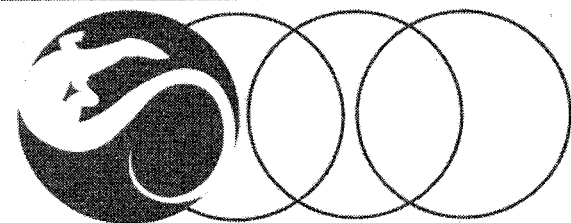


the monitor.



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The Monitor is published every other Tuesday.
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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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letters



Reader says the Monitor lacks real content

I'm writing in response to the October 26th letter to the editor entitled "Assault rifle not a gun and you're a moron". I found this letter frustrating because while it had a legitimate point to make about a dummy assault rifle being mistaken for a real one, that point was buried in a heap of poor writing and petty criticism. I was surprised that this letter was ever printed until I went through the rest of the 'paper'. Over half the submissions whether of articles, photography, poetry, and art had absolutely no substance. The articles were jaded opinion masquerading as truth, the poetry was formless and incomprehensible, and the art and photography looked like it could have been done by a three year old.

I'm sure some people think I'm some sort of intellectual prude and just I have a problem with the profanity and 'mature content' in the monitor. First, I have no problem with the profanity or the more touchy subjects that are brought up unless, like the letter I'm responding to, it was the only real

content. The author of the letter had several good points present about truth in reporting, but the jumpiness and scores of errors let none of it through. The profanity and mindless criticism were the only things that screamed their way out of all the mess. This shows the power of the profane to catch peoples' attention and how it is a legitimate tool in writing. It shows how repressed people really are and uses that to catch their attention and open their minds. I seriously believe people should be more open-minded and less constricted what they say, but without some clear substance all it is a sea of bullshit with some shiny shards of glass floating in it. So say fuck, talk about masturbation, shake people up; but don't let that be the only way you can get peoples' attention.

I also read the quote by Noam Chomsky that I suppose the staff of the monitor believes serves as a sort of motto for the paper. I agree that the most important ideas are the ones that disagree with the status quo, and you might think what I've written so far disagrees since it seems to stifle free expression, but what I've really tried to say is the same thing as Noam Chomsky. I want to challenge people, I want them to question what they're brainwashed to believe, I want them to think outside the box, and I want to pursue these goals with the most possible strength and efficiency. The monitor hasn't used all the strength it can because it comes

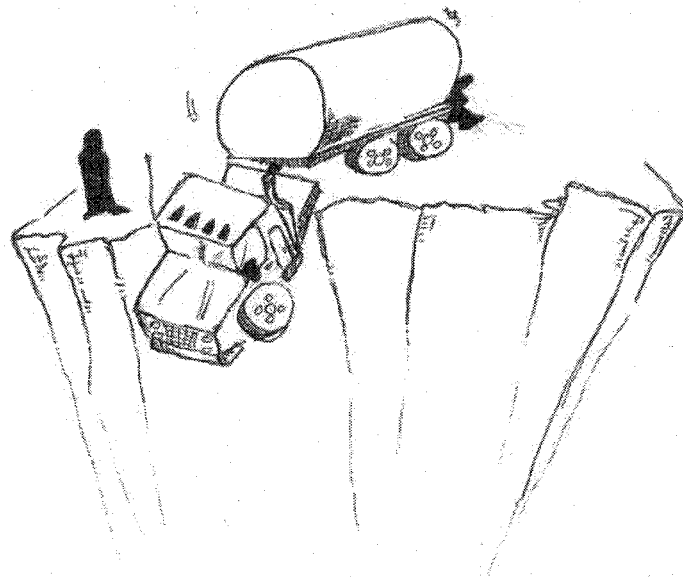
across as a hallow tabloid that most people will write off without caring what the hell it says. If you mount those same chards of glass on something solid, they may really serve to cut through some ignorance. By now a lot of people won't care what I have to say at all and some will probably think me a conformist or prude because I don't think the monitor is avant-garde, standard challenging, satirical, or whatever the editors claim this trash to be; I don't really care. I want people to be angry, I want people to think; I want to do all the things you claim to do only I want to do it without having to use FUCK every other word.

-Brad Sova

Editor's note: While we do not censor profanity, for the record, the issue Sova refers to contained four uses of the word "fuck" within its twelve pages. One was in a letter to the editor. Three were in poems on the back pages.

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

Goodness Gracious!



cartoon by >> Ken Dahl

Editor's Box.

Readers,

Thank goodness for Thanksgiving break. This issue of the Monitor was hurriedly put together before the break and sent in over break, so we apologize if anything is horribly untimely.

However, the next issue is finally the short story contest! We have received a ton of submissions and are looking forward to reading them anonymously and choosing a winner. We will be looking for people who want to make illustrations to go along with stories for that issue. If you are interested, email the account and let us know.

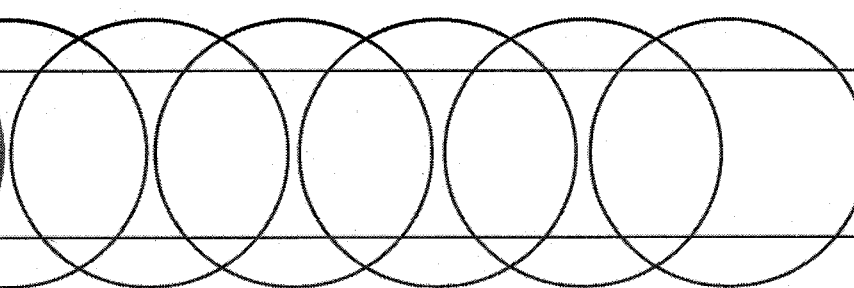
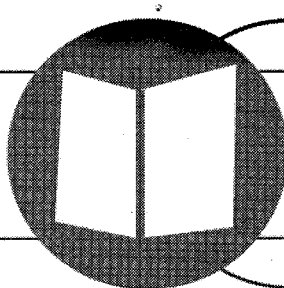
In keeping with the Thanksgiving tradition of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, the editors of the Monitor went shopping at the local mall the day after Thanksgiving. We roused ourselves at 4:30 a.m. to get a head start on the day. We were looking for a few specific things we thought would be easy enough to find: a football, a new doll, and a brand new Xbox 360.

Little did we know that people are insane, and several of us were injured trying to obtain one these Xboxes. Emily made it out with only a fractured wrist. Ian wasn't so lucky. Get well soon, buddy.

A lesson learned, dear readers: wait till February to get the hot Christmas items. Unless you have a kid. Then may a high power of your choice help you.

(Note: this was written before Thanksgiving break even started. None of this really happened.)

Emily Randall, Tim Linn, Jon Lawinger and Ian Florida



Organic restaurant opening downtown

story by >> **Tim Linn**

This winter a new restaurant will be opening on Washington Street. Roxy's Organic Comfort Food Kitchen will specialize in down home meals that are made with earth-friendly ingredients.

Owner Roxanna Gallaher has been a Kirksville resident since the seventies, but has been on the road as a commercial truck driver from New York to Los Angeles for 20 years. During the drives, she would listen to Beyond Organics, a radio program based out of San Francisco.

"It changed my outlook on everything, from the food we eat to the air we breathe to the clothes we wear" she said.

When Gallaher went on vacation this past October, she decided it was time to bring her dream to life.

She said one day she hopes to become a certified organic restaurant, of which there are only four in the United States. Becoming a certified organic restaurant is not an easy task.

"[It] means the entire atmosphere, from the moment you walk in the door to the food you eat to the chemicals they clean with in the restaurant [are organic]. It's really in-depth" Gallaher said.

She mentions, however, that these restaurants go to great lengths for a reason, to provide more earth-conscious alternatives to larger chain restaurants.

The restaurant is furnished with things Gallaher hopes to get more mileage out of. Some of the appliances were bought used from local sellers. The tables and chairs are also second-hand. Even the dishes and silverware were pieced together from yard sales and flea markets. This is all to cut down on waste, which is part of

Gallaher's plan.

On top of cutting down on waste by using recycled chairs and fixtures, Gallaher said she also is intent on buying local, seasonal produce whenever possible to keep business inside the community and get the best tastes possible for the menu. An emphasis on organic and seasonal products help to ensure the best possible ingredients, instead of produce that sits in a truck, traveling cross country.

Gallaher said it's important to her to keep the business and the idea local.

"I live here, my home's here, my family's here... and I love the community" she said, expressing her loyalty to the area and the belief that the community will enjoy her brand of home cooking.

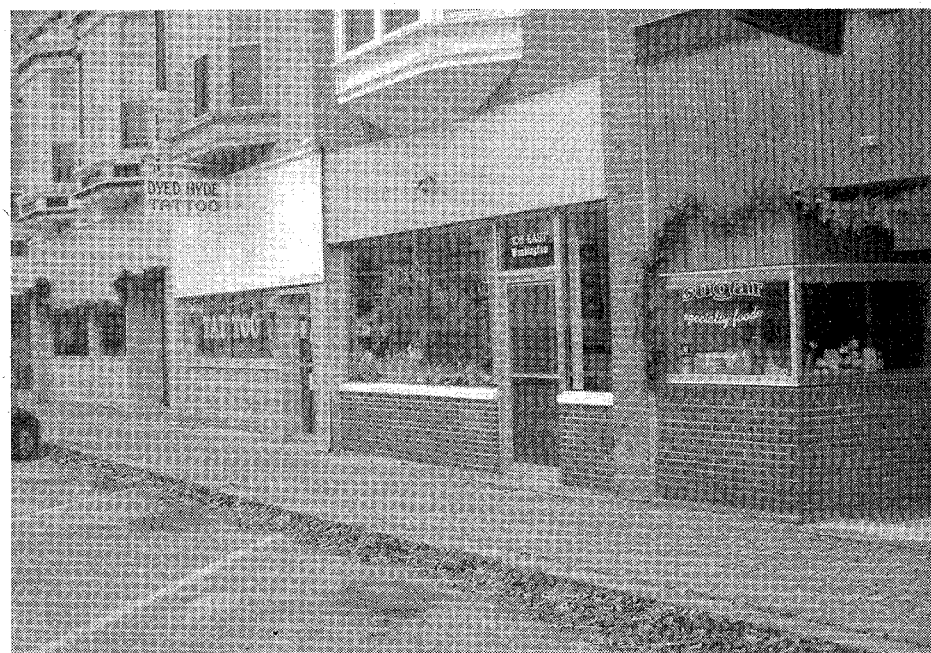
The idea of staying in the community has affected nearly every aspect of the café, and Gallaher said she relies on other people to help support the venture.

"You know the saying 'working on a shoestring budget'? Well, I lost my shoestrings" she said.

She pulled money and resources from different contacts to put the café together. The vinyl sign for the window was donated by a friend in Iowa, which saved Gallaher money that could be spent on other things, like making sure the restaurant stays focused on organic cooking for the family.

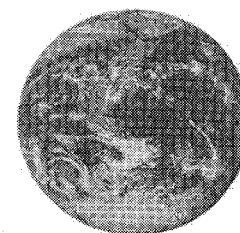
Gallaher said it is an important cause to her to make this restaurant work and for others to realize the importance of the organic food cause is crucial for the earth and its citizens.

As for the menu, look for surprises. Gallaher says it will change day-to-day. Each morning she will decide what to offer. The restaurant will be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.



Roxy's Comfort Food is an organic food restaurant opening in January. It is located on Washington Street between Sugar and Dyed Hyde Tattoo.
photo by >> **Emily Randall**

World News



Haitians set Dec. date for election

story by >> **Emily Randall**

Haiti has set the date for their long-awaited presidential and legislative election for Dec. 27.

The run-off election will be on Jan. 31, so the new government can be sworn in by Feb. 7. The election has been postponed twice, and was originally supposed to take place Nov. 13. Interim Prime Minister Gerard Latortue said the date was "firm and final" this time.

This will be the first election since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide disappeared into exile February of 2004.

In the last two years, Haiti has struggled with political and criminal violence, despite UN peacekeepers' presence.

Chinese man survives cave-in

story by >> **Emily Randall**

A cave-in trapped a Chinese miner for 11 days before he was rescued Nov. 17.

Yuan Shenglin survived the Nov. 6 cave-in because he had a small amount of water with him. Two other mines collapsed the same day as the one Yuan was in. Thirty-three miners were killed, and four are still missing.

Searchers first heard Yuan's voice in the rubble on Nov. 16, but dared not tunnel directly down to him for fear of another cave-in. They spent an extra day tunneling in through an adjacent mine, meanwhile feeding Yuan through a tube inserted 5 meters through the rubble.

China's mines are infamously bad, with over 3,000 people killed in mine fires, floods, cave-ins and other accidents this year alone. The Chinese government recently began working on improving the safety standards for their mines.

Students for Social Change host Responsible Consumerism Week

story by >> **Natasha Vander Weide**

Students for Social Change kicked off "Responsible Consumerism Week" this Monday, Nov. 14. At her table in the SUB, students learn about how to be "responsible consumers," as well as learn about different stores in Kirksville which offer interesting alternatives to shopping for everyday needs. Then, people can use that knowledge in the streets this coming weekend and make a pledge to shop locally at one of the downtown businesses! When you stop at the table, you can register to win some free fair trade coffee, tea, or chocolate. The coffee was donated by Sugar.

The main event for Responsible Consumerism Week, however, is the showing of the much anticipated Wal-Mart Movie in VH 1000 this Thurs. night at 8:30 pm. People can come learn about the evils of Wal-Mart and discuss it afterwards. Bring a friend and your positive and optimistic attitude, but don't bring your appetite because food and beverage are of course not allowed in VH 1000, and we're too poor to feed you. Topics will include taking on the responsibilities of being a wise and educated consumer, which indeed is not an oxymoron!

Four State News

IA

Teacher's Raise
Iowa Gov. Vilsack says its time to boost the salary for educators. His five year plan would increase teacher pay by at least \$30 million a year. Right now, Iowa's teacher salary ranks forty-second in the nation. Teachers say it does not compare to the amount of work they do. Third grade teacher Jayne Erickson told TV9, "With no child left behind, there's so much accountable for and the expectations are increasingly higher and the pay is not keeping pace with that." Iowa's average teacher salary is just above \$38,000.

Turtle Power

Marjorie Morris just wanted to pour coffee into a canister. What she found in the package of freeze-dried coffee left her shell-shocked. Morris, 77, of Answorth, Iowa found a dead baby turtle in the 2-pound package of Folgers coffee Nov. 13.

"I thought it was a toy at first," said Morris.

She said she had been making coffee from the same package for a month before she made the discovery.

"It's a responsibility of the company to check their shipments closer," she said. "It could be much more serious."

Morris said she does not plan to file a lawsuit against Folgers. She said a customer service representative for the company dismissed the find, explaining that because many Folgers plants are based in New Orleans the turtle might have ended up in the coffee as a result of Hurricane Katrina. Sussane Dussing, a spokeswoman for Procter & Gamble, the company that owns the Folgers brand, said it's too early to say how the turtle ended up in the coffee.

IL

A Piece of History

A piece of American history has been hiding in plain sight for 71 years in the DeKalb Public Library, but now library staff and a Northern Illinois University class are making a concentrated effort to return it to its former glory.

A mural hanging above the fireplace in the adult reading room was painted in 1934 as part of the federal government's Public Works of Art Project, or PWAP, one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal initiatives to put Americans hurt by the Great Depression back to work. A year after the mural was finished, PWAP gave way to the better-known Works Progress Administration or WPA.

MO

Democrats Ask to "Spare the Rod"

The superintendent of a southeast Missouri school district is defending a policy that permits paddling after parents complained that a principal swatted their child.

Diann Bradshaw, who leads the Scott City School District, said corporal punishment is used as a disciplinary measure from time to time.

State law permits individual school districts to establish their own policies on the use of corporal punishment. Under the law, spanking administered by certified school district personnel is not considered child abuse. Missouri is one of 22 states that allow corporal punishment of students. About two-thirds of Missouri students attend classes in districts where corporal punishment is banned, the center found.

State Rep. Barbara Fraser, D-St. Louis County, introduced a bill this year that would have prohibited public school districts from administering any corporal punishment. The bill died in committee.

Blind Leading the Blind

Maida Coleman, a Missouri lawmaker who wants to become the state's top fiscal watchdog, has a history of personal financial problems, the St. Louis Post Dispatch reported Friday.

Coleman, a St. Louis Democrat who is her party's leader in the Missouri Senate, announced last month that she would run for state auditor, the job now held by fellow Democrat Claire McCaskill, who will run for the U.S. Senate next year. The newspaper reported that after being fired from her job with the St. Louis Housing Authority in 1998, Coleman filed for Chapter 13 bankruptcy protection, which allows debtors to restructure their debts and keep their homes.

KS

State's Unemployment Below Nat'l Average

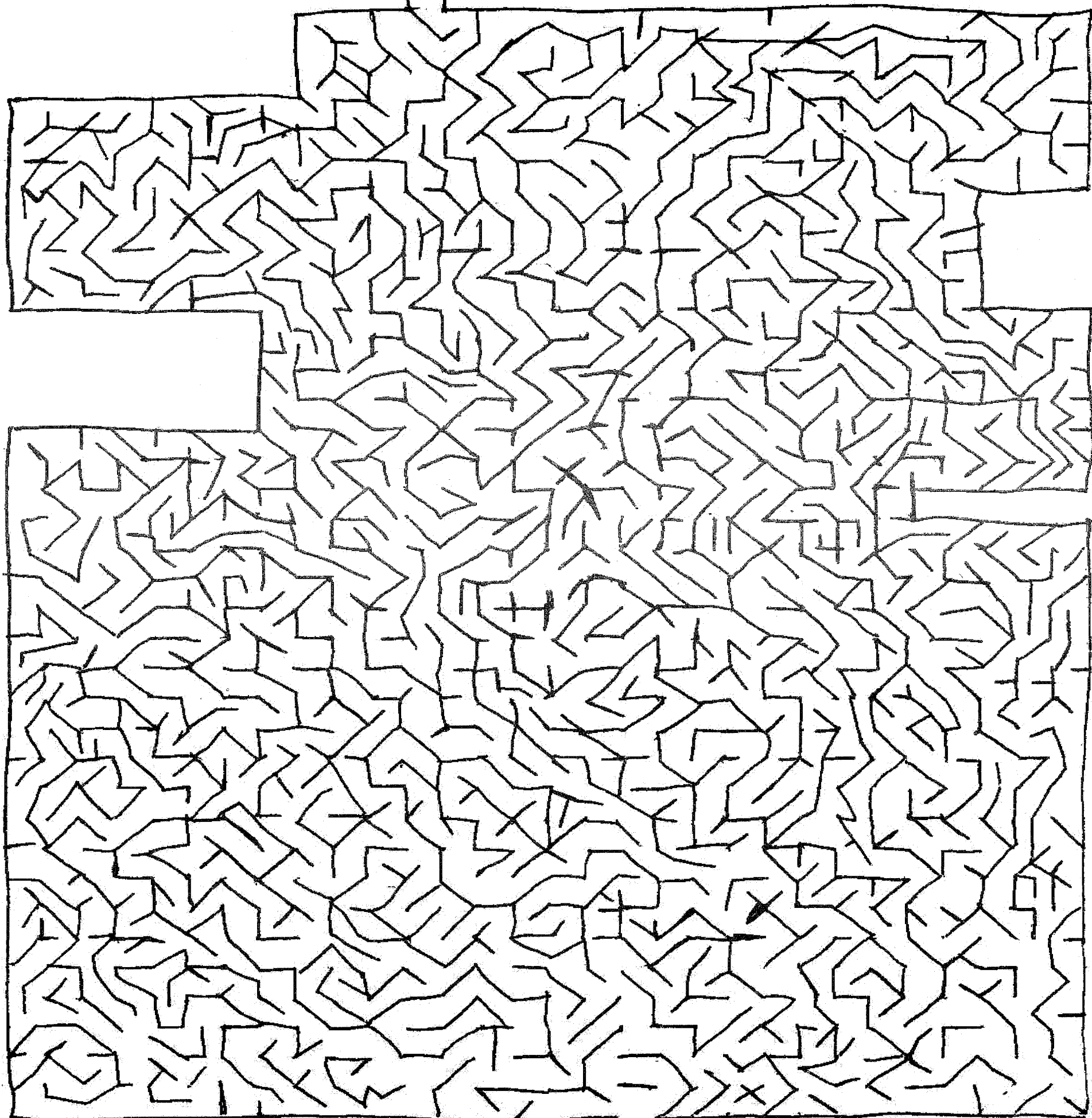
Kansas' unemployment rate remained at 5 percent in October, despite the addition of nearly 11,000 jobs, Kansas officials said Friday. October's rate was an improvement from the same month in 2004 when the rate was 5.3 percent. Labor Secretary Jim Garner said for the 12-month period, Kansas has added 23,900 jobs to the economy, with 10 of 11 sectors showing increases over that period. Kansas has experienced 20 consecutive months of job growth. Those gains were felt in mining, manufacturing and service jobs. The government added 7,200 jobs at all levels, reflecting the continual hiring of people with the start of the academic year. The Labor Department reported 8,800 initial claims for unemployment benefits, down from 10,400 in October 2004. There were two reports of mass layoffs of more than 50 people for the month.

African Crop Grows in Kansas

Black farmers in Kansas are experimenting with growing the Ethiopian crop known as teff as a historical and cultural niche in today's marketplace. Teff is a cereal grain popular as an alternative to wheat for gluten-sensitive consumers. Backed by a grant from the Agriculture Department, researchers and black farmers planted several test plots of teff in Kansas this year to see whether it would be a practical alternative crop in the Kansas climate.

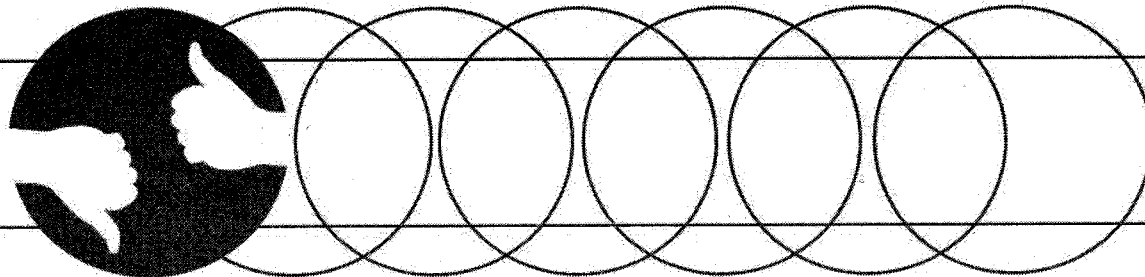


Finish



Wind your way through this awesome mindpuzzle.
- Mazemaster JC

Start



Larry Iles' movie picks from Europe

review by >> **Larry Iles**

The best Parisian cinemas here usually begin their preview extracts with the latest Sundance or Independent US films. That's how one found out about masterpieces against masculine complacent deadness like Bill Murray's laconic delight and Sharon Stone's non-fatal attraction portraits in "Broken Flowers" or a new documentary satirizing the total ineffectiveness of Nixon to Bush so-called wars on pornography. Whilst of course not even officially in elementary real decency counting Arab or Latin American poor peoples' "collateral damage" deaths in the obscenity for real of US conservative male wars, from the Contras to present ruined Iraq!!

To reverse credit and attack what one United States postgraduate student in a London paper called her country's less generous myopic "inwardness" than this Euro enlightenment, here's my favorites, in note form, from cinemas around the Sorbonne or even London during Eurostar trips back. My hope would be, if you, too, feel you need to savor yourselves the choice fare, you will write fast to the stations, title mentioned, or even take out through local CABLE TECHNOLOGIES, a Canadian Bell or US Dish special satellite subscription. To enable you to see them there, should US nationalism in Hollywood stranglehold protectionism on both US big parties deny them a distributor. They nearly all have heavy political or nudity content, so unhappily the US Right will have its own lobby pretext to censor and deny your higher education right unless you yourself are proactive in your demand to view them.

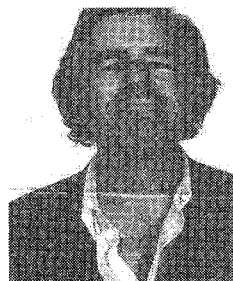
The best of them are in chronological events sequence. I viewed "I saw who killed Ben Barka," and so inspired was I by it that today I visited the plaque site outside of a Parisian café where the Moroccan Leftist Opposition leader of that name was mysteriously kidnapped in late Oct. 1965, never to be seen alive again. With the acting talents of Charles Berling and others as the likes of the late writer M.Duras, the flick persuasively suggests he was duped by the Gaullists into coming into France to do an anti-colonialist documentary. Only to be foully murdered by the French secret service CIA style, as a favor for the now fortunately dead client state Moroccan king. It works because you never actually see the violence but instead, using Duras's

journalism, see a Watergate-like dark Paris with De Gaulle in old footage of a press conference, lying his upper-class teeth off about the affair. It is strangely anticipatory of Reagan and his denials of any Contra funding covertly. It is like the Lumumba earlier events dramatization film, in showing how we in the supposed Christian West never really liked Nelson Mandela-types when their suffering non-white majorities most needed real social democracy Against our own private firms' greed!

More on French home politics: two films stand out, although the first struck me as overlong and dulling its cutting edge by too much expectation bizarrely demanded for the unappealing central journalist character by a Daniel Auteuil who is getting almost too good at portraying such miserable shirker characters. The film concerns what happens harassingly when his TV book show compare self suddenly finds his house besieged in its 'CACHÉE' (movie title) or hidden banlieue surroundings, by threatening letters. Cutting a long story short, he probably wrongly thinks they came from an Algerian ex-friend and in turn he harasses them, but in the course of such lethal cat-and-mouse games, his elite indifference to the ex-French possessive rebellious non-whites becomes 'hauteur' brought out, to his own wife and others' utter contempt!

The second and third films both benefited in vital production monies from ARTE TV money, that is the new French-German channel most French people can now get free in France's mercifully less advertisement-dependent market than US TV systems. "The last years of Mitterand" is a careful recall of the extended interviews of the late great if monstrously erudite Socialist president. It gave an amazed but by no means over-admiring journalist half his years. There is an unconvincing fictitious sex life given the young confidante. But even that underlines the contrast to Mitterand's benefit of his healthy virility appetite, debatably, with a too gloomy feminist confidante's set of two girlfriends, one of whom jilts him for her/their baby!

The last film now hitting London by



Slayer's Decade of Aggression makes a comeback in Germany

review by >> **Morgan Peckosh**

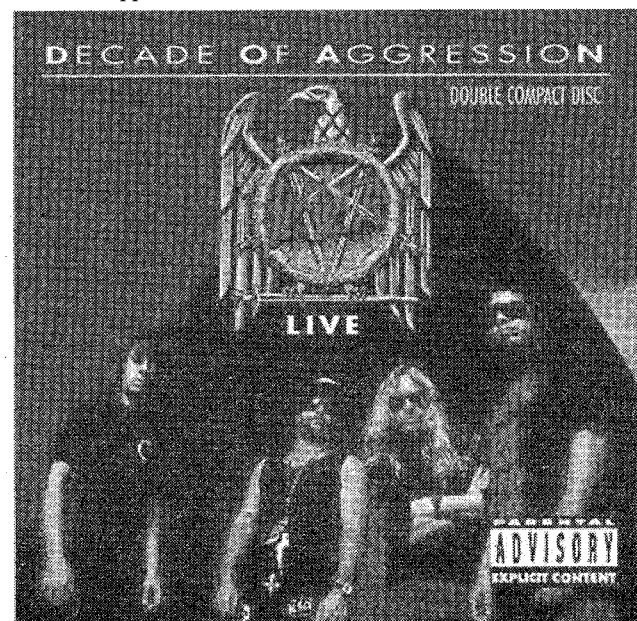
I can never trust people. Only things stay true in this world. I was supposed to meet a girl at the Berlin flea market, but as will happen with humans, she stood me up. At first I was a little disconcerted, but then I kept seeing all this cool Slayer stuff around. This seems to happen all the time, that all of a sudden something that was popular or never popular 10 years ago will be again or for the first time the latest craze. The Electric Light Orchestra or the Cocteau Twins in Springtime Chicago 2005 is a perfect example. Who the fuck ever thought ELO would make a comeback with the hipsters?

The same thing was going on with Slayer a couple weeks back at the Berlin Flea Market. I kept seeing T-shirts, posters, and flags for Slayer. With Slayer it could possibly also be the cool way the blood intermingles with the pentagram. made out of swords on the t-shirt that draws people to their logo, but unlike Iron Maiden, Slayers music lives up to the image projected on the merchandise. More evil is not possible.

I spotted Live in the Abyss on two cassettes for €5. What a deal! Not only do you have the best of Slayer up until Seasons in the Abyss such as "South of Heaven," "Hell Awaits," "Jesus Saves," or "Blood Red", but you also get to hear Tom Araya talk between songs, which shows that they were a nice, hard-working, if not sometimes completely hypo-

storm is "Sophie Schull," a dramatization of the final days of the protest life of the anti-Nazi student leader. The late TSU Connie Reid in her much fought for German professoriate gave the library an earlier Bavarian film studio version I erroneously thought unsurpassable as a study in non-conformity guts. But, using new eyewitness research, this new two hour long study grips you as Sophie, echoes of TSU AI bat-

critical group of people. The best two things Araya says are: "Hey you guys here in the front, keep an eye on each other alright? If you see someone go down help him out, alright? Cause that's what we're here to do help each other out." and "This song goes out to all our friends who made it home from the Persian Gulf, this is a song of choice it's called



Mandatory.....Suicide."

For those that aren't so into Metal, it is cool here to note that Rick Rubin produced Slayer from 1986 to 1991 for Def Jam records, and you hear their guitars sampled on other Def Jam produced songs such as "She Watch Channel Zero" by Public Enemy.

People come and go; only things stay true in this world. I thank Slayer for coming back into my life. They are with me when riding bikes, long road trips, and mornings when I cannot wake up. "On and on South of Heaven!"

tles Nazi patriotic pro-war caretakers and has to rely solely on her parents and a Communist herself forced guard to get her anti-fascist message out in indomitable dissent spirit

All these films are demanding but suggest one continent at least can face up to real enduring problems of divisiveness and self-criticism befitting a real liberal arts educational inquiring experience.

Tech N9ne concert bounces and thumps

review by >> Jeff Keeling

On Saturday, Nov. 19 history was made for the third time. I saw Tech N9ne yet again. The first time I saw him was my freshman year in high school at Spiritfest in Kansas City. When the urgent bass of "Let's Get Fucked Up" started thumping on the speakers, the start of a beautiful relationship began. This relationship consisted of living the word of Tech. I spread this word to all my friends and Tech took hold of my high school (although it was not primarily my doing). His universal appeal has reached the west coast and all the way to Dartmouth which is the self proclaimed "Most die-hard Tech N9ne place." I happen to question this proclamation as much as I question any street cred someone from Dartmouth could possess. Over Winter break last year, I again saw Tech N9ne at the Uptown Theater in Kansas City and renewed my vows to Tech. Seeking to be reunited with all I hold dear, I went to the Blue Note in Columbia on the 19th.

The line to get inside stretched about half a block. Unfortunately this line was

heavily populated with "juggalos" [people who listen to ICP (Insane Clown Posse)]. Doors opened at 6:30 pm. No opening acts were mentioned. I was anticipating Tech N9ne getting on stage at 7:30-8:00pm. However, I played quite the fool. Tech is committed to promoting obscure rap acts and he decided to promote 5 such acts. A lot them tried to appeal to the crowd by asking how many people smoked weed or by saying that they were poor just like us [the crowd]. One group even tossed "blunt wraps" to the crowd, which was a first for me.

Tech did not grace the stage until 11:00 pm. I left my house around 4:00 pm for Columbia. Seven hours of my life just pissed down the drain. Of course, it was passed in the company of good friends. Tech finally burst on the stage wearing a white church robe and the words "REAL SHIT" painted in white on his face. What a badass. He was accompanied by Big Krizz Calico and Kutt Kalhoun. They

rocked it just as hard as I remember. They played lots of "new shit" off the upcoming album Everready: The Religion coming out



this summer. He vaulted into his track off the latest Madden video game, "The Beast." Another refreshing surprise was the song "Freaky" off of his b-sides compilation, Vintage Tech. Old favorites rocked the crowd including "Einstein," "The Industry is Punks," and "Imma Playa." Overall the crowd was bouncing and Tech was delivering the goods.

I enjoyed the drama that ensued within the crowd. A Goth gentleman and an overweight man started moshing in the center. A plain-clothes security guy started to escort the Goth away as he was getting too pushy with some people. However, the big guy did not realize the guy was with security and went to his friend's defense and put the security guy in a full nelson. The rest of security was called over and the big guy was taken out kicking and punching. The other heated interval occurred at the end of the show when Kutt Kalhoun threw his shirt into the crowd. Five people all had their hand on a piece of the clothing and tugged on it for about 5 minutes until it started getting more intense and security

broke it up.

The choreographed dancing, intense anthems, and hot biancas on stage culminated in something I like to call the T9X. The Tech N9ne eXperience. I could have bobbed my head and waved my hands harder if I did not have to wait through five bands to see him. Tech N9ne told the crowd he loved us. And you know what? I told him I love him back.

The Mars Volta's *Scabdates* isn't as good as the Mars Volta

review by >> Adam Dorhauer

When At the Drive In broke-up in 2001, the Mars Volta quickly filled the void they left and then some. Their first full length album, DeLoused in the Comatorium, showed for the first time the true genius of Omar Rodriguez-Lopez, the guitarist of both bands. His virtuosic talent and progressive songwriting molded TMV into one of the premier bands on the cutting edge of music. The next album, Frances the Mute, took the band in new directions and, though lacking a bit from the death of sound engineer Jeremy Ward, was nearly as good, bringing TMV mainstream success that DitC didn't. Needless to say, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that they had released their second live album after only two studio albums.

Scabdates is a collection of material taken from various tour dates from 2003 to 2005 with a bit of additional editing. The 12-track album only spans three songs, much like Frances, including "Take the Veil Cerpin Taxt" and "Cicatriz" from DeLoused and "Concertina" from the Tremulant EP, the band's first recording, although it often fuses multiple songs together or extends into jams that weren't on the albums. This is most notable in "Cicatriz," which incorporates parts of "Cassandra Gemini" from Frances.

Scabdates is pretty much what one would expect. The jams inevitably break into the ambient noise that run through the studio albums, although in this live recording they seem a little more like diver-

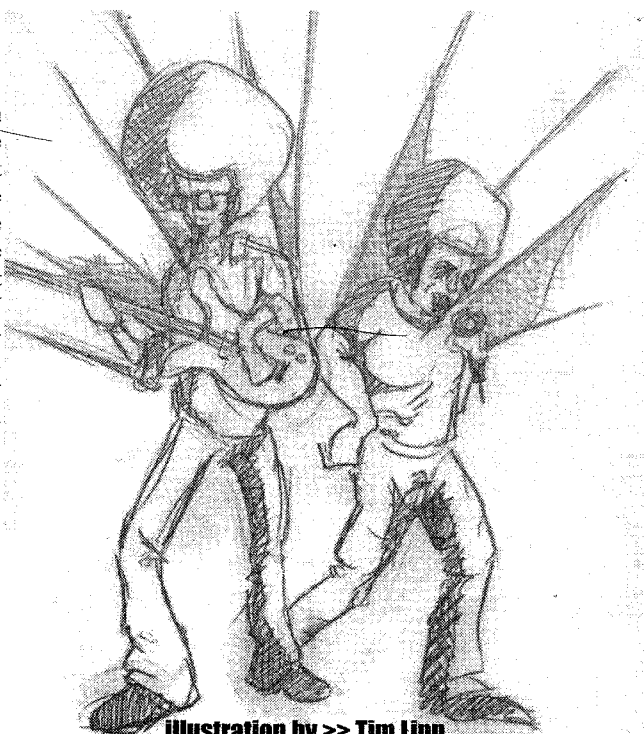


Illustration by >> Tim Linn

sions than in the well-composed studio renditions. Singer Cedric Bixler-Zavala struggles a bit at times and fails to convey the range and control he shows in the studio, though this is certainly forgivable considering how good his studio work is. The Mars Volta are the Mars Volta and Omar is Omar, however, so this is still a very good listen. Fans should definitely check it out, but newcomers should start with the studio albums, preferably DeLoused. A streaming broadcast of Scabdates is available for free at <http://www.themarsvolta.com/>.

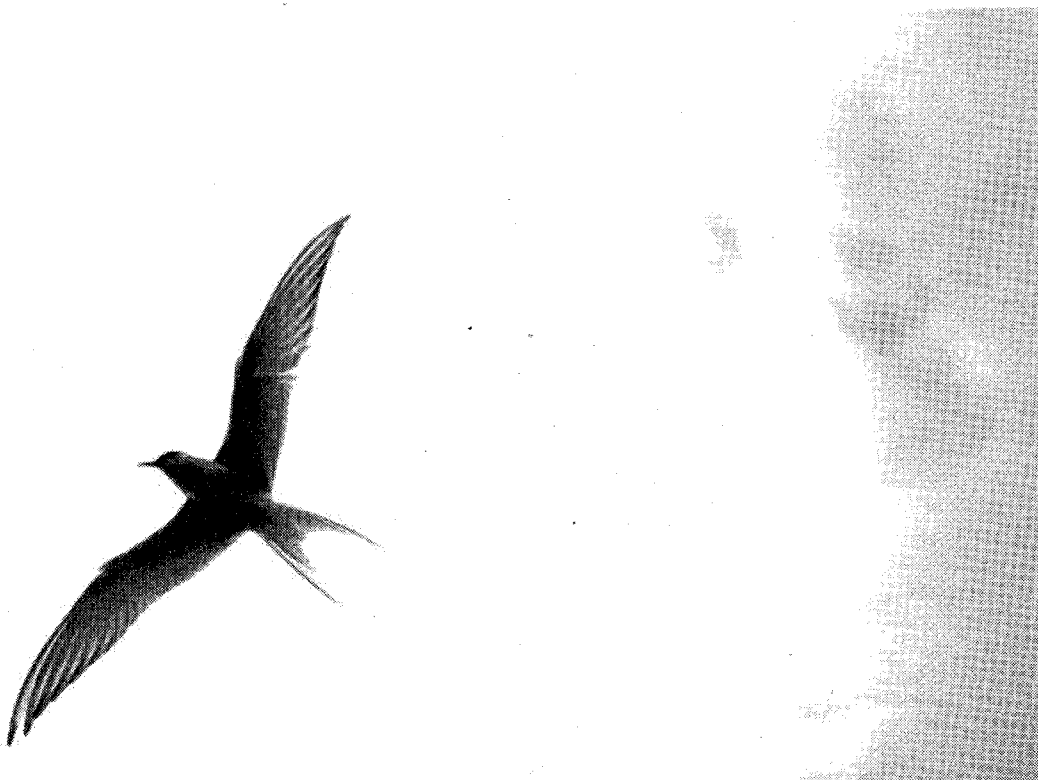
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without your
Submissions
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@ 9:00pm in BH 312
(You should go)
Send Submissions to:
monitortrm@hotmail.com

Photography

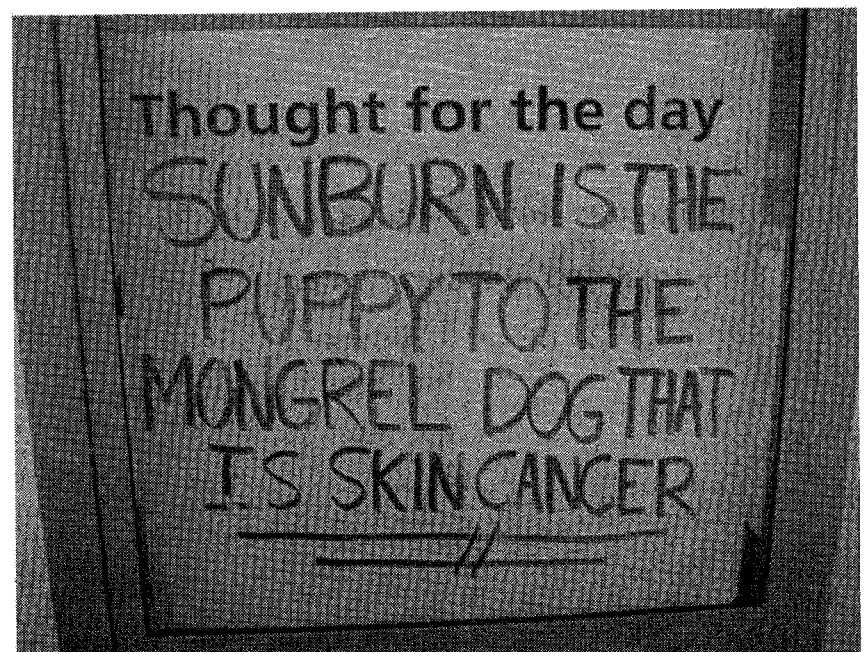
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Ethan DeCota



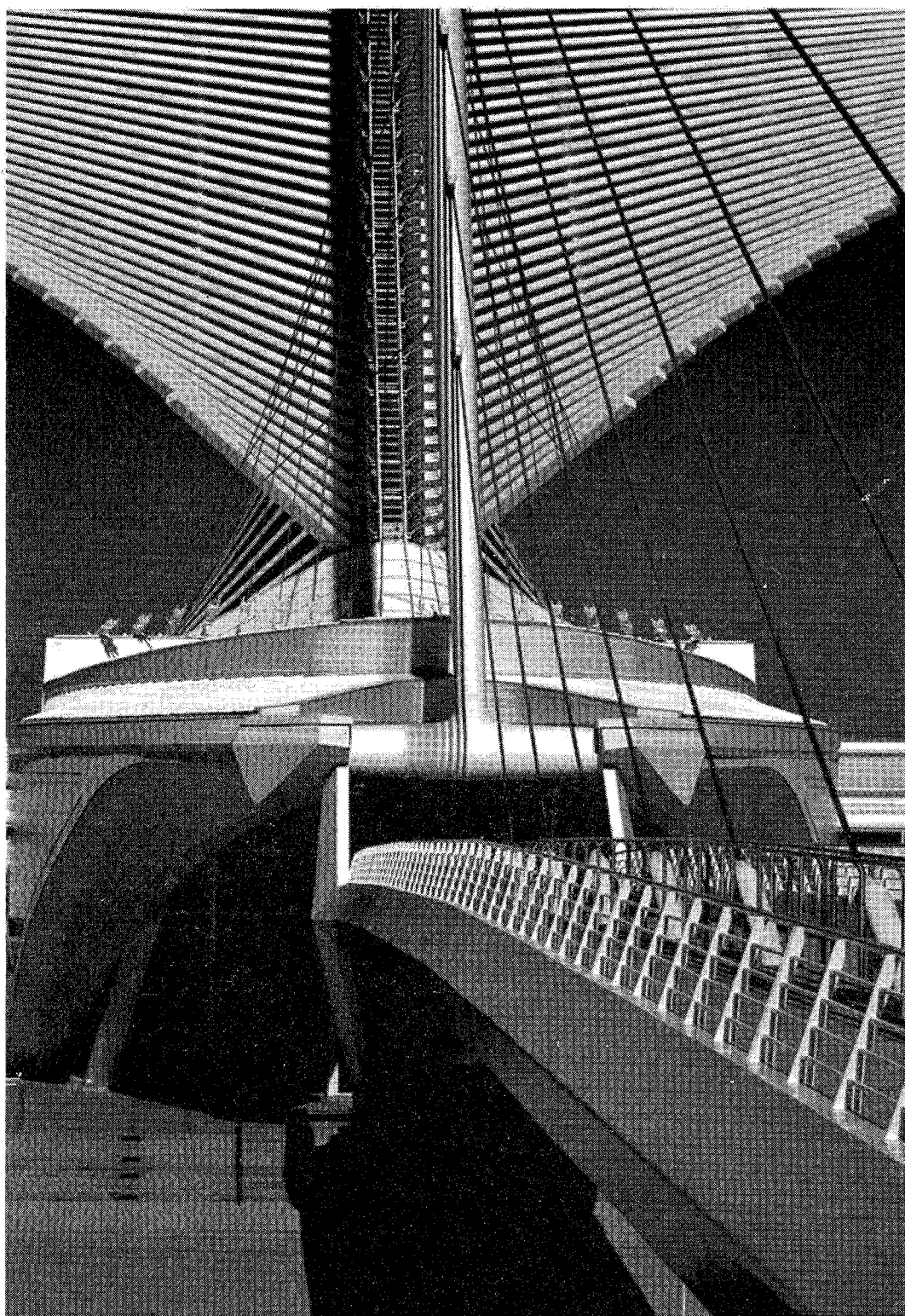
Luke Gardner



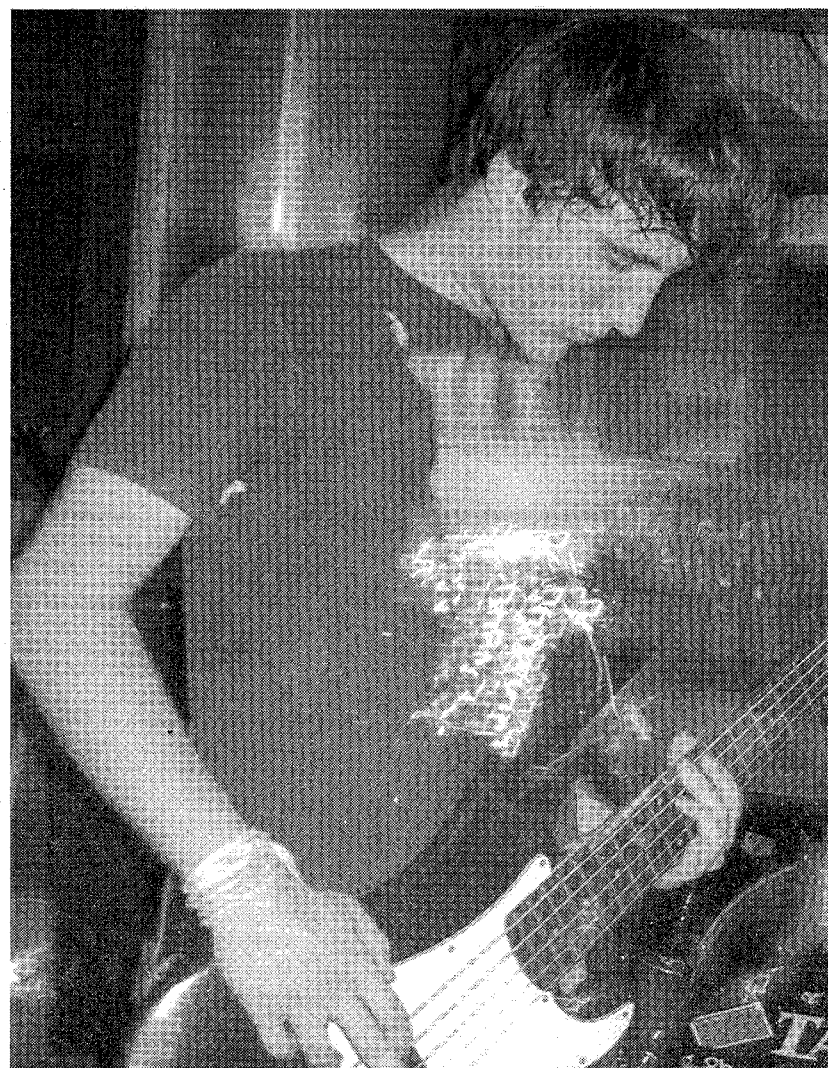
Fosh Jenton

Photography

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Jon Lawinger



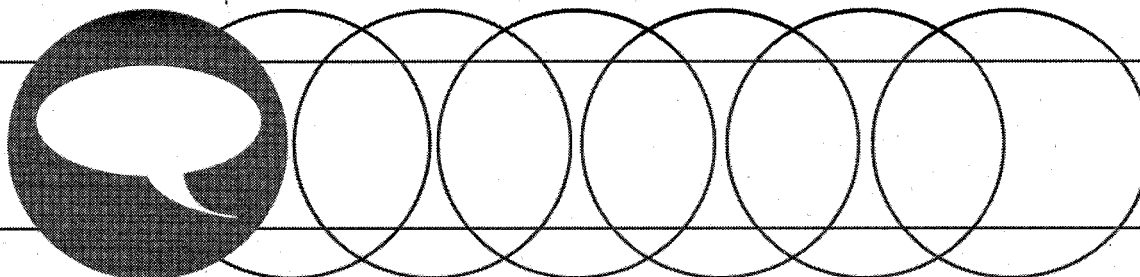
Jenifer Calanda



Julie Ferdman

There are some harsh words hurled at the photo page in a letter to the editors this issue. But take heart fellow photo-lovers and photographers, for perhaps our goals are merely simpler than our critic would believe. A photo need not be artistically brilliant to be worth looking at. Sometimes photography is just about seeing something you wouldn't have otherwise seen, or seeing something you've seen many times in a different way than you've seen it before. I think there's a lot worth seeing each issue on the photo page, so keep sending your shots my way and I'll be proud to keep printing them.

- Jon



Bush hypocritical- Everybody needs to get over themselves

ly appeals to China to accept all faiths

opinion by >> Adam Dorhauer

President Bush met with Chinese leaders on Sunday, Nov. 20 as part of his Asian tour promoting democracy, trade reform, and a variety of other issues. However, it was another issue that highlighted the day's talks.

Bush took the opportunity to address China's notoriously oppressive religious policy by attending church before meeting with officials. This seemingly simple gesture was accompanied by a statement from White House officials urging China not to censor coverage of the president's visit, a statement they made sure to punctuate with: "It's also important that the world see and the Chinese people see that an expression of faith is a good thing for a healthy and mature society."

Considering Bush's record on religious freedom (let alone his record on censorship), this statement is a bit laughable. As governor of Texas, he introduced InnerChange to state prisons, a program that allotted prison funds for evangelizing to inmates. He has continually tried to divert government funding from already under funded programs to Christian organizations, and he has tried to rewrite the nation's Constitution to "protect the sanctity of marriage."

This last offense has won him support from much of the Christian community, but its dangerous implications have also turned much of it against him. Such blatant disregard of separation of church and state (and let's face, protecting the sanctity of anything is taking a religious stance), many churches have realized, would set a precedent that would allow the government to tell them exactly what they can and cannot do. That is exactly what the proposed amendment would do, at least on the issue of marriage. Thus Bush's efforts have not only served to oppress those outside his religious community, but also to endanger the freedom of the entire religious spectrum that the Constitution he swore to uphold upon entering office established.

Bush, of course, did not fail to betray his narrow brand of religious "freedom" in China. He made sure the Chinese knew just who he meant deserved this freedom when he signed the church guestbook, "May God bless the Christians of China."

opinion by >> Joey Puricelli

My buddy Hayfever is a brash individual. He makes good sense, but tact is not the man's strong suit, and unfortunately, his counter-list in the last issue only addressed half the problem in the age-old conflict between the masculine and feminine members of Homo sapiens. Also unfortunately, I don't have the other list to comment on, so instead I find myself forced to go straight to the heart of the matter. Luckily, this is a topic I've been pondering for quite some time, and in that quite some time, I think I may have found The Secret To Inter-Gender Harmony (patent pending), which in the interest of global peace I share with you now in two parts.

Part the First is addressed to the women in the audience: Get over yourselves.

Stop demanding that the men in your life be your eternal slaves. Stop criticizing goofy physical activities like sports. Stop cat-fighting each other. For the love of all that is good and decent in the world, stop watching Lifetime movies. Learn that men are not psychic, but they are intelligent. Our inability to read your signals doesn't necessarily mean we're dense; sometimes your signals are just plain ridiculous. Learn that it is possible for a straight male to think of you in a completely non-sexual way, and that correspondingly, their actions around you might have absolutely no sexual connotation. There is so

much more that could be said, but it all boils down to the one-sentence summary I just gave.

"But, Joey-" and I'm going to cut off hypo-lib-mouth-reader right there. Don't even say it. Everything I just said holds water, and although there are a great many women in the world who already know that and who aren't walking, talking clichés, there are still some who seem to be stuck in the Middle Ages as helpless damsels in distress demanding 100% chivalry from all men they meet, as well as some women stuck in the Amazonian myths trying to enforce the feminazi agenda (NOTE: There's a difference; feminists work for equal rights, whereas feminazis want to fully reverse the prejudicial structure. Don't tell me they don't exist; it ceases to be paranoia when one sees it happen). I don't have time to deal with your "But Joeys..." right now, especially since I'll also be fending off hypo-con-mouth-reader in a moment.

Because, you see, Hayfever isn't the only one who only deals with half the problem; this seems to be a trend among people who try to solve gender conflicts; for example, I place before you the case of Christina Aguilera (ANOTHER NOTE: In no way am I endorsing this woman's music. Do not under any circumstance assume that I am a fan of hers; I merely heard this when she did SNL.): "The guys get all the glory the more they can score, while the girl can do the same and yet you call her a whore?"

Christina has a point; there is a gross double-standard when it comes to promiscuity, but she's trying to fix the part that isn't broken. The guys shouldn't be getting the glory for it. This leads me to the other half of the secret...

Part the Second is addressed to the men in the audience: Get over yourselves.

Stop demanding that the women in your life be your eternal slaves. Stop criticizing the expression of emotion. Stop the constant and inane tests of machismo. For the love of all that is good & decent in the world, stop watching Wayans Bros. movies. Learn that women are not the fragile little porcelain dolls that so many people mistake them to be. Learn that sex is not the be-all-end-all of existence for sentient beings, and that not everyone is impressed by your extensive sexual résumé; in fact, some people find it kind of stupid. And as I mentioned before, there's more that the statement encompasses by default.

That's it, everyone. Simple, yes, but often the simplest solutions are the most effective and the least obvious. All it takes is for everyone to just get over themselves and realize that we aren't all that different, and we should all start figuring out how to get along. A bit hokey, I agree, but I'm tired of being reminded of the fools I'm among...especially by another group of fools. We don't do well with a life served as a sentence. And I do admit to being an Alanis fan.

US government not above the law on the issue of torture

opinion by >> Ian Florida

Many people are asking a very important question lately: "Does the United States torture? And if so, is it justified?" The White House affirms that our forces will use any means of attaining information that can assist in maintaining the security of the nation, short of torture. But what exactly is torture? In 18 USC Section 2340, torture is defined; that is Title 18 of the United States code labeled chapter 113c, definitions: torture.

(1) Torture" means an act committed by a person acting under the color of law specifically intended to inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering (other than pain or suffering incidental to lawful sanctions) upon another person within his custody or physical control;

(2) "severe mental pain or suffering" means the prolonged mental harm caused by or resulting from -

(A) the intentional infliction or threatened infliction of severe physical pain or suffering;

(B) the administration or application, or threatened administration or applica-

tion, of mind-altering substances or other procedures calculated to disrupt profoundly the senses or the personality;

(C) the threat of imminent death; or

(D) the threat that another person will imminently be subjected to death, severe physical pain or suffering, or the administration or application of mind-altering substances or other procedures calculated to disrupt profoundly the senses or personality.

The definition of torture is clear, but is there any evidence that the United States has violated statutes concerning torture? Aside from pictures of abuses at Abu Ghraib there is recent testimony from CIA officials and officials within the administration to CBS and the Washington Post concerning secret military prisons. Some of the interrogation methods utilized in these prisons include six techniques: "Attention Grab, Attention Slap, Belly Slap, Long Time Standing, Cold Cell, Water Boarding."

These techniques include a hard open-handed slap to the stomach, one where prisoners are forced to stand for more than forty hours handcuffed and shackled. In another a

prisoner is made to stand naked in a cell at 10 degrees C and is continually showered in ice cold water. In another a prisoner is tied to a board with his feet shackled higher than his head; his face is wrapped in cellophane and water is poured over him until he gags or confesses. CIA inspector general John Helgeson has admitted that the CIA has used techniques which appeared to violate the international Convention Against Torture.

Most people would agree that the methods adopted above constitute torture. Many would also agree that the sexual assault and humiliation outlined in the pictures confiscated from Abu Ghraib also conform to the generally agreed upon definition of torture. Which leads us to the second part of my original question: is this torture justified? This question is broken down into two parts: is it justified as commonplace and is it in the extreme? If by utilizing torture techniques one could save ten thousand lives, is torture okay? If it could save one life, is it okay?

Torture experts and psychologists agree that using negative repercussions to

continued on page 11

New Harry Potter flick greatly abbreviates story, but is still great

review by >> Zia Luehrman

The latest installment of Harry Potter cinema is condensed milk. Or perhaps coagulated Polyjuice Potion. The book's 734 pages have been folded into a tidy origami screenplay lasting a mere 157 minutes. At times, one feels as if the film reels are being wound by a hyperactive house-elf bereft of Ritalin. But no, neither the projector nor its operator is at fault. It seems that the one to blame is the director, Mike Newell, or perhaps even J.K. Rowling herself for making Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire so blasted lengthy. But in all sincerity, Newell could scarcely have done a better job in condensing the hefty tome and Rowling should certainly not be censured for penning such a revered, if somewhat gargantuan, book. But perhaps a few additional minutes of run-time would have benefited the movie, especially since the formidable PG-13 rating tends to dissuade the most somnolent and immature of kiddies.

Nonetheless, the film's breakneck, whiplash-inducing speed manages to accentuate the chaotic quality of Harry's life as he is overtaken by adolescence and, hence, the dark reality of an increasingly sinister world. The film opens with a cold-blooded murder and scarcely dwells on much more cheerful matters throughout its duration. Shortly thereafter, at the Quidditch World Cup, Voldemort's Death Eaters ruin the festivities by torching the grounds and casting the spectral Dark Mark in the heavens.

Later, back at Hogwarts, headmaster Dumbledore announces the impending Triwizard Tournament, in which a student from Hogwarts and a pupil from each of the visiting schools, Beauxbatons and Durmstrang, are chosen to vie for victory. Despite the contest being intended for a trio, Harry-of course-is unintentionally selected to compete alongside Hogwarts' dashing Cedric Diggory, Beauxbatons' snobbish Fleur Delacour and Durmstrang's overtly masculine Viktor Krum. Thus, at the tender (and notably angsty) age of fourteen, Harry is forced to carry out three Herculean tasks, all of which place him in mortal peril. It is the third and final task, however, that proves the direst, for it terminates in an encounter with none other than Voldemort himself.

Regardless of the film's truncated nature, it still is an improvement over the previous episodes. Particularly thrilling is Ralph Fiennes' bone chilling portrayal of He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named. But not nearly as rousing as the truly divine Robert Pattinson's portrayal of pretty boy Cedric Diggory. I predict a pack of rabid fan girls will be soon be riffling through his garbage. If it is eyecandy you desire, then it is eyecandy you shall have (in terms of cinematography and chiseled male physiques). By and large, the population of Hogwarts is really really really ridiculously good-looking. 'Tis quite a shame that Daniel Radcliffe is underage.

Torture...

continued from page 10

persuade individuals to hand over information is not only illegal, but also a poor form of intelligence gathering. Anyone terrorized in this manner will most likely lie as soon as their threshold is reached, when the pain becomes unbearable, the truth is any answer that stops the pain. Experts put forth that positive reinforcement is a much better means of attaining information, but I doubt that Bush or any other American would be willing to bribe terrorists for information. Giving them money after knowing that they killed or were part of an attempt to kill is vile. In addition it seems that there would be few Islamic terrorists who could in fact be bought off. Many of these terrorists believe with their whole being that upon their death, they receive bliss, and to betray their cause would mean to sacrifice heaven. If given the choice between one million, or even one billion dollars, or an eternity of happiness and wealth, I doubt that the religious minded, or even sensible individual would choose the money. In any event, it is proven that information gathered through these interrogations is normally wrong, and information gathered through torture is almost invariably incorrect, and the only thing worse than no information, is misinformation. Where no information can leave us in the dark, misinformation can cause us to act, to attack, to

inadvertently kill or wound innocent people.

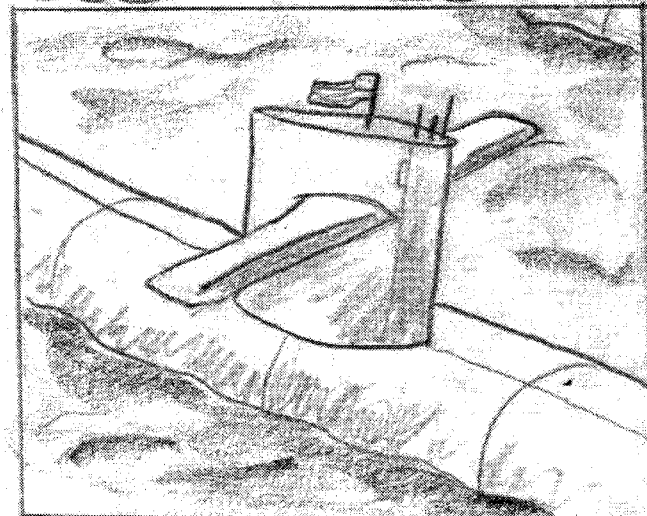
Senator McCain wants the United States to adopt a measure banning all inhumane treatment of detainees, a proposal that has set him against the White House which wants an exemption for the CIA. The Department of Defense also wants an exemption which it outlined on Nov. 3 in its DoD Directive 3115.09 which states that "intelligence interrogations will be carried out in accordance with applicable law...unless otherwise authorized, in writing, by the Secretary of Defense, or the Deputy Secretary of Defense." We have set out that the United States government knows what torture is and claims to have the right to use it as long as you get a note first, or have sufficient reason. The White House claims to have legitimate broad reaching legal authority to order citizens to act in direct violation of the laws of this nation. History has proven that when an individual is given power beyond reproach from any institution or oversight from any organization, terrible things happen. Terrible things happen when people believe they are above the law.

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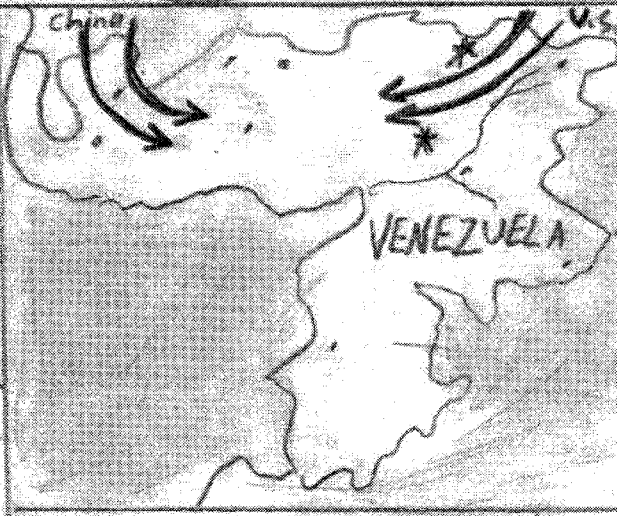
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Owner
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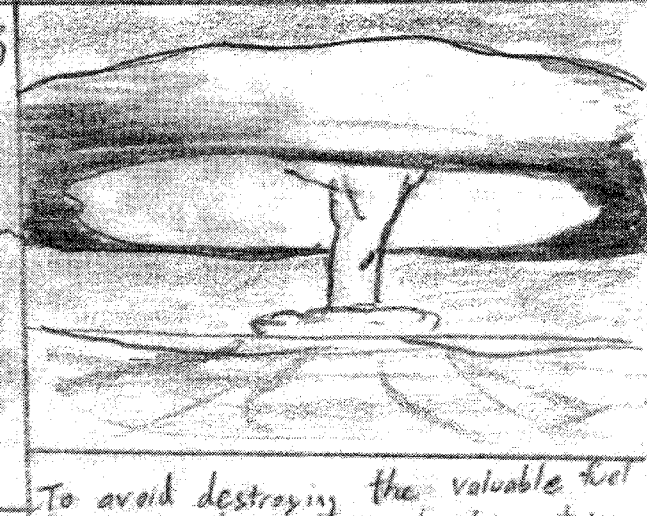
Oil Wars: Future



With no oil for the U.S. to import, the largest and closest oil reserves are seized in Venezuela.



Venezuela calls upon it ally, China to aid fighting U.S. forces.



To avoid destroying the valuable fuel in Venezuela, hydrogen bombing takes place upon the populations of China and the U.S.

My Back Pages.....

The Diner

Boogying
Around the clock
In a '50s-era diner
We're gonna rock
'Cuz there's nowhere finer.

Eating
A small burger
So tasty for me to ingest
And there's nothing better
'Cuz this is the best.

I must say
I really like
This 50s-era diner.

-Sir Wadda

You're always hearing something
Until silence interrupts it
Like dinosaur burps

-S

legend of the unspeakable tea

black bean
soy bean
coarse rice
sorghum
millet
mung bean
oat flake
black and white sesame
corn
peanut
lotus seed
gingko
pine nut
buck wheat
fox-nut
red bean
yam
myotonin
cream
sugar
calcium from milk

-kee wee hup kee

ANGER AND STUFF

My life is really fucking hard

I go to public high school
I work for minimum wage
My boyfriend broke up with me

I am a mystery
wrapped in an enigma
but I don't say that
because I am not shallow
you are just supposed to know
by looking at my eveliner

I am deep
an ocean
a bloody ocean of
feelings and stuff

and my life is really fucking hard

I want to die
I cut myself sometimes
to relieve the pain

I watch the blood run down my arm
it makes me smile
because I am really screwed up
and stuff

No one understands me
my parents are assholes
my teachers always giving me shit
I read Sylvia Plath
and write dark poetry

My life is really fucking hard
and stuff

feel sorry for me
but don't say anything
because
I don't wanna talk about it

-Holly Rudolph

Plucked

small black question marks
ripped from face
now lay (each one separate) on
Kleenex
no longer strands of the braids,
the black sperm shine in the
flourescent air

-Hazel Green

Dear Friends,

You have only one more chance this semester to
submit to the Back Pages. Do not let me down.

Fondly,
aHugeManatee@gmail.com

nuclear winter

dank and dusky-perilously mildewed-sheets and covers
mutely observing the passage of naught through spiderweb cracking windows
as the fields beyond Evermore hibernate beneath an ashen blanket of hypodermic needles
and cringing metallic scrap.

gaping holes yawn from where verdant scalps
-Vibrant, Crawling, Creeping-
once swathed the naked earth in resplendent regalia;
but now the pate lies bare, plucked, defiled, tattooed and branded
-not decaying, not dormant, simply dead.

pulses-overwhelmed by whipping winds that seize the flesh and sand the bones-
congeal and fall sodden upon the noxious soil imprinted with an aching trace of clenching
mortality.

flash-frozen outlines chalk the blink of impact, organic compounds tracing a mural of disinte-
grated flesh upon the sagging clapboard walls.

and the wind-oh, the wind-a poisonous, insatiable gale endlessly probing, sending neither rain
nor sleet nor snow to quench the shrouded drought of drifting, flailing, tattered flags of White.

-Zia Luehrman

On going to Wal-Mart on a beautiful October afternoon.

we're learning to play nice so we can buy useless shit for the rest of
our lives at these gigantic
box-brick-shinyfloor-lightandairconditioning fuckpen of consumerism.
pray at the foot of the almighty dollar, our true shared religion, our
true god and divine figure. the eye that watches over all of our
activities (the one voice in your crowded head that says, "could I
make money off of this?" and the voice that tells you you can). the
true American culture looms overhead every day like the biggest of
silent monoliths: the economy, silently squeezing our necks and
choking us with its noxious fumes and rows of trucks full of stuffed
animals and milk and dvds and chewing gum and postit notes and
television sets from japan and automobiles and corn and ikea furniture
from sweden and lightbulbs and air conditioners and coal and cabbage
and nitrous oxide and pianos and gasoline and expensive hi-fi speakers
and too-good-for-you german chocolate.

a voice in your head says, "hey you, stop that, i've heard this befo-"
but it's interrupted by the drip-drip din of the loudest voice of all
in your head:

"bow, worship, wake up at 730 to be at work by 830, eat your measly
corn-syrup laden meals that come out of a package, silence your
emotions and live the way you're told and you'll be free, eventually."

-Luke Gardner