to the point where they are trapped? They are paying booking

agents, public relations people, their record label, producers and others to develop them as an act, not as a band and certainly not as people. When you went to the Urge show, what happened? You paid for your ticket, you went in, the Urge was fifty feet away from you getting "crazy," they played, you left and they left. How is that different from just listening to them on your stereo? The first meeting we had as the Campus Music Collective, we told everyone there they probably knew someone in a band or of some band that would want to play here. You probably do too. We are here to help you bring that group to our campus. If you love music like we do, come to one of our meetings. We meet on those couches by the games room every Tuesday night at 7:30. Even if you don't want to come to every meeting, just stop by if you have an idea.

The second way in which to hear more music is to create more bands in the community. We are trying to link musicians on campus who want to play with other musicians. What better way to hear music than to simply create it? If you are a musician, stop by our mailbox in the CAOC and write down what you play. We will try to get you in contact with other musicians. We also have realized it is incredibly hard to find a place to practice in Kirksville so we have begun looking for a communal practice space. All inquiries should be placed in our mailbox.

The most important thing you can do is come to one of our shows. Hell, we don't need to have meetings if people come to our shows and talk to us about what they want to see. Our shows will always cost a couple of dollars, but this money goes straight to the bands and possibly the venue. Supporting music is so important. If you come to one of our shows and you don't like the band, don't be scared off. We will attempt to bring a variety of music, but this only works if you support us.



# Parents steer kids away from Prism table

story by | JJ Pionke

Fall Premiere. It's an event that allows prospective students to check out Truman. They are given a tour of the campus, talked to by administrators, faculty and students. Perhaps one of the most important things they do when they come is to go to a mini-activities fair where they can get a taste of what student groups are here. For the past few years, Prism has made it a point to be at these Premieres. It seems that I am the one usually manning the table. That sounds like I detest the job, I really don't. Though I think the time (9 a.m.) is atrocious, I really enjoy watching the students walk around with their parent(s) checking out the tables and talking to faculty.

This year four people including myself manned our table. We sat, chitchatted, and kept an eye on the crowd. It is a universal truth that around 98 percent of the people that come to the Premier and see Prism will feel either uncomfortable or bored; a small percentage will be afraid. I suppose it is hard for college students, especially those who have been in college for quite awhile, to remember what it was like to go to those college meetings with one's parents and have to watch what was said or not said. Many students at the Premiere would look at our table with some modicum of interest and then move on. Many parents who looked at our table upon realizing that we were (gasp!) HOMOSEXUALS, BISEXUALS, or TRANSGENDERED immediately nudged their teenagers towards others groups, or made it a point of not only ignoring us but also giving their kids "the look." "The look" is something all children are familiar with, it

says "don't even think about it!" However, that is why Prism goes to these things. We realize that we will not get many people coming up to our table, because after all these students are there with their parents. If the prospective student is still in the closet or unsure of him or her self, then they would not approach us, yet by being there they know that someone on this campus is gay and there are people to talk to should they want when they come here.

Whenever I come to a Premiere I *never* expect anyone to take a pamphlet, nevertheless we usually have one or two people take them. This year there were three. In all three cases it was the parents who took the pamphlets. I find that interesting. Perhaps the kids were embarrassed to take one for themselves, or perhaps the parent thought their child might have an inclination towards homosexuality, bisexuality, or transgender. By picking up the pamphlet and perhaps giving it to them later on, it may be their way of saying it is OK to not only experiment but to be different.

One mother/daughter pair who came up to the table at the very end of the hour was very outgoing. I thought immediately that not only did these two have a good mother/daughter bond but that they were very open with what they wanted. We talked about what Prism is and gave them our Web address. They both were full of questions and cheerful. They seemed happy to see that there was a gay group on campus! That warmed my heart considerably. Considering that most of the time we are there we get ignored or are given suspicious looks, it was quite a happy moment to see a prospective

student with their parent actually happy about not only being there, but finding out there were gay people there. It does not matter whether or not the daughter was gay or bisexual, if she was straight she at least had an open mind and that means that perhaps in the near future we will have an outgoing, open minded young woman on campus!

Of course we do not get many outgoing people who come up to the table, and I would say that at every other Premier there is one prospective student who will ditch their parent(s) on the other side of the room, run over to our table, grab a pamphlet, shove it in their pocket, say a shy "hello" and run back to their parent(s), stopping at the snack table to cover why they left in the first place. It is for those students that we are there.

It is important to realize these prospective students with their parent(s) do not have the experience we do. I am often reminded of an earlier time when I was the shy one walking around activities tables looking for a group that seemed like a good place for me to be. Perhaps that is why I take the time out of my morning to go to these things. I remember all too well what it was like to be gay, unsure and in a place where I had no friends. Finding a group of people that understood what I was going through helped me to become the person I am today. Even if no one ever stopped at the Prism table, prospective students will know there is a group of people out there that can be their friend when they have doubts about their sexuality. Knowing that there is someone out there who cares is perhaps the best thing that can happen to a student who is afraid, unsure, lonely or confused.

## Missouri-London Program

Informational Meeting  
Tuesday, October 19  
4 - 6 p.m.

SUB Governors' Room

Open to all  
interested students

For more information  
contact

**The Center for  
International  
Education Abroad**  
At x4076



## The Writing Center

WRITE ON!

**Write Bite:** "Why did I write? Because I found life unsatisfactory." -- Tennessee Williams

**Word of the Week:** Gadroon, n. 1. The ornamental notching or carving of a rounded molding. 2. A short often oval fluting or reeding used in decoration.

**Writing Tip #1:** Forget about inspiration, it may only be a form of procrastination.

from *How to Get the Most Out of Philosophy* by Douglas Soccio

MC 303

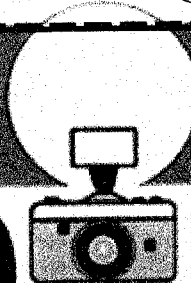
785-4484

### Free Twin Prints

Second set of prints free! c-41 processing color print  
Good on 110, 35mm, & 24mm APS film  
expires: October 18, 1999

Coupon value  
up to \$6!

• ONE HOUR FILM  
& SLIDE PROCESSING  
• WALLETS to 11X14  
• COLOR COPIES



**NORTHEAST  
CAMERA AND PHOTO LABS**

FILMORE PLAZA on S. BALTIMORE

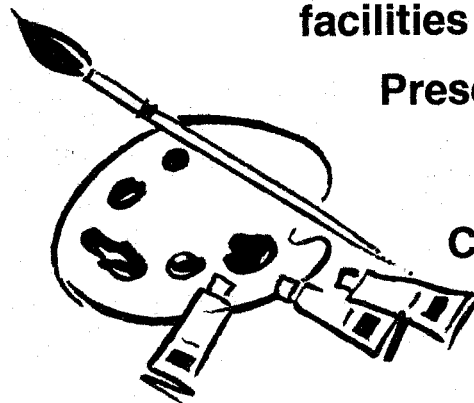
## Creative World

1515 S. Baltimore Suite C  
(Beside Subway, Behind the Antique Mall)  
665-7105

**Creative World, your local arts & crafts  
consignment and supply store. If we  
don't have it, we will try to order it for  
you.**

**Quilting clubs welcome to use  
facilities for meetings.**

**Presenters always  
needed for  
classes at  
Creative World.**



**Open 9 to 6,  
Sun through Fri**



# Why Not Tattoos?



Body Piercing now available!

Artist: Chad Weigert  
Specializes in psychedelic & custom designs

New needle used with each customer

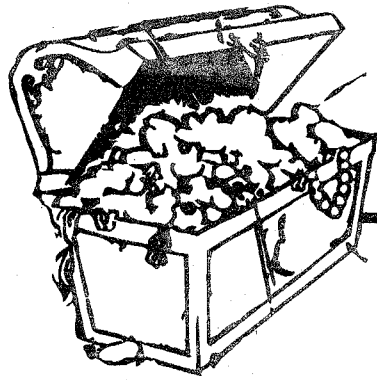
Bright, bold inks  
Clean, friendly atmosphere

108 E. Washington  
Tues-Sat  
11:00am-7:00pm

**Thank you  
for  
supporting  
The Monitor,  
Funds  
Allotment  
Council!**



We couldn't do  
this without  
you.



## Kirksville's Hidden Treasures

an on-going series devoted to discovering the wealth of Kirksville

**Kirksville's Hidden Treasures  
Part 1: "Bad Boys, Bad Boys.  
Whatcha gonna do when they  
come for you?"**

**feature by | Olivera Bratich and  
Marie Montano**

Are you one of those people who complains there's nothing to do in Kirksville? Well, you're wrong. Dead wrong. Kirksville is a plethora of fun waiting to be discovered, but that fun is not always right under your nose. So we have decided to help out you lame-brains with an ongoing series devoted to the treasure chest known as Kirksville.

In this first installment, we take advantage of a little-known community outreach program given by the Kirksville Police Department. The community ride-along offers citizens a first hand view of our public servants in action. Yes folks, just like in *COPS*, you can ride in a patrol car for up to four hours. Just pick a date and time and stop by the station to sign a silly little release form (something about "if you're shot in the line of duty..." blah blah blah).

We accompanied Officer James Holzmeier and Cpl. J. Craig Crouse over the September 23-24 weekend during part of the midnight shift. A prime time to be there is around 1:30 a.m., when all the bars close and the parties start getting rowdy. Both Friday and Saturday night were filled with mini-adventures. Yes, we scared some party-goers. No, we didn't get to play with the sirens.

Friday night was not kind to the "party people in da house" because Officer James Holzmeier was on the beat. The evening consisted mainly of warnings for noise violation

and MIPs, things that are all too familiar in the Kirksville party scene. Friday night started off with us hot on the trail of a young white male in the possession of false identification. After being cuffed, the "perp" was taken into the station for fingerprinting and questioning. After that it was back onto the mean streets. On another call we assisted DPS with an intoxicated student who was passed out behind the Student Union Building. In addition to the police, an ambulance and the fire department were called in to help. Perhaps overwhelmed by the attention, the student was put on a stretcher and then brought to the hospital by an ambulance. The last call of the evening took place in the heart of downtown Kirksville. Some inebriated party-goers decided it would be funny to walk on the awning outside the window of their fashion downtown pad. Well, Officer Holzmeier didn't find it too amusing, and with his flashlight, he promptly showed them back into the apartment.

Contrary to popular belief, Saturday night is not the loneliest night of the week. Plenty of reckless youths hit the town ready to rock and roll. We began and ended our evening responding to calls of broken glass and loud noise, but we spent the majority of the time roaming the streets, looking for trouble. We drove by a few parties, making sure those crazy kids stayed in line. Cpl. Crouse has been on the Kirksville beat for nine years and had some great anecdotes to tell. This is one of the best parts of a ride-along, a glimpse into the secret workings of Kirksville. We pulled over several times during the course of the evening to question suspicious activity. The first time involved a giant inflatable penis. In celebration of a birthday, students were playing games in the middle of the street with said giant inflatable penis, while the birthday girl puked. Crouse told them to move it along. Later on in the night, we stopped to kick a dangerous couch cushion out of the road. Sometimes, careless homeowners don't

stop and consider the consequences of littering. We made a few routine stops, pulling over speeders and possible MIPs. Cpl. Crouse demonstrated his lighter side late in the evening. We passed by a young male urinating on the side of a house. As we drove by, Crouse popped on a side light, scaring the bejesus out of our perp.

Speaking of public urination, we asked our police companions about the shadowy local figure known as Silverface/Darkman. Although Crouse hadn't heard of the character, Holzmeier recognized him as a piss and run suspect. Saturday night included a possible Darkman spotting. As we rolled down the street, I noticed a man wearing a fake beard, dark hat, and large glasses, obviously some sort of disguise. I pointed him out to Crouse who explained that crazy stuff goes on in a college town. Darkman wasn't really causing a ruckus or doing anything to warrant a stop. The police must choose their battles in the raging war against crime.

Everyone can agree that alcohol-related crimes are a problem in Kirksville, but what about the looming dangers of methamphetamine? Known as "meth" to the layman, it has infiltrated our quaint little town. When we asked our policemen about the drug, Holzmeier responded, "Meth is nasty, nasty stuff." Crouse echoed this sentiment and stated, "Meth is trouble." Take the advice of our well-meaning public servants and "just say no!"

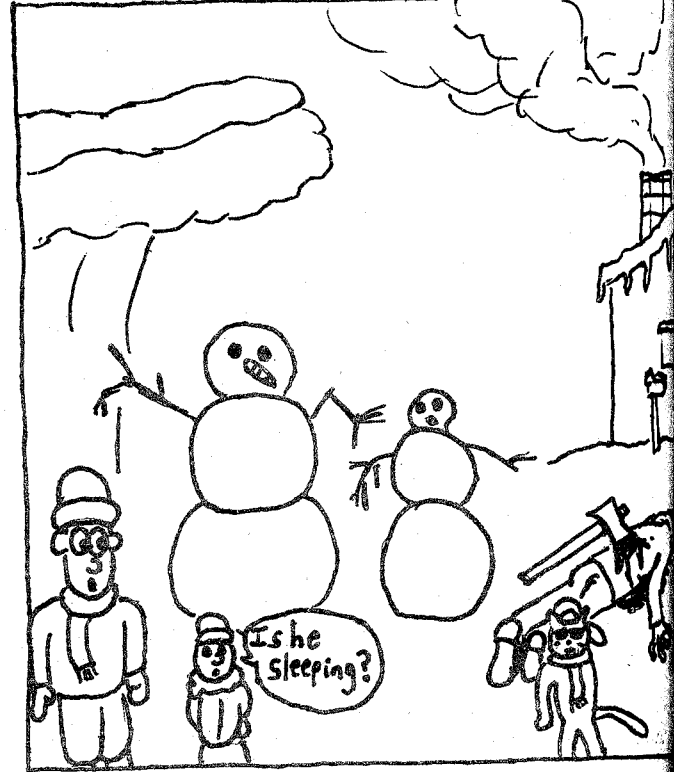
After spending a fun-filled weekend with the KPD, we know we'll never be bored in this town again. You too can participate in a community ride along. Let our public servants know how much you appreciate them. It's your civic duty to get a firsthand view of what it really means to "protect and serve."

Join us next time in part two of our "Kirksville's Hidden Treasures" series when we explore the finer things in Kirksville life such as a good ole fashioned hoe-down.

### Trouble Cat Snowed In



By J. and C.





# Students staged another DPS gun protest Friday

## Student Senate forms committee to gather student input on issue

story by | Sarah Wienke

It's 12:30 on a Friday afternoon, in front of McClain Hall. The sun is shining; people are happily strolling through the mall either headed for lunch or to their final classes for the week. An overall sense of peace and sunshiny euphoria cradles the campus despite the haunting reminder of violence in the form of rape victims' T-shirts bobbing in the breeze.

Suddenly all is disrupted by cap gun shots and the chants, "Our campus, our safety, our choice," and "They said yes, we said no, guns on campus have to go."

Once again, protestors from Truman State University and the Kirksville area were demonstrating against the Board of Governors' decision to arm DPS, conveniently in plain sight of Jack Magruder's office windows.

Passers-by smiled at the small group marching in a circle and wielding such signs as, "Bark Bark, no guns" and "Guns are no fun," or else they laughed openly at them. This group's protest tactics may be a little over the top, but their presence and their refusal to back down has led in part to Student Senate's immediate action in delaying the Board of Governors' arming of DPS. The Board of Governors has been asked to wait until the student body has been better informed of the decision and is more fairly represented in the decision-making process.

So what is going on? Why does DPS want to be armed? What is the anti-gun group protesting so vehemently? What is Student Senate doing to represent the student body's needs, as a whole? Finally, do we as students have any say in the decisions the Board of Governors make?

First and most crucial to the issue, why, after years of having officers unarmed, is DPS suddenly requesting guns?

The answer can be found within a packet of papers DPS made available to Student Senate. These papers explain their reasoning for desiring to be armed, the Public Safety official report from the last school year, and finally, a copy of the recommended resolution made to the Board of Governor's asking for the right to carry guns.

Included in this packet is a report from the U.S. Department of Justice from December 11, 1996. According to this report, about three-fourths of the country's campus law enforcement agencies employ sworn police officers with general arrest powers. 81 percent of the public campuses have armed officers as compared to 34 percent on private campuses.

The Public Safety report for the 1998-1999 school year was presented to the Board of Governors on June 19, 1999.

The report starts out by saying the mission of DPS: to protect the property and to preserve "the peace and good order on campus." DPS is "comprised of ten commissioned, non-armed, full time officers and is supplemented with 10 part-time student auxiliary members." Also, the "officers are certified by the Missouri Department of Public Safety and also hold Adair County commissions as peace officers."

The report then addresses the issue of arming the DPS officers. "Recent federal legislation (the Higher Education Amendments of 1998) requires expanded campus crime reporting and dissemination of these statistics to prospective students, current students, faculty, and staff... Students and their parents are interested in selecting a college which provides a safe and secure environment."

The report continued, "Violence on college cam-

puses has been relatively rare, but the recent outbreak of violence in American elementary and secondary schools has increased anxiety regarding threats from firearm and/or bombs on campuses. This raises the issue of whether or not campus public safety officers should be armed. Out of 12 4-year state-supported campuses, Truman is one of four that do not have armed officers... One alternative to armed officers is found at Southwest Missouri State in Springfield, where the university pays for an on-campus police station staffed by Springfield Police."

The report's final reason for arming DPS officers is the following: "Since the Department of Public Safety must plan responses to potential acts of violence at Truman, the policy regarding armed officers merits re-evaluation. There will be incidents on a campus where armed police must be called for safety and liability reasons. One option is the use of the local police department in such instances, but this raises issues such as response time, whose policies will be followed, and who best understands the campus."

At the Board of Governor's meeting July 31, 1999, DPS submitted a Recommended Resolution. The Recommended Resolution reads: "BE IT RE-

SOLVED that Section 17.060.3 of the Code of Policies of the Board of Governors of Truman State University be deleted; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the University shall appoint, on an annual basis, an oversight committee charged with advising the Director of Public Safety regarding general policies related to its mission, and specifically, to review any incidents involving the use of force, drawing of weapons, or complaints regarding use of force by Public Safety officers." Section 17.060.3 of the Code of Policies reads, "Firearms Prohibited. The police officers will not carry firearms or other deadly weapons for their duties as University police officers, (from the Resolutions of the Board dated March 7, 1992, and December 3, 1993)."

After news of this decision reached Student Senate, at their first meeting of the school year, an open forum was set up in which DPS officers could have the opportunity to explain to the students their reasons for desiring arms. This forum became a shouting fest as each side of the issue voiced their opinions. Unfortunately, a result of the antagonistic route which the forum took was that Jessica Neighbors, the student representative to the Board of Governors, was not able to fully explain the board's reasoning for deciding to arm DPS officers.

Neighbors, an ex officio member of Student Senate, was appointed to her position as student representative to the Board of Governors 2 years ago by Governor Mel Carnahan. She is a full board member, but she cannot vote. There are seven voting members of the Board of Governors and three non-voting members, including two out of state board members.

Neighbors explains that part of the reason that this decision was made this year as opposed to in prior years is because some of the board members' terms were completed and new board members took their places. Therefore it was time to revisit the arming of DPS issue.

Neighbors explained, "The Board suggested we do this as a precaution because their main concern is the safety of the DPS officers. The Board was concerned that if they went into dangerous situations they wouldn't be prepared. They knew that DPS officers in the past had voiced concern about going into dangerous situations without that protection."

Neighbors said it is important to acknowledge that there has been nothing in the past that has scared the Board of Governors or DPS into thinking they are in danger, just that the potential is there.

The July 31 recommended resolution is just recommended. "It didn't establish a policy," Neighbors said.

Dr. Magruder's intention was to go ahead with the arming of the officers. "They almost immediately ordered the guns, but to my knowledge they haven't come yet," Magruder said.

Some students and concerned members of the Kirksville community met outside the SUB and began an anti-gun campaign as a reaction to the senate forum.

Benjamin Garrett, a sophomore philosophy and religion major and spokesman of the group explained, "After the forum, students gathered out by the fountain to discuss a point of action. Ever since then, student meetings have just been popping up and whenever students feel the need for action they bring it before other concerned students."

Garrett stated the group's mission. "We feel that the administration unfairly made it possible for DPS to carry handguns. The fact that they did this without student input and legitimate cause is what has led students to protest so openly and passionately."

The Student Senate elections last week had an unusually high voting turnout, partly because of the student ballot initiative which asked the students whether they were for or against DPS carrying guns on campus.

Amanda Brink, a sophomore biology major and sophomore representative for senate was the election administrator for this last election. "Less than 400 people normally vote in the fall elections," she said. "That has been the trend for the last three years. In this election, 1289 people voted. Only 1178 voted on the DPS issue. This can be contributed to the gun issue as well as the fact that we had 48 candidates on the ballot."

Brink said that last week Student Senate "passed a resolution in an attempt to delay the arming of DPS until further research and student input can be collected."

Phil Koph, a senior representative and biology major, is on a committee created to do this research. "Student Senate is planning on surveying the students in a scientific objective manner in order to get a good representation of the student body's opinion," he said. Senate has formed this committee on the gun issue "that promises to be unbiased in its pursuit of information considering the gun issue and the student body's feeling towards this issue."

James Hubler, a senior political science major and treasurer of senate, takes the side of the administration. "To say the board made a hasty decision is wrong," he said. "The administration has been dealing with this issue for several years. When DPS brought this before the board again this summer, the board investigated it thoroughly and gave it a couple of months to investigate further."

Hubler also believes the student ballot initiative is an unfair representation of the student body for two reasons. "First, the turnout was primarily reactionary in that students were more likely to come to vote 'no' than they were to come to vote 'yes,'" he said. "Secondly, the reactionary role was enhanced further by the mass amount of negative propaganda that encompassed the campus. Only one side of the

issue was getting their word out. There was no other side."

Another student senator, sophomore rep representative and political science major John Hiltz, speaks for those who are not anti-gun. "I am a gun owner, and the prospect of DPS being armed doesn't bother me in the least," he said. "However, students need to be able to respect a policy process before they can respect a policy outcome, and there needs to be a lot more dialogue and student input on this issue before I, as a student senator, can fully support the Board of Governors' decision."

Hubler, however, does not appreciate the potential problems that enforcing a policy without proper process. He voices his frustration with the anti-gun demonstrators saying, "They had a table out[side of the SUB] trying to get people to vote 'no,'" he said. "They were electioneering outside of the voting area. This skews the vote further. You're interfering with the survey process. The actual feelings of the students are still undetermined." How is having a table outside a voting area which promotes one side of an issue any worse than having election candidates standing outside the voting area and giving a person candy if you say you'll vote for them?

Brink answers this question. "Student Senate bi-laws allow for campaigning by candidates or on an issue as long as it's not within 25 feet of the polling site during election hours."

Neighbors is continuing to dialogue with Dr. Magruder and the president of the Board of Governors. "I've talked to Dr. Magruder several times since the forum and [I talked to] the President of the Board a couple days ago," she said. "Basically they don't like that the students are upset. They are concerned, but they want to do what is in the best interest of the university. I don't think that the Board will change policy because the end good is most important -- the welfare of the students."

But Neighbors has made sure to tell the board what the concerned students have said. There is a Board Meeting October 29 at which three students have already asked to speak. The vote will take place at this meeting, and once a vote has been made, "there is no way to overturn the decision of the board."

So what does all of this mean? Basically, that we, as students of Truman State University, should have the right to have more of a say in a resolution passed by the Board of Governors especially if the

issue at hand directly affects us. And, as of now, we don't have that right. Leanna Heritage, a senior exercise science major who took part in the protest Friday, puts it best. "I'm just frustrated they

didn't give us the option to choose guns or not."

What can we do? Are our hands tied? Neighbors gives a faint glimmer of hope for the future of student-university relations.

"Right now Student Senate is working on passing a resolution to get the student member of the Board of Governors a vote. Student Senate is talking about lobbying the state legislature to change the statute that says that the student member can't vote."

If you want to voice your opinion, talk to your class representative for Senate -- that's what they're there for. If students become more active in the senate, and constantly keep them in check, the senate will in turn keep the administration aware of the issues that drive us and perhaps, things will change for the better. That's the whole point of a democracy. Too bad it doesn't work on its own.

## Students are asking to speak at the next Board of Governors meeting on October 29.



# reviews

music | film | literature

## Nine Inch Nails album well worth the wait

**Nine Inch Nails**  
*The Fragile*  
Nothing/Interscope

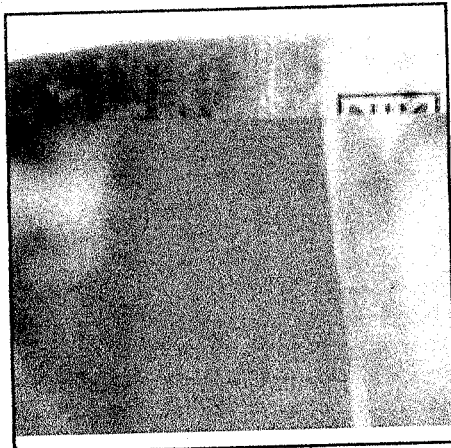
review by | **Shawn Gilmore**

The long, long wait for a new studio album from Nine Inch Nails is finally over, and need I say it: "Fuck, yeah!!"

It has been five years since *The Downward Spiral*, which solidified Trent Reznor's hold on the genre that he basically invented. In that span of time, NIN's sound has become more solid, and *The Fragile*, their new album, is concrete evidence of that. The two-disc set is the culmination of the repressed rage and anger that has been building in NIN's music since the beginning.

This album is a departure, of sorts, from their old sound, as well as the best way to carry it onward. Both *Pretty Hate Machine* and *The Downward Spiral* were dark, malevolent thoughts set to music. *The Fragile* continues in that vein, as it opens a portal into Reznor's soul that makes the listener feel both privileged to view and disturbed to recognize as part of their own consciousness. This album draws the listener in, down into the depths of your emotions, asking you to connect with something base and primal, while at the same time so deep and profound that you may not have experienced the connection before.

Reznor writes of the same things he has already visited in past albums: love, hate, pain, rage, desire, agony, etc. This album feels more honest, though, as the lyrics speak directly to the emotions they touch upon. No longer do the songs feel a little shallow, as if they are only addressing general problems and trying to catch fans along the way. *The Fragile* has a fans-battered, "I'm in this to save my own soul"



attitude, which is potentially disastrous.

NIN has pulled it off amazingly, though. The songs are intense, powerful anthems of pure emotion, which seem less shallow than those from previous endeavors. No longer are NIN's songs driven by a bass beat and synthesized drums. There is a level of instrumentation here that hasn't been present in the past. Quiet piano, guitar solos, and even the sound of a marching, yelling crowd (much like the one in Pink Floyd's *The Wall*) accentuate each track, proving for a more multilayered, powerful sound.

Reznor seems to be cleaning the closet of his past actions and feelings, as songs about trust, love, pain, and more expound on the loneliness of emotion, and the hardship of feelings. Lyrically, each song is a marked step up from previous outings. These songs seem to have more feeling and crafting than ever before (including, for you Carly Simon fans, the line "you're so vain, I bet you think this song is about you," in *Starfuckers, Inc.*) which actually articulate Reznor's emotions instead of just letting each song become a tired, shallow anthem.

Overall, the album strikes me as a step away, and up, for Nine Inch Nails. Reznor has carefully put together a collection of tracks that flow, one to the next, in a way that he seldom had in the past. This two-disc set weighs in at a little under two hours of music, but its value to a fan is immense. If you aren't into NIN, or only know a little, this might be an excellent first album. The five-year absence of music from Reznor and his band is almost erased by a product this good.



### CD Release Dates — October 05

**David Bowie** — *hours...* (Virgin)  
**Melissa Etheridge** — *Breakdown* (Island)  
**B.B. King** — *Let the Good Times Roll: The Music of Louis Jordan* (MCA)  
**Live** — *The Distance to Here* (Radioactive/MCA)  
**Paul McCartney** — *Run Devil Run* (Capitol)  
**Misfits** — *Famous Monsters* (Roadrunner)  
**XTC** — *Homespun: The Apple Venus Vol. One Demos* (TVT)  
**American Beauty** — *Soundtrack* (DreamWorks)

## Cornell tests new styles, but his album falls short

**Chris Cornell**  
*Euphoria Morning*  
A&M records

review by | **Ben Braun**

In a week that saw the release of the incredible new Tori Amos CD and the fabulous new Nine Inch Nails CD (GO GET THEM, ESPECIALLY TORI), there was also *Euphoria Morning*, the long-awaited solo album by Chris Cornell. On *Euphoria*, Cornell, best known for his work with the now-defunct Soundgarden along with side projects such as Temple of the Dog, unfortunately falls short of the precedent he has set. While there are some standout performances, especially the opening track, "Can't Change Me," *Euphoria* fails to deliver the same quality of musicality that fans have come to expect from such a wonderful artist.

*Euphoria* opens with strong performances on "Can't Change Me," "Flutter Girl," and "Preaching The End Of The World," but from there on the album is sketchy. "When I'm Down" and "Wave Goodbye" are reminiscent of Cornell songs from Temple Of The Dog's self-titled debut, yet lacks the intensity found in his pieces from that album. Likewise, "Mission" and "Disappearing One" echo Soundgarden's *Down On The Upside*, yet are missing elements of complexity and spontaneity that resound through that album. "Moonchild" stands on its own, floating with force, the

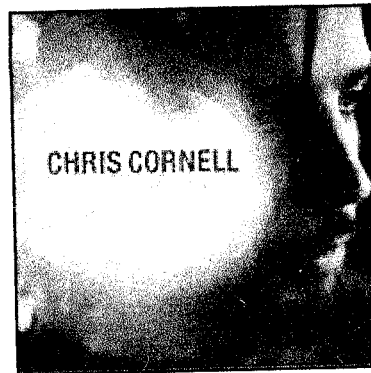
music complementing the lyrics: "We're dreaming and we're real/We're broken and we're healed/Give in to what you feel over what you see."

"Pillow Of Your Bones" also shows Cornell at his best, slipping smoothly from phrase to phrase, verse to chorus. Unfortunately, half an album doesn't make an album, and the intermittent quality of *Euphoria* keeps it from being ranked with the best of Cornell's past experiments.

There is one thing that can always be said for Chris Cornell: he's full of musical surprises. Even on songs such as "Wave Goodbye," which is quite weak compared to the body of the album, Cornell is constantly experimenting and testing new styles, new forms of expression. *Euphoria* contains songs reminiscent of bands such as Queen and David Bowie along with songs dripping with classic jazz and blues traditions; this experimental

side of Cornell always challenges his fans to open their ears, searching their own musical experiences to find where it all fits in. This quality is found in full on *Euphoria*, perhaps more than on any other album; if for no other reason, that gives *Euphoria* a certain vibrancy which urges the listener to a second listen.

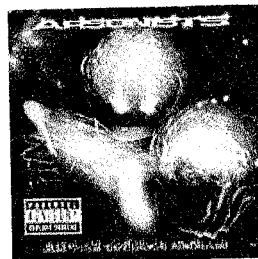
Hardcore Soundgarden fans will appreciate *Euphoria Morning* and enjoy hearing where Chris Cornell is headed. However, for those who are taking a first listen, time-tested albums such as Soundgarden's *Badmotorfinger* or *Superunknown* are a better introduction to this great artist, as is the Temple of the Dog album which features members of both Soundgarden and Pearl Jam at their very best. Either way, Chris Cornell is very much still in the game, and I do look forward to seeing what comes next.



## Arsonists set fire to the rap world

**The Arsonists**  
*As the World Burns*  
Matador

review by | **Matthew Webber**



Once upon a time, a Wu-Tang Clan group or solo album was as cutting edge (like a shao lin sword) as you could get in hip-hop. Some years and many side projects later, Wu-Tang albums -- with the exception of anything Old Dirty Bastard touches -- are tired, repetitive, and boring. The fall of the Wu as rap's great supergroup has opened the door for groups like Ruff Ryders, Flipmode Squad, and lesser groups to battle each other for the vacated crown. Enter the new challenger: Brooklyn's Arsonists.

The Arsonists -- Q-Unique, D-Stroy, Freestyle, Swel Boogie, and Jise One -- scorch a mic like the Wu, and other supergroups, used to do, spitting out verses which are clever and complex. The self-produced beats (an impressive feat today) could be taken from RZA's songbook, with minor

key pianos and driving, thumping bass.

But the Arsonists are no Wu-clones, their beats no retread slop. These five MCs are blazing. These beats, for the most part, burn.

To the Arsonists, hip-hop is an art form which can challenge and enlighten. The crew invokes the past and embraces hip-hop's future, all throughout the album and even within one track. "Rhyme Time Travel" spans three decades, with beats from 1979, 1989 and 1999. "Lunchroom Take-Out" is an old-school MC battle, chock full of yo momma jokes and a simple, homemade beat.

The Arsonists sample the Michael Myers' theme for "Halloween," darkening the track with drum loops and their rhymes. A demonic circus organ cycles through "Pyromaniac" -- burning, of course, is a theme on the album -- and I know the Insane Clown Posse are jealous; the song is what ICP wet-dreams of sounding like.

The album is long with its 21 tracks. It lags towards the middle but starts and ends strong. But talented embers glow in every track, usually the lyrics and oftentimes the beat. That the Arsonists are skilled can never be disputed, and their deep respect for hip-hop ensures the group's longevity.

The Arsonists are not a supergroup yet, but they'll be one with some polish and some good old perseverance. If the world is burning now they will scorch its remnants then.



05 October 1999

# Tori Amos sparkles on *To Venus and Back*

Tori Amos

*To Venus and Back*

Atlantic Records

review by | Shanna Sandmoen

Springing off a smorgasbord of rhythms and styles, Tori Amos treats her audience with an entirely new style, imitating that of Alanis Morissette's *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie*. Her new double CD is comprised of one disc of new material and a second disc recorded live from her 1998 concert tour.

Her newest collection exudes mystery and an exotic



aura. Her first single entitled "Bliss" is a mellow mix of synthesizer, piano and drums. Tori uses a techno edge to give her music a more futuristic sound, similar to that used in *From the Choirgirl Hotel*.

Tori's style has changed dramatically from her 1991 debut *Little Earthquakes*. Her songs have become edgier, and more upbeat than her

earlier hits. The only failure of *To Venus and Back* is the lack of piano. Her newer songs seem to concentrate more on percussion and synthesized sounds.

The master of lyrical complexity strikes again with words such as bilocate, kachina, and terracide. Tori weaves philosophical inquiries with religious and rape influences. She also blends a little romance in the mix with her second single "1000 Oceans." This gorgeous ballad can only be described as a Celine Dion-styled love song. Tori writes, "These tears I've cried. I've cried 1000 oceans/And if it seems I'm floating in the darkness/Well, I can't believe that I would keep, keep you from flying/So I will cry 1000 more if that's what it takes to sail you home."

The rest of disc one blends several musical styles with songs like "Concertina," "Spring Haze" and my personal favorite, "Suede." Tori shows she still has some angst, but she also knows how to have fun with her music.

Disc two shows Tori's ability to perform onstage. Live performances of great hits such as "Precious Things," "Cornflake Girl" and "Waitress" give this CD just the right touch.

Tori Amos will be performing live on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* on October 14 and on the *Rosie O'Donnell Show* on October 20.

For more information on her new CD go to <http://www.toriamos.com>.

# The Muse fails to inspire

The Muse

starring Sharon Stone,

Albert Brooks

review by | Laura Bolesta

The muses are the nine daughters of Zeus who inspire all artists. One of them, Sarah (Sharon Stone), lives in Los Angeles and helps moviemakers with their creative problems. If you find this statement hard to believe, you're not alone. The main character of *The Muse*, Steven Phillips (Albert Brooks), initially has trouble processing the concept of the modern-day muse. After losing his movie deal and being turned down multiple times because he's "lost his edge," Steven consults his now-successful friend Jack (Jeff Bridges) to find out his secret. Jack reluctantly arranges for Steven to meet the muse, and she agrees to take him on as a client.

From that point on, Steven does nothing but complain and inadvertently offend Sarah. His stinginess gets irritating quickly, and I was constantly waiting for her to get as annoyed with him as I was and leave, taking her divine inspiration with her. Stone gives the character a sense of strength and power -- she doesn't have to put up with anything if she doesn't want to. However, Steven doesn't seem to take her or her powers seriously. He haggles over every expense and expects her to do the writing for him. She tells him it's not her job to write, but to inspire. In addition to managing a hard-to-please muse, Steven has to handle a jealous but eventually understanding wife (Andie MacDowell) and ruthless Hollywood competition.

*The Muse* was co-written by, directed by, and stars Albert Brooks. Although his acting is very realistic, especially in his reactions to Sarah, it is not as entertaining as I think it could have been. This is not to say Brooks was not funny, but I feel someone else could have done a better job. Overall, as an actor, Brooks pulls

this film down. His constant grumbling makes him unlikable and doesn't allow the viewers to identify with his character. Instead, the audience is left rooting for Sarah, who could easily have become a bossy, controlling brat had Stone not carefully controlled Sarah's sparkling demeanor.

One bright spot in the film is the celebrity cameos. Martin Scorsese, Rob Reiner, and James Cameron all pay visits to Sarah and thank her for her past help. Her advice to Cameron: stay away from water this time. There are many other "insider" jabs throughout *The Muse* that can leave the average moviegoer confused but are hilarious if you understand them. There are also many finely crafted verbal exchanges that are highly entertaining, even though they seem unconnected and unnecessary to the development of the film.

Because so much of the film was aimed against the workings of show business, I found the ending particularly disappointing. The final plot twists, which would have been predictable in a typical mindless comedy, were completely unexpected in this film. I presumed the ending would be as inventive as the rest of the movie, and I was wrong. I felt cheated, and it seemed like Brooks had tacked on a stock Hollywood ending to finish off the film. It is possible that Brooks intentionally causes this unfulfilled feeling, turning the tables on his audience and in effect saying "See, it's not so easy to succeed in this line of work." If his goal was to show that everyone has to sell out to make it in show business, then it certainly was effective, although unfair to audiences who expected a less mundane ending.

Is this film worth seeing? Yes and no. There are many good parts, a few great parts, and a terrible ending. For me, the ending was disappointing enough to make me question my enjoyment of the rest of the film. All in all, the parts balance out to make *The Muse* mediocre but not a complete waste of time.

# Soul Caliber is an addictive game

Soul Caliber

Namco

Sega Dreamcast

review by | Jesse Pasley

*Soul Caliber*, the latest offering from Namco, carries on a long tradition of the fighting game genre while offering eye-popping graphics, solid play-control, and an extended grab-bag of features. While *Soul Caliber* may be a bit unpolished in some parts (namely anything to do with plot in the mission mode), the game proves to be an excellent proving ground for the Dreamcast's graphics capabilities.

The premise of the game is much like that of nearly all fighting games: defeat your opponent in a martial arts battle to the death. Each character in *Soul Caliber* is equipped with some sort of hand-wielded weapon, whether that be Xianghua's quick taichi sword or Astaroth's behemoth axe. Combining this attribute with the character's supernatural abilities makes for some truly spectacular battles.

Showcasing the Dreamcast's abilities, *Soul Caliber* boasts some impressive graphic effects. Animating at 60 frames per second, *Soul Caliber*'s fights are the most stunning yet. Character movements are smooth and lifelike. Also, the magical abilities of the characters provide for amazing fire and lighting effects. Like *Tekken* or *Bushido Blade*, each arena is in true 3D. Graphically, though, *Soul Caliber* beats these

comparable games in that the backgrounds are actual polygonal landscapes, rather than simple plastered bitmaps.

But besides these bells and whistles, *Soul Caliber* is strongest in its solid gameplay and range of options. Besides the usual arcade and two-player modes, the game also provides for a mission-based adventure mode and a computer-versus-computer mode. The adventure mode takes on the same premise of beating your opponents in an arena and adds a list of mission goals. This could be anything from beating several opponents in a row to obtaining the first knockdown. Of course, if you're ready for some real fun, choose the computer-versus-computer mode. This is perhaps the most useless feature of a fighting game I've ever seen, that is, until you make money off of bets you make with your friends to see which of the fighters wins the match.

But with all these great features, the game still lacks in some areas. Most notably sucking is the voice acting and other dialogue. Though it is somewhat funny, after about fifty times, phrases like "Kilik was severely injured, but the soul still burns," and "My rod shall destroy you," makes me shake my head in confusion.

Overall, *Soul Caliber* is a fairly addictive game. I'm usually not a big fan of fighting games, but I found this game to be a solid play. Though this game doesn't reach near the elegance of Square's *Bushido Blade*, fighting fans will no doubt want to add this game to their library.

# British band Gomez offers folky blues-rock

Gomez

Liquid Skin

Hut/Virgin

review by | Erin Huckle

British press darlings Gomez have done it again. They introduced their folky false-Americana blues rock sound last year with their debut album *Bring It On*, capturing thousands of fans and gaining mass critical acclaim. I, for one, can tell you I've been patiently waiting for the follow-up since I picked up that album. Yes, they really are that good.

And it's possible that you've even heard Gomez already. They covered "Getting Better," a Beatles tune, that was tacked on the end of Phillips commercials. (Although, recently, Phillips seems to have someone else doing it.)

With *Liquid Skin*, Gomez have taken their signature acoustic-based sound and expounded on it. They've added string arrangements and are using many more synthesized sounds like drum loops and just general weird sounds that don't sound strange in the context of the album. They also use many more instruments than on their debut (which, for the most

part, was recorded in a garage), like horns and additional strings. A sitar even shows up on the first track, "Hangover."

Something else typical of Gomez, they have three singers just to mix it up a bit. And on *Liquid Skin*, very seldom does any one sing by themselves. On "Bring It On" (the song -- not their album with the same name) all three of Gomez's singers take turns passing around every other lyric, giving the song a very mysterious feel. They also hit great harmonies together.

Ben Ottewill's ragged voice makes you think he grew up in seedy blues bars in New Orleans about 50 years ago. Beautiful examples of Ben's vocal work can be found all throughout the album but especially at the end of "Blue Moon Rising" where he sounds like he's just about ready to explode with the pressure of the song. Tom Gray, another singer, really cultivates his solo vocals much better than on their debut. Again, in "Blue Moon Rising," he offers crooned lyrics with a soft Latin lounge twist.

On "We Haven't Turned Around," Gomez pushes a sentimental and very serious tone which is a very new approach for this band of 23-year-old jokers. Who would have thought they could pull it off with such emotion?

And let me tell you their b-sides are as good as any song on the album. Gomez is one of the only bands that actually does quality b-sides anymore, including four more original songs on each single.

So if you are in the mood for some inventive silly-folky-bluesy-rocky-synth music, I make the recommendation to pick up *Liquid Skin* (or really anything) by Gomez.



# Community Voices

an interview series with people about town

interview by | Jeff Moore

Radio park is located underneath the massive antenna array on North Baltimore, just down the street from Kaleidoscope. The building houses the crown jewel of Kirksville, the X. I've been a rock 'n' roll enthusiast for many years now, and for my money, 94.5 is the best station, ever. For 25 years it has provided classic rock sustenance to the tri-state area. I recently sat down with Dan Day, who does the "Knight and Day" morning show from 6-9, to talk about rock, Joe Cocker, and bow hunting.

**M:** Define classic rock for me.

**DD:** Classic rock are songs that everybody grew up with and they become mainstream songs in their life. Songs that have topped the charts. Songs that people identify with, and, in some cases, know so well that they sing along.

**M:** When does a song become a "classic rock song"?

**DD:** Well here at this station we play classic rock from the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s. Rock 'n' roll officially started, by most people's definition, in 1948 with a song that Ike Turner was on. That's when it officially became rock 'n' roll. So it depends on people's definition. Some people think Elvis Presley is rock 'n' roll, which, in some cases, he is, but he's a balladeer too.

**M:** So the X is the greatest rock 'n' roll station I've ever heard. Why is that?

**DD:** Um ... I guess that's up to the individual listener ... In a lot of markets, like in a large city, one station will do just 70s another will be 80s or 90s or whatever. But here, we have the benefit of a 100,000 watt station that goes clear into Illinois or down to Lake of the Ozarks. So we have a very large signal, and there's just not a lot of competition with us in those markets. There's starting to be more, but we're the only local live morning show, everything else is syndicated. So we get the local flair. One of our favorite things to do is make fun of somebody's town when they call up, "Wyaconda sucks" or "Brashear has the ugliest people."

**M:** What do you see as the role the X plays in Kirksville?

**DD:** The role...

**M:** What does it do for the people around here?

**DD:** Well ... I think it stops them from being country bumpkins, myself. We try and be somewhat sophisticated in our approach and in our way of thinking. We stir away from what one would perceive as a redneck way of thinking. I mean, we don't do a whole lot of heavy metal.

**M:** And it's not all Skynyrd

**DD:** Right, we try and make it so people who grew up with this music can relate to

it as they grow older.

**M:** Now you've been here for around 20 years. Would you say that Kirksville is a rock 'n' roll town?

**DD:** Uh ... not as much as some other towns in the listening area. Kirksville is predominantly a country town, country music oriented. Our stronger audiences are in Keokuk, Quincy, Fort Madison, towns like that. There are a lot of rock fans in Kirksville. A good deal of them are here from larger cities, Kansas City, St. Louis or students.

**M:** Lets say you get an emergency broadcast message while you're on the air that says that the world's going to end in 30 minutes. In that 30 minutes, what do you play?

**DD:** Well first of all it probably wouldn't be music. We'd probably have to switch over...

**M:** ...Well yeah, but hypothetically.

**DD:** If I could play music ... that's a good question. I'd probably play music that's just for me, cause at that time I wouldn't have to play any format, what, am I gonna lose my job? I'm a big concert goer. I've been to hundreds of concerts. I just went and saw Jethro Tull the other night, I'm a diehard concert goer. I saw the Doors, Janis Joplin, Jimmy Hendrix. So I would probably play music that's nostalgic for me.

**M:** One of the big dilemmas that I see with the programming here is Joe Cocker versus Bob Seger. They both fill the same sort of void, but they're both very different.

**DD:** Uh-huh...

**M:** So which one is it, Joe Cocker or Bob Seger and why?

**DD:** Boy, I don't know, I like em both. I've seen em both. I'd probably pick Joe Cocker, mainly because one of the first albums I got was *Mad Dogs and Englishmen*, which was a live album. He's done a lot of duets and commercial songs, but he can belt it out and also you always think of John Belushi doing his impersonation. Probably Joe Cocker, but not to go against Bob Seger, cause he's done a good job too. He's a rocker.

**M:** It's unfair to say who's the greatest rock band ever, because you have a lot of people doing a lot of different things. So let's say five. Who are the five best rock artists ever?

**DD:** Beatles would have to be number one just for all their abilities. On the dark side, I would say the Rolling Stones come in there, then the Who, to me. The next two could be several different ones. Actually the early Fleetwood Mac was a blues band, and they were a pretty good group ... and ... I don't know, that's about it. I could name off twenty that I really like. I really liked Canned Heat. A lot of it is if you see a group live, it really sticks with you, cause when you hear it on the radio you can visualize it ... I went and saw Ted Nugent about a month ago. Motley Crue and Night Ranger opened up, and it didn't ... I mean they're still talented people and all that, but not my cup of tea.

**M:** Did the Nuge shoot bows on stage or anything?

**DD:** Yeah, he had this guitar that he lit the end of and then shot a flaming arrow out of it, and he was saying things like animals don't have rights. It was pretty cool.

## AAUP Meeting on Campus!

Wednesday, October 13, 5:00 p.m.

SUB Governors' Room



Panel presentation by AAUP on  
Faculty Attrition and Faculty Retention at Truman State  
University

Open discussion  
Small group discussion  
Refreshments!

This Town Meeting is open to  
all member of the  
University community.

Visit our local AAUP Web Page at  
<http://members.socket.net/~susand>



# Lack of sleep is something for students to write home about

story by | Sara Biggs and Benjamin Nelson

Monday, 12 Oct. 1998, 10 p.m.  
Greetings, Salutations and Hello:

Forgive me for not writing more often but I'm way too busy standing in the middle of the road. I have just returned from another exciting visit to S. Franklin Street. "Why?" you ask and rightfully so. Of course, in the always-fascinating armpit of America, there are plenty of interesting things to do, namely Wal-Mart and Pancake City.

Unfortunately, I have little time to enjoy these cultural experiences: I am too busy hanging out on street corners, but it sure doesn't pay very well. I also spend my so-called free time making lists of every CD I own, every book I bought, and which pairs of Levi's are in my closet. Yes, I will eventually get to the point but I'm so brain-dead from lack of sleep I find it difficult to concentrate. In short, my wonderful dorm room keeps catching on fire.

Last night, I took my cold shower (there's no hot water, except when it is over 90 degrees outside in the shade, but that's a tangent for another day) and read over my sociology book for my 7:30 test. I had just fallen asleep around 12:45 a.m. when I heard an obnoxious noise. No, strangely enough, it wasn't my dear roommate bringing home her 13th boyfriend of the month, but the fire alarm. This is not an uncommon sound: our second week here, the alarm went off an average of every five minutes. I fell out of bed, grabbed my glasses and stumbled to my closet for some jeans, a sweater and my sneakers. I walked sleepily down the hall, down five flights of stairs (72 steps, to be exact) and woke up quickly as the cold air hit my face and the irritated yells of other students who had just started their weekend homework while still recuperating from their hangovers assaulted my ears. We were finally allowed back into our "home away from home" around 1:10 a.m. I tried to fall asleep but instead lay awake until around 2.

I got up at 6:30, threw my clothes on again, ate Raisin Bran and canned pears for breakfast, and proceeded to fail my test. I don't know that for sure but it's a pretty safe assumption consid-

ering my mental state. I took a nap after class, another nap after dinner, and woke up in time to read my sociology assignment for Wednesday -- only three chapters. I sat comfortably in my chair, wearing three shirts and a blanket because the heat is still not on, happily reading about why Indians, Chinese, Arabians and Europeans use hand signals the way they do, when I heard that oh-so-familiar sound: Yes, folks, the false alarm was wailing yet again. I grabbed my Sprite, my book and my blanket and curled up in my car from 9 until 9:25 p.m. CST.

I am quite used to this ear-splitting sound by now; this has happened at least once a week for the nine weeks I have lived in Centennial but I am hopeful that with two in the last 20 hours, we will be free next week. (Doubtful.) The main thing I fear is an actual fire: you see, my dear loved ones, the only time we had a real fire, the alarms did not go off. We were alerted to the presence of the fire by the smoke and ash in the hallways and rooms. This occurred on a nice, quiet, peaceful Sunday when all sensible people, myself included, were taking an afternoon nap. Since the alarms never sounded (atypical for this building) the Student Assistants (SA's) had the privilege of banging on all 350 doors in this institution.

Not that I am bitter... Yes, I am. Gee, I wonder why. I am greatly anticipating February: it's a Centennial tradition that for one week, in the most brutal cold you can imagine outside of Siberia, for there to be a daily, almost ritualistic, trek into the elements at 3 a.m., thereby reducing the possibility of students in the shower, doing anything productive, or even for the residents to be coherent. All intelligent tenants keep their coats, shoes, gloves, hats, scarves, long-underwear, jeans, four pairs of socks and a few dozen sweatshirts all neatly piled next to a life-support bag containing food, more socks, all worldly belongings worth more than fifty cents, car keys, an up-to-date life insurance policy, a properly notarized *Last Will and Testament*, a picture of their dog Sparky and probably enough alcohol to last through the next millennium (or one Irish family of four for a day) even though the Kum 'n' Go sells six-packs of skanky beer for less than your average Batman Pez dispenser. As my head falls

onto the keyboard, I want to thank you for your time and attention.

Until the next time, in about 22 & 1/2 hours, cheerfully yours, and wishing you and your loved ones a good night,

Local Chapter BFFASYFADNS President  
Sara Biggs

(Bitter False Fire Alarm Society Yearning For A Decent Night's Slumber)

\*\*\*\*\*

Family, Friends, and Other People:

I write now to update you on the society and its current activities. We just started a new school year. This means new classes, new people, and most importantly, new furniture. Aside from the fact that I've already had two or three (I can't remember exactly) concussions from falling out of bed as my drunken roommate now vomits from eight feet up in the air, so there are permanent splatter stains on the carpet, lofts are great! Not that I'm bitter about the concussions -- it's kind of fun to have different pupil sizes, but when I get a concussion because I leapt out of bed at 3 a.m. I'm thinking maybe Magruder should pay for all my hospital visits and emergency room treatments.

But you'll be glad to know that we kept some of the old traditions, specifically, Don't Walk on the Potato and Fake Fire Drills in Centennial. Last week alone, we visited the street four times! First was Saturday night; we were outside at 3:30 a.m. Such excitement for the freshmen! Their first fire drill and on a weekend too! Then we journeyed to the parking lot once again Wednesday morning from 2:12 until 2:51. (Wow! Two in one week!) We were yet again rudely awakened Thursday from 3:25 until 3:45 a.m. We were really hoping for three in a row so we wouldn't get any sleep at all but, sadly, we were allowed to sleep through the night Thursday. Perhaps someone knew how important my biology test was. More likely, the alarm-pullers just needed a little shut-eye themselves. It must be tiring to yank that red handle and then trek outside to laugh at everyone else every 48 hours. So they kindly waited until Sunday morning at 2:45 am to experience the joy of the pavement.

It's also possible that they read room 395's white board and feared for their physical health. Occupants Eric Longbranch and Joe Spencer have a petition for the lynching of the alarm-pullers on their door. They encourage all interested parties to call upon their congresspersons for assistance in enforcing the lynching policy. Persons interested in signing this petition should call x4829.

Speaking of lynchings, and other hard-core, martial law, mob-type enforcements, the KPD has apparently reached the boiling point. Just in time for Sunday morning, blacklight-sensitive dye had been smeared on all the fire alarms so that the gun-toting DPS could slyly and with cunning efficiency catch the perpetrator(s) in the 600+ human line that anyone with the sense God gave gravel would simply walk away from. I don't know about you, but if I pulled an alarm at 2 a.m., I would definitely wait in the line so that they could write down my name. You know what this strategic tactic accomplished? We got to stand outside for an extra hour while anyone with a callous on their hands got interrogated by the law enforcement agency and the ever-present SA's. One alert student was overheard yelling "They're hands! Let's go!" after one resident's work-callused hands were examined for several minutes. (Calluses glow yellow in the blacklight, just like the dye.) I hope they're planning on re-dyeing all the alarms everyday; I know most of them have already been wiped off. Perhaps that's where all our tuition will go this year: blacklight dye.

Sometimes, the only thing that gets me out of bed after one of these drills is the knowledge that one day, I will receive ample compensation after I have a nervous breakdown when my alarm clock goes off.

Until the next time, in only 48 hours, wishing you and yours a good afternoon nap and a warm pair of socks for the journey into the elements,

Local Chapter BFFASYFADNS President  
Sara Biggs and Executive Co-Chair of the Committee for Insomnia Prevention Benjamin Nelson.

{The stories are real but the names, room number and phone number were changed to protect the guilty.}



# Queen Astra



Let the  
stars be  
your guide!

## Aries (March 21-April 20):

You can leave your hat on. Just take off the pants.

## Taurus (April 21-May 22):

A detours sign will come crashing down out of the sky. Next time, use 192 poster mounts to hang it on your bedroom wall.

## Gemini (May 23-June 21):

Never ever turn down a challenge. You may regret it in the end, but who could live with friends who think you're a square?

## Cancer (June 22-July 24):

beep-beep-boop-beep-boop-boop-beep

## Leo (July 25-August 23):

When considering the merits of

peanut butter cookies or cheesecake, keep these words in mind: "Maybe you were adopted."

## Virgo (August 24-

**September 23):** If a cat jumping on your friend's head makes you pee in your pants, you're one lame-brain. One really mean lame-brain.

## Libra (September 24-

**October 23):** Hover boards and Biff Tannen are the best thing to come out of *Back to the Future*. Don't let anyone try to convince you otherwise. Well, the line "I don't want to mess with no reefer addicts" was pretty cool too.

## Scorpio (October 24-

**November 22):** What smells like tater tots? Oh wait. It's you.

## Sagittarius (November 23-

**December 21):** In the game of life there are no "take backs." So,

before you decide to tell your mom she's one ugly bitch, you'd better be damn sure you really mean it.

## Capricorn (December 22-

**January 20):** We tried all kinds of ways. We made our drinks weak. Or just drank beer. Or we did not drink cocktails. Or only drank on weekends. You name it, we tried it. But if we drank anything with alcohol in it, we usually got drunk eventually.

## Aquarius (January 21-

**February 19):** You're not the boss of me!

## Pisces (February 20-March

**20):** Try to make every night of your life a star-studded event. Keep a bag of party mix on hand just in case Tom Selleck ever stops by.

**Special White Space:** This special white space is reserved for tiny dentist music.

## Sodexho plans to takeover campus

story by Jennifer Wrightam

Every true lover of God and His country and good food should stand up to the tyranny and anarchy now threatening to seize power on this campus. The evil which threatens us is Sodexho Marriot. You may think you are safe from this growing threat because you don't have a meal plan. Don't be lulled into inaction by this false sense of security. Sodexho threatens the integrity not only of our cafeterias and schools but of our whole nation!

Sodexho Marriot isn't just about food. According to their own Web page ([www.sodexhomarriott.com](http://www.sodexhomarriott.com)), they work in the "corporate, health care and education markets, including food services, housekeeping, groundskeeping, plant operations and management, and integrated facilities management." They are infiltrating our hospitals, our schools and our businesses at the most vital levels! Lest you think this a small problem, I would like to point out to you that Sodexho is the "leading food and facilities services company in North America." They admit in their own press releases how far their influence extends. They say they are the 52nd largest employer in North America, with 103,000 employees. Sodexhoism is sweeping the nation!

No one is safe from the Sodexho menace. Under the guise of "food service" what we've really been subject to is brainwashing! Sodexho carefully wears you down with bad nutrition and long lines until you are suggestable to their devious plans. They have in their employ several thousand nutritionists whose express purpose is to keep Sodexho food from providing a nutritionally balanced meal. Proof of this conspiracy is all around us. Have you ever noticed that they never serve beans, corn and rice all on one day in the cafeteria? They're trying to keep students from getting a well-rounded meal.

Look around you. You will see evidence that Sodexho's diabolical plan is already working. Your neighbor or fellow student may have been indoctrinated by Sodexhoist propaganda. If you ever hear someone say, "delicious dining options," they have fallen prey to Sodexhoism. They may have even joined the Secret Sodexhoans (S.S.)

I have in my hand 57 cases of individuals who would appear to be either card-carrying members or

certainly loyal to the S.S., but who nevertheless are still helping to shape our campus policy. If you doubt the subversive effects of Sodexho at the highest levels of power, just look at the recent Student Senate posters that were all around campus. These posters glorified the power of the Sodexho worker (in this case, Virginia). Student Senate met in the S.U.B. (which I've recently heard referred to as the SODEXHO Union Building), eating and drinking the food of Sodexho, and voted to pay for Sodexho propaganda!

Today we are engaged in a final, all-out battle between Sodexhoistic atheism, and down-home, American-bred, commercialized Christianity. For example, Sodexho would have us destroy our treasured national food heritage by serving us mashed potatoes out of a box! What happened to women belonging in the kitchen making REAL mashed potatoes while the men watch football? Christmas, rather than a holiday about getting as much loot as possible, would pass quietly. Perhaps the Sodexhoans would allow us to hang a cardboard cut out of a Christmas tree as the only flattened remnant of what was once a great celebration of American capitalism.

My fellow students, I beg you to seek out those persons who are disloyal to the United States and who are actively working for Sodexho. For, I've recently discovered that their plans go deeper than I'd ever imagined. Two nights hence, an informant arrived at my room, breathless, bloody and exhausted, and revealed to me the true extent of the Sodexho conspiracy. Unbeknownst to many an innocent student on this campus, Sodexho has allied themselves with the newly armed DPS officers in an attempt to depopulate the Truman State University campus to make room for anarco-commie-atheist-Nazis. He told me that last year's "vegetarian chicken" was just the beginning. Unfortunately, this poor, sad, beaten man expired on my floor before I could learn more about their diabolical plan.

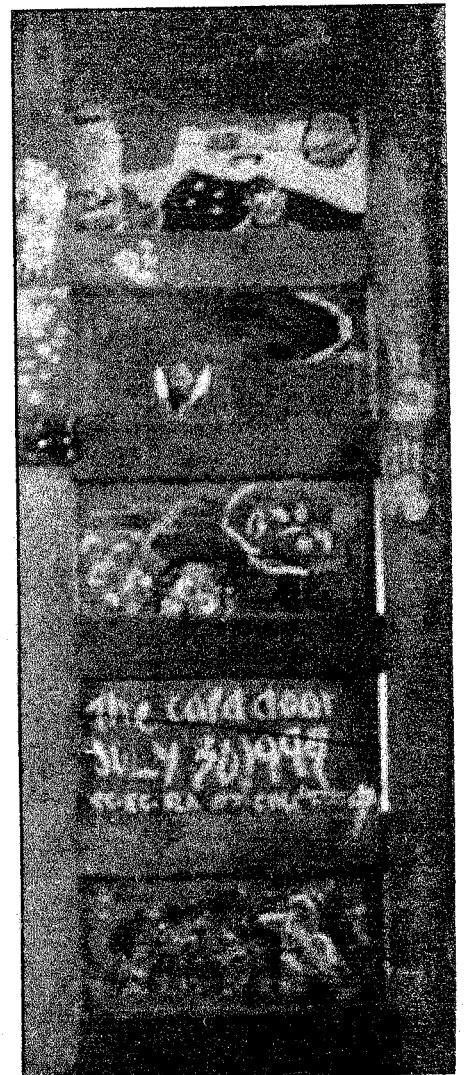
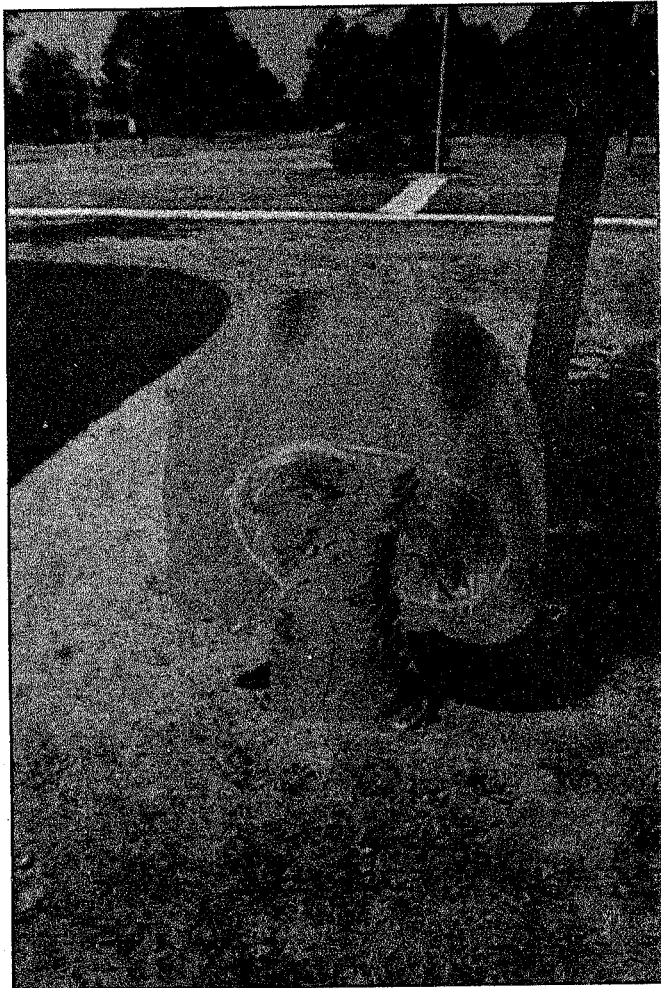
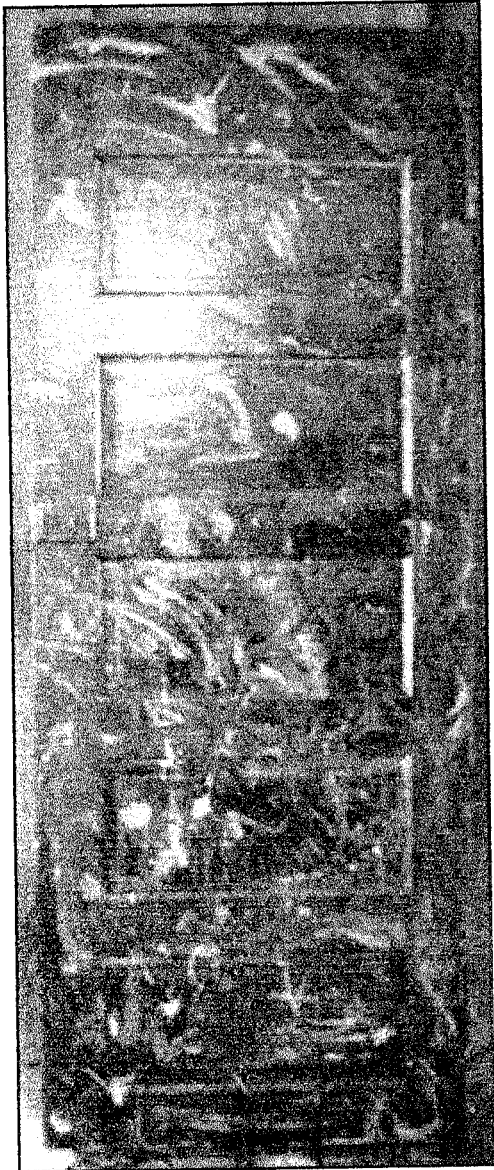
I know I am putting myself in grave danger just by writing this article, but I felt I must resist the Sodexho menace in the name of my country, in the name of righteousness. My heart, my mind and my stomach for America!





# ART PAGE

Art done by local youth featured at Washington Street Java Co.





# My Back Pages...

## Untitled Sestina

"Once upon a time," and the story  
begins, reflecting itself: mirrors within mirrors...  
Once there was a princess, and she was fair—  
But wait! behold, a stain upon her golden  
world: a Queen, a step-mother, a witch:  
she hides clutching apples in the dark.

Once there was a forest, thick and dark—  
such places always lurk in such stories  
as this—of course never holding back the witch.  
She slips through trees on the back of a mirror,  
her silver eyes flashing at a golden  
child: a maiden, a princess, and fair.

Hair like sticky pitch, and so fair  
her skin gleams like bone against the dark  
stain of her mouth, teeth flashing in golden  
laughter at step-mother dreams and stories  
without princes—she scorns mirrors,  
needs no proof of her own beauty as witches

do. She knows that she is loved as witches  
are not. Queens and step-mothers are seldom fair,  
taunted and goaded by smooth-tongued mirrors  
that prize princesses and call Queens dark.  
Everyone is stuck in these spider web stories;  
there are roles for the wicked and the golden...

The princess is content to play her golden  
part—it is her the ending favors, not the witch.  
And so the girl finds no fault with stories;  
she does not ask that they be fair,  
and the woman does not fall back from the dark.  
She has seen her face in mirrors

and she knows what she must be, as mirrors  
have shown her for whom the golden  
prince must come, riding his white horse into the dark  
and twisted wood. His bride will weep of witches  
and for his princess, tear-stained and fair,  
he will find a Queen to burn, in the way of stories.

A woman knowing mirrors makes herself a witch.  
She is dark and dangerous to stories  
that are golden, but seldom fair.

—Cabell Gathman

## Und Sell Fide

She changed her clothes to please him,  
undid her red, strapped shoes,  
the leather was dry—cracked hard—  
and she slid out of her silk sheath,  
the fibers tearing, growing weaker,  
she pulled her arms close,  
felt their warmth against her,  
and took the soft hem of her slip,  
peeled it off, let it fall away from her,  
leaving electricity in her hair...

After the meal, she laid on her stomach,  
while he pleased himself,  
face down and flattened,  
her tongue a silent red slice,  
her dress a crushed poppy on the floor.

—Megan Wampler

THE DANCE BEGAN  
WHEN MY HAND FELL INTO YOURS  
AND ALL MY BODY BECAME NUMB, FORGOTTEN,  
THE RHYTHM OF THE MOVEMENTS A MEANINGLESS REFLEX.  
HOW MUCH, IN THAT MOMENT,  
DID MY SHIFTING BODY ENVY MY RESTING PALMS.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE  
WHAT RARE AND UNCANNY PERFECTION  
EACH LINE ON YOUR SLIGHTLY MOIST AND PANTING PALM  
WAS NOTCHED, GROOVED PRECISELY  
TO FIT THE FOLDS OF MY FINGERS  
AS IF OUR HANDS WERE ONE AND THE SAME  
AND THERE WERE NO DISTINGUISHING  
YOURS FROM MINE FROM YOURS.  
HOW MUCH, IN THAT MOMENT,  
WERE MY HANDS, SO SOFTLY CAPTURED,  
THE ENVY OF MY RESTLESS SOUL.

—R. Little

## Classifieds

Wanted: man  
to strangle water  
out of fall leaves. Must  
have delicate eye  
for color and rhythm,  
beauty and nature;  
must have no particular  
aversion to death.

—Patrick Cuba

## The First Day of Spring

I daydream  
OF dancing in fields of flowers  
Drowning myself  
In daisies and daffodils  
Running through oceans  
OF rose petals  
Pink and yellow and red  
And when I get tired  
I rest my head  
On soft green grass  
Piled up on the ground  
The birds are laughing  
The earth is singing  
My worries go with soft clouds  
Spinning past blue sky and  
The tip tops of tress  
A lingering breeze floats over...

And then I open my door

To a gust of left over  
Winter wind  
And a half lighted  
Day covered in grey  
Clouds that spit droplets  
Of ice on my  
Short sleeved shirt.

—Ann Teresa Miller

My Back Pages is always on the hunt for poetry. Drop  
off your work in the Monitor mailbox in the CAOC.