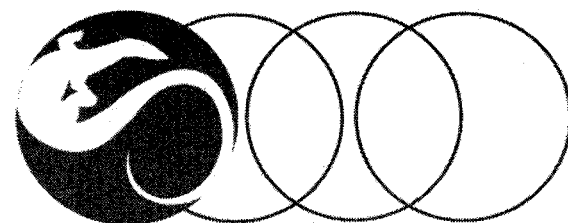


# the monitor.



volume 11 >> issue 11

a campus collective.

29 march, 2006

**CAMPUS ADDRESS**  
CSI SUB  
Truman State University  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
Fax (660) 785.7436

**OFFICE ADDRESS**  
Monitor Tower  
804 East Line  
Kirksville, MO 63501  
monitortrm@hotmail.com

**MANAGING EDITORS**  
Jon Lawinger, Tim Linn, and Ian  
Florida

**MY BACK PAGES EDITOR**  
Annie Schippers

**LAYOUT DESIGN**  
Joe Moccia

**COVER IMAGE**  
Jon Lawinger

All contents Copyright © 2006  
The Monitor Campus Collective unless otherwise  
noted.

The Monitor is published every other Tuesday.  
We meet every Thurs..ay 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

# WANT 50\$?

## GOT 1000 WORDS?

### SUBMIT TO THE MONITOR'S SHORT STORY CONTEST!

#### DEADLINE: APRIL 17TH 1000 WORDS OR LESS MONITORTRM@HOTMAIL.COM

## The Cisco kid was no friend of mine

**opinion by >> Joey Puricelli**

It's been said a million and a half times  
before, but it deserves to be said again: Cisco  
Clean Access reeks. A complete waste of time,  
money, electricity, heat, bandwidth, and hard  
drive space, the entire thing should be scrapped.

"But, Joey," says hypothetical-ITS-  
mouthpiece-reader, "Clean Access protects  
your computer from viruses that the stupid  
freshmen download! Besides, it's only for you  
inferior Windows users; you should run Linux  
or Mac OS instead!" Well first of all, hypo-  
nerd, while you have a valid point about Linux  
(my laptop unfortunately can't run it), Mac OS  
is a user-unfriendly piece of crud that's not  
compatible with anything that Steve Jobs hasn't  
personally reviewed and deemed worthy of  
Apple's blessing. You guys could learn a thing  
or two from Hunter Cressall. And secondly,  
when I was a freshman, I received and sent a  
total of ZERO viruses. It's called being careful,  
and even if someone else isn't careful, I can still  
protect my computer by being careful. Anyway,  
didn't we already have a campus  
antivirus program prior to the network demon  
of a daemon called Cisco?

For one thing, why is it running when  
my computer isn't online? I'm not accessing  
anything, so Clean Access has no reason to be  
operational, and yet there it lays, starting auto-

matically with my computer, eating my RAM,  
begging me to right-click so I can turn it off,  
only to have it start whining later when I do  
plug in my Ethernet cord. What a ridiculous  
design flaw.

Also, my little lappy has a tendency  
to overheat and shut off, losing any unsaved  
work I had as well as most of my browser  
cache. This really wasn't a problem last year-it  
happened maybe twice-but this year it happens  
pretty regularly. Even after employing other  
measures to keep the temperature down, it still  
kicks off about once a week. Furthermore, I  
used to get a battery life of 90 minutes on a  
good day, 60 on a bad. Now my battery life  
averages about 10 minutes on a good day, 5 on  
a bad. What could have caused these changes?  
I know it wasn't a virus, because I'm always  
very careful about what I download and where  
I go online, and the only new software I've put  
on the computer in the last year is.....guess  
what that's right it's CLEAN ACCESS!!! So  
not only is this piece of crud program running  
redundantly; it's also devouring my battery life  
and giving my computer a harsh fever.

And let's not forget what happened on  
Password Tuesday! That's right, our passwords  
all expired and we were prompted to change  
them on any campus compy or at the ITS web-  
site. But what about people who tried to change  
their passwords on their own computers? Well,

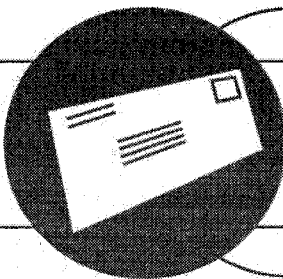
unfortunately, they could not access the ITS site  
to get a new password, because Clean Access  
would not let them in.....because their pass-  
words were no longer valid. Brilliant planning  
there, gentlemen.

Oh, and of course, there's the daily  
virus definition updates. Everything is fine and  
dandy there, until it doesn't work, which is fair-  
ly often. Nothing in the world is quite so stupid  
as having to download the same antivirus  
update 4 times because the first 3 times some-  
how didn't take. It's especially annoying when  
they tell us that "The virus definition update has  
launched successfully," when it clearly HAS  
NOT launched successfully! This, of course,  
doesn't even account for the Windows Update  
reminders. See, ITS, I already set my comput-  
er to get Windows updates automatically; I  
don't need a program I already hate telling me  
to get updates I already got.

It boggles the mind to think that this  
school spent money on licensing this worthless  
bile when they could have used that money to  
expand the bandwidth allowance on TruView so  
registration would be less of a hassle. But no, I  
guess that makes too much sense. And I sup-  
pose it would probably also make too much  
sense to provide us with uninstallation instruc-  
tions for when we graduate and want our com-  
puters purged of the incessant filth that is Cisco  
Clean Access.



# letters



## **An open letter of response to Professor McLane-Iles**

Thank you for your civil and legible response to my earlier letter. I appreciate the feedback. And while my comments may have been a bit harsh, I admit, I must take issue with your insinuation that I was merely using your husband's writing style as a substitute target for his ideas. As a matter of fact, I truly do not know what ideas he was trying to express. I haven't a clue what he was saying. Indeed, the only times I have been able to determine Larry's intent were in the letter immediately following mine on the page (because of the editor's response) and his letter in the last issue (because it was about me). Again, thank you for your constructive criticism.

Sincerely,  
Al Hayfever

## **An open letter of response to Larry Iles**

--You certain do have the right to use as many adverbs as you want, but try to remember that they don't replace verbs.

--See, I emphasized the fact that I'm not a student of language because I'm sure someone who is would have a much longer complaint list than I.

--McCartney. The man is a knight; you could at least do him the respect of spelling his name correctly.

--Also, thank you for adding in their first initials; we ignorant Americans otherwise never would have figured out which Lennon and McCartney from Liverpool you meant.

--Breaking the rules is one thing; being really really bad at it is another. Go read some Cummings to learn how to do it right.

--I like how you make so many assumptions regarding my nationality and economic status. Never mind the countless other students of varying countries and financial "classes" who agreed that your sheer incomprehensible blather is sheerly incomprehensible.

--To be, what?

--I'm strongly in favor of peace. However, since it sounds exactly like the word "piece," it's kind of funny to say "piece about peace".

--Yes, I am aware of how to spell the

word "isles;" however, the pun would not have worked had I spelled it that way.

--Pretension is a two-way street, my friend; make sure you're not driving on it when you accuse others of doing so.

--Hay fever (n) - An allergic condition affecting the mucous membranes of the upper respiratory tract and the eyes, most often characterized by nasal discharge, sneezing, and itchy, watery eyes and usually caused by an abnormal sensitivity to airborne pollen.

--Alexander. Not Albert. Never has my name been Albert.

Try handwriting it before you type it next time,

Al Hayfever

## **lawinger's actions indicate Monitor does push viewpoint**

Dear Editor:

Regarding your personal editorial response to my letter in your last issue of March 8th, Wednesday, you, as editor wrote and published the article on Professor Becker. You, the editor most actively involved in responding to Iles and myself, made the decision to print the supposedly anonymous letter by Mr. "Hayfever". In this instance, both actions reflect most certainly a single viewpoint. The letter itself may well have been an editorial product, given the malevolent publication of a carefully reduced copy of Iles' response to your Mr. "Hayfever".

Thank you,  
Dr. Betty Louise McLane-Iles  
Professor of French

## **lawinger is a nasty censoring prissy giraffe**

Dear Jon

Readers should know! This letter is, carefully, typed on yellow pad paper and is punctuated the way I want it. It is, also, addressed not to the usual complete MONITOR editorial collective, at least one of whom I know from Amnesty International work, Ian. Despite, too, the going-on farcical discourtesy of the letter reproduction I am complaining about, I will also continue to submit my perhaps less censored BY MR LAWINGER Monitor Opinion column; requesting howev-

er! That if you still are genuinely a democratic collective, other awake MONITOR members bring some accountability to Lawinger: for, frankly, the sheer Jane Austin tameness and nastiness friends of mine such as past MONITOR associates Andres Delgado and Mary Burford briefed me "one day I'd have to face!!"

Anyway I leave it to other MONITOR letters writers to worry about the professed "ridicule" sense of a man who claims not to be in answer to Professor MC Lane-Iles own complaint a conventional or "unified" (what STARTREK USA verbiage Lawinger!) "editor," yet who tried to show off his (overgrown) middle class fustian standards. By his DELIBERATELY reproducing on the blackest, obscurest photo-copy he DESPERATELY can, an HONOURABLY submitted non-E MAIL letter! ARE YOU INTENDING PROFESSED, COLLECTIVE (JL) TO DO THIS NON-EDITING "BLACKENING" UPON ALL LETTERS EVERY TIME HE RECEIVES ONE HE, UNPLAINLY, DOES NOT LIKE? If so, fair enough, but please warn us of the non-standard by any sense "c'est ridicule," journalistic or as JL fawningly presents himself, TSU "English" student notions!

However, next time Lawinger complains as he has on record done about "apathy" or radical film-maker Mike Moore's lack of alleged truthful interest or context standards of we others than his obnoxiously prissy self, be warned readers! He will be a deterring "croc" and discourager. Originally, under I concede past, real COLLECTIVES the MONITOR "letters" column was modeled upon most alternative US/UK papers such columns; more 'free' and 'open' to permit rapid response unsuitable for a long column where we are "legit" rationed and can be more serious about, NOW IT IS LESS "FREE" THAN THE AVERAGE Index LETTERS SET.

IF Lawinger is changing this past, real ridicule sense in his inability or nasty lack of interest in being an editor, fair enough we are now all E-MAIL only, warned! But please, no more sermons from the same MR Humbug about "apathy" or "standards," as on the basis of his breach of any etiquette last LETTERS issue you, yea you JON, alas really like too many Americans do NOT have ANY either "standards" or good "jokes."

Two other rejoinders to the prissy giraffe; yep, we can all be nasty can't we in LAZY easiness! One: I notice in his reply to Professor Mc Lane ILES, Lawinger reiterates a line of defense for his return to PUNDIT predecessor jéjeuneness, a line that the magazine under him does not have any line but "individuals." HOW VERY USA BOURGEOIS IN NONSENSE!? 'JL' calls himself an "editor" and thankfully unlike the PUNDIT

most published works inside your average MONITOR remain "liberal" or "Left" by both INDEX or even national US media standards less prissy than 'Humbug-Jon!'

However I'll risk getting myself in hot water on one final thing, besides a hope that like the professors (Becker/McLane-Iles) "e"mail this yellow pad is courteously not blackened out OR PHOTOCOPIED in Lawinger-LAZY GALORE-creepiness! Why publish anything ANONYMOUSLY, EVER! I mean, seriously, if "Hayfever" or anyone else (me included) lacks the guts to sign his or her piece in an alternative paper founded, CLAIMS, on both collectivity and farcical ridicule, is it not in ugly reality, rather tameness and establishment-hypocrisy in put-off deterrence intimidated, quieter but HONEST types? Even UK NEWSPAPERS LIKE THE LONDON TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT (TLS) WHOSE PROSE PRISSINESS MOST RESEMBLES JL'S "STANDARDS OF BLACK-OUT PHOTO COPY AND "GRAMMAR" ALTERATIONS I can gladly document, compared with professors he has been seen ingratiating himself with, nonetheless the TLS long ceased ANONYMOUS LETTERS ETC. VENOM! COPY OF THIS SUBMITTED TO THE INDEX, JL IN MY OWN-BACK RETORT, YOUNG NASTY.

YS Larry Iles

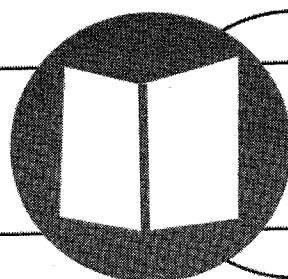
*Editor's note: In the interest of not turning the letters page into a shouting match or arena for personal bickering, I won't be publishing responding to the letters directed at me here. I think private communication would be more appropriate at this point.*

- Jon Lawinger

Send your letters to The Monitor mailbox in the CSI, or to [monitortrm@hotmail.com](mailto:monitortrm@hotmail.com).

# Editor's Box

Have a good day. Love, Tim and Jon



## Vieques three years later

story by >> Marc Becker

Just before midnight on May 1, 2003, activists broke down the gates to Camp Garcia on the small Puerto Rican island of Vieques and reclaimed the land for the civilian population.

Since World War II the U.S. Navy had used this Caribbean paradise as a practice bombing range, including firing napalm and depleted uranium shells that left the island heavily polluted. After decades of the growing intensity and pressure of nonviolent protests, the navy turned the land over to the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service to form the Caribbean's largest wildlife refuge. Almost three years later, however, the island remains much as how the Navy left it.

The navy presence on Vieques dates back to 1941 when the military acquired the land with the desire to develop a Pearl Harbor-type base for its Atlantic fleet. The military exploited Vieques for a variety of exercises including ship-to-shore and air-to-ground target practice, rehearsal of amphibious landings, and the storage of ammunition.

The navy displaced poor sharecroppers and rural workers who had labored in a struggling sugar cane industry to a narrow six-mile wide strip of land in the middle of the island. The heavy bombing of the island, including the use of napalm, armor-piercing depleted uranium shells, and other experimental

weapons, left the island heavily polluted with arsenic, cyanide, lead, mercury, antimony, uranium, and other toxins resulting in a cancer rate 27 percent higher than the rest of Puerto Rico. With few economic opportunities, Vieques became the poorest municipality in Puerto Rico with the colony's highest unemployment and infant mortality rates.

Under military occupation, Vieques developed social conflicts typical for communities next to military bases, including problems with prostitution and drunken brawls. Navy maneuvers disrupted fishing around the island and noise from bombs and low-flying airports disturbed inhabitants.

Plans in the 1960s to expropriate the entire island and expel the entire population led to a round of mass protests. In the late 1970s, Vieques fishermen blocked military exercises leading to dozens of arrests and the unexplained death of Ángel Rodríguez Cristóbal in his prison cell in Florida. On April 19, 1999, two off-target bombs destroyed an observation post killing David Sanes Rodríguez, a civilian employee. Incensed with the navy's refusal to

investigate the incident or punish those who killed Sanes, thousands of people committed acts of civil disobedience that four years later finally forced an end to the bombing.

Vieques inhabitants often feel as if they are a colony of a colony. After the 1898 war with Spain, the United States government took control of Puerto Rico. Although the residents of Vieques (like all of Puerto Rico) became U.S. citizens in World War One so that the military could

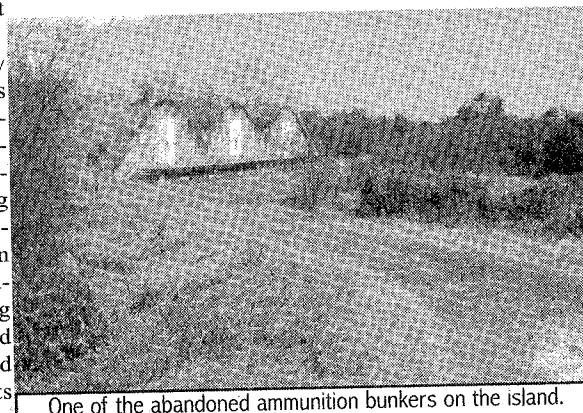
draft them to fight in Europe, they cannot vote for president nor do they have any voice in Congress. Puerto Rico is currently an "Estado Libre Asociado" (literally "Associated

Free State," but defined by the U.S. as "commonwealth"), which means that it is an "unincorporated territory" that "belongs to, but is not part of" the U.S. This leaves Puerto Rico subject to the whims of the U.S., and the residents of Vieques with no legal avenues to address the evils committed against them. It was this political subjugation that allowed the bombing to continue for so long.

Inhabitants of the island emphasize that

ending the naval bombing was an important step, but not a final victory. A military presence still persists on Vieques, most notable a Relocatable Over The Horizon Radar (ROTHR) installation used to monitor drug traffic in the Caribbean. Rather than return the land to the people, the navy handed it over to the Fish and Wildlife Service continuing the federal government's large and heavy-handed presence on the island. Sixty years of bombing has left the island heavily polluted, and it will take years and extensive resources to decontaminate it. Estimates for cleanup range as high as \$450 billion, which represents one year of the Pentagon's budget. Using the land as a nature preserve rather than for human habitation only requires a superficial cleaning, leading to fears that the military has no intent to clean up the mess.

Ironically, many of the bitterest opponents of the navy's bombing of Vieques also recognize the benefits which it brought. Unlike the surrounding islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix, Vieques has not been overrun with large-scale capital-driven tourism projects, leaving the island with the appearance of a much more pristine environment. This presents both opportunities and challenges. Activists want to avoid land speculation and instead create a democracy that fosters sustainable development based on community needs. Ending the bombing was an important and historic victory for Vieques, but much work remains to be done to clean the island and to develop viable and sustainable economic development plans.



One of the abandoned ammunition bunkers on the island.

## CPE student protests more widespread than mainstream media presents

story by >> Emily Randall

Angers, France - As an American in France, I have been stunned by the level of activism and quickness of mobilization among French students in the past few weeks. Manifestations, or protests have been frequent in response to a proposed law which has negative affects on only the youngest generation of French adults.

This is a critical time for French youth (anyone under the age of 26), with the *contrat première embauche* (CPE) soon coming up to vote. The CPE is a law that would allow employers to hire young people for trial periods during the first two years after they graduate from college.

CPE supporters claim it will help young people to find jobs. In a nation where around 75% of the population is college-educated, white-collar jobs are hard to come by. By being able to hire for trial periods, this would improve the likelihood of young people finding opportunities to prove their skills, according to CPE supporters.

However, critics of CPE, young and old alike, say that this is not a change being made to benefit young people. They say that this law will damage their job security and benefit

employers by allowing them to fire young workers for no reason. Since employers are not required to pay benefits for employees within the first few months of hiring them, they could essentially rotate in new young employees and avoid ever paying benefits.

While world media outlets have picked up the protests of Parisian youth, such as the recent violent protests which have produced dramatic photography of burning cars and the peaceful sit-in in Sorbonne University which ended in police violence, students across the nation are mobilizing as well.

In Angers, a medium-sized city an hour and a half southwest of Paris by train, students from many universities have come together to show how they feel about the CPE. Nearly every day outside the university restaurant, a cafeteria for all the students of Angers, I am passed a

flier with a political message about the CPE. One day hundreds of students sat in an intersection of the busy main road in town and blocked traffic. Most recently, though, on

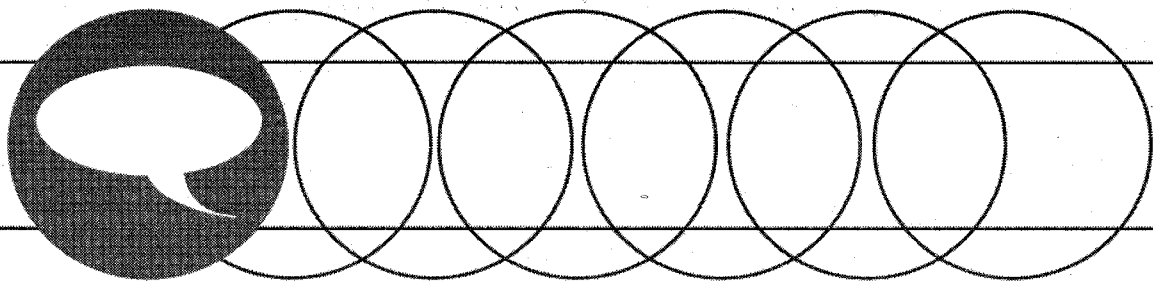
Thursday, March 16, 5,000 people stood on the train tracks, blocking the highly traveled train lines. The next day found celebration and opposition alike. Some students were campaigning to end blockage as a form of protest and replace it with political debate.

It is an incredible thing to see youth of all types coming together to express political dissent. It is also disappointing to hear some of my fellow American international students laugh or write off the protests as a stereotype of "typical French people." Thanks a lot for the fine representation. I cannot

determine why it seems easier for the French to come together in political dissention, and why actions of the same scale have not happened at Truman.



Students in Angers, France protest a proposed labor law.



## The anti-torture meeting, a report and then a commentary

opinion by >> Larry Illes

In spite of weather so rainy in sheets that one might wonder that the climate god is a Bushite Republican in inclemency, more than 30 people at various times and via KTVO TV ten o'clock news thousands later saw Missouri's only anti-rendition meeting last night March 9 in discussions extensive. The two Amnesty International speakers, Hobbs and a new member tore into the claims of "denial" by Bush with detailed case studies, including the US ACLU deposition of German citizen, Khaled El Masri, who found himself bound up in a US plane for nearly half a year 2003-4, with US doctors supervising the "enhanced interrogation techniques" so his heart didn't stop! Before he was finally dumped back near his native Germany and Germany's conservative Christian democrat chancellor publicly forced Condoleezza Rice to apologize "in this particular instance" for the torture applied to him. As the AI local liaison offi-

cer, I added the case in Cuba's notorious US prison bay of similarly "interrogated" Mohammed Qahtani, the supposed 12th 9/11 hijacker who was tortured so mercilessly on direct orders resigned US navy counsel Alberto Mora protested from Rumsfeld, that he screamed lies to everything "simply to cease the pain!"

Some of the best points were made from the floor supportively, as is often the case. ENGLISH TSU professor, Tom Stewart, who is actually teaching a graphic novels course from the Muslim world said what most upset him was the way Bush rarely "repatriated" these "rendited" victims to their own countries in mis-justice. Save where the state was already know to practice terror far more grievous than they had already endured! A former high school AI organizer, NICK, thought the worst thing in his mind was how the sheer power of "modern capitalism" made even AI convener Elizabeth Hobbs hope that Congress might stop

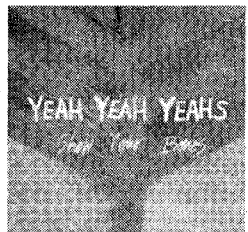
the foulness, "impossible of effect." FRENCH CLASS activist, SARA, made apparent a line of questioning which revealed the Bush excuse for these beatings is threat bare but relies upon unproven terrorist link, "fears," as she ANALOGIZED with past white French torture in ALGERIA.

All in all, a thoroughly productive night seeing its informational way into three US states and spotlighting even Republican opposition to "ends" neither laudable nor justifying by the Geneva accord illegal torture "means." Some criticisms, to show we are capable in self-improvement of their utterance, are as follows! Despite the valiant efforts of AI technician ARTHUR we still didn't have the promised film, vital in a prove-it talk and debate like this event. Hobbs, also, was too soft-sale modest! TSU and Kirksville AI is the areas only consistently anti-war, feminist student dominated local group; most others are incidental alas and spasmodic when the heat

gets too "un-American" hot in showing, or not, any radical mettle. More, too, could, and should be, made of Clinton rendition origins, using the pretext of his foul NATO bombing of Serbia; over one thousand civilian dead uncounted to this day in improper USA brutality in practice! Bad, too, that a gathering, as present TSU English professor Linda Seidel pointed out of mainly "liberals" seemed unaware not only of her medical-aid-for-the-poor petition fall campaign. But too, I would add, how the torture wars for US/UK oil in the mid-east and arms sales are "sold" to poor Yanks. In that if you "join up" the Army you get free medical benefits even should you survive those you are Arabs oppressing and so forth behind your body armor. "Freebies" that in European social democracies 2006 are matters of citizen rights every-war monger US politician can take in free capitol hill DC own entitlement. And thus they bigotedly not worry about the indecorous, tortured Muslim's screams in supine and false US homeland "security" comfort!

## Yeah yeah yeahs show bones, soft side on new album

review by >> Adam Dorhauer



When I first listened to former Pixies' frontman Frank Black's solo album 'Show Your Bones', my first thought was, "Huh, he quit screaming." The Yeah Yeah Yeahs' new

album 'Show Your Bones' is kind of the same thing, only without the band breaking up and Karen O entering middle-age first.

'Show Your Bones' will likely give the Yeah Yeah Yeahs a new audience, but not without alienating some old fans. The band picked up a new sound after signing with Interscope that promises to be more radio-friendly than 'Fever to Tell', and fans of the band's debut will inevitably find themselves bored at times in the new album. The new album is more subdued,

especially in Karen's vocals. The angst is mostly gone, replaced by a more polished tone that only rarely approaches the emotion so prevalent on 'Fever to Tell'. The result is at times successful, but on the whole less interesting.

Zinner's guitar work is also toned down from the first album, although only in spots, most notably in the surprisingly successful acoustic stretch at the end of the album. The standout track on 'Show Your Bones', 'Warrior', is one of these, a simple

but beautiful song. Plugged in, however, Zinner now provides most of the band's energy and delivers it's most interesting components.

'Show Your Bones' feels repetitive at times, but Zinner usually redeems it within a minute or two. And bear in mind, a subdued Yeah Yeah Yeahs still thrashes and rocks more than most bands in the mainstream, and even with their new polish the Yeah Yeah Yeahs still at least sound like the Yeah Yeah Yeahs. 3.6/5.

## Gay marriage debate more than a matter of legal-ese

opinion by >> Adam Dorhauer

In the last issue of the Monitor (Vol. 11, Issue 10), there was a submission regarding gay marriage. While the author's assertion that marriage should be replaced in legal context by indiscriminating civil unions is well-intentioned, there are two elemental flaws in his reasoning that led to his oversimplified solution.

For one, he attempts to write universally from a distinctly Catholic perspective. He highlights the term "sacrament" in his argument for the universal sanctity of marriage with unusual emphasis; however, not only are sacraments relevant only to Christian theology, but marriage isn't even a sacrament in many Protestant churches. He then goes on

to write, "In every society since humanity first formed the concept of marriage, there has been a spiritual connotation to it" without ever distinguishing from the idea of the Catholic sacrament.

This chain of logic not only ignores the fact that marriage has occurred throughout time and space with largely pragmatic rather than spiritual connotations, it also concedes that gay marriage is indeed a threat to the sanctity of marriage. This threat only exists in a very narrow view of marriage, however. In many cultures throughout the world, "traditional" marriage includes a variety of forms including polygamy, same-sex marriage, and fraternal polyandry to name a few. The argument that government should distinguish

between the religious practice and the legal status of marriage is of the right mind, but before we shed the narrow "one man one woman" view of marriage in this country, we first need to understand the immense diversity of the concept of marriage and be willing to accept the validity of other views.

More importantly, the author misses the basic premise of the issue when he claims "The entire debate is over nomenclature..." The debate is, in fact, over legal rights. The author writes, "gay couples can already get civil unions in many places, which legally function just like a marriage, with the only difference being the name." His use of the phrase "many places" is inappropriately liberal here, as the only states in the U.S. that offer civil

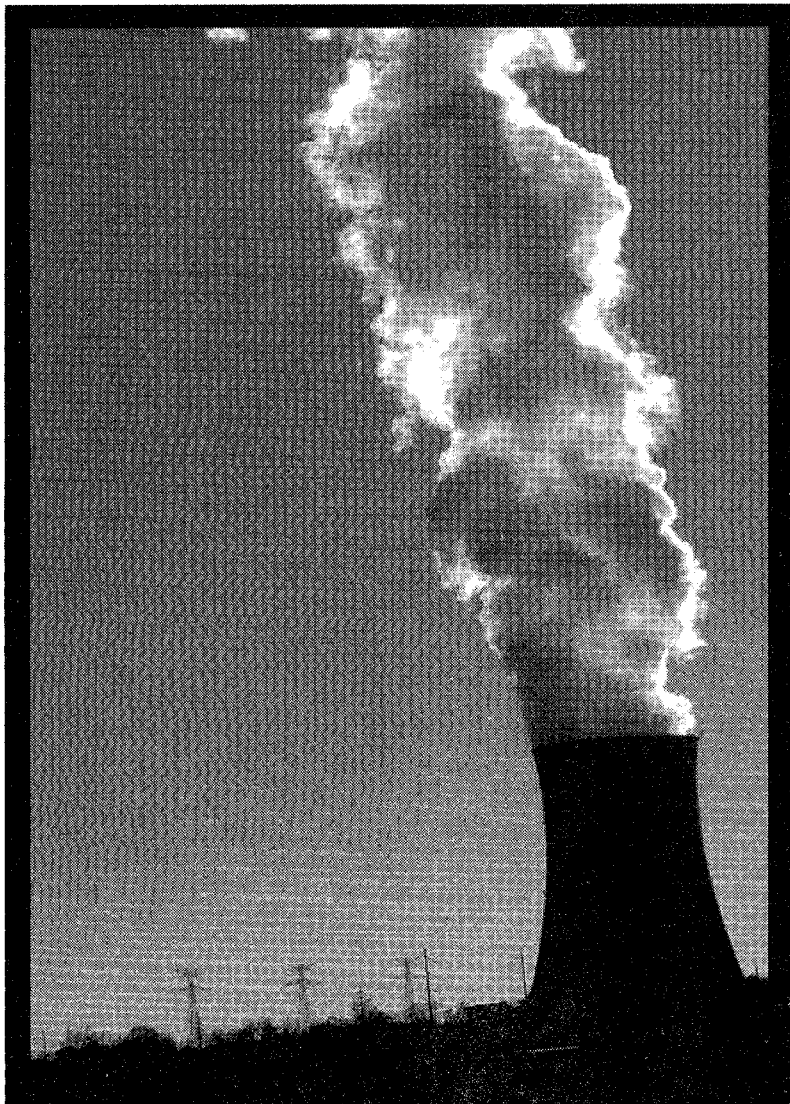
unions are Vermont and Connecticut, and even these do not function just like a marriage. While these states, as well as Massachusetts, which recognizes same-sex marriage, grant gay couples the same rights as straight couples, there are over 1,000 federal rights that apply to marriage but not to civil unions.

This issue is much more complex than could be solved by a simple change of name, as the author suggests. His argument fails to recognize the radical nature of the changes it proposes. Any effort, no matter how well-intentioned, that so readily dismisses the extent of the problem at hand will never get anywhere. If we are to make progress, we must first understand what we are facing and be willing to address the problem in full.

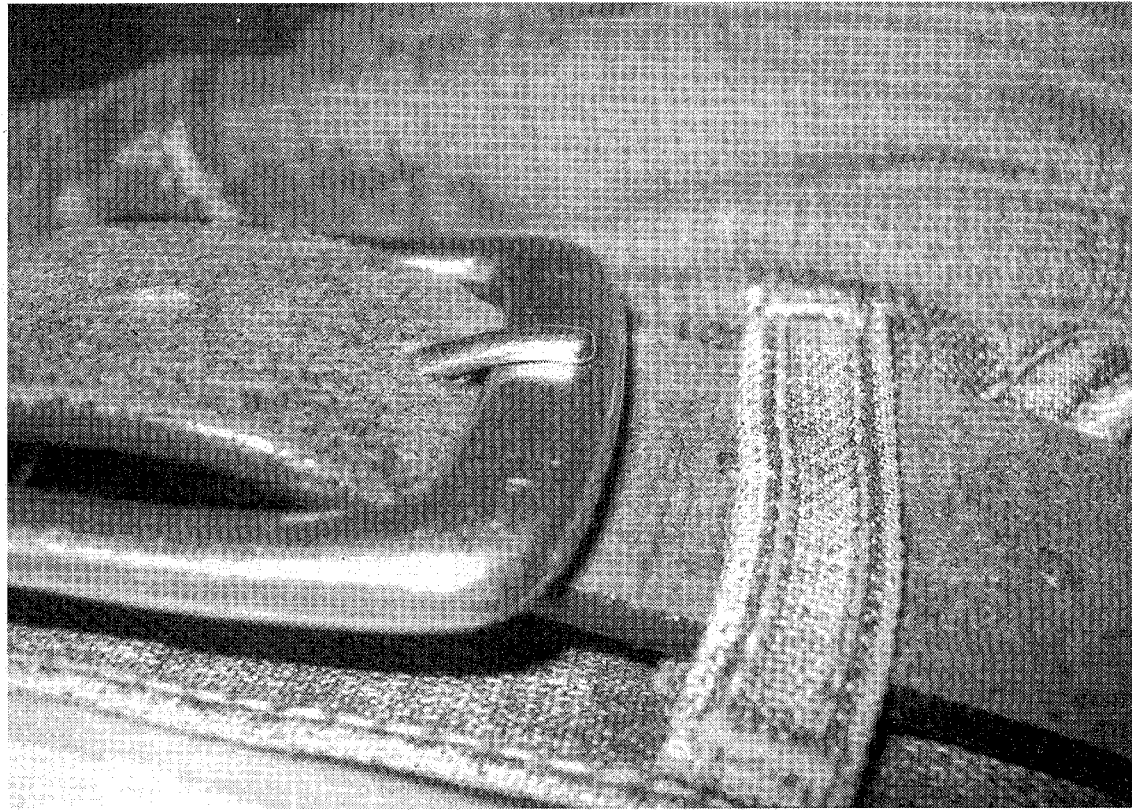


# Photography

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



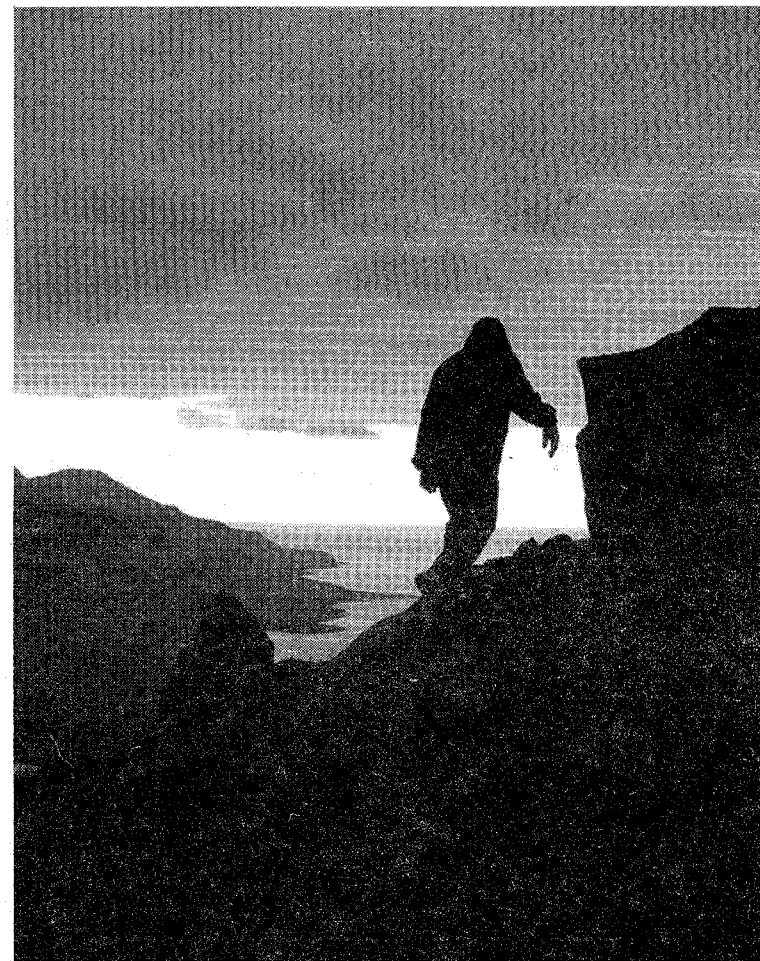
Erin Givarz



Emily Eschbacher



Peter McEvoy



Luke Gardner

## **Thursday, March 30**

### **11:00-11:50 Resistance movements**

Alexandria Lockett, "The Story of Algeria: How Women Secured Its Independence"

Alicia Barks, "Contextualizing the Rhetoric of Women's Rights Movements in the Middle East"

### **2:00-12:50 Postcolonial criticism**

Neil Bales, "A Postcolonial Study of Universalisms and Imperialism in Jane Eyre and Wide Sargasso Sea"

Emily Murdock, "Somewhere Over the Balcony: An Irish View of British Imperialism"

### **1:30-3:00 VOX: Reproductive health issues**

Karen Smith et al., "The Current State of Reproductive Health Services and Policy"

### **3:30-6:00 Film and discussion (in BH 218)**

Monica Barron, "Colonized Power and Indigenous Women in Rabbit-Proof Fence"

### **7:00 A Prism-sponsored related event (in the SUB activities room): The transgendered life**

Debra Davis, guest speaker, will discuss her MTF transition.

## **Friday, March 31**

### **10:30-11:20 Women and American culture**

Kiley Hughes, "Isabella Bird: Cowboy, Lady, or Fellow?"

Julie Limbaugh, "Breaking Free: Women as Slaves to Fashion in the Fin de Siecle and the Present"

### **11:30-12:20 Colonialism and feminist theory**

Alanna Preussner, "Assuming the Missionary Position: Imperialism, Faith, and Feminism"

Kristopher Stroup, "Feminism, Dhimmitude, and the Public Sphere: A Reconceptualization of Feminist Theorizing of the Dhimmi"

### **1:30-2:20 Colonized women in the Americas**

Carol Marshall, "Brokenness and Identity: Chicanas Piece Together the Moon on This Side of the Border"

Marc Becker, "Beauty Queens and Empire at the World Social Forum in Caracas, Venezuela"

### **2:30-3:20 Postcolonial women in Africa, part 1**

Marijke Breuning, "Aid and Gender Equality in Africa"

Samuel Edeh, "The New Face of Women's Rights in Post-Military Nigeria"

### **3:30-4:20 Personal Testimony**

JJ Pionke, "Gaijin Girl: Foreigner Gender and Japan"

Gretchen Willier, "One Woman's Struggle with Day-to-Day Imperialism"

### **4:30-5:50 Keynote performance**

Stephanie Howell, "Atrocious Beauty: A Fattie Bites Back"

# Gender and Empire

## A Truman Conference

in honor of

Women's History Month

March 30 - April 1

VH 1000

(unless otherwise noted)

## **Saturday, April 1**

### **10:30- 11:20 Women in government**

Larry Iles, "Barbara Castle, Socialist UK Politician, and her Opposition to White, War-making Imperialism in Kenya, Egypt, Cyprus, and South Africa, 1950-1993"

Betty McLane-Iles, "Women Changing French Government and Politics"

### **11:30-12:20 Performance art workshop**

Stephanie Howell, "Performance as a Way of Knowing"

### **1:30-2:20 Postcolonial women in Africa, part 2**

Ifeanyi Elechi, "The Devastating Effects of Colonialism on African Women: The Untold Story"

Alaina Denney, "Impossible Expectations: The Role of Motherhood in Sindiwe Magona's *Mother to Mother*"

### **2:30-3:30 Men and empire**

Benjamin Reddin, "The Self-Made Man: George A. Custer"

Jeffrey Keeling, "The Man Thing to Do"

Kade Schemahorn, "Metrosexual Embodiment and Perception: Confronting Hegemony from a Male Perspective"

### **3:45-5:15 Empire and masculinity: a panel discussion**

Hena Ahmad, Nick Kremer, Bob Mielke, Arnie Preussner, Tom Useted, and Linda Seidel

Saturday night (828 E. Harrison St., SW corner of Harrison and Lewis)

7:30--? PARTY! All conference participants, attendees, Women's and Gender Studies students and faculty, friends of WGST, and members of VOX and NOW are invited.

I'm not sure how much more dirt I can eat  
And mud I can swallow  
Before I bust  
And become hollow.  
Until then,  
Pardon me.

-StarCandyCube

While a lonely planet orbits a lonely sun,  
One lonely sun sits on the edge of a lonely galaxy.  
In this lonely galaxy billions of lonely suns do the same thing.  
How can our lonely sun have any fun  
when it's closest neighbor is 4 light-years away?  
A little twinkle always makes my day.

-StarCandyCube

On apparent academic silence.  
I like sitting where I sit  
in this class,  
in the corner facing the class next to the teacher.  
so that I don't feel like so much  
of a member of the herd,  
chewing cud+  
waiting to hear something useful.  
useful without ever having to really  
(think)  
about things.  
(around these parts thinking might get you in trouble),  
this is academic silence:  
- cell phones  
- laptop with visualizations playing  
- notebooks and scraps of paper  
- head down, hand over the eyes to keep the fluorescent lights out  
- buried in a book or at least pretending to be, turn your pages when  
you hear a number even though you don't get to that page  
- hand up waiting to be heard (explosions of thought silenced forever  
under the glowing fear of being exposed for what you really are)  
leave us alone/  
tell us what to do.  
we're not sure which yet.

-Luke Gardner

Crimson flames tied through my ears  
Rollin' high and mighty traps  
Pounced with fire on flaming roads  
Using ideas as my maps  
"We'll meet on edges, soon," said I  
Proud 'neath heated brow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

Half-wracked prejudice leaped forth  
"Rip down all hate," I screamed  
Lies that life is black and white  
Spoke from my skull. I dreamed  
Romantic facts of musketeers  
Foundationed deep, somehow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

Girls' faces formed the forward path  
From phony jealousy  
To memorizing politics  
Of ancient history  
Flung down by corpse evangelists  
Unthought of, though, somehow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

A self-ordained professor's tongue  
Too serious to fool  
Spouted out that liberty  
Is just equality in school  
"Equality," I spoke the word  
As if a wedding vow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

In a soldier's stance, I aimed my hand  
At the mongrel dogs who teach  
Fearing not that I'd become my enemy  
In the instant that I preach  
My pathway led by confusion boats  
Mutiny from stern to bow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

Yes, my guard stood hard when abstract  
threats  
Too noble to neglect  
Deceived me into thinking  
I had something to protect  
Good and bad, I define these terms  
Quite clear, no doubt, somehow.  
Ah, but I was so much older then,  
I'm younger than that now.

-Robert Zimmerman