

# "Is the Modern Banking System Entirely Dependent on Cheap Oil?"

Financial system is entirely dependent on a constant supply of oil and natural gas. The relationship between oil and natural gas and the workings of the global financial system, the key issue to understanding and dealing with more money.

Approximately 10 calories of fossil fuels are required to produce one of food eaten in the US. The energy stems from the fossil fuel and petroleum.

In the US, the average piece of food is transported 500 miles before it gets to your plate. In the average piece of food is transported 5,000 miles from where it is produced to where it is consumed.

Price leap?

Swing Midpoint

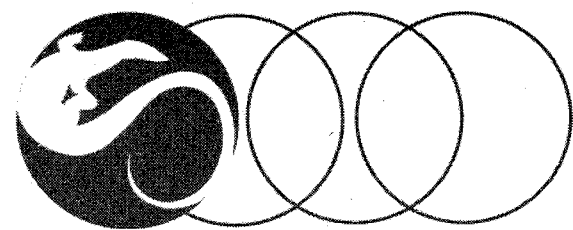
World Midpoint

2050

Production kb/d (Thousands)

1. The construction of an average car consumes the energy equivalent of approximately 27-42 barrels, which equates to 1,100-1,700 gallons, of oil. Ultimately, the construction of a car will consume an amount of fossil fuels equivalent to...
4. The Environmental Literacy Council tells us the "purity and sophistication of materials (not the energy used in producing microchip, ... the energy used in producing materials is enough to produce an automot...

# the monitor



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The Monitor is published every other Tuesday.  
We meet every Thursday at 9:00 p.m. in BH 312.  
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."

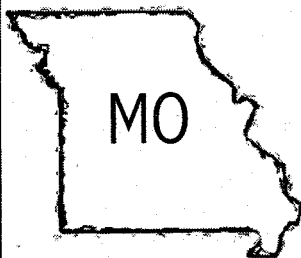
--Noam Chomsky

**FAC**

FUNDS ALLOTMENT COUNCIL

# The Four State News

news by >> Ian Florida



## Meth

A report delivered earlier this month stated the number of individuals seeking treatment for the abuse of Methamphetamines in Missouri more than quadrupled during the decade stretching 1993 to 2003. The report also indicates a trend of increasing meth abuse across the Midwest. States all over the region are experiencing an increase in meth abuse and treatment. Treatment centers have seen the number of individuals admitted drastically increase during the past several years. Missouri is one of several states experiencing a rise in the number of patients admitted to treatment centers including: Arkansas, Oklahoma, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. In addition, Northeastern states which had a low amount of meth abuse in 1993 have remained statically low.

## Abortion

In 2003 the Missouri legislature passed a measure which required doctors to discuss with their patients the "physical, psychological or situational" risks associated with an abortion. They are required to mention the risks and force their patients to wait 24 hours before receiving the procedure. Missouri abortion rights organizations challenged the measure's constitutionality. They claimed the statute was too vague for doctors to interpret. The law, which came into effect in 2003 after the legislature overrode Gov. Bob Holden's veto, had been ruled unenforceable in many courts; however, the Missouri Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the waiting period and warnings doctors are forced to issue are both constitutional, and claimed that it is perfectly legitimate to ask doctors to use their own judgment to decide what risk factors to discuss with a patient. The unanimous ruling means that both the federal and state courts have now upheld the daylong waiting period as constitutional.



## Sex Crimes

The Illinois House voted 62-52 on Friday to allow the courts to have discretion over whether teenagers convicted of a sex crime should be forced to register with the state when they turn 17. The current law requires any individual convicted of a sex crime to automatically register for ten years after their release. The plan's supporters state that the measure is intended to give youths who made mistakes a chance to turn their lives around without being labeled a sex offender and having all of the possible prejudices aimed at those people. They state that it is more likely they will be able to reclaim their lives. Their main opposition is from a group of staunch Republicans that does not want to loosen requirements or weaken punishments on individuals who have committed serious crimes. Some agree with the idea, but want to set parameters as to which individuals would qualify and set guidelines for judges to use. Many legislators are worried that the policy would be used to paint them as soft on crime, regardless of whether the bill is useful.

## Guns

House Bill 2414 approved a ban on assault weapons in Illinois. The measure passed the House Executive committee by a vote of 9-3 and is expected to receive serious considerations in the next few weeks. The proposal has a very good chance of passing the house, however the Senate might be an obstacle the bill is unable to overcome. In response to the proposal, several Illinois gun manufacturers have said that they would move all of their gun production out of the state if this ban is approved. Taking a stand on the assault weapons ban, they boasted they would take all 750 jobs out of the state if the ban is passed.



## Ethanol

A new ethanol plant that will use more than 21 million bushels of corn to produce 60 million gallons of ethanol opened Friday in Jewell, Iowa, with a ceremony that included a fly-over and an Indy car that runs on ethanol. The Northern Iowa community which is home to the new plant only contains about 1200 people, however hundreds attended the ceremony. The plant will have a payroll of about \$1.8 million and is expected to create several dozen jobs. There are 96 ethanol plants in the United States, 22 of which are located in Iowa. This makes Iowa the largest producer of Ethanol, contributing 1.3 billion gallons in 2005.



## Mental Health

The National Alliance on Mental Illness has given Kansas an "F" for its public health care services for people with severe mental illnesses. Kansas is one of eight states that received a failing grade. A "F" is below the national average, "D-". This is the organizations first state by state focus on mental health care. About 20% of Americans will have some type of mental health problem at some time in their life. This makes our resources for dealing with mental health problems very important. The report gave low marks to Kansas for access to hospitalization for mental illness and for development of a mental health care work force; in the area of infrastructure and insurance parity for mental illness, the state received an "F." It also received a failing grade for information access.

## Habitat for Humanity? More like Habitat for Inhumanity

### opinion by >> anonymous

I'm sure that you, the reader, are familiar with a large "charity" known as Habitat for Humanity. I place "charity" in quotation marks because their works are all but charitable.

Habitat for Humanity is most well-known for building houses for people in need. But how does Habitat for Humanity determine who is in need of their help? What gives a heartless organization the ability to determine who deserves a house and who doesn't? I'm not a religious man by any means, but I believe Jesus said

in Matthew 7:1, "Do not be judge, or you too will be judged." I don't think I need to tell you how powerful these words are coming from the son of God.

I think the message is clear, Habitat: build everyone a house or don't build houses at all.

I think I'd prefer it if you weren't building houses at all. If you weren't, you also wouldn't be accosting me for money every time I step out onto the Quad. Why do you need all that money, anyway?

It certainly isn't to pay your construction workers. You use untrained volunteers to build

your houses, which undoubtedly makes your houses of extremely poor quality. If the people you "help" still have to live in constant fear of their roof falling in on their heads, how are you providing them a better place to live?

Do you think they don't know that those teenagers aren't really trained in the art of building construction? Are you saying that all homeless people are dumb? That's real nice, Habitat for Humanity. Real nice.

I see through your act, Habitat for Humanity. While you may have the rest of the world fooled, I see right through your evil ways.



Recently, I participated in Habitat for Humanity's annual dodgeball tournament, playing for a team that will remain unnamed, but rest assured, was fucking awesome. Unfortunately, my killer sweet and seemingly invincible team lost our first "real" game in the tournament, sending us to the losers' bracket, where we, appropriately, lost, because we thought that in the loser's bracket, the loser actually wins. It's total bullshit, and the rules were not explained very well. Poop on you, Habitat for Humanity. But I digress.

Look, I don't want to cause trouble, or stir up a big fuss, but my team (which, I remind you, will remain nameless) was paid off by one of the other teams. That's right, we took a fucking dive.

The team that paid us off will also remain anonymous, but I will give the clue that they were an all-male, testosterone-driven, group of badass athletic motherfuckers- or so they would like to appear. In

reality, my team was clearly the best, having won several hundred national dodgeball championships. But, ignorantly, we compromised our pride in favor of several million dollars each.

This is an open letter of apology to the

public from our team. To all of our fans, we're sorry, and don't give up hope. We have several thousand dodgeball tournaments lined up in exotic locations such as Florida and Rhode Island. To all of our fans that follow us, or "the fans that follow us" as they like to be called, I would like to apologize once more. We sold out once, but we won't do it again. Plus, lots of kickass people have sold out. The Flaming Lips are still awesome, and they sold out like some motherfuckers. So did Princess Diana.

In conclusion, although we cut loose our morals in favor of riches, we're still good at heart, and plan on establishing some sort of club that will build houses for the homeless.

Love.

An Anonymous Member of An Anonymous Team That Will Remain Nameless, Unidentified, and Anonymous, And Also Unnamed

## Complaint against Hes contrasts with treatment of Becker

Dear Editor,

It is good to see your article honoring and appropriately recognizing the achievements of Dr. Marc Becker, as one of the brave

radical Latin American scholars commended by Horowitz and Zinn. Your article was certainly well written and Dr. Becker is most deserving of this coverage, if not more. You deserve commendation for this coverage and for many other good pieces of timely, substantive coverage.

It is ironic, and unfortunate, however, that your newspaper feels compelled to praise and recognize one radical while ridiculing another, depending on the stature of each. One happens to be faculty. The other, conveniently, is an independently employed writer and therefore much less influential within the sphere of your academic futures, and consequently, an easy target. And this comes, ironically, from your newspaper that represents to us, respect for originality, freedom of subject and style, and substance. The person or persons using the pseudonym "Al Hayfever", for all the jibes against Iles' style, did not succeed in convincing the readers that the content and substance of the articles Hayfever read by Iles were not understood. They or (s)he just found it easier to ridicule.

Your response to Iles' request for a report of one of the most important activist events on campus this semester was reasonable, as you pointed out that your publication had indeed covered it prior to the event, although we were hoping to see more in-depth interviewing of the women workers from Philippines and Central America, given the

exceptional importance of their remarks and perspective. What, however, is disturbing is the use of your language "It covers an event that he seems to find compelling", which infers a distant disinterest in the subject yourself. The experience of these women told in their words through a translator is compelling for everyone, and we hope it meant as much for you as well.

We thank you for your consideration and substantive provocative content and for your generally fine valorization of free speech and originality of thought and expression.

We continue to support and respect your publication.

Regards,

Dr. Betty Louise McLane-Iles

Professor of French

co-sponsor of Amnesty International  
and Pi Delta Phi

*Editor's note from Jon Lawinger: The Monitor welcomes criticism as much as praise, but on one point I would like to briefly respond. Claiming that this "newspaper feels compelled to praise and recognize one radical while ridiculing another" misrepresents the structure of the Monitor. The Monitor is not a unified entity supporting a single viewpoint. Thus, as an entity, it cannot feel compelled to praise or ridicule anyone; it can only be a forum for praise and ridicule by individuals whose different perspectives are included in its pages.*

### The Newby Phase

February 13 2006

Suggested, only title, NO MAYBEVER, I DON,T LIKE YOUR  
OVER LABOURED "AMERICANIZE", EITHER!!

OR DOES A YIPPIA HAVE TO BE A PROFESSOR BEFORE TO GET  
(OVER RECORDED IN THE MONITOR)? (24-44-105) (P. 10-11, 11-12, 12-13)

Dear JETTERS, The Monitor,

To permit, in natural justice, a reply from the  
attacked party, not to the (sic) "bravely" anonymous  
"Al. Hayfever" in your last February 22 issue LETTERS  
SECTION. In the course of which missive diatribe, this (sic)  
courageous gent is permitted to enthroned himself as, in  
his own, unobscuredly obnoxious mind as what, an authority!

On nothing, pretentiously like so many shabbish Americans of his shabbish middle class he feels, modest almost, he, like some medieval pope, he miscalls "English". And yet he self-censor in his own vanity-fair eyes, he is not even "a lang'it student" as if, incidentally, that too strangely qualifies you for such self-proclaimed arrogant <sup>a</sup> ~~role~~ as he assumes at all.

I confess, like that great over-verb user St Augustine, I have now got so accustomed to this type of USU ~~academic~~ critique I that, sinfully with not too many ~~as~~ comes too, I rather enjoy retorting and ridiculing your ~~own~~ "USA" narrow-minded mediocrity back. Seriously, if I can be ~~in~~ elementary intellectual and prose freedom be permitted

to use either adjectives or adverbs when I so choose, thank  
you, the last straw<sup>is</sup> for me, <sup>the</sup> same last year in letting such  
prose ridicule go unchallenged, was ~~was~~...

When I saw a well-known TSU English professor, whose global publication record equals my own in acquaintance, ~~was~~ viciously lead-letter INXEN<sup>ed</sup> critiqued. By a supporter of 1947 leader prose equivalent to "Hayfever, ~~is~~" of the now self-resigned Mayora! and Council Masten tendency, judged grammar poor "unsuitable" to teach, just because he excellently assembled the case, as too few students were doing, against the still ~~ongoing~~ potential Hazel Creek <sup>valley</sup> pollution landfill sale.

What is particularly sad is that ALBERT COLEBENZY, a

slavish trash on grammar faults, masks very little hard  
content, and yet its considered by the writer something has  
anonymously willing to see in print. 71N SUCH CRYSTALPHEDE  
hard!

Finally, though, as I have noted often about such vanity-fare offended displays by American males from Ben Franklin onwards in sheer hypocrisy which would be FUNNY, yes, I shall capitalise where I undictatorially wish, sir-idiot, the ridicule exercise falls down in its sole, serious charge of alleged incomprehension: What W.H. Auden, who got fed up, too, with this backward region and supposed colleagues trying to meat-prioritise OUT his style by such grammar "FLATTENING"

felt, namby - bamby silly about such pedantry efforts. WHY?

Because AL SUNFLOWER DROOPER gives just enough away to show he does comprehend exactly what I mean to annoy him. And paradoxically if not logically show he needs to examine his own "predicates" etc nonsense. <sup>Heck</sup> I am relieved to say went out into the conservative dustbin where it belongs. When UK grammar school BEATLES lyricists, Lennon and McCartney first challenged its artificial class (bourgeois) constraints in Frankfurt and Liverpool in the much healthier and liberated 1960s!

Without too many adverbs for your mentally too limited imbecile, lets prove it. Firstly, my own nationality and name is singled out as a "British lie", to be pun effective should be ISLES, as if that's a what, "wondering" too different thing! Actually, in real content, I prefer the Norman, European Community origins when I do prose, or anything else. Choose to use nation hood critiques, more validly. And I hope lets without obvious prejudice intent abusively!

Two ALBERTUS-DROOP finds too much on 'peace' or anything else. Well sorry for breathing, <sup>Yank</sup> but on revealing: peace is the one thing lacking, by a <sup>long</sup> and that is both in real LAMENTATION, the planet's <sup>biggest</sup> biggest arms export, and in state erections and <sup>gun</sup> gun <sup>slaughters</sup> slaughters. Our planet's most violent society: even when

not, really, at war for anything but other peoples (MOSE  
LEN) oil!

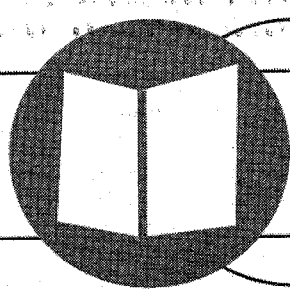
So in a nutshell, Hay Fever I invite you ~~not~~  
to proffer more nonsense. Because it says so much:  
about why midwesterner US citizens make such ~~bad~~  
leaders prone non-contribution to real change, even  
of the non-sexist literary variety.

YOUNG CAPITALISED" DEFIANTLY AGAINST  
PRUDISH HUMBUGGERY 1-... Th

LARRY ELLIS

P.S. Oh, and not that it will make any  
impact on "Homework" of the USA, UK  
and other countries and their people  
and such decisions about culture will not  
they feel at home way, but - multicultures  
might win the clouds tell "How"  
So a bit about "multicultures" they say. P.S.

*Send your letters to The Monitor  
mailbox in the CSI, or to  
monitortrm@hotmail.com*



## Serial killer nurse admits guilt; claims actions were 'merciful'

news by >> Nick Wilsey

The most prolific serial killer in New Jersey history confronted the families of his victims last Thursday before the court sentenced him to 11 life terms in prison.

Charles Cullen pled guilty to the murders of 29 patients in New Jersey and Pennsylvania over the course of his 16-year career as a registered nurse; although he admitted he might have killed as many as 40 people.

"He purposely caused the deaths by the improper administration of various medications," prosecutor Wayne Forrest said after charging Cullen in December 2003 with the murder of a Catholic priest and the attempted murder of a mother suffering from heart disease and cancer. "He asserted that his motive was to alleviate pain and suffering in these cases."

Prosecutors from seven counties agreed not to recommend the death penalty in return for Cullen's assistance in the investigation of the murders.

Although escaping death, Cullen must now serve 397 years in prison before reaching eligibility for parole. His sentence may increase; however, as Cullen identifies more of his victims and criminal charges pile up. Because of his fragile memory and unstable mental condition, Cullen himself isn't even sure of how many patients he killed.

"His cooperation will be crucial to providing the truth regarding the number, circumstances and details [of his murders]," said John Haggerty, a spokesman for the New Jersey attorney general's office, which mediated the plea bargain.

After the court repeatedly denied Cullen's appeals to forestall the sentence hearing and forced him to hear the victims' impact statements, Cullen finally gave up his year-long efforts because of his desire to donate a kidney to an acquaintance, who could not receive the transplant until Cullen received his sentence.

For almost four hours, the victims' relatives stood one by one before Cullen and the court, recounting the lives of the loved ones they had lost.

"[Michael] would say, 'I know what you need. Mom. Mom needs a hug,'" said Mary Strenko, who lost her son Michael, a 21-year-old athlete and Cullen's youngest victim. "Now, instead of giving him presents, I get to put flowers on his grave," she said.

For years, many of the victims' relatives looked forward to the chance to tell Cullen how

much pain and grief he brought them.

"He has to hear that we're human beings, and that our father, son, mother, whoever, were human beings," said John Shanagher. His father, Jack, a World War II veteran who had trouble walking because of a minor blood clot in his leg, was murdered by Cullen while recuperating at a nursing home.

Many of the victims' relatives believed the confrontation was an essential part of the grieving process to help cope with their losses and provide closure.

"For the past two years, we have lived a nightmare of your creation. But today, when we walk out of this courtroom, as the sun sets on your 15 minutes of infamy, our nightmare will come to an end," Shanagher said during his victim impact statement, which he wrote over the course of the past year.

Just as eloquently, Shanagher admitted the difficulties in finding something to say to Cullen.

"No one knows what to say to someone whose father has been killed by a serial killer," John Shanagher said. "There's no greeting card for that."

Others found even more colorful approaches to express their anger.

"Burn in hell, Mr. Cullen, for all eternity," said Dolores Stasienko, who described her murdered father, Jack Toto, as a hardworking farmer, mechanic and veteran.

Cullen's murders went undiscovered for so long because the majority of his victims were elderly and the causes of their death didn't appear unnatural.

Although Cullen claims he injected only "very sick" patients with lethal overdoses of medication, some victims were not terminally ill, didn't report serious pain, or were on their way to recovery.

Richard Stoecker, who lost his mother, Eleanor, said to Cullen, "Maybe you thought you could play God that day by taking some lethal injection and putting it into her vein and taking her life away. But she wasn't ready to go, she was a fighter."

Suzy Yengo, whose father sought medical treatment for an allergic reaction and was Cullen's first victim in 1988, told Cullen, "You are not just a murderer. You are a thief. You stole the last days of my father's life."

Anthony Macri, an attorney representing the Stoecker family and several others involved in the mass civil lawsuit against the medical

facilities that employed Cullen, blamed the health-care system for negligence.

"I think the hospitals are culpable here," Macri said. "Cullen has been murdering since 1988 at a number of hospitals, and their failure to be vigilant in investigating suspicious deaths and their failure to be vigilant in passing that information on to authorities and other hospitals is a total disgrace."

Cullen quit two nursing positions and was fired from five others for reasons including poor performance, theft of medical supplies, and lying on a job application. However, employers avoided investigations into suspicious deaths and failed to give honest references when Cullen found new work for fear of triggering a lawsuit against them.

Although 37 states have implemented reforms granting additional legal protection to hospitals when providing references and requiring them to report disciplinary actions taken against nurses in response to Cullen's case, he caused irreversible damage to the trust Americans once had in the health-care system.

After losing his father, Shanagher said he and his family "will never feel safe in a hospital again."

Nurses around the country fervently defended themselves as highly trained medical professionals, not whimsical arbitrators of life and death, but Cullen's impact still leaves a dent that can never be healed.

"You've bloodied and stained the medical profession," Stoecker said during his statement.

Cullen, wearing a bulletproof vest and a bored face, kept his hands clasped in his lap and said hardly anything in response to his victims' testimonies.

Raised in a devout Catholic family, Cullen lost his parents in his adolescence and two of his eight siblings. After the birth of his second daughter, Cullen's wife filed for divorce in 1993 and took custody of their children, saying Cullen was an alcoholic, abused animals by throwing them in trash cans, poured lighter fluid in people's drinks, and prank-called funeral homes. Facing debts of \$67,000, Cullen filed for bankruptcy in 1998. He attempted suicide at least 20 times in his life and sought treatment for depression three times. Cullen said he tried to permanently quit his nursing career several times after losing one job after another, but his desire to pay child support forced him to keep finding employment, and kept him killing his patients in the dead of night.

Sources: CNN, Associated Press, Center for Nursing Advocacy, New York Times, Courier News

## Nanobots pave way for medical breakthroughs

story by >> Ian Florida

It may not be a thirty-foot hominid swinging a bronze sword, but if the laws of science fiction hold true, it could be just as dangerous. Students and professors at Cornell's robotics lab have created the first ever robot capable of reproduction. The robot is a small snake-like automaton comprised of light plastic, electromagnets, a motor, and a microprocessor. The sixteen inch automaton is able to build new robots from parts it picks up. Its creations are exact copies of itself with all of the same parts and capabilities. This means that given the resources, the robots are able to reproduce exponentially.

The robot has no functionality beyond reproduction. It does not have arms, legs or cameras. It can do nothing else except reproduce. However, it could be fitted with robotic appendages quite easily. This would make the replication process more difficult, but well within the realm of ability the research department has. Their next robot is one which analyzes a task, and builds a robot best suited to accomplishing that task, which is then able to analyze any further tasks, disassemble its "parent" and use the parts to create a robot to solve another task. They would like to be able to be able sustain this chain for several generations of robots.

The largest application of this technology is in the field of nanotechnology. Nanobots have possible uses in manufacturing and medicine. It is envisioned that one day an operation could be performed by a group of several hundred or thousand nanobots to reconstruct cells or skin tissue. Nanotechnology is on the verge of becoming the next industrial revolution. However important and beneficial the results of nanotechnology may be, there is also the worry they may have harmful ecological and economic side effects.

Theoretically, all one would need to replace an entire factory is one specially designed nanobot which would then copy itself hundreds of thousands of times, analyze the schematics for your product, and build new nanobots to handle construction. The results of introducing such radical new technology are unknown. Even now it is difficult to imagine having microscopic robots swimming through your blood, but that is one of the intended applications of this technology.

# Teaching outside areas of expertise is key to liberal arts education

opinion by >> Marc Becker

David Horowitz has recently included me in his book *The Professors: The 101 Most Dangerous Academics in America*. Colleagues assure me that far from being an insult it represents an acknowledgment of my success as a teacher, scholar, and activist. Being included in a list of such esteemed professors as Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn, bell hooks, Eric Foner, Manning Marable, and Angela Davis is indeed both humbling and exhilarating.

Horowitz denounces me for "teaching subjects outside one's professional qualifications and expertise for the purpose of political propaganda." Teaching outside of our areas of expertise, however, is precisely what a successful liberal arts education requires. In my case, my area of expertise is a January 1931 Indigenous strike in the canton of Cayambe in the rural highlands of northern Ecuador, South America. Limiting our teaching to our specific research interests would result in very constrictive and dry courses. Education should be like lighting a fire, not like filling a pail. In order to light fires, we need to extend our teaching horizons significantly beyond our narrow research interests.

Although Horowitz does not define what he considers to be my field and what specific courses I teach outside of that field, my Junior Interdisciplinary Seminar (JINS) course on Race, Class and Gender in Latin America is the one that falls the most clearly outside of my area of academic training. Yet, a liberal arts education values and even requires such courses which examine intersections between disciplines and interrogate their central assumptions. A key goal of teaching outside our fields is to transcend dichotomies that pit disciplines against each other and instead move toward an integrated synthesis which reflects the benefits of utilizing the tools of various disciplines to understand a problem.

Horowitz also criticizes me for "participation in protests against free trade talks in Latin America, including his numerous trips to condemn 'Western intrusion' in Ecuador, one of Latin America's most stable democracies." Historian E.H. Carr observes that facts are a duty not a virtue. The idea, however, of facts being a given, a fundamental building block of our discipline escapes Horowitz. Since Independence from Spain in 1822, Ecuador has only had nine constitutionally elected presidents who have successfully completed their terms in office and passed the banner on to a duly elected successor. In the last 10 years not one chief executive has completed an elected term in office, and there have been at least three extra-constitutional changes of power. Next to Haiti and Bolivia, Ecuador is the least stable democracy in Latin America.

While Horowitz condemns me for

bringing my experiences on the streets of Latin America into a Missouri classroom, it is these direct observations which help me light a fire of passion for Latin American issues among my students. Without such direct experiences, the educational experience would become much more akin to the filling of a pail.

Horowitz also accuses me of an alleged "antipathy toward the United States." Although I am clearly and unequivocally opposed to the current Bush Administration's policies of imperial aggression and violations of constitutional and international law, it is unclear how that translates into an antipathy toward the United States itself. Some would argue that standing up against tyranny and judicial abuses places me instead in the strongest and proudest tradition of what it means to embrace the values on which the United States was founded. I value an active and engaged citizenship, and through my words and actions attempt to model behaviors to realize Truman State University's goal of cultivating students who aspire "toward the best for oneself, one's family, one's society, and the world."

Horowitz implies, without providing any evidence, that I use my classroom as a space for indoctrination of students. Indoctrination, however, is more akin to the filling of a pail than the lighting of a fire, and runs directly counter to sound educational pedagogy. As I note in my statement of teaching philosophy, "it is more important to teach students how to think than what to think." I maintain that it is important for professors to engage students "with alternative viewpoints that challenge existing assumptions and encourage critical thinking." Student statements on my teaching evaluations that "one is challenged to think about the ideas presented in a variety of ways and from different perspectives" and "individual thought was definitely emphasized in this class" indicate my success in that endeavor.

# Cable ad wars: don't believe them

opinion by >> Ian Florida

If you watch television then you likely have run into a political advertisement either for or against Senate Bill 816. Senate Bill 816 allows telephone companies to get a statewide franchise to provide video service over high-speed Internet lines. It also means we might someday have more choices when it comes to cable service, which would in turn result in lower prices. Aside from reinforcing Missouri's internet infrastructure, it would create jobs and speed up the introduction of IPTV in Missouri.

IPTV is internet protocol television. IPTV runs through fiber optic cables, which are capable of delivering information at 25 megabytes per second. This is four times faster than DSL and eight times faster than cable service through Charter. Currently, fiber optic cables are being laid in new construction; however, older homes would need to have neighborhood hubs set up to receive the signal. The massive increase in speed and strength in fiber optics would allow live high quality streaming video over the internet, it would also be less expensive than current basic cable rates, and through it, one could receive thousands of channels.

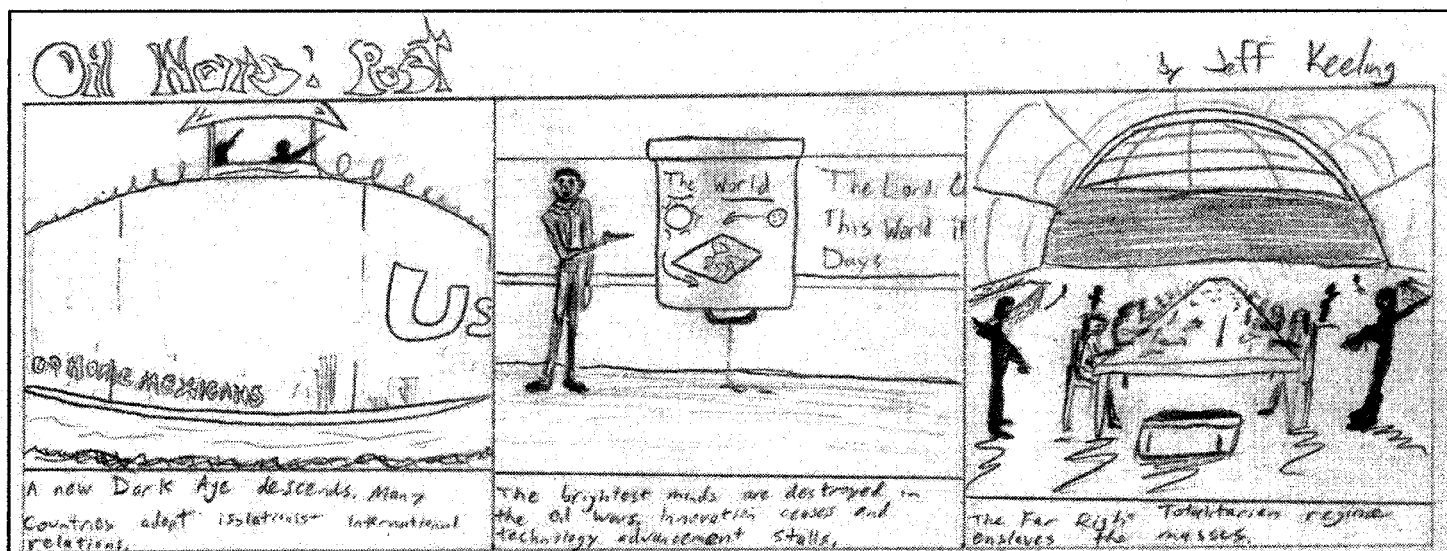
The Senate Committee on Commerce, Energy and the Environment took testimony from supporters and detractors earlier this month on the legislation that would give telecom providers a statewide authorization to offer video services. The bill was supported by AT&T, CenturyTel, MTIA, the American Consumer Institute, the Coalition for Fair Competition and the St. Louis Chapter of the NAACP. It was opposed by the Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association, the Nation Cable & Telecommunications Association, Time-Warner, Charter Communications, the Missouri Municipal League, St. Louis County, and AARP. The main problem with the bill, say most of the opponents, is that it does not require providers to carry PEG channels and does not prohibit new competitors from "red-lining" by offering services only to targeted areas.

The Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association has provided the most avid opposition to the bill. Cable operators claim that the bill is unfair. They were forced to obtain over 500 individual franchises from all over the state of

Missouri before they were allowed to operate, they claim AT&T and any other business hoping to operate should do the same. They also say that the bill does not require AT&T to grant public access channels and emergency alert systems to local governments which are both items cable operators must offer. However you are most likely to have seen an advertisement that claims the bill would allow companies to "redline" their service areas by only offering service in rich communities and ignoring poor communities. Several advertisements have been run, and sponsored by The Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association, which state outright that SB 816 is "not right" and that "all of us deserve cable." The ads run the same consistent theme, 816 would take away cable from poor neighborhoods and make it so that only rich people could receive cable.

Many of claims of these advertisements are outright wrong, even lies. For example, the current version, and past versions, clearly state that the bill will not alter the existing terms between any cable operator and its franchising entity. This means that individuals will only lose service if the cable companies decide to sever their agreements; it has nothing to do with the State. They claim that companies would not service certain areas because they are too poor; however, the bill clearly states that an "entity holding a video service authorization may not deny access to service to any group of potential residential subscribers within its service area footprint because of the income of the residents in the local area in which the group resides."

To find the real problems with the bill, one can still look at this ad, but should focus at the disclaimer on the bottom "Sponsored by The Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association". One can arrive at the reasonable conclusion that cable operators are simply afraid of competition from AT&T and many other potential cable providers, afraid of the loss in revenue that AT&T's superior quality service would provide, and afraid in the drop in price and loss of revenues that competition would provide. Read the Bill, and ask your Senator to vote for the Cable Bill, and not for the Cable Companies.



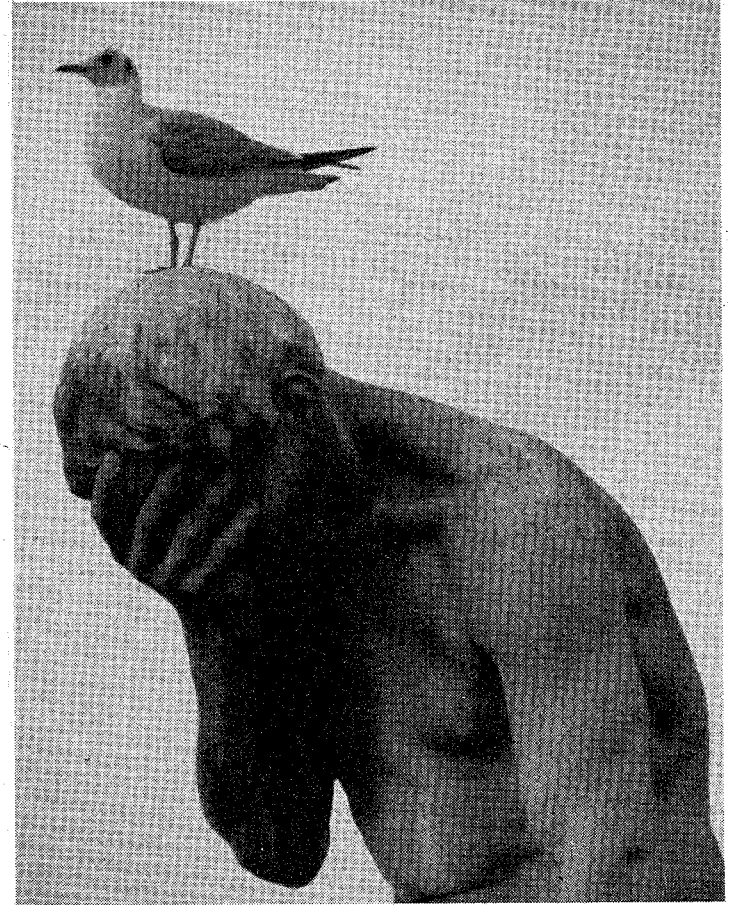


# Photography

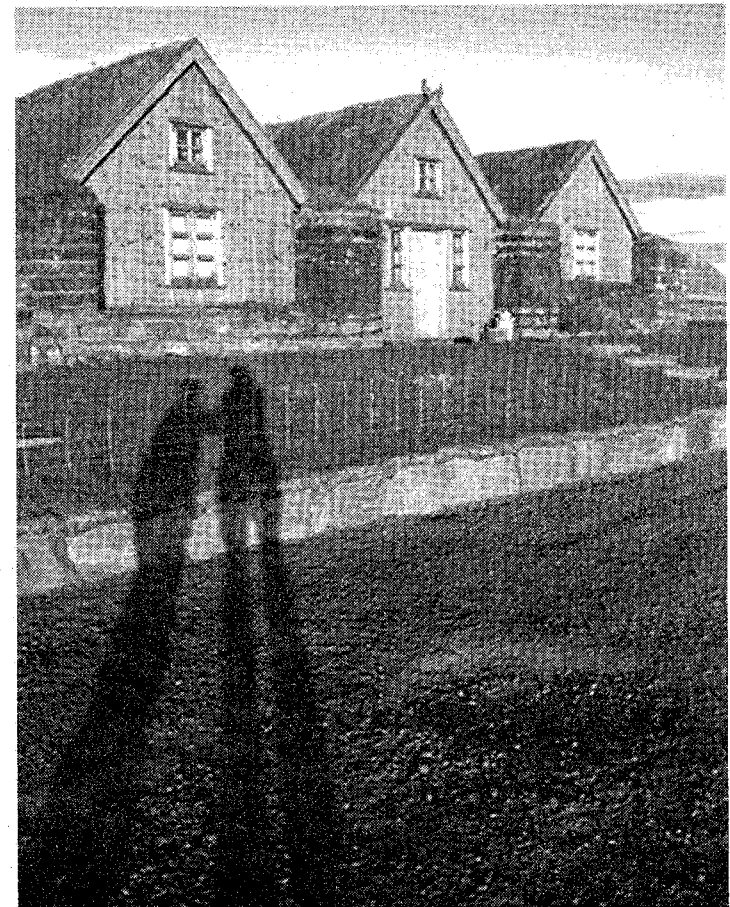
send your photos to  
[monitorphotos@gmail.com](mailto:monitorphotos@gmail.com)



Victoria Weaver



Phil Jarrett



Luke Gardener

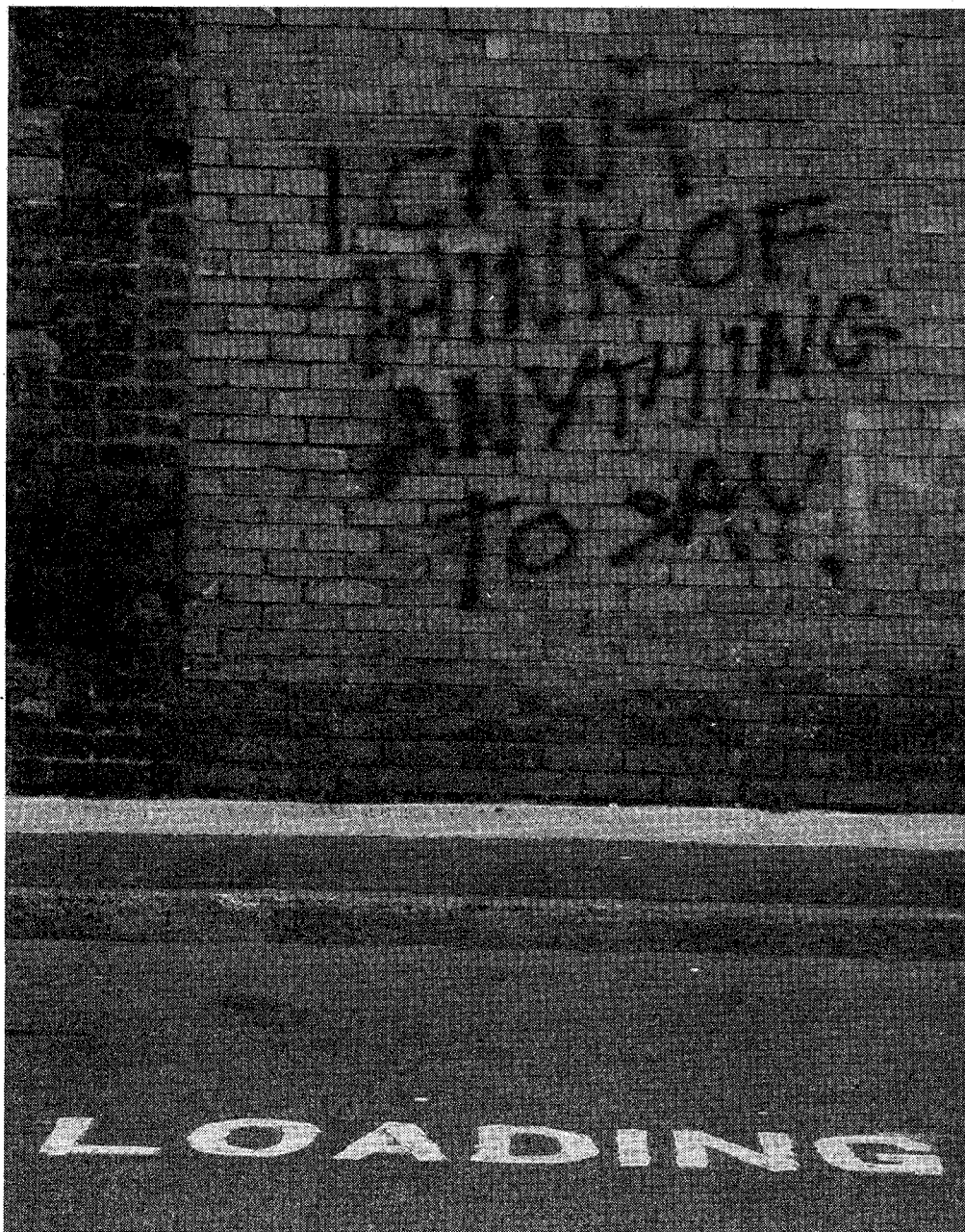
Greetings all. There's some great stuff here, but my stockpile of photo submissions is running a bit low, So put your photographic talents to work over break and be sure to send the results my way.

-Jon

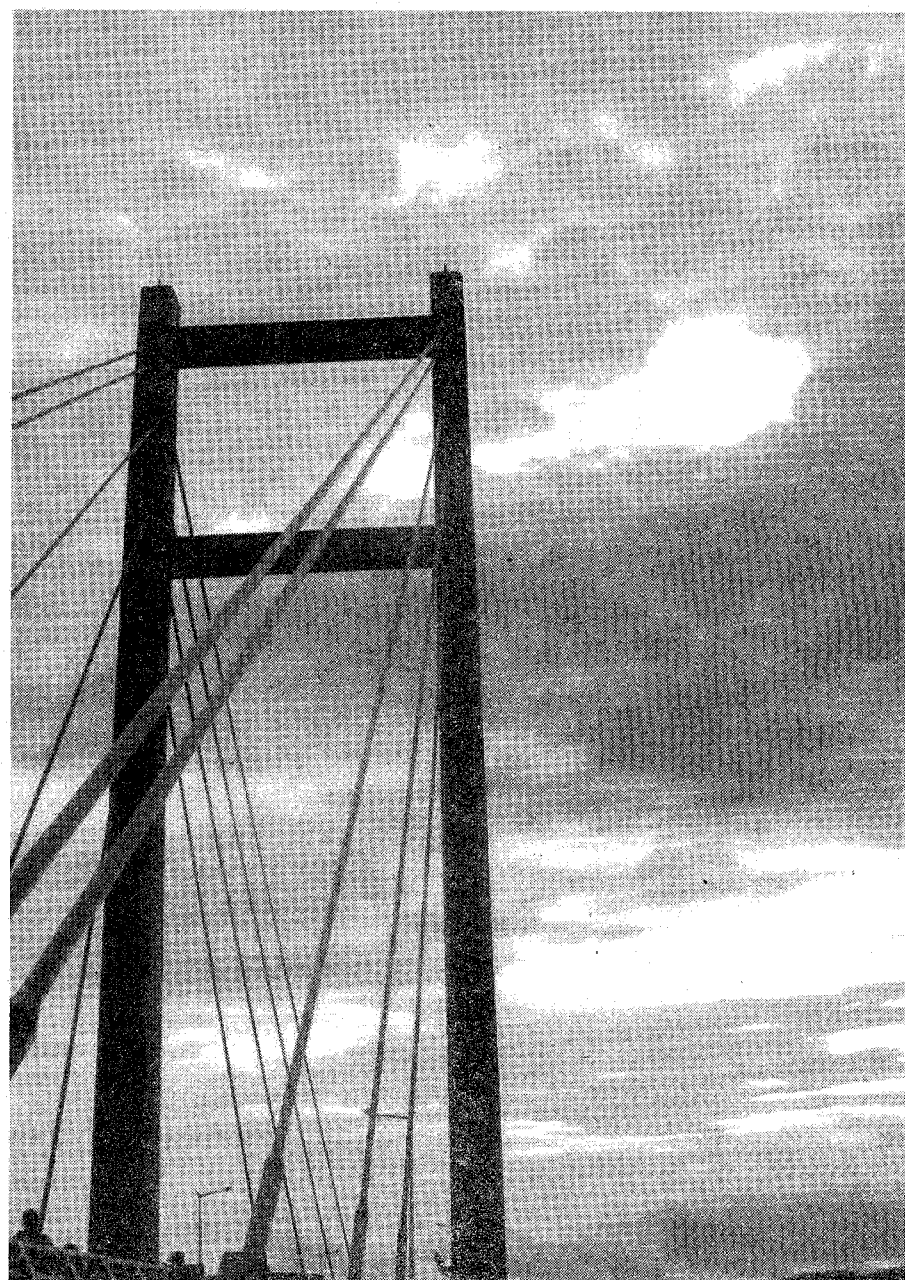


# Photography

send your photos to  
[monitorphotos@gmail.com](mailto:monitorphotos@gmail.com)



Phil Jarrett



Amanda Hackney

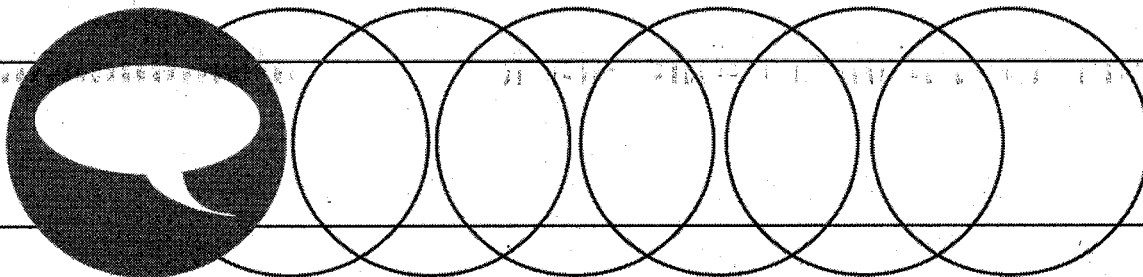


Luke Gardener



Jon Lawinger





## Patriot act has a long way to go

opinion by >> Adam Dorhauer

On March 2, the U.S. Senate voted 89-10 to renew the Patriot Act after months of delay. The widespread support for the bill came after compromises that addressed some of the more controversial parts of the Act. Opponents feel, however, that the restrictions do not go far enough.

Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI), the Act's leading opponent in the Senate, proposed further restrictions, saying that the bill in its current form "will still allow government fishing expeditions," referring to misuse of the Patriot Act to "fish" for information on innocent people without links to terrorism. Sen. Arlen Specter (R-PA) voted for the bill, but at the same time expressed his reservations, saying that he would push for further provisions to protect civil liberties.

Pres. Bush has continued to push for the Patriot Act's unchanged renewal, ignoring growing opposition in both Congress and the public. Gallup polls show that by early 2005, the Act which was once overwhelmingly supported was split evenly in public opinion. Eight states and nearly 400 cities and counties (including New York City) representing over 100 million Americans have passed resolutions condemning the Patriot Act. Recently, news of unwarranted wiretaps has further awakened much of the public to the deteriora-

tion of rights under the Bush administration.

Feingold's concerns about fishing seem warranted (although they need not be under the Patriot Act). Bush stated that the Patriot Act only allows law enforcement "to continue to use the same tools against terrorists that are already used against drug dealers and other criminals." This is true only because the Patriot Act itself is used against those other criminals.

The Patriot Act was designed to protect Americans from terror (in theory). Its initial support was based on a fear of terrorism and an understanding that the Act was to fight terror. It abandoned many civil liberties and criminal rights because many felt it was necessary to deal with a specific and particularly dangerous type of criminal. The application of these new laws to general criminal action represents the abandoning of over 200 years of established judicial practice that this country is built upon.

But that's what this administration has done. Pres. Bush stated last year that "terrorist investigations" have led to over 400 charges and over 200 convictions. Many of these charges have not been terror-related, however, such as immigration charges. John Ashcroft has publicly stated, as Attorney General, that the Patriot Act is "invaluable -- not only to save lives from terrorists, but to

save children from kidnappers and pedophiles."

The new provisions provide modest concessions. For example, they allow a subpoenaed person to challenge a gag order, but only after a full year in compliance with said order. If the order is challenged, the individual must prove that the order was not necessary rather than the government demonstrate that it was. The courts are no longer bound by probable cause; they can act on mere suspicion or less.

The secrecy which this administration has introduced into the judicial system further breaks down the established practices of this country. Transparency is necessary to prevent abuse, or at least the potential for abuse, such as fishing. Feingold's bills that would preserve the Patriot Act as well as reintroduce transparency were rejected for less substantial compromises.

With the renewal of the Patriot Act, 14 of the 16 major provisions set to expire will be made permanent, and the other 2 extended at least 4 years. It is essential that we recognize what this means for our country. Our established judicial system is eroding. Hastily passed wartime provisions are not new in our country, but they have always been repealed. They are now becoming permanent and shifting rights from the people to an increasingly powerful government. So you better start swimming or you'll sink like a stone, for the times they are a-changin'.

## Sweet life: trend report

feature by >> Jeff Keeling

Spring is about to begin and the trends from autumn will begin to fall like leaves to the ground as new trends begin sprout. We will start with men's fashion, as it is the most worthless.

Men's:

Big surprise here. What's in: cargos, striped or solid color polos, and striped long sleeve shirts. Men's fashion has consisted of this for the past 6 years.

In terms of lifestyle trends, the "gangsta" look is hot. Yet another men's trend that has been the same for years. It consists primarily of wearing a ball cap at a 45 degree angle which causes the wearer to hold up sideways peace signs. An interesting complement to this trend is the dangling toothpick. This is when the "dude" perpetually has a toothpick in his mouth, not picking anything from his teeth. Sweet Life

Women's:

Nose piercing fever has reached Truman and otherwise attractive girls are getting studs in their noses. The fall fashion of layering is waning in popularity, but what I will call the "boob sweater" is still being utilized. The boob sweater is a very small "sweater" that covers the arms and the boobs. I was surprised that girls continue to wear Uggs on account of all the facebook groups against them. However, dudes still pop collars in the same manner.

Gender Neutral:

The selling of Converse brand shoes to Nike in 2003 has in no way hurt its sells. Chuck Taylors, a symbol of counterculture, now contribute to the Nike corporations profits. Yet there is still the illusion that one is socking it to the man via fashion. The trend of ripped jeans are supposed to create the illusion of being worn hard, thus making you one tough dude. The trend of vintage-like t-shirts, in turn, creates the illusion that you went to concerts in the 70's. Urban Outfitters is largely responsible for spearheading trends in T-shirts. The guy who runs Urban Outfitters contributes heavily to the Republican party and last year, during the presidential election, he created a t-shirt that said "Voting is for old people." Such a move was no doubt used to manipulate fashion for political gain.





# Diggin the dirt: Q & A with Lewis Black

feature by >> Dru Parrish

I don't know what you do with your free nights. Chances are you spend most of them studying or drinking, and if you're like me you try to do both at the same time. However, if you didn't decide to go out last Friday and you didn't go to the Lewis Black show, then you, sir, are a damn fool. I went, and it rocked my face off.

Lewis Black, the sometimes commentator on The Daily Show and full-time contrarian, descended on Kirksville with his witty, insightful, and crass views about the world at large. To a packed Baldwin hall, he expressed his criticisms about politics, relationships, campus events, and religion. If you were unable to get over the fact that he fully explored the word "Fuck" in almost every fashion imaginable, then you missed the point. I caught up with Lewis after his show.

Dru: So, first off, I wanted to ask you about your persona. When you appear on the Daily Show or do stand up, you present yourself as being pretty much angry about everything. How much of yourself comes through on stage and how much is an act?

Lewis: For the most part it's me, or, at least me when I was 14.

D: What gets you angry?

L: The idiots I see that are controlling vast portions of our lives and making decisions on our behalf. More than that, there are a lot of things that seem all right from one angle and

completely fucked from another. It can be irritating to look at things differently. I find a lot of things irritating. But at the same time, I really enjoy taking different looks at things generally viewed in one way.

D: Do you find your performance to be a catharsis for the world at large?

L: Depends on what you mean. I find what I do help me get out a lot of frustration I have with things going on around me. I also notice that other people get a lot out of what I do.

D: So it's "Yes" on both accounts?

L: Yes.

D: So then it doesn't really matter which way I intended that question to go?

L: No, I suppose not.

D: Is there anything you tend to shy away from, when picking things to talk about?

L: I don't make jokes about abortion.

D: Because you think it's a serious matter that you don't take lightly?

L: No. It's too hard to build up into a joke, and the laugh really isn't waiting for you once you've done all that work.

D: I've noticed that you are not on The Daily Show as much as the other analysts. Is this because you hate John Stewart?



Now I'm gonna ask you a question!

me. They don't think anyone will get me. I think they're screwing with me.

D: Is it true that "once you go Black you never go back"?

L: That is absolutely true.

D: What about "once you go Middle-aged angry Jew you never go back"?

L: It's pretty much true.

D: What is your favorite song, album, and movie?

L: SHIT! Um... Movie: Dr. Strangelove (Kubrick). Album: umm.... Exile on Main Street (Rolling Stones). Song: Fuck!... anything by the Allman Brothers.

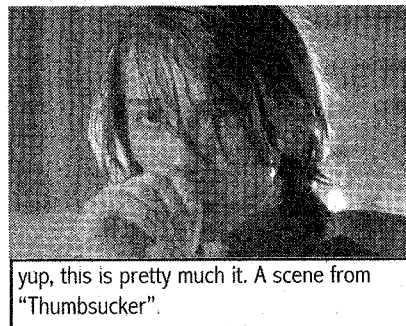
D: Ok, well, the correct answer was Purple Rain.

## Thumbsucker: kinda sucks

review by >> Tim Linn

Some of us have to learn the hard way that if you make a copy of a copy, it's never as good. The newest trend in independent-ish cinema seems to be post-modern coming-of-age films, with even the big stars jumping on the wagon.

But it's not like all these movies have been bad. "Me and You and Everyone We Know" balanced the artsy and the cutesy deftly. It also threw in a few explicit sexual jokes to prove it was a true coming-of-age tale for the blank generation. Even this year, Wes Anderson buddy Noah Baumbach made "The Squid and the Whale", also noteworthy for a solid story and great characters.



yup, this is pretty much it. A scene from "Thumbsucker".

And now we have "Thumbsucker", which seems to try to replicate the feel of the aforementioned films with pretty little oedipal boys and gentle indie-pop.

Unfortunately, "Thumbsucker" took the idea too far, shunning anything resembling narrative for fancy camera tricks and subtle surrealism. The movie moves at a pace that feels like it was drawn from too many sources. The story as it stands revolves around a young high-schooler, who has been experiencing problems with socializing because of a turbulent family life, ostensibly spawned by an oedipal affection towards his mother. He falls in love with a girl, who isn't in love with him. He seems all but unable to speak, and the conversations he does have are painfully awkward. And the crux of all these problems seems to be that the kid sucks his thumb.

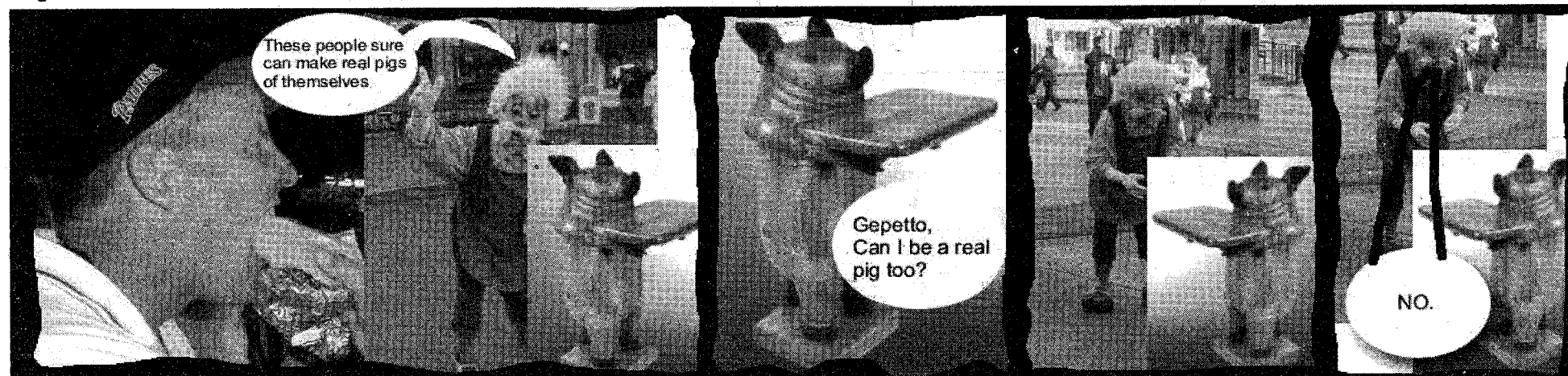
I cannot bring myself to relate to this guy. I feel like I should be able to. I feel like director Mike Mills thought I

should be able to as well. But the character is totally vapid, and really not all that redeeming. It's because of this discrepancy that the script feels like background to a visual style that has already been done.

This arm of moviemaking really bothers me. I mean, look at "Thumbsucker". The line drawings, the bright colors, the ads on pitchfork: the design concept seems to have targeted a very specific audience, and also usurped the movie's script. This is definitely a movie tailored for the Mr. and Ms. Brightsides out there, buying new place-mats at Urban Outfitters while rocking the soundtrack on their iPods. Or at least that's what the marketing people wanted. But if I can count on one hand the number of times your movie is interesting, none of that really matters.

omglolt3hr0x0rz

comic by >> Zhian Kamvar



# Brokeback semantics

opinion by >> **Joey Puricelli**

Well, everybody, the Oscars are long over by now, so it's time for Americans to switch back to our stock debates, like the Iraqi War, abortion, who to blame for Paris Hilton becoming famous, and, of course, gay marriage.

As we all know, US citizens are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. So why would homosexuals want to ruin their liberty and happiness by getting married? (As they say on the interweb, j/k.)

All cheesy obvious jokes aside, there is a legitimate point on both sides of the debate. Non-heterosexuals are human and deserve to have the rights and freedoms of people. However, there is also the sanctity to the sacrament of marriage that should not be violated. (Do NOT cite the abominable divorce rate as evidence against the sanctity of marriage; that's like saying the abomination of statistics is evidence against the validity of math.) Notice the word "sacrament" in the previous sentence, which now brings me to the heart of the matter.

See, gay couples can already get civil unions in many places, which legally function just like a marriage, with the only difference being the name. This still angers some people, who say that the different name is akin to being made a second-class citizen. Here's the thing: In every society since humanity first formed the concept of marriage, there has been a spiritual connotation to it. The United States government, constitutionally, is supposed to be disconnected from spiritual matters. So really, NO ONE should have a government-recognized "marriage", rather the legal term should be "civil union" for all couples, straight and gay. Then the feds should leave marriage to the spiritual institutions, who have the right to refuse it to anyone they choose. End of story, folks. This entire debate is over nomenclature, and I, for one, am sick of it. Just change the legalese name to civil union for everybody, and that's one less rift in the country.

As long as I'm here, though, can anyone tell me why someone trying to create a sensitive, serious story about a gay couple would put the word "brokeback" in the title?

# Media hype has distorted the facts of Katrina disaster

opinion by >> **Mike Elson**

So I may be the only person on this campus, but I am sick and tired of hearing about Hurricane Katrina. I am sick of the media hype, and I am sick of the finger-pointing at the government. I wish that the media would stop using this disaster as a catalyst for creating political spin. Take for example, when evacuees of Hurricane Katrina were asked to denounce President Bush's response to the natural disaster.

For instance, reporter Dean Reynolds asked Connie London: "Did you harbor any anger toward the President because of the slow federal response?" She said: "No, none whatsoever, because I feel like our city and our state government should have been there before the federal government was called in. ... They had RTA buses, Greyhound buses, school buses, that was just sitting there

going under water when they could have been evacuating people." Not one of the six people interviewed on camera criticized the President. Reynolds goaded: "Was there anything that you found hard to believe that he said, that you thought, well, that's nice rhetoric, but, you know, the proof is in the pudding?" Brenda Marshall answered, "No, I didn't," prompting Reynolds to marvel to anchor Ted Koppel: "Very little skepticism here." I also hate how the media has blown the levee issue way out of proportion. The federal government did know that the levees would not completely protect the city from a category 3+ hurricane, but they didn't know they would fail.

In a press conference four days after the disaster President Bush said "I don't think anybody anticipated the breach of the levees." What everyone doesn't know is that the levees broke because of design and/or construction flaws. This is a known fact. The eye never struck New Orleans, but category 3 conditions were initially reported to have still hit the city. The levees should have been able to handle that. But as the experts have said in the past few months is that it has been determined that New Orleans only experience between category 1 and 2 conditions. I repeat, CATEGORY 1 OR 2 conditions hit New Orleans, and again, the levees were supposed to be able to handle a 3. The reason that the levees were not rated for a higher strength hurricane was because they were not big enough to handle the initial surge. The Bush administration had anticipated the overtopping as had most of the residents of New Orleans but no one thought that the levees would fail as they did. Here is an experiment you can do at home to demonstrate this. Fill a glass of water all the way to the top and put it in a bowl, then blow as hard as you can and observe the amount of water in the bowl. Now, take that same glass and smash it with a hammer and observe the results. That is the difference between overtopping and a breach. The reason the government was slow to act was because rescue plans that had been made in the days before the disaster had to be changed due to the fact that 80% of the city had flooded and they had anticipated that the levees would be only overtopped and not be breached. I hate how people relate this disaster to things such as tax cuts, racial discrimination, the War in Iraq, and if people would do a little research on their own and not just be media whores sucking at the teat of CNN or ABC then there wouldn't be as much controversy as there is and people would know what the hell they were talking about.

# FRIEDAN, the all too already forgotten dead, and CHENEY, the yet all-too alive survivor hunter: Shameless Bias: BETTY VERSUS 'DICK'!

opinion by >> **Larry Iles**

Well, what a bizarre sexist contrast, eh, friends, so inadvertently revealing in its offensive self! That is, about what the rest of us in this world, 96 per cent non-Americans, want to generally admire RADICALLY about America, in recently dead Betty Friedan's case of a fiercely worthy controversialist activist life. Herself, versus the dimly conservative Vice President Dick Cheney, whom male-dominating internal USA media, in its ongoing John Wayne, macho bad guy 'tough love' syndrome, prefers to go on atonement trips forgivingly about instead.

The INDEX was typical in this WHITEwash respect of the US press tone, in spite of this place being statistically a 65% plus female population campus in potential reverse gender readership sympathies. By its almost complete omission of either decent mention or critically appropriate appreciation of the death this year of PEORIA, Illinois born independent writer and frequent mid-western campus guest speaker Friedan, the arch-feminist author of the best-seller classic, THE FEMININE MYSTIQUE; heavens fend itself, she is even cited in some TSU social science textbooks!

I had the pleasure of hearing her twice in fiery persona at the University of Illinois-Urbana, itself, while US history teaching there to complete my second Masters, 1979-82. I still recall as if it was vividly the proverbial yesterday, a feisty, stout, robust-with-pungent-controversy PETIT lady. One whom it was impossible bluntly not to warm towards in her sterling arguments for still unrattified ERA, EQUAL RIGHTS AMEND-

MENT US Constitutional adoption. At one fell earthy swoop, she revolutionised my life as she dispelled by her very warmth of her ERA advocacy, the genteel feminism of my previous University of London University College American Literature MA minor, where all we got, even under an impressive feminist lecturer, was the dainty feminism of Edith Wharton and the repressed nineteenth century sapphic and free love advocacy of Kate Chopin and her THE AWAKENING novel!

The au contraire earthy, salty lingo of Friedan, compared with these earlier sisters, in those Illinois lecture and chapel halls even affected some much younger than either of our two selves amongst her auditors. Such as a group of brilliant predominantly Afro-American lesbian and bi-gay rights students who orally in later Q and A took her dialectically apart! For what they militantly felt to be her founded NOW <National Organisation of Women> undue "reticence" concerning their radical sexuality and identity proud politics insistence. Even though she profoundly made clear her rather too closeted for them distaste for such campaigning, nonetheless, she and they in passionate exchanges visible to us all did so in affectionate banter with TEARS of MUTUAL admiration in their respective eyes of sheer overall movement pride.

So, never mind all this constructive legacy, still unachieved in the most ECONOMICALLY UNEQUAL WESTERN DEMOCRACY in the world, still workplace applicable in denied feminism, WAR EAGLE USA today and THE SINDEX wish to disregard its progressive enormity! So, disregard friends, the applicability of the concepts she

pioneered as a New York labor union paper reporter and early socialist researcher after WWII, as she didn't hesitate to confirm to me the in our own still need for reform in 2006. FOR INSTANCE, HOW MANY TSU FEMALE ACADEMICS AND PUBLIC SECURITY/MAINTENANCE STAFF WOMEN WORKERS ARE ACTUALLY IN TSU ADMINISTRATION POSITIONS OF SENIORITY AND REAL POLICY SOCIAL CHANGE VIABILITY, OTHER THAN DIXON AND THE NEW BUSINESS DEAN, IN AUTHENTIC REALITY?

Isn't it the unvarnished, disgraceful truth that "the invisible glass ceiling" blocking the feminist majority's wholly legit promotional and fresh appointment hopes is SHOCKINGLY at work on this campus and in this backward town? With not only verifiable from public statistic books in Pickler library, GROSSLY over-paid full professors, verifiable in course catalog, working as such in, again, openly verifiable information, barely two sessions teaching a week, invidiously compared with their THREE TIMES that load carried by female counterparts of the exact same rank! But, too, is it not the case really, if you talk off the record with them, that the few women in this town who have tried to break the glass, supposedly unseen barrier, be it in athletics or dean student counselling, all can tell horror stories galore. Stories of abiding 1950s misstyle 'holdbacks' of the sort Friedan set her life's mission to destroy! Stories of near blatant discrimination that will correctly convince even the most male sceptic effete prosed student to go and proverbially

continued on next page





# My Back Pages....

ahugemanatee@gmail.com



La tormenta

Dons a moldering mourning dress  
Veiled visage of tear-trail porcelain  
Black stained spilled inkwell  
Eyebrows knit, grey welkin pulsates  
Seizes ebony oak silhouettes  
To feed a vague despair  
Ever-aching eye of tempest grave

-Zia Luehman

30 mph, nine o'clock am icecream cone-

YES, today was Jill's day.  
Tired of her punk-sass boss,  
she piled her unmakeuped,  
uncurled, unsuited self  
into her black Jeep  
intent on quitting like  
the self assertive, take control  
women in the moview always do.

FEELING in need of some assurance,  
she slyly dropped her unsugared,  
uncaloried, unflavorful breakfast brick  
out her black Jeep window.  
Minutes later she reappeared on the  
scene,  
licking up  
soft serve vanilla courage.

-Hazel Green

My Favorite Cafeteria Songs: Part 1.

This is how you have a good ole fashion food dinner.

You take all your forks and spoons and clack them together.

Now take the cups out, grab your knives and tap a beat.

Grab your neighbor and say your one two three's.....

Beat! Beat! Clack!

Arappa! Tat! Tat!

Worker just cooked a big fat rat.

Oh no, Oh no!

What do we do?

Mix it with some broom stew?

No! No! No! My friend.

Grab your utensils,

And bang them again!

It's the beat that drives the cosmic rhythms,

From this here body to its dietary schisms.

Harmonize your fingertips,

As well as your singing lips.

How do we keep the ugliness away?

Kick back, beat, tap, clack and sway!

-StarCandyCube

A Compilation by Dan Fister:

Shiffin' Salts

Franklin and Ms. Lyn  
Got married only  
After they conceived  
Siamese twins  
-Salt #1

Frankie and Frankita, both  
Juniors, were sewn,  
With flesh,  
Together at the hip  
-Salt #2

Mr. Thompson,  
Formerly Dr. Thompson,  
Lost his rite to  
Practice medicine  
After his  
Malpractice  
Resulted in the  
Death of  
Ms. Lyn's twins  
-Salt #3

-Daniel Fister

Maybe it's me, the person  
right  
next  
to  
you  
who had sex last night for the first time  
who had my virginity taken-  
willingly and not-  
to somewhere now completely beyond my reach.  
Maybe I don't know how I feel about it.  
Maybe my stomach hasn't unclenched for hours.

Maybe it's me, the stranger  
at the end of your row, whose back you brush  
every  
Monday  
Wednesday  
Friday  
whose only venue for dark secrets died with my best friend two years  
ago  
who is reminded of him every day, unfailingly, and knows  
knows that I am the only one who understands myself now.  
Maybe I am buckling under the weight.

Maybe it's me, just a random and unimportant person in your eyes  
who thinks of you and writes, not knowing and not really caring if  
you will read or not, what comes to mind.

-Hazel Green

There Is No Sound Underwater

I wish you would call.  
Kiss me so I can fall  
Over you.

I'll become a cascade, a  
Waterfall, and  
Shade you.

Behind this sinuous wall  
Is where I keep all  
My love for you.

On a slippery rock you stand content  
To watch my plunge, to view my descent  
To the bottom.

Though the top still violent,  
From the bottom I'm silent;  
Speechless.

All you can hear is the roar of the rush.  
All I can hear is the weight of the hush.

My lake is heavy;  
My quiet furnace.  
But you broke the levee;  
I rise through the surface,  
And love you.

-A. Truman Student

Easier to Say when it Rhymes

Labios-  
Lips  
Grab my  
hips  
Now grind and  
dip  
Turn and  
tip.  
and find yourself in love.

Ojos-  
Eyes  
It's always a surprise  
to wake  
and rise  
and realize  
what you said wasn't lies.  
You're here.

Un beso-  
One kiss.  
Así-  
Just like this;  
for I'll miss  
you this time tomorrow.

Corazón-  
My heart  
you tear it apart.  
Your love  
is an art  
that is perfect.  
Te amo.

- A. Truman Student