

Annual "Take Back the Night" Event

By Lori Perlmutter
The Beacon

On Wednesday, April 3, 2002, William Paterson University's annual "Take Back the Night" event took place. Coordinated by the Women's Department, Women's Center, and the Feminist Collective, "Take Back the Night" is an event geared towards putting an end to violence towards women everywhere. It was originally started in Germany nearly thirty years ago in response to a series of sex crimes towards females. In 1979, this international event came to the United States and since then has been continually held on college campuses throughout the nation every year.

At 7 PM, students, professors, and others gathered on the ground floor of the Student Center to participate in the rally. At this point in the event, participants were encouraged to speak out against violence towards women. Some students read poetry and provided statistics on rape and domestic violence. Some of these facts included: Every 21 hours there is a rape on



Photo by Lori Perlmutter

every college campus, one in six women are sexually assaulted each year, and every two seconds a woman is battered. There was also an emphasis placed on helping the victim. Several speakers argued that too many times people who witness violence towards a woman do not take any action to stop it. Perhaps the most dramatic part of the rally was when Amanda Compton, a rape survivor, shared her story and feelings on sexual violence towards

women. As she spoke about her encounter with violence, she touched upon a point that seemed to hit home for many women in the crowd. After she had been raped at knifepoint, she said, "everyone just asked me why I was in that part of town." She went on to argue that, "we [women] are always told not to dress this way or act that way, but there is absolutely no reason for this; men should just control themselves." Students attending

the rally were also informed that they could get information or assistance at the Women's Center on campus.

At eight o'clock, approximately twenty students and other members of the university community gathered in the front of Zanfino Plaza to begin the march around campus. As in previous years, participants this year marched through some academic buildings and residence halls. There were mixed feelings on campus about this event. When the participants entered Hunziker Wing on the first floor some classes they passed showed support by applauding. However, once they reached the second floor, they were met with an annoyed professor, who after hearing that the university's Provost strongly supported the event, commented "I don't care; it

does not have my support."

In the Towers, the participants also were met with mixed feelings. Some individuals came to their doors in support, cheering the marchers on as they passed through the hallways. Two men, in addition to showing verbal support, actually came from their rooms and joined the march for the rest of its duration.

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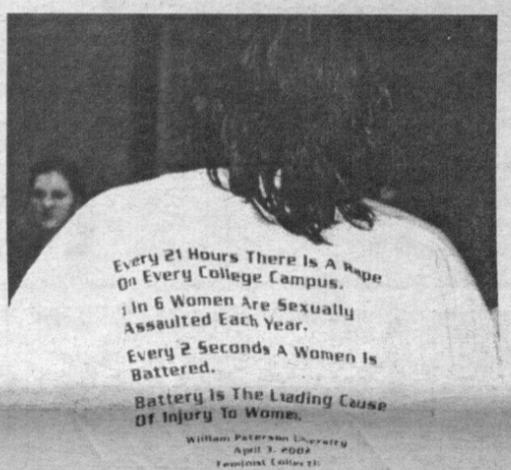


Photo by Lori Perlmutter

SGA President Chairs Second Meeting of NJHECS

By Jim Schofield
News Editor

On Saturday, April 6, the second meeting of the New Jersey Higher Education Coalition of Students (NJHECS) was held in the Brower Student Center of the College of New Jersey (TCNJ). William Paterson's own SGA President Rashad Davis served as the chairperson of this meeting. This meeting, which was planned at the first NJHECS meeting of March 2, served to help keep the ball rolling regarding NJHECS's plans in the future.

The stated purpose of NJHECS is to create a forum across the state of New Jersey for Public Institutions of Higher Education to come together and collectively influence lawmakers' policies towards them. The initial issue that brought this group together

at this time was the state mandated budget cuts that were handed down from the Governor's office. However, NJHECS has every intention of staying active even after this issue is concluded to continue to advocate for students. Although NJHECS does not yet have a Mission Statement, the Preamble to their newly approved Charter states that "We the Students of the Public Institutions of Higher Education in the State of New Jersey, in order to form a lasting union, provide for the common good, raise the civic awareness of our fellow students, work for their best interests and provide for the education of ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Charter of the New Jersey Higher Education Coalition of Students."

Six colleges were able to send

representatives to this meeting, a marked improvement over the four that sent delegates to the last meeting, which was held at William Paterson University. TCNJ, WPU, Kean University, Douglass College of Rutgers University, Cook College of Rutgers University and Rutgers College were all in attendance. The delegates sent from William Paterson included Davis, SGA Treasurer Tyeshia Henderson, SGA Vice President Olivia Amanfor, Freshman Class President Takiesha McCoy, Senior Class Treasurer and Board of Trustees Representative Kimberly Graham, Junior Class Treasurer Sarah Depadova, Club "B" Representative Rishi Jain and a member of the Court of Judicial Review. Invitations had been sent out to all the four-year public institutions in New Jersey,

though not all were able to send delegates. All the County Colleges were also invited, though Bergen County College was the only one that responded, stating that they may not be able to send anyone. The officers of NJHECS, which fill an administrative role only to carry out the decisions of the voting delegates, are currently filled in an acting capacity. Davis is acting as Chairman, the President of TCNJ acts as Vice-Chair, Depadova acts as Recording Secretary and a member of the WPU SGA Court of Judicial Review acts as the NJHECS Press Secretary. These offices will be filled at NJHECS's general elections at their summer meeting.

One of the delegates from Rutgers College, who also serves on their Lobbying Committee, informed NJHECS that he would

be testifying before the State Budget Committee on behalf of Rutgers University on Wednesday, April 10. He agreed to change the focus of his testimony from Rutgers to NJHECS and as such was unanimously approved by NJHECS to be their representative. He will be requesting an increase in state funding for all Public Institutions of Higher Education in New Jersey. The delegates agreed to do their best to come with students from their respective Institutions to support him at the meeting.

NJHECS schools also plan to hold a week of rallies in May before the end of the school year. Each campus will be holding one on a separate day of the week.

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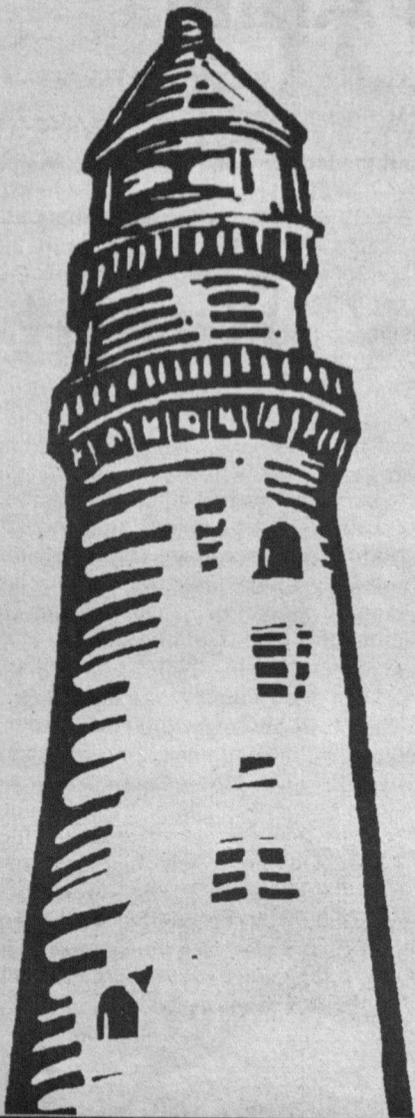
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The Beacon

WEEKLY



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NOTIFICATION LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

Calendar of Events

Monday 04•08

Study Skills Workshop
1-2pm Hunziker Wing 218
x2636

SGA: Club Presidents' mtg.
3:30-5:30pm SC 203
x2157

First Aid & CPR Instructor
6-8:30pm Rec Center
x2777

Tuesday 04•09

SGA: Finance Committee mtg.
12:30-2:00pm SC 324-5

SGA: Legislature mtg.
3:30-7:00pm SC 203-4-5

Faculty Senate mtg.
CGH SC 203 x2136

Symposium: "Judging Genes:
Eugenic, Euthanasia and the
Human Genome Project"
7:30pm Library Aud.
x3429

Wednesday 04•10

Scholarship Brunch
11am-1pm Ballroom
x2900

SAPB mtg.
5pm SC 203 x3259

MEISA Career Day Panel
Ballroom 7:00pm

Beacon Staff Meeting
10 p.m. SC 310

Thursday 04•11

SGA: Executive Board mtg
3:30-5pm SC 326
x2157

Spotlight Series
6pm SC Cafe
x2271

The Musical "Working"
8pm Shea
x2371

Lecture: Race, Gender, and Working
for Peace" Barbara Smith
4:15pm SC 324-35

Who Rocks Willy P?
The Biggest B-Ball Tourn.
6:30pm Wightman Gym

Friday 04•12

First Aid & CPR Instructor
6-8:30pm Rec Center
x2777

The Musical "Working"
8pm Shea
x2371

Caribbean Banquet
8pm-1am
Ballroom
x2157

Saturday 04•13

African American & Latino
College Men's Conference
8am-4pm
Ballroom Call x2182

Campus Calendar submissions are
taken on a space-available basis:
first come, first printed.

Submissions for calendar due
fridays by NOON for following
Monday's publication.
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Email:
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Sunday 04•14

The Musical "Working" 3pm
Shea x2371

Come up and check
out *The Beacon* in the
Student Center, room
310

The Interesting Lifestyle of Saudi Arabia

By Lori Michael
Asst. News Editor

In a Saudi Arabian journal entitled *The Memori: The Middle East Research Institute*, there is an article written by a Muslim professor which states that Jews cook the blood of gentiles (non-Jews) in their Purim cookies. Being Jewish, this did come as a shock to me; however, there are a lot of myths that have been circulating among gentiles for quite some time and this is not the first one I have heard of.

First off, in order to understand that Jews do not do this I am going to explain the reality of Purim to you. Purim is a holiday which is usually celebrated in March or the 14th day of Adar on the Jewish Calendar (15th in Jerusalem). During the time of the first Temple's destruction and the building of the second, a man named Haman was plotting to annihilate the Jews; however, God's messengers Queen Esther and her Uncle Mordechai went to King Achashverosh to tell him of Haman's evil deeds. The King simply put Haman on a gallows, and the lives of the Jews were spared. During Purim services this story is told in *The Book of Esther* and every time Haman's name is called out you make a lot of clamor with noisemakers. Hamantoschen, which is a pastry shaped as a triangle filled with chocolate

or apricot, is made in representation as Haman's hat. It is mentioned neither in the story nor in the ingredients for Hamantoschen to cook with non-Jewish blood, or blood of any kind. Actually, in the Jewish Bible (*Old Testament/Torah/5 Books of Moses*, which ever you want to call it) says that blood is unkosher to eat or drink. Sorry to all those Buffy fans, I guess there is no such thing of Jewish vampires. When cooking meat, it has to be salted so that all the blood is cooked away from the meat. It may come as a surprise to you, but this myth along with many others that are equally incredible are printed in Elementary school books in Saudi Arabia. They teach mistrust of the Jews in these schoolbooks along with how dishonorable Jews are.

Barbara Walters did a very interesting report this past weekend about Saudi Arabia. She spoke about their culture: men and women, religion, school, etc. Walters interviewed three students from a Saudi Arabian college, some women ranging in age, and Osama Bin Laden's younger brother. This episode of 20/20 was an intellectual way to ease some grievances and to gain an expanded knowledge of the life style in the Middle East, particularly in Saudi Arabia.

When Walters was about to sit down with the three students, two of them shook her hand and one of them did not.

Walters asked why he did not shake her hand. He simply replied that it is against his religion to shake the hand of a woman. The students went on to talk about their feelings and frustrations towards Israel's operations with Palestine; they also mentioned their feelings that Americans, as a whole, try to understand their religion and lifestyle before passing judgments.

The women spoke about how they do not mind wearing the abaya, which is the black robe; however, they want to be allowed to drive because they find life to be a hassle without it. Back in the early '90s, during the Gulf war, the women had a driving strike. Some were arrested. Over in Saudi Arabia, women have to be driven by their husbands/man in order to go to the grocery store, run her errands for the day, etc.

I found this whole report interesting and yes, it did clear up some misunderstandings I had. One fascinating part of this report was the interview with Osama Bin Laden's younger brother. Once again, this interview cleared up so many misunderstandings. Abdullah Bin Laden, the youngest of fifty-three children, is a law student from Harvard University and was living in Boston during the 9/11 attacks. He came back home, to the Middle East, after the attacks to avoid persecution from anyone that knew him. He went on to men-

tion how "horrified" his family was about the attacks and that Osama was behind them; their sympathies go out to all the families who suffered.

Abdullah went on to mention how his family distanced themselves from Osama back in '93, and they cut-off all communication and financial obligations to him. Abdullah is nine years younger than Osama and has the same father, but a different mother. Abdullah has not seen Osama since the 1980s, and they barely know each other.

The purpose of this article is to show to the William Paterson community that there are a lot of reconcilable differences between U.S./Western culture and Middle Eastern culture, if people would just keep an open mind and try not to jump to conclusions about one particular group just because there is one bad apple on the tree. Yes, it is difficult to change some things in the Middle East because of their ties with radical Islam; however, most of the extreme preaching of Islam come from certain interpretations. Some people interpret things differently than others, which is why most Muslims do not follow the extremists. In Saudi Arabia, they have a "religious" police force. It does not say in the Koran that there has to be a police force to go around the cities to make sure the rules are being followed.

WPU Student Runs Marathon for Research

By Jim Schofield
News Editor

A young woman named Darci Gresko from William Paterson University is running in a marathon for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The 26.2 mile Marathon, which is scheduled to take place in Anchorage, Alaska on June 22, will raise money for research towards curing Leukemia, Lymphoma, Melanoma and Hodgkin's Disease. Gresko, who is running in honor of a young girl named Paige Nobillard, hopes to raise at least \$4200 for the cause. Gresko plans to become a medical researcher and considers this to be supporting her own future profession.

People who wish to contribute to Gresko's run can contact her at (973) 720-5324.

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Other spectators were asking questions about the rally. There were a few students that made negative comments though. One male student yelled, "shut the hell up, you already have the night." As they exited the Towers and headed for Madelsohn Hall, many residents from the towers came to their windows to observe, cheer, or jeer the event. The marchers stopped at this point. This was the place, as Cheryl Balchan stated, where firecrackers were aimed in their direction during last years rally.

When asking the marchers how

NJHECS continued from Pg. 1

The media will be invited to cover all of them and NJHECS will send out a Press Release following the events. There was also discussion of a rally outside the statehouse in Trenton, but for logistical reasons that was put off until the next academic year.

One of the main tools of NJHECS will continue to be voter registration and voter motivation. If college students don't get out and vote, there can be no effective student lobby. Kevin Drennan, a delegate from TCNJ, pointed out that most of the major colleges in New Jersey would be able to control the outcome of their Congressional, State Senatorial and Assembly elections if enough of them got out to vote. While there was some disagreement among the delegates about whether or not NJHECS can back a specific candidate, all agreed that voter reg-

istration drives are a must. Each school will be attempting to boost voter registration and voter turnout in their own ways.

Four of the Delegates from NJHECS, including Davis and Depadova from WPU, Tahira Cooper from Douglass and an as yet unspecified delegate from Kean will be meeting with representatives of the Governor on Saturday, April 13. In addition to discussing the current budget issues, they intend to make it clear that NJHECS plans to remain active indefinitely to support the best interests of the students.

The next meeting of NJHECS was scheduled for a Saturday in early May. It will be held at Rutgers New Brunswick. The delegates from the Governing Associations of Douglass, Cook and Rutgers Colleges will decide amongst themselves which one of them specifically will host it.

they felt about the event, most replied that while the numbers of marchers were small because of inclement weather, the event turned out to be a success. One member of the Feminist Collective argued that the reason some students did not show support has to do with widespread misconceptions about feminists and feminism. She said, "they think we are a bunch of angry man-haters, and that is just not true." Another member felt that the event needs to be more publicized next year. There also seemed to be a general consensus among participants that University has to take more action against rape and violence occur-

ring on campus. "Take Back The Night" took place during the same week that campus police started RAD, a self-defense workshop. "While I fully support the program," Cheryl Balchan said, "it is sad that we even need something like this. No one is taking steps to stop violence this way. They are just telling women to deal with it if it happens." Everyone marching would also like to express gratitude towards Officer Dennis Johnston and Officer Kerry Randolph, who were present during the march and voiced support for the cause.

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Submitted by Barbara Stomber
William Paterson University

This spring 67 Foundation scholarships are being offered for the 2002/03 academic year to undergraduate and graduate students who are in good standing at the University. The criteria for the scholarships vary from need-based, to achievement, to program-specific, such as nursing or business. Scholarship awards range from \$250 - \$5,000 for the academic year.

Interested students need only complete an application form and essay and submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member by May 3. The application can also be accessed on the WPUNJ Home Page. The completed application would enable students to compete for all

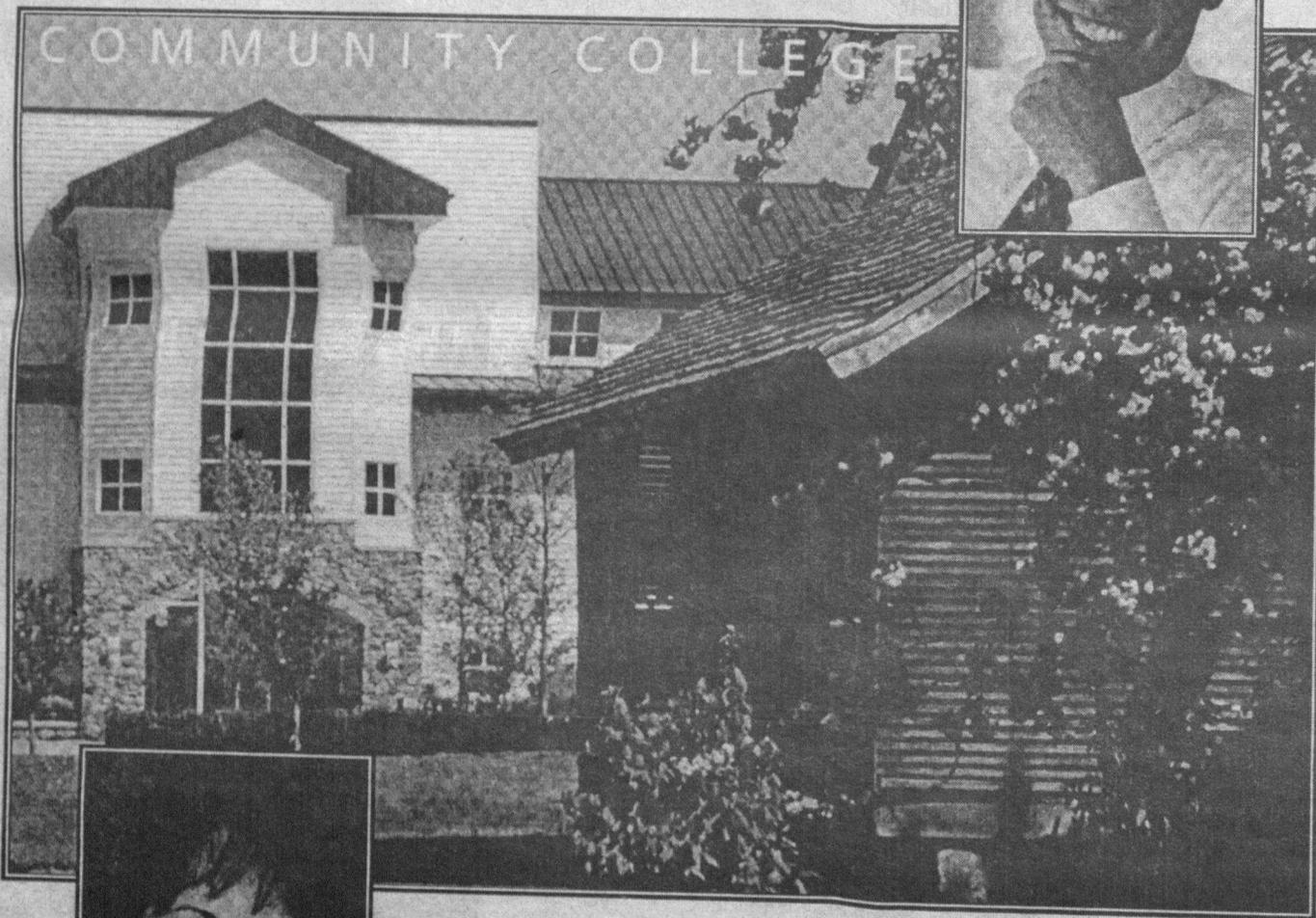
scholarships for which they meet the requirements. In addition, the application would remain on file for any scholarships that may become available during the course of the year.

Decisions regarding scholarship recipients are based upon the recommendations of the William Paterson University Foundation's Scholarship Committee, which reviews all applications. Students will be notified by mail prior to July 15 if awarded a Foundation scholarship. Awards will be credited to their University accounts over the fall and spring semesters.

Additional applications are available in the Office of Institutional Advancement, Hobart Manor, 2nd Floor. For more information, contact Barbara Stomber at (970) 720-3811.

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A Look at the SGA

By Jim Schofield
News Editor

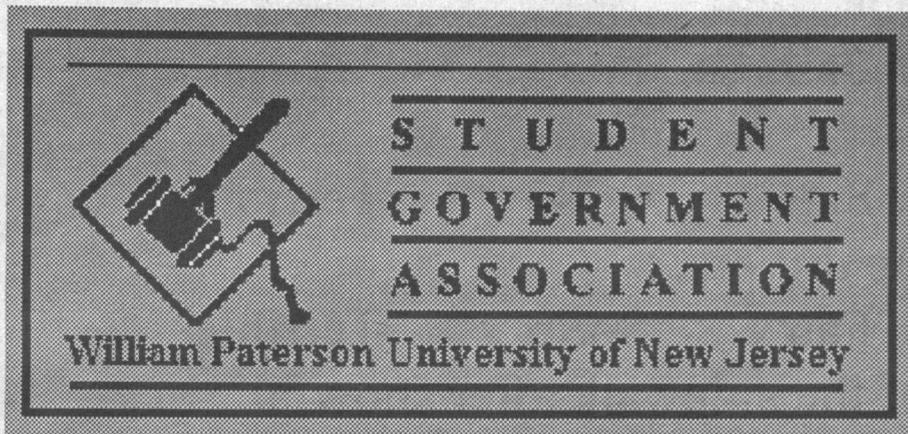
The SGA sent eight Delegates to the second meeting of the New Jersey Higher Education Coalition of Students (NJHECS) at TCNJ this past Saturday, including SGA President Rashad Davis who served as the Chair of the meeting. Full details of this meeting can be found in the article that begins on page 1 of this issue.

Monday, April 8 is the new target date for opening nominations for the SGA Awards. The Awards Committee, chaired by SGA Executive Vice President Daren Smith, has delayed the opening of nominations several times already. The SGA Elections Committee, led by Chairperson Jenna-Lyn Rounsaville, also plans to open nominations for the SGA General Elections this week. Students interested either in running for an office or in joining the Elections Committee should go to the SGA Office on the third floor of the Student Center.

The Freshman Class Organized "Who Rocks Willy-P" basketball tournament will take place this Thursday at 6:30 in Wightman Gym. It is organized as a class competition. Questions should be directed to the SGA Office at x2157.

The Court of Judicial Review will be devoting their entire April 16 meeting to the SGA Constitution. At this meeting, the members of the Court

member has a problem with any parts of the document at that point, their must vote it down in its entirety, invalidating a year of work by CJR.



will iron out the new document, which has been painstakingly drafted over the course of the year by CJR Chairman Mauricio Mattos in conjunction with the SGA Attorney, Gerry Brennan, and the CJR Subcommittee on the SGA Constitution. All students are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting in the Student Center. Once it passes CJR, the Constitution will need to be approved by the SGA Executive Board, then twice by the SGA Legislature. No changes to the document may be made once it passes CJR; if a Legislator or Executive Board

Amendments cannot be accepted while passing it both because of the time element involved this close to the end of the year and because each Article and By-Law will have been cross-referenced by CJR to avoid discrepancies. Changing the Constitution piecemeal over the years is what resulted in the current hodge-podge document that the SGA is forced to work under today.

The Brothers for Awareness (BFA) are currently under investigation by the Court of Judicial Review for alleged misconduct regarding the

planning of their retreat. The retreat, which was cancelled due to lack of attendance, was passed through vocal opposition in the SGA Legislature regarding the legality of a single club being granted so much money for an event without a co-sponsor. The SGA Executive Board, after calling the officers of BFA into their April 4 meeting, voted unanimously to refer the matter to CJR for further investigation. When asked for information, members of CJR replied that "the Court of Judicial Review does not comment on pending or ongoing investigations." The controversy apparently centers on a list of tentative names that was sent by one of the officers of BFA to the resort which included individuals who were neither members of BFA nor students of William Paterson University, even though the Finance Committee was told that no non-students would be attending the event. Other financial details may be handled by the Finance Committee as the need arises.

The Public Safety Committee has sent out the Student Survey. A copy of it is located on page six of this issue. All students are asked to fill it out and return it to the SGA Office. Completing this survey will help Campus Police and the Office of Public Safety better serve you.

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PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEY

Please rate the following based on your personal feelings.

1. Parking on campus.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

2. Shuttle service.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

3. Attitude of shuttle drivers.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

4. The conditions of the sidewalk after snowfall

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

5. Safety in the dorms.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

6. Professionalism of overnight guards.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

7. Safety on campus.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

8. How is the lighting on campus?

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

9. Amount and accessibility of emergency blue lights.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

10. Security at parties.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

11. Amount of campus police officers.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

12. Professionalism of campus police officers.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

13. The accessibility of handicapped facilities on campus.

Great Good Fair SoSo Terrible

14. Who would you rather have securing parties?

Campus police or Supplemental security

15. Where would you like to see shuttle service on the weekend?

Shoprite Willowbrook Mall Wayne Hills and Preakness Center

Other _____

General Info

Sex: M or F Academic Year: _____ Age: _____ Commuter or Resident

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING PLEASE EMAIL ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS TO RICHARDSONJ@STUDENT.WPUNJ.EDU**

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I graduated from WPU in this January. These four years and one semester at WPU were not always easy, especially as an international student because of the Office of International Student Services (OISS). I thought the director of OISS would help the international students, but this assumption turned out to be wrong.

After the first successful year, I was asked to work at the [American Federation of Teachers] AFT office by one of the faculty members of the Computer Science. As I also started working as a tutor for the Computer Science Department, I went to the director of OISS and told her I had two jobs. When she heard the word "AFT," she yelled at me, "Why didn't you check it with me!" She said the AFT could be an illegal employer and ordered me to stop working right away while she "investigated."

A week later, she told me that she found that the AFT was an off-campus employer and that I must "reinststate." She did the paper work for reinstatement process and I signed without knowing what "reinststate" really meant. ("Reinststate" means an international student reports how he/she violated the law to the INS and gets a permission to study again. If the INS rejects it, he/she must leave the U.S.) She couldn't mail it because she needed my I-94 (a little paper attached to the passport.) When I told this story to another faculty member, he said, "You'll get in trouble if she mails it to the INS!" So I went to the chair of the CS and asked him to talk to her, but he couldn't persuade her not to make me reinststate. After a while, I called up the Dean of Student to ask the same thing, but they just told me to listen to her since they didn't know about the Immigration Law. I decided to ignore the whole thing because she couldn't mail it without my I-94.

In 2001, two years later, I needed extension of my I-20 (permission to study at WPU.) When I asked the director of OISS about it, she said I had to reinststate first because I could not do anything without it. I gave up and went to the faculty member who introduced me the job at AFT to ask her to write a letter, saying either she or I didn't know that working at AFT was illegal. She said, "The AFT is a legal employer for international students." She talked to both the president of AFT and the executive director of OISS, who was newly assigned. As a consequence, the director of OISS had to withdraw her decision.

The OISS took care of the extension of my I-20 properly, but as for the practical training visa, they left my application undone for amonth.

I don't know how many times I wanted to write this to the Beacon, but I was afraid. One staff at WPU was surprised when I told her this whole story just recently. She recommended me to write it. She also said, "It's a shame because WPU is trying to appeal to more international students." When I started studying at WPU, the school had just upgraded from college to university and their slogans were "New U" and "We're here for YOU," but the school didn't prove that the faculty and staff were for the students. The faculty member who introduced me the job at AFT also said, "We're here for the students." I hope they ARE.

Akemi Shinkai

Mr. Murphy,

Just a note to let you know that I enjoyed your column responding to the evangelist who appears regularly and hysterically in The Beacon. Your essay was thoughtful, well-informed, well-written, and substantiated by evidence. It was in fact the opposite of the response of Mr. Olivas, appearing this week [04/01/02], who, not able to understand, never mind cope with reasoned discourse, calls it "hate" and provides no rebuttal whatsoever. I am pleased, as well, to see that Larry is giving you space to continue your ruminations. Might I suggest as a possible topic the fallacious connection between theism and morality, probably the fundamental reason for the rejection of atheism that is not simply a visceral reaction. As the contemporary scene with violence both in the Middle East and brought here by religious fanatics, this connection is mythical but the nation at large is engaging at present in a massive denial of this obvious fact. For further suggestions for topics, if you are not already aware of the general publications, you might try The Skeptical Inquirer, Free Inquiry, and The Secular Humanist. They should keep you going for a long time.

Thanks again.

Yours for more reasoned discourse,
Bob Kloss

Dear Editor,

The lack of respect on this campus has come to a great surprise to me!! On Tuesday, when I was on my way to my 9:30 class, I noticed outside the Towers, someone decided to spray in fluorescent orange spray-paint JESUS IS COMING HIDE THE BONG with a picture of a bong. True, at first when I saw this I laughed, but then I realized how ridiculous someone was for doing this. Not only does the bong end-up looking like a flower, but some of the writing ended up going on the window to the lounge. What an idiot. Why someone did this, who knows? There is also another message spray-painted in the same color, as you walk further down the sidewalk to get to the student center that says: I LOVE STONER! Why must this person also show their love towards stoner on OUR sidewalk? If someone wants to go around spray-painting murals on NYC courts (meaning wall ball courts) by all means go ahead. Some of them actually look pretty cool. But don't go around defacing THIS property! Campus residents, meaning all of us, are probably going to be charged with this defacement because the person who did this will most likely not fess up, the coward! Treat this place with some respect. How could the admissions office bring tours through there with stuff spray-painted on our sidewalks? It shows how much the student's at this school don't care about the place that their parents are probably paying a good chunk to send them to. It's really embarrassing to see this. I believe in the practice of freedom of speech/free rights to everyone, but use them in some extent and respect towards others.

Sincerely,

Lori Michael
Assistant News Editor

The Invisible Election

By Gerry Brennan
SGA Attorney

There's a statewide election on April 16, 2002 that most voters don't seem to know or care about. It's the school board and budget election in which voters elect members to their local school boards and approve or reject the school budget for the coming fiscal year. About 1,500 school board seats statewide will be decided.

The election is not very glamorous but in many ways, it is the most important. It determines the quality of public education in a town and how much in property taxes that education will cost.

Most towns have elected school boards comprised of 5 to 9 members who are elected for 3 year terms. School board members are not paid. They are elected volunteers who make personnel, curriculum and financial decisions for the local schools.

The school board hires the superintendent, business admin-

istrator, principals, teachers, secretaries, bus drivers and custodians. The board sets policies for curriculum, student discipline and the use of school facilities and approves books and other educational materials be used in the classroom.

Probably most importantly, the board approves an annual budget for the district. In my town, the budget for the municipality is about 12 million dollars; while the school board budget is 16 million dollars, about half of which is funded by local property taxes. The rest comes from the state and federal grants.

The school board has the only government budget submitted directly to the voters. If the voters reject the budget, then the town council can direct the school board to cut the budget. The town council can tell the board how much to cut, but not what to cut.

Any registered voter who lives in town can run for the school board. To get your name on the

ballot all you have to do is get 10 signatures on a petition which is usually available in January and submit it by the deadline around late February.

Voter turnout for school board elections is usually very low. On March 25, 2002 my local board had a public meeting on the budget for the fiscal year that begins this coming July 1st. The superintendent presented the budget which calls for a large tax increase. Only 3 residents and a reporter from the newspaper were in the audience.

As citizens, we pay for our schools and we vote on how much we are willing to pay. If we don't vote in school board elections, we have no right to complain about the quality of our schools or about steep property taxes.

So, vote in your school board elections on April 16, 2002 and maybe next year, consider running for the board yourself.

Letters To The Editor

All letters to the editor must be signed and contain the author's full name and daytime and evening telephone numbers. All letters will be verified for authenticity prior to publication. Letters should not exceed 500 words. Anonymous letters will promptly be filed in the shredder (we put our names on what we write, and so should you). The best medium is for sending a letter to the editor is through email. Since we are understaffed like most organizations, we do not have time to retype a zillion letters. The volume of mail may exceed the space available for printing. In that case, the editor may literally pick letters for printing out of a hat (don't worry, it's a nice hat) in order to assure fairness. The Beacon does not censor content (see our mission statement) and will print any signed and verified letter that is not libelous or otherwise prohibited by law.

Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

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Estrogenated Random Ramblings

Has anyone ever noticed that you can do a better British accent when you have a stuffy nose? I did. That may be because I have a cold. I sometimes talk in accents. I was doing it today which is how I came to the conclusion implied in the question that starts this article. It's another one of my weird traits. Has anyone picked up on how many of them I've mentioned yet? Oh well. The Robitussin I've been taking since I got sick late Friday during Spring Break is helping. And it's annoying when your nose alternates between leaking and being clogged. And the nostrils alternate too. One will leak, the other will be clogged, then they switch. It's very organized. I wonder if the germs plan it. Maybe we could learn something from them? People, take note.

Back to leaky noses—my brother and I actually tried to remedy the situation by putting tissues in our leaky nostrils; it didn't help for long. Tissues get soggy. I'm not gonna mention coughing and all that. It's just too disgusting.

The whole nostril plugging episode happened over a game of Yahtzee. If you've played it, it's fun. You roll a bunch of dice a bunch of times to get a bunch of different possible scores and add them all up. If you get all five dice to the same number with three turns—you can put some aside as you go—it's called a Yahtzee and you get 50 points. If you do it more than once, it's worth more each time. It's really an ingenious game. Chalk its success up to the wise businessness of the Jewish community which is where I'm going to ASSUME the game originated. If it didn't originate there, I apologize to the people from wherever it did. The reason I'm apologizing is because the paper's been getting complaints over a few things. ::cough with sarcasm:: Well....I've been to blame for some of the complaints. To the writer of the letter mentioning my failure to proofread the Lit section last week, thanks for bringing the issue to my attention. I wouldn't have noticed it otherwise. And people say we don't appreciate feedback. ::scoffs::

Does anyone believe in Spring Fever? I'm not even sure what the symptoms are. It could be extra-randiness but then again, how does one tell the difference? The weather is supposed to be the cause of it. The only thing I know for slightly-less-than certain is that the weather is responsible for my cold. Yes, I have a cold. Remember paragraph 1? You do?!?!? YAY!!!!!! Someone is reading my ramblings. They might have actually been better if I was taking medication that made me sleepy or something. I do all sorts of strange things when I get sleepy...wait, that can so easily be misconstrued. Let me think about this for a sec ... No, I meant to say that. Construe it any way you want. I'm gonna clarify anyway. When I get sleepy but want to stay awake (sort of like I am right now), I tend to say silly things. I think it's a not-so-unconscious attempt to keep myself awake. ::Shrug:: One time, at band camp... No, wrong line. One time, I was folding clothes in my dining room and my brother was on the computer next to me. I was tired and acting silly so I called my broth-

er's attention (I had to look up the number first). After a silent pause, I whispered, "I see dead people," and proceeded to laugh hysterically for a while. It really was funny. It's one of those things where you had to be there. My brother just looked at me as if I were off kilter. I am. It's been established. Just for your information though, I have not lost my mind, I've just misplaced it. I know exactly where it is and my friend Tina Vargas can back me up on this. ::waves:: Hi Tina. It is lying on the floor in Science room 314. See, that's where we had Applied A&P lab last semester. The two of us were goofing about dirty minds and needing to pick them up off the floor and clean them. It didn't work. I tried, Ajax, and some other cleaning products, to no end. So, I decided it was best left on the floor.

Unfortunately, I forgot to retrieve it before the end of the semester. If anyone has a class in there and notices a rather small dusty particle on the floor, send it over. It might be my mind...It could be dust too. I wonder if it would serve the same function? I'll have to get back to you on that one. Just keep an eye out for it. ::slams hand on table with sudden thought:: YA KNOW WHAT? I just thought of a remedy to the dirty mind problem. I never tried OXY Clean. Darn it!!!!!! I could have saved it after all. Oh well, now someone really has to find it for me so I can clean it off and get it back to where it belongs. I mean, I've already given up my soul to the Beacon, which—by the way—I need to get back before I graduate too. Someone remind me of that as well. Maybe I should write a Post-It. So, I'm missing my soul and my mind. Not bad, wouldn't you say? My writing that is—for someone who has no mind or soul. Not sure exactly how the soul would fit into it, but it might be useful one day. Which is why I have to get it back. Where is that stack of Post-Its? Pen. Pen. Pen. You would think I could find a pen in this office. But no, a newspaper office shouldn't have pens. Heaven forfend. Yes, that is the right term. Funky, isn't it? I like it. I like "confound it" too. I said it up at the office one day and Jake asked me if I was country. No. I'm not. I just like unconventional words and expressions. I don't know very many others though. I used to use "fungus" as an exclamation. I didn't want to use an Italian curse word—maybe you know it, it's _____. You didn't think I was really gonna write it did you? With all the eagles out there, wouldn't want anymore claws in my side. Anyway, I said fungus instead. It was mostly when I was in my Italian class in high school. My teacher would just laugh. Or ignore it. And then my friend Maria looked at me as if I were off kilter. I am. And then I would explain the whole issue to her. And then...I'd like an order of shrimp fried rice and chicken wings. What? Haven't you seen Dude Where's My Car? I know those aren't the exact words but hey, I tried. Well, that's all for now. Email me. Freakincage.com.

Liria Areche
Ass't Lit Editor

The Solemnity of Death

pg. 10

Word of the Week

The Art of Enjoying God

The lost art is the ability to enjoy God. That's right, enjoy God. "Ah," you sneer, "what's to enjoy about God?" You are like a lot of other people. They pay very little attention to God. They seek joy in fleeting pleasures. They often land in depression and despair. Let's put this in perspective. The ultimate goal of every Christian person is life with God in heaven. Listen to what heaven will bring, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His peoples, and God Himself shall dwell among them, and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any

mourning, or crying, or pain" (Revelation 21:3-4). To enjoy heaven is to delight in God; what rapture that will be. But you do not have to wait for heavenly bliss. Those who trust in the sacrifice of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins have foretastes of that ecstasy now. How? Simple!

God is present with every Christian person. The presence of God's Holy Spirit produces special fruit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). Are you seeking love, joy, and peace? They come from God. Perhaps you need to learn the lost art of enjoying Him.

TO HEAR MORE ON THE SAME TOPIC CALL TOLL FREE FOR THE "MINI-MESSAGE OF THE WEEK" 1-800-777-0389 or visit www.w-e-m.org



DISH WITH DIVA N' DUDE

Dear Diva and Dude,

I woke up last night to see my roommate and her boyfriend having sex while I was sleeping. We are great roommates and I don't want to ruin things, especially before room selection. How do I bring it up to her that this bothered me?

—Blinded by the Light

Dear Blinded,

WOW! This has to be one of the toughest questions I think I've been faced with. Well, how much do you feel you can be honest with her? Is she the type to get pissed easily? Would she just deny it, would she feel extremely

embarrassed? Put yourself in her shoes; would you want her to approach you and be completely honest? Either way, if this makes you extremely uncomfortable you should definitely tell her something. If she's understanding, she'll stop. If not, find another roommate.

—Diva

Hey Blinded,

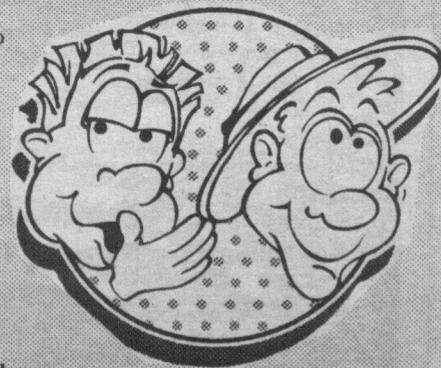
Well, this has happened to everyone. Well, almost. Not me. But I do suggest you say something soon. It might just be a simple bump that can be worked out. It can also mean that you two shouldn't be roommates. But if you lasted this long, then I'll put money that says you can just

sit down and talk without having to pull hair and rip off clothes. Although, if you go with the latter, just invite me.

—Dude

Need advice?

Email beaconadvice@yahoo.com



Horror Stories from the Shoebox:

"Hey YOU—Write Something!!!"

So it's Friday night, at seven PM. I, not surprisingly, am in the Beacon office. Where else would I be? Let me give you all a brief account of the chain of events that led me up to this particular point in my life.

When Monday happened, I was panicking because I thought that I was to have my Anthropology midterm at 2 PM that day. I walked in to class in a semi-fit, only to find out that it was in fact, not until the following Monday, April 8th. Which meant that I had another week to study and panic, alternately and at even intervals. Monday continued with me going to creative writing class at seven PM and talking about poetry for way too long, in a room full of a bunch of other lunatics like myself, otherwise known as English Majors.

After Monday, the world's most amazing thing happened. It was called Tuesday. I took a Psychology test (which I managed to get a B on even though I only got a 55—YAY curved grades). I also went to a super-productive Editor's meeting here at the Beacon. Then I studied Anthropology.

Wednesday afternoon I was walking back from some class or other (I believe it was Anthropology—Are we sensing a pattern woven through my week?), and no sooner had I stepped out the door of the Science Building when the sky opened up and God decided to dump thirty-two feet of rain on my head. Well ok, it was a mini-thunderstorm. So I walked back to my building, checked my mail, and found a little yellow slip of paper telling me I had a package. So I went to the Hillside office to get my package, which was a giant, GIANT brown box of Doom. The I proceeded to climb two flights of stairs and manage to unlock the door to my shoebox with a giant brown box in my hands, a bookbag on one shoulder, my ID card tucked behind one ear, and my keys dangling from my mouth. I somehow managed to get myself into my shoebox, (dripping wet) at which point I promptly stepped in the door and kicked over the conveniently placed garbage can

that the props manager had placed there only moments before, spilling orange soda cans all over the floor (which makes a really cool series of CLANK noises, by the way). That was fun.

My Week of Joy continued Thursday, when I decided to go up to the Financial Aid office. Let me attempt the short short version of this one. A week or two ago I received a little pink sheet of paper from the Powers that Be asking about money information. So I went over to the Office of the Money Gods originally, asking them how, exactly, to fill out this form. They told me I didn't have to fill it out, that I could just attach a copy of my taxes and my parent's taxes, and turn them in with the form. So I called up my mommy and demanded that she mail me the taxes, since I almost never go home. I received the taxes this week (at the same time I had received the giant brown box of Doom). So Thursday, I went back to the Powers that Be with the pink form and the taxes. They told me that I needed to have my mommy sign the pink form. Of course! How did I not see that coming? Happy Thursday.

Thus bringing me (and all my faithful readers) to Friday night. I've been running around crazy all week studying and getting rained on and such, and so have not had time to write a Horror Stories until now. And all the times that I've yelled at my writers to meet their Thursday at five deadlines (which WILL be changed to Wednesday at two next semester, come hell or high water), and sent them nasty reminder E-mails, have now come back to haunt me. I haven't met my own deadline, so now I have to go back and yell at myself for not meeting my deadline. When I told my staff writers this, they seemed to take great pleasure in all glaring at me simultaneously and yelling, "YOU—Write Something!!!"

Jen Sinclair
Diversity Editor

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involved with **The Beacon**.

The Stupidity Report

With April 1st only being last week, I really started to think about how stupid a select group of people are on campus. This group of people felt it was necessary to throw water balloons and shaving cream filled balloons out of South Tower and spray paint in front of Towers and down near the bus stop in front of the Student Center. Being a freshman, I won't really say it surprised me that there're people going to school here who deserves full frontal lobotomies without anaesthesia. Oh, just a side note for all those out there who fit this category; if you don't understand some of the words in this article, email [The Beacon](mailto:TheBeacon@shu.edu) and I'll be more than happy to send you a simplified version.

My story began before April 1st. I think it all started sometime in March. I'd be walking to or from my room when outside of South Tower, by the lounge,

I'd see shaving cream on the ground. I guess that people were throwing shaving cream filled balloons out of the window (my guess was that they were practicing for the big day... April 1st). Now let me just say something about these pathetic assholes: If you have to practice, it's no fun. I don't think water-balloon-ing will become an Olympic sport anytime soon so shut it down. If you need something to do, I know my girlfriend has a hell of a lot of homework. You can do some of it for her. You can do that, or even better, clean my room.

I headed back to my room the night of April 1st around 8. I'm walking up the path to Towers. There were two girls walking 15 or 20 feet ahead of me. When we got to that area where the shaving cream was, I heard a splash and saw the two girls just standing

there. The balloon landed at their feet. They looked up and wondered where the hell it came from. Well girls, I think I know what happened. April 1st is the only day the invisible gremlins that live in the trees near South Tower can mate. So they hide in the trees with their

April's Fools

invisible water balloons waiting for prey. The more people they hit, the better their chances of getting laid are. Sorry but it looks like the little guy who tried to bean you two ladies isn't gonna get any this year (note to gremlin: keep your chin up kid... there's

always next year).

So back to the two girls. I saw the balloon hit and right away I said, "If I get hit, I'm going up to the top floor with a baseball bat and beating whoever hits me. Then I'm gonna take my size 12 shaving cream covered foot and ram it down their throat."

Luckily, I didn't have to take out 8 years of pent up anger on those poor bastards. Lucky them.

I woke up around 11 in the morning of April 2nd, surprised that there was no fire drill. I went about my usual morning ritual, grabbed my books and walked out the door. I got to the front of my building only to see that it was spray painted during the night. On the ground and part of the window, the phrase, "Jesus is

Coming. Hide the Bong" was spray painted. Now I'm not one to indulge in drugs, but I found this to be humorous. Then against the waist high wall, "Fuck It" was written. As I walked further down towards the Student Center, what seemed to be a middle finger was spray painted on the walkway going from the Student Center to the bus stop by the science building. I don't understand why people did that. I mean it has to be cleaned and we're gonna have to pay for it. How about this...Next time you have the urge to spray paint something, spray paint yourself. Then I'll call maintenance and do my best to get them up to your room with a power washer and iron-bristled brushes. I'm sure they'll be able to scrub the sum-bitch off real quick. Oh oops, that's right, you needed your skin.

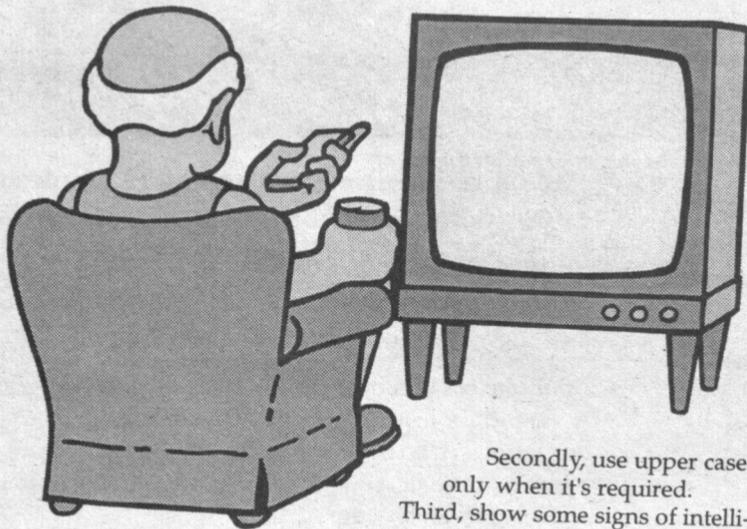
Allan Ringler
Diversity

Randon Ramblings

There's this music video I saw a few weeks ago on Señor Moby's House of Music. I think it was the most amazing music video I've ever seen. It was called, "Rabbit in Your Headlights" by U.N.K.L.E. with vocals by Thom Yorke. The video revolves around this mentally disturbed man. He's walking in the middle of the road in an underground tunnel. Cars are flying by him and occasionally he is hit, thrown, and run over. Each time he's hit, he gets back up and keeps on walking. He's yelling and talking to himself. He throws his jacket onto the ground and one last car flies up behind him. I can't give away the ending. You just have to see it for yourself. Head over to <http://www.followmearound.com/videos/>. It's on the bottom of the page, you have to scroll right a little bit. It's not that big of a file. Happy viewing! I tried talking my philosophy professor into watching The Matrix in class. Unfortunately it didn't work out. It's such an amazing philosophical movie. I remember after I saw the movie, my brain imploded. Just think about it. Reality isn't what it seems to be. Just think if the world really was like that. It would be kinda freaky. It sucks because we don't have enough time to watch it. He said if it was a class where we met once a week and were able to

talk about the movie after we watched it, he'd be all about it. Oh well. The other weekend, a bunch of us were up at the

Now I know just looking at this shit gives me a headache. First little bit of advice, lady, is to learn how to spell.



Secondly, use upper case only when it's required.

Third, show some signs of intelligence. You're not gonna meet anyone worth keeping if you act stupid. I mean if fuck-buddy is your thing, go for it. Otherwise, stop acting like a tough little 12 year old rich white thugged out punk rocker. I'm not really one to talk, but you're 18 years old, you don't know shit about shit, and learn how to type! (I'm gonna get hell for that from certain people). I saw one of these kids at Six Flags the other day. He must have been 12, about 5 foot nothing, 80 pounds with a Slipknot shirt on, blonde spiky

office. Dan Kreifus got bored so he was looking through online personal ads at www.hotornot.com. Let me say that there were some really scary women on there. For example, here's one of the ads that we found "iMmA18yR. oLd MaMi...RePPiN'JeRz...LoOKiN' fA' A BaNGiN PaPi oR fLy MaMi tO cHiLL WiT...I sTay uP iN dEm cLuBz... LuV tO DaNcE... bLaZe... pOp e'Z...HiT PaRtiEs, LoUnGeS ... WhAtEvAz PoPPiN'...i KeEpZ iT CrAZy...iF U WiT iT...HOLLA".

hair and a chain that went from his belt buckle down to the ground. It's scary what middle school is pumping out these days. I thought of something very scary during my English class the other day. We were reading this poem called "Ode on a Grecian Urn" by John Keats. Now, just to stray from the topic slightly, I do my best thinking when I go on little to no sleep. It's strange. When I don't sleep, the doorway to my mind is wide open and incredible thoughts are able to flow through. I do my best writing and my best papers when I'm tired. I'm able to interpret the information quickly and easily and absorb the information like a sponge. The side affect is some of the thoughts that pop into my head are funny and probably disturbing to the general population (I'm not part of the "general population" so I don't care what you guys think). Anyway, back to "Ode on a Grecian Urn". When we started reading this, I immediately thought of Greece. That got me to thinking about Zeus and Mount Olympus. Now don't ask me how I came up with this but just stick with me. I pictured Zeus sitting on top of Mount Olympus with a wife beater t-shirt on, gut hanging out, remote control in one hand, beer in the other, screaming at Hera, "Where's my dinner!?" I'm sit-

ting here now kinda hungry and I'm debating whether or not I should make one of the microwave pasta dishes I have. I mean it's almost one in the morning as I write these words, and I plan on going to sleep sometime soon. They say not to eat too close to your bed time. I don't know. There's a lot of things I don't know. I don't know why I've been in a such blah mood for the better part of the past three days. I'm really not sure. I don't sleep and I'm still not getting sleep so that's not it. My grades are fine. My personal life could be better but nothing that would have a huge impact on me. I just walk around and feel so out of it. I'm usually upbeat, sarcastic and funny. I just feel I've been lacking in those departments. I'm talking to my friend and he's talking about working in Best Buy. He's a computer nut like me. He's only working there to get a discount for stuff. He better bring me along for the ride. I buy enough stuff from there that they should be paying me. I just kinda realized that my thought pattern is nonexistent now. Lack of sleep and lack of motivation really screws with the brain. I apologize to all those who willingly read this piece of crap.

Allan Ringler
Diversity

Just What is That Death Stuff, Anyway?

Death. A word that many people don't like to say, a phenomenon that many people don't like to think about, but a part of life that everybody must participate in. It's not usually something that is seen as a positive thing, and sadness, crying and mourning are some of its characteristics. Some may see it as the end of one life and the beginning of a new one, while others see it as nothing more than becoming dust in the ground. Whether religious or not, everybody has their own take on death, and everybody has their own customs and rituals that go along with it.

Although I may not be an expert in the field of death, I am curious about and interested in the many customs people I know do and /or practice when a loved one passes away. One custom that intrigues me is not so much the wake itself, but what people do at it. I don't get why people go there, pay their respects and say, "Oh, he /she has never looked better," or, "He /she looks so nice" (they all say this about the lifeless body lying in the casket). Now, the last time I checked, there was a dead corpse in that box. How in the hell is it possible for that person to look

better now than when they were alive? To me, a person who's alive looks much more beautiful than when they're dead (even if they were sick before they died). That's just my opinion, though.

Another thing I don't get is when people send flowers to the funeral home. Why? What's the point? I'm sure that person would have enjoyed those flowers more when they were living. People spend a lot of money to send huge bouquets of flowers to a person who is not even alive to smell them and appreciate them. They should just take that money and send it to their family members, so they can use it to help pay for the funeral and arrangements. It's not cheap to give someone you love a proper goodbye these days.

Rest In Peace. What exactly does that mean? Whenever I hear that term or see R.I.P., I often wonder what the significance of this is. I know it is associated with death, but does it really make sense? To hope that a lifeless corpse will "Rest In Peace" seems absurd to me. Why? Well, let's see. After a person dies, their body is made up to look all nice and pretty to be put into a wooden or metal box. This cas-

ket is then lowered six feet into the ground to remain there forever, with dirt, worms and bugs all around it. The body eventually decays to the point of probably just a dressed-up skeleton remaining. Sounds great, doesn't it? Not really, since resting in peace doesn't seem to fit in here. It would make more sense to tell someone who's going to sleep or who's going to relax to, "Rest in peace," but then that person would probably give me a look like, "What the hell are you talking about?"

And then there's the infamous question, "Where do we go when we die?" The most simple answer is, "I don't know." But then there are the religious answers of places like Heaven and Hell. In some religions, when a person dies, they go to one of these places, depending on how good a person they were when they were alive. Heaven is believed to be a place of peace and love, where you are rewarded for living a good life, and where you get to spend an eternity with God. Hell, on the other hand, is believed to be a place of fire and hate, where you are punished for living a sinful life, and where you get to spend an etern-

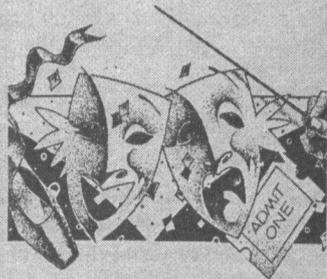
ty suffering in the burning fires.

Then there are the people who don't believe in an after-life. Most of the people who I know who don't think there's a Heaven and Hell often believe that when we die, that's it. Our soul doesn't go anywhere, our bodies get buried or cremated, and we just simply cease to exist anymore. Personally, I don't believe in this because, quite frankly, I think there's a better reason why we were put on this earth. I mean, if you look at it carefully and think about how everything in this world works, it's amazing how it all comes together. For me, I think there's a supreme being out there, even though I can't prove it.

And what about reincarnation? We can't forget about that one, either. Reincarnation is the belief that after you die, you will come back again as a totally different person. In your new life you won't have any recollection of your previous life (or lives). In this sense, you don't really die; your soul continues to grow when you come back. It is thought that each life brings new skills, with one that you are really good at, and each one of these helps the soul to grow.

Indeed, death, just like taxes, is something that nobody can escape from. It's a natural part of life that at first may seem painful and cruel, but if you think about it, it's almost like a blessing in disguise. My reasoning for this is simple. When a person dies they no longer have to endure all the pain, hurt, suffering and bad luck this world has to offer. Death is like a doorway to a new beginning, one which is currently still a mystery to mortals like ourselves. When someone dies, they don't have to worry about going off to fight wars, getting into car crashes, getting robbed or being brutally beaten and murdered. My grandfather once said to my father, while he was in the hospital recovering from heart surgery, "If I didn't make it through surgery, I just wanted to let you know that I had no regrets. It was all worth it." Maybe it's situations like this that cause people to accept death for what it is. Or maybe it's situations like this that cause people to realize how much their lives really mean.

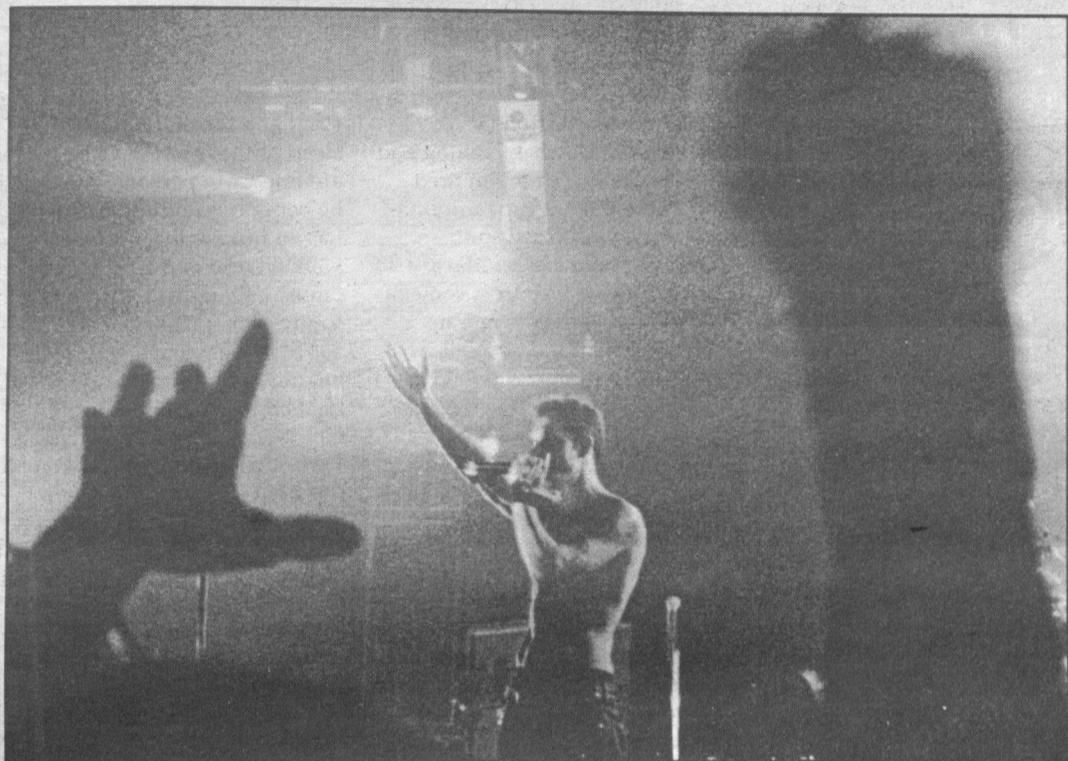
Pat Bennett
Contributor



Insider



Music • Film • Television • Drama • Web



Insider Quiz: What is the name of actor Jared Leto's band?

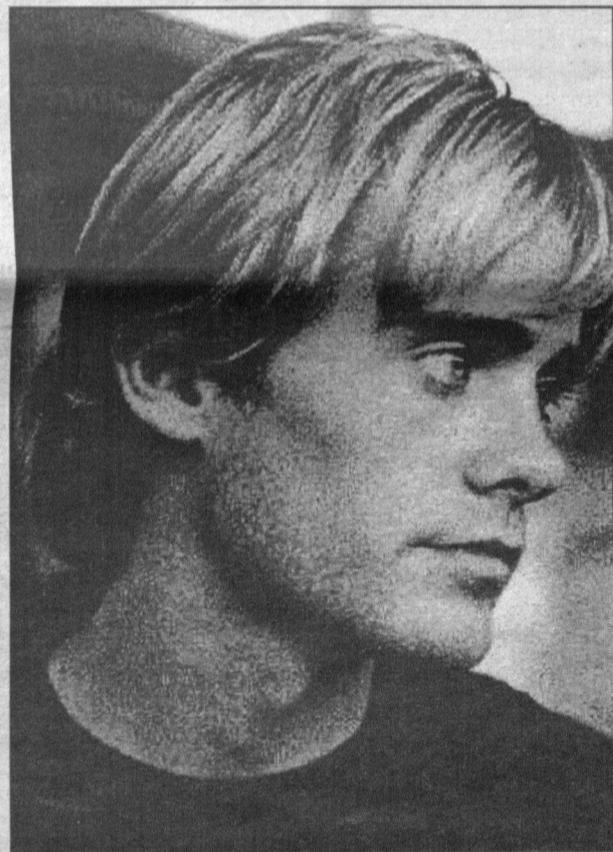
Because it's so hard to figure it out, we'll give anyone who guesses correctly a copy of the brand new Baha Men's CD... 'cause it's not like we want it! Email your guess to insidernj@hotmail.com.

Wake Your Mind Up!

Read our 311 reviews on pages 12 & 13

South
FROM HERE ON IN

South: The Next Wave of Brit-Pop?



NIN WEBSITE EXCLUSIVE!

PAGE 14



Electricity Flows at 311/ Hoobastank Show



Photos by Joelle Caputa/The Beacon

One of the most powerful forms of expression is music. Through songs, cries of sadness can be heard, moments of intimacy can be felt and inspiration can be offered. Anyone can write words, put music to them and call it a song. However, it takes a true artist to blend both the lyrics and the instruments in a way that can evoke strong emotions in those who

listen to it. Those who possess this power connect with the audience on a deeper, more significant level than the musicians who just make songs that sound good. There's no better example of these artists than Nick Hexum, SA Martinez, Tim Mahoney, P-Nut and Chad Sexton, who together make up 311.

As they say in one of their songs, 311 makes music for your mind and your ears. The message of positivity is always clearly evident. Each one of their albums has a different style than the one before it, though they always combine basically every genre of music—whether it be rock, ska, rap, reggae, dancehall etc.—into them. Like a fine wine, 311 get even better with age, as any of their fans can tell you.

The band celebrated their annual 311 Day on March 11 in New Orleans, where hard-core fans flock to from all over the country. This year, the band played a four hour long, 58 song set list. It culminated a new twist to their live show, as Martinez has said they are going to start "playing songs that we haven't played in a while and some songs that we've never played."



P-Nut beats that thing while Hexum masters the mic.

Unfortunately but understandable, not every one of their shows can be so extensive. Hexum has been stated saying "We've already had some great shows. I'm so grateful to be back in the mode, connecting with people and doing our thing.

I'm looking forward to making a new intro to start the show and breaking out some old gems." That's exactly what they did when their tour hit the Hammerstein Ballroom in NYC on March 28.

"Freak Out" opened the show and the audience did just that, as the mosh pit exploded with energy. They mixed in a little bit of everything, except for their pre-major label album, *Omaha Sessions*, into the set list. They kept the crowd favorites ("Feels So Good," "Unity," "Do You Right," "Omaha Stylee," "Fuck the Bullshit"), as well as the hits ("All Mixed Up," "Beautiful Disaster," "Down," "Flowing"). They whipped out some material off their new, must have CD, *From Chaos* ("You Wouldn't Believe," "Amber," "Wake Your Mind Up"), including "Champagne," during which bubbles floated over the fans closest to the stage. The stoner favorites included

Joelle Caputa
Co-Insider Editor

"Hydroponic" and an encore led by "Who's Got the Herb." The group drum solo during "Applied Science," which has become a staple of 311 shows, wowed the crowd. Hexum dedicated "Dancehall," off the accompanying CD to their second home video, *Enlarged to Show Detail 2*, to the band's street team. From *Soundssystem*, they excluded "Come Original," which brought them recognition on mainstream airwaves and opted to play "Eons" and "Mindspin." There were moments of beauty as the tempo slowed for songs like "Use of Time," from *Transistor*.

Also, there were moments of surprise, like when they brought out Dan Estrin, from their opening act, **Hoobastank**, to play a first ever three guitar player version of "Homebrew." The collaboration between bands was a treat for all in attendance. It's about time a band decided to do this while on tour.

If more bands jammed together live, it would give fans yet another reason to go to a show. Leave it to 311, masters of unconformity, to break the usual rules of each band playing their own sets, and pull it off without a hitch.

Their pairing of 311 and Hoobastank was especially dynamic. Hoobastank is on the verge of becoming huge. Not only does their entire CD rock, but they own the stage when they play live. They played their entire CD, but their set did not drag on once. Vocalist, Doug Robb walked onto a platform into the first few rows and sang face to face with the screaming crowd, who sang along to the songs, while his bandmates tore it up on the stage.

Hoobastank were not your average opening act, that has you falling asleep and counting the minutes until the main act takes the stage.

However, that should be no surprise, as 311 are known for taking awesome support acts, such as



Hoobastank introduced their hit single, "Crawling in the Dark" as "I Love NY."

Incubus, on the road with them. In fact, all three bands just toured Europe together. "Me and Incubus crashed a high society party at the hotel we were staying at. Miss Germany was there and it was all very proper. We took over the dance floor faux break dancing and doing the bunny hop. It was hilarious," recalls Hexum.

He says another highlight of that tour for him was when "I moshed my ass off with a bunch of sweaty Germans at the **Slipknot** show in Hamburg. I caught the clown's drumstick. I felt like I was fifteen." Perhaps being able to appreciate the small things like that is what helps 311 relate to their audience. They know what it's like to be a fan, so they give them something special at the shows. At the end of the night in NYC, Hexum took off his shirt and the chain around his neck and stage dove into the crowd. "We were right below Nick for his stage dive. He kicked me in the face and gave me a bloody nose, but it's OK 'cause I'm proud that Nick Hexum made me bleed," posted a fan on the band's official website (www.311music.com). How about that for connecting with your audience?

The guys pick up drum sticks for a group jam during "Applied Science."



THIRTY SECONDS TO MARS

I really wanted to hate this

album. It was so hyped up by friends of mine that I couldn't wait to be underwhelmed when I was given the promo.

Wow, was I wrong! This CD didn't just prove me wrong- it picked me up, slapped me in the face, flipped me the middle finger, and didn't call me back the next day. I love it.

Fans of Failure (one of the greatest

Sean Marks
Insider Contributor

unknown bands), take note. **Thirty Seconds to**

Out of this World: Thirty Seconds to Mars

Mars are their spiritual successor. The sci-fi obsessions are present ("Jupiter," "Welcome to the Universe"), but they never seem like they're copying their influences. They pay tribute to them, while at the same time, finding a sound of their own. The hooks are good, and will stick with you long after the songs end. An obvious **Tool** influence can be found in the vocals ("The End of the

Beginning"), as can touches of early **Depeche Mode** electronics.

Pick it up when it comes out in June. It's one of the better albums of 2002.

Fact File:

Thirty Seconds to Mars recently opened for **Puddle of Mudd** in NYC. Backstage was actress **Cameron Diaz** (*The Sweetest Thing*). She was there to support her boyfriend, actor **Jared Leto** (*Requiem for a Dream*), who is in TSTM.

311 HEAVEN...

I planned on going into the city early and hanging out before the concert. However, little by little, my plans started to fall apart. The night before, my camera would not load film properly. For some reason, whenever I go to a concert or somewhere that a famous person I really want to meet is, I have camera problems. So I was stressed about that, but took a back up camera with me.

Next came travel problems. I was going with seven other people-six guys and one girl. It is not easy to coordinate six guys to all be together at the same place and time. At the last minute, one of my friends decided he was going to his doctor's appointment and would meet us in the city, where I would have his ticket. Then, two others decided to take a different bus in then the rest of us, which I found out while two more were calling me to tell me that they were running late and that we would have to take a later bus. Now, being the control freak that I am, thoughts of being stuck in traffic for hours started to fill my head. And we were.

By the time most of us met up and got to the venue, my friend Jen and I were starving. So we stayed back by the tour busses and sent two of the guys to get us food. While they were gone, SA walked out. So we went up to him and he graciously posed for a picture. Then we talked about what songs they may play that night, because they hadn't made up the set list yet.

Soon after, the guys and our food arrived. We were still waiting to catch a glimpse of the rest of the band. I especially wanted to meet Nick. I admire him because the lyrics he writes have inspired me in so many ways. That's when one of my friends said he was not gonna be the one to take the picture of me and Nick, if I did meet him, because he didn't want to look dumb if the camera wouldn't work. I

turned around for a split second and saw Nick walk inside the venue. He must have come from his tour bus while I was looking away. I was speechless and inconsolable for a moment, because I just saw my dream shatter in front of me. I've met many of the celebrities I admire, but never 311, who are my favorite band, and I felt like I missed the chance to meet Nick.

The next thing that happened has never happened to me before- I got star struck. Nick came out again and started to walk past me. It was like time froze and all I could see was him walking towards me and I could not think anything but "Here is my chance to say something." Somehow, I did. He was in a rush because it was right before the show was about to start, but he still posed for a picture-for a few minutes because the camera was not working. Again, typical to happen to me.

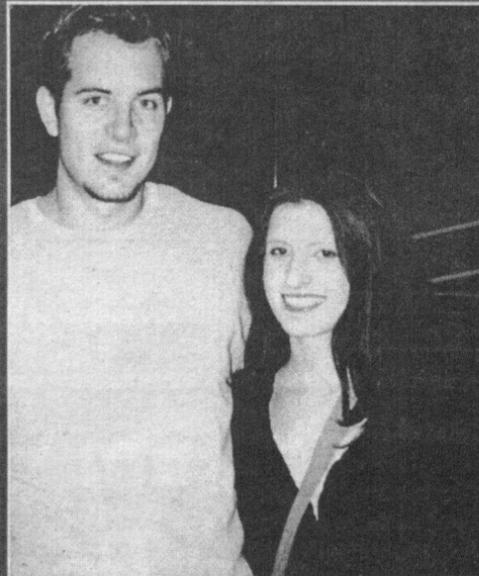
Inside the venue another shocking event occurred. The T-shirt I wanted to buy was in my size! Usually by the time I go to buy one all that is left are ones that are three sizes too big. So, I met SA and Nick, got the shirt I wanted and then, scored front row! I was literally by the front barriers with no one in front of me to block my view. It was amazing! I could see the entire show and get this-except for the occasional crowd surfer, I was by calm people! All the roughness was talking place in back of

me. The music was pounding so hard through the speakers that I could feel it travel through my body. It was truly an amazing night and the best 311 show I've been to so far.

Joelle Caputa
Co-Insider Editor



"If we don't play 'Prisoner,' we'll play 'All Mixed Up,' SA promised.



It took Joelle eight long years to get this picture.

Attention, all you Anglo-philes out there. The next wave in Britpop has officially hit this side of the Atlantic. For evidence of this landing, read through the pages of any respected music magazine, tune your television to Mtv2, or run to your local record store and check out the new releases/hot cd's section. Some of the new names that you'll see: Starsailor, Elbow, Zero 7, and South, a trio of excellent musicians who met while in Haverstock Secondary School in the Camden section of London.

South have clearly broken away from the pack, with the potent mixture of Stone Roses- Verve style Brit-Pop and tight hip-hop/electronic beats, on their American debut, *From Here On In* (Kinetic/Mo-Wax.) Partly responsible for the second part of the equation is the infamous James Lavelle, one half (with DJ Shadow) of hit-producers UNKLE and

British Band South Present Stunning Debut

Jacob Claveloux
Insider Editor

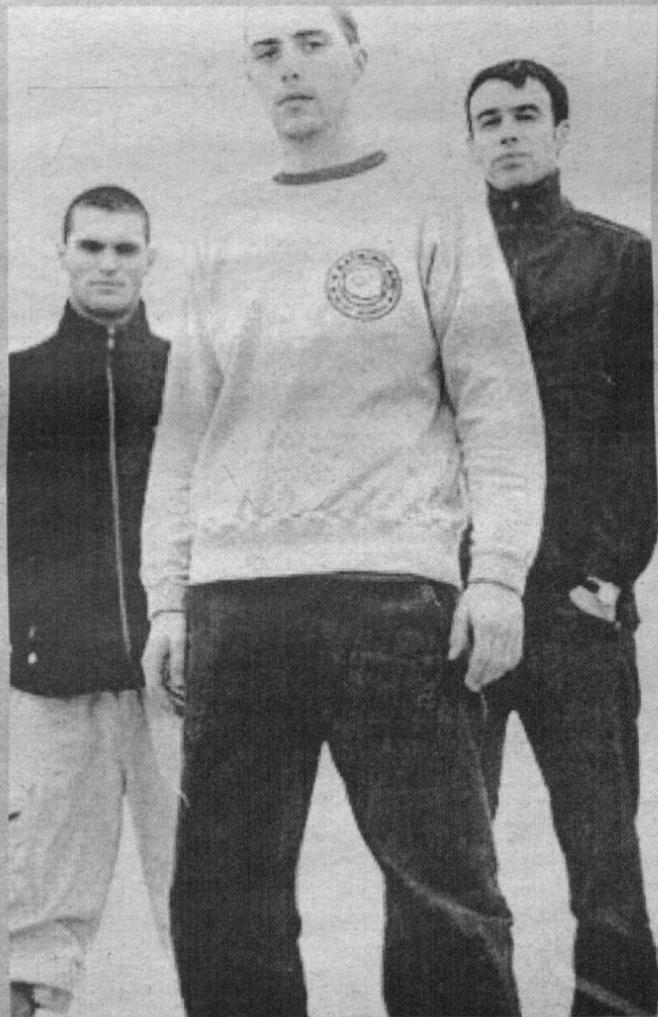
main man of Mo'Wax Records.

Lavelle signed the talented threesome in late 1998 and the band has been building quite a following in Britain ever since. South are just the next in the line of bands that prove that those crazy Brits across the Atlantic know good music. Not only do they know good music, but they know it first. Often, great American artists even receive recognition in the UK before they have any hits stateside.

The pedigree of British bands to come to America in recent memory (**Coldplay, Travis, Badly Drawn Boy, Doves**) is quite a high standard, and South prove that they are no exception. *From Here On In* will be the next rung on the ladder, the next mark for greatness, replacing the marks that **Radiohead** and **Coldplay** have made in recently. The blend of wonderful harmonies, beautifully powerful guitars, and an extremely tight rhythm section on *From Here On In* is a guarantee of perfection. The disc's opening tune, "Broken Head 1," with it's break-beat drums and synthesizer runs, transforms into the guitar heavy, catchy pop tune "Paint the Silence," and reels the listener in,

instantly calling for quotes like, "Wow, those guys are really good. Who are they?" or the ever infamous, "I don't like Brit-Pop, but who is that? They are incredible." Yeah, we know.

The band doesn't let up after that point, either. They continue to rock ceremoniously throughout the disc's stellar 16 tracks. It's hard to identify only a few standout tracks on a disc with this many great tunes, so it's going to be on you to buy the album and find out for yourself.

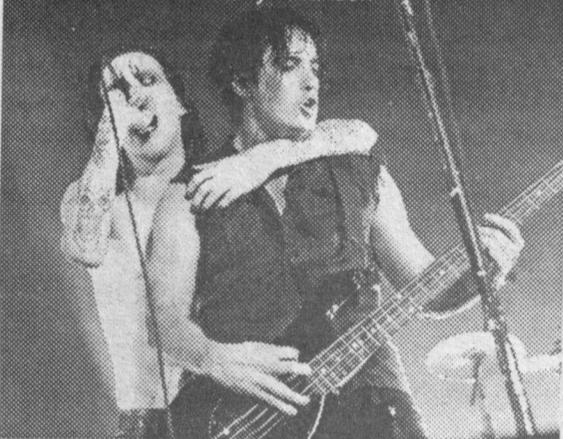


The twisted genius that is Trent Reznor has succeeded in reinventing himself again, only this time it's temporary. He has gone "unplugged" (well, as unplugged as NIN can be).

As a companion to the live CD/DVD "And all that Could have Been", Trent sat down with a few musicians and recorded some "deconstructed" versions of four of his old songs while writing four new piano based instrumentals and a new not-so-

NINE INCH NAILS STILL DECONSTRUCTED

Trent Reznor with Marilyn Manson

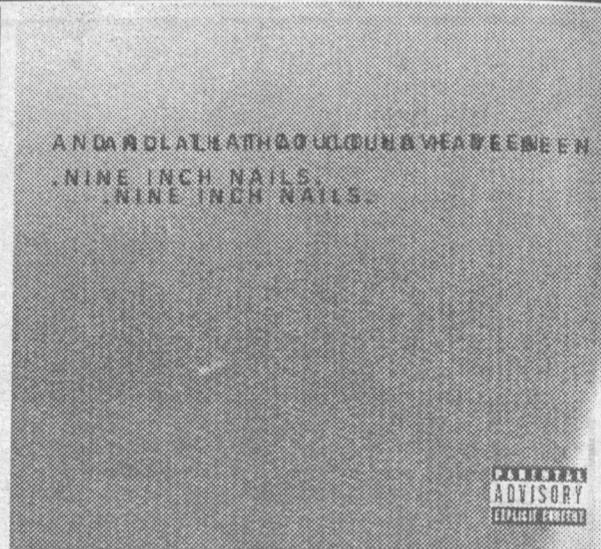


Aaron Werschulz
Insider Writer

deconstructed song. The result: A mind blowing CD entitled "Still".

The CD starts out with a new version of "Something I can Never Have", arguably one of Trent's best songs. You can hear his emotions as he pours out the last two lines of the song. "The Becoming" is redone too, and it's definitely the best version of this song out there. The two other tracks are grabbed from his recent release "The Fragile". One of them being the title track of the double CD (feel the power as the drums gradually make their first appearance in the album towards the end of this song) and "The Day the Whole World Went Away" which resembles slightly how the song is played live.

"And all that Could have Been" is a new song that Trent wrote, and it has its standard NIN excellence attached to



it. It has a very interesting break down relatively different for his standard sound just to keep us on our toes. The CD ends with two beautiful (that's right I said it) instrumentals.

So the CD is a must have, but do not look for it in your local CD store. It is only available through their web site at <http://www.nin.com> for about ten bucks plus shipping. Trust me, this is definitely worth your while.

Dream Theater Rocks the Beacon... Wait a Minute...

by Mix Masta Metal

It's a small, old, yet beautiful theater. The lights are up. The stage is set up, dominated by a mysterious heap of something under a black tarp. There are mullets everywhere. It's March 27th, the first of the prog metal gods **Dream Theater's** two-night stand at the Beacon Theater in New York City, the band's hometown. Now the lights go down, and the intro music comes up. The stage is still black, but you know what's going on. Finally, the stage lights flash on, and the band has begun and epic three-hour set that is sure to give almost any other musician in the world second thoughts about playing again.

The band (John Petrucci on guitar, Jordan Rudess on keys, Mike Portnoy on drums, John Myung on bass, and James LaBrie on vocals) is currently on their "World Turbulence 2002" tour to promote their 6th studio album, the two-disc epic "Six Degrees of Inner Turbulence". The only word I can use to describe the show is "Wow". The band opened with probably their heaviest tune to date, "The Glass Prison". This 13-minute epic follows the path of alcoholism, and shows that the band knows how to send a message within their incredibly complex music. Even with the heavy opener, the set was surprisingly mellow for them, as my personal favorites and usual concert staples "Caught in a Web", "The Mirror", and "Lie" were all absent. I heard through the grapevine that the band played the **Metallica's** album "Master of Puppets" as the encore for their show the next night, and although this is pretty much as metal as it gets, I'm grateful that set I saw was all originals. One other glaring error on the band's part was not to give a drum solo to Portnoy, who is considered by most of the rock community as the greatest drummer in the world. This is another trademark for the band, why it was absent I don't know. He named

his drum set the "Siamese Monster", and I would have liked to see him use it for a solo (the set has three bass drums and countless amounts of everything else and is basically the biggest drum set I've ever seen). But enough about the negative, let's go to the positive.

The band was flawless in their playing, as should be expected from a prog-metal band, and the only cover they did was a snippet of a **Rush** song that I couldn't identify. Most of their songs were well over five minutes long, with more than half clocking in at over ten minutes. After the opening tune, the band went into some older material, like "6:00" off the album "Awake", "Fatal Tragedy" from "Metropolis Part II: Scenes from a Memory" and a keyboard and guitar solo before playing their second song from "Six Degrees", "The Great Debate". To finish out the first set, they played "Peruvian Skies" from "Falling Into Infinity" (probably their most mainstream song) and the fan favorite "Pull Me Under" from "Images and Words".

Now a fifteen minute intermission...a faint...ahem...herbal" odor still permeates through the air, and the band promises to return. After a bathroom break and a three-dollar water, the show was ready to begin again.

The second set was a little shorter than the first, but there was a catch...it was only one song. The second disc and title track of their newest album, "Six Degrees of Inner Turbulence", is an eight-movement epic (that term seems to apply a lot to Dream Theater) that spans 42-minutes. The band played this song, which tells the story of a man's life-long journey into madness, and I was mesmerized, my mouth hanging open in awe for the entire thing. After this, they came out and did probably my favorite tune of their's for the first encore, "Home" off of "Scenes From a Memory". They continued the encore with "The Spirit Carries On" from "Scenes from a Memory" and they finished with a song that surprised to me, "Learning to Live" from "Images and Words".

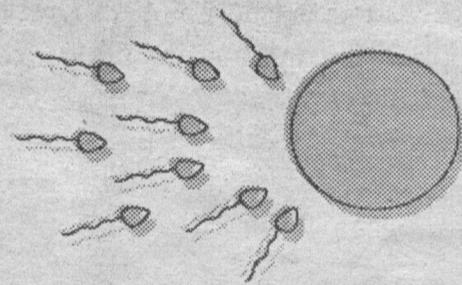
Overall, this was probably the best display of musicianship I will ever see. I can't go into too many specifics about the music, because there is just so much to talk about, and I have limited space here. So, here's the rundown of everything that went on: Petrucci's guitar work was a sick display of pure virtuosity, Jordan Rudess played the keyboard with unbridled passion, Portnoy was an incredible machine on the drums, Myung's bass playing was tireless, and LaBrie's vocals were hauntingly beautiful, full of emotion. The band played a total of seventeen songs in their three hours of time, and they were three of the most inspirational hours of my life. I will see Dream Theater again, oh yes...and I will again grovel at the feet of these gods.

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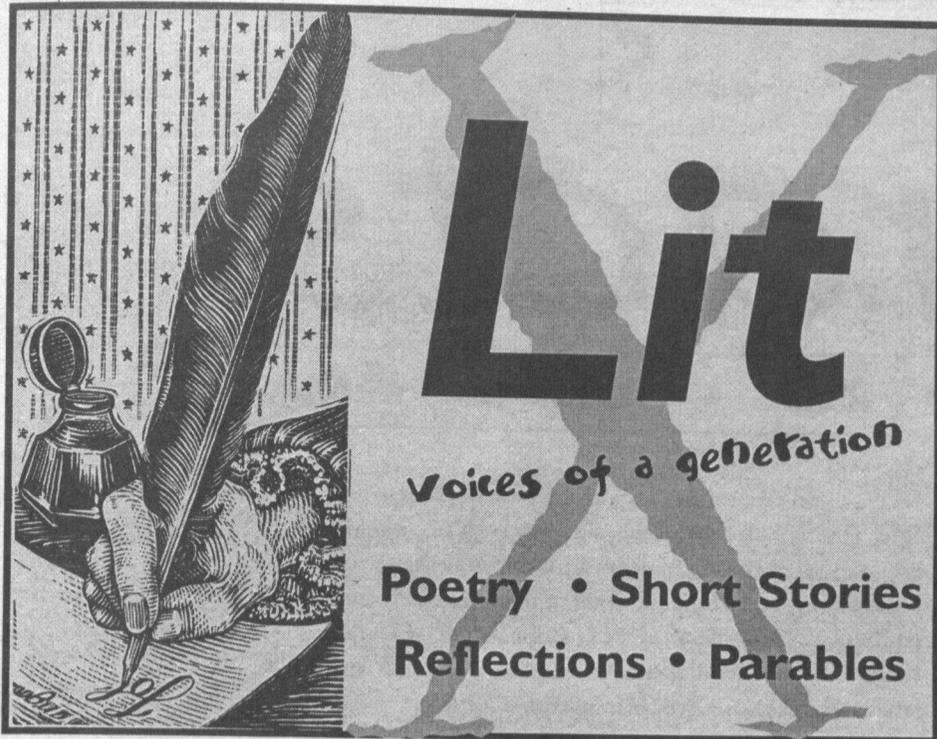
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Beacon

PICK OF THE WEEK

The Story of Our Lives
by Mark Strand
Knopf

Ah, I have finally returned to reading poetry, and I am very glad it was Mark Strand that I returned to. I am also very glad that three of Strand's books that are currently unavailable have been re-issued in one volume. *The Story of Our Lives* contains the book of the same name along with *The Monument* and *The Late Hour*, and it's about time they were brought back out. Strand is one of America's best poets (even if he is technically Canadian) and he deserves to be read more.

You can't help but feel there is a definite truth to everything Strand says. He is a very human poet and it comes through in the first book, which is basically a meditation on death. I read and re-read these poems over and over and still each time I feel affected by them. He sums up life through death.

The most interesting of the three texts is *The Monument*. Never having read this before, I can say my first thought is that it almost a futuristic religious text, but I don't know what religion. Maybe all of them. A Tao Te Ching - like vibe permeates this in lines such as "It is easy to lose oneself in nothing because nothing can interrupt and be noticed. Why do I do this?"

In my opinion, *The Monument* is the best piece of work Strand has done, even better than the Pulitzer-winning *Blizzard of One*. Big thumbs up for Mark Strand on this collection

John Findura
Lit Editor



THE STORY OF OUR LIVES
with
THE MONUMENT
and
THE LATE HOUR
MARK STRAND

Thoughts For Life

By Tanya Turdo

No one can go back and make a brand new start.

Anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

Disappointments are like road bumps, they slow you down a bit but you enjoy the smooth road afterwards. Don't stay on the bumps too long. Move on!

When you feel down because you didn't get what you want, just sit tight and be happy.

When something happens to you, good or bad, consider what it means.

There's a purpose to life's events, to teach you how to laugh more or not to cry too hard.

You can't make someone love you, all you can do is to be someone who can be loved, the rest is up to the person to realize your worth.

It's better to lose your pride to the one you love, than to lose the one you love because of pride.

We spend too much time looking for the right person to love or finding fault with those we already love, when instead we should be perfecting the love we give.

Never abandon an old friend. You will never find one who can take their place.

Friendship is like wine, it gets better as it grows older.

A Hug

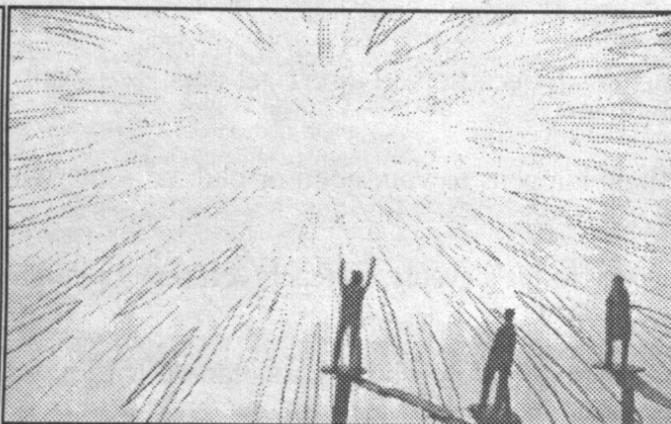
By Tanya Turdo

A HUG CAN EXPRESS AN OBVIOUS EMOTION, OR
ONE YOU NEVER KNEW...
IT CAN SAY, "I LOVE YOU," OR "PLEASE DON'T GO,"
"I'M SORRY," OR "I MISS YOU."
A TRUE EXPRESSION FROM THE HEART, A
HUG CAN PICK YOU UP, WHEN YOU FEEL
YOU HAVE FALLEN APART.
TO HELP EACH OTHER THROUGH THE DAYS
WE OTHERWISE COULDN'T BEAR, OR
TO LET SOMEONE KNOW YOU CARE
FOR THEM, AND WILL ALWAYS BE
THERE...
THAT'S WHY A HUG IS SO
EASY TO SHARE.

Abstracts

art • events • ideas • issues • whatever.....

WHITNEY Biennial 2002



Chris Johanson, Installation detail of "Untitled"

Johanson's installation piece is a site-specific work located in the stairwell of the Whitney. The piece tells a story and his narrative ascends up the staircase as the viewer walks up with it. Johanson uses combinations of 2-d pictorial artwork with 3-D crafts making to make a "diagram" effect with the artwork. Johanson is comical and optimistic at once, the comical look of the work balances out the depictions realities of modernity in urban life.

State of the Arts

Chris Moses
Abstracts Editor

Exhibition review? Art review? High art, or mediocre expressions. In writing this piece on the Whitney Biennial, located on 75th and Madison Ave. in New York City these questions arose in my mind and stuck there like a fly on wallpaper while I was looking at the artwork. The Biennial is the Whitney Museum of Art's major display of American contemporary art. This Biennial is the biggest in its history; 113 artists from 27 states and the commonwealth of Puerto

Rico have work displayed for this event. In the Introduction to the show the Whitney describes an American art any work made by a U.S. citizen or any art made within the borders of the U.S. The collection of work being displayed is eclectic and diverse. The mediums used range from "traditional" painting, to intensely abstracted video art, and even a sound exhibition where the sounds you hear become the paintbrush that produces sensory art. The overriding theme of the art shown, if any at all, is of these artists to create a personal art that evokes psychological reactions in the viewer. The artwork is about capturing the attention, using the chosen medium to produce a stylistic visual effect. Most of this artwork ranges on the extreme of this idea, as in Irit Batstry's film piece "These are not my images (Neither There nor Here)" The Film is based upon Batstry's personal displacement as an Indian-American. Batstry's film is both surreal and real, an intense combination of dreamlike homesickness and abstract combinations of film and video technique. I only use Batstry's work as one example; the majority of the Biennial's artwork shares the same sensibility of sensory over-

load. The art is catered to youthful tastes, it's rebellious and in many cases unconventional. David Shapiro, a Professor here at WPU told me that his wife attuned the Biennial to the same equivalent of seeing "rock show" Being contemporary; the artwork is a reflection of our time and the realities that these artists live within. This exhibition is an offering of what 's happening "right now" in American art.

The Biennial show itself is made of two main exhibitions, a gallery

uncontrollable situation such as the out of doors adds charm to the artwork. The best of these works is "Bluff" by Roxy Paine. "Bluff" is a 50-foot stainless steel tree, 5000 pounds of manufactured industrial godliness on earth. The work is spectacular, apart from the other pieces in the project, a branchy, metalous recreation of nature within the steel and concrete of New York City. The work is a fake within a fake, an artificial recreation of nature within the artificial leisure of Central Park.

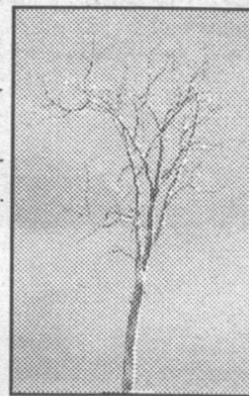
Coming back inside there is so much material to digest from so many angles its hard to feel completely comfortable within the show. My head was on the swivel, trying to take it all in at once. The large collection of video and performance media integrated with more traditional pictorial art is impossible to digest all in one visit. In The Biennial exhibition

to produce interactive, conceptual art. The piece, called "They Rule"

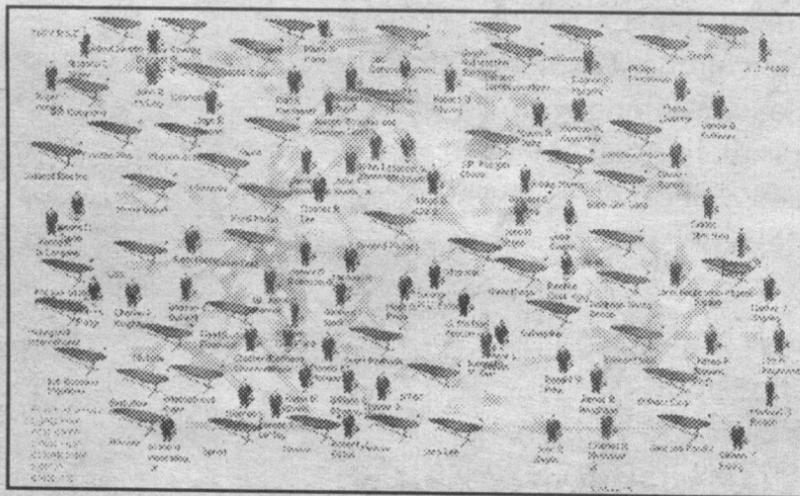
investigates the webs of corporate power relationships in this country. The participant makes "Maps" that diagrams the power structures and boards of directors of every major corporation in this country. The participant gets to play and do with them what they wish, similar to the way corporate "big wigs" are stereotyped as doing with those under them. This piece is trying to make the viewer aware that there is a definite ruling class

in America that shape our lives at the stroke of a pen. Mary Flanagan's "Collection" dives into the subconscious of the participant. By downloading the collection software, the collection will gather pieces of e-mails sent and other bits and pieces of data and put them all together in a virtual version of automatism; using moving 3-D phrases.

Again coming back to the earlier issue in this article, is this an exhibition of high art? Will our grandchildren be reading about these artists and works in art history books in the future? Without a justifiable "genius" working in the field now it's hard to tell; I'm sure a few will be. It's trendy in contemporary art to reject conventional reasoning and aesthetics in art for the sake of shock value and in favor of a youthful, rebellious sensibility. The work in this Whitney Biennial reflects this, but is also of America in the moment. The work is a signal of progression from the old, with a new generation holding the keys of doors with a new kind of picture in them.



Roxy Paine, "Bluff", 2002



Josh On and the Future Makers, "They rule" 2002, "Mapped" by Jim Schofield

show within the walls of the Whitney and an outside component, the Whitney Biennial In Central Park. The Central Park aspect of the Biennial consists of 5 sculptures linearly placed upon a 15 block stretch of Central Park. If the viewer decides to take this artistic nature hike of public art discovery, you're going to get a work out. The fifteen blocks of walking to view five austere pieces of art is seems mildly ridiculous, but if your in the mood for a stroll its not a bad idea to experience this aspect of the exhibition. The fact that the viewer is seeing a formal art exhibition in

also includes Net Art, a new concept and another example if this exhibition as state of art. The pieces can be experienced in the Whitney itself, or at home. Computers and Internet have become apart of everyday life in America. These artists seek to incorporate the aesthetics and properties of the streaming technology and interactivity of the Internet; same as the futurist and precisionist movements did with the changing American landscape during the early 20th century. In the work of Josh On and The Future Farmers, he uses the communication aspects of the medium



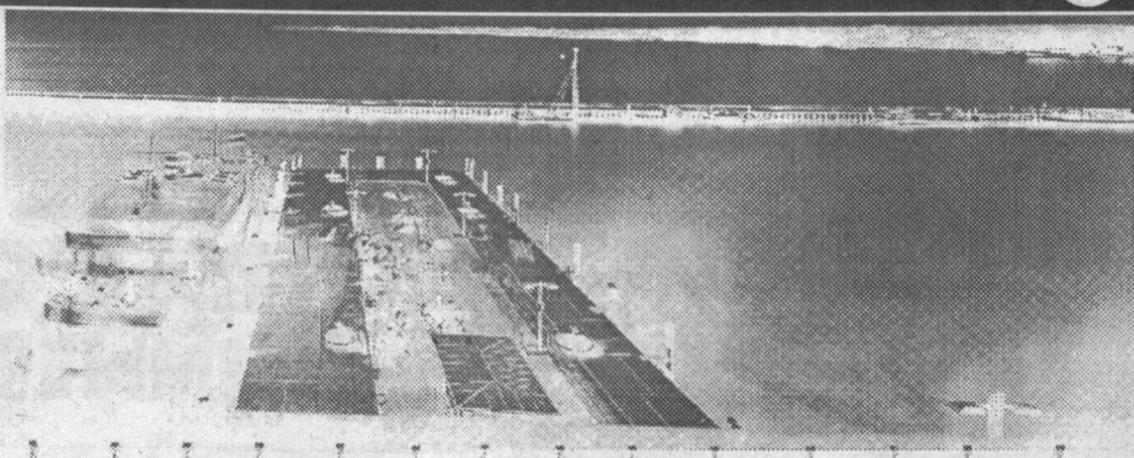
Irit Batstry, Film still from "These are not my images (Neither There nor Here)" 2000

Write for Abstracts !! send submissions to www.abstracts10@yahoo.com or bring them to SC310

WHITNEY biennial 2002 continued...

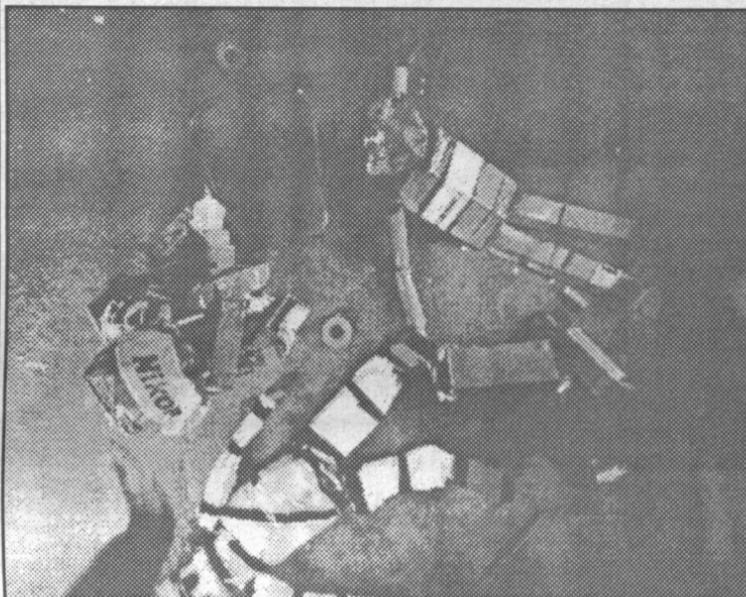
The Internet site that accompanies this exhibit is well organized and comprehensive. Every artist in the Biennial is listed on the site with samples of their work and biographies included. The viewers can listen to the artist talk about their own work as well, adding a direct link to the artwork that is rare and lends greater clairvoyance of the artists work. This impressive touch allows the viewer to scout out artwork before hand and look for it in the show, or after the viewer has seen it and gone home more information can be found. There is such a diversity of mediums in the work of the Biennial that anyone can find something likeable in this show. Traditional painting makes rare appearances though Gerry Snyder's Main Feature is a pleasant surprise among the sparkly glitz of the other work. Snyder's painting is a hybrid of new and old on several levels. Snyder applies lavishly colored, (the black and white image does this work no justice) Neo-Classical painting techniques, in the mold of Neo-Classical artists like Poussin or David. Snyder depicts the Biblical story of Lot in movie like sequences using personal and idiosyncratic character adaptations. Snyder's work combines timeless storytelling

Gerry Snyder, "Main Feature" (first panel) Oil on Canvas 2001

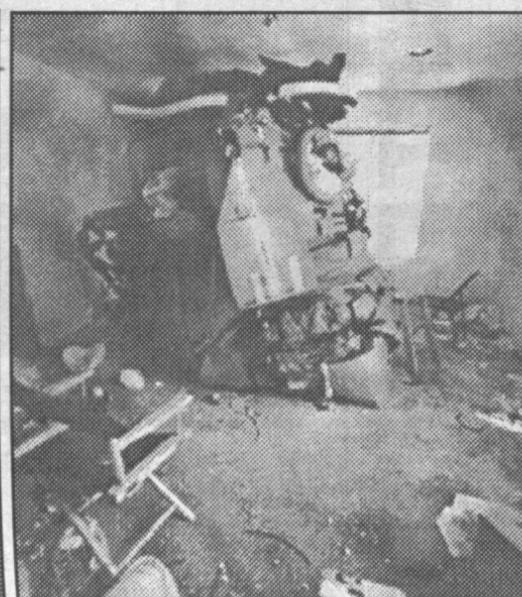


Vera Lutter, "Friedrichshafen, Harbor I, August 22-23, 1999" Negative print

packaged with dream-like hallucinogenics. The dark sensibiltied photography work of Hirsch Perlman is both interesting and freakishly morbid. Perlman creates figures out of moving materials such as moving boxes and duct tape, photographs them in the room with him, then torture sand destroys them each day. Perlman shoots the photos made out of the same moving materials. The nightmarish figures he creates come alive within the space they are contained in, Perlman in his diary for the work treats them as they are alive; similar to the way Tom Hanks humanized his volleyball "Wilson" in the movie *Castaway*. Perlman's pictures have a morbid resemblance to crime scene photos shot in broken down apartments. Perlman documents the trails and tribulations of his friends for 100 strait days. For the culminating photo of the set, he puts all constructed figures together in one mass head, then



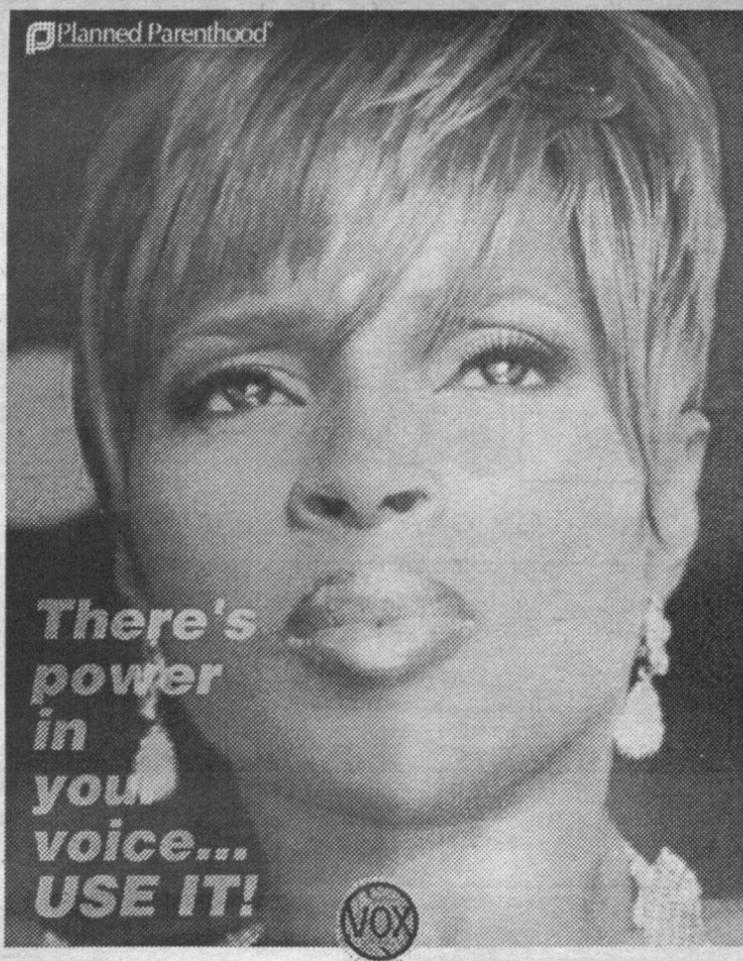
Hirsch Perlman, 2001 "Day 16.1, 1998" 2001



Hirsch Perlman "Day 101.2, 1998"

It's ON!!

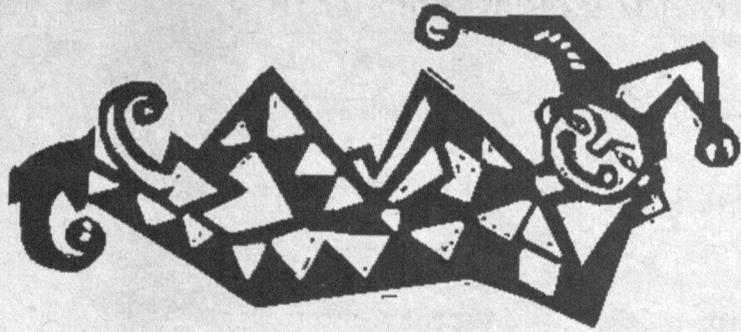
Backtracking to an earliar article, masterminds of the WPU Easter Egg Hunt Art Majors Cory Myers and Dave Matheson will finally have their day! On Tuesday, April 9, as advertised here at Abstracts the two will be splattered by eggs. Come to the scupture garden in front of Science Hall at 5:30 to witness the inhumanity!!! Don't miss it!! Its gonna be a blood-bath.....



MARY J. BLIGE

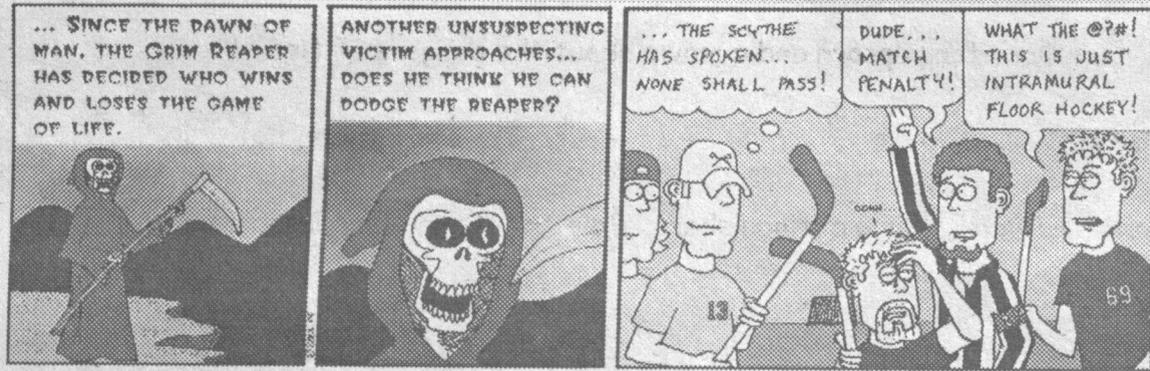
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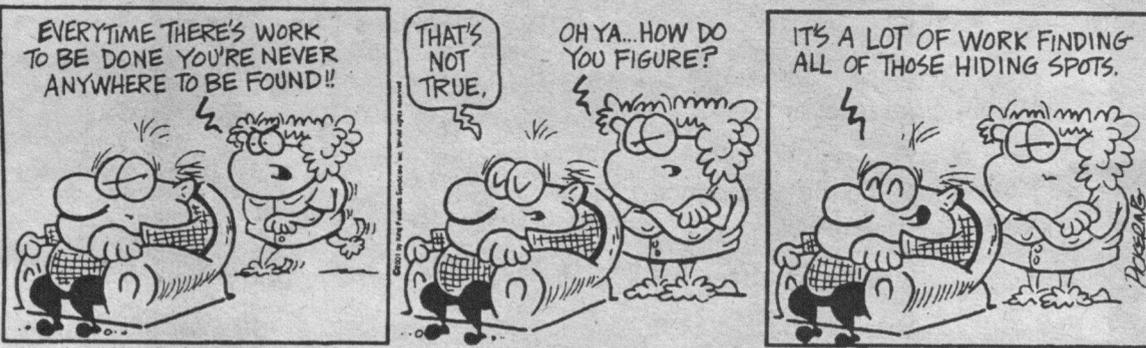
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"She has a crush on this kid named 'Harry Potter.'"



"Should I just write everything?"



"Relax! I KNOW there's a baby in there somewhere!"

Fire Prevention Theme Week
William Paterson University 2002

Schedule of Events for the Week of Monday April 8th to Friday April 12th

- Monday, April 8** 9:00 PM Towers Large Lounge
Leading the Blind
 Come and experience escaping darkness. Using your tactile sense abilities, you will be challenged to escape a dark room.
- Tuesday, April 9** 12:00pm to 2:00pm/ 6:00pm to 8:00pm Student Center
FYI Towers Large Lounge
 Don't forget to pick up your Fire Prevention Theme Week Brochure in the Student Center during common hour and in the Towers Pavilion from 6pm to 8pm.
- Tuesday, April 9** 9:00 PM Towers Large Lounge
Back Draft
 Cozy up with RAS Jess Volin, Liz Wilson and Colleen Dorn for popcorn and a movie about the dangers of fire.
- Wednesday, April 10** 7:00 PM Towers Parking Lot
Fire Extinguisher Demonstration
 Come and see for yourself the different capacities of various fire extinguishers. Join the Wayne Fire Department in a fire extinguisher demonstration.
- Wednesday, April 10** 7:00 PM Science Building
Save A Dummy Win a Prize
 Would you like to wear the boots? Ever dreamed of being a firefighter? Here is your chance to be one for the night. Join North Haledon Fire Department in a save a dummy contest. Participants will have to wear complete Fireman gear and drag a dummy in danger to a specific location. Prizes will be given.
- Wednesday, April 10** 7:00 PM Science Building
Smoke Out
 Ever wondered what it feels like to be in a room full of smoke and unable to get out? Here is your chance to experience what those unfortunately involved in a fire have gone through. You will have the opportunity to enter the smoke trailer and try to exit the trailer despite of the smoke.
- Wednesday, April 10** 9:00 PM Towers Large Lounge
Wrap UP/QA Session
 We'll see you at 9:00pm right after the Save a Dummy Win a Prize event.
- Thursday, April 11** Time and Location To Be Announced
Career Day
 If you're wondering what does it take to be a firefighter, a paid firefighter or a volunteer firefighter, don't miss this session. Flyers will be posted throughout campus
- Thursday, April 11** 7:00 PM Towers Large Lounge
Towering Inferno
 A skyscraper and an all-star cast go up in flames. This brilliant dramatic motion picture earned 8 Oscar nominations. Don't miss this amazing thriller. We'll provide the popcorn.
- Friday, April 12** 7:00 PM Towers Pavilion
Double Dodge
 Come play one of your favorite childhood games in memory of those who have been affected by fire. Prizes will be awarded.
- Friday April 12** 9:00PM Towers Large Lounge
9/11
 For those who missed the 9/11 WCBS New York Channel 2 television special, here is your chance to see the event that made history.

Brought to you by the Department of Residence Life,
North Haledon Fire Department, Wayne Fire Department

RAS Liz Wilson, Jess Volin, Nneka Orjiekwe, Tanya Suarez, Colleen Dorn, Joey Mocera, Maggy Duff and Renee Laraia



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Barbara Smith Lecture - Thursday, April 11, 2002. 4:15pm - 6:00pm. Machuga Student Center, 324-25. Sponsored by Department of Women's Studies, Women's Center, Feminist Collective, AAACS, Race & Gender Project, and SGA.

2002 Annual NJ College Student SHABBATON
Together under the Stars - Friday, April 12 - Sunday April 14. Registration/Check in begins at 4:00pm. To register or for information call Michal Kaye at 973-736-3200 ext. 288.

8th Annual FILM FESTIVAL
May 3rd, 2002 @ 6:00pm Hobart Hall 140A. FREE Admission Funded by SGA.

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The SGA office is located in the Student Center 332.

We can be reached at ext. 2157.

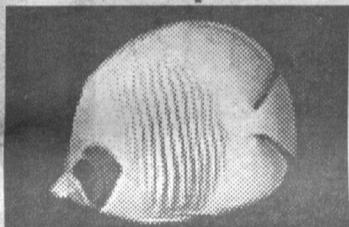
www.wpunj.edu/sga



The weather is getting warmer and thoughts of hitting the beach will most likely start crossing your mind. Before you lather up with SPF 15 and watch the waves, take some action to save the endangered life that lives under the water.

Joelle Caputa
Eco Lounge Editor

Coral reefs are just one of the vanishing works of nature's art that need to be saved. It is estimated that by the year 2050, over 70 percent of coral reefs will have died.



Try not to stir up sediment on the sea bottom because it can smother live coral.

As if appearance was not reason enough not to litter on the beach,

avoid doing so because it gets into the water and further pollutes.

Think it doesn't matter if coral reefs are

These beautiful life forms are being killed by humans, however, they can be saved by them as well.

The US Department of Commerce just donated \$34 million to reef conservation, more still needs to be done.

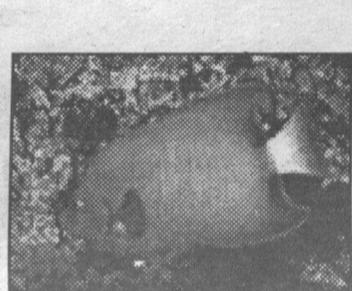
Here's how you can take action:

Stop using chemically enhanced fertilizers and pesticides. They eventually wind up in waters where reefs live.

When out on your boat, don't drop anchor on a reef. Opt for a mooring buoy.

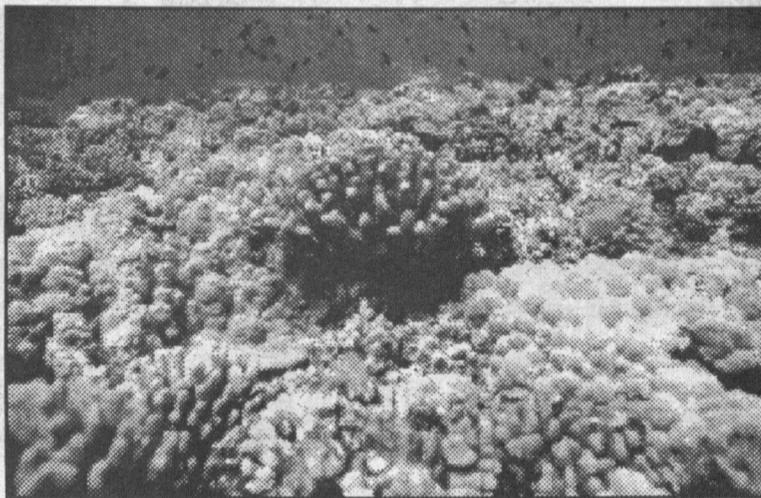
When diving, never touch coral or take some as a souvenir back to land.

Try not to stir up sediment on the sea bottom because it can smother live coral.



Earth Alert!!!

WE MAY LOSE THE CURE FOR CANCER ALONG WITH CORAL REEFS



ing broken bones.

Coral reefs are not the only endangered life forms in nature that need to be saved.

Everything somehow benefits humans and without them, we too can become endangered.

It may not seem like that at first thought, however, as

you read this, how many of you knew that the cure for cancer may lie in reefs?

Education is the first step to saving the world. Then, action can be taken by those who care for the cause.

Write for Eco Lounge and tell the readers of the Beacon a cause close to your

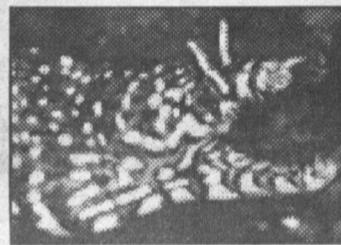
heart and what we can do to help. All you have to do is email your article to beacon@student.wpunj.edu.

around or not? Think again! Reefs bring about \$400 million into the US each year.

Reefs in Florida draw tourists, which creates jobs for instructors.

Fish live by reefs, but there's even more sources of food that come from them. For example, algae used in ice cream comes from coral reefs. Imagine summers without ice cream...

Or imagine there never being a cure for cancer. Reef compounds are being studied to find potential cures for cancer. And the skeletons of coral can be used for heal-



WASHINGTON, DC, April 3, 2002 (ENS) - Sixteen of the largest national environmental groups today announced an intensive month long public education campaign, coinciding with the traditional observance of Earth Day on April 22, to educate the public about recent and current efforts by the Bush administration to weaken environmental protections.

In a statement released announcing the campaign, the groups warned, "Behind closed doors and away from public view, the Bush administration is allowing big corporations to weaken our nation's environmental laws, so they can put more pollution in our air, put more poison in our water, cut down our national forests, damage our public lands, and make taxpayers, rather than polluters, foot the bill for cleaning up toxic wastes."

Over the course of the month of April the groups will conduct a series of events focusing on specific examples of efforts to weaken envi-

BUSH ADMINISTRATION TARGET OF EARTH DAY 2002 CAMPAIGN

ronmental laws covering clean air, toxic waste, nuclear waste, wildlife, forests, public lands, and clean water.

The groups will continue their efforts to focus public attention on the Bush administration's anti-environmental energy plan with newspaper and TV ads and video news releases, new reports documenting the problems, plus activism and special websites that will encourage public involvement.

The first of the several issue specific days will be a major Earth Day initiative focusing on clean air tomorrow at the National Press Club. A coalition of groups will release a new report detailing increased air pollution from power plants, and will highlight specific instances where the Bush administration, behind closed doors, is

allowing the utility companies to weaken enforcement of the Clean Air Act. A new website has been created for this campaign: <http://www.savethecleanairact.org/>

National groups that are a part of this general Earth Day campaign include: American Oceans Campaign, Defenders of Wildlife, Earthjustice, Environmental Working Group, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace, League of Conservation Voters, National Environmental Trust, National Parks Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, Natural Resources Defense Council, Ocean Conservancy, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Sierra Club, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, and The Wilderness Society.

For more on the Earth Day campaign effort, visit the environmental community's collaborative website for environmental activism: <http://www.saveourevironment.org/>

"The Earth was not given to you by God, it was loaned to you by your children." -Ancient Proverb

"If you want your children to grow up in a beautiful world you will help save it by writing for Eco Lounge and inspiring people to take action." -The Beacon

send all articles to beacon@student.wpunj.edu

April 22 is Earth Day!!!

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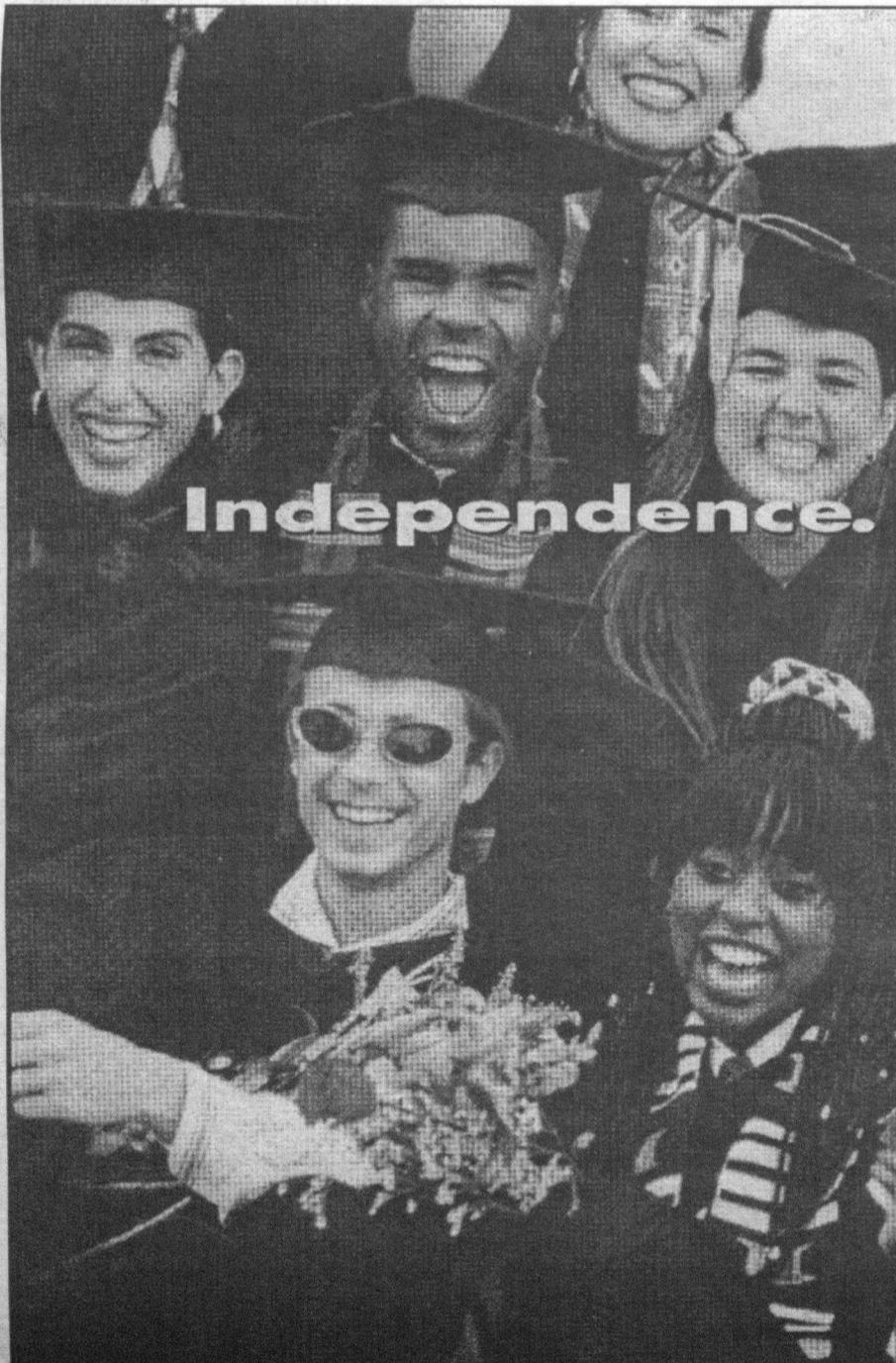
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The YWCA is currently seeking enthusiastic camp counselors for "SUMMER 2002" for our day/resident camp in Harriman State Park, NY and our day camps in Bergen County. Experience working with children a must. Room and board or transportation available. Call Lisa (201)444-5600 ext. 346 EOE.

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Summer Day Camp Counselor: Group Counselors, lifeguards/swim instructors, activity instructors. Spend an active summer outdoors! Warren Township (Somerset Co.) 908-647-0664, rvrbd1@aol.com. Apply online at www.campriverbend.bunk1.com.

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Children's summer day camp is looking for college students to work as counselors. Great for all majors especially Educ, Phys. Ed, Psych, Soc. Gain valuable field experience for your resume while working outdoors in a fun envir. Camper ages 3 to 12. Located Bergen/Rockland border. Also swim, horseback, rockclimb avail. Call Brian/Paul 201-444-7144 or Ramapocamp@aol.com.

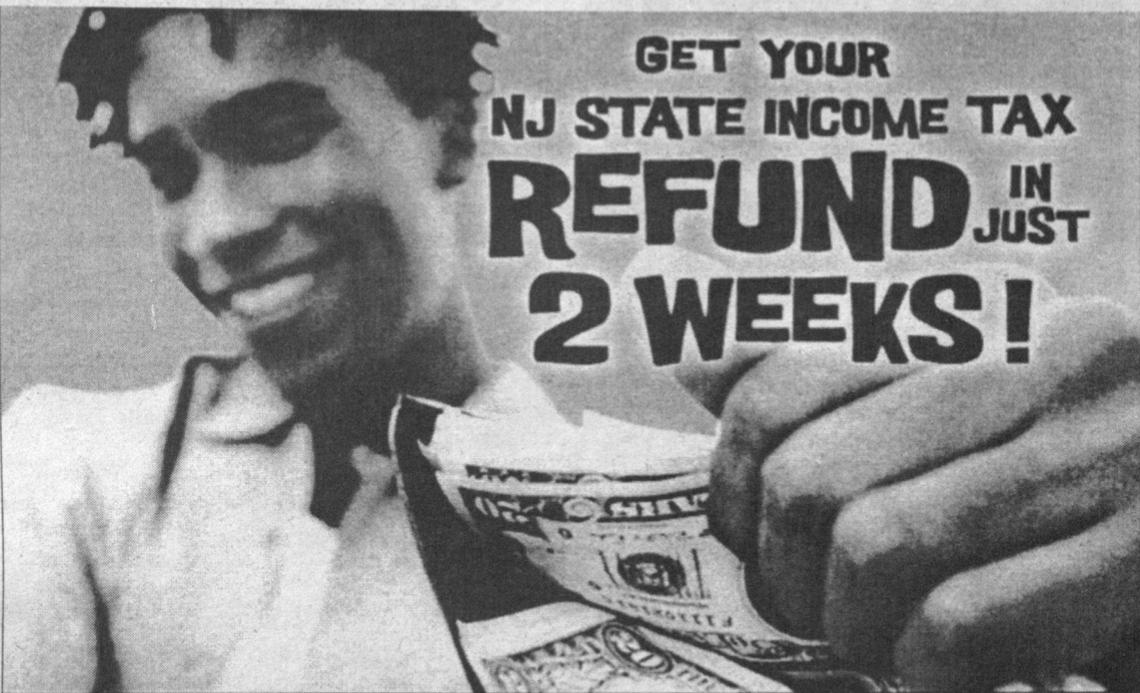
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Pioneers Softball shuts out Hunter College

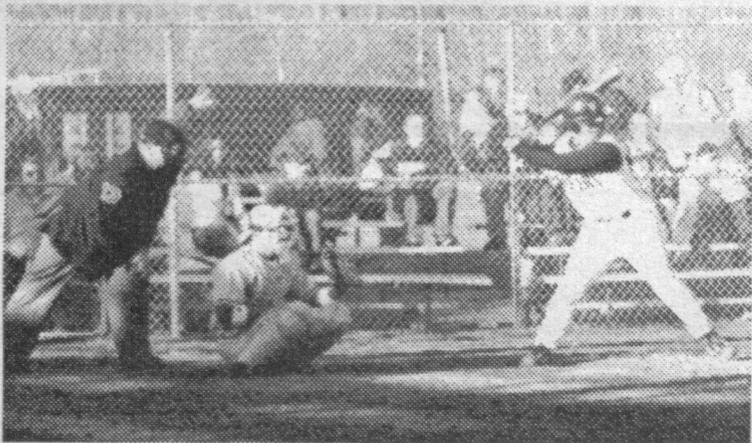


photo by Jennifer Baum

Matt DeFranza
Sports Editor

Thursday's softball double header against the Hunter Hawks (6-9) gave new definition to the term "beat-down". With a 8-0 win in their first game, and a 12-0 win in their second, the Pioneers (12-6) proved that Hunter was no match for them. Both games were over early due

to "mercy rule" of 8 runs before the fifth inning.

In both of the games, due to the exceptional defense by the Pioneers, the inning went by VERY fast. The first game was perfect for WPU's #36 Sam Kszepka (or "the Babe Ruth of softball", as I like to call her). She pitched 7 strikeouts, and with the help of her teammates, did not allow one player on base, allowing her to earn her

first perfect game. On top of this, her stats are phenomenal. Prior to the double header against Hunter, she led the team with a batting average of .512, and an Earned Run Average of 1.45. She also has had 20 strikeouts, 22 hits, five wins, and two shutouts.

One of the most interesting thing I saw in the first game would be the amount of times that the Pioneers managed to steal home. Out of their eight runs, six of them came from a player stealing home, usually on the case of a dropped ball by Hunter's catcher. Eventually, Hunter got smart and substituted her out, even though they chose to put in #17 Krystallynn Leonard, who normally plays outfield.

The Pioneers took a fast commanding lead early on in the second inning with three runs. Unlike the second game, it wasn't until the bottom of the fifth that the Pioneers clinched the win. The second game was

decided much earlier, after scoring six runs in the bottom of the first, followed by another three in the bottom of the second. At this point, hunter began getting down on themselves, though they did not completely give up. They had a couple of nice chance to score, but couldn't capitalize because of the Pioneers' strong defense.

If it wasn't the stolen bases that did Hunter in, like in the first game, the second would have to have been cause by the lack of catching ability in the field. I counted at least 12 dropped balls, though it would not surprise me if there were more because I decided to stop keeping count. In addition to that, Hunter also had to deal with the awesome hitting by the Pioneers. #36 Sam Kszepka managed a triple and a double, both of which were extremely close to going over the center field fence. #18 Liz Carroll and #30 Jen Menges also had triples that helped the Pioneers pull

out a commanding lead so early.

The Pioneers' next two softball games will be held on Saturday, April 6 against Richard Stockton at 1:00pm, and Tuesday April. 9 against Montclair State at 3:00p.. Both games will be double headers, so come out and support the team!



photo by Jennifer Baum

Jordan urges FIFA to bar Israel

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) -- Jordan wants soccer's governing body to ban Israel from international soccer in the same way it once barred South Africa because of apartheid.

The Jordanian Football Association said in a letter obtained Wednesday its request to FIFA was prompted by Israel's military escalation against the Palestinians and refusal to abide by U.N. resolutions and withdraw from Palestinian territories.

"In order to uphold its banner of 'fair play,' the entire football community should freeze Israel's participation in this noble sport," JFA president Prince Ali said in a two-page letter dated Tuesday.

FIFA spokesman Andreas Herren said he could not confirm if Ali's letter had been received.

"I don't have any formal reaction yet from our side," he said.

The ban should remain "until such time when Israel abides by international law, United Nations resolutions and the will of the world and restores the dignity and freedom to the occupied people of Palestine," Ali said in his letter.

Ali is a half brother of Jordan's King Abdullah II. He is in charge of an elite commando unit supervising the security of the monarch.

Ali also is head of the West Asian Football Federation, which groups Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Jordan and the Palestinian territories.

Jordan threatened on Monday to take unspecified measures in its relations with Israel, ratified under a 1994 peace treaty.

WORLD CUP TEAMS TO BE ANNOUNCED

Matt DeFranza
Sports Editor

In a little less than two months, the world will finally know who will be playing for each of the 32 teams in the 2002 World Cup. The final rosters for the 32 teams in the World Cup are to be announced May 24.

FIFA decided on Wednesday that the lists will be released two days after the national teams

must submit their teams on May 22. Each country is allowed 23 players, including three goalkeepers.

The delay in releasing the lists is due to the move by FIFA's staff from its Zurich headquarters to offices in South Korea and Japan, FIFA spokesman Andreas Herren said.

The World Cup opens May 31 in Busan, South Korea, and ends June 30 in Yokohama, Japan.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

Christi Gradwell
The Beacon

Introducing the newest addition to the your student newspaper::drumroll::The Athlete's Spotlight. Consider this an opportunity to finally get your fifteen minutes of fame as a Willy P athlete. This week we shine the light on freshman Keith Diaz, an outdoor track star under the expertise of coach Horace Perkins.

Event: 800 meter run

Height: 6'1"

Weight: 160

Hometown: Edison, NJ

Hobbies: Running and music

Years competing: 5

Individual strength in the sport: Dedication

Individual weakness: Mentally folding in th middle of a race

Team's strengths: "We are very strong in the distance and sprinting events, which resulted in our team setting numerous school records this winter. Based on our previous success, our team has confidence that we have the ability to set fresh records for the spring season."

Team's weakness: "Due to the lack of athletes participating in field events, our team does not do well in those events durnign a meet."

Season's expectations: "Our season officially begins this Saturday down at Stockton. We have all put in a lot of hard work and hope to be one of the elite teams in the conference. And of course, we hope to win."



Kieth Diaz

photo by Matt DeFranza

Closing comments: "Montclair State is going down!"

Do you know of an athlete who deserves recognition? If so, contact The Beacon at beacon@student.wpunj.edu

April 16

The Anthropology Department would like to invite the University community to the **First Annual Anthropology Student Colloquium.**

1:00pm in Student Center
Rooms 203-205
Contact Dr. Thomas Gundling at x2566
or gundlingt@wpunj.edu

The Beacon

Beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Student Center
310

(973)-720-2248

If you like sports, and you go to games, why don't you write about it? We'll make you famous!! spot down at the Student Center Room 312, or submit articles to beacon@student.wpunj.edu