

# t h e M a campus collective MONITOR

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## Students rebuke University Bookstore for anti-competitive sales practices

As the Barnes & Noble outlet nears the end of its five-year contract with the University, students feel frustration at its policies forbidding the release of textbook information.

Story by | Andrés Delgado

This summer, senior Michelle Meinkoth walked into the Truman State University Bookstore with the intention of purchasing a physics textbook that she had pre-ordered for fall, so she could use it to study for the MCAT. Citing store policy, an employee told her the bookstore would not sell her any pre-ordered books early. When Meinkoth asked to see the book so that could order it from elsewhere, she was told that, too, was against store policy. An employee prevented Meinkoth from even approaching the area of the store where the books were being kept.

University Bookstore general manager Terry Woodring confirmed his store's policies touching early purchases and disclosure of textbook information, but did not say they were uniform across Barnes & Noble locations. "The textbook information is proprietary," Woodring said, explaining his policy. "I work very hard and very closely with the professors to make sure we have that information right." Woodring emphasized the importance of volume to his business and the University in support of his decision to keep textbook information from students looking to collect it at his store. He said the bookstore adds about \$600,000 annually in value to the University, through sponsorship, commissions, and charitable giving.

He downplayed the benefits of competitive pricing, saying, "All competition does is make you worry about your bottom line," which "just takes away from the service aspect of the store." Woodring said declining sales have forced him to cut three permanent staff positions over the past two years. Additionally, Woodring defended his decision not to sell books early as an asset to

students, citing several publishers' price cuts that allowed for lower fall selling prices compared to the summer price.

Meinkoth visited Patty's University Bookstore after leaving the University Bookstore. There, "I was allowed to go through their racks," from which she took down the ISBN information that allowed her to compare shop online, she said. In the end, Meinkoth bought just one textbook from the University Bookstore and the rest from Patty's. "The books were just a few dollars cheaper online, so I just got them at Patty's," she said.

Patty Bolz described her business' three-fold policy regarding disclosure of textbook information. A student can come into her store and write down textbook information without a problem, she said. "You can look up whatever you want on the bookshelves." Regarding phoned-in inquiries, however, she said employees might or might not collect the information for a caller and relay it back, depending on how busy the store is when the call is received. "We'll probably tell you," she said, but, "employees get to use their judgment," and must give priority to the customers already in the store.

At Pricemonk.com, the current incarnation of University student start-up TSUBay.com, textbook information for University courses is provided to students as well several online retailers' prices. "To make the book buying process work efficiently, we provide students with a list of courses offered, and books used for these courses," co-founder Mike Ravenscraft

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## Genocide in Darfur

Story by | Ian Florida

Darfur, where the same number of people that died during the World Trade Center attack, die every week. Darfur, where genocide is promulgated by ruthless bandits and chaos rules the land. Darfur, where rape is a weapon of oppression against women. Darfur, where the freedom of expression is oppressed and the fundamental right to live is questioned.

The situation in Darfur has been simmering for many years. There are two main ethnic groups residing in the region. There are the sedentary farmers which are largely of African ethnicity, and there are the nomads which are mostly Arabic speaking. The two groups lived in harmony at one point. The nomads would graze their horses in the farmers' fields and the fields were fertilized through the process. There was equilibrium. Clashes between the farmers and the nomads were not uncommon, but there was blood money paid to the family of the dead.

In February of 2003, the system began to break down when armed forces from the farmers began taking the government security forces. The fighting began because the farmers felt they were being marginalized and poorly protected. Darfur's government exploited this situation and supported Arab-speaking nomad militias which were raiding the farming settlements. This solidified the tension along ethnic lines and further alienated the farming population.

The sedentary farmers, feeling their government no longer represented them, created the Sudanese Liberation Army, or SLA. The SLA attacked both the police

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## ADD Update

Story by | Frances Dusseault

I'd like to clarify what ADD really is. Much of the relevant literature will tell you that scientists don't really know what causes ADD, specifically, and that they *know* concretely is how to treat it. That summary and its premises, however, are false. That is, they are contrary to pure fact. Scientists *do* have very founded theories of what causes ADD, and they do *not* know the absolute best way to treat it. Because as they are finding out, its cause is different for everybody. This is the nightmare for the pharmaceutical companies of Ritalin and Aderol, because the incoming money is based off the "fact" that ADD is most definitely always caused by the same thing. It's crucial that the condition have "cause," like a disease.

But, kids with ADD are not "sick." They don't walk around with fevers, they don't puke a lot, they are not necessarily weak all the time. They have no clinical "disease" to speak of. One certainly cannot die from ADD. Another category ADD kids are often thrown into are

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## Sorority Rush: a view from the inside

Story by | Heidi Wilhauck

This story is for all of the people outside of the Greek system who are interested in understanding what exactly goes on when a woman Rushes a sorority. I went into Rush with a sarcastic attitude and ended up in the last place I thought I would be: a sorority. So beware folks, don't try this at home because it could happen to you.

During Rush each prospective is assigned to a group with several other women and a gamma chi. The gamma chi is a woman who is already in one of the Panhellenic sororities but has disaffiliated herself from her sisters since July in order to help potential new members go through the process of Rush and decide what sorority they would like to join. She must go almost two months without talking to her sisters. During Rush, the prospectives are not allowed to find out what sorority their gamma chi's are in or even what the gamma chi's last names are.

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Elsewhere in the paper...

A Jerk at a Concert  
Commiserate with the author of this piece and enjoy the accompanying picture of John Rocker.

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# The Monitor

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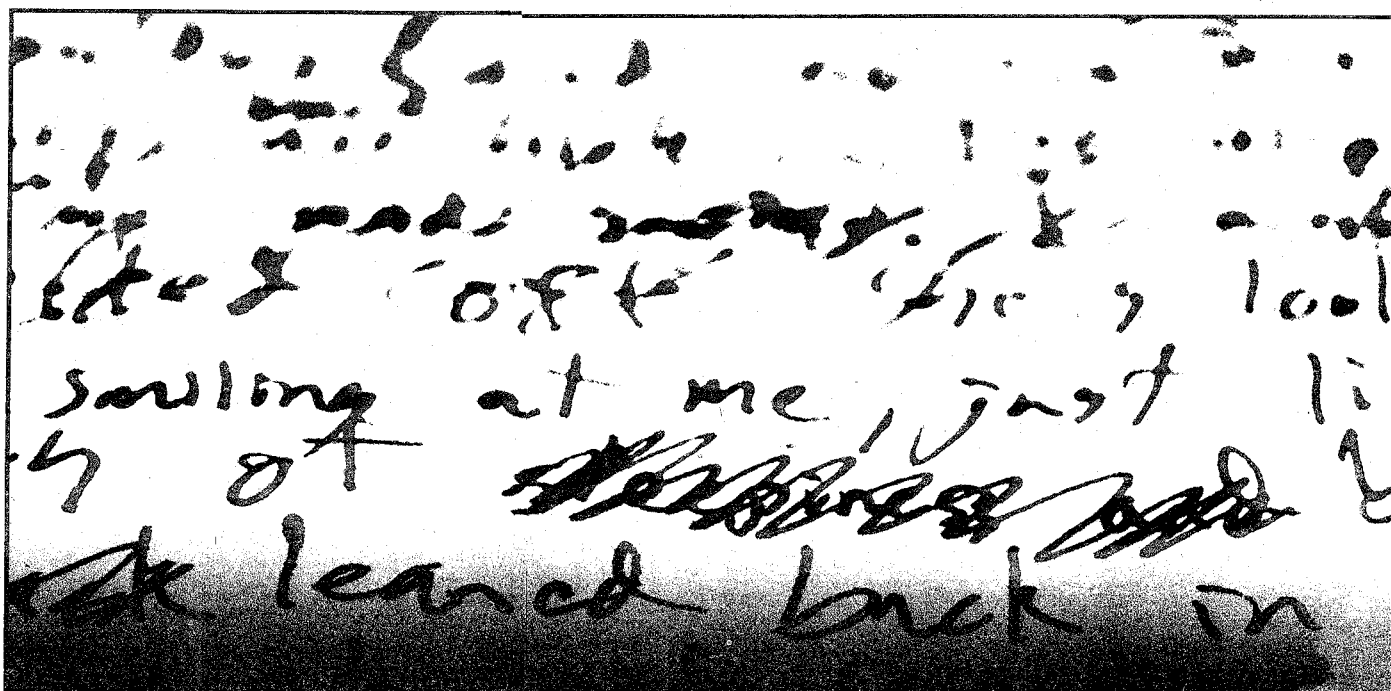
Cameron Moore

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



# GET WRITING!

THE MONITOR'S 3RD SEMESTERLY SHORT STORY CONTEST  
IS ACCEPTING ENTRIES FROM NOW UNTIL NOV. 21

SEND ORIGINAL WORKS OF 1000 WORDS OR LESS (OR ANY QUESTIONS) TO:

**MONITORTRM@HOTMAIL.COM**

## The Editors' Box

While munching on burnt pizza, we've pieced this together for you, reader.

It is our greatest wish for this to be a place where all feel welcome to speak their mind. Sometimes the most frustrating thing about inspiration is having no perfect place to express it. Or no audience. Plus, sometimes it's much easier to write down what moves you the most than it is to speak it aloud. We are not a paper over which you have no control; this paper is a direct representation of whoever chooses to speak through it. We want your voice to color these pages. To make them vivid and alive. To make them edgy and awesome.

Therefore, please write us a piece and submit it to [monitortrm@hotmail.com](mailto:monitortrm@hotmail.com). Or, get off your ass and come to one of our 8:30 pm Thursday meetings in Baldwin Hall, Room 346. Even if you don't, at least enjoy this issue. OK fine, you drive a hard bargain. At least tell someone better looking than you to come to a Monitor meeting.

Speaking of edgy and awesome, we have a great, wonderful, beautiful surprise that will appear soon. We can't wait.

*Andrés Delgado*  
*Jon Lawinger*  
*Frances Dusseault*



# NEWS

THE MONITOR

## Voting notes

Story by I Cameron Moore

A Fox News affiliate in Tucson, AZ, reported that out-of-state students at the University of Arizona are committing a felony if they register to vote in Arizona. The report cited a statement from the Pima County Voter Registrar, Republican Chris Rhodes, which claimed that out-of-state voters were committing a felony if they registered to vote in the county and did not intend to live there "indefinitely". Pima County Recorder, Ann Rodriguez later clarified, stating that students can register in Arizona.

The report, which featured an interview with Julian Zuccaro, who was registering students to vote on the campus at the time, claimed that she was committing an "unintentional felony." "The report was broadcast with those statements. It felt like a blatant attempt at intimidation, an attempt to scare students away from exercising their constitutional rights," Zuccaro said.

Ohio's Secretary of State, J. Kenneth Blackwell, retreated last week from a September 7 directive to county boards of election which stated that voting registration forms must be printed on "white, uncoated paper of not less than 80-pound text weight," which is a thick, card-like stock of paper.

The directive from Blackwell, a Republican, also stated that "any Ohio form not printed on this minimum paperweight is considered to be an application for a registration form. Your board should mail this appropriate form to the person listed on the application."

Blackwell retreated from this position after voting rights activists assailed him for trying to impede new voter registration, which is overwhelmingly from heavily Democratic areas of Ohio. New registrations in low-income and minority neighborhoods since January have increased 250 percent over the same time period in the 2000 election, while new registrations in Republican areas have increased only 12 percent.

Election officials in some counties of Ohio have stated that they have been disqualifying registration forms that were not thick enough, although these practices have stopped since Blackwell backed off of his directive.

**Members of the Missouri Democratic Party** are charging that Matt Blunt, the Missouri Secretary of State who is currently campaigning for Governor, is exploiting his role as the state's chief elections official. They claim he is using his position to obtain weekly lists of voters seeking absentee ballots in an effort to promote the Bush-Cheney presidential ticket. John Hancock, a Republican strategist working for Blunt, admitted that the people on the lists were being called to promote the candidates of the Republican Party. However, Hancock claims that these are standard campaign techniques and that they are not acting illegally. State law reads that illegal actions are being committed by "any person who . . . in any manner coerces or initiates a request or a suggestion" to a voter with an absentee ballot.

## Sorority Rush Revealed

From page 1

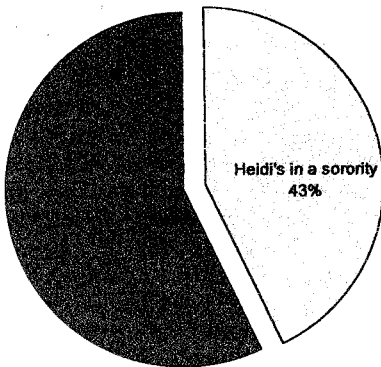
Five sororities take part in Fall Rush but you may have noticed that there are more than five sororities on campus. The five sororities that participate in fall Rush are part of the National Panhellenic Council. There are several minority-based sororities that are part of the National Panhellenic Council including the Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sigma Gamma Rho, and Sigma Lambda Gamma. There is also a local sorority called Sigma Chi Delta and several other societies on campus that are exclusively for women. These organizations all do their recruitment at various other times during the year.

Panhellenic Fall Formal Membership Recruitment, as the Panhellenic Council likes to call Rush, starts off with open events. This means each of the prospectives must visit a 40-minute party put on by each of the five sororities with their gamma chi groups. Based on the first impressions that the sororities get of the prospectives during the open events and the women's initial applications, they invite those women who they think might fit in their sorority back for the second round of Rush events: invitational events. These parties take place from around 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. on a Saturday and make for a long and arduous day. A prospective may be invited back by all five sororities but she is only allowed to go to four parties that day. If she chooses not to go to a certain sorority's event, she has dropped them out of her list of potential candidates. The idea is that at the same time that the sorority is choosing its members, the potential new members also have some say in what sorority they become a part of. In the end, some women may or may not have a lot of say in which sororities invite them back and what sorority gives them a bid.

Both the open events and the invitational events can be overwhelming. The sisters in the sorority stand chanting and singing behind the doors to the room where the event is being held. These doors must be opened by the gamma chi at precisely the right moment and the prospective new members must exit the room quickly when the time is up. As a prospective walks in the room, a sister swoops in

### Truman students named Heidi

There are 11 individuals at Truman named Heidi. Here is the statistical breakdown of responding Heidis' sorority affiliation status. One hundred percent of responding Heidi's in a sorority reported satisfaction with their sorority. This survey has a margin of error of 23.43 percent.



Source: Emily Randall

and tucks her arm under the prospective's arm. She guides her to table where they make small talk (almost always in this exact order: name, hometown, major, campus organizations and interests). At various points other sisters will "casually" come over and take her place and the small talk starts again. In between, the president of the sorority and other officers will give short speeches and food will be offered. The delicious punch almost makes all the chitchat worthwhile. Let's just say it takes a special kind of woman to really enjoy these parties: she must be outgoing, dedicated, and patient.

If a prospective manages to make it through these first three days of Rush, she may be lucky enough to get invited back to a preference party. Though a woman has the possibility of getting invited back to up to four sororities, she may only pick two, and these will be her final choices. However, in many cases a prospective gets invited back to only one or none. These events are much more

serious than the ones before. Each woman is matched up with a sister who she has either met at one of the previous parties or knew beforehand. After talking awhile, a couple of sisters will come forward and tell stories about how meaningful the sorority has been to them. Not always, but often, women—both sisters and prospectives—are moved to the point of tears. The sisters often sing a meaningful song afterwards and conduct a ceremony if their sorority has one.

After the parties, prospectives must sign a sheet of paper on which they write their two favorite sororities in order of preference. They go to sleep that night hoping to get a call early the next morning from their gamma chi informing them that they have bid from their preferred sorority. It does not always happen that way and, often enough, prospectives get no bid at all, which can be very disappointing. Needless to say, Rush can be both exhausting and exciting for potential new members and the sororities.

If one does get a bid on that Monday morning they must arrive at the top of the hill in Red Barn Park at 5:30 that night. They run down the hill to their new sorority who is waiting to see if the women that they have given bids to have accepted. The new members are greeted with hugs and presents and balloons and are "Rushed" right into sorority life.

Hopefully there is some reason why a woman would put herself through so much stress and potential disappointment. Hopefully the offer of membership in a sorority is worth that much. There is a huge veil of stereotypes surrounding sororities at Truman and at many universities around the country. I can not tell you if all your stereotypes are true or not but I can say that there are many women in sororities at Truman who believe that joining a sorority is one of best decisions they have ever made. There are also many that believe that women in sororities at Truman are the most amazing and productive women on this campus. This may or may not be true, but it does prove that a sorority at Truman can be both a fun and healthy environment for many women.

## ADD

From page 1

kids with mental handicaps. I'm sorry, ADD kids are not retarded and they actually tend to have higher IQ's than most or be 'gifted' in something. So that's out.

I would call scientists and doctors and teachers to reframe their thinking and recouch ADD as a whole new element in this ever-changing world. There's a whole crop of kids who share this multiplicity of cross-cutting traits, and according to current statistics, their numbers are growing. And while drugs and treatments can alleviate their strictly biological glucose-burning hindrances, those drugs do not 'treat' all the traits that step out of the biological category. There are things about them that simply are their personality, that are who they are and therefore cannot be 'treated.'

So, before we discuss some pretty hardcore theories that you should know touching these traits, should categorize how to think of ADD in real life from now on. It's like being left-handed. It can be a real handicap at times,

but also at times, can be your greatest gift. Most people just think left-handed people are cool. They are often very creative and very smart. So, their physical anomaly is connected also to their mentality and personality.

ADD, as researchers are finding, is also a set of traits that encompasses different categories of human life, not just biological or mental or physical. It hits traits in every category and they all seem to happen only if they happen together. They are co-existent, co-occurring traits.

Explained scientifically, the traits exhibited by ADD-ers all sprout from the same part of the brain. It's called the 'pre-frontal lobe' and it is in charge of self-consciousness, hand gesturing (and fidgeting), perception, emotion, speaking, and many others. So they're all connected in the brain, but these traits, are, of course, expressed in different situations that we use to separate them in everyday life. For instance, hyper-perception can be a great tool and can also lead to extreme self-consciousness. It just depends on what you are trying to do. This might explain why ADD has also been talked about in the category of autism at times.

So, ADD criss-crosses into different fields of human study. Into our biological, mental, and personality traits and types. It's like

being left-handed, but with more depth and breadth. It comes with all sorts of implications that we can help just about as much as a left-handed person can help being left-handed. Therefore, like a left-hander, we need to learn to adapt. And others need to know that we can't help it, because it's so much tied up into who we are. And we all do the best we can.

The fact of the matter is, ADD kids share a lot of straight personality traits. Yeah, they think the same way because of their brain chemistry, but they also think the same way *because that's how they think*. I would dare say these new crop of kids could have their own (new) learning style worth studying. Drugging kids to sit down and shut up in a classroom environment that does not even pretend to try to be conducive to their way of learning will only work so long. Eventually, with the influx of ADD kids coming into the schools, the classroom itself will have to change. I would urge people to keep in mind that there's something everybody—from teachers to children—can do about it. The first steps are not settling for an incomplete answer and to know it's probably not as bad as we thought.

# FEATURES

THE MONITOR

## Yellowcard wets teen panties

"Story" by I Cameron Moore

Fourteen year-olds around campus rejoiced two weeks ago when the SAB announced that the headliner at the fall concert this semester would be the pop punk band Yellowcard. The announcement also pleased a few fifteen-year-olds, reports confirm.

"I was, like, totally amped," said freshman business major Brad Jamison, 14. "Those guys make the best recycled neo-pop-punk I've ever heard," Jamison said, citing his recent vote for the band on MTV's Total Request Live over his other favorites, Good Charlotte and Simple Plan.

Jamison isn't alone at the University. Several other 14-year-olds on campus expressed their elation upon hearing the announcement.

"I was soooo stoked," Jennifer Gabriel, 14, said. "[My roommate] Shelly came in and was like 'Oh my God, did you hear about Yellowcard' and I was like 'No, [singer] Ryan [Key] didn't like die or something, did he' and she was like 'Oh god, I hope not' and I was like 'Well, what happened then' and she was like 'Oh my God you're totally gonna freak' and then I was like 'Tell me already, I'm already freaking' and she was like 'Yellowcard is totally gonna play here' and I was like 'Here at Truman?' and she was like 'Yeah' and then we both screamed and jumped on our beds and playfully hit each other with pillows."

She then regretfully added that they "were so excited that we accidentally knocked over my framed autograph of Leonardo DiCaprio."

The band, a quintet out of Ventura, California, is widely seen by critics as truly innovative with the inclusion of a violin player in their lineup in

addition to their catchy and original chord progressions. Their seeming ability to appeal only to 14-year-olds, however, is seen as an advantage by only the band.

"It's our niche" Key, 23, said. "They love us. It's pretty flattering, honestly," he said before adding that "making 14-year-olds wet in the pants is a dream come true."

Out of fear for alienating the 14-year-olds, Key was reluctant in conceding that a few of his band's fans are actually 15.

"Yeah, I mean, they exist" he said of the aging demographic, "but they aren't nearly as excitable and aren't as prone to scream as [the 14-year-olds]."

Evidence of Yellowcard's 15-year-old fans has recently been uncovered even at the University, where many of the freshman class' 15-year olds are also reluctant in conceding their existence.

"Yeah, I guess you could say I like Yellowcard," said Carrie Eisner, 15. "I mean, I saw them at [the Vans] Warped Tour this summer and they were pretty cool." "But," she added, "I don't like them as much as I did last spring, when I was still 14."

Still, many of the University's 15-year-old population were pleased with the announcement. "It's better than getting some lame band like Outkast. That would have totally been sucky," Eisner said.

Gabriel stated that she "hoped that we were paying them a lot for the show, because they totally deserve the money."

Yellowcard will be performing in the Pershing Arena on Friday, October 8, with doors opening at 6:30 and opening acts Mae and Lucero beginning at 7:00 pm. Admission is free for 14-year-olds with wet panties.



# Miss Marquis



Hello there my darlings. It's time for me to go through my email and answer a few questions for you, isn't it? I hope that all of you out there are taking some time out to enjoy the carnal side of life - don't forget, an orgasm is a nice pick-me-up after you've spent all of your time studying. Remember, if you have a question, email me at [themissmarquis@hotmail.com](mailto:themissmarquis@hotmail.com).

Dear Miss Marquis,

My girlfriend and I have been going together for three months and we finally had sex just last week. She told me she was shy about sex and didn't want to rush into things, which led me to believe that sex with her would be a quiet experience. I was so wrong. Ten minutes into it, my girl started barking orders and demanding that I call her my "dirty whore." Not only was I surprised, I was sort of offended at her request. I don't want to give up, though. What should I, a quiet guy who can barely raise his hand in class, do to boost my confidence in talking dirty to my girl?

Signed, Sweet-Tongued Senior

Oh, my apple-cheeked little niblet, first of all let me congratulate you on finding someone who is not only a feisty lover, but careful about who she takes to her bed. There's a common misconception that people who like a little naughtiness between the sheets are a tad bit whorish, and that's not at all true. I am sorry that you found yourself offended at her bed manner, but your willingness to continue trying is admirable. Why don't you try writing down a number of dirty things you can say to her, and practice saying them when you're alone, until they don't feel quite so radical. (I won't say you should practice in front of a mirror, because really, calling your reflection a dirty whore is a bit silly)

I think it goes nearly without saying that you're a dear to try and go along with her particular (mild) kink. Don't let her dictate the way you have sex all of the time, though. If you'd like something a little more roses-and-hearts, tell her. If you're willing to indulge her nasty side, she should go along with your more vanilla desires.

Dear Miss Marquis,

I have a question. It seems to me that when I forego doing myself for an extended period of time, say a couple, three weeks, I almost get super-powers. I feel extra confident and intelligent and I actually come close to getting laid. What is the deal with this? Is this just psychosomatic? Please inform me, Miss Marquis.

p.s. I forgot to mention that I am a guy.

-Uninformed

Well, it seems quite obvious to this sex columnist that you must have a distant ancestor who came from Uranus. It's a well-known fact that Uranean males have levels of strength and brain-power in direct relation to the amount of jism stored up in their testicles.

In all seriousness, your intelligence and confidence have very little to do with how often you spit-polish the purple helmet. While the ancient Greeks may have thought that spilling your seed took away from your vital spirit, people realize today that you keep generating sperm whether or not you're losing any of it.

Now, if you have some sort of guilt-related hang up regarding tamping your tater, than it stands to reason that abstaining would put you in a better mood. And it's also possible that avoiding self-love might make you a little more eager in the pursuit of some pussy. But physically, no, there's no reason it should affect you that way.

A word to the wise, though - if you practice the sin of Onan in the same way every time, you might find it difficult to actually orgasm when you do get laid. So vary your sources of stimulation, chiclets, and it'll be better for everyone when you finally find a partner to tango with.

Cartoon  
Personals  
by Zach Boucher



Name: Satan  
Age: Old as Time  
Likes: Slow walks on the beach, U2, Romantic comedies, puppies  
Dislikes: Heavy Metal, tattoos, piercings, disobeying the police

Comments: I'm really a nice guy. I'm only the figurehead of hell. The demon squirrel is in charge of the torture. I am sick of this horrible myth. I'm looking for a nice girl to smuggle.



5 October 2004

# Letters from the underground

Feature by I Rory Rhorerton



So. No one wrote me letters. You think I just make this shit up? I need letters. How can I write advice if no one asks it? I mean, it's just an email. I know it's inconvenient that you have to actually read my email address and type it in, instead of just clicking on it. Well, you can try to click on it, but it's a fucking printed newspaper so it's not going to work. So. The email is [roryrhorerterton@hotmail.com](mailto:roryrhorerterton@hotmail.com) [RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM) Yes, I said it twice. 'Cause you need to see it. 'Cause this is ridiculous. I know people read this; I've gotten compliments on my writings before. Now, I know I could just remind you to send me stuff and be on my way, but I don't see that as particularly effective, so I shall just share a disturbing yet amusing story with you. Oh yeah, [RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM) IF YOU DON'T SEND ME EMAIL I WILL HURT YOU WHEN I GET BACK TO THE

USA. I'M SERIOUS; I WILL FIND EVERY DAMN STUDENT ON CAMPUS AND HURT THEM. So, on with the story then.

What's the difference between a healthy interest and stalking? That seems like a question that might be in my article, so here's my answer: I'm not quite sure, but I don't think I'm a stalker. You can be the judge of this yourselves though.

There is this great new thing called the internet. It's really nifty. Anyways, it's amazing what kind of shit is sitting there about you on the internet. I mean, if I try to find stuff about myself, I'm amazed at what I find. Shit that I didn't even know I did. Embarrassing shit. Seriously, don't trust the internet when it comes to me. But, I will trust it about other people.

There are a lot of sites that have nice people who put up a profile with the idea of showing how cool they are. Personally, I have tons of these. There is a nice site that just has pictures of people with a short description of themselves and perhaps some contact info. I'm not going to tell you which site, because I may or may not be on it, and the pictures may or may not all be of people in their underpants. If you're really that curious and/or wanted to see what the need to wash your eyes out with soap felt like, then you can email me. Being in Japan I decided to see if the trend had extended itself out to here. Lo and behold, there was another soul on the site from Japan! It was a girl named Tierney. I know, her name was really dumb, but I felt I should congratulate her on being the only other person in Japan on this site. (I know what you're thinking, and no, it has nothing to do with any perversions of mine. Honestly. Even though she DOES have a nice butt. But that's besides the point.) So it has her AOL IM name and her username of Tierney and her location.

This was the point at which a casual search turned into what could be misconstrued as stalking. I mean, I was bored, so I decided to use the powers of the World Wide Web (WWW for short) to find out more about this person. So, I took her AIM name (trustmeinstead) and put it into a Google search. One result. She also has a profile on [www.makeoutclub.com](http://www.makeoutclub.com). I didn't really gain any new information, but I did get her ICQ number (not on her profile anymore, but cached in Google. 112523244). I've now hit a dead end. I go back to that original site and take down her location (Matsuyama, Japan). I am willing to bet that there aren't many Tierney's in Matsuyama, so I search for both "Tierney" and "Matsuyama" in Google and I get quite a few results. One immediately catches my eye. In the short cached description for the site, I see the words "Photo courtesy of Tierney Germer. Shirt spotted in Matsuyama, Japan." Now, I doubt there are two Tierneys in Matsuyama, so now I have a last name (Germer). Now that I retrace my steps to write this I notice that I missed a really good clue, but I am going to follow my initial order for my story. So I run a new Google search for "Tierney Germer." I see something about a Tierney Germer in Japan in a Rotary Club of Portland site. I open it up and find two word documents listed under Tierney Germer. I open up one...it is a letter home! The Portland Rotary Club was the one who sent Ms. Germer to Japan in the first place. I skim the letter...and she has included a link to her Yahoo photo account. (Yahoo name: tierneyyyy) So I follow the link and I know what she looks like! But that's about it. So, I go back to that Google search on her full name. I see something I can't believe I didn't follow first - that online goldmine of goldmines, the Livejournal. (LJ username: tierneyrocks). So I open it up and

start browsing. The first thing I notice is that she is no longer in Japan. Oh well, I guess I'm the only Japanese resident on the site that is not to be named. The next thing I notice is...her journal is full of hentai (if you aren't familiar with that term, look it up) images. So perhaps she's even cooler than I thought. The last thing I notice is...SHE SELLS HER PEE AND UNDERWEAR. Yup, for a bunch of money she sells her pee and used underwear to some creepy dude. Jesus fucking Christ, this girl is my hero. Examine the facts: 1. Posts to possibly the same underwear oriented website that I possibly am on. 2. Bilked a trip to Japan out of the Rotaries. 3. Is crazy as hell and is obsessed with hentai. 4. SHE SELLS HER PEE AND USED UNDERWEAR FOR \$\$\$\$. Again, she is my hero. I decide I must alert her to this fact. Which is easy, because by now, I have her AOL IM, Yahoo IM, and ICQ IM usernames, as well as know her full name, what city she lives in, where she lived for the last year or so, and her cell phone number. (The cell number is on her Journal, I forgot to mention this.) But I'm not completely creepy, so I just wait for her to log into one of her IM names. Which she eventually does. I proceed to have a nice conversation about how she's my hero and all the things I have learned about her. She tells me that she is going to post our conversation in her Journal, which is fine by me. And this is pretty much where the story ends. The title of her journal entry? "the scariest person ive ever talked to online... and ive talked to people that wanna buy my pee!"

So that's my story. I don't believe this is stalking, do you? Also, I have changed none of the names, so you can try these searches and whatnot for yourself, and learn the same things I did. Finally, DON'T FORGET TO EMAIL ME. [RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:RORYRHORERTON@HOTMAIL.COM)

## Candidate Kingston expounds on love

Feature by I "Paid" Paul Kingston

Hey everyone, it's me again. "Paid" Paul Kingston comin' atcha with yet another installment of my campaign for the US House of Representatives (Not State, apparently there's been some confusion about that). This time I've decided to mix things up a bit and tell all of you some of my thoughts on love. Now I know a candidate's thoughts on love are not traditionally a major issue, but I think that maybe they should be. So without further ado, let's do this.

First of all, I'd like to give you a general idea of how I see that great mystery we call love. My belief is that love is this sort of universal energy that binds each of us and everything together. However, in most cases, we have difficulty seeing past all the other bullshit that goes on in our interactions to actually find the love that exists between us. But though it may be obscured, ignored, or even suppressed, that love is still there connecting each and every one of us. It's more a part of us than the blood that flows through our veins.

Now a lot of people talk about there being a friendly kind of love and a romantic kind. That's bullshit. There's only one love. It may be expressed in a friendly way or in a romantic way, but the love you have for your best friend is the exact same love you have for your "soul mate" (a topic you don't even want to get me started on). And putting all these meaningless qualifiers on a thing as awe-inspiring and wondrous as love cheapens it.

Along those lines, the whole connection between love and sex is also a terrible fallacy. Don't get me wrong, I think love can and should be involved in

sex. And when it is, that makes for really good sex. But that's true of any human interaction. For example, love can and should be involved in conversation. And when it is, that makes for really good conversation. But you don't ever hear anyone saying they want to wait to talk until they've found their "one true love," now do you?\*

Furthermore, this whole love-sex thing spawns one of the worst misconceptions about love. Because of it, there's all this confusion between love and possession (and why the Hell is sex so commonly associated with ownership, anyway?). I mean love isn't about a person having to be with you and only you for the rest of your lives. Love is about wanting a person to be happy, regardless of how their happiness may affect your own. If that means being together forever, great. If not, then that's something you accept and support because that's what love is.


But enough talk about what love isn't. Let me tell you what love is. Love is when that guy lets you over on the highway. Love is when your best friend tells you that dumb-ass story about his cousin and her dog for the hundredth time and you still act interested. Love is when you puke on someone's carpet at a party and he's more concerned with getting you water and holding back your hair for you than whether or not it will stain. Love is everywhere and you can see it all the time, though it requires an eye. And that's a real shame because nothing is more precious than love.

So that's my two cents on love.

And remember, write in "Paid" Paul Kingston for US House of Representatives.

\*Disclaimer: I fully respect and support any choices a person may make about having sex before they've found a "soul mate." I just don't think love is a necessary part of good healthy sex.

Cartoon  
Personals  
by Zach Boucker



Name: Demon Squirrel  
Age: Old as Fucking Dirt  
Likes: Alcohol, Loud Music, Body Modification, Bondage  
Dislikes: Soft Rock, Long Walks on the Beach, Humans, chick flicks, love ballads, bubble baths, snuggling, Chivalry

Comments: I want a bad girl. I don't want to snuggle or even talk. I just want sex. If you are willing I can give you the best sex of your life. I am a fucking tripped, if you know what I mean. Satan is a pussy. If you want a real man, come see me.

# REVIEWS

THE MONITOR

## The bodacious Burt Banacheck

Story by | Ian Florida

Burt Banacheck is the number one mentalist in the world. He has been on the Today Show and CNN live. He is also one of the greatest living entertainers. Bringing both comedy and supernatural stunts into his performance, he captivates the viewer. Banacheck uses telekinesis and psychology to perform tricks that made me freak the hell out. Last week we at Truman had the honor of hosting Banacheck and all his awesome powers.

He did not read minds, he reminded us numerous times. He reads thoughts. He doesn't guess – he predicts and directs our actions. Through his voice, body language, and by controlling a set of variables, Banacheck can remove our free will and force us to make a choice. If he held out a red pill and a blue one, he could make you pop the red one in your mouth or take the blue one as a suppository. He is the master of subliminal messaging, and would be the world's *greatest car salesman ever*.

After the show I left in a state of stupor. For the last hour I had seen this man force me to make decisions. I had

seen him guess things he could never have known. He guessed complete strangers' names and birthdates and even the names of their pets. He astounded the audience with death-defying stunts and supernatural deeds.

I did what any good college student would do: I questioned. A skeptic by nature, I did not buy the fact that he had the power to read with his fingers instead of his eyes. I asked a few people around me how they thought he did all these incredible things.

"He sold his good sense of humor and good hair to Satan," was the most print-worthy response. Another student responded in the same fashion: "With a pact abiding to the dark lord Lucifer."

I doubt that any man can sell his soul to Satan, because if this were true, I would be the sexiest man alive and John Ashcroft would be president. So there must be another explanation. I do not pretend to know all the answers to the mystical quandaries of the supernatural world, nor would I blacken my soul through delving into the devil's work. That is MEN-TALISM. I don't know how he managed to do the things he did. All I know is that it was freaking awesome. Word.

## Internet: scaring dolphins across the world

[www.dolphinsex.org](http://www.dolphinsex.org)

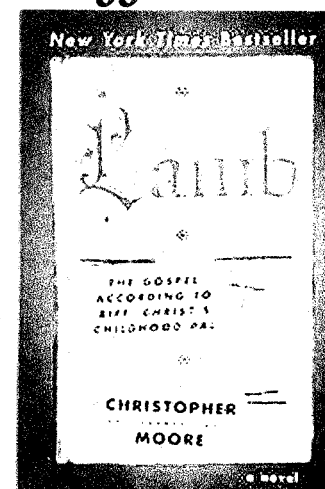
Review by | Ian Florida

So you all know that the internet can be host to some pretty ridiculous stuff, right? For instance, I can look up the recipe for homemade nukes, hand grenades, dirty bombs, frag bombs, fertilizer bombs, and the origin of the f-bomb. I can basically find everything under the sun and everything in big brother's cellar with one swipe of my naughty little hand across the keyboard. But aside from the Anarchist's Cookbook, there are some pretty wicked sites out there. There are sites where you can download chapters from the CIA's book on "How to Kill" and then there are sites that present you with the one true path to eternal blissful suicide. There are sites for cults, the occult, and Celts, oh and kilts, and Celts in kilts, and kittens. Don't forget kittens. There are sites that your parents (even now) would not want you to see. There are sites that your will-buy-you-beer-and-bail-you-out-of-jail-because-he-did-the-exact-same-thing-in-college, cool, slightly older uncle wouldn't even want you to see. There are profane and ignorant sites that exploit the innocence of the subject and render the viewer unable to cope with what they are viewing. There are sites that leave people dribbling idiots, perverted by the Satan's profane words translated into html. Dolphinsex.org will only leave you feeling sad for yourself and the rest of the human race.

Dolphinsex is committed to dispelling the half-truths and ignorance surrounding man's sexual interaction with arguably the world's second smartest species: dolphins. This site discusses the differences between bestiality and zoophilia. While bestiality is sexual exploitation of an animal or animals, zoophilia is reciprocated sexual behavior and amorous involvement. Zoophilia claims that the animal and human are in a "relationship," both physically and emotionally. I don't know that I want to be the one who explains to all the innocent minds out there the full extent of dolphin sex. There are statistics, graphs, and even a couple of visuals. Its basically a "for dummies" site which is why I leave it up to you, the readers, to go out and explore the site on your own. While you are there you might want to browse [goosesex.com](http://goosesex.com) as well. Kill two birds with one stone if you will.

It is sites like these that are despoiling our youth and corrupting the moral fibers of America. I'm not advocating censorship or anything like that, I'd be a hypocrite. What I am simply saying is that maybe we should take a second look at what might be ruining marriage in America. It is *not* the gays, it is the sick bastards that rape dolphins. We don't need to protect marriage, we need to protect the fauna of our oceans from creepy guys in really tight wet suits. That's just my take on it.

## Book Review: Gospel According to Biff



*Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal*  
By Christopher Moore

Review by | Liz Fergus

How many of us have wondered, "What really happened to Jesus during that 20 years or so that is missing in the Bible?" Well, ok, I don't know that I've ever actually wondered that; but in case you have, this book holds the answers. We begin with Jesus (Joshua as he's called in the book) as a six year old child with a lizard stuck in his mouth (the healing touch, you know). It is on that day that he meets Levi, (called Biff – as in a whack on the head), and a lifelong friendship is born. The two Jewish boys have several amusing adventures – including emasculating a statue of Apollo, until Joshua decides that he needs to figure out how to be the Messiah. The 14 year-olds set off in search of the three wise men who brought gifts to Joshua at his birth, and the real story begins. They go to Antioch and meet a trader who takes them to Balthasar. After spending several years learning there (Joshua learned from Balthasar, Biff from Balthasar's eight Chinese concubines), the boys set off to China to find Gaspar in a Buddhist monastery (where Joshua eventually becomes invisible, and Biff learns kung-fu). The last of the wise men, Melchior, is in India and the boys finish their education here (after Biff cross-dresses and Joshua fits himself inside a wine jar) until the face of Mary on the side of a mountain calls them home. Here we join the known story of Joshua's teaching, with the necessary amusing anecdotes along the way (like the rough draft of the Sermon on the Mount).

All in all, "Lamb" is a very funny, but still respectful and knowledgeable novel. Moore has done his research carefully, and most of what he says about Jesus' known life is fairly accurate. He draws on theories about the similarity between some of Jesus' teachings and Buddhist and Hindu works. The book, despite its 437 pages, is a fast read, and is well worth the time you take to read it. You can find it at Hastings for \$12.96, or at Half.com for \$8.47. but not, unfortunately, in our own Truman library. I definitely recommend that you go out and get this book!!

Not sure about your choice of major or minor?  
Thinking about adding a second major?  
Curious about how a Truman Liberal Arts  
degree prepares you for a rewarding career?

**Major and Minor Fair!**  
**Wednesday, October 6**  
**Student Union Activities Room**  
**1:00-5:00 pm**

**Talk to Truman faculty and staff about...**  
Majors and Minors  
Potential Careers  
Study Abroad  
Internships  
Research Opportunities!

# Jon's picks for rental flicks

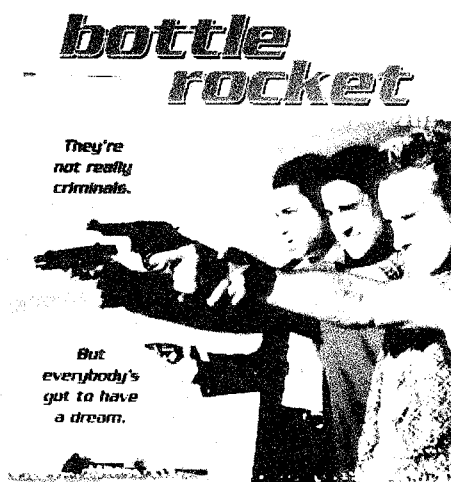
Review by I Jon Lawinger

Bottle Rocket (1996)

Before *The Royal Tenenbaums* and *Rushmore*, Wes Anderson wrote and directed this little-known film. I'm not going to list all of Luke and Owen Wilson's movies from the last 8 years, but they both debuted here as well. Anyone who has seen Anderson's two most recent films can surely identify his quirky style and unbeatably dry humor. The short version of this review goes like this: If you like Anderson's style and haven't seen this film, you should. If you don't fit that category, keep reading.

Owen Wilson takes the role of Didgman, an enthusiastic and completely inept aspiring criminal who in his twenties still sees the world as a giant game of cops and robbers. Luke Wilson plays Anthony, a patronizing friend who plays along so Didgman can happily live out his dreams. While hiding out at a motel in the middle of nowhere following a heist, Anthony falls in love with a Spanish-speaking housekeeper there.

The humor in *Bottle Rocket* seems a little more mainstream than either of Anderson's other films, so even if you're not a fan you might still enjoy this effort. However, that's not to say the humor is less effective or abundant, and traces of Anderson's dry style are still definitely evident. Both Wilsons play their roles to



perfection. Their convincing portrayals are vital to this character-driven film. It never grew tedious or repetitive during its 93-minute run, and was consistently entertaining.

Anyone who, like me, thinks Owen Wilson usually wastes his comedic potential on generic big-budget drivel should definitely give this film a look. In the end, it's little more than a highly enjoyable, well executed, well acted comedy with a little intelligence and a bit of a unique edge to it. However, when you think about it, that's a relatively rare and impressive feat.

Hastings: Not available

Movie Gallery: Available on DVD



Waking Life (2001)

The biggest thing this movie has going for it is its absolute uniqueness. I promise you've never seen anything like this. Now I'm sure you've heard that before, so let me explain.

Waking Life consists of a series of monologues by various literally and figuratively colorful characters each dealing with various philosophical ideas, often related to dreaming. A loose plotline in which the main character cannot wake up from an ongoing dream ties the many segments together into a somewhat coherent whole. The entire film was digitally re-

coded and digital animation was added over the top of each film frame. The resulting animation is a vibrantly colorful, surreal depiction of reality that is in constant motion. Dozens of different animators, each with a distinct style, animated each of the separate characters and scenes, so the visual appearance of the movie is in constant flux as it progresses.

The resulting combination between the philosophically-based script and innovative animation techniques is an intense experience both intellectually and visually. While I am confident that you've never seen anything like it, I can't claim this film is for everyone. While the monologues are stimulating, insightful, and often quite memorable, many are also very dense, requiring a considerable amount of focus and attentive effort by the viewer. This can make the 99 minute runtime feel a little grueling at times, particularly without a progressive plotline to make us feel like we're getting somewhere. But even if your attention lapses at times, you'll likely find the visuals captivating enough to stand on their own while the dialog flows by unprocessed until you're ready to dive in again.

This is a remarkable and highly satisfying film, which I'd highly recommend to anyone seeking innovative visual techniques and intellectual stimulation. While potential viewers ought to be warned not to expect a Hollywood thrill ride, I hope that will not dissuade you from giving this exceptional work of art a try.

Hastings: Available on DVD and VHS

Movie Gallery: Available on VHS

## Pixies rock Uptown Theater, rude patron rocks being a jerk

Review by I Emily Randall

On Friday, Oct. 1, I had the extreme fortune of seeing one of my favorite bands play a show in Kansas City at the Uptown Theater. The band, the Pixies, was everything I expected. The 12 years since they first toured have not diminished their greatness. The opening band, an Irish quartet with a propensity for decent beats, horrible lyrics, and the phrase "Cheers, thank you," called The Thrills, left something to be desired. However, I found extreme satisfaction in hearing all my favorite tracks off Surfer Rosa, Doolittle, Trompe le monde, and more. Not only did the Pixies rock, it was a complete dancin' good time...

At least it would have been, were it not for the insensitive actions of one Uptown patron. This guy was about a foot taller than me (an admitted exaggeration, as I am 5 feet 9 inches tall) and a hundred pounds heavier than me, at least. These two qualities, along with this individual's lack of sense of personal space, apparently entitled him to all the space, horizontal and vertical, he wanted, putting all our lives in mortal danger and nearly ruining this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Having arrived at the venue before the doors opened, my friends and I were in the position to get a pretty great place on the floor. We started out about three rows of people back from the fence at

centThrilling opening, it was time for some serious dance party. Almost immediately, we felt pushing from behind us, which is understandable considering the show was sold out and the Pixies play incredibly danceable music. Upon turning around, though, I was to discover that the pushing was emitting from a single source: Rude Guy.

Rude Guy, who was using his girlfriend as a buffer, was attempting to bounce his way up front, which, if you ask me, he should have arrived earlier to have any claim to, and the rest of us were without the power to stop him. Don't get me wrong, it is not so much the bouncing itself that was the problem. I have no intention of insulting Rude Guy's choice of dance style, as I have seen "the bounce" executed quite successfully in the past. However a person chooses to feel the music is fine by me. I have been known myself to experiment with dancing. No, the bouncing is not my point.

What is the point is the fact that Rude Guy approached using me as his trampoline. That's right, Rude Guy was actually pushing off my hip and back to amplify his bounce, which is just plain, well, rude. I managed to end this, yet a challenge still lay ahead: Rude Guy, rubbing his sweat all over everyone, next began to sway semi-violently, banging into those of us unfortunate enough to be within three feet of him. Additionally,

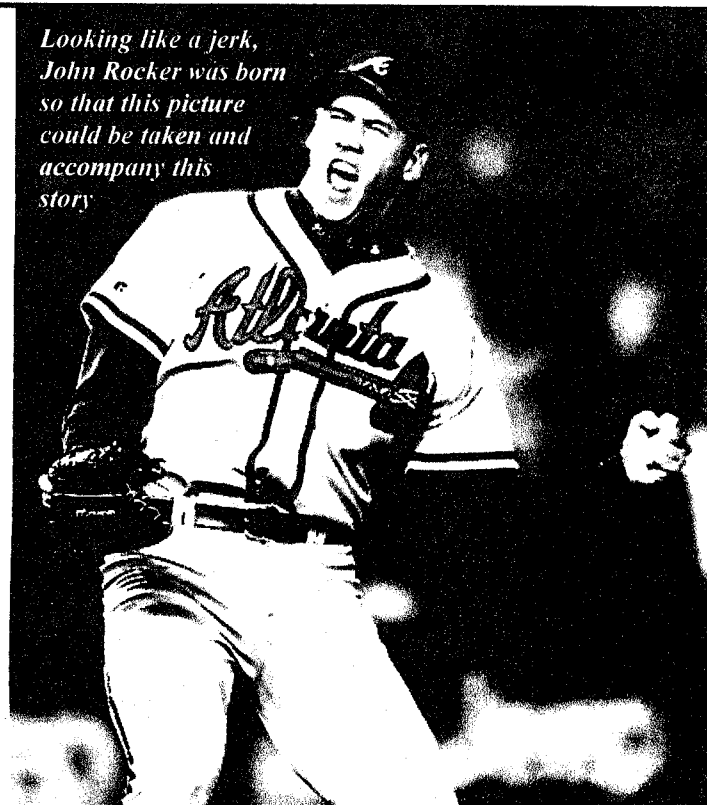
during the parts of the show where the band was playing a slower tune, Rude Guy would make out with buffer-girl. I don't care where I am, I don't ever want to be subjected to other people's making out.

On top of the Rude Guy fiasco, there was an inappropriate mosh pit going on in my space. Who said a pit has to go on in the front and center? Would it really be any less fun in the back left portion of the floor? I mean, at shows where non-moshers have nowhere else to go, pits just take up prime viewing space and cause bitterness. I am, however, not opposed to pits in an appropriate environment.

Is there any way people could just observe some show etiquette?

1. If you want a spot in the front, get there early.
2. Do not dance in such a way that prevents others from dancing.
3. Mosh appropriately.

Looking like a jerk, John Rucker was born so that this picture could be taken and accompany this story



4. Do not subject other people to your making out.

5. (And for the band) If we are going to pay \$40 to see you, keep the standing-around-and-waiting time to a minimum. (When I saw the Strokes, they made us wait practically an hour between the opening act and them.)

If we can all agree to follow etiquette such as this, the world, or at least the Uptown, will be a better place. We all will dance and love music and enjoy ourselves and go home injury-free.



# OPINIONS

THE MONITOR

## Anarchy is not a desirable ideal

### POINT

By Andrés Delgado

Anarchy rejects codified, consequence-enforced laws and coerced stability in favor of the naturally more stable disorder that arises from making things up as you go. The only possible advantage to this system is that democracy acts more purely on the law-making process, and many of the laws that are designed to protect property and elite interests are removed from the books, along with everything else. However, to adopt anarchy as a solution to the repressive aspects of the law is to throw the baby out with the bath water.

If the bad laws can be identified and weeded out, the current system for enforcing all laws should be preserved. The judicial system in the US is such that consistency is written into the system. Due process ensures that everyone can have a full trial, represented by counsel, tried under the same set of laws minute to minute and day to day. Even if, as is likely the case, the very wealthy are spared prosecution more often than the less wealthy (although there are many prominent counter-examples of this principle), one still has a written list of things not to be done in order to not end up in jail. It is a huge step backwards to take this system, trash it, and revert to ad-hoc committee decisions. Going by what makes sense at the time is especially hard if we're talking about an alternative to the kind of complicated laws that touch financial institutions, where shady accounting can go under the radar unless professionals are making sure their filings are in compliance with the law.

Finally, one might claim that the harmony in which animals live is what we should strive for. They still have beauty and order without laws, if to a lesser extent than the human race. However the nature we see day-to-day doesn't readily present us with the consequence of natural selection, which is massive mortality. Soon, the human race's exponential population growth will level off somewhat, before or after its energy demands outstrip available supply. However, thanks in part to non-governmental, recent efforts (the private X-Prize space flight competition), and past governmental efforts that advanced human flight, vast amounts of solar energy from space may soon be available to support a growing earthbound population with clean energy on an unheard-of scale. It's at least questionable whether such an effort could succeed in the absence of the efficiency that comes along with a society of law.

To finish, more than ever, there's less unsolicited authority exercised over Americans. At college, you're calling the shots and you pay your professors because you decided the best way to learn was to place trust in them to teach you well. Essentially, you purchased the ability to displace that particular burden from your shoulders onto theirs. As for the population in America that is unduly repressed every day by financial burdens, abuse, and racism, they would be better served by a refocusing of national priorities, rather than a scrapping of consistently applied, police-enforced law and order.

## Another way is necessary

### COUNTERPOINT

By Chris Scheets

Anarchism as a political theory has many strains and varieties. Therefore, it can't be summed up by one person in a paragraph or two. Attempting to do so would be similar to trying to describe every detail of the functioning of capitalism and representative democracy in a short concise piece. That being said, let's get down to business.

Anarchism does not reject all rules, in fact, an anarchist community could possibly have more rules than, say, the City of Kirksville. What anarchism does reject is laws that are imposed from above (anarchism is anti-authoritarian). The argument that anarchism would "throw out the baby with the bath water" is false. In an anarchist community (or community of communities), the rules for cooperative, sustainable living would be decided by everyone they would affect, therefore, if rules are valued by any given community, they would be preserved. Anarchism is direct democracy.

Our history and present are filled with examples of the inability and unwillingness of the state to deliver the rights it purports to protect. The "good laws" are often forced upon the state/capitalist order by people using a diversity of tactics (see: civil rights movement). The "bad laws" are maintained by the state in the interests of the wealthy and powerful. This has been true from the very beginning of this nation. It was founded by rich, land and slave owning, white business men. Today it is the same demographic that controls most of the power and wealth in our society (Yes, slavery is still legal! Read the 13th Amendment.). Is this merely a coincidence? No. Those who control the power in our society make the laws to serve their interests. Laws can and are changed overnight to serve one purpose or another. They are not constant. At protests, free assemblies are declared illegal by police, the clothes one wears becomes probable cause for search and seizure, and free speech is silenced with billy clubs, pepper spray, tear gas, and rubber bullets. I'm not even going to mention all the crimes committed by corporations that are indeed allowed if not supported by the law.

Of course any society or community will have prob-

lems. Anarchy does not equal utopia! But claiming that the specific problems that exist in a capitalist society because of its capitalist nature will exist in an anti-capitalist society seems to be a contradiction. Anarchism is not a theory of Social Darwinism (that would be the unfettered capitalism of the inappropriately named Libertarian Party). Nor is anarchism merely an intellectual theory to be debated by elites and carried out in the name of "The People."

It seems that there is much confusion about what anarchism really stands for. I've tried to point out what it is not, and now I offer a ridiculously short description of what it is (to me at least). Anarchism is a historically-based theory founded around the struggle for liberation from oppression. In its early forms this struggle was fought by labor against the capitalist class. The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) shaped the American anarchist movement in the early 1900's. Over the last 100 years or so, anarchism has evolved to include struggles against racism, patriarchy, environmental destruction, homophobia, boredom, and other forms of oppression. Some examples of both explicitly anarchist and anarchist influenced struggles include: The Mahknovistas in rural Russia and the Kronstadt rebellion in St. Petersburg (1917), the IWW in the U.S. (1920's), the Iberian Anarchist Federation (FAI) and National Federation of Workers (CNT) in Spain (1930's - an actual anarchist revolution), the student and worker uprising in Paris (May 1968), the Zapatistas in Chiapas, Mexico (1994 to today?), the landless unemployed workers movement in Argentina (the last few years), and the Anarchist Black Cross - international. (1910's to today). There are anarchist groups all over the nation and the world.

Anarchists work on all sorts of positive projects including labor unions, community centers, community gardens, cooperative businesses, independent news media, feeding the homeless, supporting political prisoners, and spreading ideas. Anarchists also fight oppression in its various forms through a wide range of tactics: Solidarity, Mutual-Aid, and Direct Action.

## Flawed debate at least effective at showing contrasts

Story by Jon Lawinger

I spent much of last week simultaneously looking forward to and dreading the presidential debate that occurred Thursday night. I was looking forward to it because, as a Kerry supporter (and even moreso as a Bush opposer), I figured it was an excellent chance for Kerry to eliminate the lead Bush had recently established. I dreaded it because I figured it was the last real chance Kerry had before the election, and if he fumbled it things wouldn't look pretty come Nov 2. However, as the week wore on and I read more and more about the debates, I became more cynical and distressed.

The big news leading up to the debate was the elaborate "Memorandum of Understanding" the campaigns had established. In the 32-page document, both sides agreed on all sorts of details about the debate format, such as: lecterns would be 50 in. tall and 10 feet apart, only the speaking candidate would be televised (a rule the networks thankfully disregarded), candidates would not be allowed to stray from the lectern while speaking, televised warning lights would indicate when a candidate had exceeded his time limit, candidates could not issue direct questions to one another, and candidates' statements could only consist of combinations of an agreed upon selection of 63 different vocabulary words. Or something like that. The highly restrictive agreement consisted entirely of terms generally agreed to be beneficial to the Bush camp, with the only exception being that Bush would not refuse to participate in the second of the three debates.

These grand limitations seemed likely to turn the presidential debates into alternating campaign speeches on the same stage rather than an interactive discussion of issues. Then I found out that the Commission on Presidential Debates was objecting to some of the agreement. I thought there might be some hope after all. But when I looked into the CPD I discovered that from 1976 to 1984 the non-partisan League of Women Voters ran the presidential debates. However, when the League did things that the Democrats and Republicans didn't like, such as including third party candidates, the Dems and GOP formed the CPD in 1988 as a way to regain control. So in the days leading up to the debates, I had rather effectively concluded that the debates were a carefully controlled sterile environment specifically designed by the major parties to avoid the risks of spontaneously discussing relevant issues.

After losing all faith in the process, I anxiously watched the first debate, and I was pleasantly surprised. Now, let's be honest. Maybe I was just more satisfied by the debate because Kerry had a better showing than Bush and the polls say the race is dead even again. I'm sure that fact has helped improve my opinion. However, I think the debate really ended up providing an effective contrast between the foreign policy ideals (and specific stances) of Bush and Kerry. It was especially personally gratifying to see Kerry clearly and concisely explain his Iraq position, hopefully transforming it from a weakness into a strength. But even Bush seemed generally effective at stating his positions and reasons. As is often his advantage, his simple (and arguably simplistic), plainspoken style made him appear very sincere in his statements. Even if he failed to convince me to believe him, Bush did a good job of convincing me that he genuinely believed himself (which, at times, is hard to believe).

While perhaps a bit repetitious at times, the first debate offered clarity to the choice that will be made on Nov 2, at least in the area of foreign affairs, where the president holds the most power. I'm looking forward to the upcoming vice presidential (October 5th), town hall (8th), and domestic policy (13th) debates and hope that they will clarify and emphasize other policy differences between the candidates as successfully as the first did. Despite the reluctance of many to support either of the two main candidates, the recent debate reminds us that there is a substantial difference in the way these two men will run this country. We have a legitimate choice. So pay attention. And choose.



# Columbus Day, Shmolumbus Day

Opinion by I Marc Becker

On October 12 of last year, Indigenous and peasant peoples from throughout the Americas gathered in Caracas, Venezuela for an International Encounter of Resistance and Solidarity. The purpose of the assembly was to strengthen the fight against neoliberal globalization and economic imperialism, and to build solidarity in favor of the earth and the people who live on it.

Globalization, of course, is not a new phenomenon. Neither is globalization necessarily a negative phenomenon. But Christopher Columbus and many other imperialists who have come after him represent the worst kind of globalization. Globalization in the form of the FTAA, the WTO, and the IMF continues to devastate the Indigenous peoples of the Americas 512 years after Columbus sailed the ocean blue.

Columbus is a classic grade school hero—and one that is built on a very tall pile of lies. We are told that he proved that the world was round, even though people had known this for millennia, and the only astounding thing about Columbus' ideas was how completely wrong he was (the earth was much larger than he thought). We are told that Columbus discovered America, yet with people living in this hemisphere for tens of thousands of years he discovered it only in the sense that a robber might be said to "discover" cash in a bank vault. We are told that he was a great sailor, yet his crew almost threw him overboard because of his gross incompetence. We think of him as an original thinker working outside of the box—and that characterization might actually work if we do not value critical, logical, or rational thought processes.

From an Indigenous point of view, Columbus symbolizes the destruction of cultures, languages, and belief systems. He took lands and livelihoods away from people, and subjugated them to slavery, foreign rule, and an alien culture. His conquest meant the negation, denial, and oppression of the identity of a people. His imperialism was designed to deprive people of the resources needed to survive, condemning them to a life of poverty in a world of plenty.

Far from being victims, Indigenous peoples continue today to defend their lives and cultures. Rather than be silent, they are writing their own history—as well as the history of the rest of the Americas. They have taken the lead in condemning neoliberalism that for the last half millennium has taken the wealth of the most impoverished peoples of our planet and given it to the richest and most powerful elite classes.

Indigenous peoples call on the rest of us and inspire us to globalize the struggle, to globalize the hope. Another world is possible!

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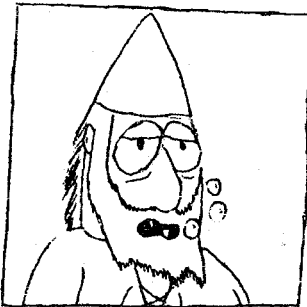
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Cartoon  
Personals  
by: Zach Boucher



Name: Drunken Gnome  
Age: God only knows  
Likes: Alcohol, puppies, flowers, alcohol, kitties, alcohol, balls of string, good times, alcohol  
Dislikes: People who say I've had enough—I hate those bastards. I may only weigh 5 pounds but I can outdrink anyone... Hey a quarter,

Comments: Alcohol is fun. I'm sorry. I'm so drunk right now, I've already had a 30 pack of PBR, a fifth of Jack, and a handle of vod ka... I'm sorry. What am I here for? Oh yea, a personal ad. All you sexy ladies out there call me.



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# A gathering of wizards at Truman

Story by | The Vampire

On the cold, dreary night of Wednesday, Sept. 29, a cloud hung low over the Student Union Building. General knowledge was that there was going to be a tournament of Magic in the SUB that night. People knew there were going to be wizards there. No one knew how many would be there, though.

Amateur Wizard Justin Anderson set up the tournament. He had been planning it ever since he had started to dabble in the dark art of Magic, which happened to be two weeks prior. I accompanied him on his journey along with an official judge for this meeting of the wizards, Master Wizard William Stevens. I had my sights set on entering into the tournament because I, being among the undead, have a small shred of knowledge about this "game" of casting spells and summoning creatures to battle called Magic: The Gathering. Anderson admitted to me that he was not sure that the turn out of wizards would be great in number.

We stepped through the grand doors of the Battle Chamber, and to our surprise, there were more than thirty wizards already casting their spells in practice for the competition. There were wizards there who had been playing with Magic for almost ten years. Many of these wizards I had known for quite some time without realizing that they had knowledge of this game. They lasted until the Battle Chamber had to be closed. There were three uni-



identified wizards battling together for the title. A circuit was also created for the wizards who were defeated in battle. The games were played in a double elimination fashion where two wizards would test their Magic skills against each other, and the wizard that won two times out of three would advance to battle another wizard that had won. I had the opportunity to speak with one of the wizards. Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, who happens to be running for U.S. House of Representatives, told me his story.

The first round of battles took place between him and a wizard draped in black. They both had control of several elves, forests and the forest creatures. Three battles were waged. In the first battle, The

Wizard in Black was victorious by unleashing his Priest of Titania, thus allowing him to summon bigger creatures, thus defeating the Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives. Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives, was not discouraged by one battle lost. He still had two battles to defeat The Wizard in Black. The next two rounds, Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives brought out his Wirewood Pride, essentially winning the match using his elves and the elves belonging to the Wizard in Black. The next battle was with another wizard who had many goblins and mountains under his control. At this point Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives was upset because of the lack of nicotine flowing through his veins. The wizard who controlled the goblins burned Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives using direct damage spells. Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives was defeated in the first two rounds, but was not ashamed, for this opponent was a worthy adversary. He was able to have his "victory" cigarette. The Wizard "Paid" Paul Kingston, candidate for U.S. House of Representatives walked out of the Battle Chamber with a feeling of accomplishment. It was not a matter of what wizard won or lost, it was a matter of who still had Magic.

## Bookstore

From page 1

wrote in an email. "As with Patty's and the Barnes & Noble store, their competitive advantage is they know what books are being used. If they give the information away, you can beat their prices online," he wrote.

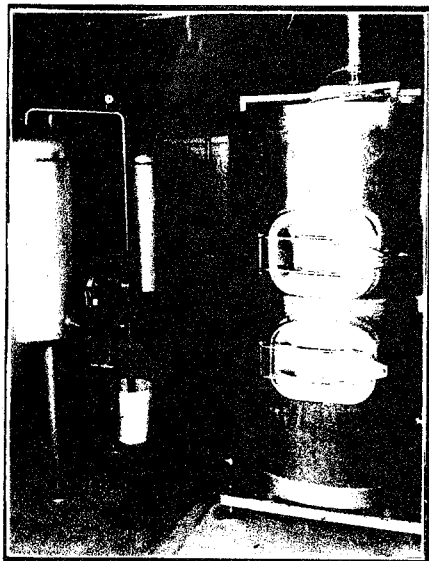
The University Bookstore, Patty's and Pricemonk.com all obtain their information from the same source: the division secretaries. Under the Sunshine Law, any student can obtain this information by inquiring at the same place. However, both Patty's and the University Bookstore do work to finalize the list of required textbooks, checking with professors, publishers, and divisions to rid the publicly available list that usually contains many errors. At bookstores owned by universities, such as at Mizzou, the bookstore is a public entity and finalized book lists must be fully disclosed. This is not the case at the Truman State University Bookstore.

The University Bookstore's five-year contract expires June 30 of this year, and Student Senate President Laura Keck expressed optimism that Senate could name at least one student to sit on the committee that will award the next contract. In the immediate future, President Keck described plans to name a student to an advisory committee that meets several times a year to air issues between the University and its bookstore.



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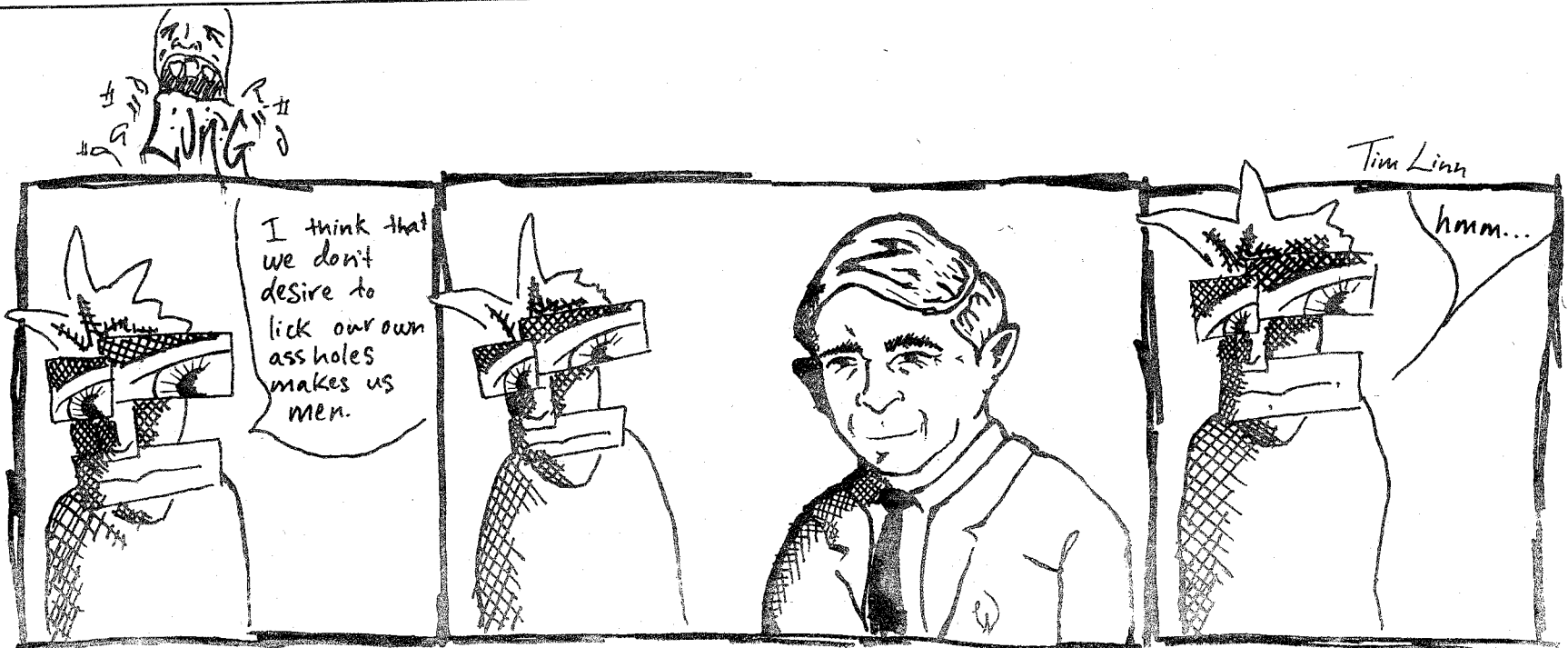


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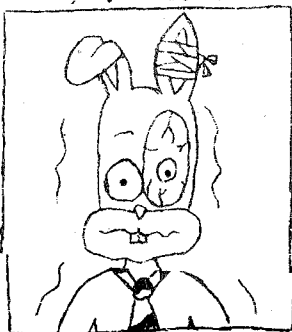
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# Cartoon Personals

by: Zach Boucsein



Name: Webster  
Age: 35  
Likes: elephant tranquilizer, weed, alcohol, anything to calm me down.  
Dislikes: my father, drunken Gnomes, bitches

Comments: I have a few mental disorders. I have schizophrenia, chronic depression, agoraphobia, claustrophobia, ADD, Post traumatic stress disorder, and hysterical pregnancy somehow. If someone still wants to go out with me, call.



Shaun Gaylor

Created by: Justin Anderson

## THE ADVENTURES OF Eager Cadet and the GIANT OCTOPUSS



Written & Inked by: Zhiad Kamvar

# My Back Pages

## The Oath of the Ding-Dong® Box

It started with John Williams™ in Fennario,  
 "One down, one to go let us march to Texaco®!"  
 We looked high, we looked low  
 we didn't know where to go.  
 So Ed Paschke™ played Fire on the Mountain©  
 with Godot.

But still no Black-ski.\*  
 Now we're really fiending for some so-dee-pop.  
 We had a run in with a cop  
 who gave us a broom, and yes a mop  
 and wisely said, "Ride this mop to the top  
 of Kum and Go®.  
 Bill Cosby™ will be there with the prize."

We hope it's a Black-ski\*  
 We'll settle for Dew-ski\*\*  
 How the fuck can we get to Bill Cosby™?  
 The cop disappeared, we just stared  
 We had our mop, but no flight of stairs.  
 Balls to the broom  
 we zoomed towards the moon  
 and landed on it (the moon)  
 which was on top of Kum and Go®  
 (this happens once every three months).  
 There was Bill Cosby™  
 And he was happy to see us.

Bill Cosby was drunk, and ready to flop.  
 He asked if we had the mop.  
 We gave it to him, he knew we were cool.  
 He said, "Let's get down to business fool!  
 We will make the Oath of the Ding-Dong® Box."

He whipped out a Black-ski\*  
 and a box of Ding-Dongs®.  
 "Look. I'm Bill Cosby™  
 and you guys can have all the Black-ski  
 you can handle as long as you eat  
 this box of Ding-Dongs® and count  
 how many have cream in them,  
 and how many don't.  
 It's important, okay?  
 Just come here in three more months  
 and give me the Ding-Dong® tally.  
 Alright. Peace. Bill Cosby™ out!"  
 And then he vanished,  
 we had Black-ski and bonus Ding-Dongs®  
 and a flying broom! Sweet! See you soon, Bill!"  
 And that is the Oath of the Ding-Dong® Box.  
 -Eta Rivmurt

\*Slang term referring to the new Pitch Black Mountain Dew©.

\*\*Slang term referring to Baja Blast©, the new  
 tropical lime-storm Mountain Dew©, only available at Taco Bell©.

In the spirit of the French Surrealist thinkers,  
 the Back Pages, humbly presents a page full of collabora-  
 tive poems. All poems included here were written by  
 more than one person, which is fun, exciting, even a  
 little kinky. Work your kinks out, and send em  
 to me, countzachula@hotmail.com. Hey, thanks to Mark  
 Spitzer for makin this possible. Peace.

The vast sky was devoid of everything  
 and then I saw a single light  
 its brightness eating at my corneas  
 eyes disillusioned by flashing orange light  
 reminded me of the sweetness r  
 unning down my arms  
 like when you take a bite  
 from a juicy peach  
 and the juice drips down your chin  
 like a baby with no muscle control  
 or a platypus without philosophy  
 sitting alone, peeling a banana  
 trying not to bite t  
 hose white stringy things t  
 hat taste bitter  
 like life.

-Joel Reschly, Matt Winet, Karla Linton,  
 Emilia Casava, Greg Seymour

Fire Burn  
 Smoke come from fire  
 Smoke is all that is left of my people  
 I think I just smoked your people.

-Poopslice

I miss the hair bands of the eighties  
 drugs, hairspray and easy groupies  
 cocaine backseat spraypaint leathersex  
 nipple clamps hard-ons taxi-cab quickies  
 peaceful evenings, falling lights  
 and pure freedom  
 this is what this city has to offer me  
 which is why I prefer a drunken stupor  
 and now I stand broken but proud  
 in my lived-in, low-rise boots t  
 he kind of boots that kick in teeth  
 but this time only my spirits  
 sorely in need of safety, unable to give in.  
 I continue walking only to find...  
 a deli  
 with freeze-dried felines unencumbered  
 take that you dirty bitch  
 yet notice the misleading tenderness  
 with which I speak

-John Torbitzsky, Russell N. Disbro, Lara Heisohm,  
 Laura Tabor, Evan Linville