

the monitor may 2015

painfully uncool
aggressively uncool
very uncool
genuinely uncool
absolutely uncool
awfully uncool
deeply uncool
greatly uncool
extremely uncool
surpassingly uncool
truly uncool
uncommonly uncool
acutely uncool
remarkably uncool
excessively uncool
extraordinarily uncool
astonishingly uncool
amply uncool
considerably uncool
dearly uncool

dear reader,

Thanks for picking up this month's issue of *The Monitor*! I hope that you enjoy reading it. As always, when you're done with it, I encourage you to share it with a friend, keep it around your house/dorm or leave your copy in some public space - perhaps a newspaper rack, or the newspaper rack in the library specifically. We have a limited print run and it helps if we can get the most out of each issue.

As always, we welcome submissions from our readers. The Monitor endeavors to not just be a fixture of the campus - students are not the only ones who can or should submit. If you are a member of the Kirksville community and have something you want to share, please feel free to send us an email.

Also, we're interested in taking on more regular contributors - if you'd like to contribute something for each issue of the monitor as an independent writer, please send us an email about what you'd be interested in doing, whether it'd be an opinion article, regular feature or prose piece. Remember that *The Monitor* is a space for you, our readers, to express whatever you feel needs a platform for being expressed.

Love,
The Monitor Team

Letter to the Editor,

I've had a blast writing bits the last couple of years, but I'm disappointed by the sheer lack of absurd/satirical/comedy pieces. I suppose I can't take myself seriously when I write down a story or thought. It always has to have some twist for interest to truly grow. I want goofy plays with even goofier characters, and I don't want to hear what your favorite Led Zeppelin album is or a review of a Led Zeppelin album (Presence (1976)). I already know that album rocks, and I already acrimoniously listen to it every month on my godforsaken vinyl setup in my living room. Anyone can give a review/summary of something, that's easy and dreadfully boring and usually isn't that interesting (even if it's earnest). Make it YOURS. Otherwise it just starts to feel like satire. Even if it isn't. I swear to god everything feels like satire. I swear to god, I'm just yanking everybody's hogs.

-Chris Sotraidis

submissions. social media.

Art, Comics, Photography

Due to publication limitations, our art and photography is printed relatively small and in black-and-white (except in the online version of the publication). Keep this in mind when submitting your piece. If we like your piece enough, it may end up on the cover! Let us know if you don't want that.

Writing

The Monitor encourages submissions of original articles, essays, fiction, and opinions. Due to space limitations, please limit articles to 1200 words. If you would like to publish something longer than that, send us an email and we'll let you know if and how we can accommodate your piece. For formatting reasons, please submit all text as an attached Word attachment. Include a short one or two sentence bio with your submission.

Poetry

Let us know if you have any specific printing or formatting requests with your poetry. For formatting reasons, please submit all text as an attached Word attachment.

Submissions should include your name (anonymous or pseudonymous submissions are also acceptable) and should be sent by email to:

trumanmonitor@gmail.com

Our contributors retain all rights to their work. Your work may be published online. If you would like your work to not be published online, or would like us to remove previously-published material, send us an email.

twitter: @trumanmonitor

facebook: facebook.com/trumanmonitor

email: trumanmonitor@gmail.com

website: trumanmonitor.com

email us with the subject line

"SUBSCRIBE" to get on our mailing list

advertise.

As members of the community we are interested and eager to promote local businesses and organizations. If you're interested in advertising with The Monitor email trumanmonitor@gmail.com.

Rates:

Quarter Page – \$10

Half Page – \$20

Full Page – \$40

Us

alex wannerberg

sebastian maldonado

suzie nahach

natalie welch

trista sullivan

krishna ganim

lauren kellett

mel aholt

jojo moorhouse

will chaney

Occupy the Quad on May 1st!

by Will Chaney

The conscience of Truman State has recently been very focused in the defunding of higher education. Our lunch table conversations about student debt, President Paino's announcement of a deficit in January, and Dr. Marc Rice's letter to *The Monitor* last semester all ask the same question: what is the financial future of our university and its community? Without any real changes, the answer is grim.

At the university level, higher education has taken unacceptable hits from the legislature. While Truman used to receive 75+% of its funding from the state, we now only get 44%, which leaves students and their families with most of the bill. In addition, Truman will be facing a \$3 million deficit in the next five years.

At the faculty/staff level, higher education is not upholding its end of the bargain. Truman pays some of the lowest wages in the state, and these cannot increase without adequate funding. In recent years we have even been forced to cut 8% of our workforce.

At the student level, higher education has become so expensive as to render us financially paralyzed often for decades into the future. American students currently sit on \$1.2 trillion, or around \$30,000 per person, of debt that is not forgivable upon filing for bankruptcy. It is clear that all members of the Truman community- the administration, faculty, and students- are affected by the state's decision to lower education funding. What steps have we taken so far? Each group has responded individually to its own concerns.

The university administration has proposed a plan that would increase Truman's enrollment. They argue that just a couple hundred more registered students per year would cover our emerging deficit and address other concerns, like teachers' salaries

and research funding. This strategy would involve more online classes and a more aggressive marketing campaign. It would also make Truman look more like a business than a place of learning, as seen in many other universities like Mizzou (complete with a sushi bar and spa). The students, burdened with rising tuition, have applied for more scholarships. The success of this time consuming process is often at the whim of a rich person or impersonal foundation, and rarely covers the full \$17,000 cost of attending the university. In addition, the teachers have formed unions, like the American Association of University Professors, to bargain with the university as it makes cuts.

However important these actions are to their respective groups, they do not unify the entire university community against its common struggle. Sometimes the goals of each individual group can even contradict each other, like the conflict between teachers' wages and the university's deficit. Another example is the university's transition to online classes, which save money in the budget but negatively affect the students' college experience. These kinds of situations make the success of one group dependent on the loss of the other group, and cannot advance all of Truman forward. Our next step as administrators, faculty, and students should instead view Truman as an entire unit. We must not forget that nearly all of our economic concerns stem from the fact that Missouri's state government is cutting our funding.

Other universities have recognized defunding as its antagonist, and formed protest movements that engage the entire community. Just three months ago, Ohio State University organized teach-ins, comedy shows, and protests that, as one freshman put it, "Force people to acknowledge that there is a

problem.” Similar demonstrations have taken place at campuses in New York, Wisconsin, and Iowa. There have also been massive protests that lasted for months, including York University, University of Toronto, and the thousands of students who took to the streets in Chile from 2011-2013. The most successful of these have included the administration, faculty, and students as leaders and participants.

What is the next step at this point in time, April 2015 in Kirksville, Missouri? The answer to this question is to emulate previous movements that have been successful. To achieve this end here and now, I invite you to attend an open forum discussion and protest that have been organized by Students for a Democratic Society for this coming week. At the open forum discussion, which will be held on Monday April 27th at 4:30 in BH156, students, faculty, and administrators will share their perspectives on our situation. You may come to share your ideas, personal

stories, and bitch about student debt to others who are in the same boat. On Friday May 1st at 4:00, we will be occupying the Quad to show the legislature the faces of those who their decisions affect. This event will include speakers, performances, and free food as we gather in solidarity. More information can be found by joining the Facebook group “Occupy the Quad.” Keeping in the tradition of Occupy movements, all are invited to camp out under the stars for the night. If we fail to unite, then society will continue to disregard our interests in its decision-making.

Democracy is more than an institution; it is a process. In just a few hours, we the members of Truman State’s community can send a roaring message to the legislature without using society’s microphone. But this is only possible with our entire community’s collective voice. Occupy the Quad on May 1st!

The World Social Forum in Tunis

by Marc Becker

50,000 people gathered in Tunis, Tunisia the last week of March for the World Social Forum (WSF) to debate how to make a better world to serve people’s interests rather than those of corporations.

The World Social Forum began in Porto Alegre, Brazil almost fifteen years ago as civil society’s response to the domination of society by wealthy corporate interests. The goal was to organize a broad, inclusive, popular movement that would focus on social concerns as a counterpart to the exclusionary World Economic Forum that meets in Davos, Switzerland.

The forum typically gathers in places where it can collaborate with and advance ongoing social movements. In addition to Brazil, the WSF has previously met in Mumbai, India; Caracas, Venezuela; and Dakar Senegal. The WSF also spun off local, re-

gional, and thematic forums.

The WSF previously met in Tunis in 2013. It selected the site because of its symbolic representation in launching the so-called Arab Spring. In December 2010, a young street vendor named Mohamed Bouazizi set himself on fire in Tunisia in protest of the humiliation of having a municipal official confiscate his wares. His death triggered protests that led to the resignation of longtime president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali after 23 years in power. The Tunisian unrest led to protests that swept across the Arab world.

Forums typically take on a local flavor, and true to form most of the discussions in Tunis were in Arabic and French. The WSF also attracts social movement activists from around the world, and their presence enlivens the debates. In Tunis, participants repre-

sented more than 4,000 organizations from 130 countries.

The WSF initially focused on the twin issues of opposition to neoliberal capitalism that deprived people of the necessary resources to meet their social needs, and militarism that led to George W. Bush's endless wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The WSF's organizational process led to a fundamental political transformation in South America. As a result, today leftwing governments that have shifted resources to meet human needs rather than benefiting only a few wealthy people govern most of that region.

Fifteen years on, participants in the forum continue to debate how to confront the challenges facing humanity. Among the most important themes in Tunis were freedom for Palestine, women's rights, confronting climate change, and the rights of migrants. Participants also debated how to most effectively engage political changes to make the world a better place to live.

Among those present at the forum were activists dedicated to free access to information. Workshops included strategies on how best to use the media to advance human needs. Activists brought a proposal to redesign the internet to respond to human concerns rather than advancing commercial interests and being used as a tool for government surveillance. Julian Assange spoke to the forum via video conference from the Ecuadorian embassy in London where he is seeking asylum from extradition to the United States for his role in the wikileaks revelations.

The forum opened only days after the March 18 ISIS attack on a group of international tourists in Bardo museum that left 22 people dead. As a result, the theme of terrorism underlay the forum. Organizers released a statement denouncing terrorism that received criticism for echoing the language of Bush's war on terrorism that most participants would see as inconsistent with the forum's anti-imperialist agenda. The



day after the forum and separate from it, the Tunisian government organized a massive march against the attacks.

As with most forums, the Tunis meeting was bracketed with a set of its own marches that championed the variety of causes and themes discussed at the forum. In response to the attacks, organizers rerouted the opening march to end at the Bardo with a ceremony in which the Ministry of Culture formally reopened the museum. The closing march expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people. It left from Tunis' revolutionary square and culminated with a rally at the Palestine embassy.

The next opportunity to join the social forum process is at the United States Social Forum from June 24 to 28, 2015. After previously meeting in Atlanta in 2007 and Detroit in 2010, this time the USSF will hold simultaneous meetings in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and San Jose, California.

As with the global forums, the USSF seeks to build stronger relationships and collaborations in a unified struggle for social justice. More information on how to join the struggle for a better world for all of us is available at www.ussocialforum.net.

Marc Becker used to take down the American flag after dark when he was in college.

A Conversation with Dr. Peter Goldman

By Sebastián Maldonado-Vélez

Dr. Peter Goldman has been a Biology professor at Truman since before it was called Truman. I am in his Biology 320 course (Homo Sapiens: A Biological Perspective) and after listening to some of his stories in class I wanted to sit down and have a conversation with him. The following is a transcript of some of that conversation.

Sebastian: When did you start working at Truman? I'm guessing it was before the name change.

Peter Goldman: It was way before the name change. 1973.

S: Any good memories from the beginning?

P: I have one good memory in that I had a hard time getting a job after graduate school. I only had a couple of offers and this was the best of them. I don't know why I had so much trouble, but I did in my field.

S: Where did you go to graduate school?

P: Ohio State University. And I worked with one of the very first pioneers of this study of animal sounds using the technology of then, the brain. He was very conservative and he and I were not at all close. I heard stories of how close my colleagues were with their mentors, becoming life long friends. I worked in his laboratory for three and a half years and we didn't even have a cup of coffee, let alone talk about anything in particular. Remember, these were the Vietnam War years and I was a leftist then and I'm still a leftist. I think he was very conservative, so I think he didn't write a very strong recommendation for me. But now I'm happy.

S: That's good.

P: I think I'm where I belong.

S: I wanted to know a little bit about the name change from Northeast Missouri State

to Truman. I've looked it up and it feels like there isn't a lot about it out there.

P: My understanding is the following, and I wasn't close or have ever been really close to campus politics or politics beyond. My understanding was that originally the state university like Northeast were only allowed to recruit students from their geographic portion of their state so some wise administrators from back then, one of whom was named McClain and another was his Dean of Instruction (whatever the title was) named Darrell Krueger was not a viable strategy for success for the school in the long run because population was decreasing in rural Missouri. So, they wanted to make the mission of the university all-encompassing. They somehow or another received favored treatment from the state legislature in that we seemed to get much more money compared to other universities. Then they thought "well, if we have state-wide admission the name Northeast Missouri State doesn't jive with our admissions" so they wanted something that sounded spiffier, I guess, and so the name changed.

S: Of course, choosing a president name isn't that bad.

P: Right. Well, Truman made some decisions that are not easy to be comfortable with, yet all along was a progressive type of president. It isn't like we're Reagan State University.

S: That's interesting. Going back to the whole idea about the success of the university through different changes, and I know that you said you weren't close to campus politics, but I remember you mentioning in class the whole Paino "State of the University" address. What are your thoughts about what he was mentioning in that the next five years are going to be really important for the

university's future, economically and as a place of education?

P: Again, I don't know much beyond Truman at this stage because I don't circulate very widely but he said that we aren't doing anything very different compared to any other school with whom we compete for students. While we may or may not be a liberal arts school I guess that whatever we do in that regard has been matched more or less. I know that we had a tactic of attracting good students by passing out scholarship funds quite liberally. The quality of the students has changed pretty dramatically in my time here.

S: That was actually one of my questions.

P: You are now a much more interesting group of people to be with and more sophisticated.

S: Is it the diversity in students?

P: I don't think we're very diverse. I think we're embarrassingly homogeneous, actually. Predominantly white school, middle class to upper middle class. Contemporary U.S.A. looks very different from the Truman campus, I wish we'd have some effective way of dealing with that. If I were a perspective black student and came here to look at the college and saw so few black faces and groups that I would be weary about that. What is that telling me about the school? I think our location doesn't serve us well in that regard, a small town.

S: The community of Kirksville itself isn't that diverse except for maybe what the university brings as far as professors and their families.

P: That's another point. Although the university is the most vibrant and viable institution in the community, Kirksville has never had the feel of a college town to me.

S: It's kind of always been a small town with a college inside of it.

P: Right. Not only a college but also a medical school and a dental school but somehow or other that doesn't have an impact on what

goes on here culturally or economically.

S: And politically, especially now with the local elections. I was really interested in asking about how the students have changed and what has stayed the same.

P: On the other hand, I think that because other colleges are doing the same thing they are drawing out from the pool of really strong students that might have otherwise come here, and this is just my perspective, I think that Truman students over my time here became more sophisticated and maybe better prepared for college. Then we peaked and now we are excepting students that might not have been excepted here a decade ago or so. We are under a budget crunch and we need to maintain class sizes so it could be that admissions standards have eroded a little bit. I have found it more difficult and frustrating to deal with beginning college students than with people who have been here a couple of years. That's part of the switch from Intro Bio 1 to Biology 320.

S: So that's why you created Biology 320.

P: That was part of the idea. Another part was that I think the world faces these absolutely profound problems and it could be that the fate of civilization rests on dealing with this like the climate crisis, for example. It occurred to me that so many of us have such a miniscule and accurate understanding of the nature of ourselves that until we face reality we are an evolved animal. In many ways special and different from other animals but fundamentally our lives depend on the same biological process that a rabbit's does. Unless we embrace an accurate image of ourselves the chance is minimal of dealing with all of this. It may be minimal otherwise.

S: I've been wondering, through out your time here what has been the biggest change?

P: I think the quality and devotion of the faculty seems to me has continually improved. When I came here many of the people I knew seemed to treat being a college professor as a second job and had other in-

terests that were more profound. Now I think that the people we hire, in Biology at least, this is it. Most of us love biology, love science and devote our lives primarily to this so other things are secondary to the job. In my mind being a college professor is kind of a calling. It's not a job, it's the substance of your existence. More of my colleagues are like that now than was the case before. Maybe I didn't know them well enough but there were a lot

of people who worked here who were also farmers and worked in other areas. I'm not faulting that, but if you do different draws on your time this has to be the number one job. That's profoundly different. This is a reflection of my private nature, it would be nice to see more connection serving the liberal arts objectives between the different components of the university.

ADULTS: A CONTINUATION???

by Marisa Gearin

To review: Our friend Johnson Anderson received a mysterious phone call and a mysterious envelope. Our other friend, Marcus Berry Berry, ate a biscotti, which was not especially mysterious.

Johnson Anderson examined the papers in the yellow-envelope colored envelope. For the most part, they had words on them. "Ah, yes," said Johnson Anderson thoughtfully. He began to read the words on one of the sheets of paper.

At the top, in bold red capital letters, it read: OPERATION FIASCO. He looked closer. Above that, in a small, curling font, it said, "*From the desk of.*" Operation Fiasco is someone's name? Johnson Anderson asked himself.

"Yes," a voice answered from behind him.

"Oh. Alright!" Johnson Anderson continued reading.

"Your task is to drive your company's stocks into the GROUND. I am from the OTHER company. The BAD one. We sell the same thing as you, only we are evil. Please follow my instructions or I will be cross. Enclosed you will find spreadsheets with half real data and half fake data. You know what to do.

Signed,

O. T. Fiasco

p.s. When you are done reading this, either burn it or eat it."

Johnson Anderson slid open the smallest drawer on his desk. Among other things, it

contained a small book of matches he had gotten from the Irish restaurant downtown. He could not decide whether to burn or eat the piece of paper. His eyes flicked back and forth as he considered his options.

"Both!" he said, pointer finger raised.

"No," he said, shortly after.

In the end, he couldn't get a match to light against the small wobbly scratch pad, and thought perhaps the fiber in the paper would not agree with him, so instead he put the letter through the shredder then flushed it down the toilet, whispering, "I'm sorry, Fiasco."

Now. To Business. Johnson Anderson was sad about betraying his company, but he found it difficult to disobey direct orders, so there wasn't much he could do. He gathered the spreadsheets in his hands and exited his office.

"Marcus, is Martha in?" he asked.

Marcus Berry Berry pressed some buttons on the telephone. "Yes," he said.

Johnson Anderson gave a decisive nod and marched over to Martha's office. Her secretary was a cactus, and a very efficient one at that. She waved him in.

Martha sat behind her desk, spectacles perched on her snout. She regarded him over them.

"Here are the numbers," Johnson Anderson said, and held out the evil spreadsheets sent by Operation Fiasco. Martha did not

take them; she just kept looking at him with those odd sideways pupils goats have. Johnson Anderson cleared his throat and set the papers on her desk. Martha nodded almost imperceptibly, and the cactus came in to politely usher Johnson Anderson out.

He felt horrible about what he had done, and also proud. Sure, he had done a bad thing, but he had correctly accomplished it. He went back to his office and paced, making small laps around his desk. He thought it might soothe his mind.

Marcus Berry Berry poked his head in. "Sir?"

"Yes?"

"Lauren called."

"Lauren?"

"Martha's secretary. She said... Martha ate the documents you gave her. She's really embarrassed."

Johnson Anderson stopped dead in his tracks. "That's wonderful!" he exclaimed.

Marcus blinked at him. "I'll tell her you said so." He unpoked his head from the

room.

Johnson Anderson sat at his desk, rearranging his tchotchkes and figurines as he waited for a call. Finally, after about five minutes, it came.

On the other end, that same rough low voice that sounded like a cigarette who had come to life in a PSA against smoking. "It's Operation Fiasco," the voice said.

"Yes, hello," Johnson Anderson said. "Listen, I'm sorry about the spreadsheets."

"That's okay. I just want you to know I'm proud of you."

Johnson Anderson paused. "Okay."

"Well, I've got to go. Business doesn't sell itself!" Fiasco released a scratchy chuckle.

"Sure doesn't," Johnson Anderson said. Then they both said goodbye. And this time, it was Operation Fiasco who accidentally ended the call with "Love you." Or maybe, just maybe, it wasn't an accident at all.

Marisa Gearin's hair is shorter than Josh Brumfield's.

IS A DISUNITED WORLD NECESSARILY A REGRESSIVE STEP?

by Dr. Betty Louise McLane-Iles

I sent for extra credit, as we professors often all do at TSU, many of my students to Dr. Betsy Delmonico's hosted last Global Colloquium this month (April 9, 2015) on Separatist Movements around the world. Not only was attendance unusually high but most reported back that they got a lot out of it because the presenters were often in national origins passionate and from the areas originally they were discussing: TSU Professor Andrei Klyukovski, Head of TSU Communication Faculty, gave the opener on the Ukraine and the Crimean situation. Determinedly, he exposed that anti-Vladimir Putin propaganda, especially from the US, NATO and anti-Russian sources, consistently minimized long and recent historical realities with the pro-Russian Separatists. These were

all over-demonized people. The Ukraine was an ancient state, mediievally, indeed, but more recent history had long confused the facts the West forgot. For example, even anti-separatist Ukrainians speak 'Russian' and the Crimean's allegiance to either Russia or Ukraine has always been controversial. Mainly in that the 'recent referendum,' despite the presence of Russian troops, was an authentic expression of the Crimean majority popular wish to be Russian, not western. Later on, under probing from a fellow panelist's questions, he warned the West not to underestimate or overdemonize Putin, the Russian leader, and the West's claims were being over-touted by NATO. The European Union price of Ukraine as a state for membership in its ranks is, in fact, a budget austerity cuts

basis and by contrast the pro-Russian separatists genuinely agree on social benefits that are better under Putin's pro-Russian Federation than in the European Union. The European Union is, in fact, ruled by German bankers!

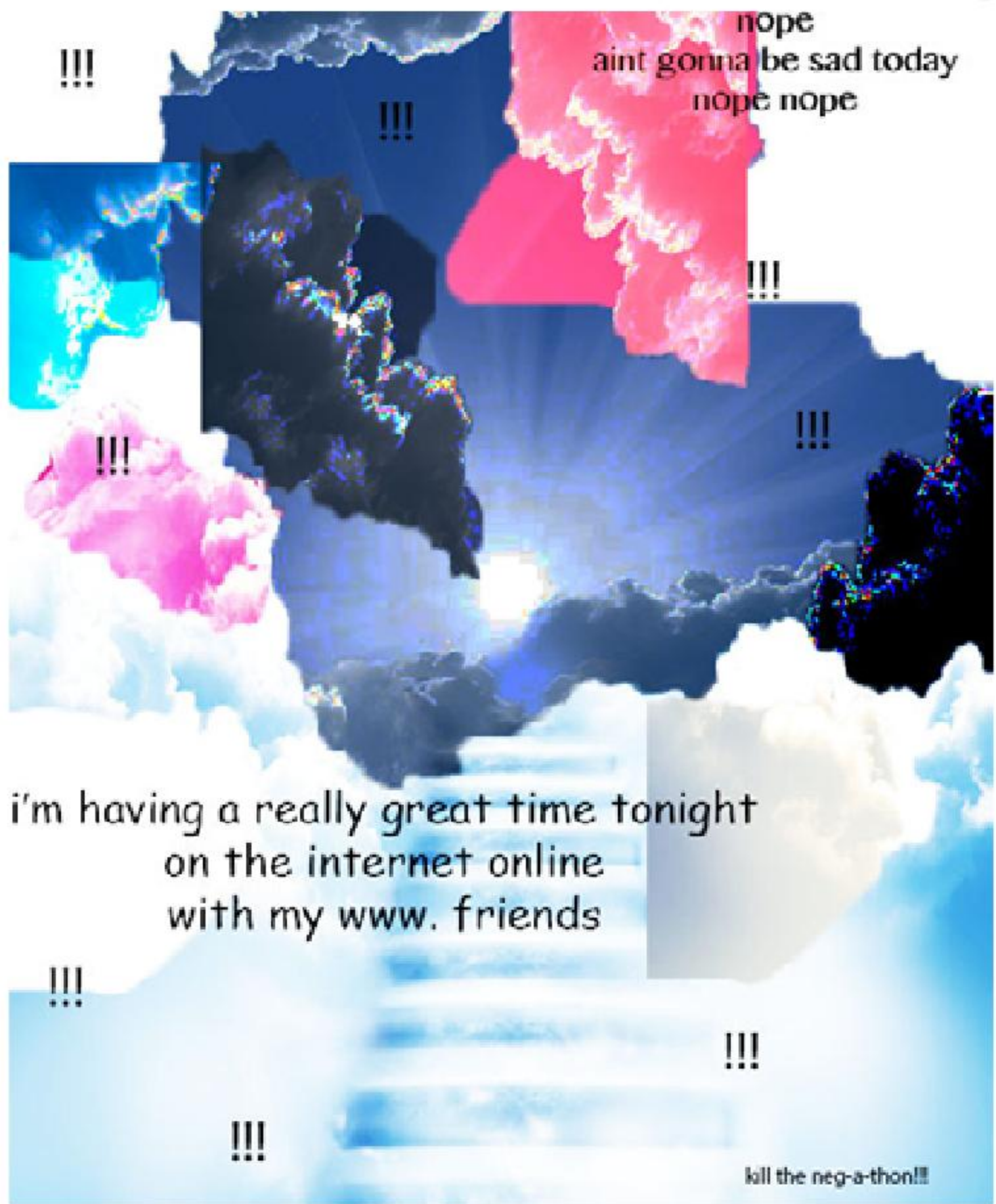
Dr. Ding-Hwa Hsieh, native Taiwanese but whose father is of Chinese origin, showed that the Taiwanese separatists, largely constituted around a younger Taiwan group around their Democratic Party (DP) allegiance want a more Western style democracy free of China. By contrast, the Kuomintang, the Nationalist Party that had fled China when they were beaten by Mao in the late 1940s, when they have been elected, represented 'people like my father.' Furthermore, the Nationalist Party did trade deals with China, despite it being communist. The irony was that the younger DP types with their "SunFlower" motto, once a Communist symbol, probably did reflect real Formosa Island feeling. Although her fellow panelist Larry Iles was sceptical whether 'alas' China would confer imperialistically the DP complete autonomy for fear of capitalist 'big brother' America, in its rival fleet and trade presence to also protect nearby Japan.

Larry Iles, himself, the only non-TSU panelist representing the UK Labour Heritage and BNF Mitterand research bodies, spoke on Scottish Nationalism. He argued that the UK General election (May 7) will determine more in the future than even the recent surprise referendum, whereby opposed by Labour, the SNP's demand for complete independence was "only narrowly" broken off. Because if a new coalition of the Left replaces an English-dominated Tory one, it will be "dependent" on SNP's likely growth of their MPs' numbers, phenomenally. If so, not only will Scotland grow even more than its present Parliament but will grow in its influence over its new Labour-supported Prime Minister Miliband. To such an extent because the SNP and La-

bour's new heavy group of female MPs will also insist on an end to the American nuclear deterrent submarines in Scotland because this represents the kind of militaristic solution that they think inimical to both future world peace and to British-Scottish welfare expenditure which they prefer instead.

Final speaker was TSU Dr. Maria Antonia Escayol on Catalonia. The speaker argued passionately that Catalonia, being Spain's wealthiest region, merited full independence despite the fact that the Madrid central government of Spain refuses to recognize a referendum that the Separatist controlled-Catalonian regional parliament had recently held itself in huge support for full independence. Historically and culturally, Dr. Maria Antonia Escayol contended that Catalonia was the only part of Spain to withstand the present recessionary and austerity policies of the Madrid conservative Popular Party, ancestor of Franco's previous fascist regime. With the aid of her Spanish TSU colleague Dr. Matthew Tornatore as a translator, she argued that a newly independent Catalonia would be a generous and redistributive trading partner to its former Spanish state. In conclusion, Larry Iles, members of the audience and TSU Political Science Professor John Quinn, whilst agreeing with her point about the legitimacy of home rule for her separatist movement wondered whether the international finance markets, especially German bankers and American counterparts, would permit, however, such economic independence. Indeed, sadly, Larry Iles pointed out that Scottish oil is plunging downwards in value because of American fracking cheaper energy, meaning that even a Miliband Westminster government or the present Nicola Sturgeon, SNP Scottish present government has less to bargain with in terms of real independence, vis-à-vis imperial and international finance capital. Alas!

art & photography.



by kinda spacey~

This space paid for by the
Public House of Casablanca

Chris Burk, Proprietor

poetry.

things my heart is

by bene clear

My heart is a blushing
bundle of fears; shaking in her tomb
carved on the fine glass
walls:
"easier said than done"

She hides away in her multi chamber chest
dancing alone to the saddest rhythm
you've ever heard
and catches your smiles
from the window like waving to old friends

My heart is a mosaic;
the smashed pieces glued together
make a crown
I smile a frown & slowly put it on

she's memorized the way
you kissed her gently in passing
& how u would toss ur head back laughing
it reminds her, at the most inconvenient times,
she was once the only one who could

My heart is a drawer
Of letters I never sent,
and you never read

she's tucked them away in filing cabinets
somewhere in between the unfinished paintings
& stacks of dreams sitting on the desk
waiting to be sorted

My heart is a child, playing
hide & seek in the most beautiful places
Where is she, what have you done with her

Mursa Gurn

by Natalie Welch

feedback from telephone lines
in days when people could listen in
you write your own words
(not in any order,
a bit out of tune)
just nice ones, like Serendipity
like SHOE POLISH
like {laserhairemoval}
people— sing along
birds— follow you & velcro to the ankles
of your tights
you— make Atlas look like a slacker



by alex wannerberg

poetry.

Adair No. 2

by Grep L Lazlo

hotkeys are my boyfriend when
opening other programs with your
darling lil image from years ago.
who worked so long and trawled code
so i could flicker and fidgit and
scratch the itch of killing an hour
or two pretending you are in the room,
you hated it when i slacked off,
as i was the slut of the sludge
sluicing around me and in my pores
grew proteins of the blue light you
tried to filter after midnight.
i changed all the shortcuts on the
family workstation and replanted
a tree in my parents palatial
cul-de-sac-flanking estate, so everyone
appreciated their old way of working
around the home and garden.
Depressing the trigger on keyboard cleaner
in the detritus rites of my joints
(remember when we used to run together,
after six miles me laying on the concrete
courtyard, very fettered, my wheeze
compressing into a treble warble,
as the vinyl-ripped lossless old crooners
caved in my conical speakers as we
showered and tossed our special workout
clothing into the hamper next to the
restarting router)

yes i recall running streets not swept
blue ankles and blistered feet and the
wires of my decent transducer drivers
tangled in the woven cotton and
basketball shorts i usually just wore
around the home or at sports themed parties,
tongue in cheek. we'd strip and dance and
take photos of each other to be repulsed by later,
antique apertures remembering the dust detail
and a amoeba outline of almost accidental
partygoers. I needed that, then.

A Whiney Swine

by Lydia Whitacre

My body aches, my brain pulsates.
The exhausted mush attempts at escape,
but my sockets are clogged up
with searing, crisp, spheres.
My skull cap cracks.

The mush thumps in sync with the clock,
a shock from the stem erupts at the front.
This head must weigh one hundred pounds,
a sound cringes into my ears
and this heavy head falls hard
against a soft white magnet.

My skin leaks, my body reeks.
A heat that torches my innards creeps
up my spine to the stem of my brain
and that scorching mush seeks to find relief.
My coat inverts, I think my teeth hurt.
I wriggle raw against my sheets
and find, at last, a way to sleep
where my brain can't dance with the clock.

AAUP

American Association of University Professors
Academic Freedom for a Free Society

Holland, 2015

by Kirsten Benson

Early morning and my eyelids were damp. This was odd. No drops of melancholy dreams lingered. My fingertips skimmed the humid folds and abruptly flicked away. My eyelids were no longer mine. They had the texture of leaves. Not October leaves, all crumbled dusty and near death. Leaves fit for May. Succulent and plump with fresh life. I was not afraid.

They started to twitch somewhat. The window sun was situated exclusively for my new eyelids, and its presence caused them to stir further. My fingertips traveled again towards my eyes, and at skin's brush they crinkled awake. The left lid shook off the tiny droplets, and the right followed loyally. A small breeze crept across my face as the leaves consciously unfurled.

My skull trembled as my eyes began to unfold. The sun's intensity reminded my brain to squint my eyes, but I no longer knew how to squint. I tried to blink – useless. Really I felt no urge to blink, so I was not bothered by this discovery.

For the third time, my fingertips gingerly felt for my face and finally made contact. The leaves had curled aside, extending up past my eyebrows and down past my cheekbones. I traced the blooming leaves to my eyes.

Petals. Thin but sturdy and so velvety they almost had their own movement. Each petal delicately tucked inside another, and another, and another. Two marvelous twists. Two vivacious roses blooming flawlessly from my sockets.

Every vein in my body reverberated with organic energy coursing down, down, down, and out of each sparkling toe. My lips smiled at the sun.

All my poems are about you

by Lydia Whitacre

And when you ask me to stay the night, I'll always say yes. The question loaded with so much more than inquisition, heavy; a thick down blanket falling from a starry sky and enveloping me. And if I wasn't slumbersome before, I now am. The anxieties—quick, tight, bouncing—inside me—orange and alive—extinguish, seemingly. Like if the stars sprouted spindles and all connected across the sky like spider webs until they were so thick you couldn't breathe, even if there was oxygen in space. Like, white fibers crawling across the sky until they formed fascia over the meat of the night and then descending upon me. And I feel warm, and heavy, and asphyxiated. And how could I do anything but stay the night.

[Broken-hearted]

Amanda Tse

Broken-hearted is how I feel
Risky attempt is what will save me
Overflowing with thoughts and feelings
Kiss to the heart will restore me
Eternal love is what I need
Nothing is what I get

THE SPECTRE OF ENGELLIANISM: HOW TSU IS BENEFITTING FROM A PROTO-MARXIAN COMMUNIST MINDSET IN 2015

Never Mind the Bollocks: Here's a Re- view of Tom Thumb XIX

by Chris Sotraidis

Where is the party in opposition that has not been decried as communistic by its opponents in power? Where is the opposition that has not hurled back the branding reproach of communism, against the more advanced opposition parties, as well as against its reactionary adversaries? But the real question, dear KIRKSVILLIANS, is, most regrettably and pluralistically, what hasn't the INDEX done for you; when will we see an INDEX sponsored KIRK-TRAN, and why is Kirksville the only city within a 100-mile radius that does not have a CAPE-AIR sponsored SNOW CONE PARLOR; pray, tell us, what will TROY PAINO do about the lack of a dedicated budget towards SYRUP FLAVORING in the soon to be, but most regrettably and yet to be devised OPENLY GAY SEGWAY-SUBWAY MERGER.

I'm sorry, folks. I had to get that out of my system. After all, this might be the last time I write for The Monitor, so I decided I would poke fun at a couple of our frequent contributors. If you can guess who they are, GOOD. Please understand that openly gay segway-subway merger was not a phrase that had anything to do with either of the contributors in question. It's just a phrase I say in the shower, and it's completely un-related to the monitor. It's just like my ex-girlfriend used to say, "Chris, you're an asshole, and I'm leaving you".

I went to Tom Thumb this weekend and I saw all the shows, in order. I'm about to give a review using "gonzo journalism". As you guys know, TT is a non-profit year-

ly art/music show. Usually it's hosted in some dilapidated building in Kirksville, and this year was no exception. They had the show at the Kirksville Aquatics Center. The groundskeeper agreed to drain the main pool on April 25th at 9:00am, and the Tom Thumb committee went to work, preparing the concessions and wrist-bands. When I got there at 2:00pm, the pool wasn't even recognizable. The team had done so much decorating that it literally looked like the inside of the Aquadome. The Aquadome, as you know, used to be home of The Aquadome, the organization, connected in spirit to The Monitor, which certainly isn't a book.

THE REVIEW OF TOM THUMB XIX: (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE) REAL REFERENCED ALBUMS WILL BE UNDERLINED.

Time:

2:40: Ben Smith: a synthesizer player. If you like Metal Machine Music, this is what you're looking for. Personally, I can't enjoy enough atonal music, and I keep a tone generator next to my alarm clock. Wonderwall Music, but better. 5 stars.

3:00, Windy City: stand up comedy from a bunch of people living in Chicago. They never showed up and stayed in Chicago. You know, like Chicago Transit Authority. 0 stars!

4:00, Max Highsmith: Max and Daniel Gilette are working on an album right now, but this was just Max since Dan ran off to Germany. I shit you not, he ran off. He doesn't have a phone or anything. Not Max. Daniel. But Max sang. Well it was more of

rapping & tapping. You know. The ol' rap n' tap. 4 stars!

4:30, Seedy Release Party: After experiencing serious dismay over the Windy City comedians not showing up, the crowd was rather anxious when it appeared that Seedy also wasn't on time for their set. It turns out they were, but were in the process of growing through cracks in the pools foundation! 1 star!

6:30, The Deadbeats: They performed the entirety of Blink 182's Neighborhoods. Everyone went to go smoke one gigantic cigarette for 45 minutes. 5 stars!

7:00, Kenny Warner: A math rock celebrity turned stand-up comedian, Kenny Warner took the stage to uproarious laughter. He was dressed as Alvin the Chipmunk and stayed in character the whole 15 minutes, and even sang a song from Christmas with The Chipmunks. 4 stars!

8:00, Seedy Release Party 2: The sons of Seedy Release Party arrive for their set, but were interrupted by a math rock band, who deemed their performance "most rational". 2 stars!

8:10, HMPH: An experimental math rock band from the "City of Fountains". All the members of the band define themselves as "calculated" and "logical". The math rock band stayed after the show to sell merchandise, of which included a limited edition TI-86 7' picture disc. You know, a vinyl record of a calculator. 5 stars!

8:20, Jack Lions Pizza: Pizza was brought in by Jack Lions, the premier gourmet pizza company just 10 miles outside of La-Playa, playa! 5 stars!

9:30, Terror Pigeon: An old man, rumored to be a local, began this band 45 years ago. Today, he lives in Nashville and tours up here every few months. The terror is real, though. Terror Pigeon is serious about threatening pigeons. Two were killed on stage. I interviewed two Monitor staff members to confirm my suspicions. Low.

Apex Winterberg: Two pigeons were murdered on stage.

Mojo Jojo: Two pigeons were murdered on stage. 5 stars!

10:00, Chill Jackson: I wasn't sure what to think of this band. The lead guitarist can't sing and the drummer sucks. They did play a few cool covers, like a cover from of Montreal's Cherry Peel. Apparently they've played at Tom Thumb 3 times! I WILL admit that the drummer is sexy. I can't believe that he is single. The only reason why must be because he's losing his grip on reality and can't hold down a relationship and believes his few friends to be crafty saboteurs! 3 stars!

10:30, Ashley Byrne and Indran Fernando: Indran played a sine tone on a mini-Korg and Ashley ran away. I'm not sure what else to say. It was fantastic! 5 stars!

11:00, Mt. Ivan: An ambient folk mountain from Jefferson City. Again, like the issue presented with Windy City and Seedy Release, Mountain Ivan was unable to physically arrive in time to perform. To replicate the music, simply run a guitar chord through heavy reverb, and record over that. That's all you need to do. The music of mountains!!! 5 stars!

11:30, The Fruit Roll-Ups: Colleen Ryan passed out free fruit roll-ups to everyone still at the pool party. Oddly enough, there's a bandcamp <https://thefruitrollups.bandcamp.com>. I interview a couple people at the event to confirm that fruit roll-ups were indeed passed out by Colleen Ryan.

Fashley Fynre: Colleen passed out fruit roll-ups.

Boraen Yellett: Colleen passed out fruit by the foot.

Falex Fennerfarg: Colleen passed out ON the fruit roll-ups.

Christopher the Conquered: I'm giving up rock and roll! 5 stars!

So that's the review. The event was a success and there was fun to be had all-around. I forgot to mention that the cops were called. Cops on recumbent bicycles, or CORBs for short.

Chris Sotraidis is listening to sine tones!

Michael Reagan: An Embarrassment for Everyone

by Grant Simon

As many people know, the College Republicans are bringing Michael Reagan to speak to the campus. Using money directly supplied from the university budget, the College Republicans insist that there is some value of bringing in the son of a deceased president from our parents' generation. However, it is people like Michael Reagan who are the very same reason the conservative mindset is a dying breed. To be frank, the idea that our campus is bringing Mr. Reagan in should be embarrassing to everyone, regardless of your political ideals.

Let's talk a little bit about Mr. Reagan's credentials outside of being adopted into a famous family. Following being expelled from high school, Mr. Reagan lasted one semester in college. Congrats to almost everyone who is reading this- you are officially more educated than Michael Reagan. Since being expelled, Michael Reagan has also held absolutely no job of political importance. To everyone who has ever been voted into any position of power- you officially have more leadership experience than Michael Reagan.

However, Mr. Reagan probably has you beat on one key account- criminal allegations. Heck, just this year he was found liable of being a fraud and was forced to pay restitution of \$662,500. Rest easy knowing this, Truman- you are probably helping him pay back this large bill. Whoever claims that Truman State students aren't involved enough politically probably overlooked Michael Reagan's bill that is being paid by our tuition.

Finally, let's talk about Michael Reagan's views. To sum them up: if you are not a straight, white male, then he probably doesn't approve of you. Last October, Michael Reagan spoke out in support of racial

profiling. In a piece called "Profile or Die," he wrote, "If your boss suddenly changes his name from Bob to Mohammed and starts quoting from the Koran, it's time to get a new job. ... It's going to be up to me and you to defend ourselves if ISIS or one of its crazy wannabes shows up at your local mall with rifles and bombs. So, if you are a Muslim, know that Michael Reagan probably doesn't like you."

But the hate train doesn't stop there! As exposed by his lawsuit for fraud, Mr. Reagan wasn't a fan of his Hispanic co-workers. Whether it be the fact that he'd "rather die by the AIDS virus than be in business at all" with them or identifying one Hispanic individual as a "Mexican asshole", Mr. Reagan's message is clear- if you come from Hispanic heritage or descent, know that Michael Reagan probably doesn't like you.

But wait there's more! As many Truman students already know, Michael Reagan hates gay marriage. In fact, Mr. Reagan finds gay marriage support to be similar to supporting other ideas such as bestiality and murder. Therefore, Mr. Reagan's message is once again crystal clear- if you are not in a "traditional" relationship, then know that Michael Reagan doesn't like you. In fact, he probably thinks of your relationship as being immoral as having sex with an animal.

The Truman State College Republicans have chosen to be represented by a white, corrupt, upper-class man with zero credentials or political experience who dislikes people of other races, religions or sexuality from his own. It doesn't take a Frank Underwood to realize the issues with this political representation.

The fact that the College Republicans believe bringing in someone like Michael Reagan to champion their cause should be

embarrassing not just Truman State but themselves as well. If I was a conservative, I would be embarrassed for my own cause too. I consider myself to be an independent. Every election, I find who I believe to be the best candidate and support them with my vote. And if this is who the ed-

ucated Republicans at a university believe best champion their causes, then I think my decision will be one of the easiest decisions I've had in a while.

Grant Simonis not a Truman student in two weeks.

Unfinished Business Arising

by Larry Isles

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ARISING; CURTAIN CALLS, PLEASE, FOR CAPTAIN JOHNSON'S UNLOVED, UNWANTED TRUMAN DPS PROFESSOR S. PALMER'S ADVISORSHIP OF ANYTHING GAY, FEMINIST RIGHTS ORGANISATIONAL AND DESTRUCTION REQUIRED OF REALTORS' TOWN MENACE BY NEW TENANTS/ PROGRESSIVE RESIDENTS COALITION FORMATION, STREET-BY-STREET

Well with 285 votes, highest in her lifetime's 3 tries to become Kirksville's sole only woman city council member, the better half, Professor Betty McLane-Isles, can quite herself "legit" go, and have a much-merited respite, from the festering swamp of greedy male realtor and religious bigot lands, that constitute BOTH the local town and gown scenes alike, cannot deservedly she, folk readerships?

This does not, though, excuse we otherwise, from finishing-up the reforming zeal task she quarter-of-the-voting township unleashed, does it? The most popular stance we in her team Radical and Progressive/all issue took-up was the misbegotten state of affairs known as team-bad, alias official Truman Department of Public Safety! Whether addressing frat, sororoties, impromptu gatherings this slow-beginning spring on their lawns or porches, or indeed hearing from irate local residents furious with what they consider TSU police "privilege", DPS REFORM was and IS the burning bush issue; which is not going to go quietly away as

"Fuhrer" boss, stout DPS Captain Johnson, so obviously, wishes it would! Indeed, did you see that amazing piece of oblique sheer fearmongery the guy convenient "guest" columnist, penned for the election issue of, yes, the INDEX? In which he, blantly, told us all to remember I quote not distortively, our "high school" vigilance, alertness manuals and kids' ourselves "drills", all childishly again, against threats unnamed he could not begin to quantify in any rationality display, whatsoever!!! Ugh, ugh, kiddos, ugh, ugh!

The sad, costly realities are, easily, more rationally, quantifiably assembled for anyone who wants to do any local media and larger comparative research, at all! Now, too, do hence not be mistaken by Johnsonian misstyle scary columns. No one, in a female majority campus, 2015, like TSU is saying TSU should NOT have a security force, like ATSU or Moberly Community College all properly to this 2015 do, themselves, have, and NMSU/TSU had, itself, in the 1990s, too! No-one! Repeat No-One!

But these were, and are forces democratically accountable to the overall and full gun-trained KPD, under its chief Hughes salaried by us, and questionable by us at city council "q" and "a" resident opener sessional parts of that community legal fora; in a manner Johnson and his heavy-set DPS males majority tiny, but unduly wealthy, set of officers are never so answerable, are they? Worst, they spend well over 4,000 a year of your and my bucks in taxes and student fees

on guns where in Johnson likes personally to be INDEX photo-speread "training" exercise gun target practising! His four, at least, police cars furthermore constitute ways to evade real campus patrolling by hard, fitness-inspiring patrols. And the all could as cops far more usefully, swell local and students already hard-pressed KPD shabbier cars. Economy-wise around only 4,000 plus total TSU students are being over-policed, car-ticketed to an excess, at the expense of under-policed 17,000 plus we residents. Its BAD math and BAD deal for students and town, on together considentors.

The power-grab for, thus, a community and student unwanted force, that could more sensibly be re-merged inside Hughes KPD, was made out of his once corrugated huts by T Johnson in the paranoia of "9/11" even though gun crime is very rare indeed in this peaceful female-dominated town and 3-campus vicinities. Presently, if the DPS extra force powers continue, almost totally arbitrarily in poor actual law know-how, by DPS, and their pickings on safe targets like foreign students or "townie" single parents or gay students for parties gone allegedly amok, then the scene is set! For yet another nightmare of needless town and gown tensions and frankly in put-upon harrasment of you, for all manner of offenses DPS dreams up; if Prosecutor/financiers Heir Wilson and Dave Rector are not themselves over-worked alert enough to stop DPS, period! Why? Because, 2015 very visibly, DPS does not have real crime to solve, or do so temptation to justify that status quo military style uniform SS arisen; unavoidably at your record expense! Or in the Boston case, at the shocking expense of a local, there a campus DPS officer's life, who, unwisely if heroically, gave chase. To the two-fleet-of foot/car killers when he should have waited for the Obama BPD/FBI successful later, fully hours-trained sharpshooters' actual back ups! DPS is NOT TODAY properly trained on KPD is OBLIGED so to be for real safety. It has to call in KPD with real crime in key.

While DPS abolition remains, thus, the abiding reform issue for most of us there are, too, two other matters betty's pre-April 7 election teams encountered worth your MONITOREE reader perusal, as well. Firstly its time for two outfits, TSU PRISM-LGBT rights group and Missouri Pro Vote liberal one, to, none too gently, ask TSU professor S.Palmer to stand down respectively as their formal advisor and representative! She hastily, indirectly, she's too skilled to be direct, misbehaved her community such roles not only to facebook operation get reality rich, "no rent control, man candidate, PB, into his wholly 2015-2018 undeserved COUNCILMANSHIP, but she subjected Betty, and oddly me, to a tirade of abuse just for running. EVEN THOUGH SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY GIVEN US TO UNDERSTAND SHE WAS A BETTY-ONLY SUPPORTER! She did not influence as many voters as she thinks, as Betty's campus ward lead and second place in two very affluence different wards, attests in her results. BUT SHE AND HER TINY ACOLYTES MORALE-DEBASINGLY, DELIBERATELY DID DISCOURAGE JUST ENOUGH FROM US IN SUPPORTING NOT ONLY THE ONLY WOMAN CHANCE ON COUNCIL IN A NEAR, NOW DECADE, GENDER ABSENCE. Worst still Palmer, thereby also negated the chance of a strengthened anti-discrimination KCC ordinance we were popularly proposing; immensely welcomed all around town by actual gays/bi/transgender people. As it would have outlawed ALTOGETHER all such housing, store, office rental evil refusals by realtors/landlords. Unlike the present ridiculous "meditary weeks" performed on an often voluntary basis by Palmer's mate the city managress! It, also, could be made a wider popular, anti-hate ordinance PROFITABLY, As we want it redraw; so that KREDI et in loans can POSITIVELY reverse/help new ethnic business like the towns burgeoning Chinese/MEXICAN restaurants, perhaps adding sorely needed Thai/Indian and oth-

er small but savvy “estabs” eateries such as flower in Columbia today, right avant garde Now!! Its DIVERSITY growth we need, publicly.

In conclusion the last “unfinis” matter was the gross realtor mis poser garish yellow-and-black typed displayed impurely at the end of roads owed by these greedy realtors for Bison WHO DID THE LEAST REAL PEOPLE-IN-THESE-STREETS CANVASSING OF ALL 4 of the KCC CANDIDATES IN REALITY. BUT WHO WILL NOW JOIN YET ANOTHER “PROPERTY DEVELOPER” on the 5-man very sexist total council! The only way to, effectively, ever, end this travesty, this male low turn 2015 TENNANTS AND PROGRESSIVE LEAGUE OF VOTERS. So that every street, including the presently neglected electoral “soliciting” banning TSU “res life” floors has organizers; get—out the vote, actual day future elections people, YOURSELVES. Ready, to tackle the big four or so realtor hasties’ families who prop up Bison-type nouveau riche folks in what Betty correctly

damns their vast “Balzacian” anti-all our community progress block senses! And, too, folks you have to come out announced that are re-running next year’s KCC vacancy. Whilst so called “liberals”, weak incumbents like ex-mayor Glen Moritz, are very fragile. As Palmer et al, actually, types they do command less real-streets , firm support than either McLane-Iles or Russell clans do; in better, more honest respective Left and Right low-and high-income actual non-campus KIRKSIVILLE. The town you live in, too, today with its laws impacting you, powerlessly if you are now a female majority city member; totally, without any taxation representation grow gender nearly one hundred that is years on from the empowering 19th Amendment in TOWN forgotten centenary, approaching, year! What a commentary, an indictment, on anyone’s notions of progressive accomplishment? What a course WORTH your liked arts Independent incorrect in solidarity network of col jon? Real future achievement, Maybe even you could leave on COUNCILWOMAN!

Microplays

by Chris Wacker

In darkness, a lighter lights the bowl of a massive bong - between three and four feet tall - and the person takes a hit.

Lights up and they’re coughing, smiling.

One by one, they offer the audience a hit. If the bowl runs dry, the stage manager enters with a grinder and repacks the bowl so they may continue.

When it’s all said and done, most, if not all, of the audience is high. Nothing is going wrong. In fact, everything is going pretty alright.

Legalize it.

Everything that could or might emit light in the theatre goes dark and the company evacuates immediately before the cops show up.

The company enters as the audience enters; they are not in costume, they enter through the front of the theatre and take seats in the house with the audience members.

Eventually, it is time to start “the production.” However, the company is seated with the audience. The stage manager begins to cycle through the different light/sound cues - with no actors. The company become the first people to discredit the production with booing and hissing.

The company starts a full out riot. The theatre burns to the ground.

Index named Best In Division by MCMA, receives many statewide awards

MARYVILLE, Mo. – The Truman State University Index was named Best In Division by the Missouri College Media Association at its 2015 conference, beating out all other Missouri college newspapers at medium-sized four-year colleges and universities. Many of its individual members also were recognized for their achievements with statewide awards.

The Index was honored for its writing, photography, design and more at the April 11 conference at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri. The newspaper submitted students' work published during the 2014 calendar year, and competed for awards against college newspapers at Northwest Missouri State University, Missouri Western State University, Missouri Southern State University, Drury University, Webster University and Maryville University.

The Index's current and former staff received individual Division II awards for their work:

Megan Archer – First place, Nonpolitical/Entertainment Cartoon

Megan Archer – First place, Political/Editorial Cartoon

Anna Grace and Grace Bueckendorf – First place, Feature Page

Index Editorial Staff – Second place, Special Section

Dan Mika – Second place, In-depth News Reporting

Anna Grace – Second place, Sports Column

Katey Stoetzel – Second place, Entertainment Review

Austin Hornbostel – Second place, News Writing

Elle Fitzgibbons – Second place, Feature Photography

Trevor Stark – Second place, Sports Photography

John Brooks, Austin Hornbostel and Dan Mika – Third place, Page One Design

Megan Archer – Third place, Op-Ed Page

Index Editorial Board – Third place, Editorial Writing

Jonathan Rembold and Hannah Kacerovskis – Honorable mention, Sports Page

Jonathan Rembold and Hannah Kacerovskis – Honorable mention, Photo Page

Erica Nolan – Honorable mention, Feature Writing

Bill Townsend – Honorable mention, Column

MCMA judges said the Index had a “solid, clean layout,” and complimented the newspaper for featuring both an editorial and an opinions page. Judges also appreciated the Index's use of information graphics, Features' use of photography and graphics on its TruLife fronts, the page two calendar/crime/news briefs section, and the paper's overall presentation and production.

Index representatives attend the conference annually and will travel next April to Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, where the newspaper will receive recognition for its work this calendar year.

Contact Editor-In-Chief Robert Overmann at reo4813@truman.edu for more information.

The Truman State University Index, founded in 1909, is an entirely student-produced publication that reports on the news and culture of the Truman State University and Kirksville, Missouri communities. It is headquartered at the Barnett Hall Media Center, 100 E. Normal St., Kirksville, Missouri 63501 and is an outlet of the Truman Media Network.

Occupy the Quad Press Release

The students of Truman State University (TSU) would like to send a message to the state legislature.

Truman State University is facing a budget crisis. Over the past 25 years the legislature has steadily decreased funding to public education and to higher education in particular. Under the most positive projections, TSU will find itself three million dollars in debt in only five years. It is evident that the legislature does not consider higher education to be important. They have put their money where their mouth is and have put public education on the chopping block.

The students bear the brunt of this burden. Students around the United States and particularly in Kirksville, Missouri are increasingly indebted in pursuit of an education. We understand that higher education is necessary to better the material quality of our lives, and we also believe that higher education affords us the opportunity to develop meaning and purpose in our lives, to become socially aware citizens, and to ponder the questions that allow us to connect to the greater human family.

We would like the legislature to know that the TSU student body is politically organized and taking action.

We are not bucking the administration. We understand the administration is doing what it can to maintain its mission statement and to continue to provide an essential public service to the state of Missouri. We also understand that the administration has a financial noose around its neck because of the actions of the legislature.

The students have chosen to take action.

The TSU chapter of Students for a Dem-

ocratic Society (SDS) invites you to attend an open forum discussion on the importance of public liberal arts education which will be led by Dr. David Robinson on Monday, April 27 in BH 156 at 4:30pm. Additionally, SDS invites you to participate in a symbolic campus demonstration and occupation of the Quad on Friday, May 1. We will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs, having an open-mic night, and displaying art in protest of the legislature's antagonistic position.

These symbolic, political acts intend to send the message to the legislature that:

1. The Truman State University student body is politically organized and ready to take action.

2. The student body understands that the legislature does not consider public education a priority.

3. We believe public education is our right and should be made freely available to all.

4. We demand the legislature put to a vote a progressive system of taxation that includes a tax on those whose income exceeds \$1,000,000 (The Millionaire Tax).

For more information please contact:

Aaron Albrecht

TSU chapter of Students for a Democratic Society

aca6412@truman.edu

618 - 604 -3706

THE
AQUADOME

FINALS FEVER RELIEVER!

SPONSORED
BY THE MONITOR

\$5

SATURDAY
MAY 2ND

DOORS AT 7:30

SHOW AT 8:00

108 S. ELSON ST.

Featuring

THE BUSCEMIS

CHRISTOPHER

THE

CONQUERED

Anna Libera

SPECIAL THANKS TO
SHERWIN WILLIAMS