

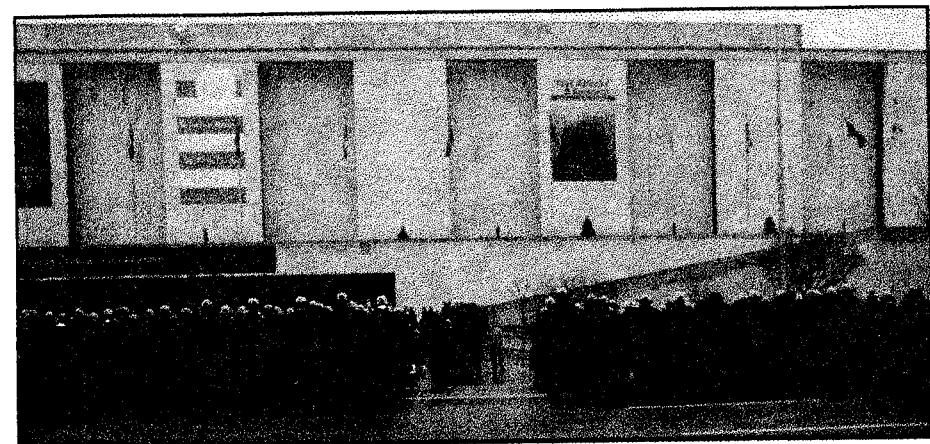
THE MONITOR

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

A Campus Collective

Volume 7, Number 8/ 23 January 2001

Media misrepresent inauguration protests



A phalanx of The Man lines up to squash the protests.

for The Monitor

news feature by | Daniel Coate and Jesse Pasley

While the country mourns (or rejoices?) the inauguration of George W. Bush as the new president, the public has been fed a rather skewed picture of the weekend's events, most notably concerning the massive protests. Most news within the past few days has hardly mentioned that major protests were conducted in Washington, D.C., with television media showing only a few short clips of police lines or a lone protestor standing on traffic lights burning a flag. Rather than the calm and melodic fantasy inauguration that the media has spun, events in Washington, D.C., turned out to be quite turbulent, spawned by a combination of high-spirited energy and police-aggravated angst.

Saturday began calm enough, with hundreds of police and military personnel having already set up their check points and barricades. However, it was eerie; the streets were relatively empty, save for a few early protestors and roving media members (and, well, lots of police). We started from Dupont Circle, just as protestors for the Million Voter March began to trickle in for their march at 10 a.m., and attempted to get closer to the action along the parade route. Freedom Plaza was our original destination, but the police were not allowing access to area and feigning ignorance about the permitted rally there. The police aggravated the thousand International Action Center protestors seeking to rally at Freedom Plaza by forcing

ing them to wait outside police barricades for upwards of an hour, subjecting them to multiple searches.

As we made our way through the maze of police barricades and checkpoints surrounding the parade route, the Black Bloc, about 700 strong, began its march. Right about the time that police began allowing demonstrators into Freedom Plaza, our original destination, we found ourselves in the middle of the protest pit on the opposite side of Pennsylvania Avenue. We watched the hundreds of protestors chant, dance and march in circles, keeping our eyes and ears open for word of the Black Bloc's progress. While most protestors there carried signs claiming the election a fraud, messages concerning death penalty, abortion, political prisoners and various other human rights issues could be seen floating above the mass of restless people. At about 11:10 a.m. we noticed a small group of anarchists standing a few hundred feet away. We slowly made our way towards them, as did about twenty other anarchists, assembling our own small Black Bloc.

At about 11:40 a.m., bikers notified us that the main Black Bloc, after eluding pursuing police forces for almost an hour and a half, had been surrounded by police at 14th and K and needed support. We immediately began hur-

see PROTEST, page 12

Read opinions about the protest and Bush's choice for attorney general, John Ashcroft, page 9.

Students, administrators to discuss University

story by | Derek Spellman

Some improbable guests will be streaming into the Georgian Room tomorrow.

For the first time since its inception, Truman State University's Planning Day will enlist the help of students by inviting them to discussions about enrollment, retention and the overall academic and social landscape of the University.

In the past, Planning Day (which is now officially termed the January Conference) was a conference of faculty and administrators that mapped strategy for enhancing the University community. The mission of this year's January Conference is to strengthen "our liberal arts culture" by "liberally educating students for the twenty-first century," according to a statement issued by the Dean of Student Affairs Lou Ann Gilchrist.

In the past, because the conference was convened over the summer, invitations were only extended to faculty and administrators. This year, however, the date of the conference was fixed for Jan. 24 so as to appeal to a broader band of persons, including students.

"I think the January Conference kind of shares with it the promise to unite the whole university community -- and that has got to include students," Gilchrist said.

She added, "I want students to know that their opinion is important. I know it is a sacrifice for them to come [on Wednesday], but we need to know what they think."

Registration begins at 8 a.m. tomorrow in the Quiet Lounge. After a continental breakfast and two motivational speakers, students will convene in panels at 10 a.m. to stimulate discussion about four questions:

1. What draws students to Truman State University (enrollment)?
2. What compels them to remain at the university (retention)?
3. What learning strategies have they or their peers devised during their time at Truman?
4. What requisite skills or basic knowl-

see PLANNING, page 13

Senate balance hinges on special state election

story by | Robin Whitley

Voters in Adair County and the surrounding areas will have the opportunity to help determine the future direction of the state of Missouri in the special election for state senator tomorrow. The vacancy of the 18th district state Senate seat is having far-reaching consequences not only in northeast Missouri, but across the entire state.

With the ascension of Joe Maxwell to the office of lieutenant governor, the Senate seat serving an area of 12 counties, which includes the cities of Kirksville, Macon and Hannibal, is up for grabs. State Rep. Robert Clayton (D-Hannibal) is running against Republican John

see ELECTION, page 13

Whom should you vote for?
Read the opinions on page 4.



for The Monitor

Truman College Democrats Heather Lasher, Jessica Post and Jessica Loyet take a bite outta crime at Gov. Bob Holden's Inauguration. See the article on page 12.

C O N T E N T S



"News That's Unfit," a popular feature from The Monitor's past, returns.

Read the incredible gossip, rumors, half-truths and mild exaggerations on

Page 14.

Traffic might win an Oscar; Benicio del Toro should.

Traffic

Read the review,

Page 10.

The University community celebrates Martin Luther King Day.

Read the stories,

Page 6.



The Monitor

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CAMPUS ADDRESS
CAOC, SUB
Truman State University
Kirkville, MO 63501
Fax (660) 785-7436

OFFICE ADDRESS
Monitor Tower
2107 S. Franklin Apt. A
Kirkville, MO 63501

E-MAIL ADDRESS
monitortrm@hotmail.com

WEB PAGE
<http://www.trumanmonitor.org>

MANAGING EDITORS
Kristen Crenshaw
Matthew Webber

COPYEDITORS
Dave Bush - Shala Garcia
Ed Jenkins - Tom Palmier
Aaron Wilson

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Amanda Romine - Ryan Ruffatti

ART PAGE
Kjell Hanh

MY BACK PAGES EDITOR
Shawn Gilmore

ADVERTISING ROYALTY
Tom Palmier
Amanda Romine

RESIDENT ARTISTS
Andy Dandino - Ed Jenkins
Sean O'Brien - Ryan Ruffatti

DISTRIBUTION
Ed Jenkins

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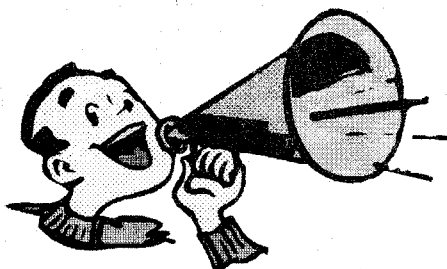
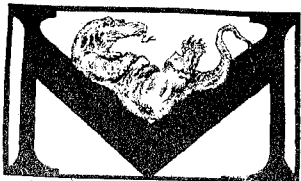
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We meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 9 p.m. in BH 346.

Subscriptions are available to out of towners -- you just pay for postage. Send a check or money order for \$10 to the address above for a semester's worth of Monitors. That's really cheap, huh?

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

-- Noam Chomsky



Upcoming Events

To have your event listed here for FREE, submit your event to the *Monitor* mailbox, CAOC, SUB, or e-mail it to monitortrm@hotmail.com.

Windfall submissions deadline for the spring semester is Fri., Feb. 2 by 5 p.m. in the *Windfall* mailbox, CAOC office, lower SUB level. We accept all genres of prose, poetry, reproducible art, and sheet music. Please include your name, phone number, address and e-mail on all submissions. Multiple entries are allowed. For more information contact Alice at x4712 or tsuwf@yahoo.com.

Evangelist Tom Woody from Alton, Ill., will visit the campus on Jan. 26 at 11:30 a.m. for Eklesia's TGIF Devotional Lunch in the Spanish Room. Brother Woody is planning a mission trip to the Phillipines in February. He is editor of the *Gospel Message*. The devotional topic is "What Makes Christ Different from Other Religious Leaders?"

Eklesia will host a skating party at Leisure World from noon until 2 p.m. on Sun. Feb. 4.

Tri-Rivers Planned Parenthood, Inc. hosts the 5th annual "A Time for Chocolate Lovers," an evening of gourmet chocolate desserts, beverages and dancing, on Sat., Feb. 10, at the Kirkville Armory from 7 to 10 p.m. A silent auction will be held between 7 and 8:30 p.m. At 8:30 p.m., local band Redwing will perform. Tickets are \$7 per person or \$5 for students with ID. For tickets call (660)665-5672 or purchase them at the door.

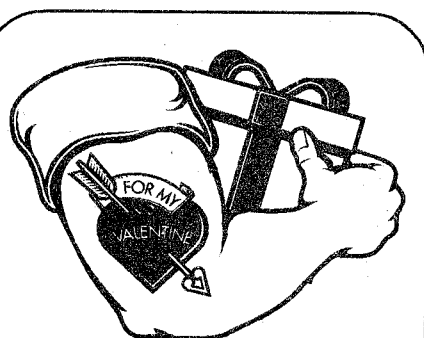
Interested in service, leadership and sisterhood? Rush the superstars of service, the Women of Cardinal Key. Pick up an application at the Cardinal Key information table in the SUB Jan. 29 through Feb. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or check out the Cardinal Key Web site at <http://www2.truman.edu/cardinalkey>. If you have questions, call Erica at x4851.

How well do you know your significant other? How well does your boyfriend/girlfriend know you? Play

the **Couples Gameshow** and find out, the day before Valentine's Day, Tues. Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. in the SUB Alumni Room. Compete against other couples for awesome Valentine's Day prizes like restaurant gift certificates. Or come and cheer on, or laugh at, your favorite couples. Sponsored by Conflict Resolution and Mediation (CRAM), formerly known as MAD.

For those interested in Irish and Scottish dance and culture, come to the meetings of the new **Truman Ceilidh Club**, Mondays at 5:30 in Baldwin 351.

The **Writers Block** still meets every Monday, 9 p.m., in the Writing Center. Meet the other writers on campus, read and critique your own and others' stories, plays and poems and eat delicious snacks (sometimes). For more information call or e-mail Matt at 665-6223 or aerjones@hotmail.com.



What would you do for your Valentine?

Place a love note in the next issue of *The Monitor*.

1/16 page- \$10
1/8 page- \$20
1/4 page- \$30

Place message along with money in the *Monitor* mailbox in the CAOC by Friday Feb. 2nd.

The Monitor: Better than chocolates from your tattooed boyfriend.

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monitor letters

Hey Monitor,
I'm a real
person. I want
real meat!
D.B.

Got something to say? Write a letter to *The Monitor*. Send complaints or praise to the *Monitor* mailbox in the CAOC or e-mail us at monitortrm@hotmail.com.

Editors Note: We received letters from J.H. and K.B. after our deadline. We will print them in the Feb. 6 issue.

Student Senate seeks undergraduate vote on Council

The Bulldog Party introduced a resolution asking Faculty Senate to grant the student representatives on Undergraduate Council full voting rights at the last Student Senate meeting. The Undergraduate Council is a body comprised of administrators, faculty members and three student representatives that oversee the undergraduate program. Despite attempts to send the resolution to committee and to table the resolution, the Senate finally decided to take a proactive step towards gaining a real voice for students at Truman State University.

The University preaches the virtues of the liberal arts and sciences. Students are encouraged in the classroom to think beyond the surface and to delve deep into subjects to gain a more thorough understanding of the issues of the day.

However, once outside the classroom, students find themselves in a very hypocritical

environment that denies them a real voice and doesn't consider them equal partners in the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

Undergraduate Council currently is an example of the hypocrisy that exists where the University's liberal arts and sciences mission statement comes into conflict with the way our governing boards are organized. Unfortunately, undergraduate students have no official input at the decision making level.

As retention rates continue to move in a downward direction, the University desperately needs to provide students with a reason to return to Kirksville each semester. Knowing that their thoughts, concerns, and ideas will be officially expressed, may be enough for students to at least take pride in being treated as an equal partner in the pursuit of the University's mission.

This letter is a plea for students to be given some official voice in the decisions that are made at Truman. I have heard the disgruntled and apathetic thoughts of the stu-

dent body because they don't feel that their opinions count.

It is embarrassing that we have turned our back on student opinions. Student viewpoints are the most important aspect of the University since they are the products of the atmosphere that has been created in the classroom.

The time has come for the University to end the hypocrisy and to reach out to students by offering them an equal partnership in the pursuit of knowledge. The Bulldog Party and Student Senate have taken the first step in forming this partnership.

For the good of the University, I strongly urge Faculty Senate to take the second step and to send a message to each student by granting their Undergraduate Council representatives full voting privileges so that their opinions may be expressed in a way that has a direct hand in the decisions that are made.

Matt Brooker,
Bulldog Party member and Student Senator

"A Chair!" (a poem)

Went to the Martin Luther King tissue symposia I did, strong enuff,
great stuff and thanks Bertha

y'all, for the cookies,
sure really appreciate
tha' insights
for the good fight!
But, please, pray in King's
Name
Madam White "Char,"
next time, don't shame!
When, one Afro student,
Ms. "Smith," gives the best
presentation thar, in
even business male's Violette
indeed the only one,
female strong, to try
and answer tha postas poseur
"social activism" on "social
service own queary,
please, Ms. "Slamsbottom," PHDamery
don't deny, her any of
us audiences's back floor
questions
in preference for your
lilly white own chair
voice sononity
so sonny, y'all to be so
rude but Ms.
"Smith" was givin' us the
real King food, for action
not chair manipulation
a la white America

--Larry Iles



monitor opinions

The Man collects rent from Park Place, Boardwalk, Franklin Street

opinion by | Matthew Webber

Kirkville has become a giant game of Monopoly in the past few years. Landlords have named apartment complexes after St. James Place, New York Avenue and other board game properties.

Also, the University has been buying every old house, school and -- in the past few months -- hospital and fire station that borders McClain Hotel in an attempt to have a monopoly on obsolete and condemned property.

Uncle Tuitionbags buys as indiscriminately as your overzealous little brother, wasting your money on the equivalent of the utilities squares and Mediterranean and Baltic Avenues. While these low-rent properties yield little cash in the board game, players buy them anyway because of their handy distance from Go, because they don't have any other properties and they might be able to trade them later for better ones -- or just because they are there.

The University seems to be adhering to a similar gaming principle. These properties are essentially worthless but they're conveniently located near campus and we might be able to do, um, something with them after all of us graduate -- and who wants to be the only university on the block that doesn't own a fire station?

At the December meeting of the Ways to Knock Those Prospective Students' Socks Off Council:

The dog: Since those houses and schools north of campus were rotting anyway, it's a good thing we sped their destruction.

The shoe: I get dibs on sliding down the fire pole first!

The racecar: We didn't get to be a Top Ten Best Buy University by spending \$2.5 million on things the current students actually need.

The thimble: Let's buy some more of those brick rectangle thingies with the balls on top! Ooh, can we?

The hat: Students don't really complain about parking, do they?

The wheelbarrow: Gee, I can't under-

stand why we have trouble retaining faculty.

Meanwhile, as Uncle twiddles his thumbs and figures out what to do with what is essentially a garage (a museum? a new administrative center?), he kindly rents a recently-bought hospital to its former owners (KCOM), which means the University won't actually use it or benefit from it for up to three years.

My new favorite quote from The Man comes from University General Counsel Warren Wells in the Jan. 11 *Index*. Regarding the KCOM hospital, Wells said, "*Chances are we'll want to have some projects there someday*" (my italics).

Chances are?! The administration spent \$2.5 million on a chance?

If the administration has a plan for these properties, they've failed to explain it to the students.

Instead, they've left us puzzled. To extend the Monopoly metaphor, spending money on Oriental Avenue might be better than erecting houses and hotels on the blocks of properties you already own, but somehow, I don't think so. This University needs too many improvements for it to be buying so much new land.

I understand there's a fund that allots money to these types of acquisitions. I understand the University is perpetually expanding in an attempt to better itself. I understand it bought the fire station and hospital at a reduced rate.

But what the administration needs to understand is that there are problems here that can't be remedied by purchasing every square inch of Kirkville. If they continue to ignore issues like faculty retention, classroom space, establishing a liberal arts and sciences culture, scholarship renewal and parking, more and more students and faculty will find another game to play. Not only will the University not collect so many \$200 payments, they might not collect so many precious Top Ten rankings.

And that would be the end of our pseudo-Harvard game.

Vote Cauthorn for values

opinion by | Scott Niermann

You are probably aware of a rather heated contest for state Senate currently going on around us here in Northeast Missouri. In light of all the literature, radio and television ads, I write to give a brief summary of John Cauthorn's positions and to encourage students in this Senate district to support him (locally or via absentee ballot) for several reasons:

John Cauthorn is concerned about Missouri's roads and transportation issues. He strongly supports the four-laning of Highway 63 from Columbia to Kirkville, thereby keeping the state's promise to the people of Northeast Missouri.

John Cauthorn is a family farmer of 33 years and is the immediate past president of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association. He knows how to build better economic opportunities for the ever more difficult careers in agriculture.

John Cauthorn believes in keeping taxes down, so as not to punish families -- particularly lower-income families and senior citizens. He will push to make sure balanced budgets are met and ensure more government accountability. Further, he will fight to eliminate state taxes on our senior citizens' social

security earnings -- money that these seniors have already paid taxes on once!

John Cauthorn supports Second Amendment rights for hunters and law-abiding citizens, the enforcement of gun laws already in place, and strong punishment for those who use guns in an act of crime.

John Cauthorn is committed to our duty to protect the unborn, acknowledging, "There are enough things in this world that can harm our children; we must protect them when we can."

The race for this special state Senate election tomorrow is currently very close. We at Truman have the opportunity to vote in the SUB, once again, in a very critical election. This is your opportunity to cast one vote -- a vote for John Cauthorn -- and contribute to the operation of the state of Missouri and to promote a good man to political office.

John Cauthorn is not a career politician or trial lawyer. He is a resident of Mexico, Mo., who identifies well with his fellow citizens of Northeast Missouri. I have met John Cauthorn -- a decent, mild-mannered man with solid convictions, who will bring respect, dignity and small-town values to Jefferson City.

Please join with me in voting for John Cauthorn for state Senate on Wednesday.

Vote Clayton for your future

opinion by | Dane Stangler

Even though there are no classes tomorrow, there is one very important task for all students to perform: vote for Democrat Robert Clayton in the special election for state senator.

The news story on page one regarding the election will provide you with details about it. This space is concerned with urging students to cast their vote for Representative Clayton, NOT John Cauthorn.

This senate district includes Kirkville, Mexico, Macon, Hannibal and all the towns in between. Even if many students do not think highly of Kirkville or the surrounding areas, this election is vital because it will not only have ramifications for this district, but also the entire state. The outcome of this election will touch everyone's lives, even if you hail from St. Louis or Springfield.

The Missouri state senate hangs in the balance and which direction the scales tip hinges on the outcome of this election. If you are a freshman, sophomore or junior, this election directly affects you because you will be around here for a few more years; if you are a graduating senior, this election directly affects you because it concerns the future course of the entire state.

The agenda of Governor Bob Holden contains many items particularly germane to Truman students and their families. However, if Robert Clayton is not elected, Governor Holden will have a very tough time enacting his desired agenda.

Do you care about Highway 63 and more funding for this University? Do the fu-

tures of your younger siblings and cousins concern you? Do you care about the lives of your parents, whether they are farmers in southeast Missouri, working families in St. Louis or middle-class folks in Kansas City? Do you care about schools, both in northeast Missouri and your hometown? If any of these issues concern you, Robert Clayton is the man to vote for tomorrow.

The fact that Clayton has been a state representative for the last six years and that Cauthorn has not should be the first clue as to who is the better candidate. Clayton knows how to get the job done and will continue to get the job done. In addition to this, there are a number of reasons to vote for Robert Clayton and NOT John Cauthorn, and these reasons relate to the fundamental differences between Democrats and Republicans. Let's go through the issues:

Education. Many Truman students attended public high schools and we all now attend a public university supported by tax dollars and the state government. Democrats are deeply concerned with public education and making sure it is supported and improved. Gov. Holden and the Democratic legislators want to continue the outstanding work begun by the late Gov. Mel Carnahan in the field of education.

Fundamentally, Democrats want to improve the education your siblings and cousins are getting and the education your future children will receive. Republicans want to take money away from public education and put it toward private schools in the form of vouch-

see CLAYTON, page 12



3 January 2001

Oops, they did it again

Opinion by | Matthew Webber

And the winner of the Sign of Just How Corporate Today's Music Industry Is award goes to... the Grammys, for something like the infinite year in a row.

In today's pop music climate in which flavors of the minute emerge and disappear as quickly as backup singers in Destiny's Child, it's somewhat comforting to know that some things never change.

It's also somewhat disgusting. I know I can count on the Grammys, year after year, to irk me almost as much as Carson Daly's smirk or Fred Durst's complete lack of lead singing/rapping ability.

The only thing that would piss me off more if Durst were awarded for his talentless posing... at which point the world would stop spinning, crash into the sun and melt all our flesh in a hellish cosmic joke. I hate Fred Durst *that* much.

The Grammys had some stiff competition in the Corporate category this year from MTV, which plays their lamest show of all time, *Unleashed*, more often than it plays videos by artists older than 19 years old, and *Rolling Stone*, which featured on its cover the Backstreet Boys and Britney Spears twice, 'N Sync and Christina Aguilera once and Radiohead, the Smashing Pumpkins and the Deftones never.

This once revolutionary magazine also featured a non-boy bandmate, Al Gore, trying his best to look like one, complete with the requisite shirt-blowing-in-wind and Photoshop-enhanced package. In 2000, *Rolling Stone* was more Democratically-biased than the loser of the election himself.

But by not just giving space but actually giving awards to these tools, the envelope surely says the Grammys.

Let's look at the nominees. I can't complain about the Album of the Year nominees too much since three deserving albums are magically nominated: Beck's *Midnight Vultures*, Radiohead's *Kid A* and Eminem's *The Marshall Mathers LP*.

However, I can complain just a little because aging rockers Paul Simon and Steely Dan are nominated more for their lifetime achievements than for their recent ones. It's the musical

equivalent of the Oscars nominating that old woman from *Titanic* a few years ago.

Unlike the Oscars, the old guys will probably win, and Eminem won't have the chance to cause additional controversy in his acceptance speech, which as far as I can tell, would be the only interesting thing that might happen all evening. Unless, of course, Britney Spears finally does the pole dance she's always wanted to do.

I can, and will, complain about the Rap Album nominees until I'm cerulean in the face. Basically, what the good chumps who bring us the Grammys decided to do was nominate the five best selling rap albums of the year, regardless of how good they are: Eminem, Dr. Dre's *Dr. Dre 2001*, Nelly's *Country Grammar*, Jay-Z's *Vol. 3* and for some unfathomable reason, the pathetic DMX's *And Then There Was X*.

Just so you know, I used to be a fan of DMX, but his most recent album is his poppiest and most lyrically void album yet and should definitely not be nominated for anything during a time period in which Common, Mos Def, Outkast, Pharoah Monch, Jurassic 5 and something like 83 former Wu-Tang Clan members released albums.

In a sane world, Destiny's Child wouldn't have more nominations than Fiona Apple and Erykah Badu put together and Creed wouldn't have more nominations than the band whose name rhymes with Whirl Ram they're always trying to sound like. Unfortunately for anyone who's never bought a *Now* compilation, the music world is nuttier than Slim Shady.

Basically, I'm as pissed at the Grammys as the Backstreet Boys are at the fact that their new album *only* sold something like 1.5 million copies in its first week and couldn't beat 'N Sync's first-week total.

And I'm pissed at myself for being so pissed, because I should have expected nominations like these after the nominations of last year, the year before that and every year I can remember.

Lest anyone forget, Milli Vanilli actually won some Grammys.

And really, is Britney Spears so different from these fakers?

I resolve not to resolve anything

Opinion by | Shala Garcia

The television news media is a very active source. Not only can it report the most recent, heinous crimes with a concerned look and immediately switch to a smile to announce the upcoming sports with "Bob, after this commercial break," it also keeps the public updated with pertinent events, like who's making what New Year's resolution. Since this issue is of such high priority at the turn of every year, I thought this would be a wonderful time to answer the question that is on everyone's mind: Why don't I make any New Year's resolutions?

People ask me, "Don't you want to self-improve through the year?" But how is this question possibly asked, since I go through self-improvement every morning? I wake up in a specific allotted time that allows me to go through my procedure of self-improvement. This process includes many steps that require the intelligence obtained only by females so I won't go into detail.

And, of course, I'm allotted five minutes of tardiness to my first class. There is evidently no more to self-improve.

With this category checked, people further inquire, "Wouldn't you like to set a goal for yourself?" However, I have already set goals for myself. In fact, I have three I reach for everyday.

Goals:

1. Develop a mutated chromosome that would render me unique, amazing powers like the X-Men.
2. Avoid those who are homicidal maniacs disguised as normal people on campus.
3. Create a plan for world peace.

Thus far, I have managed to achieve all but one. My plan for world peace has been confiscated by conspirators of the U.S. government and I think a chromosome is mutating right now. My achievement of the second goal quickly dissolved, as I almost became "road-kill" by a homicidal-bicycle maniac.

My own self-improvement plan and set of goals that I follow everyday are the reasons why I see no reason to make any New Year's resolutions. And what advice do I give to those who feel the urge to make a resolution at the threshold of each New Year: Avoid homicidal maniacs who look like normal people, especially those on bikes.

Study Abroad Scholarships

The Midwest Regional Center of the Institute of International Education is pleased to announce the availability of one \$4,000, three \$2,000 and several \$1,000 study abroad scholarships.

The competition is open to undergraduate students currently matriculated at a Midwest college or university which is a member of IIE's Educational Associates program. Truman State University is a member. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and permanent residents of the area served by the Midwest Regional Center of IIE.

To be eligible, students must receive credit for their studies abroad and this credit must be applied toward the completion of an undergraduate degree. Additionally, students must be in good academic standing and have had little or no previous study abroad experience at the university level. These scholarships may be applied to a study abroad experience of any duration greater than four weeks in any part of the world.



For further information and an application, please visit the IIE Web site at <http://www.iie.org/Midwest/grant>. The deadline for applications to be received in the IIE Midwest Regional Center is Thurs., March 1, 2001.

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review by | Daniel Coate

Are you tired of being controlled by the "vile socialist organization, thriving on hate, fear, and class-warfare" that is the Democratic Party? Are you a conservative who likes "funky hair styles and messed up leather jackets?" If so, then check out GOPunk.com, a Web site for conservative punks. The site was created in the fall of 2000 as a grassroots organization dedicated to defending conservative ideals and making sure that conservative voices aren't buried in the liberal media. Complete with a discussion board, links to other conservative Web sites and a page for liberals that explains the errors in their ways, GOPunk.com is the Republican punk Web site on the Internet.

Book A Minute

http://rinkworks.com/bookaminate/

BOOK-A-MINUTE

review by | Amanda Romine

First of all, the Book A Minute concept is beautiful. Classic books, movies, science fiction books and even children's books are condensed into two to three hilarious sentences. "Read to your kids without plodding through every last word of those eight page epics."

For example, Dante's *Inferno*. Some woman puts Dante through hell. THE END. Here's another. Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*. An old man catches a fish that's too big for his boat. The fish gets eaten by sharks. Then he goes home and DIES. THE END. This is awesome! Why read real books when you can fake it?!

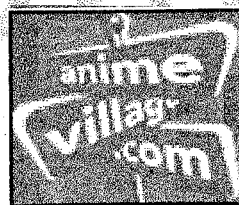
Anime!

http://animevillage.com, http://manga.com,
http://animeworks.net,
http://cdsoundtrack.com

review by | Sean O'Brien

This week it's all about getting your anime-ons. My pick of anime sites is Animevillage.com. Like most anime store sites I've found, it carries mostly videotapes and DVDs, as well as a few T-shirts, ceramic statues, posters, blah blah blah. Runners up in this category include Manga.com and Animeworks.net. Why did animevillage.com win? Cuz it's got Escaflowne. Your mutha would approve.

But what if you don't want videos, but soundtracks? The short answer is: you're going to have to look a lot harder. Your best bet is browsing the used bin at a Tokyo Hastings. Short of that, you might try Cdsoundtrack.com (if their site is done remodeling) or you have a good chance of finding something on eBay, if you're willing deal with the auction format. (Actually, eBay has a nice new feature on some auctions where for a few extra bucks you can buy the item before anyone else bids and save yourself a few days of hovering over the computer.) Don't stop, baby!



What would MLK do?

story by | W. Aaron Wilson

When remembering great individuals, many people are prone to play the "what would" game. "What would he/she have thought of our current economic disparity?" "What would he/she have thought about our technological advances?" If only we could answer these questions, they could provide critical insights, not only into the mind of that person, but also into our current problems.

On Tues., Jan. 16, a panel drawn from members of the university staff and faculty, the student body and the local community pondered these "what would" questions in regards to one remarkable individual: Martin Luther King, Jr. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium opened with a few words from Mary Ramsbottom, Interim Dean of the Residential Colleges and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. After her introduction, an excerpt from *Eyes on the Prize*: Program 6, "Bridge of Freedom" was shown. It included footage of King along with some of the Selma to Montgomery freedom march and interviews with individual marchers.

The rest of the panel consisted of Dr. Dennis Leavens from the University, the Rev. Curtis Ferguson of Kirksville Rehoboth Baptist Church, Franita Smith a student at the University and Dr. Marc Becker of the University. Each member of the panel gave a short presentation that dealt with King and his call for both social service and activism.

Dr. Leavens gave a speech entitled "How Long Will Justice Be Crucified?" which reflected on King's speech "Our God is Marching On" and included some audience participation.

The Rev. Ferguson next discussed the role of the African American church in the civil rights

movement in his speech, "The Roots of Rebellion." He pointed to the heavily religious tone of Dr. King's speeches and the "black and white" moral attitudes of African American churches.

Franita Smith, a junior history major from the University, followed the Rev. Ferguson with a speech called "The Legacy of Social Activism." It described the atmosphere of social activism and consciousness that permeated King's life and works.

The final speaker was Dr. Marc Becker, who presented a speech complete with visuals entitled, "In the Footsteps of Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Bees and Nonviolent Resistance in Chiapas, Mexico." This piece detailed the struggles of the oppressed Mayan people of Chiapas and one group's use of nonviolent measures to try and overturn the oppression.

The presentations were followed by a lively discussion involving both the panel and members of the audience. Many members of the audience expressed frustration about the lack of social activism on campus. While they admitted that there was a certain amount of social service, or attempts to help those less fortunate, there was little actual social activism, or attempts to bring about social reform in order to help others.

The symposium raised some questions about the level of awareness of social inequities, both on campus and within the nation as a whole. What would Dr. King have thought about our current state as a nation? One can only speculate, but with the stimulation of such activities as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Symposium, we are reminded that the point of the question is not so much that we find the right answer, but that we try to find one in the first place.

Unity celebration stifles King's dream

review by | Amanda Romine

On Monday afternoon at 3 p.m., I dragged myself away from my couch and television to join a few hundred people gathered in Baldwin Auditorium for a "celebration of unity." I wish I could say I was volunteering my day off to service in honor of Dr. King, but... at least I got out of bed, right?

The celebration of unity included short skits, songs, and a few slides of Martin Luther King, Jr. I don't know who a lot of the performers were because I didn't receive a program, but I got a pretty good seat, so I won't complain.

I had heard of the Unique Ensemble before, and judging from these reviews, I was rather unimpressed by their selection, but maybe the song had some deeper meaning that I just didn't understand because I am a white girl from rural Missouri.

Dominic Armstrong was amazing, as usual, and nearly brought me to tears with "Amazing Grace." Another young man sang a beautiful song, but he seemed nervous and the pretty slides were distracting me.

The drama department had an intriguing skit in which they posed hypothetical questions to the audience such as "Why can you say 'nigger' and I can't?" and "Do I judge you?" as they passed an imaginary bubble or something and occasionally threw it to the audience. This

was surprisingly entertaining, but too long.

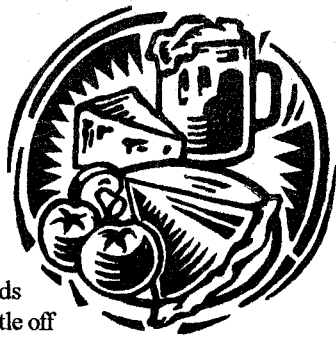
Another group of students performed something about fear and hate. I enjoyed that very much and I, too, hate Wal-Mart. (Except when their cotton candy is *really* fresh. Oh, and they have the best toy selection in a 60-mile radius!)

There were also three or four groups of students who spoke separately and/or together and emphasized and quoted some of King's ideals and sermons. The first group had a little trouble with the memorization, I think, but the other groups became progressively better.

At the very end, Dr. King's "I have a dream" speech began playing over the speakers. I was surprised, if not appalled at how many people left the auditorium. I felt like standing and yelling, "Don't you people understand how important this is!?"... but I didn't. Maybe I should have.

So as I sat there in silence listening to the beautiful words on the speakers, I shut my eyes and tried to imagine what King would have thought of the idiots leaving before he even said he had a dream. I decided King would have continued. So I stayed. Unfortunately, for some reason, the speech stopped. The presentation was over, and the tape player upstairs hadn't even allowed Dr. King to tell us his dream.

Dining With Sodexho



feature by | W. Aaron Wilson

About once a week I gather with a group of friends and make a special trip to an establishment that's a little off the beaten path. This fine eatery is called Tierra del Sol and is part of the "Mainstreet Café" complex in the Student Union Building.

The first difference that one notices upon entering the complex is that the atmosphere is quite different from the other local eating-places. The whole place feels more open and cheerful, more conducive to large groups, unlike the cafeteria-like presences of certain other establishments.

The service at Tierra del Sol is quick and friendly, and food is surprisingly filling. This time around I had the taco salad, a large crispy shell filled with your choice of toppings. I had mine with beans, beef, cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and sour cream. The taco shell was crisp and the fillings produced an excellent blend of flavors, especially after I added a packet's worth of taco sauce. For my beverage I chose orange slice, and the taco salad was so filling by itself that I did not need any other dishes.

All in all, Tierra del Sol is a wonderful, friendly establishment with excellent food in agreeable portions. Next time you're in the vicinity, stop in and experience it for yourself.

Dammit, Janet, I wanna watch the show

brief by | Shala Garcia

A walk across campus in the more-than-unbearable-freezing weather sent me back to my dorm late Friday night when a member of the Student Activities Board shockingly announced, "Due to legal law, we cannot have more than the maximum capacity in the small theatre."

For those of you who experienced the same dissatisfaction as I, know that I'm referring to SAB's showing of *The Rocky*

Horror Picture Show. That night, more than fifty freaks dressed up in the correct *Rocky Horror Picture Show* attire, which consisted of lingerie and makeup worn both by men and women and a self-made pair of women's breasts, one guy said.

And as they walked away with disappointment from Baldwin Hall, they all left wondering, "Which law is the 'legal' law?"

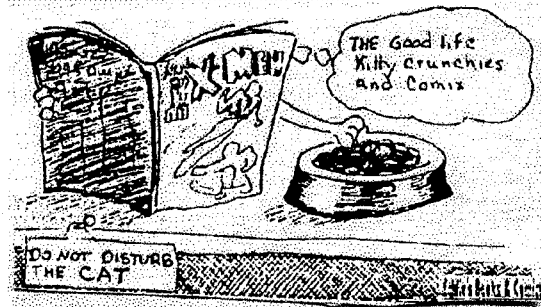
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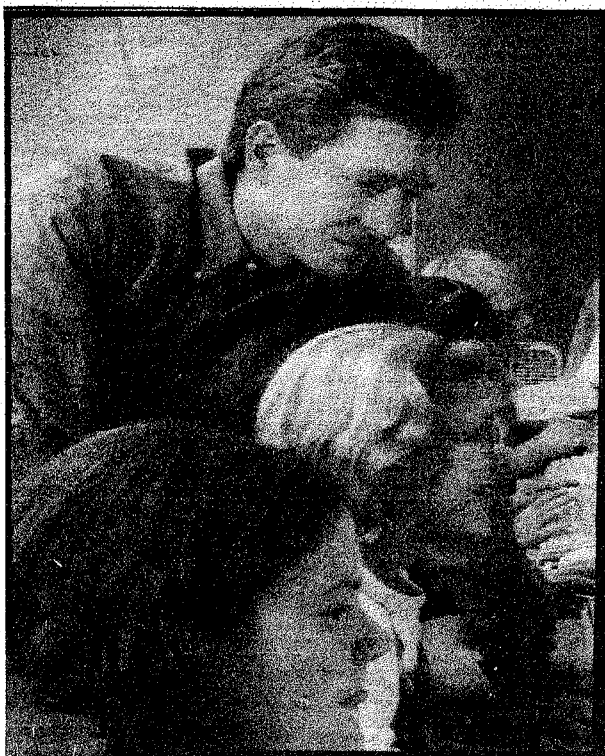
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- * Expanding food programs to improve nutrition of Missouri's children (HB 11, 1997).
- * Requiring insurance companies to cover immunizations for children (HB 904, 1996).

County library needs help

story by | Dane Stangler

Residents of Adair County will vote on the fate of the Adair County Public Library on Feb. 6. If the proposed tax levy increase fails, the library will no longer be able to fully function properly.

If the levy does not pass, "we will reduce the number of hours and the kinds and number of materials we have," Linda Heun, director of the library board, said. "This is the last year we can operate in the black."

The proposed increase coming before the voters in two weeks would boost the library's operating levy by 12 cents, which would bring in an additional \$205,470 for the library. This extra money is necessary since 72 percent of its total budget comes from public tax support.

Detractors of the proposed increase could point to those figures and argue that the library already gets enough public help. But consider another fact, Heun said.

"There has not been a tax levy increase since the library opened," she said.

Heun said the increase is needed to keep pace with rising costs of "publications and equipment, not to mention the cost of living and the minimum wage."

Indeed, according to a fact sheet distributed by the library, costs of books and materials have increased 20 percent over the last decade; magazine subscription cost increased 10 percent over the past five years.

But materials and equipment are not the only necessities lacking at the library: rising operating costs translate into reduced operating hours. Heun said the Adair County library is open fewer hours than the average for "a library of our size." National library standards declare that 65 hours per week is optimum for a public library in this sized community; however, this library is only open 58 hours a week.

Additionally, the library is in dire need of maintenance and repairs. A fact sheet states that "the shelves are overflowing." Last year, nearly 10,000 items had to be removed from the library to make room for new materials. The library considered some of these items "classics."

Building repairs and carpet replacement are other areas in which the library is declining. The tax levy increase would help in remodeling and expanding the current structure, thus leading to improved services.

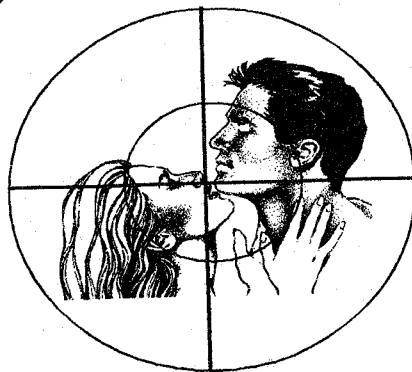
According to a fact sheet, if the tax levy fails, the Adair County library "will be unable to provide the number and variety of materials requested, hours of operation and staffing will be limited, access to the public will be less convenient and the building will decline as it ages."

"I hope people understand that the library is serving a tremendous number of people," Heun said. On one December day alone, 915 people used the library's services.

As stated in the fact sheet, library personnel want people in the Adair County area to realize that the library "promotes education, reading and research and provides access to information from anywhere in the world, throughout time. It's a critical part of our economic development. A good library is an investment in the future -- an investment that benefits every Adair County resident."

Above all, Heun said, the library is a vital cog in the Adair County community.

"It is a great service to businesses and a great service to the area," she said.



The "One":
Fiction or Non?

feature by | Lisa Maglerowski

As an English major, I despise clichés. Well, here's hypocrisy for ya: I'm a white, middle-class, twenty-one year old college student with blond hair, blue eyes and parents who recently celebrated their thirty-first anniversary with no threat of divorce in the future. So let's not call me a cliché. Let's call me... normal.

Can I make that assumption about myself, though? Think about it. Normal is nearly an enigma, an unobtainable ideal developed by a screwed up society. And as a result of defining my entire existence by such an ambiguous, paradoxical word I'm creating problems within problems.

For instance, who or what is normal? Is Kirksville normal? For that matter, is Truman normal? Can any of the fucked up relationships I know you and your friends have experienced be categorized as "normal?" I hope not, because that's just really depressing: my relationships at Truman have been less than exemplary, I assure you.

I can't begin to calculate how many times I've heard Truman described as a "small pond." Fuck the pond and the frogs that in live in it. I just want to find one person, one goddamn person on this campus who shares my interests. Someone I can talk to at the end of the day and, on occasion, make-out

Chutes and Ladders

An on-going look at Truman State relationships

with. Each year, though, the possibilities seem to wane.

"But Lisa," a little bird says, "Truman's a small pond. You'll find the one for you after college, when you're a part of the work force." I want to know, by a show of hands, how many of you have heard this before? Now, I want to know how many of you know someone who is in their early thirties, has been in the work force for years and has not found the perfect person for them? I'm willing to bet a million dollars most of you still have your hands up.

Why is that? Why is it so unbelievably difficult to find a significant other? OK, here's my theory: *City of Angels*, *Sleepless in Seattle* and *What Women Want*. Heard of these? In the American search for the perfect career, body and wardrobe a new impossible dream has been created -- the perfect relationship.

I have protested this aberration by concluding there is no prince. I don't expect my Harlequin lover, sporting an overflowing bank account and perfect pecks, to unexpectedly appear by my mid-twenties. The white knight is a myth, maliciously confined to daydreams and Seventh Heaven episodes. There is no perfect person Fate is conveniently waiting to spring on you when "the moment is right." The perfect person is a cliché.

You're upset, I can tell. You're sitting in your class (probably core), reading *The Monitor* because it's less NyQuilish than the *Index* and thinking, "Where do you get off saying there's no one out there for me? Your father isn't even sending child support to your mother between AA meetings!" Well, here's the kicker -- I didn't say there's *no one* out there for you, I said there is no *perfect person* out there for you.

Ahh, now you see where I'm going with this. I may seem cynical and bitchy, probably

because I am, but I want to make it clear there's more to this argument than mindless ranting.

I believe there are many people out there you could possibly click with. There could be a certain someone in Indonesia just as compatible with your personality as another certain someone in Kansas City or Chicago or even, god forbid, Maryville. Where Fate comes in is where and when you decide to give in to your biological clock. At the risk of sounding too *High Fidelity*, I think you'll end up with the person you're with for the rest of your life when you just get tired of pretending there's a "perfect" person waiting for you beyond the next pretty face.

Anyway, no sane person really wants a paragon. After all, life would be pretty boring for a couple who never aired their problems in public. And what if -- this is a BIG supposition -- just what if you happened to fall in love with someone who boasted no annoying characteristics, never said the wrong thing, always put the toilet seat down? What fucking fun is that? Just think -- if there are no fights, there's no making up. And wouldn't that be a travesty? Even a Norse god is not nearly as butt-clenchingly sexy if you can't fling some nasty words at him before he ravishes you.

Q: So where does that leave us?

A: Nauseated by the selection Truman campus has to offer and anxiously awaiting the next trip to Eclectics.

OK, maybe that's too cliché. The true answer... Nauseated by the selection Truman campus has to offer and anxiously awaiting the next trip to Eclectics followed by a Saturday night at Selby House. Bring it on, baby.

Y2K lacks flying cars, androids, apocalypse



The King of Y2K

humor and photos by |
Ryan Ruffatti

Many of us saw the year 2000 portrayed in movies and TV shows as "the future." We also got to see all of our hopes and dreams of that future dashed as the world moved ahead to 2001. But Truman sophomore, Mike Hall, begged the question, "What about my flying cars?!"

"This can't be 2001," Hall said, "it didn't happen. There are no flying cars, no androids and none of those clear tube things that move people

around."

Hall's disappointment in Y2K has lead him to reject the new year completely in hopes that technology will catch up with him.

"I'm still writing 2000 on all my checks," Hall said, "Not by accident either. I want to. I have to. The world is wrong!"

Mike Hall's 2000 obsession is also taking strain on his friends as well.

"Sure, we used to tease him last year," Alex Stevens said. "We'd yell 'Hey Future Boy!' to him and tell him that someone had a flying car parked outside. But the year's over. He should really drop the whole thing."

Despite Hall's determination of advancement, his personal life has

taken some setbacks. Hall's ex-girlfriend left him due to a case of the "Y2K bug." And when peer, Nina Darguiz, was asked if she would go on a date with Hall she responded, "...ew..."

Technology isn't the only qualm Hall has with Y2K.

"Where's my nuclear war," Hall said. "The SciFi Channel promised me a nuke war in my back yard. I had spot all picked out right next to the house. You bet SciFi heard from me!"

When asked about Mike Hall, the SciFi Channel's official response was "Who?"

Hall, the self proclaimed King of Y2K, also was disappointed with the lack of action his survival kit received.

"I had gallons and gallons of water," he said. "I could have been lord of my neighborhood. I had everything prepared. Now what am I going to do with 500 gallons of bottled water? I guess I'll just dump it."

Hall's next goal is gearing up for the "new future" of 2050.

"We have to have an apocalyptic battle by then," Hall said. "We have to."



No survival kit would be complete without *The Worst Case Scenario Survival Handbook*, *The Monitor* and *Evil Dead* action figures.

Protesters seek civil rights

opinion by | Daniel Coate

Thousands of people marched and rallied in protest of George W. Bush's inauguration in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20. The groups, representing a plethora of issues, united against a common enemy, the incoming Bush administration.

Why did so many of us protest the inauguration? While the reasons were as numerous as the people protesting, several central issues stand out as carrying the most importance.

Bush became president as a result of massive racist voter disenfranchisement and voting fraud. In Florida, and throughout the rest of the country, black votes were disproportionately discarded. In predominately black neighborhoods across the United States, outdated technology resulted in votes being disqualified 20 times more often than in other neighborhoods. In addition, hundreds of thousands of potential voters, predominately minorities and poor whites, were disenfranchised permanently for prior felony convictions.

During Bush's time as governor, he executed more prisoners than were executed in the other 49 states combined. He and his Attorney General, John Ashcroft, are almost fanatical about the death penalty. Concerned citizens traveled to Washington, D.C. to call for an end to the racist, anti-poor death penalty and freedom for all political prisoners.

The United States has the richest economy in the history of the world and the basic needs of every American could easily be met. We need funding for universal health care, free education at all levels and affordable housing and childcare, not a destructive military. The United States already has a larger military budget than the rest of the U.N. Security Council combined, but Bush and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld have plans to expand the military. Both support the National Missile Defense System, which would enable the United States military to engage in a first-strike nuclear war.

The woman's right to choose is in extreme danger. Bush and Ashcroft favor a Constitutional amendment that would ban a woman's right to choose. Ashcroft is even opposed to abortion in the event of rape or incest or if the woman's life is in danger.

The future for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and trans-genders is terrifying. The Bush administration is filled with homophobic,

heterosexist bigots seeking to reverse all gains made by L/G/B/T activists. Bush is openly allied with members of the extreme right who would deny equal rights to L/G/B/Ts and force them to conceal their sexualities.

The Bush administration places capital gain before environmental safety. Under Governor Bush, Texas ranked 50th in air quality and first in 16 different polluting categories. Bush and his Secretary of Interior want to open the Arctic National Wildlife Preserve to oil drilling and advocate self-auditing, meaning allowing corporations to monitor themselves on whether or not they are meeting environmental standards. The Bush administration will likely reverse all gains made by environmental activists and will hasten the destruction of our planet.

Under Bush's militaristic administration there is little hope for peace in the Middle East or Latin America. Bush's Vice President, Dick Cheney, and Secretary of State, Colin Powell, as well as many of his other advisors helped launch the Gulf War 10 years ago under his father's administration. Powell has spoken of "re-energizing sanctions of Iraq." These sanctions violate international law and are responsible for more than 1.5 million deaths, 750 thousand of which were children under five years of age. In addition, it is highly unlikely that Bush will stop the almost daily bombing runs against Iraq.

Bush, like the nine presidents before him, has no intention of ending the Forty Years War against Cuba. Bush's national security team has plans to escalate U.S. intervention in Colombia beyond Clinton's Plan Colombia and there is a serious threat of intervention in Mexico, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Argentina in order to protect the interests of large corporations seeking cheap land and labor. Under Bush, colonialism in Puerto Rico will continue and Vieques will remain a bombing range for the U.S. Navy, resulting in the continuing destruction of Puerto Rico's environment and economy.

The demonstration was a call for a new civil rights movement. January 20 saw workers, students, people of all races/ethnicities, sexualities, social classes and religions join together to build a movement and let Bush, and all future leaders, know that we will not accept his racist, sexist, militaristic, anti-labor, pro-big business policies.

If you think we:

"suck"
don't have any "balls"
"should die"

then why don't you come to one of our meetings? if you don't see any articles you like, that's because you're not writing them. We're open to every member of the campus community, so you really have no excuse for sitting at home and complaining. We can't get any better if you don't write.



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Act against Ashcroft

opinion by | Jessica Post

I want to live in a society where women have the right to choose, men and women of alternative lifestyles have the right to live free from persecution and Americans have the right to choose leaders whose fundamental beliefs reflect their own.

My normative vision of society will not be realized in the next four years. President Bush's nominee for attorney general, former Missouri senator John Ashcroft's beliefs do not reflect the beliefs of mainstream America nor do they support the vision of one America that President Bush asserted as his philosophy throughout the campaign.

Ashcroft is a candidate for the highest law enforcement officer, yet he has sought to undermine the Roe v. Wade decision with a myriad of Constitutional amendments, many so draconian they would have outlawed some common forms of birth control. His stance on choice is so extreme that he favors banning abortion even in cases of rape and incest. His record on civil rights is equally questionable.

During his stint as Missouri attorney general, he sued the National Organization for Women over a boycott of the state over the Equal Rights Amendment. He also attempted actively to obstruct voluntary desegregation efforts in the city of St. Louis schools and St. Louis suburbs. Ashcroft's record in the Missouri attorney general's office indicate that he will proactively pursue his political beliefs from the office of U.S. attorney general.

Ashcroft also has a distinguished career

of working against the rights of homosexuals. In 1996, he voted against the Employment Nondiscrimination Act which prohibited workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation. More recently, he voted against the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, a piece of legislation designed to amend federal law to recognize hate crimes based on sexual orientation, gender and disability and strengthened federal jurisdiction on hate crimes.

Religious leaders are concerned about his willingness to protect religious minorities from coercion. A strong supporter of prayer in schools, Ashcroft may be willing to blur the line between church and state. His numerous endorsements by the Christian Coalition are indicative of his stance on this and other issues of religious freedom.

These are just a few of the issues the unprecedented coalition of liberal interest groups have illuminated in the weeks surrounding his nomination. The AFL-CIO, NAACP, Sierra Club, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, Human Rights Campaign and Handgun Control Inc. are among the throngs of interest groups that have banded together to try to defeat his nomination. I ask you to work along with them.

The Senate Judiciary Committee will most likely vote Wednesday; the full Senate should vote Friday. Contact your U.S. senator via e-mail or sign a petition at <http://www.opposeashcroft.com>. The time for action is now. Don't let decades of progression be rolled back. Maybe my vision of society can be realized.

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monitor reviews

Traffic brings stars, success

Traffic

directed by Steven Soderbergh
starring Michael Douglas,
Catherine Zeta-Jones, Benicio Del
Toro

review by | Ed Jenkins

How about another Steven Segal meditating, drug-lord-killing bad-ass movie? If you said yes, stop reading and go back to your junior college. *Traffic* features a different perspective of the war on drugs that highlights the international as well as personal effects of American drug policies.

In *Traffic*, Steven Soderbergh (*Erin Brockovich*) directs a film that is likely to receive Oscar nominations for acting, directing and for being one of the top five movies of the year. One of the creative pieces of Soderbergh's directing is the Hollywood quality image for scenes that happen in the United States contrasted with the yellowish low-budget-like images of Mexican occurrences, as the film shifts back and forth over the border.

The plot is not fantastic, but it's decent. Michael Douglas plays this country's drug czar who is determined to reduce drug trafficking from Mexico. At the same time, however, he doesn't know how to handle his daughter's serious drug use. Simultaneously, Catherine Zeta-Jones plays a woman who discovers her husband's business is illegitimate.

Though Douglas's role is typical for him

and Zeta-Jones has the kind of role she always takes, a simple one, the other actors in the movie are what make it a serious Best Picture contender. Don Cheadle and Luis Guzman play more than likeable cops. Don Cheadle of Kansas City, Mo., is one of Hollywood's hottest new stars. I predict he will earn an Oscar within two years. Luis Guzman (*Magnolia*, *House of Buggin'*) has been in every single movie ever made as the Mexican stock character. And of course this movie has the one and only Miguel Ferrer (*Lateline*, a show that should not have been canceled) as a pessimistic witness.

Oh, but that's small potatoes compared to this guy: Benicio del Toro (*Excess Baggage*, *Snatch*). The absolute best thing that *Traffic* has to offer is Benicio del Toro, cooler than Mocha-almond James Dean and hipper than smoking. If nothing else, go see this movie to see Benicio del Toro's Mexican police character pimp into a bar with a pack of cigarettes nested in the sleeve of his tight T-shirt. Beautiful, Marlon Brando cool. Best Supporting Actor.

In fact, both Zeta-Jones and Del Toro are nominated for Supporting Actress and Actor Golden Globes, but we all know that the Golden Globes are even faker than the Oscars. Never mind that though, because *Traffic* is mainstream, full of big names, and really good, a formula that is guaranteed to get it four major Oscar nominations. Final prediction: not the best movie of the year, but the Academy will think so.

Mascis adds light to rock genre

J Mascis and the Fog

More Light
Ultimatum

review by | Ed Jenkins

As Creed emerges as the most popular rock band of the past year, it is easy to understand why music connoisseurs are tuning in hip-hop and electronic music to escape the all-time creative low in mainstream rock. Though hip-hop is currently producing the most innovative music, J Mascis's new project makes the case that rock is still a medium with which musicians can move their audience.

Q: Who is J Mascis?

A: The most profound alternative rock guitarist in the last twenty years.

J Mascis founded Dinosaur Jr. in 1985 which included Sebadoh frontman Lou Barlow on three of seven albums, of which the last was released in 1997. Mascis introduced unprecedented flying guitar tracks from the beginning when Dinosaur Jr. was moderately punk/grunge and increased the impossibility and ingenuity of his guitar skills as the band progressed over a decade. The band maintained a significant underground following despite producing nothing really popular except for the single "Feel the Pain" from *Without a Sound* in 1994.

More Light is Mascis's first effort since Dinosaur Jr. broke up in 1997. He recorded the album at Bob's Place, which is named for his

dog, the basement of his home in Amherst, Mass. Like his other work, a few musicians and engineers helped out, but for the most part Mascis single-handedly wrote and recorded this rock album with intoxicatingly hoarse utterings and sweet falsettos. Though Mascis's vocals are ruggedly beautiful and his drums hammer bold rhythms, his smorgasbord of effects and layered guitar tracks establish *More Light*'s excellence.

The single "Where'd You Go" maintains some underground grunge appeal to complement its catchy chorus and alluring guitar chops. Mascis also borrows backup vocals from Bob Pollard of Guided by Voices on three tracks, including "All the Girls," a sweet song with simple pop hooks and well placed vocal harmonies. For all of the 11 tracks, Mascis tries a variety of distortions that he commands gracefully into hypnotic loops and divine solos.

As a contemporary of Sonic Youth and the Pixies, J Mascis has influenced true alternative music including bands like Pavement. Despite his underground God status, Mascis continues to assert that he rips off the same old musicians

-- The Stooges, The Zombies, early hardcore and punk -- in order to make a brand of music to which he thinks he would enjoy listening. Whatever the intention, Mascis has not failed to produce the top rock album of the year, showing that he is still the most profound rock guitarist today.



Musiq just wants to sing

Musiq Soulchild

Aijuswanaseing (I Just Want to Sing)

Def Soul

review by | Jonathan Cannon

Yeah, he sounds like a bootleg D'angelo. I know this. When I first listened to Musiq Soulchild's *Aijuswanaseing (I Just Want to Sing)*, it was almost laughable at how much he hangs off the coattails of neo-soul artists in the limelight. What we have here is a Philly-born cat who clearly looks up to artists like the Roots, Maxwell and, of course, D. After all, on one of his songs ("L is Gone") he even goes so far as to straight yank the music to the Roots' "Next Movement" right out of their hands: bass line, drumming, background vocals and all. What is the song about? It's a metaphor about weed and women.

Uh-oh, I thought. This sounds like trouble.

Maybe focusing on all of this is really unfair. After all, several members of the Roots do appear on the album (human turntable Scratch produces a couple tracks, while bassist Hub and keyboardist Kamal play on a track). D'angelo-related producer James Poyser produces a couple songs. The rest of the album is produced by A Touch of Jazz Studios, who also brought us the sleeping monster of an album *Who is Jill*



Scott? *Words and Sounds Vol. 1*. Let alone the fact that Musiq does have a great, strong voice.

And let's face it; his first single, "Just Friends," is just plain catchy as hell.

So is the whole album at that. From the opening song "The Girl Next Door," Musiq delivers jam after jam, mostly with success. His music has a little more street in it than most of the recent neo-soul offerings; it's a little more pop, a little more commercial friendly. (Six minute songs? Eff that when you can do it in three minutes and some change.)

The lyrics are from the mentality of a young man, where love is kind of like a drug and being dumped like withdrawal. Thus, it doesn't have nearly the depth of some other hard-hitting R & B albums of last year -- but it wins in its own right from buttery grooves like "1, 4, 3" and the bouncy "My Girl."

It looks at love from a more innocent, happy place. As he sings on "1, 4, 3," "So many times I bought roses, just to see that smile on your face/I can't remember how many e-mails I sent you, just to tell you 'bout my day." Not exactly Shakespeare, but still very sweet.

In retrospect, *Aijuswanaseing* is an incredibly appropriate name for the album. For his debut, Musiq Soulchild doesn't try to tackle the world in one shot. In many ways, the album just gets to the bottom line -- soul. Musiq's got plenty of it. 'Nuff said.

Jordan awakes his giant

Robert Jordan

Winter's Heart

review by | Aaron Wilson

When I was in the seventh grade I had a class that required us to give quarterly book reports. One of my friends gave a report on a book that I realized right away I must read. It was *The Eye of the World*, by Robert Jordan, and I instantly decided it was a work of genius.

This book was an action packed adventure through a new and interesting world, already ingrained with a startlingly deep history and what seemed like a huge cast of characters.

Approximately seven years and several thousands of pages later I have finished reading *Winter's Heart*, the ninth book in the Wheel of Time series. The history has gotten deeper, the cast has gotten huger, but unfortunately, the action has gotten less packed.

Sadly, I went into *Winter's Heart* reluctantly, dreading the fate that had awaited me in its predecessor, *Path of Daggers*. Namely getting bogged down in a soap opera-like morass of monotonous dialogue and power struggles punctuated with a few indecisive conflicts. The first several chapters (as well as the 75-page long prologue) seemed to be heading in that general direction. And then, in Chapter 9, something happened.

It was as if the sleeping giant of Jordan's series slowly roused itself, shaking off the layer of dust and dullness accumulated during the past two books and suddenly began making strides towards actually resolving the series (which was originally slated to end after 10 books).

Kingdoms clashed, villains were slain, cities were explored, an old prophecy reached fruition, and in the climactic ending a feat of epic proportions was pulled off. The ending involved a lot of magical fireballs and lightning, too, although I would have liked it better if a few more bad guys had gotten roasted. And monsters; there weren't any cool monsters in this one.

Jordan once again shows that when he puts his mind to it, he can juggle his cast of thousands and still manage to advance the plot, albeit for only a few, faltering steps. His efforts to give each chapter a title that at once foreshadows something coming while still remaining cryptic become tedious, as do his anal attention to minute power struggles.

Still, despite the fact that most of his characters have over inflated egos, despite the fact that he keeps bringing dead villains back to life and despite the fact that he forgot the monsters this time around, the book was amazing, juggling plots laden with tension and others with adventure.

All in all, this book harkens back to the glory days of Jordan's writing. To the faithful few who trudged through his last book, it will be like a ray of sunlight, a glint of hope. The hope that maybe, someday, this series will reach a conclusion and we won't have to go to bed at night afraid that Jordan will have a fatal heart attack and leave us with a several thousand page unfinished tale.



Dido sings good stories

Dido
No Angel
Arista

review by
Heather Fester

Every time I hear Dido Armstrong's hauntingly beautiful song "Thankyou" I close my eyes and let the images wash over me. This is a piece that seems to affect nearly everyone in some way, even the rap artist Eminem, who sampled the first verse of the song in the single "Stan" from *The Marshall Mathers LP*.

Previous to Eminem's use of "Thankyou," her 1999 album *No Angel*, including the single, enjoyed its share of success on the Billboard Heatseeker's chart, landing at Number 1 on June 1, 1999. She's since climbed down, but thanks to the renewed interest Eminem has created in her album, it doesn't look as if the English-borne singer/songwriter will be going anywhere but on tour in the near future.

This is far from Dido's first venture in the

musical arena. Dido Armstrong and her older brother Rollo were forbidden at a young age to watch television, so they entertained themselves by creating their own music. After having reluctantly included his sister on his own electronic/dance group Faithless's albums a few years back, Rollo agreed to assist her in writing and producing her songs for her solo efforts.

No Angel is an album that's as graceful and extraordinary as the singer's voice itself. She tells tales of romance, nabbed from episodes in her friends' lives and her own experiences, but she also pulls the listener into the tales, enticing us with the swirling, atmospheric melodies that accompany them. The songs range from the sublimely sad to the more justifiably angry sets that landed her on the 1999 Lilith Fair tour.

Dido's music is characterized as both folkish and pop-enhanced, with subtle trip-hop textures underlying the delicate lyrics. Fans of Sarah McLachlan may find themselves reminded of the fellow Arista artist by the imploring vocal style Dido brings to *No Angel*.

One criticism of her work on the album is that it lacks diversity or range of expression, but I honestly can say that each song appeals to me in a unique way, each one is differentiable and applicable to a different part of my life.

Within the songs themselves, as with the

complete version of "Thankyou," there is an even more complex pattern of emotions, from sorrowful to appreciative, from the realistic to the whimsical. She sings, "If my house fell down now, I wouldn't have a clue, because you're near me and it's not so bad, it's not so bad."

True, it may not be an album to prime you for Friday night as well as sail you through Sunday afternoon, but as she reminds us in the title track "I know I'm not perfect, but I can smile and I hope you can see this heart behind my tired eyes... I'm no angel but that doesn't mean that I can't live my life." And in her straightforward and inviting way, that life is exactly what she sings about.

"Here with Me," co-written with Peter Gabriel and appearing as the theme for the well-received WB teenage drama *Roswell*, is another single of hers that has gotten the attention of fans-to-be. Now, she's found a new audience with her appearance on "Stan."

Of her collaboration with Eminem, Dido has plenty of good things to say, as in this excerpt from a Nov. 1 article in *USA Today*, "I'm asked how I can reconcile taking part in Lilith Fair (in 1999) with being on an album with such a 'misogynist.' That's their word, not mine. I think he's a great storyteller and a great entertainer." Something Dido herself would know about.

If Manson falls in the Holy Wood, does anyone care?

Marilyn
Manson
*Holy Wood:
In the Shadow of
the Valley of
Death*



Nothing/Interscope

review by | Matthew Webber

In our times of peace, prosperity and global dominance, the low debut position of Marilyn Manson's recent album and its subsequent lack of record sales illustrate just how irrelevant the artist has become. Unfortunately for a singer who's made a career out of shocking people, everybody yawns at his newest videos and tours. To put it bluntly: nobody gives a damn anymore.

This is a shame, because the songs on *Holy Wood* are, in many ways, Manson's most socially conscious, lyrically acute and melodic yet. One could even make the argument that the album is his best, even better than *Antichrist Superstar*. The problem is nobody's listening to it.

Holy Wood begins with the lyrics and sounds we've come to expect from Manson. The first track, "Godeatgod," questions God about death, guns and the plasticity of people over eerie keyboard sequencing, guitars, bass and drums. From there, Manson touches on most of his favorite themes: rock star as victim, President Kennedy as a Christ-like martyr, the eating of Eden's apple as the destruction of man and America as the land of televised sex and violence.

Manson has claimed that this album completes the trilogy he began with *Antichrist Superstar* and *Mechanical Animals*, a claim I find bogus since his interviews at the time of *Animals* promoted that album as the culmination of his lyrical and musical ideals. If there is a link to be found in *Holy Wood* at all it lies in its blend of the anger and hard rock riffage of *Superstar* and the introspection and glam rock sheen of *Animals*.

Although the album is more polished than *Superstar* and more cohesive and unified conceptually than *Animals*, there's still something lacking that keeps it from sounding as great. He observes the world around him with his typical cynicism and intelligence. The album's playing and production is tight enough to shock anybody who hasn't listened to the band since they split with their mentor, Trent Reznor.

What's *Holy Wood*'s problem then? It might be its lack of detectable singles, which the previous two albums had in abundance. It might be its ridiculous length of 19 songs. Or it might just be our own indifference to anything he does.

Whatever it is, it's something Manson will have to remedy if he wants future generations to see him as some kind of a visionary instead of just an above average popular singer.

Psst... I like Aimee Mann

Aimee Mann
Bachelor No. 2
Superego

review by | Jonathan Cannon

Chick singers are always a guilty pleasure for me. But not just chick singers, the heart-bleeding, guitar strumming, girl-next-door, intimately-unfortunate chick singers. The kind of chick singer that can touch the warm and gushy place inside you, whether you like it or not.

I know I'm not alone. I know it. In even the collections of the roughest heads I know, amidst the Slayer, M.O.P., Soulfly and Tool I found Fiona Apple or Tori Amos. Mostly explained away ("Yeah, some friends gave it to me as a gag" or "I borrowed it from my girlfriend, she wants me to etc."), these albums tap into that down-to-earth, honest place that re-

minds us that life isn't great and it's filled with lots of romantics in a hope-perpetuated cycle of love, happiness, rejection and misery.

Aimee Mann has a lot to say about that. "Now that I've met you," she sings on the heart-wrenching, "Deathly," "would you object to never seeing each other again?" Her third and latest studio album, *Bachelor No. 2*, achieves all the energy of a good chick singer album, and a little more. The sound is a pretty unique blend of folk, rock and jazz -- somewhat similar to Fiona Apple's sophomore release *When the Pawn...* (No surprise, since a prominent producer on both albums is the multi-talented Jon Brion, who's also worked on projects with Macy Gray and Elliot Smith.) The production is really well done, from the distant sound of the drums on "How Am I Different" to the distortion in "Red Vines."

And Mann's voice fits perfectly; not too



strong, not too weak, but lazy and sincere. On many songs she sounds like a woman who's seen it all, so caught up in the cycle that she treats even her pain with cynicism.

A few of the songs from *Bachelor No. 2* are imported from the stellar soundtrack (minus two horrid Supertramp songs) to Paul Thomas Anderson's *Magnolia*, but the rest of the album definitely heads towards a different direction. A little less poppy, a little less catchy, but every bit as addictive. She'll move from a lazy folk song ("Just Like You") to a piano ballad with strings ("Satellite") to the rocking "Ghost World." Yeah, it might be bleeding heart music sometimes, but good bleeding heart music.

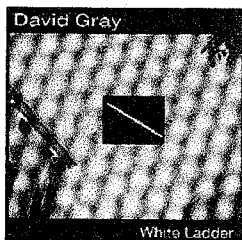
Overall, Aimee Mann has created a great album in *Bachelor No. 2*. It's very refreshing; Mann's not out to save the world (Jewel) or verbally assault ex-boyfriends (Morissette, the lyrical murderer of the chick singers genre), she's putting her own experience into heartfelt rock music. Give her a chance. I won't tell if you won't.

Gray climbs to success

David Gray
White Ladder
ATO

review by | Sarah
Dennis

Before even opening the new David Gray album, I was suspicious. And with good reason: the omnipresent advertising sticker listing the album's singles also touted praise from Dave Matthews, of the equally omnipresent Dave Matthews Band. Considering that Matthews' new ATO label released *White Ladder* and that Matthews himself has enough marketing muscle to convert his



Doc Marten-sporting fan base to Rockports at will, I found it difficult to believe Matthews to be a reliable critic of Welsh folk singers.

But regardless of whether Matthews has spotted a marketing goldmine and/or an underappreciated musician in Gray, *White Ladder* needs no popular sponsorship to justify its excellence.

The album, a blend of traditional guitar and piano ballads with the occasional electronica infusion, carefully pares out much of the instrumentation of traditional rock without losing its force. The sound that arises is both unpretentious and sincere, a la Nick Drake at times, and fits well with Gray's powerful voice and refreshingly skillful lyrics.

"Babylon," the first single from *White Ladder*, illustrates Gray's musical ability albeit unconventionally in terms of the album itself. *White Ladder* includes two versions of "Babylon," the second of which is essentially a more heavily instrumented remix of the first. Because the sec-

ond version of "Babylon" is currently receiving airplay, Gray's album initially sounds strange when compared to the single. The difference does not remain disappointing for long (if at all); "Babylon," though a strong song, is not the best work on the album.

Songs like "White Ladder," the album's most upbeat offering, and "This Year's Love," a surprisingly simple and beautiful ballad, prove as enjoyable as the album's more popular single.

And for all you SoftCell fans, Gray covers "Say Hello Wave Goodbye" which, though it sounds nothing like the SoftCell we all know and love, can create a fond nostalgia for their truly venerable "Tainted Love."

In all, *White Ladder* is one most enjoyable albums I've found in the last year, and it certainly deserves the success it has garnered thus far. But you don't have to take my word on it, just listen to Dave... on second thought, just listen to Gray.

CLAYTON, from page 4

ers. There is nothing wrong with private schools, but money should not be taken from public schools to support them.

Robert Clayton has helped target millions of dollars for the public universities in this state, including Truman State; he helped expand the student loan program and bring money for the renovations to Violette Hall and Ophelia Parrish.

Environment. The differences between the two parties here are stark: Democrats are committed to preserving our natural environment while Republicans are content to let business and industry run roughshod over it.

Rep. Clayton has helped pass legislation ensuring safer drinking water for northeast Missouri and other regions of the state. Democrats do not want to halt economic expansion and focus solely on environmental regulation; instead, Democrats want to foster cooperation between businesses and environmental groups, promising natural conservation as well as economic expansion.

Guns. Many voters in Missouri and this area are single-issue voters and that issue is gun control. John Cauthorn and the Republicans would have you believe that Robert Clayton and his predecessor, Lt. Gov. Joe Maxwell, are anti-gun. These are complete lies. Clayton is very pro-gun and does not want to "take your guns away," as Republicans claim; Lt. Gov. Maxwell is also a strong supporter of Second

Amendment rights.

Transportation. A primary concern for many Truman students is Highway 63. While serving as state representative in Hannibal, Clayton helped make Highway 61 from Hannibal to St. Louis four-lane. He will make sure Highway 63 gets the funding it needs to complete the four-lane expansion.

Children and Families. Many of you no doubt have younger siblings or plan on having families of your own someday. The primary platform of Gov. Holden concerns the children of this state. Clayton and Democratic legislators will work to support the plans of Gov. Holden and guarantee that your siblings and cousins grow up in healthy surroundings with good educations and that your parents are able to support them.

After a brief survey of the issues pertinent to this area, readers may be left wondering why I have not included the positions and opinions of John Cauthorn on any of them. It is because Cauthorn does not have the experience on any of these issues that comes from serving in the state legislature and does not have the understanding necessary to work for northeast Missouri in the state senate.

But maybe you would like some sort of knowledge about Cauthorn so you can make an informed decision. Here's some information that may help: when some members of the Truman State College Democrats stood outside of a Republican meeting with "Robert Clayton for State Senate" signs, Cauthorn drove by and yelled, "I hope you're cold!" That's class.

Tomorrow, vote, and vote for Robert Clayton. This will secure brighter futures for you, your families and your children.

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PROTEST, from page 1

riedly making our way towards 14th and K, recruiting more demonstrators along the way. We stopped just across the intersection from the surrounded demonstrators, where 200 anarchists who had escaped from the surrounded group were waiting for us. The police moved in, keeping us out of the street and preventing us from reaching our surrounded comrades.

The mood was tense as protestors and cops faced off, with occasional scuffles and police charges. While press photographers had themselves a fine day capturing the event, protestors attempted to engage the police in an effort to release the trapped protestors on the other side of the street. Amid the standoff, a lone Black Bloc member wearing a helmet and mask climbed the traffic lights in defiance of the police, marking what is perhaps the climax of the particular demonstration. After waving a black flag, the protestor proceeded to burn American flags, tossing them into street. The mass of protestors blocked police from getting to the pole as the Black Bloc member jumped into the crowd and was carried off the back of the group.

At about 12:20 p.m., we received word that the police had released the surrounded Black Bloc, making no arrests. Later reports indicated that both protestors and members of the press suffered brutality at the hands of the police. After much celebration, the combined Black Bloc and the supporting demonstrators, now about 800 to 1,000 people, began making its way towards the parade route, joining up with nearby voter rights and pro-democrat marches, creating a group of demonstrators stretching more than two city blocks.

Despite numerous attempts by police to barricade the oncoming rush of marchers, the protestors managed to break through every one with the aid of flat bed trailers, construction materials, and a swarm of running people. The fervent deluge of protestors soon came to the

FBI building, where a fence blocking off construction was torn down and police again attempted to beat back the march. Two of the police's cars drove up into the crowd and were quickly dispatched by means of one of the trailers being rolled down the street and into the cars. There were further altercations when the police driving the cars stepped out of the cars and confronted the marchers.

However, our time with the Black Bloc soon came to an end as we approached the final blockade between the parade route and us. More police began to file in from all sides and yet more scuffles ensued. Deciding to take a lunch break from the localized madness, we escaped onto side streets, not knowing that about 100 members of the Bloc had forced their way onto the parade route and taken a seat on the street before being dispersed. And around 2:30 p.m., as the NOW rally was wrapping up, anarchists managed to push through police barricades, replacing an American flag with a black flag in front of Navy Memorial.

Around 3 p.m., as the parade was commencing, numerous incidents of protestors agitating security along the route, stalling the procession several times, sprang up. And because of the overwhelming number of Anti-Bush demonstrators, the inaugural parade became a hurried affair. The tradition of the President stopping at Pennsylvania and 5th to wave to the crowd was broken by Bush, in an effort to get to the safety of the White House as quickly as possible.

While the whole event that day didn't turn into another Seattle (both the cops and protestors were pretty tame), the media's portrayal of the counter-inaugural protests was far from accurate. Fortunately, now Washington, D.C., and hopefully the new administration recognize that the political climate is not entirely favorable and it is indeed a far cry from the opulent fairy-tale this nation's media has made it out to be.

Cross-dressers, Crime Dogs cheer Gov. Holden

feature by | Heather Lasher and Jessica Post

We woke early, a rare occurrence; but this was to be a rare day. It began relatively normal: bagels and cereal around the kitchen table and conversation with a disgruntled cross-dressing 10-year-old.

He informed us that while he was wearing a collared shirt today, he would much rather be wearing a dress. This was duly noted by the other gay man at the table who felt it reminiscent of his childhood. The young man was to walk in the parade that morning honoring our newly elected governor.

Thankfully, we were not going to have to walk anywhere. Our Inaugural Committee Passes, secured through interesting means, assured us that this was going to be a day of reserved parking spots and private receptions.

We finished the breakfast, pulled our laminated VIP passes over our heads, and headed towards the Capitol, anxiously awaiting the parade featuring our new young friend and other children from across Missouri.

Other special sitings on the parade route were Cindy Lou Who, the Rams' Cheerleaders and supermodel Tanner Williams, from

whom we received a smile and a wink.

After watching this collection of fine Missourians, we headed over to our prime seating to watch a wonderful man be sworn in as Missouri's next governor. It was freezing, but there was warmth in our hearts as we envisioned along with Gov. Holden, "One bright future, one Missouri."

A certain chill did overcome the audience as a certain secretary of state rose to take his oath of office, but it quickly passed -- like his time in the General Assembly.

To warm ourselves after this event, we jaunted over to the children's events located in the aptly named Truman building. There we were greeted by a large inflatable gorilla, a glorious grizzly bear (perhaps from the state seal?) and McGruff the Crime Dog.

It is so rare to see all one's heroes in one building on one day, but luck seems to follow us. When Missouri's fire marshal handed us a pot holder, we thought the day could not get better. Oh, but it did.

We sauntered up to the governor's mansion and were greeted by the two things women love most: the melodic voices of the True Men and... chocolate, by the boxfull.

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ONE MOMENT IN TIME



Amanda Rominel/Monitor

Senior Matthew Webber looks at the broken band on his watch Wednesday. The band has not functioned correctly since before his junior year, but the watch continues to tell the time.

PLANNING, from page 1

edge must they acquire to smooth their path to a career?

Gilchrist explained that these panel discussions afford students a rare opportunity to "have an input in the planning of the future of the institution."

At each panel a student "recorder" will set down students' impressions of these four issues. After an hour and a half of deliberation, the panels will adjourn for lunch. As the luncheon period draws to an end, the recorders will channel their information to Student Senate President Ken Hussey. Hussey will then sketch the broad outlines of these impressions to the faculty and administrators gathered for the conference.

After Hussey's presentation and another speaker, students will convene in panels to converse with administrators and faculty about the four questions raised at the onset of the conference.

Hussey hailed these exchanges as a means to reach the deeper concerns of students as well as enlarge and inform the administration's perception of student life at the University.

"They [students] can open faculty and administrators' eyes to the fact that students do care about what's going on [at the University]," he said.

Hussey also said the discussions could cast

new light on issues recurrently raised by the University.

"In talking about enrollment, for instance, we may find reasons for what brought students here [to the University], reasons we never knew before," he said.

Dr. Gilchrist has mounted a campaign to enlist student support for the conference and has sent a flood of information to campus organizations, the Greek community, Student Advisors and students at large, urging them to attend.

"It [the conference] is open to anyone who wants to attend," she said.

Junior Amanda Brink, who signed up to be a recorder, painted the proceedings as a significant event for students.

"I'm glad the University is finally giving students the opportunity to express their concerns and give input to the decision-making process," she said.

The deadline for registration is today at 5 p.m. Students can register at the Student Affairs Office in Kirk Building. Any student who cannot attend but would still like to voice their opinion is urged to fill out an input form, available in the CAOC office or on the Student Senate Web site at <http://www.truman.edu/senate>. This information will be channeled to Student Senate President Ken Hussey for his report to the conference tomorrow.

ELECTION, from page 1

Cauthorn, president of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

Two other special elections are being held around the state, one in the fourth district in St. Louis, left vacant by the departure of Democratic Representative William Lacy Clay to the U.S. Congress and one in the 12th district to the west of Kirksville, abdicated by Republican Representative Sam Graves, who also left for Congress.

Election observers are forecasting a Democratic victory in St. Louis and a Republican victory in the 12th district, making the race in this area the most watched one in the state. And with the Missouri state senate hanging in the balance, the stakes couldn't be higher.

"The direction of the entire state and our lives hinges on who the winner of this race is," freshman McKay Stangler said. "The balance of the state senate could swing in favor of either

party or end up in seventeen/seventeen tie. This election is of great consequence."

Indeed, the Missouri state senate currently stands at 16-15 in favor of Republicans and the outcomes of these elections could pitch that majority further in the direction of the Republicans, push the Democrats on top or result in a 17-17 tie. Republicans have not had a majority in the Missouri state senate since Harry Truman occupied the White House. In the event of a tie, Lt. Gov. Maxwell would cast the tie-breaking vote.

The race between Clayton and Cauthorn is attracting much attention from statewide political parties, with both Democrats and Republicans pouring in hundreds of thousands of dollars for their candidates.

Turnout for tomorrow's election is expected to be somewhere around 25 percent.

Many people have heard about the race from radio and television advertisements; here

is a compare/contrast list of the two candidates on a number of issues relevant to this community.

Clayton has been a state representative for the past six years and is a lawyer in Hannibal.

In addition to being president of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association, Cauthorn is a farmer and is a member of his local PTA.

Regarding education, Clayton voted to increase state funding for higher education in Missouri and supported funding for the renovations of Violette Hall and Ophelia Parrish. He voted to increase funding for the student loan program and supports character education in schools. He also supports the late Gov. Mel Carnahan's Outstanding Schools Act and reducing class sizes.

Cauthorn supports public school funding and channeling gambling revenues to schools.

Both candidates support widening Highway 63 to four lanes.

On the environment, Clayton supported safer drinking water standards for Missouri.

Cauthorn's brochures contained no information pertaining to the environment. His campaign literature did state that he supports "building great economic development opportunities for the family farmer and Northeast Missouri's rural communities" and the Missouri Farm Bureau endorses him.

While in the state legislature, Clayton helped expand food programs and health insurance for children.

Clayton voted to reduce prescription drug costs for senior citizens and wants to continue that work. He also supported tougher methamphetamine laws for Missouri.

Cauthorn supports directing money from the tobacco settlement to help seniors pay for prescription drugs.

Both candidates are ardently pro-gun and support Second Amendment rights.

On abortion, Cauthorn is pro-life and Clayton prefers to let the woman decide.

Whichever way the election swings tomorrow, the result will help shape both the immediate and long-term futures of Missouri.

Don't be Afraid...

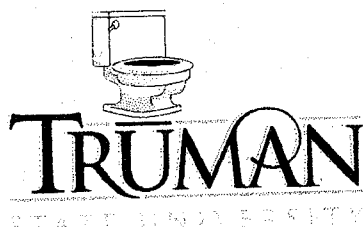
by Ryan Ruffatti



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ALL THE NEWS THAT'S UNFIT

Walk This Way In Memory of Rufus

Rumors have made it to *Monitor* Tower that the walkway connecting McClain Hall to Baldwin Hall is going to be receiving a makeover. The elevated pathway will now be enclosed, with a solid roof and glass panel windows, complete with signs crowning it the "It's Cold, Bitch!" Walkway in memory of Rufus, who used to sleep there during the winters.

In addition to being covered, some members of the school's Board of Important People Who Rule are fighting for speedometers and little geometrically shaped viewing windows for the floor of the "It's Cold, Bitch!" Walkway.

When asked about the change, most said something like this: "Dude! That's so sweet! You could watch people as they walk under it and you'd know how fast they were going! How cool is that?!"

Yeah, man. I'm with ya.

Last Semester Maybe Didn't Happen

Did you do poorly last semester, or did they tell you that you did poorly last semester? After watching *The Matrix* 43 times in a row and following it with an "intellectual jam session," it was decided by the faculty of the Philosophy Department that last semester was actually a hoax.

"Well, after we decided it wasn't feasible to try to figure out whether or not our existence is real, we decided to talk about how hot that Trinity chick is in the leather outfit," one of the particularly philosophical philosophy professors noted. "We were just getting started when Bob busts out with this deal about how all of last semester didn't happen."

Apparently, as has been proposed by Bob, last semester was actually only about 1.3 hours long, and everything that really "happened" within that semester was created within a "computer of doom" by a group of "robotic doom facilitators." It

is unknown whether now is really now is really now is really happening.

One Cool Burger and an Order of Phries

Sodexho Marriott has acquired special license from the government's B.E.E.F.? Committee to use special "hastily and shadily acquired meat-substitute byproducts" in what are now to be called "cool-burgers."

"The switch in the name is to accompany our switch in umm... cooking techniques," the head of Sodexho's Truman State office in Montana City, Mont., said. "These burgers are much better tasting to the 'phat and phunky' population of the school."

When asked to define ambiguous phrases "phat and phunky" and "hastily and shadily acquired meat-substitute byproducts," he began running from the *Monitor* staff, exclaiming "Cool-burgers are for cool people!" Either that or, "Cool-burgers make my pants feel funny!" We're not quite sure which.

Dubb-ya's Words of Wisdom

The *Monitor* has gotten wind of a secret plan for a visit to Truman by newly inaugurated president George Dubb-ya Bush. Sources are abuzz that he will make visits to various institutions across the nation in search of someone who is willing to share some "lines" of "wisdom" in an effort to, as Bush puts it, "expand my friggin' mind."

When asked why he chose Truman, Bush responded, "Well, I understand that the squirrels here are pretty bad-ass." He continued, "But I really came to find out from all of these historical and politactical professors what's been goin' down in the past few years with all of this 'foreign policy' business."

Rumors indicate that his actual reply was a bit less polished: "College women and beer... I'm here to Partay!!!"

Ixnay onway ethay onay uaranteegay

feature by | Shala Garcia

College is a time for personal growth and higher education. It is a useful experience in life for it enlightens students of the undiscovered talents that otherwise would have remained neglected. And for the graduates of the Truman class of 2000, who happily packed and loaded their belongings into their cars for the last time, it is a drive down the road of "Gee, I need to get a job."

That's right. As students pass their four years leading incredibly sheltered lives within the barriers of a pseudo-world, they strive to understand, "You mean, my A in astro-physics with an elevated, near impossible to do calculus course *only* means that I got an A in an astro-physics with an elevated, near impossible to do calculus course?" (By the way, this class can be found in the "Chums With Nothing Better To Do" Building, conveniently located by the "What Have I Done With My Life" Help Office.)

Then they are capped and gowned with school colors, lined up in pairs, and instructed to parade down a carpeted aisle to the beat of "Pomp and Circumstance" blasting from a dark corner, as teachers and administrators affectionately pat their swollen money pockets. After the handing of blank scrolls, given at the cost of \$35,000 each, graduates are then carted off to concentration camps to continue their quest for "personal growth and higher education."

Okay, so I made the concentration camp bit up. But there are falsities about college that must be revealed -- the scenarios portrayed in *The Revenge of the Nerds* movies are not true! *Animal House*, however, was a lot closer. Also, college doesn't come with a warranty that guarantees the finding of that dream job after college; and if it did, we all would have paid an extra \$50 for that little piece of paper too.

This Special White Space is dedicated to the things that make you go hmmm...



Queen Astra

Aries (March 21- April 20): *Temptation Island*? It's more like *The Best Place on Earth*. Ever.

Taurus (April 21- May 22): Step 1: Start a punk band. Step 2: Cover "Outlaw Ladies." Step 3: Success.

Gemini (May 23-June 21): Punch a wall. Kick a pregnant woman in the stomach. But NEVER shake a baby.

Cancer (June 22 - July 24): Pet me.

Leo (July 25-August 23): Ashcroft. Or is it "Asscroft?" Or perhaps "Hashcroft?"

Virgo (August 24-September 23): Have a H.J. Banana split. Wink. Nudge.

Libra (September 24-October 23): In the eternal words of

Christopher Cross: "When you get caught between the moon and New York City... The best that you can do... The best that you can do... is fall in love."

Scorpio (October 24-November 22): Do you know when the next season of *Big Wolf on Campus* starts? Does anyone?

Sagittarius (November 23-December 21): Don't keep your stash in the oven. It's the first place they'll look.

Capricorn (December 22-January 20): "Dubya." Folks, Dubya?

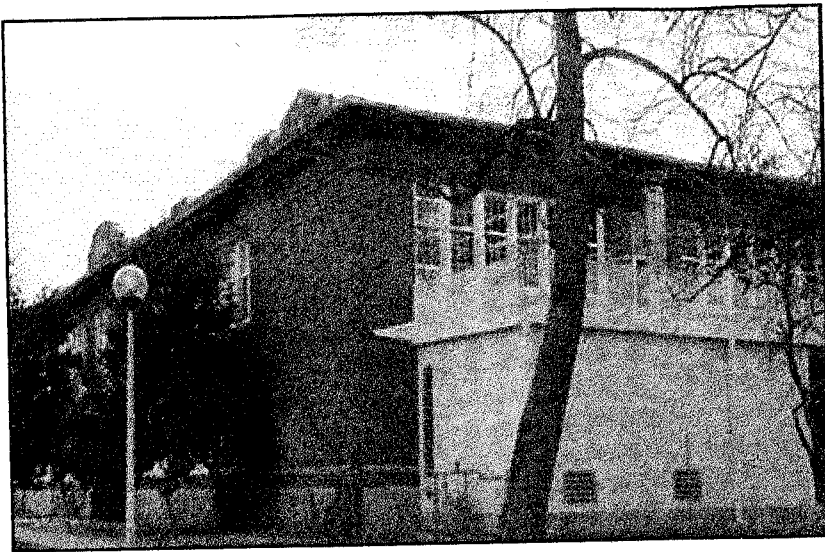
Aquarius (January 21-February 19): I don't want to ruin it for you, but -- Dracula is Judas.

Pisces (February 20-March 20): Here's a tip for your Chemistry cheat sheet: Almond Joy has nuts. Mounds don't.

23 January 2001

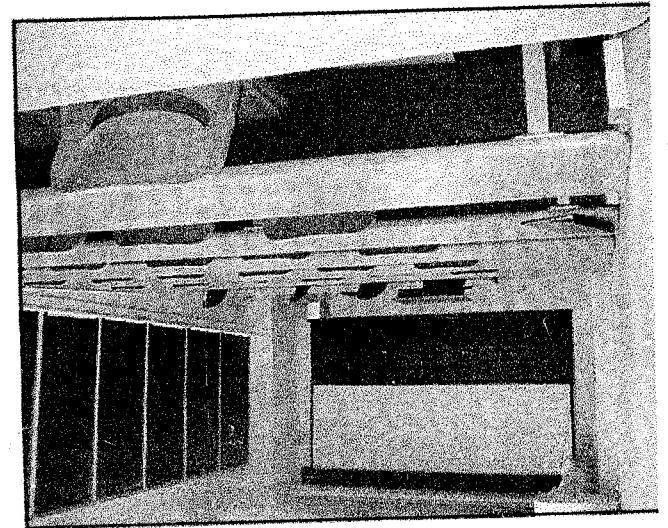
ART PAGE

NEW ART BUILDING

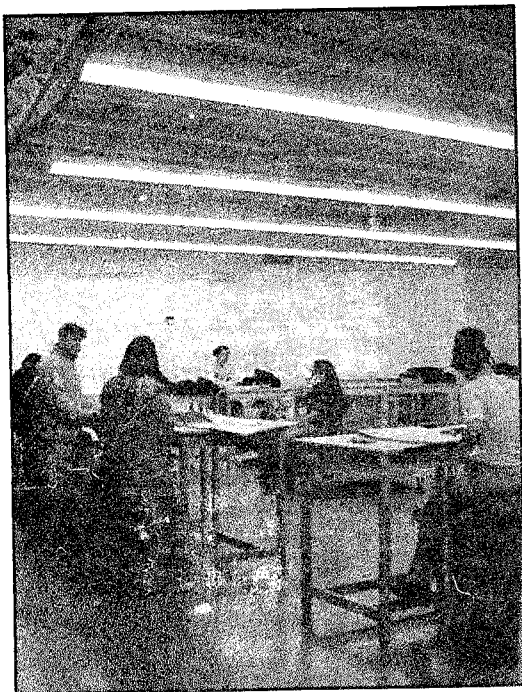


(Left)
View of NAB from
the Quad.

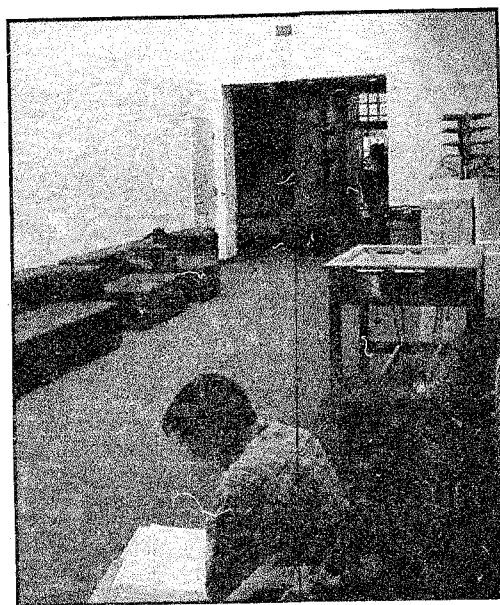
This week's Art Page is concerned with the renovations of Ophelia Parrish, commonly referred to as the New Art Building. The NAB, as locals say, makes use of modern building and design techniques that enthrall everyone. The rough and tumble look that the exposed insulation and unfinished sections give it is enhanced by surprises such as unlockable lockers, windy classrooms and hallways perfectly sized for touch football. The New Art Building, in summation, is a delight to the anti-utilitarian art crowd that Truman has bred.



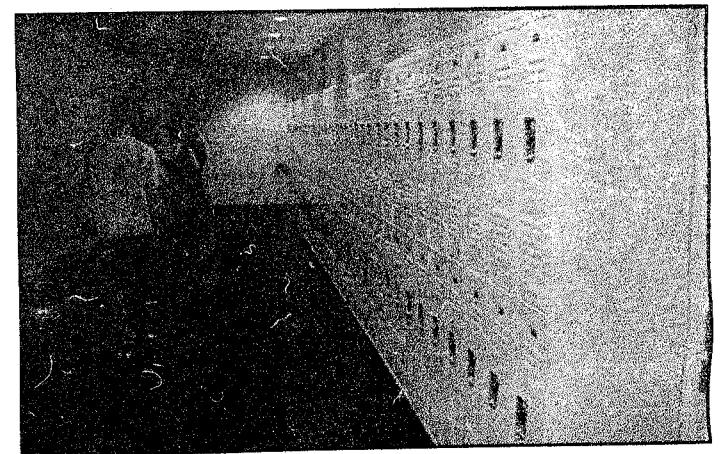
The Art History room presents an interesting feature. Due to poor design an entire section of desks were removed so the slide projector could work properly.



Students in drawing class noticed early in the semester that their track lighting was accidentally installed in the unfinished printshop.



One student attempts to study in the cluttered main hallway.



Students resist robbing their peers as they walk past a section of lockers that may be opened even when locked.

Art Page Asks:

What is your opinion of the NAB?

I got in the program last semester, I like the new improvements. Since I'm a Visual Communications major I like the new computer lab, it has everything you need.

David Hatcher

Junior



I think the building is pretty, but photography gets an extremely crowded space that's like a little closet. And Printmaking gets a smaller space, but we get windows now.

Amanda Bunyard

Senior



There is too much free flowing air. It kind of creeps up my buttcrack sometimes.

Morgan Peckosh

Senior



My Back Pages

Thailand

Bangkok, my friend writes, is evil
and she is going to save it
from Buddha and Nirvana.

Sundays, I like to read gossip
and drink coffee,
when I should be in church.

I tell my friend that I am chaste and devout
as lilacs,
because she asks, because she wants me to be,
because she is
in Bangkok.

Yesterday I forgot my coat.
Bangkok, she writes, is hot.
It clings to her, mosquito net,

tangled in the dark.

—Jennifer Hatala

wantblossom

my desireflower rises from black lonesomesoil,
red clay pot brittle like confidence
sits on my kitchen table demure
it flowers but never bears fruit
so i try to kill it
i hack at it with knives scissors machete chainsaw
until it looks like a banzai tree,
awkward jagged mondrian in green—
but it's too resilient for that
or i poison it with weedkiller drano bleach everclear
but i may as well be watering it
or burn it
but it loves the heat it's tropical
or freeze it
then it's an eskimo plant
complete with a parka, icefishing in my freezer next to the frozen pizzas
then i throw it out the window
but the next day i go out and welcome it back in
repair the flowerpot pack in more soil
there are no seeds
there are no fruit
it smells like death
it won't go away
it smiles at me sweetly everytime i think of you
what it does when you think of me i don't know
(yet)

—Neil Brown

Born in a Coma

When will you awaken from this sleep,
awaken from the numb,
from the pain,
from all the things that drain
the life from you,
the love from you.

—Christopher Michael Shanahan

The spring semester is at hand, ladies and gents,
and now is the time of love, new life, the Howring
of the mind, and...submitting poetry to *My Back
Pages*. Drop submissions in *The Monitor* mailbox in
the CAOC, or send them to x289@truman.edu.

"A bird of its own"

Pushed away from the nest
That is how I learned to fly
Today I am proudly gliding on the wind
I can look down on you
And measure the distance that separates us.
And yet... When comes the night
I land next to you
On the edge of your windows
I overhear you conversations and giggles
But I can never come in. You don't notice me.
Did something break when I fell down?
Do I have to pay the price now
For not having paid attention then?
Should I have stopped and cried
As others did?
I longed to show you
I could manage it by myself
I refused to be helped
And learned how to distrust people
I built a wall of glass between you and me
Protection from your sarcasms
That made me invisible to your eyes.
Will you help me make it crumble
Before I collapse?

—Audrey Tabary

You

You make me feel safe
in arms that never needed to touch me
that never saw my imperfections
only my whimsical ways
and liked me simply for my varying complexity

You make me feel full
happy with who I am
or who I wish I could even strive to be
because you are content with me
and then so am I

I feel for you
the underlying gratitude
that you just simply placed a single solitary footfall in my life
but you just stepped in whole hearted
and without changing me added to me

—Rachael Christmas

Smile

One mouth
Two lips
Teeth from corner to corner
Happiness
Forgiveness
Through many different trials
Hello
Goodbye
I miss you
I love you
All wrapped up in a smile.

—Nicol Lane

Hard Laughter

I laugh like illness,
let water warm my cheeks,
battles knot my stomach
to standstill,

but awaken
curse flick *again*.
It's never funny enough
to end.

—Orlando L. Williams