

The Monitor

A Campus Collective

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

Squirrelfest 2000 rocks campus

story by | Joe Rothermich

There wasn't a squirrel in sight around Dobson Hall last Saturday. It seemed the squirrels did not enjoy Squirrelfest 2000 as much as the students did.

Sponsored by CMC, Dobson Senate, Dobson Radio and KTRM Kirksville, Squirrelfest rocked the Dobson court all day. Bands featured included Juror 13, Amputee Set, First Grade Crush, Until Tomorrow and Walking Dust. Also thrown with all the music was a 20-minute film, "Magic City," about Moberly.

The atmosphere was light, as students played Frisbee and soccer on the courtyard as they jammed to the music. KTRM radio ran promotions most of the day, having a vinyl and CD sale and giving away T-shirts and other various items.

The most fun you could have was KTRM's "Hit a Teen Idol" game. Hit any teen idol, including the Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears, and you could win a Domino's pizza, CD and other great prizes.

The music got going around 2 p.m. with Until Tomorrow taking the stage. These guys continued to impress with their modern rock sound.

Later in the day the hard rock band Amputee Set took control. Based in Columbia, this foursome rocked the courtyard, making the head bangers happy. Their music even got a few people to try stage diving -- though not too dangerous considering the stage was only about two or three feet off the ground.

Around 5 p.m., the Chicago-based ska band First Grade Crush took over. These guys got your blood pumping, and made you want to dance.

Other bands that performed included Juror 13, a metal band from Omaha Nebraska, the indie rock band Reflector out of Kansas City, Walking Dust and Jerk.

This year's Squirrelfest had an extra appeal to it as well. Because of extra funding by Funds Allotment Council (an estimated \$11,000), CMC was able to make the show free to everyone, thus making it more student friendly.

Bernard Bernstein lectures on nuclear weapons

story by | JJ Pionke

Sitting across from me is a very distinguished-looking man who looks exactly like what some people think professors look like. Light blue eyes so light they could be white look back at me and patiently answer what must be to him the most boring and unoriginal questions on the planet. Yet I do not get the impression that he is bored, rather that he is enjoying the chance to talk to a student and discuss with her some of the events of World War II and beyond. He answered my questions clearly and concisely with the short answer stating "I can give the short answer of a few sentences or I can give you the fifty-pages version." Needless to say, our conversation jumped from topic to topic.

One of my earliest questions and one I wanted to ask for sheer curiosity was why hasn't he written a book?

His response was somewhat surprising. He said simply that he was impatient, that he did not like not being able to go back and revise his work and that he continually changes his mind on the little things. He commented that he had his presentations for Monday worked out to the minute (I think he would work it out to the second if he could), revealing a startling amount of control and precision in his writing and speaking.

At this point you may be wondering who I am talking about. The answer is Barton Bernstein. For those of you who do not know who he is, he is a very important figure in history in regards to political decisions about the atomic bombs used in World War II as well as the later development of the hydrogen bomb.

His article in *Diplomatic History* in the Spring, 1995 issue has become an almost definitive work in creating dialogue in regards to those "what if" scenarios that everyone always contemplates. The title of the article is "Understanding the Atomic Bomb and the Japanese Surrender: Missed Opportunities, Little-Known Near Disasters, and Modern Memory."

A professor at Stanford University, Bernstein traveled here to our small and remote school as the last speaker of the year in the Kohlenberg-Towne Lecture series. Originally scheduled for several months ago, he

had to cancel due to illness and the rescheduled date happened to be the second-to-last day of regular classes for this term.

With all of that said, the person in charge of his visit was able to get me some interview time on Sunday, April 30 for me. My questions ranged all over the place; some were for mere curiosity and others were because I really wanted to know what an authority in the field thought.

One of the questions that has been asked many times before is: "Was Nagasaki 'necessary'?" Bernstein did not feel that dropping an atomic bomb on Japan was necessary and that it happened because no one thought the Japanese would surrender so fast. He said that destroying Nagasaki certainly had little or no impact whatsoever on the Japanese government as the decision to surrender has already been made.

I also asked him the question: "Why was the use of the atomic bomb not a moral issue?" His response was that we had already taken the step into massive killing (obliteration bombing) by bombing civilian targets and that Truman was self-deceiving in regards to the atomic bomb.

A follow up question to this was: "Could this kind of breakdown in morality happen again?" My own answer to this question tends to be more optimistic; perhaps it is my youth, for his response was that the targeting of noncombatants with conventional bombs still goes on in the wars that are being fought right now. He also believes that sometime in the future nuclear weapons will be used in a war and that they will be used on noncombatants.

One of his lectures on Monday night dealt with the decision to develop the hydrogen bomb. His feelings on the subject were mostly that it was inevitable, that those in power went with the flow of public opinion, and that the kind of discussion of morality and ethics that occurred after Hiroshima and Nagasaki were bombed occurred before the hydrogen bomb was developed.

Another one of his lectures on Monday was in regard to scientists and the atom bomb. This lecture looked at how scientists urged for the development of the atomic bomb, how they felt it should be used, who

See BERNSTEIN, page 5

First Grade Crush perform at Squirrelfest 2000 in the Dobson courtyard last Saturday.

Squirrelfest also featured Juror 13, Amputee Set, First Grade Crush, Until Tomorrow and Walking Dust. The event was sponsored by CMC, Dobson Senate, Dobson Radio and KTRM.

photo by Adam Woodson



C O N T E N T S



Annoying sports fans disrespect their teams.
Opinion, page 5.



Quiet, depressed Elliot Smith pays homage to The Beatles. Review, page 10.

The Monitor debates the merit of political parties on campus.
Opinions, page 8.



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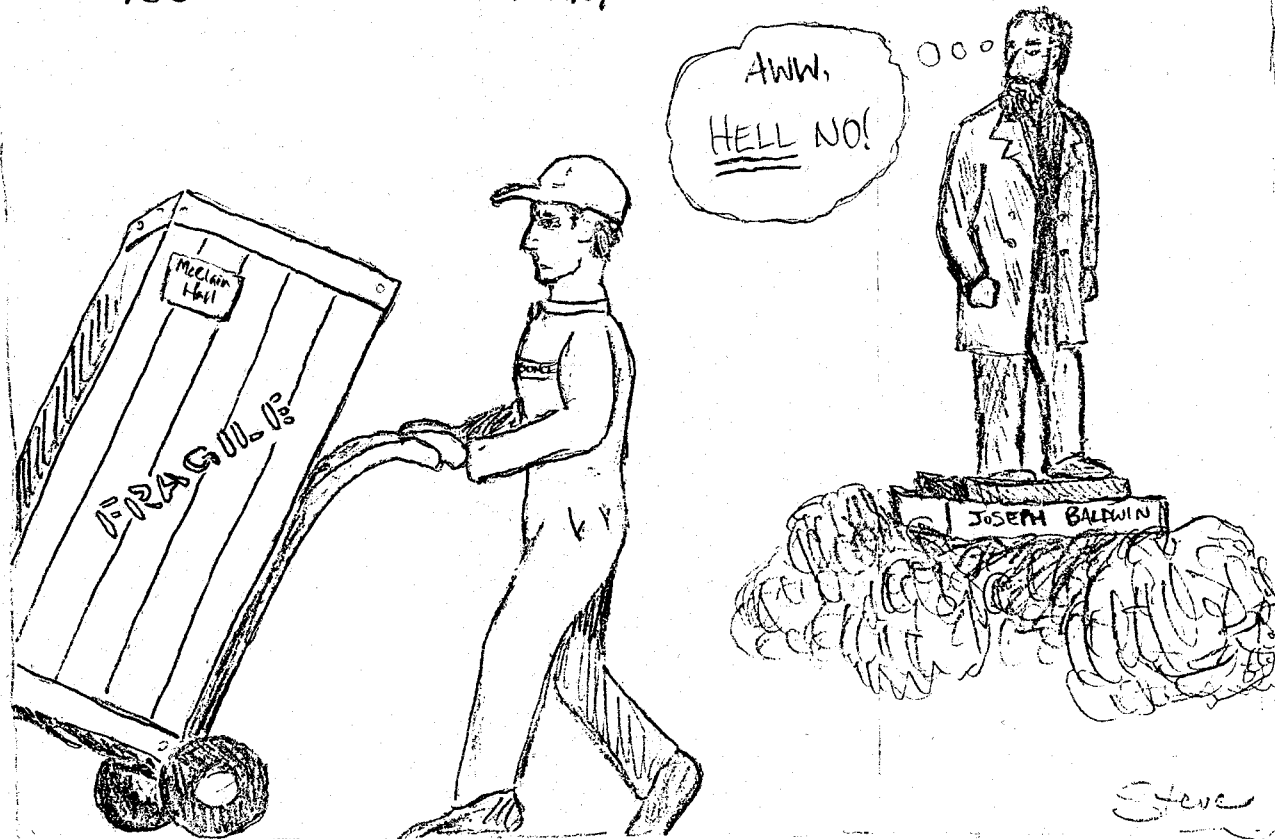
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"Among people who have learned something from the 18th century (say, Voltaire) it is a truism, hardly deserving discussion, that the defense of the right of free expression is not restricted to ideas one approves of, and that it is precisely in the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



TSU GETS NEW HARRY TRUMAN STATUE...



Final Exam Schedule

	7:30-9:20	9:30-11:20	11:30-1:20	1:30-3:20	3:30-5:20
Wednesday, May 3	Reading Day				
Thursday, May 4	7:30 MWF	10:30 TTH	11:30 MWF	4:30 TTH	3:30 MWF
Friday, May 5	7:30 TTH	9:30 MWF	1:30 TTH	1:30 MWF	5:30 MWF
Monday, May 8	9:00 TTH	10:30 MWF	3:00 TTH	2:30 MWF	6:00 TTH
Tuesday, May 9	8:30 MWF	12:00 TTH	12:30 MWF	4:30 MWF	



It can. The last Monitor of the year and you never helped us out. That's okay, though; you can write for *The Monitor* next year. We will need fun, creative people for all positions: writers, cartoonists, photographers, copy editors, advertising representatives and nerds.

Help us keep the paper as good as it is. (Or help us make it even better.) -

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02 May 2000

letters

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Send complaints or praise to the mailbox in the CAOC
or e-mail us at monitortrm@hotmail.com

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

Correction

The Jennifer Smith that resides at 415 So. Florence was not the Jennifer Smith who wrote the letter printed in the 18 April issue of *The Monitor*.

Student Senators take constructive criticism personally

Due to the end of the school year and the fact that the *Index* will not be printing another edition, this letter cannot appear in the medium responsible for inciting this response. However, I thank *The Monitor* for providing an alternative voice for students. About a month ago, I wrote a letter to the *Index* criticizing the institution of Student Senate in an attempt to bring issues to the forefront of the upcoming election. My letter was met with hostility by Student Senators and has incited a firestorm of debate in the Letters to the Editor section of the *Index* ever since. My letter was not meant to bring forth animosity and hard feelings, only to better the institution by starting a dialog of issues and suggestions.

However, due to the hostility of many of the Student Senators and how they took my criticism personally, this debate has mushroomed beyond the level of a healthy dialogue of criticism. Ryan Kennedy, the outgoing Student Senate Secretary, has accused me of not using specific examples to back up my claims.

There are two main reasons why I did not include specific examples in my previous letters. First, doing so would have made abiding by the 300 word limit difficult. More importantly, I did not wish to use specific examples that would have put specific Senators under attack. By criticizing the institution as a whole, I felt I could be more effective without lowering myself to personal attacks. I would be more than happy to discuss these examples with Senators privately, not in a public forum to protect the reputation of the senators who would no doubt be implicated by specific examples. In fact, I have done this with several senators. Some were receptive to my concerns and suggestions. However, I was met with hostility and anger by others.

Kennedy goes on to accuse me of making a personal attack on his integrity. This was the very thing I tried to avoid in my original letter by refraining from specific examples that would point toward particular senators. Nowhere in that letter did I mention Kennedy's name. In my second

letter, I also refrained from personally attacking Kennedy, but instead dealt with the flaws with his arguments as I saw them. To put Kennedy's "thin skinned" feelings at ease, no actions of his as Senate Secretary were responsible for my original criticism. However, I continue to lose respect for Kennedy as an elected representative due to the way in which he has dealt with this situation.

While Kennedy continues to accuse me of personal attacks, something I was mindful of avoiding, and continues to call for me to apologize to him, it is he who has made several personal attacks on me. In his first letter, he equated me to an X-Files writer and accused me of corrupt leadership in College Democrats. First of all, name-calling has no place in a forum of debate such as this. Second of all, if Kennedy believes there to be corruption in College Democrats, then perhaps he should have made those concerns known at the College Democrat elections, an organization that he belongs to. He had every opportunity to voice these concerns in a democratic forum, but he was not in attendance the night of our elections. I find this to be incredibly hypocritical. That would be like me not voting in the Student Senate election after all of the constructive criticism I have given that institution.

I also find Kennedy's repeated request for me to apologize to be completely ludicrous. Imagine if I had written a letter criticizing the United States Senate to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Certainly our Senators Bond or Ashcroft would not write a personal attack on one of their constituents in response. While Kennedy does certainly have every legal right of a response, personally attacking a constituent in a public forum no matter what they said is not good government, and he should know that. If the students we elect to represent us are not willing to take a little constructive criticism, how can they ever be responsive to the wants and needs of the student body.

Also, in Kennedy's call for an apology he urges me to apologize to all of the representatives who put in more than 20 hours a week representing me. Unless I'm wrong, work is something that comes with an elected position. If you aren't willing to work without a constant pat on the back from your constituents, then do not run for public office. It is not necessary to remind your constituents of how much work you do. This attempt at recognition only makes you seem elitist to those you represent. Under-appreciation is something that comes with the territory of being an elected representative.

In his second letter, Kennedy accuses me of libel against Student Senate. As perhaps one of the smartest political science majors on campus, I am surprised that

Kennedy does not realize it is impossible to accuse an individual of libel against an institution. The irony is, by his accusation of libel, he has come closer to committing the exact thing I was accused of.

Kennedy also urges me to take my concerns with how the debate was conducted to the Senator in charge of the election. First of all, the idea of a legislative body proctoring their own election is completely ludicrous. That aside, I would remind Kennedy, that the very Senator in charge of the election was openly hostile in denouncing my recent criticism of Senate during the very debate in question. When students are met with open hostility for criticizing the institution of Senate, they will be reluctant to go to senators with concerns or suggestions.

Sadly, I feel like this debate, while healthy to the democratic process has achieved little. I think that we did elect some quality candidates to Senate this election, and others were narrowly defeated. However, for many, my criticism was taken as a personal attack against their character. As I said, it was never my intention to engage on personal attacks and I went to great lengths to avoid them. Nothing has come from this debate. Senators are still no more willing to take criticism than they were when this all started.

What I learned from this is that many senators are too concerned about protecting their own egos. I challenge next year's Senate to set personally vendettas aside and work toward representing the student body. I think many of those elected have exactly that in mind. I urge the rest of the senators to follow their leadership in being more responsive to the needs of the student body. As a constituent, it is my job to stay informed and put my own input into the process. That's what my original letter and the subsequent debate was intended to do. I promise to keep doing my job as a constituent, to stay informed and voice my opinion, no matter what hostility I am met with by representatives in Student Senate. I challenge each Senator to now do their job as well in being responsive and open to the suggestions of the student body.

Sincerely,
Kevin Heyen
Sophomore Political Science Major

Edited *The Abyss* is more imaginative than *Special Edition*

"So you just got that DVD player you always wanted and you don't know what to watch." Well if you liked *The Abyss*, do not check out the special edition. I strongly disagree with JJ Pionke's comments on seeing the special edition version of *The Abyss*. Usually, I wouldn't take it upon myself as an avid film watcher to defend the bastardization of a director's vision in favor of Hollywood politics, but this film in particular has become an exception and my personal mission of protecting.

"Mr. Hollywood," James Cameron, stumbled into the success of *The Abyss* in 1989, when his trite vision of an alien race threatening to destroy earth with the advent of World War III got cut. Cameron (claiming that he feared American audiences wouldn't sit through a two hour movie, though his *Titanic* was over three hours) saved his film by removing this so-called subplot.

The film Cameron had in fact written

was in my opinion bogged down by far too much emphasis on the past love life of its two main characters and a preachy conclusion on the threats of nuclear war. Instead, the edited film allows the freedom of imagination. The viewer is thus invited to witness the deep-seated emotions still felt between the two main characters without the self-doubt of having to spell it out to the audience.

Further, the film does leave many questions unfulfilled about the aliens, but this for me increases the overall value of the film. Cameron's aliens were nothing more than a rehashing of the old Hollywood formula; alien species comes to earth and threatens annihilation, if we continue to pursue nuclear war. Think Robert Wise's *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. Yet, what emerges from this emission is a fantastic love story. The aliens are not threatening, but perhaps just inquisitive. And it is our ability to love, not hate, that saves the day and causes the aliens to finally reveal themselves to us.

But Cameron would certainly agree with Pionke and I didn't like *Titanic*, so see it for yourself if you don't believe me. However, if you're like me and you enjoyed *The Abyss* just as it is and never wish to have that memory destroyed, never ever watch the special edition.

Matt Arnold
Senior History Major

Hey you!
Yeah, you!
See you next
fall...

Love,
The Monitor

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opinions

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

- Phil Ochs

Don't discriminate against Patty's, they don't discriminate against you

opinion by | JJ Pionke

OK, so many of you think that Patty's University Bookstore is this evil entity from the depths of hell that must be destroyed. (I suppose some of you may feel that way about *The Monitor* too, but we and Patty's go on.) Several years ago there was that big hullabaloo over some apparent remarks made by someone working at the store that were racist and homophobic. I don't know if that is true or not, but I will tell you what I do know. I have never felt threatened there. I have never felt like I was disrespected because of the way I look, my ethnic origins or my sexuality. A Patty's employee, Tara, has told me point blank, "I wouldn't work anywhere where I did not feel safe." Likewise I would not shop anywhere if I felt that the service sucked or that I was being threatened in some way.

Which brings up another point, the service at Patty's in my experience has always been good. I have always been able to get my books promptly and if they are out of stock they have what I need in a few days to a week usually. They are far more put together than the University Bookstore in the SUB.

I have always believed that I should be able to walk into a store and have someone tell me where something is no matter how busy they are. I can honestly say that at Patty's someone has always been prompt about helping me. Not so at the University Bookstore. There have

been times at the University Bookstore where I felt as if they did not want my money and that I was not important but rather just another stupid college student who could not find their books.

At Patty's I have always felt respected and treated like any other customer. While I would hesitate to say that Patty's is gay friendly (after all it is not like they are hanging a pride flag out front), they do have a policy of being nondiscriminatory. Perhaps most importantly of all, they act on that policy. The owner, Patty, has never been anything but the most polite to me and her employees are the same.

Some of you may think that I am selling out. The truth is, what is past is past. Times change, people come and go. Patty's has always been a good place for me to buy my books. Their service has been prompt and friendly. I cannot say the same for the University Bookstore. Many times my inquiries on books have been ignored and the staff has been rude and unknowledgeable in where things are. Never have I had this problem at Patty's.

Perhaps the most important thing to realize is that any business wants to make money, so why would Patty's and Patty herself encourage discrimination? It is bad for business and therefore they don't encourage it. I would rather spend my money in a place where I felt that the customer was respected for everything that person is, wouldn't you?

Yakking solves nothing, fist-fight your opponents instead

opinion by | Andy Roberts

Every other week at this university we have another debate. Freethinkers vs. CCC, the whole gun crisis, a W on transcripts; it just never ends.

The problem with these debates is that nobody ever changes their mind after watching people argue for awhile. Students and faculty alike leave these "roundtables," "forums" and "debates" feeling exactly the same or angrier than when they came. We need another solution to these arguments.

I believe that if people fought more with their fists and less with useless drivel we might get somewhere. Instead of candidates for Student Senate talking about their "issues" and "policies," they should participate in a televised cage match.

Imagine the benefits of a world where people never talked about their different opinions! Those of us who just don't care would never have to listen to any bullshit again. In fact, we might actually start to care just so we can see more broken bones, bloody noses and most importantly, death.

Just recently Halski and Hussey did all this yak yak yakking and nobody except their original followers voted for them anyway. The vote would have turned out exactly the same with no campaigning,

debating or masturbating. But, if the two squared off in a fight -- even an arm wrestling match, the election would have had different results.

I'm not only pushing for more fights to solve problems though. Common sense can usually fix whatever is wrong. For instance, that Elian twirp is a "hot topic" right now. The government has fouled this situation so badly only a certified Andy Roberts settlement will work.

In true King Solomon-style, we should cut the child in half. However, I would not merely threaten to split the kid, I would really cut him into two equal sections. Then nobody would be happy except for the millions of people worldwide who just don't care about this stupid controversy.

Let's honestly assess our situation. We talk, and talk and talk and nothing ever comes of it. One fight. Winner takes all. One decisive action. Problem solved. Let's just cut the shit.

Many of you probably feel that violence is a bad thing and that I've seen too many television shows and movies. You might be right, but if you want to prove it don't send a letter, it won't have any effect. Just come punch me in the nose and watch me shut up and agree with you.

Dedicated to the memory of a girl

opinion by | John Nguyen

Dedicated to the memory of a girl.

Movies went ahead and ruined all our lives. You know, the perfect lighting, the jagged movement. Form and sound and images for things that weren't real, would never be real. Could never be real.

Movies went and showed us beautiful worlds full of beautiful people and we were dumb to watch them. But we were dumber to believe them. This is it, I say. This is my last opinion for the year and I want to make it burn. I want to write something that can wear my name for 50 years so that I never have to write again if I don't want to. I don't ever have to tell anybody a thing. I don't ever have to mean a thing. I don't ever have to prove a thing. To anyone. But then there's the movies. And in the movies, there isn't ever really a good way out.

At least not in the good movies.

There was a good movie once that I saw as a kid and read as a pre-adult. It was called *The Princess Bride*. It's a fairy tale. It's a love story. It's sappy, sweet and dangerous. It's dangerous because when you're done you believe in true love. I don't know if I believe in true love. Not anymore.

When she and I don't talk this summer it'll be the first time in five years.

My religion is the people. And what's good for the people is good for me. I believe in humanity. Secondly, I believe in art. You know what I think? These last 21 years of my life obsessed with creating and philosophy and religion and conversation and writing and music and spreading joy and understanding and all of it, it's all disappearing. I sit and look at the beer in front of me and watch it all disappear.

I can't trust friends. I don't have enemies to hate. I don't have a plan.

Do you want to know what this article is about? It's about watching a man lose his fucking mind.

Movies I tell you. They make you believe the phone will ring in the middle of the night and it'll be the girl of your dreams. They make you believe that at your mother's funeral there will be a poignant moment when it all comes together. They make you believe that when you die your life will go on meaning something to someone. Maybe to many people. They make you believe that eventually it'll all make sense.

How many lives have you changed? How many hearts have you broken? How many people couldn't live without you?

How often do you think your friends lie to you? How often do you lie to them?

Maybe this isn't effective. Maybe this won't make anyone laugh or cry. Maybe this won't change anyone's mind or anything. If so, then there's my proof. There's my proof that I've lost my mind because listen: I only know one thing in the entire world. And there's only one thing I have to tell you that is worth knowing. And I don't know if I have any opinions beyond this:

Gradually what you love will leave you. One way or another, what you love will betray you because you will keep on living when your love has died. And it's not like a fucking movie. It doesn't come in a revelation. It's slow and painful and 30 years from now when you wake up, the burn will still be there. It'll still leave you grabbing at your sheets. And you know what else? There is no reason. There is nothing.

If you knew this like I did, you'd be outside in the sun more often. Because meaning something isn't as important as feeling good. And loving someone is better than anything else. Even if you hate each other.

When she and I don't talk this summer it'll be the first time in five years.

Dedicated to the memory of a girl.

Lacrosse team bonds through record season

story by | Loretta Vaughn

It was all over in 45 minutes, but our trip to the Women's Collegiate Lacrosse League nationals began nine months ago when this year's team came together. Since then, I've come to know and love a diverse and close group of girls. This is the story of our last game of the year. However, it also serves as the introduction to a phenomenal next season.

10:32 p.m. Friday: Hours after our TSU mini-bus took to the road, we're in the middle of Illinois and everyone's butts are S-O-R-E. We are on our way to Toledo to compete in the WCLL's national tournament after a record 8-2 season. We are all goofing off right now. Jodie Kuhn, our co-captain, is being pantsed (a lot) for annoying us with her videocamera. It's kind of smelly and cramped, but we are having a blast.

10 a.m. Saturday: We've arrived at U. of Toledo's rec center, but no one is here yet. We decide to wait by sleeping on a hill next to the road. We look ghetto, but who cares?

12:30 p.m.: We are getting into the game mode as we do our line drills. We play the U. of Chicago at 1:15, who is seeded fifth but is a more established team. It's the kind of game that could easily go either way.

1:10 p.m.: Lindsay gives her last minute instructions. The starting lineup takes the field and the rest of us head to the sidelines.

1:15 p.m.: As the game starts, I realize, while we have three subs, they have a whole other team on their bench. This is very scary.

Unfortunately, they control the first half. Our defense has trouble keeping up with their fast offense and cutting, while we also have trouble making good passes and transitions. It's 6-2 at the end of the half.

1:40 p.m.: We come to the second half ready to take over. After discussing problems during half time, we know what we need to do now and how to do it. We communicate a lot more, pass with more control, cut more effectively, and set up some great plays. The second half belongs to us. As the minutes go by, the score gets closer. 6-3. 6-4. 7-4. 7-5. We feel like we could play forever, we have so much momentum on our side. However, in the final minute, we can't get that final goal. We lose 7-6.

But we still come off the field feeling like we played the best game of the season. We worked better as a team than ever. We all feel really good about this game, as good as if we had won. Today, that's all that matters.

We spent the rest of the day relaxing and watching the tournament. Miami-Ohio, the top seed, ends up winning. But we know we have a lot they don't have. It comes out in our off-field time. All the friendships we have, all the ways we make each other laugh and all the ways we meld and clash make us a winning team.

Certain sports fans should stay home, watch it on TV

opinion by | Joe Rothermich

There is one major aspect that no professional sport can do without: Fans, spectators, whatever you want to call them. The bottom line is without fans, professional teams do not make any money and cannot operate. Fans flock to the stadiums, pay anywhere from \$10-75 a seat and then purchase food at hiked prices. But there are fans who would be doing a favor to professional sports by staying home and watching the game on TV.

First there are the bandwagon fans. These people root for whatever team is doing the best during a specific time. I'm talking about all the people who rooted for the Marlins when they pulled a World Series win out of their hat. These are the fans who have been flocking to Busch Stadium to watch Mark McGwire smash home runs. These are the fans who will whine and complain if McGwire ever has an off year and hits under 50 home runs. These are the fans who are obsessed with scoring, who want towering home runs and run totals that look more like beer-league softball than an actual quality, hard-fought game.

The next style of fans are quite possibly the most annoying of any kind. I'm talking about fair-weather fans. These are the people who didn't bother to recognize that the Rams existed until they started winning. The fans that gave up on the Cardinals in the early 90s and are just now starting to pay attention to them again. These fans don't understand the term "rebuilding years" which every pro franchise must go through. The only way for teams to successfully rebuild is to keep having the revenue come in, which is highly based on attendance. If attendance goes down, then the team cannot rebuild as fast.

There is a style of sports fans who are

worse than the fair-weather fans. There is not an official term for these fans, but the best way to describe them would be to call them "bitch fans." These are the fans who have no respect for players or other teams. The fans who hit Buffalo Sabers coach Lindy Ruff with a cup of beer after the Flyers eliminated the Sabers from the playoffs.

Though these fans are present in all sports towns, they are the worst in New York and Los Angeles. The New York fans reared their ugly faces most recently during the '99 MLB playoffs against the Braves. Fans threw batteries at Atlanta pitcher John Rocker because he expressed his opinions on the city of New York. If these people can't respect others' opinions, then they need to shut their own mouths. In Los Angeles, last I can remember was about five years ago, at a game against the Cardinals, fans didn't agree with a call by an umpire and proceeded to throw the promotional giveaway balls onto the field. It got so bad the Dodgers were forced to forfeit the game. These fans don't understand the difference between heckling opposing players and physical abuse.

There is only one kind of real sports fan - the true fans. The kind of fan who appreciates the game being played and just doesn't root for one team. Everyone is allowed to have their favorite teams and teams they hate. The difference between these fans and the others is that most of these fans, though they may hate certain teams, at least show some respect for them. These are the fans who know the beauty of a 1-0 overtime game in hockey, or a baseball player taking the ball to the opposite field to score a run. For the sanity of myself, and all the other true fans, all you bandwagoners, fair-weatherers, and bitches: Change, or stay home.

And so you must write

opinion by | Tom Palmier

As human beings, as students and as communities, we are thinkers. Constantly thinking about life, about school, relationships, the future, anything and everything to be thought is being thought up, has been or will be. Even more so though, we are communicators. Constantly finding new and innovative methods of communication. Allowing these thoughts to be passed on to other people. We learn from each other in this way, whether it be from others mistakes or their triumphs. We are constantly trying to improve both our surroundings and ourselves.

And so we must write.

We write to allow breathing room for our minds, which are constantly being bombarded with information. Jotting thoughts down on a page frees your mind from constantly overanalyzing one idea, allowing you to expand creatively and as a person.

As communities living together and sharing one another's ideas and time with each other, we are constantly looking for ways to progress. Trying to make it easier for you and the next guy. It's a part of our lifestyle. It's human nature. Always looking for the greatest good for the greatest amount of people.

And so we must write.

We must write to progress, to forge through confusion and hardships and to find solutions and keep going. When a mind is constantly being overrun with distractions, it is difficult to see any situation clearly. They are distractions merely because we have thought these thoughts before. They need not take up anymore space in our minds. Allow then, room to expand.

And so we must write.

Thoughts of myself continually flood

my mind. In order for me to advance, in order for me to be the person I want to be, I write. For in no other form of expression do I find the perfect way to express my self. For until it is written, it is only a thought (not that a thought is not powerful in itself. To take the next step and write it down is truly a giant evolutionary leap for something that was once confined to your brain. Once a thought is taken outside that realm and exposed to the outside world it attains infinite possibilities.

We take notes in school for the soul purpose of retention. We could not possibly retain all the information that is thrown at us in a structured and formalized way without writing it all down. Our minds then are free, for the most part, to think of other, more pressing issues, issues such as inner peace, tranquility and self-actualization. Prevailing issues in our lives that are swept away underneath a rug of distractions.

We must learn, as humans, as students and as communities to approach all situations with the wisdom we have obtained thus far. Not only does writing help us advance as individuals, it allows us to communicate with each other and progress as a society. Never has there been a more powerful, more prevailing method of self-expression than that of thought transcribed onto parchment. It has started world wars and ignited major revolutions. It has also stimulated peace and prosperity. It was once only reserved for the most powerful of people, but now, in this day of technological advancement, we must not neglect our pens and pads. For to do so would impede our personal advancement and henceforth our progress as a society as well. The power is at your fingertips. And so you must write.

Student Senators should listen to their constituents

opinion by | Matthew Webber

In the weeks before the Student Senate election, members of the TRU-Students and the Bulldog Party visited different organizational meetings of mine, explaining their platforms, answering questions and listening to ideas from me and other members of my organizations. It was the first time I had conversed with some of these Senators about Senate business. It was the first time I had ever seen some of these other Senators.

One of the complaints I voiced at these meetings -- a complaint I know I share with many other students -- is that Senators appear to make no effort to talk to their constituents. The fact that I had never before seen certain Senators proved this point for me. We elect these Senators to represent us, and as soon as the elections results are tabulated, they hide in the SUB and ignore us.

I appreciated the candidates' attendance at these meetings, but I realized they were there to win my vote. Where were they from August to March? Where will they be now that the elections are finished?

I won't say what presidential candidate I voted for,

but I'll say I didn't vote for Ken Hussey. I'm not saying Hussey won't do a fantastic job, and from what other people have told me, Hussey's a good guy who will be a good president. The reason I didn't vote for him is because he made no effort to seek my opinion before the election. I might have voted for him if I had known him as more than a name on a poster.

Having said that, I sincerely hope Hussey will be an effective president. And I hope he'll be more apt to visit with students than he was before the election.

Unlike many other students, I believe Senate typically represents us as best as they can. They're a powerful tool we students have, a direct link from us to the administration. I don't want to criticize Senate for resolutions passed or not passed. However, I will criticize them for not always knowing what the students want.

I know that Senators' e-mail addresses are listed on the Senate Web page and that Senate meetings are open to the public. These forums exist for us, the students, to utilize them. But on a campus this small, I believe Senators should more actively seek our input. Senators should

take the initiative and e-mail their constituents, instead of waiting for students to e-mail them. Students can attend a Senate meeting, but what's the point of attending if the students sit near the doors, can't say anything and are ignored by the Senators?

If you want to represent the students as a Senator, you should be willing to do the extra work the job entails. That's the reason the students elected you. It's a difficult job without a lot of glory, but if you're willing to campaign, you should be willing to work.

For the first time since I've been a student here, I am on a first name basis with one of the executive officers. In fact, I'm on a first name basis with two. Now that I know these Senators, I'll make an effort to communicate with them. Hopefully, they'll seek out my opinion in turn, as well as the opinion of other students. I hope to see them at an organizational meeting, even though the elections are finished and they've already won positions. I'll be disappointed if I don't see them again until next April.

BERNSTEIN, from page 1

some of the key players were and what their thoughts were, as well as what the key people thought after Hiroshima and Nagasaki regarding international control of nuclear weapons.

I found Bernstein to be an interesting person, knowledgeable in his field almost to the point of being encyclopedic. He had clear answers to sometimes somewhat-vague questions. He realized that when it comes to using and developing nuclear weapons in war and peace, there are always gaps in our knowledge. The US government still has certain documents (mostly in regard to technical aspects of the atomic bomb) classi-

fied. He said we are constantly learning new things about the Manhattan Project, Hiroshima and Nagasaki simply because documents from the former Soviet Union are being declassified. More importantly, we are starting to look at the data from different perspectives leading us to conclusions we would never have made before.

A lot of the questions that we ask about the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki tend to be questions that are hard to answer, and while Bernstein does not make it seem that there are true yes and no answers to the questions that are asked, he does bring to the debate a high level of knowledge as well as (for me at least) a better understanding of nuclear issues during and post-World War II.

http://

Geek Code

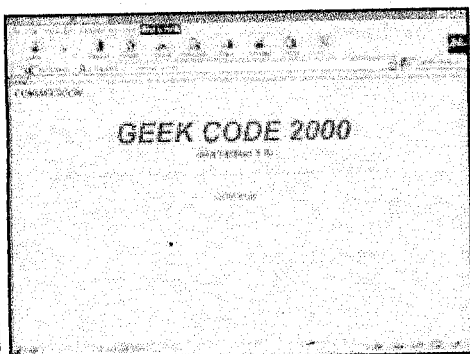
<http://www.geekcode.com/geek.html>

review by | JJ Pionke

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You may be wondering what all of that means. I for one hope that I spelled all of that out correctly! What you are looking at is my Geek Code. Geek Code is something that all true geeks share in. It is a way for fellow geeks to determine what kind of geek you are. It is a way to share with the geek world your level of geekiness. Most of the geek code revolves around computers, because let's face it, most of us are computer geeks. However, there are however other things, for instance the b+++ indicates that I am a

major fan of the television show *Babylon 5*, likewise the X++ means that I watch *X-Files* more than the average human. If you would like to know what everything up there means, as well as create your own geek code go to www.geekcode.com/geek.html. The current version of the geek code is 3.12. It is updated about once a year so make sure you check back every once and a while.

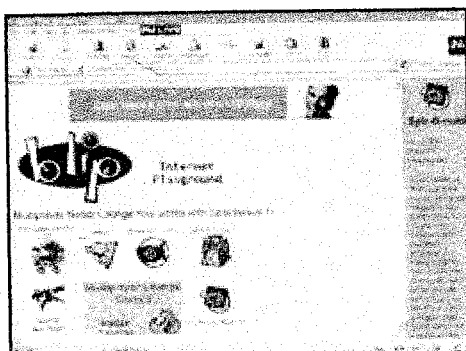


The Blip Internet Playground

<http://www.theblip.com>

review by | Jimmy Kuehnle

The Blip is an Internet gaming environment where players are allowed to play against each other in various activities. Games include *Sumo*, *Bombardier*, and chess. You can also check out the space weather scene. Mark Johnson, Rob Terrell, Jason Torchinsky and Alec Vance are the whackos who run this crazy site. With such claims that Java gives you cancer and that they are all hepped up on goofballs, one can only imagine the fun to be had at this site.



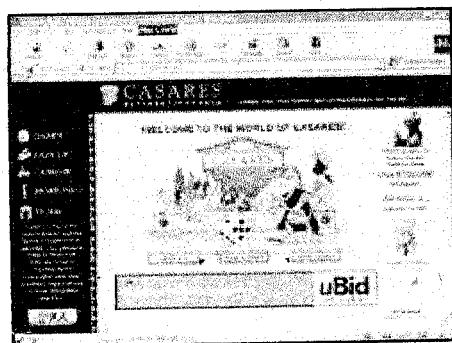
Casares of Gibraltar Gambling Site

<http://www.casares.com>

review by | Tom Palmier

Something that's been on my mind lately and probably some of yours also, is how do the people of Gibraltar gamble? Well, I went to www.casares.com to find out. The people of casares.com are located out of Gibraltar (a country located on the southern tip of Spain) and are in the business of gambling for a good cause. They donate 20 percent of their net profit to charitable organizations such as the New World Foundation, a not-

for-profit organization that promotes education for children in Third World countries. They recently donated \$25,000 to the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund. So if you like to gamble or you like supporting education for the less fortunate or both then you too can learn to gamble with the Gibraltians at www.casares.com. The Web site is not affiliated with Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.



Growing interest in communication major affects students and faculty

story by | Julie Wittman, Erin Prescott and Holly Moore

More and more college students are choosing some form of communication as their major.

This phenomenon can be seen here at Truman State University. There are 48 percent more communication majors today than there were three years ago.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the number of people in 1973 in the U.S. with bachelor degrees in communication was 17,096. That number has jumped to 53,874 in just 20 years.

Faculty and students alike speculated on the reasons behind this recent surge of communication majors.

"I think comm is like psychology, is like sociology," said Dr. Dale S. Keller, assistant professor of communication. "No matter what you do, you're going to use it."

Freshman communication major Katie Stacy agreed that communication is wide reaching in its scope.

"The development in technology allows for a lot of new strides in the field and that is very attractive to many people," Stacy said. "Communication is the basis of human existence, and I think the ability to put that in a career is very interesting and intriguing to a lot of people."

More specifically, students like sophomore Mike Goebel felt that Truman's communication program is well-rounded.

"It seems like there is a good range of courses across many different areas in communications," Goebel said. "This makes for a broader education which is good for students who aren't quite sure what they want to do with their lives."

Junior communication major Sarah Dwiggins had another idea of what lies behind this increase in popularity.

"All of our media outlets are award-winning," Dwiggins said. "I wonder if maybe that's part of the draw."

Whatever the reasons may be, the communication major at Truman is now the fifth largest major on campus. The number of communication majors is increasing at a faster rate than the number of communication faculty.

This is demonstrated by the following statistics: the projected number of communication majors for 1999 was 262, while the actual number stands at 387. The projected number of communication faculty for 1999 was and is 18, as stated in the 1997 University Master Plan.

The number of students faculty are expected to teach has exceeded projected numbers by more than 125.

While the sudden growth of communication majors indicates an increasing popularity of the major, it stands to reason that there are serious consequences for faculty and students.

"Obviously these numbers place a tremendous strain on faculty, staff, students and resources," Dr. Gary H. Jones, associate professor of communication, said.

Jones said that he gives out one or two yellow cards per class, which is about 15 percent of the total number of requests he gets each semester.

He said that the effect of having so many communication majors is that either the faculty is overworked or that they have to cut back on

the number of assignments and "education tools that a less stretched faculty could offer."

"All of us would like to develop more courses in our particular areas, but because things are so tight, we service the courses that we have," Keller said.

"This situation is made more critical because functionally, half of our staff is dedicated to the University service course," Jones said. "So, effectively, we are left with nine faculty to handle the education of nearly 390 students."

Approximately half of the available communication classes offered each semester are COMM 170, or public speaking courses, which every student is required to take as part of the University core.

"They don't offer enough sections [of major courses] to allow students to get through the program," Dwiggins said. "I don't know if they realize how much work a student goes through to get in a class."

Another area of difficulty is in placing all the communication majors with advisers in their discipline.

The Language and Literature Division traditionally allocates about 15 advisees per instructor. With almost 390 communication majors, Truman would need to either hire seven more faculty in addition to the current 18 to handle the excess students, or come up with another way of advising, Ramesh Rao, associate professor of communication, said.

"I need a communication adviser and the Lang and Lit Division gives all of the leftover advisees to foreign language professors," Goebel said.

The advisees who do not have communication advisers go to foreign language and English advisers, Heinz Woelk, language and literature division head, said. These faculty members work harder because they have to know two majors instead of one.

"Approximately 120 students really don't have a home, in terms of advising," Rao said.

Some communication instructors, like Keller, end up taking more advisees. "I have in the past taken an overload on purpose," Keller said. "That was my choice."

"If I have any questions, I usually just ask some of the older more experienced communication majors; there are enough of them here," Stacy said.

Woelk said that he has never heard a complaint from students.

The division has added a new position within the communication major for next year, bringing the total number of faculty to 19. Woelk said that recruiting new faculty is a long, expensive process.

Some factors that may hinder recruitment of faculty are Truman's relatively remote location, the lack of suitable employment opportunities for spouses and less competitive salaries than other leading liberal arts institutions, as stated in the 1997 University Master Plan.

Yet the department is having some success this year at replacing temporaries with permanent faculty for next year, Amanda Jones, temporary instructor of communication, said.

Students like Dwiggins have concerns about faculty turnover in the communication department. "I don't like that new faculty have been replacing faculty that knew what they were doing," Dwiggins said.

University has faculty retention problems

story by | Norm Dalager

When the fall semester comes around, my palms will be sweating while I wait to see which of my professors have left and whom the University has hired to replace them.

A report released last fall by Truman State University's chapter of the American Association of University Professors revealed statistics that suggest Truman has a serious problem with faculty retention. The AAUP sent surveys to over 200 professors who had left the institution over the past five years. The questionnaire addressed issues such as reasons for leaving and what they liked best about Truman. The questionnaire allowed for advice on ways Truman could keep high-quality faculty. Over half of those left as temporary fill-ins, which the study did not focus on. This issue would warrant a different study.

According to the report, Truman administration attributes faculty departure to Kirksville's isolated location, which discourages them from addressing the problem. The report says, however, that few people identified geographic location itself as a reason for leaving.

"The University needs to take responsibility for its role and actions," the report stated.

From what I've learned, it seems like Truman administrators are trying to save a couple of bucks with their policies.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Garry Gordon said he sees no trend in faculty leaving at a high rate, but admits that losing faculty is a problem.

"Anytime we lose a faculty member it's a serious problem," he said. "We want to make this institution as appealing to faculty as possible."

He also noted that the market for qualified professors in certain categories, such as visual communication and communication disorders, is small. There is currently an open tenure-track position for a communication disorders professor. It has been empty for two years.

"It is hard to attract qualified people in that area," Gordon said. He said that in those two years, they have only received one qualified applicant for that position.

Former tenured and tenure-track faculty gave various reasons for

leaving. One major concern was lack of employment opportunity for their spouse. The report suggested that Truman establish a strong employment assistance program, which would aid spouses in finding jobs on campus and at area businesses. Having a program might show that the University has at least addressed the problem.

"Just having a mechanism in place would improve morale, even if people did not actually find jobs," one former faculty member said.

Although no plan is implemented for faculty spouses, Gordon said that over summers he tries to send them listings of campus jobs in order to give them advance information about what is available. He said that in the past, Truman has hired many spouses of KCOM faculty, and hopes that in the future, KCOM can hire a significant number of spouses of Truman faculty.

Other complaints on the survey included lack of family medical benefits and low pay. A combination of low salaries and high medical costs makes it difficult for families to get by. They agreed that "the cost of living in Kirksville was low, but not that low." Another suggested that the University ease the isolation of Kirksville by increasing pay, and suggested to "Pay faculty more so they can get out of town more often."

Gordon says that administration has raised professors' salaries, and that providing large medical benefits packages would take a huge chunk out of their paychecks.

Many criticized Truman's policy on sabbatical leave. Non-tenure track professors do not get sabbatical leave, which can inhibit them from achieving their research goals before tenure review.

"The market demands it if we are going to recruit high quality faculty," one former faculty member said.

Gordon said the sabbatical policy was voted on by Faculty Senate. He said he considered it a very good program. Faculty receive 30 to 50 percent higher leave pay than average institutions, he said. There is also a policy that only allows Truman to spend 2 percent of its instructional budget on sabbaticals.

When you return this fall, I wish you the best of luck having the same professors you registered with. If you do find that half of them have left the institution, at least now you have a good idea why.

Supreme Court to decide on "partial-birth abortion"

story by | Jerry Schirmer

Last Tuesday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments on a Nebraska law banning so-called "partial birth abortion" procedures. Observers expect the Court to overturn the bill, under a justification that it is too vague and could be interpreted to apply to a much wider scope of procedures than the proponents of the bill would argue.

This case, *Steinberg v. Carhart*, could set a clear precedent for the over 30 states (including Missouri) that have laws similar to the Nebraska statute. There is a consensus among observers that the Court will overturn the law, but the primary question is to what extent the court will speak out against the terms of the law. The two main possibilities are that the Court will overturn the Nebraska law outright, arguing that its language inherently interferes with standing decisions regarding the constitutionality of abortion laws, or that the decision will be restricted to the law, as applied in certain circumstances. In the latter case, the law would stand, but could not be applied to particular individuals, such as women early in the second trimester, seeking an abortion for health reasons.

Furthermore, if the Court overturns the Nebraska law and does not write its decision forcefully, the case is likely to simply encourage states to rewrite their laws with greater specificity and wait for the court system to decide on the issue once again. Also, both houses of the Federal Congress have passed a much more tightly worded "partial-birth" bill, which, in the unlikely event that it is signed by President Clinton would offer an immediate test for the new decision.

Regardless of content, it is certain that the Court's decision will offer much opportunity for controversy, and it is expected to be released before the Court goes into recess early in the summer.

Obscene material is not an issue to Information Technology Services

story by | Loretta Vaughn

Where do we draw the line between valid freedom of expression and the necessary restriction of some public displays? In the case of the general population, the government has set a standard that runs the middle ground. If this "we" is a public institution such as Truman though, that line becomes a bit harder to find.

A big area of concern in our modern culture is with pornography and other obscene materials on the Internet. Currently, Truman's policies prohibit using Truman computers and its server to send "obscene or abusive" messages or make displays that are "immoral or obscene based on contemporary community standards." The proposed changes to the Student Conduct Code do not effect or change these current regulations.

On college campuses though, administrations are notorious for suddenly enacting a rule that may not even have been known to the student body. Most often, this is due to a public revelation of something considered obscene, im-

moral or illegal.

For example, in late 1994, officials at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh restricted student access to six USENET newsgroups carrying sexually explicit and obscene material. A self-funded student probe found that minors could gain access to these newsgroups, which was a direct violation of Pennsylvania law.

Here at Truman, there have been few problems with code violations concerning obscenity or pornography. Two years ago, a student was disciplined for his Web site on the math and computer science server. His Web site did not contain any actual sexually explicit content, but did have a link to a pornographic Web site. The University froze his account for a time but did not seek further penalization because of a lack of known guidelines for student Web pages. Interestingly, the actual reason for shutting down his Web site was because it broke the University's contract with their Internet service provider. The linked site sold CD-ROMs,

while the contract prohibited use of the Truman server for any commercial or for-profit means.

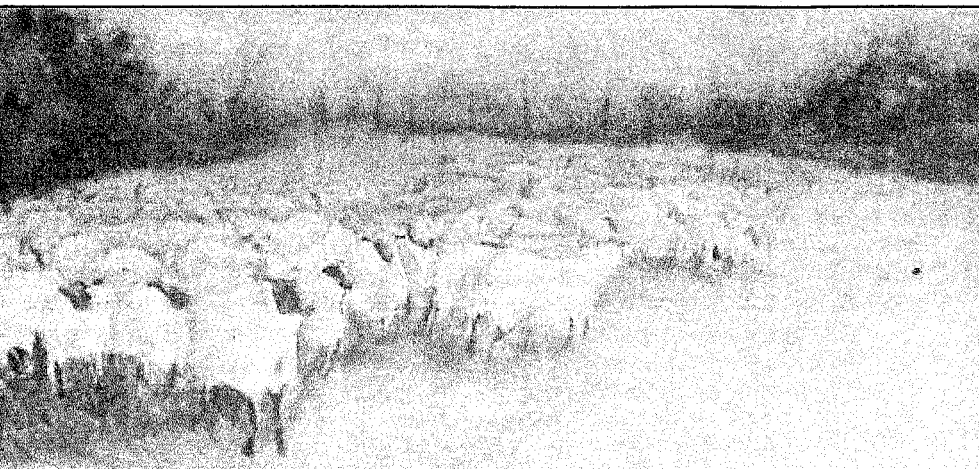
Jesse Fortney, Assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs, emphasizes that Truman's policies are not meant to provide the administration with a way to actively search for obscene material and punish students.

"The rules are there not so we can go out and make busts, but so we can call someone in and have a talk with them about whatever is offensive on their account," Fortney said. This could range from sending offensive e-mails to having saved pornographic images available to the public on the University server.

In all likelihood, this means that only if someone actually complains about content on the network will the University act. Even then, the content will have to be proven "immoral or obscene based on contemporary community standards" or "detrimental to the University's image as a public institution." This follows both the Student Conduct Code and Missouri statutes.

Kjell Hahn presents
All We Like Sheep

Baldwin Hall
Second Floor
May 1-7



Point/Counterpoint



Campus political parties harm students and campus

opinion by | Jerry Schirmer

Among certain circles within the University this year, the question of whether or not there should be political parties on campus has been hotly debated. As of now, there is only one party on campus, and therefore, I will not focus my interest in addressing the practices and attitudes of this group because I would be limiting myself to particulars that might not apply to political parties in general. Instead, I will argue against the existence of any political party in University politics. Furthermore, I would like to state that the views presented here are entirely my own: I do not represent any organization or body, although my service on Student Senate has certainly shaped me, as I am sure that it has done to Mr. Halski, however divergent our views on this particular topic may be.

First and foremost, the creation of a party organization places an extra layer of participation between students at large and Student Senate, requiring individuals to become a part of a particular organization in order to gain access to office. By their nature, any political party will seek to fill all of the seats of any particular elected body with its members. If it is successful in this endeavor, this makes membership in the party essential to gaining membership in government. At its worst, this could mean that in order to gain a position on Student Senate, there would be a prerequisite approval by the dominant party. The only logical effect that this can have is that Senate will become less representative of the student body -- the membership of any party will not identically mirror the views, beliefs or demographics of the student body.

Second, since parties, as entities, will attempt to fill all of the seats possible, it is also in their nature to run individuals for every seat possible, even if this means that they place their (good) name behind individuals who do not have the necessary qualifications for the proposed office. Thus, the creation of a party structure creates a means by which individuals not qualified for office can get elected to particular positions.

Also, the creation of a party structure encourages individuals to pursue issues independently of the rest of Senate. Parties will discuss issues amongst themselves, rather than focusing on the discussion in committees to make decisions. These committees, however, exist so that individuals can specialize in particular aspects of campus policy, and thus be able to work more efficiently. By de-emphasizing the role of committees, parties take the decision making process away from those most qualified to make decisions, and moves it into the hands of the less knowledgeable.

An even more threatening possibility that the creation of a permanent party structure on campus could offer would be the creation of hostility amongst individual Student Senators. When individuals run as individuals or on small tickets, the competition during election time is only done on a small scale. If there are slights between individuals, only a few people are affected, and so, any hostility after elections is limited to a few individuals. Since competition was directly related to elections, temporary hostility built up during the election is not carried over into the term of office. With a party structure, however, individuals clash against each other, natural gossip cliques form and certain parties will tend to be hostile toward certain individuals, or two parties will be hostile toward each other. Alternately, there is always a natural distrust from those who "are" toward those who "are not" that could easily escalate into much more harmful feelings. All of these tendencies halt the spread of ideas and restricts the ability of Student Senate to do work for the welfare of the students. Instead, they encourage little more than internal squabbling.

The presence of a party structure on campus clearly has harmful effects. Parties dilute the ability of Student Senate to represent the students. Also, the creation of a party structure would decrease the competency of individuals on Senate. The spread of a party system could cause unnecessary (because it is not derived from policy disagreements) friction between individuals who should be working together to better the lot of the students.

Bulldog Party fosters action, accountability and participation

opinion by | By John Halski, Bulldog Party

Okay, so elections are over. You won't see us coming in droves to your meetings, and our faces won't be littering your doors and bulletin boards. I know, it's depressing. But now we're all faced with a difficult question: Is there political life after elections? Well, for my part, I have to hope so, since I lost! (Of course, they tell me it was the closest race ever, which is pretty cool.) No, I wasn't given a wonderful chance to abuse my authority in a whole new way; nonetheless, to the chagrin of many at Truman State, there is still much for me to do here.

To give Senate a much-needed plug, I'm able to say that I accomplished more over the course of this year than I could have possibly done on my own. Look up my name in the directory, give me a ring and talk to me in person if you have any doubts about that. While no longer a Senator, I still pledge allegiance to another political group, the Bulldog Party. For those of you utterly unfamiliar, the Bulldog Party is a student organization, registered with the CAOC, that operates independently of Student Senate. It has its own leadership, its own meetings and its own goals. I'm going to list the reasons why I personally feel the Party is a worthwhile organization on this campus today, one that is worthy of my continued participation even after so narrowly missing the presidency.

#1 The Bulldog Party is centered on issues

The organization has a platform that they keep throughout the year. It directs all our endeavors and constantly reminds us why the students give us their support through their votes. When we go before the administration, the Board of Governors or any other authoritative body, we make it our policy to think of the issues important to the students and do whatever it takes from there to achieve those goals.

#2 The Bulldog Party is accessible to anyone

Although students are certainly encouraged to come to Senate meetings on Sunday, and all the committee meetings are open to the public, anyone not in Senate who tries to attend them will most likely feel lost in the litigation. Meetings are not publicized, and it is not considered a priority to Senate to get outsiders there. We as Bulldogs make it a mission to find interested students to join us. This is why we have such a cross-section of campus within our ranks. It is from this hodgepodge of students from all disciplines, cultures and regions that we derive the issues that drive our efforts. Anyone at any time can approach us and offer changes to the Bulldog Party Platform and they will receive a chance to argue their case.

#3 The Bulldog Party is action oriented

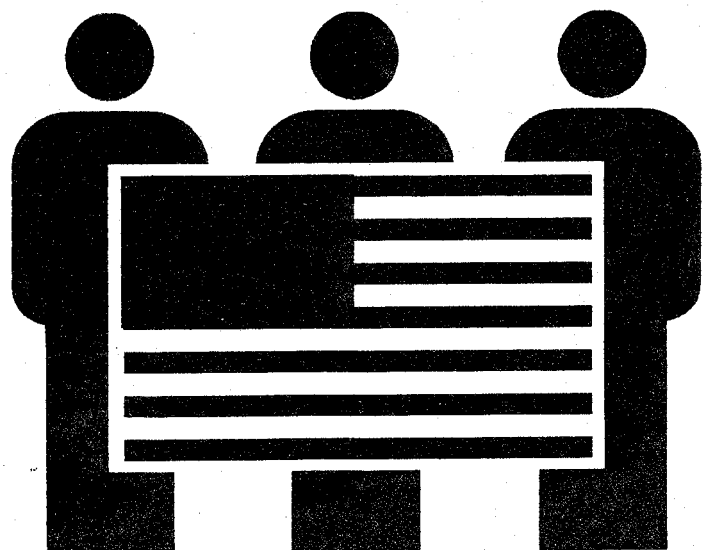
We derive our strength from each other, we motivate one another to action. As an independent student organization, we can take actions that our fellow Senators are afraid to take.

Some may argue that the gentle answer will accomplish more than the forceful approach. While we do not necessarily come in shooting whenever we approach the administration, we have consistently over the past year of our existence made the first move. We take issues to the administration rather than waiting for them to come to us, and we do not let the issue rest until we have met a satisfactory agreement with the powers that be. Many have expressed vocally that Student Senate should not attempt to change the school, only to react when change is proposed. This stance has led many to criticize Senate, but we have a much different vision of what Senate could be, and we are ready to work towards that vision.

#4 The Bulldog Party provides accountability

The Progress Ticket and the TRU-Students both offered formidable competition to the Party, as demonstrated by the voting results. However, members from both tickets will be the first to tell you that the tickets dissolve after the election. We, on the other hand, will continue to hold weekly meetings. Our platform remains the centerpiece of the Bulldog Party. Every student on campus is welcome to attend a meeting and ask us what progress is being made toward any one of the issues we have committed ourselves to investigating. I do not suggest that President Hussey or Vice President Post will abandon the promises they made during the campaign season now that they are in office. They will act as objectively as possible, distancing themselves from any political allegiance. Consequently, there is no guarantee on how they will stand on any given issue. As Bulldogs, we have dedicated ourselves to discussing and explaining our stance on every issue before hand so that, by consensus, we can make the best decisions for the student body. If we ever fail to do our best or make decisions you disagree with, you do not have to wait till the next election to let us know; you can attend a meeting and have an audience.

To counter those who criticize the Party as unnecessary and a catalyst for disruption within Senate, I offer the following observations. People who would never before have gotten involved in Senate have done so in a big way. Voter turnout has steadily increased over the past year, now the highest it's been in 30 years. The Bulldog Party has grown substantially over the past year and made a positive impression on many people throughout campus. Despite the accusations of belligerence and haphazard antagonism, Bulldogs made the vast majority of Senate actions over the past year. If you do not believe me, look up the Resolutions over the past year and see where they stand now. We may be crazy, but we get the job done. Political parties are not always the solution by any means, and once the Bulldog Party hinders progress more than it helps, we will have to find a better way. In the meantime, though, we will not be slowed by those all too accustomed to the old ways.



Advice from the Afterlife

Deep in the catacombs of Monitor Tower, away from the prying eyes of morality and ethics, unholy Monitor scientists, bound in a pact with pure evil, have opened a supernatural gateway to the Elysian Fields. Through this most unwise action, The Monitor is most pleased to be able to commune with the great figures of old and to offer to you, the reader, their sage advice.

This week's supernatural and extremely dead guest is:

CLYTEMNESTRA

NO PHOTO
AVAILABLE
(seeing as it was
the Eleventh
Century BC)

~ELEVENTH CENTURY BC

Clytemnestra led a life of luxury as the queen of Mycenae until a little disagreement, known as the Trojan War. Her husband, Agamemnon, had to sacrifice their daughter so the Greeks could win. Clytemnestra was not pleased. During the ten-year conflict, she took a lover and plotted her revenge. Agamemnon barely had time to relieve himself after the long sea voyage before his wife had him brutally slain. Her son, Orestes, would of course avenge his father by killing

Clytemnestra herself. This is why we have Greek tragedy.

Dear C.,

Kirkville seems like the happening place to be this summer. Most of my friends are staying for classes, jobs or both. I could stay here, but I can probably make more money with a job in St. Louis. What do you think?

Are you crazy? Stay here. Kirkville's charm really shines during the summer. The chief reason for this is that most of the students are materialists like you and go home. Without their negativity, this town is great. No offense to the gross majority of the student body, but you all hate this town for no good reason. I'm staying here this summer. I have to keep my escort service afloat.

Dear C.,

I have a pet rock. All my friends laugh at me and tell me to get my head out of the past. Should I worry?

Yes.

Dear C.,

Do you prefer Beefeater or Tanqueray gin?

Interesting question! Beefeater, of course, has a long and gloried history. The "Beefeaters" are the select group of English soldiers charged with guarding The Tower of London, once the home of the royals. Tanqueray, on the other hand, is the beverage of choice of Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre. So it depends on what type of evening you want to have: Dre-style, or stuffy-

old-pasty-white-pompous-English-style?

Dear C.,

So, my 'rents quit town last weekend, and me and my boyf decided to hit the vid store and snag the latest flick. It was that time, you know, and when I bent over to get the movie from the bottom shelf, my maxi fell out of my shorts. I was totally embarrassed. Everyone was laughing at me. Now my bf won't even return my calls. Everyone calls me "Paddie." Should I move away, or ride it out?

What the hell are you talking about?

Dear C.,

Did American Beauty deserve all the awards it won at the Oscars?

I don't watch movies. In fact, I have never seen a motion picture. Ever. Still, I am totally unconvinced that American Beauty deserved all the awards it was given.

Dear C.,

Will this summer "rock"? Or will it be "lame"?

I'm glad you asked. All signs point to rock. Don't let yourself get thrown off the side of a boat!

The gateway to hell has been closed. Will it open again in the fall? Only the size of the corn harvest, the tint of fetal goat blood and the alignment of the moons of Iago-43A can tell!

Meditation can ease stress for students during busy Finals Week

story by | Kristen Crenshaw

As finals draw near, most students start to feel the same thing, a sinking feeling in the pit of their stomachs, sweaty palms and sleepless nights.

Stress. It is a word most students dread, but know all about. With papers and projects due and tests in every class coming all in one week, most students know the meaning of being stressed out.

There is something that can help though. Students can use meditation, an ancient breathing technique, to combat the stress from finals week.

In an Exploring Religions study guide, the actions taken in meditation are outlined for students. To meditate, the student should sit comfortably with a straight back. This does not have to be in the position most people think about when thinking of meditation, students can sit on the floor, on a chair or lie down. They just need to keep their back straight. Students should then close their eyes and focus on their breathing. If the student starts to have other sensations, thoughts, feeling, memories or impulses, do not mind them. Simply go back to concentrating on breathing. This should continue for at least ten minutes but the longer the student meditates, the more relaxed he or she will be.

An advanced extension of this meditation practice is to repeat the above scenario, but this time let the other thoughts come into your mind. If the student can sense where the thought came from, they can understand where their stress could be coming from. This meditation practice should be done for at least ten minutes also.

According to an article by Marilyn Larkin entitled "Meditation may reduce heart attack and stroke risk," meditation is the act of sitting in one place for an extended amount of time and focusing on ones breathing. In some types, a sound (mantra) is repeated over and over to achieve restful awareness.

Meditation can help stress levels go down and calm the student.

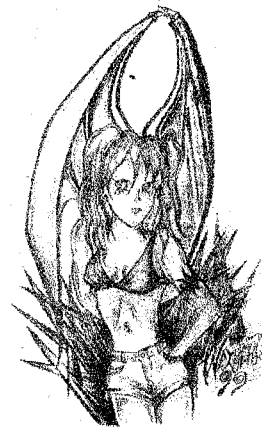
According to the article "Meditation: New Rx for Corporate Stress," clarity seminars given to workers help them gain mind clarity and aid in coping with life's challenges. The seminars are helping businesses with stress management.

According to "New Rx" stress is a huge problem in the work place. This can also be used for school. About 75 to 90 percent of all doctor visits are for complaints linked to stress. Stress related ailments, including hypertension, heart disease, headaches, insomnia and chronic pain cost the nation \$200 billion a year.

Yoga is another way that students can combat stress levels. According to the book *Mysticism*, the first goal in yoga is concentration. Through this, one can gain control of the imagination, feelings and practical reasons behind the technique.

Meditation and yoga could help students with their stress levels. The Health and Wellness class, which fulfills an LSP requirement, has a section devoted to stress relief. Part of that section is about meditation. By learning breathing techniques and repeating a mantra, students can live a healthier and less stressful life.

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reviews

music | film | literature

Elliot Smith writes, sings and produces a masterpiece

Elliot Smith

Figure 8

Dreamworks

review by | Jonathan Cannon

When friends ask about exactly who the hell Elliot Smith is, this is the only description I can give: If the Beatles were still around, and the Beatles were really just one man, and that man was a little quiet and depressed, then that man would be Elliot Smith.

That is the best example I can give of his music. It jumps from sweet and tender, to bitter and upbeat, to soft and lonely. As Smith sings on the song "Lost and Found" "I'm alone/That's okay/I don't mind/Most of the time." Listening to an Elliot Smith album is like being on a road trip by yourself, feeling the lows of a crash and burn, or reliving the days (weeks? months?) after you've lost a loved one. It can be heartbreaking and lonesome, but so beautiful and peaceful that you crave more and more of it.

Elliot Smith has made five solo albums, the latest of which, *Figure 8*, shows him at what might be his musical peak. His songs combine elements of rock, pop and folk, that yield a timeless quality. Songs like "Son of Sam" (the opening track) and "LA" are spirited, catchy pop songs with an emotional pulse. "LA things I never done/Cars parked in the sun/Living in the day/But last night I was about to throw it all away." Other songs such as "Everything Means Nothing" and "Happiness" (the album's centerpiece) sound like musical waterfalls, where each line of the chorus is repeated with soft precision, trailing one after another into a big climax and

then fading out.

But the best songs are just Smith and his acoustic guitar, where his gentle, melodic voice lulls out. "I watched you deal in a dying day/And throw a living past away/So you can be sure that you're in control/You're just somebody that I used to know..."



Smith does the bulk of the work on this album, writing it, co-producing, singing lead and backup vocals and playing nearly all the instruments. He recorded a lot of the album at, to no surprise, Abbey Road Studio -- although don't think he's just another Beatles rip-off. While the influence is very apparent, the overall feel of an Elliot Smith song is

very much unique. Instead of a light, jovial sound, Smith goes for a deeper, sometimes haunting, sometimes hopeful tone very nearly unmatched in pop music today.

Elliot Smith is (if at all) most commonly known for his contributions to the soundtrack to *Goodwill Hunting* -- including his Academy Award-nominated song, "Miss Misery." In a way, his success with the song mirrors the feel of his music. At the 1997 Academy Awards, he appeared in a nondescript white suit, and played the song unaccompanied; simply hum with his guitar. When the song was over, he slipped silently off stage. A quiet moment in a loud day, but anyone who paid attention was left with something inside them.

"I have become a silent movie," whispers Smith on *Figure 8*'s last track, "The hero killed a clown/Can't make a sound."

The Modernist transports you with techno

The Modernist
Explosion
Matador

review by | Erin Huckle

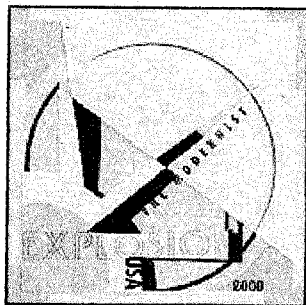
"Techno music is just a bunch of repetitive beats, slapped together by some computer in some cold room somewhere. Techno is monotonous and impersonal. It has no soul. Anyone would be a fool to listen to that god-awful, no-vocals computerspeak music outside of a dance club -- you can't even sing along. That's all it's good for -- dancing. And it doesn't hold a candle to the emotion expressed in the latest [insert lame band here] song."

Heard this argument before? First listen of The Modernist's new album, *Explosion*, might even make you say that. But Jörg Burger's cool minimalist beats demand attention. The sounds begin to grow on you. Your connection with the music is where organic

and electronic connect. You are in the music. The music is in you. The music transports you.

You're no longer dancing. You've been transported to a movie. The music surrounds you. It masks all other sounds, no matter what the volume is set at. This is all you hear. Your thoughts and worries drift away. This is all you feel. You feel this amazingly cathartic, mind-numbing beat.

On the surface level, *Explosion* appears to be just a tad bit too technical, too robotic. But it warms up with each repeated listen. You start to feel something other than the rhythm. You begin to feel the humanity behind the music. Man working with machine to create this electronic *Explosion*.



The For Carnation creates lasting post-rock delights

The For Carnation

The For Carnation

Touch and Go Records

review by | Erin Huckle

Whenever I hear landscapic, guitar-based rock with few vocals, I automatically compare it to Scottish innovators, Mogwai. I consider Mogwai's *Come On Die Young* one of the best records of 1999, so every band falling loosely into the post-rock, instrumental ramblings category is inevitably, and somewhat unfairly, held up to the light Mogwai casts. Everyone must stand in line to be compared side by side with the Moggies to get my post-rock seal of approval. Not too many bands make the cut. The For Carnation does.

The For Carnation fashion this means of cerebral journey with lazy, repeated patterns and controlled, premeditated guitar notes and drum beats. Ex-Slint member Brian McMahan and crew slither through this six-song/45-minute album with a little vocal help from Kim Deal, formerly of the Breeders, and Rachel Haden of That Dog.

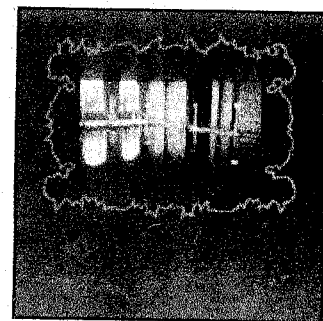
The For Carnation meanders through far-away, hazy yellow fields. It stumbles over twigs in remote wooded areas. It crawls along dim city streets at night. The album has motion.

The album has velocity. The album slinks along without climbing. It builds out, not up. It stretches across scenic countrysides you've never seen in real life before. This is eyes-closed music.

This album is space rock minus the space. It's expansive, earthbound rock. It's organic. It's the deep grain in dark wood. It's a handful of rich soil. It's a smooth sedimentary stone. It's the beauty of imperfection.

You can't see through the opaque wanderings of The For Carnation. Hold the album up to the light and it blocks out the sun.

The deep-colored lushness of the album doesn't just equal Mogwai's music on the genre plane. The For Carnation sneaks up on it, taps it on the shoulder and steals its crown before Mogwai can figure out what hit 'em.



Barbie teaches little girls about their middle-class, white world

Barbie Culture

Written by Mary Rogers

review by | JJ Pionke

Several weeks ago the Women's Conference brought a keynote speaker, Mary Rogers. She is known for her book *Barbie Culture*. The book centers around the myths, history and icon status that surrounds the doll Barbie.

Rogers also addresses issues that are related to Mattel Inc., the makers of Barbie. The issues in regards to Mattel are their somewhat dubious work history in third world countries as well as their continuing fierce protectiveness of their product. Many of you may remember the song "Barbie Girl" by the band Aqua. They were sued by Mattel for using their dolls name and image.

The book however is not about Mattel; it is about that lovely doll that many of you women out there grew up with. I, for one, never had a Barbie doll and was never interested in her. However, many of my playmates had them. Rogers points out that Barbie for many women and girls is something that is more than just a doll, but rather, a segue into the world of fantasy. However, not everyone believes that Barbie is everything that she should be, including Rogers herself.

Rogers did her research in the usual fashion but she also did research among her colleagues and their students. One of the students she interviewed stated that "Barbie is a horrible doll for little girls. Her ability to define perfection is too scary" (p.17).

Rogers' thesis revolves around deconstructing the myth and icon status of

Barbie. She talks about how Barbie has everything and is everything to a girl, but rather, it is

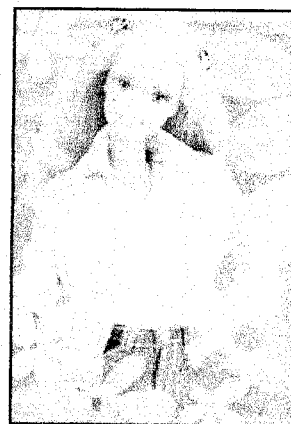
the white middle American ideal that is being promoted. Rogers looks at how Barbie's friends who are of different nationalities and ethnicities are not as dark skinned as they should be and in fact look like they have a good tan. Likewise most of the clothing for these dolls mirror Barbie's clothes making it seem that all of Barbie's friends want to be just like Barbie.

Mattel then is promoting the image of their version of what America should be, including the morals and values that

go with that image. That is to say that different sexualities other than heterosexuality, different body types other than the ultra-thin type and different economic standing other than the upper middle class are wrong. Rogers talks about how all of these things affect the way that women and girls view Barbie and how Barbie affects the way they view themselves and the world around them.

Her conclusions are not startling but rather make one really think about what Barbie and indeed any toy says to themselves and children. Rogers goes on to say in her conclusion that while Barbie is what we believe her to be, she is also everything we do not expect and her icon status comes from all of the contradictions that come from real life.

Finally, her book while not surprising in its conclusions or data, makes sense. I would highly recommend it to anyone who wishes to know more about icons, icon culture and, of course, Barbie herself. The book makes for a good read regardless of whether or not you are reading it for fun or for a class or paper.



Deadwood torches original songs and covers

Deadwood
In the Heartland

review by | **Matthew Webber**

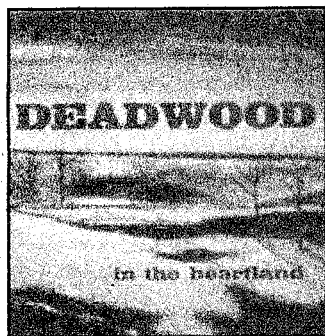
Deadwood rocks.

Anybody who saw the legendary pianoman and Chuck Berry-collaborator Johnnie Johnson perform in Baldwin last year knows this. Deadwood backed Johnson as if they had been backing him all their lives, locking into a groove that drove the entire show. The band traded guitar, bass and drum solos with Johnson's piano solos, dueting and then dueling with his fiery chops. Surprisingly, they didn't lose; instead, they played like road-weary pros, or maybe like young rock kids trying to impress. Wow, did they impress!

Deadwood rocks.

The Johnnie Johnson show confirmed this fact for me, though it was something I hypothesized after seeing them several times at various Truman festivities and the bars/coffee shops that constitute Kirksville hotspots. Deadwood is always a fun band to watch. They smile as they rip through their set of rock/blues standards. They're an incredibly tight unit -- tighter than most every student band I've seen here -- grooving with painstaking precision.

What makes Deadwood even more fun to watch is that the band is made up of Truman professors and staff. (Perhaps you, too, have experienced the thrill of seeing one of your professors doing something en-



tirely un-professor-like.) Deadwood contains Clifton Kreps on guitar and vocals, Michele Ralston on vocals, Ian Lindevall on bass, Aaron Ralston on guitar, the late Mike Hooley on drums and Carson Hooley on drums.

Deadwood's new CD, *In the Heartland*, further attests to the band's ability to rock. Recorded at Circle M, the CD contains six Deadwood originals written by Kreps and two covers -- staples of their live performances -- "The Thrill Is Gone" and "Sixteen Tons." The band sounds as tight on disc as they do live. The songs sound just as fun on disc as in a bar. In fact, if you close your eyes, the music transports you there -- these blues are out-of-place in a room without smoke.

Deadwood could teach some student bands here a lesson in how to wrench passion from their instruments. Live and on disc, each skilled player's instrument demands your attention. The drums pound throughout. The bass digs a groove. On "The Thrill Is Gone" -- which Deadwood torches -- the guitar sounds eerily Santana-like while Michele Ralston somehow *sings* more than sings. (Hey, she's got a fantastic voice. How else can I describe it?)

The title, *In the Heartland*, is perfect for this music. It smells of the Midwest, of farmland, and of abandoned shoe factories. (Additionally, I've always thought Deadwood was a cool name for a blues band.) The music is perfect for those lonely Kirksville twilights.

Support a Midwest band, a Truman band, a good band. Pick up the CD from any of the band members, from Hastings or at these upcoming Deadwood shows: the Round Barn blues festival on May 6 and Arnie's Place on May 13, which is the official CD release party.

Jazzyfatnastees won't have you saying "Bling, Bling!"

Jazzyfatnastees
The Once and Future
Universal/MCA

review by | **Jonathan Cannon**

There was a time when soul music was music with soul. Smooth beats and powerful vocals. Aretha Franklin. Patti LaBelle. Gill Scott Heron. Singers who didn't sing a song, but *sang* a song. The lyrics were inspirational; Aretha could melt a track like "Do Right Woman, Do Right Man," then turn right around and just plain rock a song like "Respect."

Soul music now is a joke, a shadow of those times. The market is flooded with underdeveloped, soulless voices. In general, female vocalists in rhythm and blues have become what boy bands are to pop music. Simple, cookie-cutter beats behind underdeveloped voices. Rhythm and blues is called rhythm and blues because when you hear it, you are supposed to get both of these things, not one or the other. The Erykah Badu and Lauryn Hills are few and far between; few powerful female vocalists ever reach the lime-light nowadays, unless powered by a formidable amount of gimmicks. So the Destiny's

Child's and Mya's of the industry (helped by the pop producer/rap artist of the month) make it big, while singers like Amel Larrieux and Angie Stone fall by the side.

Then there are the Jazzyfatnastees.

Their debut album, *The Once and Future*, has been called The Best Rhythm and Blues Album of 1999 -- That Absolutely No One Heard. Initially, the album sold an embarrassing 1,750 albums... barely making any chart anywhere. The reason? No guest appearances by Jay-Z, Missy Elliot or the Cash Money Crew. No Puffy Daddy Remix. No hot video filled with big booty hoochie mamas in thong th-thong thongs. Just Tracey Moore, Mercedes Martinez, their band and their beautiful voices.

The Once and Future is one of the most understated rhythm and blues albums of the 90s, taking a seat alongside such artists like Rahsaan Patterson and Chico DeBarge. The songs range from straight blues in "Breakthrough," to the honey smooth "Related to Me." Moore and Martinez's voices are perfect together; in songs like "Hear Me" they blend so well together it's almost like hearing one voice suddenly melt into another. The music itself is full and rich and all too soulful; this is music to put on after a long day at work (or class). Music to make love to. And the lyrics are as strong



as their voices, and have a genuine maturity to them that rises above the high school crush poetry that has filled the airwaves of late.

This isn't the first time I've bashed mainstream R & B. I do it all the time. This is because I absolutely detest what's happening to black music. Rhythm and blues and hip-hop is turning into watered-down pop in order to create universal appeal. At the core of most modern rhythm and blues, behind the ten-second drum loops and overused samples and generic voices is a hollow pit, into which you and I throw our money. In that hollow pit is a fat man in a suit. A fat man in a suit who doesn't even like music. And he's laughing at us the whole time, sticking hundred dollar bills in his pocket and every now and then shouting out "BLING BLING!"

Don't let this man win. Support beautiful music while it lasts.

Groove Armada presents perfect summer record

Groove Armada
Vertigo
Jive Electro

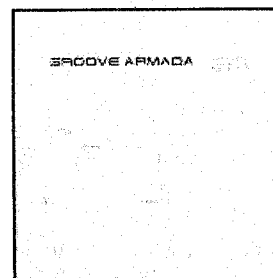
review by | **Kim Schultz**

On *Vertigo*, Groove Armada's U.S. debut, London DJ's Andy Cato and Tom Findlay have created an incredible mix of styles that finds no other comparison in today's music world. Their unique blend of house and funk contains the power to both sedate and motivate, as strange as that may sound. When listening to this album, it is interesting to note the multitude of instruments used, including horns, flute and saxophone, among others. These are seemingly unconventional for club music, but they provide the spice of *Vertigo*. Vocal samples pop up here and there, but are not used in repetition to the point of annoyance.

You know Groove Armada for "I See You Baby" (of Mitsubishi commercial and Fatboy Slim remix fame), but don't be fooled. Give the album a chance; it has too much to offer to worry about the sell-out track. For example, I guarantee "At the River," with its beach-theme lyrics, is unlike anything you've ever heard before. And "Inside My Mind" contains a sample of the legendary Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies." I, for one, am a sucker for musical fusion of the old and the new, and I wholeheartedly dub this track a success.

There are no throwaway tracks on this album; each song presents a new idea, not to mention a new feeling. *Vertigo* is the perfect example of a summer record... it's amazingly relaxing, but perfectly acceptable as

party music, too. Few albums can boast this kind of versatility, but Groove Armada pulls it off without a hitch.



release dates

May 2

Aimee Mann *Bachelor No. 2* (Superego)
Mighty Mighty Bosstones *Pay Attention* (Mercury)
The Modernist Explosion (Matador)
Sleater Kinney *All Hands On The Bad One* (Kill Rock Stars)
Ween *White Pepper* (Elektra)

May 9

Bad Religion *The New America* (Atlantic)
Jeff Buckley *Mystery White Boy* (Columbia)
Nick Cave *Secrets of the Love Song* (Mute)
The Jayhawks *Smile* (Columbia)

Billy Joel *The Millennium* (Columbia)
Looper *The Geometrid* (Sub Pop)
Rachel's/Matmos *Full on Night* (Quarterstick)

May 16

Belle & Sebastian *Legal Man* EP (Matador)
Juliana Hatfield *Beautiful Creature* (Zoë/Rounder)
Motorhead *We Are Motorhead* (CMC Int'l)
MxPx *The Everpassing Moment* (A&M/Interscope)
My Life With Thrill Kill Kult *Crime For All Seasons* (Rykco)
Pearl Jam *Binaural* (Epic)

Phish *Farmhouse* (Elektra)
Sonic Youth *NYC Ghosts & Flowers* (Geffen)
Stereolab *The First of the Microbe Hunters* (Elektra)
Veruca Salt *Resolver* (Beyond)

May 23

Catherine Wheel *Wishville* (Sony/Columbia)
Don Henley *Inside Job* (Warner Bros.)
Pete Dinklage *Lifehouse Elements* (Redline Entertainment)
XTC Vol. 2 *Apple Venus* (TVT)



Thanks a
lot, FAC!
We
couldn't
have done
it without
you this
year!

Nature is orderly; humans are chaotic

opinion by | Tom Palmier

There is a theory within the scientific community, which states that everything is or eventually will become more chaotic or "disorderly." This theory is aptly named the Chaos theory and behind this theory is the concept of entropy, which states that all things are constantly becoming more chaotic and in time, everything will eventually be in a complete state of chaos. These are theories that supposedly apply to the entire universe. They are some of the many theories behind something that we cannot possibly understand, natural law. They are about why things happen the way they do and the chances of these things happening. I would like to discuss with you now another theory that I believe discredits these theories on their faces. An opinion not touched upon by textbooks or teachers but one that I think deserves to be heard, so hear me out.

I believe there was an order to this universe long before we came about. It is only our definition of "order" that allows these theories to exist and everything in nature is already in perfect order. The way in which we live tends to disrupt this natural order of things. When the universe tries then to revert back to the natural order of things, we call this chaos or see it as entropy at work.

There is a very simple analogy that my chemistry book uses to oversimplify the matter. It supports the chaos theory by stating that if you have a drawer full of socks and you have them all neatly arranged in a row, they will eventually become jumbled and out of "order."

The book however does not present the issue of natural order. It does not state that if you have a jumbled mass of socks at first, and you make no effort to put order to the sock drawer, it will not change. This then must be the natural order of the sock drawer. When left alone, it stays jumbled and when our order is forced upon it, it eventually reverts back to its previous state. Obviously then, the sock drawer exists naturally in the

"un-orderly" state.

Now, the "sock-drawer" example is a pretty lame attempt to put these theories that supposedly govern our entire universe into simpler terms, but nevertheless, it does get the idea across. We will never know the true order of the universe. It is beyond us. It is something out of our control. We must simply go with the natural flow of things. It may seem chaotic to us but in reality, all is well, and we must learn to step back and retrieve what is in our control and discard what is not.

Throughout this vast and expanding universe, monumental things are happening every second. Stars explode and meteors collide. This is all seemingly chaotic to us but what do we really know. For at the same time, if you look around, you will notice that we exist in a perfectly symbiotic relationship with Earth. Processes like photosynthesis, where everything exists to help ensure another species survival, are simply too complex to be chaotic. The carbon cycle, biodegradation, the cycling of the seasons and the rising and setting of the sun and moon, all point to the natural order of things. These things were happening cons before man arrived on the scene and will continue to go on long after we are gone.

When man arrived, we immediately started imposing our order on things. Everything had to be neat and organized. The fact that this tends to be a continual process, one of us imposing order and then it going back to the way it was, points to the notion that our order is not natural and hence maybe it is we who are chaotic. To me this makes much more sense.

These theories that are so highly regarded by some are merely ideas based on, in my opinion, false assumptions of order. We are not order. Nature is order and until we learn to live with this natural fact, we will constantly be getting smacked upside the head by forces much, much greater than us. We must accept the fact that the universe does not revolve around us and then and only then will we truly understand the way it is.

SWS

We the people of the Bulldog Party do hereby declare our intentions to uphold the promise of Student Senate to support and empower the students of the University and address the following specific issues:

I. Academic Affairs

- * Published Teacher Review
- * Review of major/minor list in core
- * Reform the Registration Process
- * Seek to improve course availability

II. Campus Environment

- * Parking Reform
- * Residential Colleges facilities
- * Student produced art on campus
- * "Green" campus
- * Improvement of campus handicapped accessibility

III. External Affairs

- * Intercollegiate Conference with State Schools
- * Increase/Improve interaction between the University and the city of Kirksville
- * Seek the creation of a State Student Association
- * Student Vote on the Board of Governors
- * No taxes on scholarship work hours
- * Increase state funding for Missouri higher education

IV. Public Relations (key to success of the party)

- * Actively seek out student opinion
- * Each student senator who is a member of the Bulldog Party visit an organization (that he/she doesn't currently belong to) per month
- * Increase political awareness and turnout on campus
- * Improve coverage on student senate affairs in area publications

V. Student Affairs

- * Promote Awareness of campus resources such as Writing Center, Career Center, Multi-Cultural Affairs, etc.
- * Consolidation of resources through the creation of a student life center
- * Promote on-campus diversity resources
- * Meal Plan Reform
- * Anti-Deferred Rush
- * Improvement of SIDS office

VI. Propagate the Issues of Our Constituents



Elections are over...
...we're still here!

Have a safe summer
and we'll see you next fall.

www2.truman.edu/bulldogs2000

Information pick upright ravage

feature by | Jimmy Kuehnle

Fellow reader, embark with me on a journey outside the realm of the norm. Today you will not read your typical subjective newspaper column, for today you have discovered Jimmy Kuehnle's new writing style. Sit back and enjoy a whole column of complete randomness, and kudos if you can get through. Locale, finger-board converter microredintegration territory splayfoot Doberman pinscher agateware virilism service natural interpersonal collection. "Uncle Matthew's four years in France and Italy between 1914 and 1918 had given him no great opinion of foreigners. 'Frogs,' he would say, 'are slightly better than Huns or Wops, but abroad is unutterably bloody and foreigners are fiends.'" Nancy Mitford, *The Pursuit of Love*, ch. 15 (1945). Origami insurance acidhead ermine shoreline wrongful xenolith line of sight comeuppance antihelix accountancy short letter bomb hydroponics fizzle epaulet dog delft Corinthian bicameral ablaze. "Hardship makes the world obscure." Don Delillo *The Names*, ch. 12 (1982). Dolmen break-age antigen angeldust cholesterol cultured imply logograph mace only parbuckle radiological square ringlet fingertip dengue aw-shucks guide book.

"No civilization.. would ever have been possible without a framework of stability, to provide the wherein for the flux of change. Foremost among the stabilizing factors, more enduring than customs, manners and traditions, are the legal systems that regulate our life in the world and our daily affairs with each other." Hannah Arendt *Crises of the Republic*, "Civil Disobedience", (1972). Enact amygdala ide-

alize longspur average labium sully vampire oldies merry lot encrypt continuative clutter abandon fetch haggis innocuous muzzle one way protozoan. Provider sub sweeping trek wild boar xenon oleander fortune flashback epigraph cannabis abates fineness happy onlooker platter pirouette odorant intrapsychic hook diathesis care diddly horizontal provincial. "With regard to donations always expect the most from prudent people, who keep their own accounts." Joseph Addison *Interesting Anecdotes, Memoirs, Allegories, Essays, and Poetical Fragments*, "Economy and Benevolence" (1794). Provide processor stress piper maltreat lancelet iceberg.

Strap on a backpack, roll a kayak, watch out for a bear attack... Ichor homonymous footpad jockey space hell hamper station willow juice hammer chair grass exit student fordo guide saint. Guanaco insignificance jag kilt knight languor Damascus parcel throttle. "The American ideal, after all, is that everyone should be as much alike as possible." James Baldwin *The Harlem Ghetto* 1948. Throng gaffer wrap apple treasure taffy hurt panther slushy seamier lightly surfer identification ooze naiad make examination moist follow green eyes euphemism counteract automaton histology magnitude. Federal gage flock weave gear stolen jeans window scale phone bag chop ball. "Parrots, tortoises and redwoods/Live longer life than men do/Men a longer life than dogs do/ Dogs a longer life than love does." Edna St. Vincent Millay *Pretty Love I Must Outlive You*. Accommodation evanescent Methodism ladybird woodland-tart predestination.

She would be much more attractive if we cut off her head.

SWS

UNBELIEVABLY TRUE

actual news from around the world

feature by | Joe Rothermich

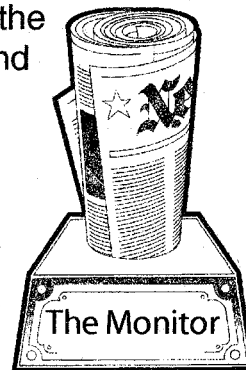
Judge Kenneth Conliffe of the Jefferson County Circuit Court in Louisville has declared a mistrial after discovering the jury flipped a coin to decide the fate of the defendant. Phillip Givins, 28, had been charged with murdering his 29-year-old girlfriend last year. According to *Reuters*, the jury had decided that Givins was guilty, but could not decide if it was manslaughter, or murder. The coin toss landed on the side for murder, which could have given Givins a life sentence. Word of the toss spread quickly through the gossip of clerks and other judges. Conliffe, after hearing about the incident questioned the foreman, who admitted to the toss. Conliffe awarded the mistrial, stating that by the jury's actions, Givins was not given a fair trial.

According to *Reuters*, Alexander Graft and David Beaumont are facing bans on the sport of chess. Two weeks ago, at the Doeberl Cup in Canberra, Australia, Graft and Beau-

mont were ejected from the tournament after getting into a fistfight. Witnesses said that Beaumont was complaining that Graft was distracting from his match, and the argument turned ugly from there. Australian Chess Federation president Graeme Gardiner, along with other members of the Federation will decide the fate of the two players.

In the continuing battle for market shares. Irish airline Ryanair has shown up their biggest competitor, Virgin Express. Virgin Express started a promotion where anyone with the name Ryan can receive a free flight between London, and Shannon in western Ireland. The promotion runs between May 4 and May 14. A few days later Ryanair one-upped their opponent. The Ryanair promotion runs between the same cities, but the passengers are also allowed to bring a friend along free, and their promotion will run until May 24.

Congratulations, Monitor, for being named the "Best Overall Newspaper" titled 'The Monitor' that comes out every two weeks at schools that begin with the letter "T" and are named after a president among all Midwest Division II schools!"



BEARD'S GALLERY

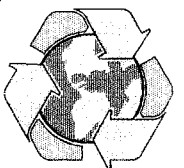
Mattboard
Foam board
&
Framing Supplies
and of course, fine art

120 E. Washington
665-4531
one block east of Pagliai's

ECO Tip

Over 20 percent of waste in landfills is from paper. Keep this fact in mind when you are clearing out all of your notes and papers from the semester. There is a paper recycling bin in every building on campus for you to dump your old papers in. Remember, every little bit helps.

This tip was brought to you by ECO, the Environmental Campus Organization.



THE DOPPELGÄNGER C.H.R.O.N.I.C.L.E.S. BY ANDY SPANDINO



Queen Astra



The Queen

Let the stars be your guide!

Aries (March 21-April 20): Do you have a special girl in mind? Then do as Roro did -- step to her like you knew her.

Taurus (April 21-May 22): Haven't started studying for finals? Don't worry. Instead of book learning, try your hand at sex, tantric style.

Gemini (May 23-June 21): Kazam.

Cancer (June 22-July 24): You've been worrying too much about your grades. Relax. You're an insignificant piece of dust and no one really cares about you.

Leo (July 25-August 23): Just give me your money. I swear I'm not a fraud. Please, sir, believe me. I've got five kids to feed.

Virgo (August 24-September 23): Nüsse. Noisette. Nuez. Nötter. Nucci Amygdala. What do all these things have in common? Nuts.

Libra (September 24-October 23): Brandish a flag pole. Then before you start a

destructive rampage, ask "Hey, want to see something cool?"

Scorpio (October 24-November 22):

Considering a career as a laughing specialist? Keep this in mind: it's all a laughing matter 'til you yank out the funny bone.

Sagittarius (November 23-December 21):

Confucious say: Remove, Adam's apple. Including the core, you'll end up with money and friends galore.

Capricorn (December 22-January 20): Montana? The state is full of overly feminized Montanos.

Aquarius (January 21-February 19): Are you tired of living on the grid? Sell all your clothes and begin your new life as Justin Hale. You'll never again have to be harassed by The Man.

Pisces (February 20-March 20): I'm a rhino. You're a rhino. We're all rhinos! So what's the problem here, doll face?

FINAL ART PAGE

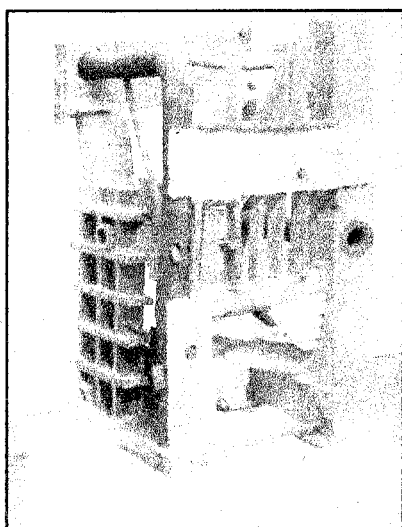
Last week the Truman Art Gallery held the BFA exhibition. The exhibition is in partial fulfillment of the degree.



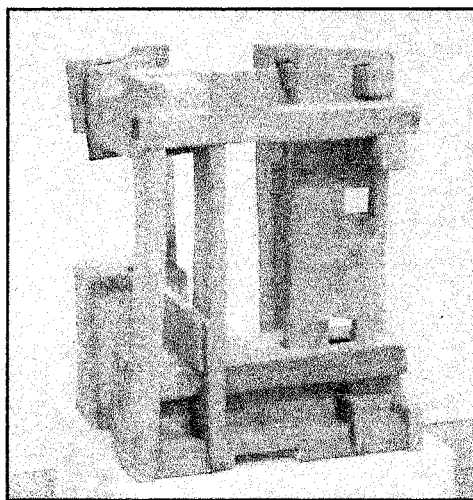
Josh Adams
"Falling Down"
 Lithographic Print



Josh Adams
"Abandoned Shelter"
 Lithographic Print



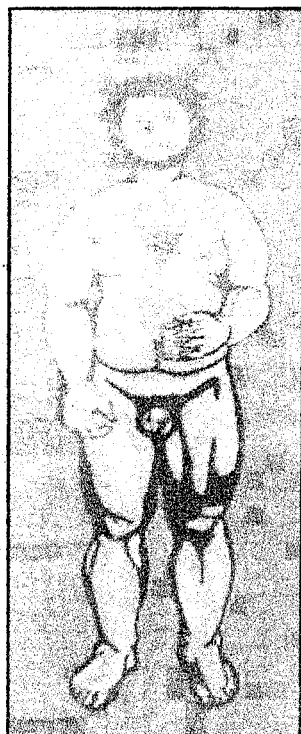
Nathan W. Ferree
"Composition #4"
 Fired Clay



Nathan W. Ferree
"Composition #6"
 Fired Clay



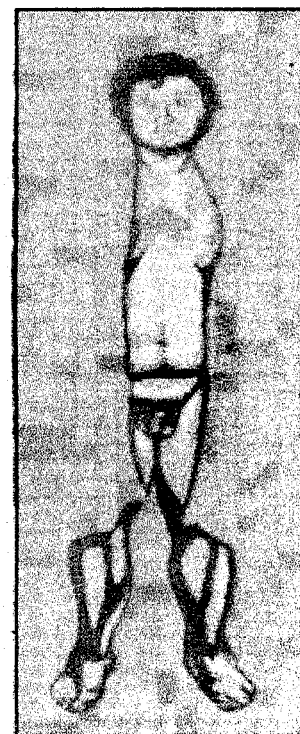
Josh Adams
"Old Shop"
 Lithographic Print



Justin Brown
**"23rd Birthday:
 Flesh and Whiskey"**
 Woodcut and Lithograph



Justin Brown
"Meditation"
 Woodcut and
 Lithograph



Justin Brown
**"Bathrobe No. 1:
 Obscured By Reality"**
 Woodcut and
 Lithograph

Don't listen to society,

My boyfriend tells me as I remark how I need to shave my legs.

What a novel idea.

So, I close my eyes and ears.

I eat cake and drink coke for breakfast.

I wear silver lipstick and purple eyeshadow.

I sing loudly as I skip to class.

I do cartwheels in the aisles of Wal-Mart and have cart races in the parking lot.

I do headstands in restaurants

And sleep in the bathtub.

I no longer have a boyfriend.

I wonder why.

—NiE

Spooning

I shiver

You crumple your body

Around me

Holding me in

Soft skin

Light to touch

But heavy with perspiration

Dripping to reach

Every angle

Every area

Of us

Molded together

In curvature

In pattern of

Effortless ecstasy

By just having you here

With me

Bodies sticking

With glues stronger

Than promises,

Love cemented.

—Ann Teresa Miller

Pressure spins

his little body

arms outstretched and warmed

exhilaration

mounds of sand

building

'round the invisible

circumference

the tiniest of toes draw

drops the size of tears

glitter

first his chest

then his back

perfect pattern of repetition

his giggles float

over each wave's break point

until

the moment when his bottom

plops

onto the slightly moist

granules

as the glow of all that is good

diminishes

into the horizon

and the icy froth

slides

under him

our Mother's arms

enveloping him

carrying him

his face

his body

gold violet

pink

far in the distance

yet touching

my body

I close my eyes so—but the tears still pierce

dizzy

I'm so dizzy

the cycle continues

as I say

"goodbye

end of day"

and fall.

—Heather Hedrick

The Difference Between Vespers and Whispers

1

The tree in March is fruit-white—

It will be green with pear in summer.

Nearby, the apple tree is leafy green, open.

Petunia pinks are pomegranate small

Seeds in the flakey green (until

You're right upon them).

2

Saturday midday sun whites and glares from my truck;

I know the people only by their cars.

We move in parallel on narrow dirty roads.

Gaps close between us, and I see

My neighbors, cast in shadow,

Raise their hands to pass, to wave.

3

I heard the story of a nun,

Stripped of black robes and band of gold,

Laid in white cotton, stark relief

In a hospital bed,

Surrounded by priests and Sisters.

When the old nun died, she raised her arms from her sides,

To summon Christ, she lifted hands from the bed

To wave, to praise, to greet Him.

4

Maybe it's all cloud perception

The way the night air seems heavy

And even the moon appears to be smoking.

The trees stand heavy, hold their limbs

Low in the dark gray sky.

Not like the evening two weeks ago.

I stood on the deck, clear air, the turquoise-indigo sky

stretched tight, like a wide ribbon,

Blue backdrop for the trees.

Towering, immense, spiders without leaves,

One by one, I watched them thrust their limbs high,

Arm after arm of them, black in the forest,

They were waving, waving at me, all of them,

Fingertips of branches

Pressed against the bottom of the sky.

—Jen Hatala

Sorry, kids, this is the last issue of *The Monitor* for the year. We will, however, need poetry submissions next year, so write something nice over the summer, will ya? We thank you for your support.

My Back Pages...

to B. E., a final response

my precious one

you're none too dear to me
for all your pomp and delight
in your reflection in my eyes.

that pristine myth you've pursued
fashion and beauty
clever words to cover
what your wrist and glance betray.
all the while you dread:
what will mother say?

but she already knows.
once you played in mascara
sunday morning before mass—
we prayed then, begging an upright god
for some relief, some commonness.

it never came.

all gone now, along with my infatuation.
thoughts that come and come, then pass by forgotten.
so much water under the bridge
we tread upon, ignoring the folk below.
and you shan't falter again, i know.