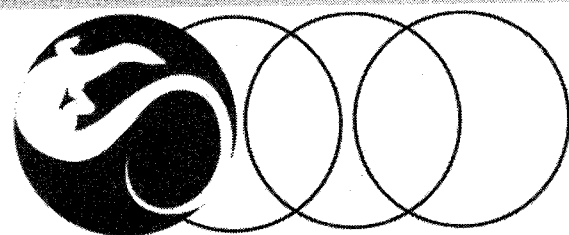




the monitor.



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The Monitor is published every other Tuesday.
We meet every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in BH 346.
Each writer is responsible for his or her own work.

"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

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Write for The Monitor

Meet: Thursdays @ 8PM in BH 346
Submit to: monitortrm@hotmail.com

Join the Fray

Editors' Box

Hello and welcome. This issue is anything but boring. Did you know that the two-term limit on the presidency might be lifted, allowing for ANOTHER Bush vs. Clinton race? Shit. When will it end....? I'm so sick of polarity. Insanity...

In other news, after centuries of peace, full-out civil war looms in Ghana as clans vie to appoint the successor of a recently beheaded king. Our world news digest also covers the growing issue of child-trafficking in America, which is worse than you might think.

Victims of another kind were addressed in the Missouri Senate this past week. Senators proposed a law to legally bind hospitals to provide emergency contraceptives to rape victims. The bill is titled CARE, and you can read about it on page four. Write your Senator. I'm sure he/she receives emails. It'll take you five minutes. Maybe it would help if you say please, too.

On a more cheerful note: PUPPIES. The ATO fraternity aimed to make a million dollars by creating small time periods to personally "adopt" a puppy, reports contributor Sherman Djugshivili. They were very popular. If you flip to page five, you can see Aaron Baker try to steal one.

Here's a Thank You to another upstanding member of the community, Joe Moccia, the cover designer. His work is invaluable to the paper.

The new photography page is also very sharp - and may I say very professional, too. It features thought-provoking shots by very talented photographers. In addition to the one right here, which happened when Emily R. and Frances D. (who I am writing this) were heading home from a party and saw a gigantic paper towel roll slid onto a low-lying tree branch. She took the picture while moving in 'nighttime' setting and the result is to the right. Accidental art.

Anyway, come to our meetings with your ideas, and send us all your work. We (including you) meet in Baldwin Hall, Rm. 346, at 8:00 on Thursday (any Thursday... except for last Thursday. Don't come last Thursday.).

And as always, Enjoy.

Frances D.

Andres Delgado

Jon Lawinger

(who I did not write this)

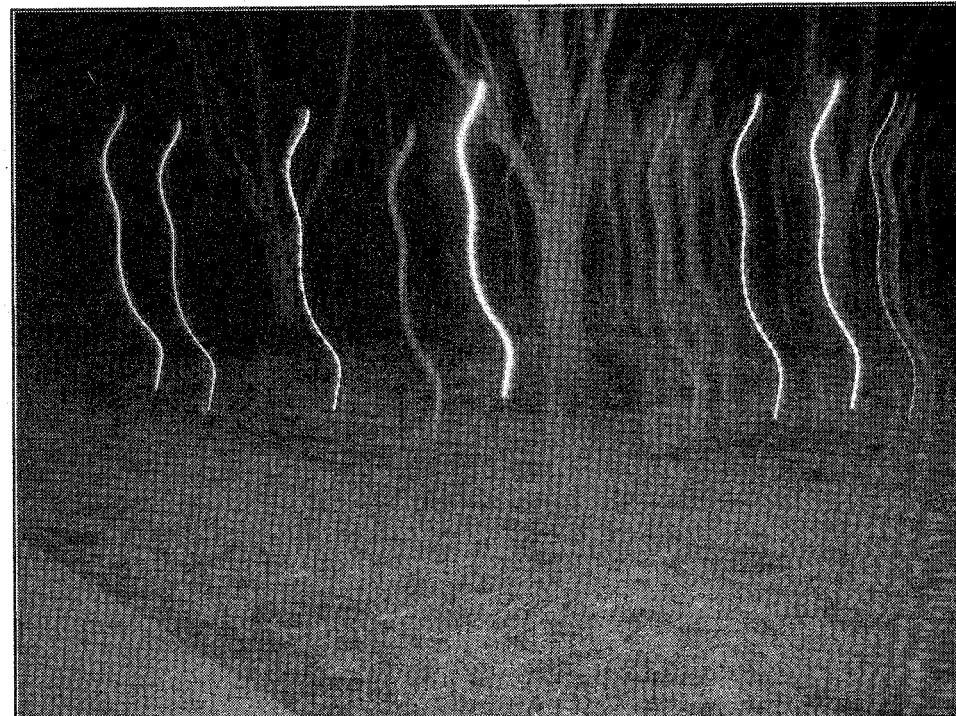
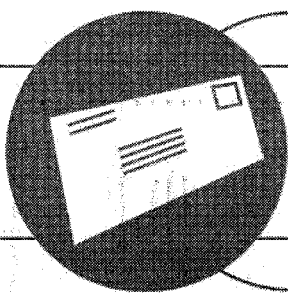


photo by >> Emily Randall

letters



Two troubling developments need attention

Many of us devoted Monitor contributors wondered how soon locally, never mind nationally, after the conservative Bush takeover of all three branches of governance, these blokes would more to bring out the worst in (gullible) people! Well, judging by two events happening on this campus they are moving fast: to yet further consolidate their closed-mindedness against all prospects of genuine change and hope for human improvement.

The first portent is the flyposting of expensive, well-papered notices all over the campus (the town will be next, I wager, if they get this project off the ground). All boasting a faculty of education e-mail response number for what is called a "students' rights, conservative, and independent" newspaper being founded, to be labeled "the Missouri Statesman!" The second ominous sign is that the Index's very worst writer, P. Sharma - not above attacking publicly his own UK-based Asian family as mum's, representatively there, herself anti-US/Bush War - unjustly gave an interview, first Feb. issue to one of TSU's most-critiqued program administrators, even in that paper. In

which course of, it becomes plain that both the columnist and his (very) fawned-upon subject, Study Abroad Director P. Lecaque, want Study Abroad to be made FEE-COMPULSORY on yourselves!

Now, taking each reactionary development carefully, let's state in the people's genuine defense vehicle, the radical Monitor, why such promotions alike deserve "Not on Our Community, Nelly," rip-off health warnings! Before they do, indeed, become funded TSU holy writ, at your student fee and my taxpayer, mutual unwanted expenses!

Frankly the idea that this community needs yet another "conservative" media outlet is farcical in the extreme. Ever since the present management of the Kirksville Daily Express absorbed the once-independent, free Kirksville Town Crier, I know as I once had uniquely rare letters published in it in favor of female abortion-choice rights and FDR/JFK big government programs for the poor, this community has NOT had one single, consistent "liberal" outlet save the Index in an occasional good mood, distributionally. TV consists solely of ABC and FOX. And if the Statesman arrives, every effort will be made to crush out the existence of the rare TSU *Monitor* by two means in complete extinguishing of local radicalism and feminism, progressive poetry altogether! Basically, following well-tried prac-

tices in areas like Springfield in this state and nationally, vast numbers of student "evangelicals" will be recruited to inflate readers' claimed "mass" circulation; middle pages will be "standardised" with Washington conservative think-tank thoughts against all Islam and for "back to basics" academics calls! All with the intent of elbowing out Monitor dissent and vital Funds Allotment Council/local advertising, by the reactionaries, fraudulently, asserting they, and they alone, represent the "normal, moderate majority!"

Finally, the same scam will be played out on Study Abroad. In order to make its money "work," students will be, falsely, told that this is the sole way they can, authentically get a "taste of abroad," with its higher education standards and, as the writer M. Ignatieff has once put it, its "more integrated" intellectual culture! Never mind that, in the Laval University Quebec exchange program, a better model exists! In that TSU students there don't have to pay any exorbitant TSU fees and are more demandingly graded by active Laval teachers whilst still getting TSU credit for a much cheaper host-family or independent program than Lecaque has ever offered in his remorseless empire building! Secondly, TSU Study Abroad is forever passing off institutions in Scandinavia and the UK as fully TSU University-equivalent, although said institutions are not, strictly or

legally speaking, "universities." Edge Hill College - Liverpool, for instance, is their current "HE" favored object to tout. Yes, it does, now, offer degrees. But it is not comparable in either libraries or academic staff extent to the REAL Merseyside HE, long-established Universities of Liverpool and John Moores campuses! I know, as I once championship debated at the University of Liverpool myself. And Edge Hill teachers-training college's most famous graduate, the reactionary, anti-choice Lord Alton himself prefers to be, it must be conceded, a competent Chancellor of John Moores' real HE place, where one gets one's money's worth!

Monitor readers must act as vigilantes for integrity against two essential conservative cons doing the TSU-reactionary rounds in false prospectus 2005 right now! Cons are afoot!

-Larry Iles

Send your letters to The Monitor mailbox in the CSI, or to monitortrm@hotmail.com. Letters may be edited for length.

Monitor Contests

Due Monday March 14:

The Monitor's first ever

*Person of the Year
Short Answer Contest*

Time Magazine chose George W. Bush as 2004's Person of the Year. In 50 words or less, tell us your choice and why it would be better.

First Prize: \$25

Send Entries by March 14 to
Monitortrm@hotmail.com

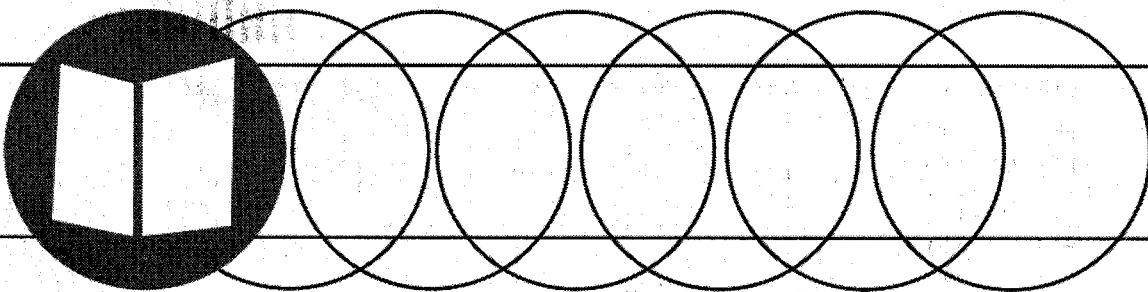
Announcing The Monitor's Fourth Semesterly
Short Story Contest

The Rules:

- Maximum 1000 words per entry
- Maximum 3 entries per entrant
- Selected entries will appear in the May 4 issue of The Monitor
- Entries due by April 18th

First Prize: \$50

Send Entries to
Monitortrm@hotmail.com



Pro-choice state senators introduce CARE Act

story by | Emily Randall

This month, Senate Bill No. 379, the "Compassionate Assistance for Rape Emergencies (CARE) Act" was filed. The first reading of the bill took place on Feb. 17, and was introduced by Senator Maida Coleman (D-5) along with the five other pro-choice Missouri Senate members.

The CARE Act provides that:

- Any hospital or health care facility will provide accurate, objective information about emergency contraception orally to victims of sexual assault.

- Persons who provide care for victims must be educated about emergency contraception.

- The department of health and senior services would produce informative, objective materials on emergency contraception to be distributed to all health care facilities in large enough quantities to distribute. The information must explain the nature of emergency contraception, including that it does not cause abortion.

- If the department of health and senior services determines a hospital or health care facility does not perform these duties, a fine of \$5,000 fine will be imposed, in addition to

another \$5,000 per woman who is denied emergency contraception.

The emergency contraception pill is an effective way to prevent an unwanted pregnancy after rape. Each year, approximately 25,000 women in the United States become pregnant as a result of rape, approximately 22,000 of which could have been prevented with the use of emergency contraception. NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri recently conducted a study which found that 39% of Missouri hospitals do not provide emergency contraception to rape victims in the emergency room.

Amendment may clear way for Bush v. Clinton 2008

story by | Ian Florida

Oh, the Constitution, such a wonderful document. Why would anyone want to change it? The Constitution has, in fact, been changed only 27 times, with many of the amendments coming directly after its ratification, this we know as our Bill of Rights. Here is its brief history of change. James Madison, who ultimately ended up penning our Bill of Rights, initially detested the idea of amending our Constitution for their inclusion. As a follower of the natural rights philosophy, Madison believed most of these rights to be assumed. He was cautious in writing this "Bill of Rights," because he believed he might not include all the rights that we are accorded. Despite his hesitations he pushed through these first ten amendments. A few more were added after the Civil War to ensure rights for the newly freed African-Americans.

There has been talk of two new amendments in recent news which would directly affect the election of 2008. Amend For Arnold is one such item reaching us in recent events. This amendment would remove the provision requiring the President to be a natural-born citizen. However, this controversial amendment has not been introduced, it has not been put to committee, and it may be too radical to pass.

But, there is another. One possible match-up for the 2008 election is Hillary Clinton (D-NY)

against Jeb Bush, governor of Florida. The next amendment would make it possible for former President Bill Clinton to throw his hat into the ring against the incumbent George W. Bush. It would even allow for a Bush family tag team of father and son running as pres and vp. How would this be done? H. J. Res. 9 was introduced by Congressman Serrano (D-NY) earlier this year. The sixteen-word resolution reads as follows:

"The twenty-second article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed."

The 22nd Amendment was introduced in March of 1947 and was not ratified until March of 1951. It called for the number of terms a president could serve to be limited to two. Franklin D. Roosevelt had been elected to four consecutive terms just prior. He was dead at the time, but the legislature thought they should prevent a similar occurrence from happening again.

WORLD NEWS for the people of Earth

Beheaded king's successor in doubt, war looms

story by | Nicole Rainey

(Yendi, Ghana)

In March of 2002, Ya-Na Yakubu, the King of Dagbon (one of eight traditional kingdoms in Ghana) was brutally murdered-insurgents beheaded him and paraded his head on a spear. His head and arm went missing immediately.

Although the Abudu and Andani clans alternated power over the country in peace for 600 years they have been viciously feuding since 1974. During the 2002 insurgency, the Abudu not only killed Yakubu (the Andani king) they also gunned down his palace and killed 30 planned elders.

Because of his missing head and arm, Yakubu laid unburied in a hospital morgue for two years. The missing parts were recently found, and the Andanis plan to bury him in a newly built palace. Following the burial, they will name a successor.

However, the Abudus claim that they ought to be the ones to appoint a successor. The modern Ghanan government is having a difficult time mediating this conflict. Although no fighting has broken out yet (there are government troops keeping the peace) tensions are growing and many are incredibly worried that war is eminent.

Child trafficking (not Power Wheels)

story by | Emily Randall

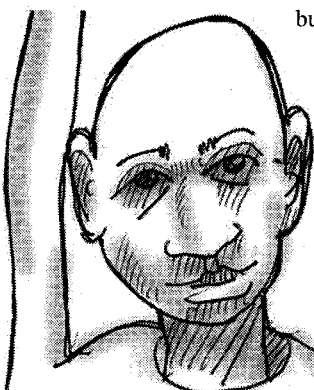
In Yemen on January 8-9, a conference was held to address the growing problem of child trafficking across the border.

The Yemen government set up the committee with Saudi authorities because the most common destination for trafficked children is Saudi Arabia. Government ministers are in the process of criminalizing the act of child trafficking.

A recent study performed by UNICEF was instrumental in directing the government's attention toward this rising problem. While it is impossible to know the precise number of children trafficked each year due to a lack of an information system at the borders, the study estimated the number to be 50,000.

The biggest contributing factor to child trafficking in Yemen is poverty. About 42% of Yemenis are considered poor. Many of these people send their children abroad to work and send back money. It is estimated that 65.5% of children trafficked end up living on the streets.

The Yemeni government is currently conducting its own study in attempt to make their own estimate on the size of the problem.



Too many puppies

story by | Sherman Djughshivili

On the morning of Feb. 24, senior Justin Anderson sets up his operation on the edge of the Quad with a heater, a pickle jar devoid of anything but a few coins, and six puppies rambling around and doing what puppies do. This was the start of the Alpha Tau Omega Puppy-a-Thon, a fundraising event that would benefit the Victim Support Services of the Kirksville community.

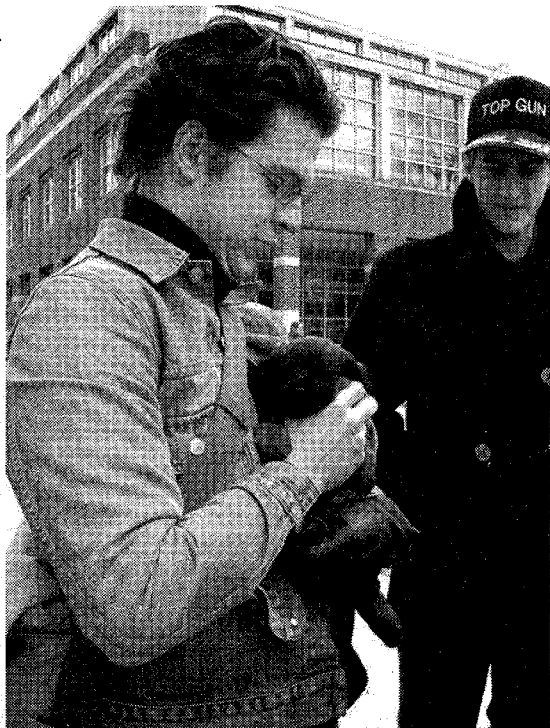
The weather was a bit cold that morning, but the heater and a few blankets in cardboard boxes kept the puppies warm and toasty. When the passing period started, people noticed the puppies on the Quad and they were immediately drawn towards the squirming creatures full of utter cuteness. The five-week-old puppies compelled people to throw money into a jar like nothing other. The puppies came from Anderson's Labrador, Abbie, when she gave birth in late Jan. The little dogs were accompanied by the music of such artists as Meatloaf, MC

Hammer, Michael Jackson, and Primus. All that, in combination with the last half of the week, made for a great fundraiser.

By three in the afternoon that day, you could hardly go anywhere on campus without hearing something about "ATO's puppies". By that time, people were starting to temporarily "adopt" puppies for a sum of \$5 an hour. By Thursday and Friday, people were taking puppies for \$10 an hour. Many people would take the puppies, but would be reluctant to return them. "I remember one girl was close to tears when she was returning li'l Abner," Anderson said, reflecting on the day's fundraising.

Often during a passing period, at least ten people would be standing around the table, holding and playing with the puppies. These puppies were playfully romping into the hearts of the students for three days between Pickler Memorial Library and Baldwin Hall.

"It's the cutest fundraiser we have ever done," commented Anderson last Friday. Their goal was for a million dollars. Sure, it seemed far-fetched, but it could happen.



ATO Aaron Baker holds a puppy in front of Pickler Memorial Library during the fraternity's Puppy-A-Thon fundraiser last week.

Unfortunately it didn't, as Anderson clearly stated in a drive-by interview, "I'm so disappointed with us, we couldn't even clear \$800. Our final total is \$794.50 for Victim Support Services. We had, like, \$59 in change." Despite his disappointment, that is still quite a sum of money going to help battered women in the Kirksville area.

"We [Alpha Tau Omega] would like to thank everyone who donated to the VSS and also the people who are going to give these puppies good homes," said Worthy Master of Alpha Tau Omega, Charles Lyndell Weaver III on Friday evening after all the money was counted.

"These puppies would not have survived for many weeks longer if they had stayed with me, for sure. I just knew that I needed to find them good homes and quick," Anderson said, with a tear rolling down his face as he gave away the last puppy. The puppies were auctioned off in a silent auction that ended at 3:00 PM on Friday. All the puppies were given good homes.

Volunteerism opportunities in the Kirksville area!

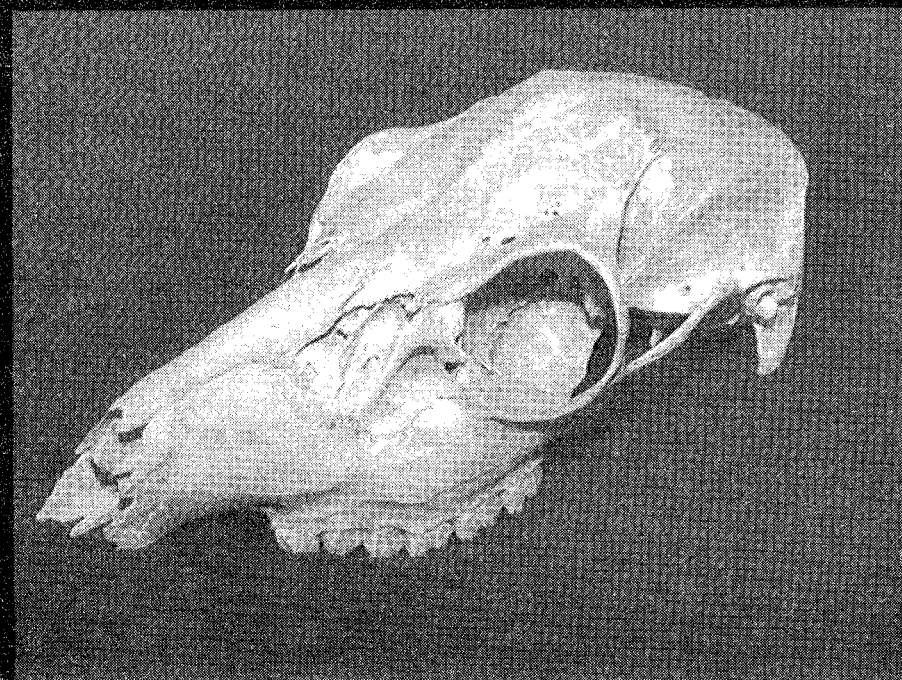
<h3>Help feed the hungry in this area</h3> <p>Through the Hope's Kitchen program, volunteers cook, serve, and deliver food. Interested parties can donate food, supplies, or money, as well as their time.</p> <p>Michelle 665-6353</p>	<h3>Senior volunteers wanted</h3> <p>Even old people can get involved! The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program exists specifically to assist people over 55 in finding fulfilling volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Pat Selby 665-8314</p>	<h3>Habitat for Humanity home building</h3> <p>Habitat for Humanity provides many different modes of involvement for interested volunteers. Jobs include fund raising, building site selection, partner family support, and, of course, house construction itself.</p> <p>Trey Robinson d1309@truman.edu</p>	<h3>Religiously-oriented pregnancy resource center wants help</h3> <p>Lifeline Pregnancy Resource Center runs a non-profit facility in Kirksville "to help soon-to-be mothers deal with the responsibilities of raising a child." Lifeline is in need of "prayer warriors," peer counselors, fundraising help, and general-task help.</p> <p>lifeline@kvmo.net 665-5688</p>
<h3>Musicians needed to play for the ill</h3> <p>Anyone willing to donate their musical gift to the sick or lonely is encouraged to contact Musical Cure. Performance sites include Twin Pines, Geroge Rea Cancer Center, Kirksville Hospice, A. T. Still Rehab Center, more.</p> <p>Jason Chen 349-0354</p>	<h3>Abuse victims need support volunteers</h3> <p>Victim Support Services depends upon your help to aid families by interacting with affected families, cleaning and maintaining safe houses, and maintaining a crisis line.</p> <p>Jeny Jones 665-0021</p>	<h3>Lend your services to the tired, the poor, the huddled animals</h3> <p>Animals need someone to clean their cages and feed and water them. Services provided through the facilitation of the Adair County Humane Society.</p> <p>The photo backdrop for this feature is of an under-6-month-old puppy offered for adoption by the Society for \$55, held by sophomore Annie Schippers. Photo by Sansanee L. Surwaratana.</p> <p>For directions, see the Society's website at petfinder.org/shelters/MO60.html</p> <p>Patty Rogers 665-8038</p>	<h3>Area schools want tutors, intramurals, reading volunteers</h3> <p>The Kirksville School District asks for volunteers to serve at its high school, middle school, and elementary school. Interested applicants can help by guest speaking, tutoring, or lending their services to "special projects."</p> <p>Pat Williams, KHS 665-4631</p>

Photography

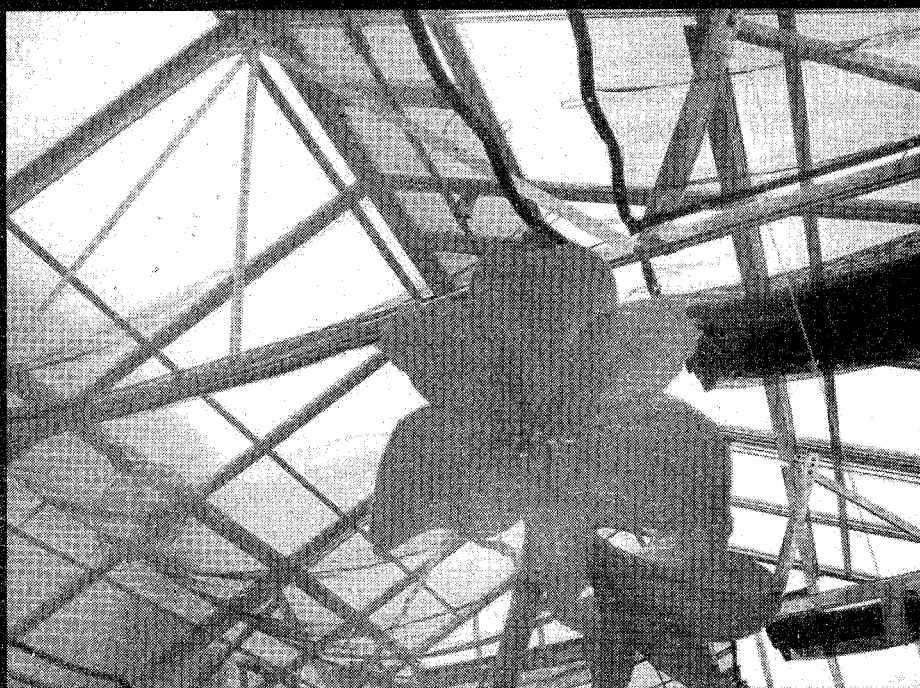
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Phil Jarret



Zhion Komvor



Samantha Sanchez



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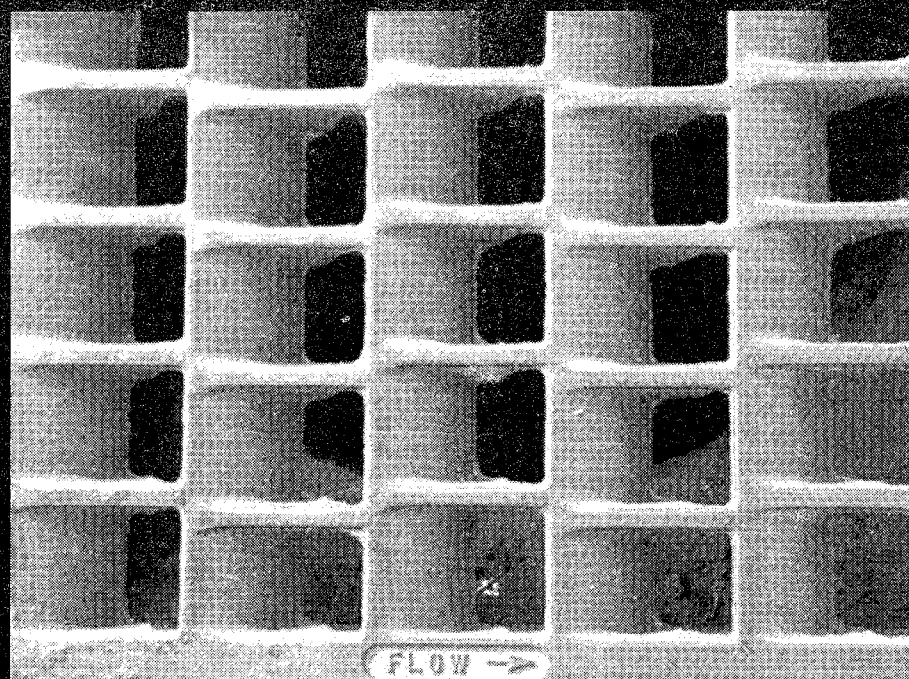
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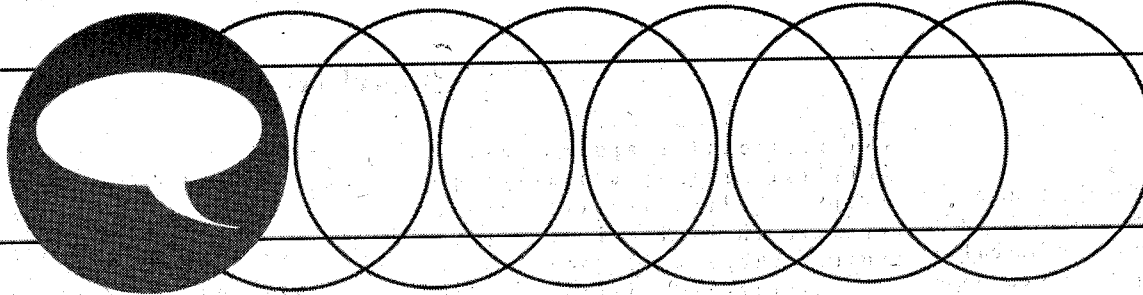
Phil Jarret



Jon Lawinger



Phil Jarret



Lawsuits an avenue for public justice, corporate abuse

opinion by | Marc Becker

Home Depot has been labeled "the most dangerous store in America."

Emphasizing profit over safety, the world's largest home improvement retailer and the second-largest retailer in the U.S. stacks shelves high with lumber and heavy merchandise creating canyons of death and injury in their stores.

In 1999, a 75-pound box of wood fell 20 feet to kill 79-year-old Mary Penturff. Six months later, 2,000 pounds of kitchen counter-tops fell from a forklift and crushed 3-year-old Janessa Horner. Two months later, a ton of falling landscaping timbers killed 41-year-old Jerry Mead.

Home Depot refuses to release a comprehensive list of their customers who have been killed or injured, or to discuss the topic. CEO Bob Nardelli prefers to settle with the families than to change the way he operates his stores. Apparently the corporate giant receives about 185 injury claims per week.

Nardelli is one of the primary supporters of George Bush's efforts to limit the rights of consumers to bring lawsuits against corporations. He considers these lawsuits to be frivolous, but such suits are one of few avenues that the public has to force corporations to respect people's lives, property, and happiness. Nardelli also opposes federal regulations that would force corporations to operate in ways that would protect the public interest.

Public Citizen reports that corporations file four times as many lawsuits as do individuals, and they are more likely to be penalized by judges for pursuing frivolous litigation. The U.S. is greatly in need of tort reform to limit the ability of corporations to sue individuals, and to facilitate the ability of the public to bring class-action lawsuits against corporations.

Of Home Depot's \$716,270 donations to political parties in 2004, 94 percent went to the Republicans. Among local corporate retailers, they are only surpassed by Wal-Mart who donated 80 percent of their \$2,005,516 political contributions to the GOP.

Until federal regulations or costly lawsuits become more expensive than safety measures, Home Depot will not be a safe place to shop. Friends don't let friends shop Republican.

Last fall I wrote a letter to the editor in The Monitor complaining that the corporately owned Barnes & Noble University Bookstore regularly made a mess of book orders for my

classes. I urged them to contact me regarding their current fiasco, but I never heard from them. The book in question finally arrived at the end of the semester, well after we needed it for class. Unfortunately, despite their gross incompetence, the Board of Governors has renewed their contract for next year.

Of Barnes & Noble's \$103,850 donations to political parties in 2004, 98 percent went to the Democrats.

U-Haul threatened to sue Becker when he publicly complained on a website that "their severely over-booked reservation system left him homeless with all of his belongings out on the curb." Becker has never sued anyone.

Bush perpetrates an unforgivable lie

opinion by | Larry Iles

Henceforth, it is becoming starker than ever. Whilst, yes, our Bushite controllers of all 3 branches of government USA are, indeed, classically conservative, stupid, malign retards in their costly authoritarian worship goals for us of their rich selves reactionarily, they are far from stupid tacticians in their pursuit of one essential historical truth. He today who wins politically does so in a chauvinistic, aggressive sense on somewhat their nasty twofold terms. Either by making sure propagandistically we their opponents of both genders' arguments are never heard! Or less difficultly, by their using DECEPTIVE, even liberal reassurance lingo, against us, so that DULLED we are unalert to their nefariousness. More wider, especially on commercial, insular US feelgood tv, they thereby mislead a woefully under-educated, over-worked wage-slaver public into acceptance of their dangerous follies non-long term thinkingly.

Counteringly, of both such tendencies to drown out basic commonsense progressive, reasoning alertness, former British Labour party feminist International Development/Overseas Aid minister, Clare Short, after her resignation from the Blair government over Iraq follies has been mag-

nificently active, conscientiously. I had the pleasure myself of first-time hearing and congratulating her in full such rebuttal flow, with Robin Cook, at an overflow crowd capacity meeting at last September's Brighton homeland convention, rebel Socialist COMPASS group formation meeting! She comprehends this stark, reactionary ugliness all too well, as Blair, like Bush junior, loves its soundbite shortness of memory lull effect all too well alike! That's why she's entitled her new memoirs, AN HONOURABLE DECEPTION? (The Free Press, London, 2004, ISBN 0-7432-6932-8. Wherein, while she mainly contents chronicles from the inside, the Iraqi occupation pretext deceit of her former DE JURE boss Blair for his DE FACTO master, Bush junior, she's nevertheless characteristically all herself best in Birmingham M.P.'s pluck. In being more vexed, still, about all our endangered future as a planet from missile conflagration pervasively, a subject the Bushites and Blair personally have made on TV a taboo, or silence matter, even more deceptively than the lack of Saddam's such WMD in the world's second largest oil, gas extraction terra firma area!

Therefore, Short spotlights (Page 31), a timely reminder to us all that "the US is now committed to an escalation (of weapons) by deploying a system of National Missile Defence(NMD)". And, indeed, that a key US overseas base like Flyingdales Observatory Station in our own supposedly sovereign European state's English North country has already been sinisterly "modified" to expressly sustain the installation of these frightening horrors. The Bushite PROPAGANDA euphemism obediently parroted by Blairite defense ministers in UK, Hoon and Caplin, is artificially, softeningly, to call this escalatory process "modernization" in comic world Judge Dredd---here we come--- nastiness!

Too, in further realtime worry ugliness, when Bush junior visited Canada last fall, both the 2 key Left-Center Opposition Commons political parties there, her sister Socialist New Democrats (the NDP) and the Bloc Quebecois (the BQ), were outraged mutually in disgust as MPs, meritoriously. That not "only" did their arrogant "Liberal" (Canadian equals often /expedient "Centerists") government with western Conservative party "Opposition" overt collusion, refuse to permit their elected leaders, Jack Layton and G. Duceppes, see the Texan fool, except condescendingly as if a monarch at a state 'repas'!. To, thus, Bush not having to hear their voters, massive over 3 million, refusal to condone Canada, the world's second biggest land space, being "signed-up" to

this NMD USA nonsensicality! But they were upset about the fact, too, belying entirely his professed "second-term" pledge to fully "consult" world peoples elsewhere than the comparably small territory USA, Bush instead abused his own key Canadian public speech in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Nominally, it was supplicant White House Press Corp deceitfully advance billed as a "thank you", for those civilian Canadians who had put up FREELY in their poor economy homes, routed on safety grounds 9/11 US airline passengers. Instead, insultingly, undiplomatically to his actual foreigner hosts, Bush, the Texan nasty, publicly insisted Canada IMMEDIATELY install US STAR WARS TWO components like Short's aforementioned Flyingdales, there and then!! No pretense of democratic consent being sought, but of course THE DECEPTION impression cunningly in tactics misleadingly given to the US home TV audience that wrongly Canada was reassuringly doing what it was imperially by Bush oil dynasty told!!!

Of course, since Canada, unlike us here in the rural primitive USA backwardness, has a strong, vigilant, urbane public broadcasting LEFT CENTER culture (BBC originally modeled CBC, radio in conceptual cognitive word power enlargingly as much as less ad interrupted TV), Bush UP THERE "bushwhacked" himself by this Halifax rant, ill-mannered preppie as he is on NMD introduction. So far, thereat by his blatant to we foreigners eyes at least deceit! Most Canadians by most opinion polls in survey, like many Europeans, feel in the words alarmingly presciently of their former Liberal foreign minister, now Professor Dr Lloyd Axworthy once writing on Reagan's ancestor Star wars scheme to the present Bushite foolhardiness! That, I quote, "SDI (Strategic Defense Missile Initiative USA as it was then so too duplicitously miscalled) "represents the ultimate in nuclear perversion--the self-deceiving and foolish belief. That man can safely withstand and survive a nuclear exchange" (DE NOVO,---THE JOURNAL OF LIBERAL THOUGHT magazine, Summer 1985, p.6)

Yet TODAY the sore fact remains that here in the crass, selfish USA indifferently with the exception of a few US radicals such as Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich, like Short a Progressive Catholic in background, with his excellent home Department of Peace creation alternative notion, to counter the US Pentagon's OCTOPUS grip on tv and cinema "thrill", bloodless fare, most Missouri and similar Bush voters are probably not even informatively, FACTUALLY aware. That Star Wars 2 is already the LARGEST con-

continued on page 9

Bush lie

from page 8

tributor, barring even the Iraq and projected Iran invasion wars terra firma, TO OUR FINANCIAL BANKRUPTCY in DC budget deficit cost to their stupidly trusted Texan dynasty, Jeb next from Florida, Arnie in the future, misruling us all! Crazy, its not just "Voodoo economics" in not arithmetically adding up as Bush senior once damned Reagan in 1980 when I aghast heard him as a senior US history teacher assistant at the University of Illinois. IT'S 2005 SPACE FOLLIES IMMINENT DEFICIT RUINATION!

So let's unravel the deceit sedulously fostered by Bush and his compliant TV media. "Star Wars II" instead should survive purely as a popular CHILDRENS/TEENS movie rental title, and be in its Bush foolhardiness form dismantled entirely in its wasted billions of dollars, PHD plaything costly stupidity, right away! The idea of "SHOOTING DOWN" from outer space EVERY missile not yours is bizarrely unscientific as progressive US scientists have long reality check tried to sober up this ELMER GANTRY delusional presidential nit wit. Because most "tests", under Reagan, Clinton, or Bush junior, have shown UNDENIABLY, in elementary sober rationality FACT. THAT THE MAJORITY OF ANY SUCH INCOMING MISSILES STATISTICALLY WOULD GET THROUGH, STILL! You and I, reader, would likely mathematically in statistical actuality be fried, totally brain dead, as Fred Astaire chose to thespianly be rather than face the devastation in his suicided car in the Oz movie version of the novel ON THE BEACH.

Secondly, NMD has encouraged already, as Bush's supposed "anti-terrorist" invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan have done in fostering "terrorism" and the hard narcotics capitalist drugs trade, the therefore INEXACT, very such "enemy" missile nuke proliferation GROWTH it is claimed it is designed to assuage! In other words: both KGB state capitalist Putin's Russia and thriving (economically) Communist China have now announced in common solidarity. They

will build previously abandoned such NMD missiles of theirs for their own "defense" (against solely the USA) precisely since now Bush is belligerently in aggressive cowboy US TV posture going hipster pistol shakingly, ridiculously ahead with his own babyface, own unworkable SDI II, NMD useless but so ruinously expensive to YOU toys!

American-based progressives thus should regard it as our supreme, incumbent ecological duty sacrosanctly as human species survival-seekers with Short and Axworthy throughout AD 2005 and beyond in ken and kith humanity, true care vision. To communicate to even the very dumbest Bush religious "nut", male voters and US tv couch potato addicts of mental pulp in decrepitude en masse. That Bush simpleton "EVIL" NMD policy is the inexact, ultimate form of self-inflicted terror escalation folly, and unenvironmental planetary waste in nerdy, needless "tests", or a total ANTI-LIFE NON-ETHOS in unscriptural lingo of theirs. We must propagandize back. We simply cannot, ever, afford it as a country, no more than even more unprotected large Canada or tiny Britain and Eire can or should be perilously asked to endure so calamitously. That NMD is a Pentagon-Cheney old machismo jobs for their wastrel boys scam in inexactitude and counterproductivity to earth's whole potential healthier future wellbeing. It is indeed in undiscussed by US Bush bought TV, W.M.D.

But this time monetarily and nuke finito destructive harbinger for real. JUST BECAUSE IN DECEIT TACTICAL CUNNING, US TV DOES NOT SHOW NMD DOES NOT MEAN IT IS NOT HAPPENING NOW!

Correction: A gremlin crept into my last article on the TSU French debate. The homophobic and anti-feminist European commissioner rejected by the Euro Parliament the same week as a slight majority of US voters were last campaign week endorsing his "values" was of course a fanatical ANTI-Communist, rather than Communist nominee, as befits him as a later withdrawn nominee of the Fascist-backed current Italian government in Rome!

Dear Journal,

Today was quite remarkable in several respects. In the first instance, a singular gentleman of swarthy persuasion made an outburst at a convivial gathering not thirty minutes hence. He was irked by what he perceived as his isolation in a society that embraced not his particular idiosyncrasies as part of the "main stream." With the strain of a chronic anger telling in his raised voice, he promised retribution upon the many and various attendees of the masquerade ball. A taller gentleman took up the gauntlet laid down by the former, and indeed goaded him on to greater vociferousness, apparently for the taller gentleman's own amusement. The two nearly came to blows, and had, were it not for the intervention of a waifish young lady of bobbed auburn hair. She interposed between the would-be combatants and expressed her empathy for the first-mentioned

gentleman, protesting that, her admitted paller notwithstanding, she felt fully the suffering and anger which the gentleman regarded as his private burden.

I was, to say the least, taken somewhat aback by these proceedings, as I must say, the gravity of the situation dawned on me but slowly. Only when the two had been separated and the young lady removed the angry gentleman to behind closed doors, only then, I say, did I become fully aware of the potential the situation had possessed to escalate to fisticuffs. It occurred to me that I may have been called upon to enforce the Marquis of Queensbury's rules, of which my memory should have proved but tenuous at best. Fortunately the matter ended there.

And all is well that ends well, as they say. Unfortunately, the current of anger that was exposed by chemical incitants certainly still runs, unseen, when the liquor ebbs. These people were so fucking drunk.

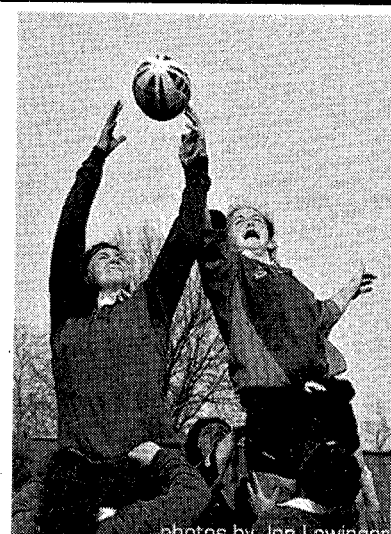
Moreover did I eat pizza today. That was another real thing that happened.

Cheers,

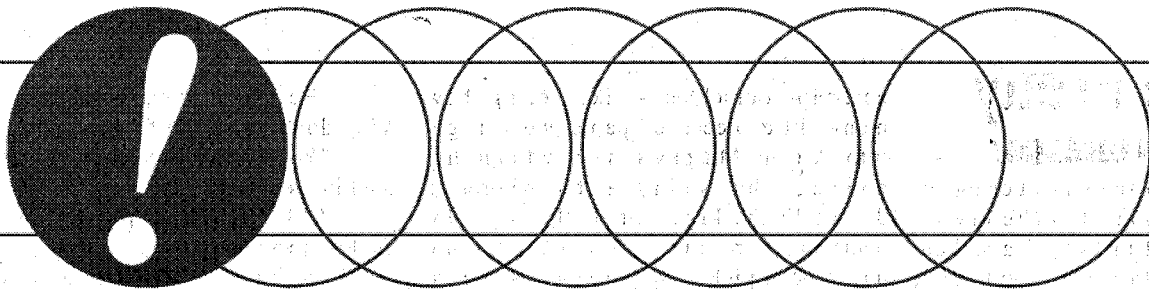
Andrés R. Delgado, Esq.

Sports Snaps TSU Bullets Rugby Team

Playing against the University of Kansas on Saturday, February 26, 2005



photos by Jon Lawinger



The Vagina Monologues probe deep within us all

An interview with Nikki Burk, cast member of The Vagina Monologues

interview by | Ian Florida

It takes guts to get up there in front of several hundred people. It takes an uncanny confidence, even if the play was the "Crucible." But when the performance requires one to stand up and discuss the center of who they are and who they want to be; when the play makes it mandatory that one's deepest self is thrown wide open for the whole world, the play becomes more than a play. It becomes a manifesto. This is a look at one of the women who not only has the courage to believe, but speak and act on her beliefs.

Nikki Burk became a self-described feminist at Nerinx Hall. Before this performance she had auditioned for only one other play, and had not won the part. It was hard enough for her to summon the strength to audition for any play after being shot down, but this issues and character of this play are so close to her heart as to have made it an obvious decision. She had to audition.

"Yeah, I was scared to audition," Nikki said in a recent interview, "but this is something I'm passionate about. I didn't get involved much in high school and I didn't want that to be the case at Truman."

I asked her what gave her the idea to audition for this play. "I see all these injustices in our society," she said, "They piss me off. I see this as a great way to address them. I think we did a great job of doing just that."

The rehearsals focused on cast bonding. "One of the things I came out of this play with was new friends. It really brought us together. The rehearsals were great. The entire cast was great."

The rehearsals were work, but they were also fun. "We did a lot of critiquing each others work. We went through each monologue and the whole cast would give input on it." They would do this for maybe two hours, but those two hours would "fly by."

"We played these great games to get us to bond together. In this one we had to say what our favorite animal is and why. I said mine is the camel because it spits. After we had all given our animals and why, we had to go back and say 'Our vagina is like that animal because of what it does.' Mine is like a camel, because it spits."

"The performance itself was great. My mother came to see it. She didn't really approve of it. She liked that I was getting involved, just not in this play. My dad was only upset that I had to be the sad vagina, he told me he wanted me to be the happy vagina."

"I got a whole lot out of it."

There were two main points Nikki made regarding what she pulled out of this experience. One was good, the other, more sad than anything else.

"There are just some people out there who aren't open-minded," she remarked, speaking on the negative realization to come from this play. They aren't willing to hear new things, to broaden their horizons. It's sad."

But the positive outweighed the bad for Nikki Burk. She expressed it in this statement. "Despite the negative feedback, it made me more confident to speak out about these things: violence towards women, sexuality, equality. I finally got to put effort into something, have it come to fruition and affect people, even if it only made them think about it."

Greetings, America

An open letter from former Vice President Al Gore*

feature by | Al Gore*

Many of you may remember me as the affable, witty, and, sometimes, deep-thinking Vice President of the great statesman William Jefferson Clinton. Others among you may remember me as the 2004 presidential candidate and popular vote victor. However, I'm sure all of you are asking me in your heads, "Al Gore*, why are you writing me a letter?" Well, America, I'll tell you.

Throughout my campaign I voiced concerns over a looming crisis in the department of social services. I noted, on several occasions, that we are headed toward disaster. And to think, America, that all this could have been prevented by my little idea, let's see if you remember it, the lockbox. Do you remember the "lockbox" America? I remember being ridiculed on Saturday Night Live for championing this initiative. But who's laughing now? What has the average American been able to put inside their own lockboxes? Nothing? Pink-slips? Hair they have been forced to cut off and sell?

Oh America, I am both saddened and disgusted by our current state of affairs. If only you had paid credence to my warnings five years ago, if you had listened to me on

Fountain and Trash

feature by | Noam Plum

I have a twenty minute gap between two of my classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's not worth going anywhere, so I just camp out in the hallway and watch people to kill the time. I don't just camp out anywhere though; I've got the perfect spot, right between the water fountain and the trash can.

That might not sound like a very special spot, but it is. You see, the water fountain is actually two water fountains, but they run off of the same pipe. That means they share the same water pressure. Still doesn't sound very exciting? You should watch people try to drink from the thing. When one person is drinking everything is rather normal and uneventful, but when two people are drinking at the same time things get interesting. As soon as the second person pushes in the button, the pressure cuts in half and the water

barely trickles out. The first person rarely figures out why their fountain stopped working correctly, so they just watch in confusion for a moment, waiting for their water stream to recover its strength. Meanwhile, the second person just assumes the fountain doesn't have much pressure to it, so they make due and nuzzle in nice and close for their drink. The first person has already been spoiled by their full-water-pressure initial drinking experience, so they're not going to settle for this measly trickle. After seeing things aren't likely to improve, person one releases the button and walks off, while BAM! fountain two instantly doubles pressure and person two has a face full of water. It's really a thing of beauty. Art of the highest form. And it always happens at least once during the span of twenty minutes.

While I wait for two unsuspecting participants to carry out the water fountain ritual, I pay attention to the garbage can, which has no similar slapstick consequences that I've yet observed. Actually, I sit across the hall from the water fountain, and the garbage can is right next to me, so I don't even look at the garbage can. I listen to it. Admittedly the satisfaction involved is a bit more subtle, but there's no less beauty to be observed. It's one of those with a lid on it that has a little spring-loaded hanging door you have to push in in order to drop trash into the can. Each time someone throws something away, I get to hear it. First there's the faint squeak of the door hinges turning and the spring tightening. The quiet reminder of metallic tension and friction. Most people probably don't hear it at all, let alone acknowledge it or really take it in, but it's the perfect initiation into this underappreciated aural occurrence. The sleek squeak's pitch peaks then reverses and retreats as the spring recoils - back to the beginning where instead of silence waits the grand finale: THWACK-thud. The plastic door slaps back into place but before the sound of the impact has passed it bounces back and smacks closed again so that the secondary impact echoes the first in one continuous rush. Sometimes if someone pushes it in far enough it even bounces a third time, so gently it's easy to miss. That doesn't happen very often, but when it does, this specific garbage can produces the perfect sound. The sound of Plato's ideal form of a spring-loaded garbage can door emerges in all its glory: screeeeeeker THWACK-thud-ud.

Yeah. And you thought sitting in the hallway by the fountain and the garbage can sounded boring.

Sincerely,

Al Gore*

*(Not really Al Gore)

None Are Pretty

fiction by >> Jon Lawinger

The bus ride to school is boring. It takes almost a half hour if you're one of the first ones picked up, like I am. You have to come up with ways to entertain yourself. Some kids do their homework or read, but a lot of us get car sick if we try. Some kids listen to music, but a lot of us don't have cd players. So we yell at the whores.

I mean, we don't do it the whole time. We only spend about five minutes of the route in the prostitute zone, so we

have to come up with other ways to entertain ourselves - like seeing how many little pieces of paper we can get into Alison Murphy's hair without her noticing - but yelling at the whores is definitely the highlight of the trip. Not everyone joins in. A third of the route hasn't been picked up yet when we get to the whores and the younger kids in the primary grades who sit up front don't even understand what's going on. But almost all the eighth and ninth graders in back join in. There are seven guys back there and only four other girls, but we're almost as loud as they are. And we swear just as much as they do, even if we're not

quite as crude.

"Hey! Yeah you, the fuckin' whore. Why don't you get a fuckin' job?"

"You know, a real job - stead'a just suckin' cocks all day."

"I'll bet your parents are real fuckin' proud!"

We kind of compete for who yells the loudest, and who comes up with the best things to yell. Mostly we yell stuff about them being whores, but we yell other stuff too. We try to be creative.

"Hey bitch, maybe you can help me with my health homework. What's it like having herpes?"

You wouldn't think they'd be out at

7:30 in the morning, but they are. How do they get customers at this time of day? People must stop off for a quickie before work or something. I don't know. We've never asked that.

"How many people you fuck today so far? Huh slut? How many cocks you sucked this mornin'?"

It's always easy to spot them in their six-inch-heels and sheer tops over black bras. Most have miniskirts so short and tight their asses hang out the bottom. Some actually wear fishnets. None are pretty.

"Hell, bitch, you ought'a lose some weight. Maybe then you'd be off gettin' laid n' paid stead'a us havin' to look at yo skanky-ass. 'Cept yo wicked-ass face'd prolly keep that from happenin' anyway."

In movies and tv shows the hookers are always really hot, but in real life they're nasty. Even the guys think so. Jimmy West says the good looking girls go and work at strip clubs because "you need good tits and a hot body to get people to pay you to dance naked, but all you need is a pussy to get paid to fuck." I've never been in a strip club, but they must have better girls than these or they'd all be out of business.

"I've got a dollar you streetwalkin' nympho ho-bag. Wanna suck my dick? Huh? Wanna ride my cock for a buck, slut?"

"Shit that's generous. Bitch you'd have to pay me to bang your ugly-ass."

Carrie Jackson never joins in. At first I thought it was just because she was too innocent and girly so she was embarrassed by the kind of stuff we yell, but one time she told us we shouldn't be so mean to them. When we asked why she said she didn't know.

"Fuck off! You fucking cunt. Take your fucking skank-ass home. You cheap slut. You fucking tramp. You lousy whore."

"You worthless fucking bitch. Get the fuck outta our sight. Get the fuck outta our neighborhood. Get the fuck offa our streets."

I don't know why Carrie gave a damn. We don't want them here. They aren't supposed to be allowed to be here. It's illegal. And disgusting. And they're disgusting. It's their fault people call these neighborhoods "a bad part of town." Maybe if we yell enough they'll go away. Maybe if we're mean enough they'll see how disgusting they are and change - or go kill themselves.

"Hey super-slut, how bout a cheap trick? With your fat-ass you must be cheap as fucking dirt, right? So what can I get for five cents, bitch?"

Pennies are too lightweight and quarters are worth too much, so we throw nickels. I can't throw quite as hard as some of the boys, but I've got the best aim by far.

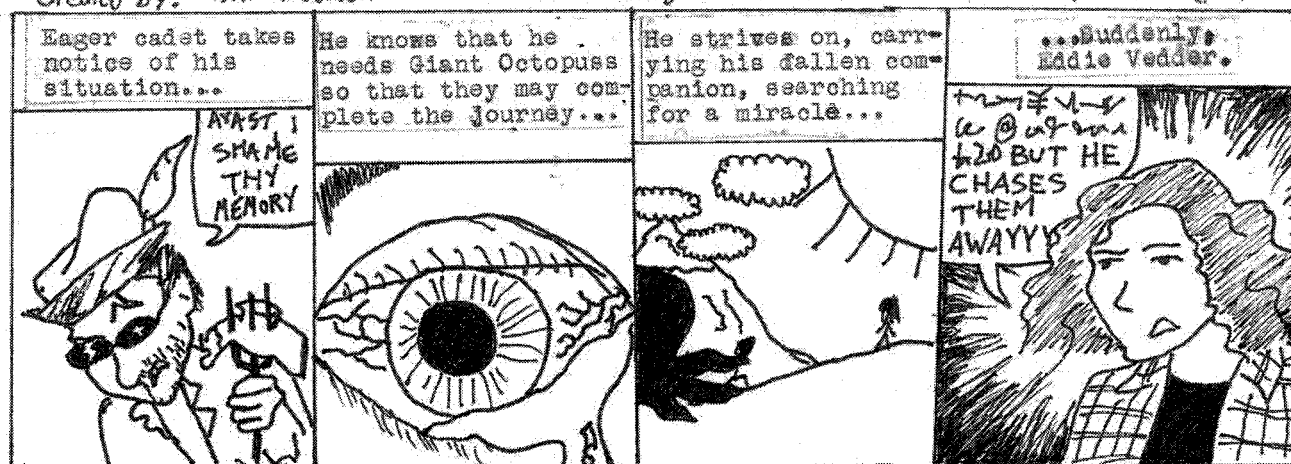
Comics



Kids! Now you too can write cartoons! Just cut out or copy this strip, fill it in with your own witty social critique (pretensions as possible), and drop it in the monitor mailbox in the CSI. If it's funnier than what I would write (and that shouldn't be too hard), your strip will be published in a future issue of The Monitor. Thanks!

Created by: Justin Anderson

THE ADVENTURES
Eager Cadet & The Giant Octopuss (pt. 3)



Written & inked by: Zhian Kanavar & Shaun Geynor

Renewing the Movement

A Truman Conference in Honor of Women's History Month

March 3rd - 4th - 5th

The Tenth Annual Women's and Gender Studies Conference

Thursday, March 3 (VH 1000)

10:30-11:45 Vietnamese women: American images/Vietnamese realities

Samantha Gilbert, "American Patriarchy: Vietnamese Style"
Stephanie Le, "Coming From Vietnam"

1:30-2:45 Music for bad girls

Bob Mielke, "The Three Musical Faces of Yoko Ono"
Dana Kuhnline, "Music for Bad Girls"
Tom Useted, "Dreams and False Alarms: Nature, Culture, and the Struggle with Dualisms in Joni Mitchell's Hejira"

3:00-4:15 Gender violations

Christina Carter, "Violating Identity Politics: A Perspective of Women's Rugby from a Former Player"
Karyn Stewart, "She'll Cut You Deep: Examining Within-Group Violence Among African American Female College Students"
Alexandria Lockett, "Eli Clare as a Queer Queer: Gender and Disability"
Anita Cavender, "Queering Gender Roles in Nickelodeon's 'The Fairly Odd Parents'"

4:30-5:30 Reproductive rights past and present

Hailey Hulse, *Planned Parenthood*
Becky Turner, *Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice*
Angie Postal, *NARAL*

Friday, March 4 (VH 1000)

9:30-10:20 Women and civil society

Larry Iles, "Ethel Benthams and Dorothy Jewson: Clashing Styles of Feminist Activism"

Marc Becker, "The World Social Forum: Women and Civil Society"

10:30-11:30 Queer minds/bodies

Jon Lawinger, "A Queer Mind: Queer Thoughts About Self-Injury"
JJ Pionke, "Not Just a Lump of Silicone: The Politics of Packing and Gender"

Christine Harker, "The Aesthetics of Self-Loathing: Women and E-Porn"

12:30-1:50 What does it mean to be pro-life?: A roundtable discussion

Joel Reschly, Vanessa Crawford, Mary Klein, Neal Meyer, Bethanie Seiglar, and Betty McLane-Iles

2:00-2:20 Personal testimony

Jeanette Standley, "Life According to Jeanette"

2:30-3:20 Resisting Wal-Mart

Emily Kirchner, "Wal-Mart: Brainwashing Small-Town America"
Casey Copeland, "Wal-Mart: The High Costs of Low Prices"
Justin Smith, "Wal-Mart: America's Greatest Success or Biggest Enemy"

3:30-5:00 KEYNOTE SESSION: Re-imagining gender and the university

A roundtable with President Barbara Dixon, and Becky Becker, Monica Barron, Keri Bodensteiner, Janet Davis, Christine Harker, and Ding-hwa Hsieh

Saturday, March 5 (VH 1328)

10:00- 10:50 Anarchy in the classroom: A panel discussion

Natalie Alexander, Jenny Wilson, Dru Parrish, Alexandria Lockett, Emilia Pettit, and Marc Becker

11:00-11:50 Feminist foremothers

Janet Davis, "Josephine Butler: Foremother of the Religious Left"
Kate Ramatowski, "One Is Not Born a Feminist"

1:00-2:20 Toward economic justice:

A conversation

Katie Faul, Amanda Knott, Kelly McGrath, Megan McKenna, and Maggie Wolcott

2:30-4:00 March for women's lives: Personal testimony

Bertha Thomas, Hena Ahmad, Natalie Alexander, Monica Barron, Becky Becker, Laura Gruber, Anne Hudgens, Bob Mielke, Alanna Preussner, Kate Ramatowski, Julia Reed, and Mary Sims

4:10-5:00 Manifestoes

Mel Gibbard, Todd Young, Alexandria Lockett, Tamaka Mann, Jenny Schackmann, and Linda Seidel