

The Beacon

W E E K L Y



MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2002

William Paterson University • Volume 68 No. 22

FREE

FORMER BEACON EDITOR INDICTED

By Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

Ryan Caiazzo, former editor-in-chief of The Beacon, was indicted on two counts of theft on Tuesday, April 8. According to the indictment handed up by the grand jury, Caiazzo allegedly stole \$50,000 in advertising revenue that the paper had collected.

The indictment contains two counts—one count of theft by deception, and one count of theft by failure to make required disposition of property received. \$40,000 of the money was used to purchase new office equipment for the newspaper; however, Caiazzo allegedly used at least \$10,000 of the money for personal expenses, such as clothes, food, and trips.

During his term as editor-in-chief, Caiazzo opened up an unauthorized bank account in which to deposit the advertising money. All money collected by The Beacon is supposed to be deposited into a Student Government Association (SGA) account, where it is earmarked for use by The Beacon.

Caiazzo used the money in the unauthorized account to pay for expenses incurred by The Beacon, as well as for his own personal use.

While Caiazzo has been indicted, John Snowden, Jr., Passaic County acting chief assistant prosecutor, says that a trial won't happen for quite some time. "The trial...won't be for a while. I say at least six months," said Snowden. He also indicated that current staff members would not be involved in the trial.

Neither Caiazzo, nor his attorney Carl Perrone, could be reached for comment during the writing of this story, but in a recent interview with the Herald News, Perrone remarked, "I don't think Ryan did anything that was illegal." University officials had no comment.

The University discovered the unauthorized account in February 2001 when a bad check meant for deposit in the Beacon's account was returned to the University by mistake. University administrators began investigating The Beacon's financial practices and discovered the separate account Caiazzo opened.



Ryan Caiazzo

file photo

Caiazzo opened the account in May 2001 after taking over as editor-in-chief. During that time, The Beacon was involved in a controversy surrounding the publication of its yearly parody

issue, The Bacon. The issue, which lampooned the reaction many university employees and students had over a Holocaust-denial advertisement that ran in the paper earlier that year, was deemed to be insensitive and offensive by the University, which quickly denounced the paper and pulled advertising from it. Currently, the University has returned to advertising with the paper.

The Beacon is the independent, student-run newspaper of William Paterson University. The Beacon generates all of its money from advertising revenue and receives no financial support from the SGA or the University administration.

Editor's Note

Please turn to page 7 for a brief editorial regarding this story.

—LC

The Mind of a Graphic Design Major

Patty Kunath
Beacon Production Asst.

Del Almeida has spent five years in college and he's not even done. Yet this year he won the \$1,000 grand prize in package design from The Art Directors Society. Here is an interview taking place on the way to a Coney Island show where the Multi Purpose Solution is playing...

Part One

Patty: Hey Del, thanks for taking the time to do this special interview.

Del: It's ok Patty, I really have nothing else to do. Somebody call me and invite me out please.

P: So what was the first thing that went through your mind when you found out you won the grand prize?

D: I was kinda happy but otherwise I was thinking about the middle school production of Grease I would see in a few hours.

P: Do you think this is your greatest accomplishment yet?

D: Well one time I stalked Woody Allen down a Manhattan street, but this is a close



second.

P: That's interesting

D: Oh, that's not a question.

P: I know. Do you feel any different now?

D: Yes, but not because of this.

P: What exactly is your major?

D: I'm a bachelor of Fine Arts with a concentration in Graphic Design. But due to my aforementioned five year stay, I could probably pull off a minor in underwater

basket weaving.

P: What do you think of the Art Department? Has it shaped you into a better graphic designer?

D: The only good thing about the Art Department is Professor Angela DeLaura and she has shaped me into a good designer.

P: So how are you planning on spending all that money?

D: Oh the usual whores and cocaine.

P: Is that so?

D: No unfortunately its only scholarship money that goes to tuition. But that's \$1,000 more I don't have to spend which can go towards whores and cocaine.

Part Two:

Interview resumes four hours later after the show. The MPS were as energetic as usual and the show was fun...

P: What inspires your art?

D: Usually what my professor tells me to do.

P: What are you planning to do when you graduate? And when is that?

D: Well I'll be graduating in a year if I'm

lucky. I plan to be a horse whisperer.

P: And what is that?

D: It's like Robert Redford in that movie!

P: What movie?

D: The Horse Whisperer!

Vik: For all the bachelorettes out there, are you available?

D: I'm currently split from my second wife, but things don't look too good. In a few months I should be legally available

P: Do you work? If so where?

D: An intern at Russ Berrie and an STC (Student Technology Consultant) on campus.

P: Do you use your art in those jobs?

D: Yes I do. I design at Russ and help people design stuff as an STC. It's fulfilling spiritually and religiously.

P: Are you religious?

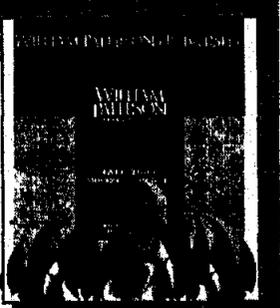
D: No I'm an atheist

P: Well I'm running out of room so I guess its time to wrap this up. Any last words?

D: Yes, I just want all the ladies to know I'm growing my hair out and it's a new look for me. I wanna give a shout out to my hommie Striker Singe.

Diversity

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from the Shoebox
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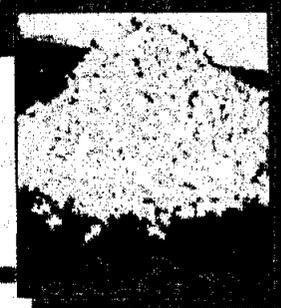
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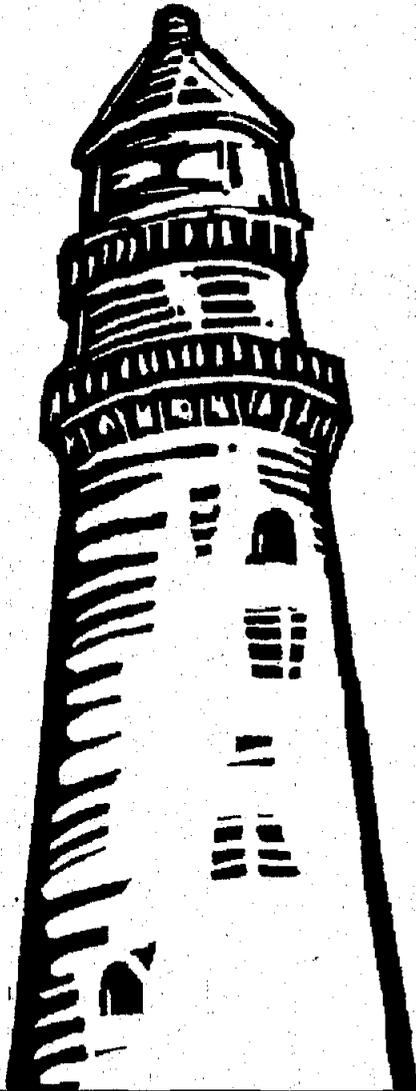
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The Beacon

WEEKLY



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Member



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The Beacon is the independent, student-run newspaper serving the community of William Paterson University and outlying areas. *The Beacon* is published and distributed on Monday. *The Beacon* does not receive any funding from WPU, the Student Government Association or any university affiliate, and raises all its operations revenues from the sale of paid advertisements. *The Beacon* is registered with the County of Passaic, NJ.

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Printed on recycled and recyclable newspaper.



The Beacon office is wheelchair accessible and friendly.



Produced on Apple



Monday 04-15

Junior Day Open House
10am-1pm BR
Call x2900

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

The Musical "Working"
8pm Shea
Call x2371

Tuesday 04-16

SGA: Court of Judicial Review mtg.
3:30-5:30pm SC215

SGA: Finance Committee mtg.
12:30-2:00pm SC324-5

SGA: Public Relations mtg.
3:30-5:00pm SC326

The Musical "Working"
12:30pm Shea
Call x2371

Baseball vs. FDU Madison
3:30pm x2547

Wednesday 04-17

Students of Color Brunch
10am-3pm
Ballroom Call x2900

Toastmasters Club mtg.
4:45pm College Hall 312
Call x3021

SAPB mtg.
5pm SC 203
Call x3259

Thursday 04-18

Study Skills Workshop
12:30-1:30pm
Hunziker Wing 237

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

Hospitality Service Vendor Day
9am-5pm Ballroom

Softball vs. Muhlenberg
3pm DH x3016

Friday 04-19

Baseball vs. Rutgers Newark
3:30pm x2547

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

Student Research Conference
Time and Location TBA
Call x2157

Saturday 04-20

Baseball vs. Rowan
Noon DH

Canoeing/Camping in Pine Barrens
Call x2488

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.
Fax: 973-720-2093
Email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Sunday 04-21

Confirmation Mass followed by Communion Breakfast at LaNeve's
CCM Center x3524

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

William Paterson Remembers the Holocaust

By Lori Michael
Asst. News Editor

On Tuesday, April 9th people were probably asking themselves, as they walked outside the Student Center, "Why are there people reading names?" or "Why are they reading the same name twice?" Tuesday marked Holocaust Remembrance Day (or, in Hebrew, Yom Ha'Shoa). Tuesday was also the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Throughout the day, Hillel read over 15,000 names from among a list of 6 million victims. The Devil's Arithmetic, starring Kirsten Dunst, was shown in the library during common hour.

A lecture about Eugenics, Genocide in Tibet, and Genetics concluded the Day of Remembrance. The featured speakers were Professor Peter Stein of Sociology; Dr. George Eisen, with special guest speaker Robert Wageman, a survivor from the T-4 Program during the Holocaust; Dr. Marie Friquegnon of Philosophy; and Dr. Miryam Wahrman of Biology.

The lecture began with Professor Stein's talk on Eugenics and the ideal of the Aryan race that Hitler was so dedicated to accomplishing. Eugenics is the study of hereditary improvement of the human race by controlled selective breeding. Hitler wanted an Aryan race consisting of blonde hair and blue-eyed Germans, which many consider ironic because Hitler had neither blond hair nor blue eyes. To secure this racial ideal Hitler implemented the "Final Solution," essentially a massive Eugenics experiment to eliminate undesirable strains, including Jews, Gypsies, Homosexuals, the infirm, Slavs and other groups, from the blood of the German People.

Eugenics was developed in the United States during the Industrial Revolution and follows Darwin's "Survival of the Fittest" philosophy. Mixing with immigrants would mean that there would be a high population, crime, and immorality. In the 1920s, when the Ku Klux Klan was at its height, the practice of Eugenics was on the rise. Sterilization was practiced in 27 states, sometimes with the individuals not even knowing the procedure was being performed

on them.

The American practice of Eugenics highly influenced the Germans. Rockefeller was one of the many who helped fund the practice in the U.S.

During his Eugenics speech, Dr. Wahrman read an excerpt from "The Nazi Doctors," which is based on Eva Core's experience with the Nazi experiments. Her family was murdered during the Holocaust. The excerpt was about how humans were being used as guinea pigs during experiments in Auschwitz, which was one of the many concentration/death camps where people were tortured in gas chambers, slaved in the fields, starved, and died. Dr. Wahrman went on reading how Eva Core described this horrific place "(...) with the smell of burning flesh, dead bodies everywhere, and rats. No one explained why they were there." A few days before Core's birthday, the survivors of the concentration camp were freed. Scientists should pay close attention to codes of morals and ethics when using humans as experimental subjects.

Dr. Eisen then introduced Robert Wageman, a survivor from the T-4 program. Wageman started his lecture by asking the members the audience "Would you be able to kill a person?" Just about everyone in the room either shook their heads no or said it to themselves. He went on to say how the Germans wanted to eliminate procreation among undesirable groups; children were the first victims, as they represented the future.

Wageman explained the origin of the "T-4" program. Dr. Karl Brand, head of the program, filled out forms and gave urns and letters of condolence to the relatives of those put to death. Most of the deceased had made up illnesses; for example, he would send an urn to family with the condolence listing appendicitis as the cause of death, but the person had already had their appendix out. Hitler changed the name of the program to 14-F-13. Over 200,000 mentally/physically handicapped people were killed during the Holocaust.

Wageman had two strikes against him, because he is a Jehovah's Witness and has a physical disability. His father did not vote for Hitler, so he was

blacklisted. Friends forewarned Robert and his family of the evil tyranny that the Nazi were doing. For months, they hid underground. Once 80% of their city was destroyed, they went to the suburbs. His family did not believe in what the other Germans felt the "salvation" that was supposedly coming from Hitler; therefore, they did not salute or sing the anthem, which mentions "Today Germany, tomorrow the world." Wageman concluded by telling the audience: "If one person stands up for what is right, then others will follow. All it takes is just one."

Dr. Friquegnon, who followed Wageman, discussed the contemporary genocide that is happening in Tibet. China is on the move to completely take over this uniquely designed country, which is built on a philosophical, as opposed to political, structure. Another unique belief in Tibet is that the day of your birthday is the day you are conceived, not when you are born. Women are strong leaders in Tibet, but this is being extinguished since the Chinese have moved in.

One thing that the Chinese are forcing the Tibetan monks and nuns to do is fornicate in the streets. The population of Tibet is taking a drastic change and there are more Chinese than Tibetans. More than 80% of women are sterilized and there are forced abortions if there is no certificate for the women to have a child. Infanticide is also practiced in the local hospitals.

Dr. Friquegnon encouraged the audience to write to their Congressional representatives and tell them to be stricter with the Chinese. Right now, the U.S. is not intervening because Tibet does not have any resources the U.S. needs, and further westernization will result in the loss of Tibetan culture.

During the last segment, Dr. Wahrman spoke about genetics. Wahrman mentioned the study of the Ashkenazi Jews, Jews from Europe who were in isolation. "The troubling news is any group of people that are in isolation will have genetic alterations and disorders."

At the conclusion of the lecture, there were a few minutes for Q&A. One student asked Dr. Friquegnon about organizations that could help Tibet. She men-

tioned "Students for Free Tibet," (www.tibet.org/sft) as a resource. In response to a student's question about President Bush's policy on stem cell research, Stein said "Scientists are very discontent with his decision because stem cells could help make replacement organs and do other great things for people with diseases. However, he does not say anything about sex selection, which stays very quiet. There is no laws/legislation/restrictions. His decision had more to do with politics rather than science for the stem cell testing."

Robert Wageman got up again for the last time to talk to the audience about what exactly a Jehovah's Witness is. Wageman explained that the religion is based on Hebrew scriptures (Old Testament) and Greek Scriptures. They follow the 10 Commandments, live by the philosophy of "Neighborly Love," and do not believe in any man-made boundaries, such as birthdays and holidays. Their magazine Awake is internationally renowned. He ended by stating, "Everything today, all conflicts

are about religion."

Both Stein and Wahrman agree that William Paterson does a decent job with Holocaust studies, but there could be more. Stein mentioned that there are only five states that mandate Holocaust studies to be practiced in schools; however, there is no set curriculum among the states, or even in the states themselves. In the fall, Both Wahrman and Stein will teach a cluster class with Professor Kressel from the psychology department. "We introduce our students to explore their own ethnicities," says Wahrman. "We should try to change some people's attitudes so they could get students to ask questions, so we could have a better world."

The more people know of the events that occurred in Nazi Germany, the less likely it is to recur. Hillel thanks all of those who helped out and made the day a success and hope that the William Paterson community felt a little bit enlightened, if only for a few minutes that day, remembering those who died in the Holocaust.

MEISA On the Road Again

Submitted by Jenna-Lyn Rounsaville
MEISA

Five student representatives and the club's faculty advisor of the Music and Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA) just returned from an educational and exciting trip to the 2002 Music and Entertainment Industry Educators Association (MEISA) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The

conference was held on April 5th & 6th. The students that went to represent MEISA were John Cajio, Elisa Grossman, Kelly O'Neil, Jenna-Lyn Rounsaville, and Jennifer Sellers. Dr. Stephen Marcone, the advisor of MEISA, joined the caravan to "Music City USA" to participate in this educational conference.

There were a lot of key points of interest, particularly panel discussions from industry experts

concerning issues in the music industry, lecture style information sessions of varying topics, and song judging competitions. Another incentive was the chance to meet students from other colleges and universities as well as professionals from the music industry.

The club members took advantage of their free time by hearing a multitude of live musical performances and seeing the many famous sites of

downtown Nashville.

All the students who attended the 2002 MEISA conference learned a lot from the experience. More importantly, they made valuable contacts within the music industry to help them in their futures. MEISA can't wait to attend another conference so they can go "On the Road Again."

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Kazaa Dupes Users

By Steve DeGennaro
The Beacon

By now, some of you may or may not have heard the news reports on how Brilliant Digital Entertainment has quietly attached its software to millions of computers through the Kazaa file-sharing program. Brilliant Digital's programs are self-executing and automatically connect your computer to a network, which connects back to Brilliant. Within four weeks, the company plans to "wake up" (or hijack, which is a suitable word) the millions of computers who have these programs installed on them. This will allow Brilliant to start using "extra" resources and processing power from YOUR computer to host websites, run ads, help with complicated computing tasks, and run programs for its clients. Brilliant claims they will ask permission to do this, but we already agreed to let them do this when we accepted Kazaa's terms of service.

W1 During the process of installing Kazaa, you may be offered the possibility to download or install software from third party software vendors pursuant to licenses or other arrangements between such vendors and your

self. (Third Party Software). In the event you do not wish to download this Third Party Software, you should uncheck the appropriate boxes. Please note that the Third Party Software is subject to different licenses or other arrangements, which you should read carefully, compared to the Terms of Use and License of Kazaa. By downloading and using this Third Party Software, you accept these Third Party Software licenses or other arrangements and acknowledge that you have read them and understand them. Kazaa does not sell, resell, or license any of this Third Party Software, and Kazaa disclaims to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, any responsibility for or liability related to the Third Party Software. Any questions, complaints or claims related to the Third Party Software should be directed to the appropriate vendor.

You could always say no, but then you wouldn't be able to use Kazaa.

If you like this sort of thing more power to you, but if you don't, then there are some simple steps to take. The easiest would be to run a search for Brilliant in your Windows search program. It'll most likely bring up a Brilliant

folder and a couple of cookie files. Delete them. This should more or less take care of the Brilliant software on your computer. If you want to take it a step further and completely wipe out all the adware and spyware on your computer then go to <http://download.cnet.com/download/0-10106-100-7302674.html> and install the Ad-Aware 5.2. What this does is it basically searches your entire computer including the registry files for any spyware and completely deletes it. Try it and you'll be surprised on how much is on your computer that you don't know about.

Person to person file sharing is one of the best things to come out of the internet and Kazaa is a great program, but unfortunately I'm not really keen on having my computer's resources stolen. It is ironic that the music industry claims we are stealing from the artists, while Kazaa and Brilliant are stealing the resources of our computers.

So if you still want to download music, WinMX at <http://www.winmx.com> is a pretty good program and as its website boasts it doesn't install any spyware. As for Kazaa, they'll have to find another party

Barbara Smith Speaks at WPU

Lori Perlmutter
The Beacon

On April 11th, over 100 students and faculty gathered in the Student Center Ballroom to see Barbara Smith give her speech on "Race, Gender, and Working for Peace." Smith has been an influential writer and activist for many years. She is also a Black Feminist and lesbian. Some of her books include *Homegirls* and *Doing it from Scratch*. The Feminist Collective, Women's Center, Women's Studies Department, and others helped sponsor this event.

Barbara Smith opened her speech by reading passages from some of her books and speeches. For example, from a speech she did earlier, "The Truth That Never Hurts," she had this to say regarding feminism: "It is political theory and practice that struggles to free women of all races and religions." Following the passages from her work, she went on to discuss her experience in dealing with race and gender in her hometown, Albany, New York.

At this point, she expressed her concern for the current situation in the Middle East. She mentioned the number thousands of civilians who died in Afghanistan. One of the strongest points she made was the importance of solidarity between all people, despite the differences that exist between them.

During the last part of Smith's speech, she emphasized becoming involved in activism. She discussed how she helped form the first anti-racist movement that was multi-racial: The Stand For Peace Coalition. Within this Coalition she discussed how she started a committee called the "What's Race Got To Do With it Committee," which was composed of mostly females. She argued that people need to find others who share their same view, on certain topics, and get involved in making change happen.

Barbara Smith closed by saying, "Political work is not about winning; victory is measured by whether you stand up."

"You bet I did. And I enjoyed it.": Rethinking the Debate On Marijuana

By Lori Perlmutter
The Beacon

In the April 9th edition of the New York Times, a full-page advertisement appeared showing New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, replying to whether or not he had ever tried marijuana. It reads: "You bet I did. And I enjoyed it." This advertisement, which is part of a \$500,000 advertising campaign started by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, took the quote from Mayor Bloomberg before he ran for office last year. Later that evening the news program, "Hannity and Colmes" aired on the FOX NEWS network with representation from NORML (National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws) and a conservative. The conservative individual argued that this type of ad will corrupt the minds of young people and may cause them to engage in use.

Sadly, this individual, and many more who share this view, refuse to acknowledge the fact that many young people are already using Marijuana. An advertisement showing Mayor Bloomberg saying he liked the substance is not going to make everyone suddenly want to go out and get high. Any educated individual knows that there are a

variety of social and psychological factors that may play a role into who chooses to use marijuana.

Despite their misinformation on the drug and its users, opponents continue to insist that marijuana is bad for society. Often, the users of this drug are portrayed as "bad people." Just last week, a few days before April 9th, an episode of "The Simpsons" aired on FOX, showing the father, Homer, using medicinal marijuana. In this episode, Homer becomes increasingly irresponsible and dependent after using the drug. It does not just turn people into zombies. Perhaps we can look to former President Clinton and Mayor Bloomberg, both very influential and intellectual people who used the substance.

To be fair, marijuana does have a negative side to it. The drug has been known to cause problems with the heart and circulatory system, and may lead to respiratory problems. When smoked, marijuana also contains approximately 50% more carcinogens than cigarette smoke. It also reduces sperm production in males as well as the size of the testes. In women, regular use causes ovulation to be blocked. Animal studies indicate that marijuana can cause birth defects. On the other hand, the substance appears

to have some therapeutic advantages. Evidence shows that it has been helpful in treating Glaucoma and certain types of epileptic seizures. Also, it may help alleviate some of the side effects of chemotherapy. Interestingly, it may even work in treating asthma.

With all this said, there is still much confusion and controversy over the drug. While many may disagree, there may be some benefits in legalizing marijuana. I feel that enforcement of marijuana laws is draining our criminal justice system without any major results. Perhaps, if it were legalized, we could impose laws on it, as we do with alcohol for example. In addition, legalization would make the drug safer for use. It is common knowledge that some people are going to use the drug regardless of laws against it. Legalization would help regulate its production. Finally, I would just like to state that I do not use marijuana, nor do I think you should all go out now and support your local drug dealer. However, as educated individuals, voters, and present and future decision makers, I think it is important to be knowledgeable and informed on this matter. The choice is yours.

Attention SGA Candidates:

The Beacon is offering special advertising prices to confirmed SGA Candidates. Come up to the office in SC 310 or call x2571 for information.

EARN \$\$ FOR YOUR OPINION

Register at www.TAICompanies.Com or Call Ardee at (201) 836-1420 M-F 9am-8pm. 18-55 year olds, TV Viewers, Denture Wearers, and new parents especially needed, but all others also invited to register to participate in market research studies in Teaneck, NJ.

A Look at the SGA

By Jim Schofield
News Editor

The Student Government Association is holding General Elections during Springfest this year. Nominations are currently open and students with an interest in their own self-governance should come to the SGA Office on the third floor of the Student Center to nominate themselves. SGA Elections Chair Jenna-Lyn Rounsaville and her committee are running elections workshops on most days of the week for candidates. The Beacon is also offering special advertising rates for confirmed candidates who have completed their workshops.

Information on advertising this way can be obtained in The Beacon Office in SC 310.

In cooperation with the other schools in the New Jersey Higher Education Coalition of Students (NJHECS), the SGA will be organizing a rally in support of increased state funding to public colleges and universi-

ties. William Paterson's rally will take place on Tuesday in front of the Student Center at common hour. Kean University, TCNJ and Douglass, Cook and Rutgers Colleges of Rutgers University will also be holding rallies throughout the week. A representative of NJHECS from Rutgers College also testified before the State Budget Committee last Wednesday, calling for the same increased funding that the Rallies will be seeking.

The Court of Judicial Review will be holding their special Constitutional Convention Meeting at 3:30 on Tuesday, April 16 in the Student Center. All students are invited and asked to attend this important meeting. The Court will be placing the finishing touches on the document that has been in an SGA Committee since the beginning of the year. CJR Chair Mauricio Mattos especially has been working diligently on the document, hoping to solve this year many of the inconsistencies

that have plagued the SGA all year. Upon being passed by CJR, the document will be sent to the Executive Board and twice to the Legislature for final approval. However, neither of these bodies will be able to make any amendments; they may simply vote it through or vote it down. The last chance to impact the drafting of the Constitution will be at the Tuesday meeting, so all interested students must come there.

The SGA Award packets and Nomination Forms, after much delay, are finally here. Nominate your club, class, advisor, professor or yourself for an SGA Award, including the Best On-Campus Event, Scholar Leader and P.R.I.N.T. Award (hint hint) among many others. The nominations will be voted upon by the SGA Awards Committee, which is chaired by Executive Vice President Daren Smith. The winners will be recognized at the annual SGA Awards Banquet.

Le Beacon est dans le besoin d'écrivains de personnel. Venir écrire pour Le Beacon, où vous pouvez faire une différence sur ce campus et recevez de grandes expériences.

Gerry Brennan SGA Attorney

Available

Every Wednesday in SC
326 from 2-8pm

THE TIME HAS COME...

NOMINATE YOUR FUTURE LEADERS

For All Positions in the WPU SGA for the 2002-2003 Year

Nominations run from:

April 9th - April 24th 9:00 am - 8:00 pm
in Student Center 332

Election Workshops are necessary for candidates to attend to be allowed to campaign and have their name appear on the ballot

Elections:

Tuesday, April 30th &
Wednesday, May 1st 2002

There is no campaigning prior to attending the Elections Workshops

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I read the Monday, May 8 issue of The Beacon with a lot of interest. As an international student, coming to WPU was probably as a result of their continued good standing as an institution which caters for all students equally. In my country WPU is regarded as one of the best colleges in NJ hence my decision to join. But to my dismay, the OISS has made my life here a nightmare. Except for the secretary (Tangelia Wiggins) the administrators have failed to help when called upon. Therefore it is no shock that one student (Akemi Shinkai) stood up and highlighted the plight of international students. Last year one student also wrote about the existing "deaf ears" syndrome exhibited by the Director. It's time this office live up to its expectations and help students with their respective problems instead of waiting and letting them make mistakes only to be cited with violations. (Which are always very fast and quickly written). Thanks for the Beacon...at least we have somewhere to air our grievances!!

Anthony Kariuki

Dear Editor,

Thanks for your continued good work at WPU. As an international student I was deeply concerned about the case of one student (Akemi Shinkai) in your Monday, April 8 article. Most students and administrators do not probably know what happens at the OISS office. Our plight and concerns have always been ignored. The administrators do not offer sound advice to students but are always quick to point out when violations are bound to occur. Even in instances that there is no such violations. September 11 affected us much as the rest of American people and this time meant delayed funds from our countries due to international efforts to weed out funding of terrorist activities. Many of us went to seek advice to the OISS but our pleas fell on "deaf ears". The bursar's office did not want to hear any of our problems either. But thanks to the Almighty things came back to normal and our funding resumed. The registrars office was very co-operative and gave most of international students hope and were really sympathetic. So please Sir, this letter is intended to highlight the problems we go through and to sensitize the WPU community at large. I hope Akemi Shinkai the best and thanks for your bravery.

Omari Fattaw

On Indictments and The New Beacon

By Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

As you may have already seen on the front page, a former Beacon editor was recently indicted on two counts of theft. I've already written this year about the changes the Beacon has been going through, how there are new people in charge and, on the whole, a new Beacon. Really, that's all there is to say. The paper has gone through many

changes over the last year and will continue to evolve. All of this stuff—the indictment, the alleged theft—that's all in the past. We do things differently now at The Beacon.

I could offer my personal opinions and rant until the day's end, but that won't solve anything, nor would it be appropriate. Whether Ryan is right or wrong, whether he stole money or not, is not my or The Beacon's judgment

to make. We are simply here to report the news that happens on campus, and this is certainly campus news. It would be a disservice to our readers not to report on this story, and I certainly think that it would be unethical to ignore a story that directly involves The Beacon itself. The Beacon will keep its readers updated on any new developments in the case and will continue to report the facts.

Dear Editor,

I'd like to thank Ms Michael for her article last week. I'm really glad there actually are people who are open-minded and non judgmental about the lifestyles in the Middle East.

I am Christian and Armenian. I have spent 7 years of my childhood in Syria, and 5 years in Kuwait. Living in the Middle East has taught me a lot. I feel that having been exposed to different cultures growing up made me the open-minded person I am today. I was taught to appreciate other cultures and their differences.

We should not judge Arabs. Not all are oppressed; in fact many of them are very open and modern-minded than a lot of Americans I know. This is quite evident and noticeable if you visit Lebanon, a country saturated with French influence, and Abu-Dhabi or Dubai.

Most Arabs are highly educated as well. Centuries ago, Arabs were the famous poets, scholars and scientists. It's very unfortunate that they are looked down upon and let's say not greatly felt about here in the West because of the crimes and stupidity of a few extremists.

In fact, what my experience living in the Middle East has taught me about Arabs, whether Christian or Muslim, is exactly the opposite of what most people in the West think of them to be. They are extremely generous, hospitable, welcoming and hard working people. I appreciate and respect their culture, their music and especially their delicious food.

So I urge people of all ages to at least try to be open-minded and not judge a whole by the action of the few. There are extremists and evil in every culture, religion and race.

Don't judge by one's religious or political affiliation. If we identify with each other on a human level, perhaps we can cure the disease of hatred that has infected the world.

Thank you for your time,

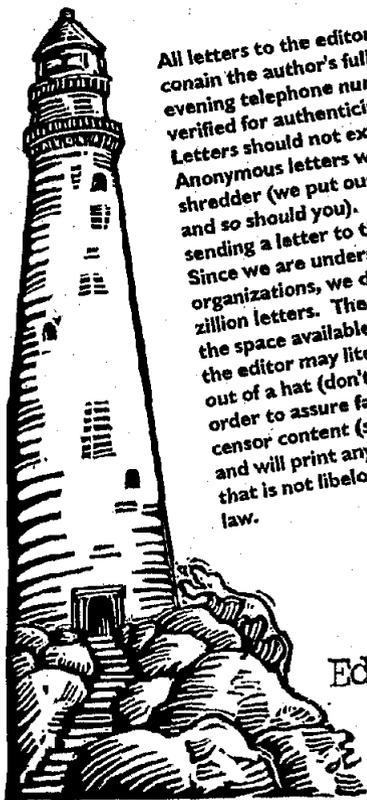
Lena K.
Junior

Dear Editor,

I have noticed in your past two issues an ad aimed toward pregnant women on our campus. The ad is for a group called First Choice Women's Resource Center. I would like to just inform women on our campus that the ad is misleading. This group claims in the ad to answer questions regarding the morning-after pill, RU-486, and pregnancy termination. What they don't tell you in the ad that this is an anti-abortion pregnancy center. The ad says, "Empowering women to make an informed decision..." What do they mean by informed? This group's main focus is to protect the fetus, not to inform the woman of all her choices. These centers will give you misleading information on abortion. For women who are pregnant and unsure of what to do, take the time to research whom you talk to. Your best choice, which ever you choose, is best made when all your options are presented to you in a format which has your best interests in mind first.

Sincerely,
Lisa Mycyk

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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The
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WEEKLY

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Weight Room Rantings

I have always been an avid fan of exercise, never a jock or a muscle-head mind you, but I have always enjoyed keeping myself in shape, a shape other than round. When I go to the gym I go for my own benefit, I don't go so that I can flex, gyrate, curl, press, stretch, or squat for the entertainment of others. Unfortunately this concept seems to have eluded the vast majority of people who frequent the gym, because many of them appear more interested in their own reflection. Then again, the weight room is one of those places where intelligence is in short supply anyway, so it is not that difficult to understand why the majority of its patrons are a little lacking in the brains department. Nevertheless I still have become a regular during the week at the gym, but every time I go, I'm confronted with the usual suspects.

For starters there is the cluster of ex-high school football morons that are trying very hard to reclaim their past "glory" by showing how much weight can lift, once. Ah yes, there is no better way to rekindle the bench warming of yesterday by straining until you shit your pants and barely complete one rep of 350 pounds. These genetic mishaps are easy to spot because they are almost always wearing a cutoff T-shirt that has some proclamation printed across the front. Usually something like this: "Local, varsity, peewee, junior, pop-warner, semi pro, 4H, football champions." Guess what Mongo? Nobody cares and you don't need to play with balls to have a set of them!

The next group of weight room rejects I would like to comment on is everybody's favorite group of Cro-Magnon degenerates, frat boys. These useless wastes of space have always had a special place in my heart, right between my ball sack and my ass-hole. Words cannot explain the intense burning hatred I have for these people! Fraternity jack-offs are typically more concerned with how they look rather than working out. I only pray that one day while they are distracted by their reflection, they will drop their laughable shoulder press on their nearly hallow skull! In truth, there is very little difference between fraternity ass-wipes and ex-high school football players. The two groups differ because the Greek imposters don't grunt while exercising and their "letters" can always identify them. In regard to the letters all I have to say is listen Alpha-Beta-Gamma-Omega-Who-Gives-A-Rat's-Ass-Deltas please keep it to your self, you self important "Revenge of Nerds" reject. The closest thing these pricks have ever come to being Greek is when they ate a Gyro in New York City and got shits from it for three days. Now piss off and go have a circle jerk with your "brothers".

Another one of my favorite groups of weight room attendees are the hot chicks. Yeah you know the girls, mostly cheerleaders, that are just looking to "work out", bullshit! You're all cock teases! No girl goes into a room loaded with big sweaty men to exercise (especially when dressed in clothing skimpy enough for a Cinemax late night movie sex scene), they go in there to watch guys stare at their ass and to listen to the sexual comments mut-

tered under breath. But ladies, don't let me stop you, keep coming in! Also please stop acting pissed off when you catch a guy eye balling your ass, you love it and you know it.

Now we come to the gym's most annoying group of patrons, and they are all the fucking gangsters. I am talking about the entire "South Side Compton" and "East Side Brooklyn" motherfuckers that populate the weight room like extras in the HBO series OZ. Now because most are probably thinking I am some kind of racist, I'm not because this group is not only made up of "Jay Z" and "DMX" wannabes, but there plenty of "House of Pain" and "Slim Shadys" to go around too. These ghetto banging "thugs" have the gym on lockdown, pun intended, and don't allow anybody near their area without trading smokes or tossing a few salads. Listen G, Lil Bow Wow called and he wants his do-rag back, now get the fuck back to your cells!

There is yet another group of douche-bags that truly do puzzle me, these people would be the guys that come into the gym and don't do a fucking thing! These are the same ass-clowns that apparently know everyone in the gym and use the weight room as their personal social hour. Honestly, I don't have any strong objections about chatting with friends in the gym, but if you have no intention of using the machine don't sit on it for fifteen fucking minutes! Go talk outside you stupid bastard! Actually a great place for you to talk would be on a busy highway, during rush hour, now get lost!

The final group of cum stains that I would like to address are ridiculous club kids. These ecstasy filled, glow stick flinging, eyebrow pierced motherfuckers have got to go. I've just about had enough of all the heroin sheek guys standing in front of the mirror amazed about how good they think they look. Listen ass-hole, the reason why you look ripped isn't because your strong, its because you're six foot two and weigh a 107 pounds. I would look like Mr. Universe too if I kept ravaging my body with drugs until all my necessary fat reserves were depleted. Trust me dip shit, you won't see Dr. Atkins coming out with is new line of ecstasy diet pills. So pack up your dirty needles and your shitty techno music, and get the hell out of my sight!

This was a call to all you shallow individuals that just can't help flexing for all to see and all you bastards taking up valuable space. I'm really not to worried about offending people with article because the majority of the people who this is directed at haven't gotten Hooked On Phonics yet and are still battling with the tricky word constructions of Dr. Suess. The moral of this story is nobody gives a fuck about you. If you want to show off or stand around looking stupid, go become a fucking runway model! Although, like I said before all the hot chicks can stay. Okay then, catch you later!

Gerry Pugliese
Contributor

Diversity got Fan
Mail!!!!!!
Page 10

MAINTENANCE MAYHEM

Walk into the Starbucks lounge in the Student Center and you'll always see its regulars; the same few groups of students, and the Student Center maintenance personnel. The maintenance workers are constantly sitting around watching whatever talk show happens to be on. I'm sure they take their regular breaks and lunches, but they're in there every half hour and it is ridiculous.

If there were a lack of jobs to do, I'd understand, but come on! There are tables and chairs in the cafeteria that need to be fixed, there are shit stains on the couches, and the Starbucks lounge could be cleaned because God knows it hasn't been vacuumed all semester. Those are just a few examples.

So why am I criticizing the Student Center maintenance personnel? I'm sick and tired of seeing my tuition money be wasted. The most visible problem are the numerous broken tables and chairs in the Student Center cafeteria. Most are either un-useable or unstable. I really don't think it's hard to take a screwdriver and fix them.

Another problem is the garbage on the tables. I

know it's partly the students fault, but in the Willowbrook mall food court I observed the maintenance people constantly moving around wiping off the tables or cleaning the mess people leave behind. If they can do it in a busy mall, then why can't our maintenance people who are not only supported by our tuition, but also by the tax money we pay out do it. Don't get me wrong I don't think it is entirely the fault of the maintenance personnel. Their supervisors are also at fault for being negligent in their duties and not catching this kind of behavior and correcting it.

It is insulting to constantly have to sit and eat in a dirty environment. It's appalling to sit down and have a chair break or have to sit at a table that spins like a lazy susan. It makes me wonder if this fine institution actually cares about the environment the students either have to study or eat in everyday. As for the maintenance personnel, if it's that hard to find something to do come see me, I'll put you to work.

Steve DeGennaro
The Beacon

DISH WITH DIVA N' DUDE

Dear Diva and Dude,

I went on the Virginia Beach trip this past spring break. I got really drunk one night and I hooked up with another girl. Should I tell my boyfriend about it?

—?

Dear ?,

That depends on whether you think it will eat you up inside if you don't tell him. Then again, I've gotten some opinions from guys about what they would do if their girlfriends told them this and they actually find it a turn on...go figure! If you think he'll get mad at you, don't bother telling him. Unless of

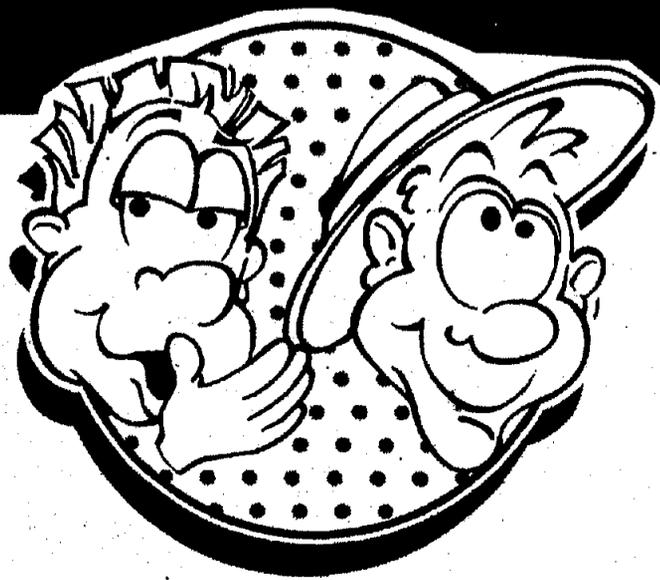
course it made you change your mind about him.

—Diva

Mistaken,

Yes, i think its fair to tell him. You can get one of a few reactions. He may like it, and wanna see it happen next time (yea!). He may get pissed off, with reason. Or, he may blow the whole thing off as a drunken mistake. Regardless of his reaction, it is right to tell him. Chances are he'll like it.

—Dude



UNCOMMON THOUGHTS ON COMMON THINGS

"When you look at the world, what is it that you see? People find all kinds of things that bring them to their knees."

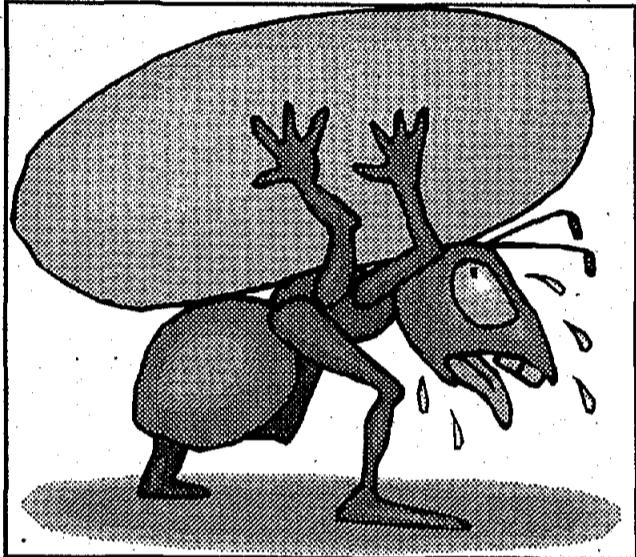
Either the rainy season or the snowy days of winter get to me - Why? Well, the ants' houses are most likely flooded or it gets too cold for them at night. Poor things...yeah right!...they just seep into the house from every crack in the wall, floor, or ceiling. I'm always following the trail until I find the opening they're crawling through. I'm ready to spray them whether it's behind the sofa, in the ceiling panel, or in the bathroom closet. Little rascals, staggering around like they're drunk, their legs slowly bending inward. But (now here's the turning point)

one day I saw something that brought me to my knees.

I saw an ant carrying a flattened member of the colony. Now, well after I wondered if ants were air-filled because this one was flattened like a balloon without any blood or brains splattered, I fell to my knees and watched in wonder. I knew little about ants, but I

was certain about how they preferred to work along the wall—since I'd follow them like a predator—I thought I could help this ant, carrying the corpse by leading it to the wall. Well, to no avail, it simply became frantic and lost the dead ant. I threw it off track, like all humans would. It's just better that we humans, at least I, don't interfere with a highly advanced and complicated life form.

This may sound like something from channel 13 or the Discovery Channel, but too bad. Now this animal, although extremely small in size, has a strange system of social life and political administration very similar to humans. They have their queen, they have a social order, they have security, and have a planned city. When there's a possibility of danger, an ant on guard steps out of the hole to check. A characteristic that one would never have



thought to exist in such a small creature.

Just a quick tangent here—Whenever I saw an ant in a room I'd kill it with a grin. I'd believe that I prevented an entire colony from settling in the house. If the one ant was sent out in search of safety and food and never returned, the others would think that there was danger or no food. They wouldn't think the ant abandoned them or kept the food to itself. Now, unfortunately I believe that doubt would exist in humans.

So how many of us rubberneck? How many of us are ready to stop and help someone with a flat? How many of us respond to the cry for "help?" How long will it be until we stop responding to

"fire" and have to yell out "free porn!" to get people to run to the scene of an attack? Shame on you, you're no better than a black ant! (Neither am I). Okay, humans are not all that bad. Perhaps our human instinct, similar to ants, makes us hold the door open to the person behind us. Then again, if it's for a female there's an entire other issue of feminism at hand which

I won't go into. So, I don't know if you'll start looking out for your fellow members of the human race or if you'll kill a black ant to see another one carry it away. (By the way, let me know where the ant actually takes the deceased. For all we may know, they can eat each other). As for us, we're living "one life, with each other. Sisters, brothers, we get to carry each other, carry each other. One."

Gilbert Grape
The Beacon

The Stupidity Report

Welcome all. I was ready to do another dose of Darwin awards...but I saw some completely stupid and disgraceful stuff happen this week. So that is going on hold.

The first thing comes from my personal experience. As I saw driving down a somewhat main road in Wayne, some assholes drove by, and I heard a thump against my door. At first, I didn't realize what it was. I kept driving, and I forgot about it honestly, until I got out of my car, and saw the egg yolk on my door. Now I know this was a random incident. But what exactly was accomplished besides pissing me off? I have to wash my car? Whoopie. So I can spend a couple bucks to get it done, or do it myself. Either way, it was nothing more than aggravation.

The second incident of stupidity happened a couple nights ago. While walking back from my right class, I was watching a group of people walking on the road by Towers and the Art

building. As a campus shuttle went driving past (yes, I actually saw one), a student jumped into the road, waived his arms in an X, causing the shuttle to stop and slow down. The person just stood there basically, till the shuttle honked, and then he moved. The shuttle drove on, but the stu-

Eggs, Shuffles, and Campus Police

dent walked away mumbling about calling campus security or public transportation. This baffled me. Why would you get pissed off because YOU jumped into traffic and got honked at?

Again, that could all be nothing, and I'm just venting. But this final bit is really what got under my skin. As told to me by a friend, two guys were in a class a couple nights ago, drunk, and continuing to drink. A student got sick of it, and called Campus

Police. After the first call, explaining that there were two drunks in the class, apparently no police came to the classroom. A follow up phone call followed, and police radios were heard outside the classroom. But again, no police stepped in. The class let out, and everyone went home, as a police car sat outside the Atrium.

What bothers me more here? That two idiots were drinking in a class? A night class at that. Or is it the fact that the campus police had to be called TWICE, and still no action was taken? I don't feel that's safe, honestly. I don't think the drunks posed a threat, but I still want to compliment the student who made the call. Most people these days are willing to just roll over and look away. Not many people will stand up and do something.

Dan Kreifus
Diversity

Horror Stories from the Shoebox:

SonuaBITCH!!!

Ah, the joys of registration. Surely, there is no greater bliss than this. Surely I must be kidding.

Now, registration is normally a stress-filled, annoying time for college students. However, this year has taken annoying to new and unprecedented heights. Of course, the fact that I was trying to register while studying for a major test, stressing about a massive project, having a birthday, and generally going more insane than I was already, didn't help matters either. But let me start at the beginning.

When first we received the master schedule of doom, I looked at my degree audit and realized that there were only twenty classes that I still needed to take. Huzzah! I thought. I can escape from here in less than six millennia. Realizing that the vast majority of remaining classes were sciences, I decided that it would be a good idea to take some of those courses over the summer at my local community college. So, I obtained a course outline from CCC (the college) and proceeded to figure out what courses might be applicable. I came up with five possibilities, so, armed with a vague idea of what to do, I set out to get permission to take those classes.

Now, faithful long-time Horror Stories readers will recognize the term "jumping through flaming hoops while juggling trained poodles." Well, in order to transfer credits, you don't have to do this. No, you just have to jump through flaming poodles.

The process involves finding out who the head of whatever department the prospective class falls under, finding them at a time when they are in their office, getting a nifty little form from the secretary, filling it out, begging, pleading, and bribing (no, officer, there was no money passed, I swear) said chairperson to sign off (after showing the above mentioned course catalogue) that it's okay to take the course. Then you get to go find the head of your major's department, and repeat the above whining, pleading, and begging to get another signature. And then the dean of the department has to sign it too. And then...

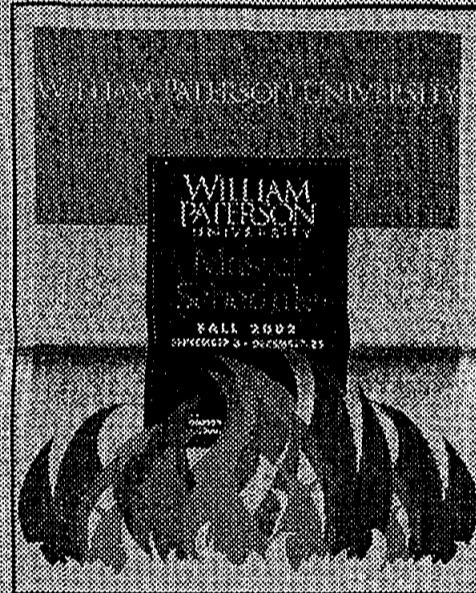
Actually, I don't know what happens next. I haven't gotten that far yet. I still have one more paper to pick up from the person who signed it, and then I'm sure to find some more arcane incantations and magic tricks necessary. But this was all before I went home and actually looked at the courses.

If you're going to offer two sequential courses—say Bio 1 and 2—how much sense does it make

to have both at the same time? That was definitely what I discovered. And my Philosophy course wanted to be at eight in the morning. I have trouble waking up for interesting classes, and they want me to think that early? I don't think so, that's too easy. And I still have no idea where the money's coming from for these.

But wait, there's more! If you call right now, instead of just one set of registration issues, you'll get two at absolutely no cost but your sanity! So, William Paterson decided it wasn't about to be beat out by a mere community college. Heck no. So that little "go see your advisor" memo came with my old advisor's number on it. Now, I realize that it takes a while for a major change to go through, but man, that timing sucked. But I managed to get my RAN from her, then realized that I had no idea what courses to take. And of course my new advisor was on sabbatical. Fortunately, the man is wonderful, and came in to help

with scheduling. So I got a nice schedule worked out—but two of the courses I have to take were already closed. So, he was going to sign me into them. But he couldn't get his pass word to work. So he called a bunch of



people, then looked at me and said it would take a few minutes, but that he would make sure to do it. Another advisee was in the hall, so I hoped he would remember, and left.

Well, I don't know if he forgot, or if the system is just trying to screw me again (I'm betting on the latter), but when I went to register Tuesday morning, I couldn't get into those courses. So I went to the head of the department—and she wasn't there. So I signed a six mile long list of names of seniors who left their science requirement until last minute and decided that environmental science is an easy A (news flash here: it's no easier than any other science!) and prayed that I would get put into them, since I only have nine credits otherwise.

Oh, and to top all that off, those sciences? Nine thirty in the morning. Please, shoot me.

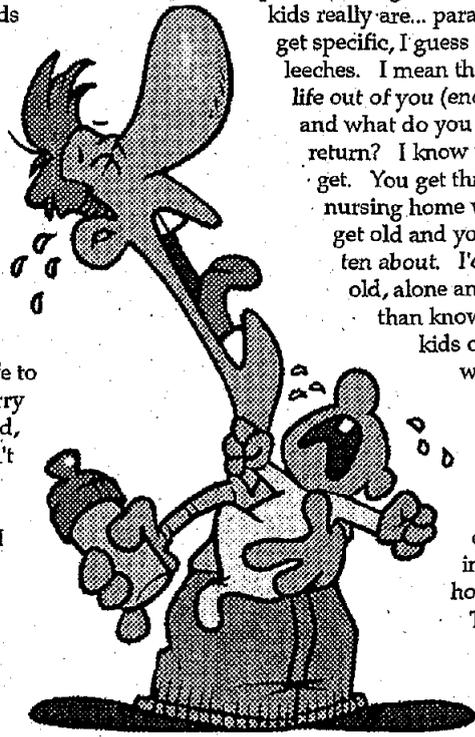
So, that's about it. I think I may have won the worst registration yet award. If yours was worse—well, I'm selling chocolate, and chocolate makes everything better! Just come up to the office and ask for Diversity.

Jessica Suiter
Diversity Editor?

Randon Ramblings

I technically should be sleeping now but I had to hop on the computer and write this. It's now 2:38 in the morning and I'm damn tired. My roommate is next to me doing homework quietly. The Islander game is on behind me. The room is mostly dark except for my roommate's desktop light. Peaceful. Tranquility. Life is pretty good. Oh wait, I spoke too soon. Boom boom boom boom boom is what I hear above me. Is it music? No it's not. Is it someone jumping around? Well unless it's a 700 pound man jumping up and down, no. Is there a party going on upstairs? I think not because as I said before, there's no music. So there's only one other possibility. There's some serious booty loving going on in the room above me. Now that's fine and all, just keep it down. If I were an asshole, I'd call campus police to break up whatever is going on upstairs but you know what, whoever is getting some probably deserves it so I'm happy for them. Just remember one thing. Wear a rubber dude. You don't need any kids running around. I don't think the university allows children to live here. I know I see them walking around with their parents who have class or sometimes in the arcade (why I don't

know) but I don't think any babies, toddlers or teenagers live here. I mean this is a fine academic institution. Keep the kids out. I sure as hell know I never ever want to have kids. I mean there's too much I want to do in my life to have to worry about a child, ever! I don't sleep much as it is so what sleep I do get I appreciate. I don't need a kid tampering with that. I have no money now but one day I hope I do. I don't want to spend it on daycare, toys, babysitters, doctor bills and such. I want that money to go towards either my brand new Mustang or my brand new BMW convertible. I want



my wife and I to be able to be able to go away when we feel like and not worry about dragging a parasite along. I think that's all kids really are... parasites. To get specific, I guess they are leeches. I mean they suck the life out of you (energy, money) and what do you get in return? I know what you get. You get thrown in a nursing home when you get old and you get forgotten about. I'd rather be old, alone and miserable than know that I have kids out there who don't want to see me. My mother and grandmother both work in nursing homes. There's some people in there who I just don't understand why they are there. I mean they seem like perfectly normal people. It just seems like they had no place to live and their family didn't want to take them in so they were put in a home. I never want to be a burden on

anyone but myself. The day I need to start relying on other people to get common things done (bathroom, shower, eating), put me down. Put me down like an old dog. I know not all old people feel this way. This is just how I feel. I also feel very tired now. It's 2:55 at this point and I'm determined to get this bad boy done in one shot. I'm thinking about how my bed is 5 feet away from me and yelling my name. I'm also thinking about a Western Civ test that I'm gonna bomb on. I should really be studying for it. It just sucks because the more I look at the notes, the more I realize how shitty my notes are. I mean I haven't missed a class yet so I should have some understanding of what is going to be on the test. Unfortunately I don't. I really wish this whole spring break and Easter thing didn't happen. That really threw me off. There's stuff on the test that we learned before break that I don't remember at all. I'm just looking over the notes with a puzzled look on my face. I really need to get a B+ on this thing. I want to do really well in all of my classes. So far I am... except for Western Civ. I have the attitude that anything below an A isn't good enough. Sometimes, even A's aren't good enough in my book.

I guess I'm a super-dooper-over-achiever. I try hard, I really do. I'm disappointed with an A-. My girlfriend says that when I get an A-, I have this look on my face like someone just shot my puppy. Well luckily I don't have a puppy that anyone can shoot and an A- isn't good enough for me. I guess it all stems from high school and how shitty I did. I guess I have just reason to kill myself the way I do. I guess it's my fear of failure. I failed so much in hell (I mean high school) that I never want to go along that route again. I started off the semester very well and wish to end the year on a high note. Diversity Editor² really can hit some high notes. She has a really great voice and likes to show it off when around the right company. Sometimes she comes into the office with a walkman and headphones on and sings away. It's funny sometimes because she blocks the world out. You can talk and talk and talk and say "Purple Monkey Dishwasher" and it doesn't phase her. I wish I could block people out like that. It would sure as hell make my days go by a lot quicker.

Allan Ringler
Diversity

A Commentary on Diversity

Over the course of the last couple of weeks, I have received some negative E-mails from various people inquiring about the real reason that I wrote my original article entitled "Religious Diversity at its Finest" I have been labeled everything from a "devil worshipper" to "cowardly and hate filled". Not only are these charges unfounded, but I feel these charges are reflections on what people THINK the Diversity section of the newspaper should be about, when in fact they are misinformed entirely.

As I see it, the Diversity section of The Beacon is not about "bigoted" writers spreading "hate speech", but individuals discussing various issues in an open intellectual format in which the exchange of ideas is permitted. This does not mean that people do not have the right to say what they believe; in fact the opposite is true. It is these various perspectives that make Diversity what it is. But Diversity does not mean five articles from 1 viewpoint or a subject like religion, being discussed by people who are only religious. In other words, it is not quantity of viewpoints but quality and variety of viewpoints that matters. In fact, the very reason I wrote to The Beacon in the first place was to challenge THEIR notion of what Diversity is, and in the process was given the opportunity to present my viewpoints. But apparently, some people who have written in to The Beacon do not share my belief in qualitative writing. They apparently just want people to give conservative opinions that represent the status quo and for dissenting opinions to be stifled. They think, for instance, that they can engage in ad hominem character attacks, calling people "cowardly" or "bigot" without proof, and that by merely asserting this, they have defeated the person's arguments. This is absolutely false, and furthermore, if I wanted to engage in this type of slander, I would have written a column called "All Catholics are Stupid" or "The Neil Murphy Speaks, Now Everybody Shut Up and Listen" section. But that is in no way what I, or anybody in the Diversity section for that matter, wants to turn Diversity into.

However, with that being said, although I feel that everybody has a RIGHT to their opinion, that does not make their opinion in and of itself FACTUAL by default. In my opinion, the only way that opinions or claims can be shown to be factual is by critically examining the contents, offering evidence to show whether you feel the claim is right or wrong and expressing your views in a clear manner. It is by these tests, for example, that we should be examining the content of articles as opposed to writing to The Beacon and calling people bigots without evidence to support it. So for example, regarding articles on religion, it is not 'Diversity' to allow only positive articles on Judaism, Christianity and Islam to be given a chance to be promulgated. We must also have the opportunity to listen to opposite points of view, whether that takes the form of articles about alternative religions like Buddhism and Wiccan or articles that criticize the assertions of major religions.

In conclusion, I feel that if we are to take the concept of Diversity seriously, we must do it as I mentioned before, via a format of intellectual inquiry through an open exchange of ideas. Nobody benefits if people read my column (or anybody's column for that matter) and simply digest the information without thinking about it. That is the antithesis of what the notion of Diversity is. If my own personal goal of a "community of inquirers" (As John Dewey put it) is to have any validity whatsoever, people must be willing to accept that not everyone is going to believe in the same religion, and as a result we must be prepared to accept logical and scholarly criticism that opposes the viewpoints of major religions. John Dewey once wrote, "Education is not the purpose of life, education is life itself." Indeed, it is only by educating and informing ourselves that we are able to make decisions in this world, not only on religion, but also on other important factual issues. Indeed, that may be the ONLY WAY that bigotry can ever be cured.

Neil Murphy

YAY! Fan Mail!

For a section labeled Diversity, I have frequently found that the articles were not such. Many that I have come across thus far in regard to religion and spirituality appear to have one goal; asserting the belief that one guy is responsible for "saving" us all. When referring to Jesus, it's kind of a blanketing statement to call him "our" savior. This is a college comprised of over 10,000 students, each one more diverse than the next. As such, it was refreshing to see the atheist's take on religion as presented in last week's paper. For me, that felt like a call to action for others whose views oppose the dominant god-fearing prototype. In regards to religion, I can't help but feel disdain.

Humans appear to be the only creatures capable of contemplating their own fate. In the end, it becomes clear, we all end up dead. As that sentiment rooted itself among societies, people banded together with others who shared similar beliefs about what happens to the conscious part of one's mind after death. Religion was born.

This ignorance of just what was beyond death enabled people in power politically and/or religiously to manipulate peoples and governments to no end. This has taken place at least as far back as the beginning of recorded time and right up to yesterday. What these authorities, ill intended or not, have been able to exploit, is the promise of an eternal party where all your dead pets are happy to see you and

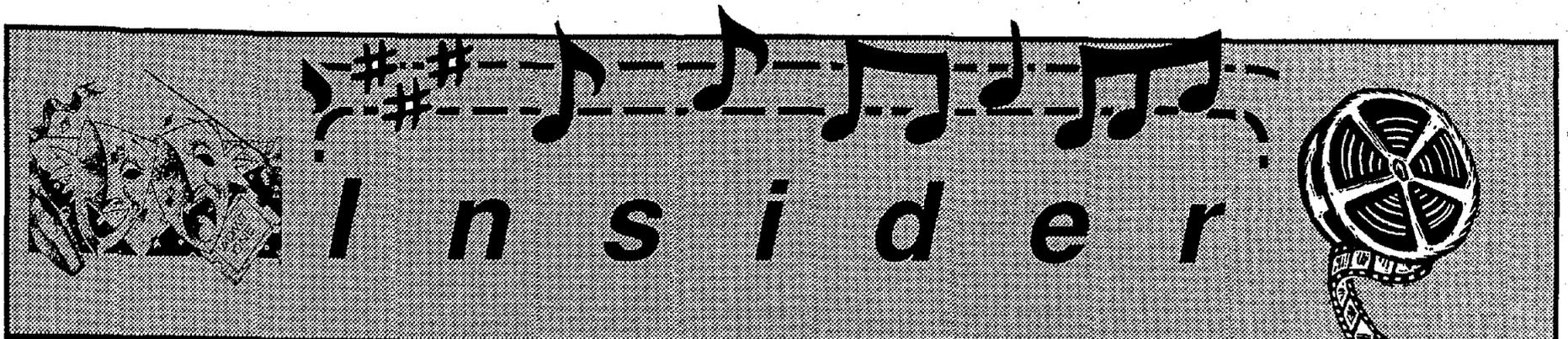
the radio stations only play your favorite songs. This greed for a sweet vacation at the end of your run in this world fuels the desire of some to insist that we are all under the watchful eye of a higher power. Religion has been called the opiate of the masses. It appears to be more of an afterlife insurance policy for them.

Even more powerful than the promise of heaven is the fear that, should we stray from the tenets of one creed or another, we burn in an eternal fire pit, where all the Kennedys are in power and the only thing on TV is the WNBA. The removal of heaven keeps people in line as the threat of coal in one's stocking keeps children docile at Christmas time.

This isn't to say that one can scorn religion and not be spiritual. What about those of us who believe that when the show is over, the lights go out? Take this shit sandwich and make the best of it. Why mess around with something that's caused more harms than good? To cite the zealotry that has taken place one would have to go well beyond the Salem witch trials, the condemnation of Native Americans as heathens and therefore, not humans, and the exploitation of Native Hawaiians in a similar manner.

For those of you reading this who are torn on what you believe, explore your options. The ability to do so is just what the Vatican doesn't want.

—JJ Fomface



Insider

Music • Film • Television • Drama • Web



GET FIRED UP!

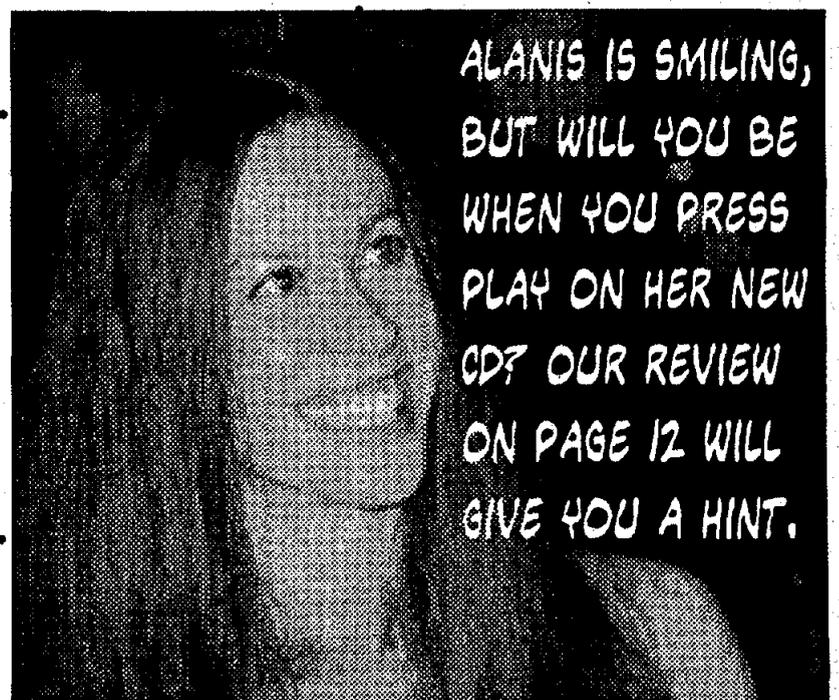
Find out which member of Engine Down also plays in Denali...page 12



Here Be the Face of Ed Harcourt
Read about his album on page 13

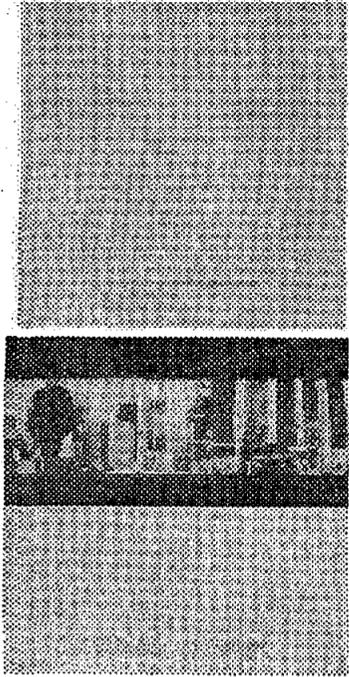


ECHO BRAIN FEATURES AN EX-METALLICA MEMBER PLAYING SOMETHING VERY DIFFERENT, PG. 13.



It's a Family Affair: Engine Down and Denali

Last week, two new records came out of sunny Virginia. Engine Down, who have been kicking around the indie rock scene for quite some time, released their most ambitious and best album to date, *Demure* (Lovitt/Day After Records.)



Engine Down Singer/Guitarists Keeley Davis and Jonathan Fuller's other band, Denali, also has a new release, their self-titled debut on Jade Tree Records. Both records provide a superb picture of the continually growing scene in Virginia, a scene which has spawned such greats as Avail, Sleepytime Trio (which both Keeley and Jonathan were in,) Four Hundred Years, Cracker, Milemarker, and Gwar.

Denali features Keeley Davis' sister Maura as lead vocalist, guitarist, and keyboardist, and the album amazes beyond all expectations. With obvious allusions to such great European female fronted acts as Broadcast, Morcheeba, Bjork, and Portishead, Maura's voice soars above the

clouds while the musical accompaniment is powerful and energetic. The album begins with the stellar track, "French Mistake," where Maura convinces you that she is "feeling something tonight," then sweeps you into the next song, "You File," which keeps the energy and melody strong. The album does not ever let you down, either. Maura, Keeley, Jonathan, and guitarist Cam Dinunzio (Lazycain, River City High) keep you fully interested even when playing a slower tempo song like "Time Away." This release will be sure to provide indie and hipster kids with songs for mix tapes for a long time to come, with Maura's straightforward take on emotion and love on songs such as "You File" and "Function."



Jacob Claveloux
Co-Insider Editor

Engine Down's *Demure* switches gears from Denali's album, but keeps the high

energy rock going, with the band showcasing their exemplary song-writing talents right out of the gate with the first song, "Songbird." The first lines of the song, "lucky break...you won't shake...your own meal...no one will...call you out..." will get stuck in your head and if you're anything like me, you will keep placing the needle back at the beginning of the record to hear Keeley sing those words (unless you purchase the cd, in which case you will press the skip-back button repeatedly.) Engine Down's sound has been firmly established with *Demure*, and the band shows that there is bright light yet, in the long tunnel which is referred to as "emo." If you are not into "emo," do not feel scared away. Engine Down rarely sound like what is considered "emo" currently. They instead blend vocals that are actually on key and not whiny with emotionally-charged, heavy, melody which owes more to the DC post hardcore sound than to newer-wave "emo" or



punk sounds. Truth be told, Engine Down prove with *Demure* that they are not simply a "punk" or "emo" band, they are an incredibly tight, groundbreaking, rock band with a sound that can easily be classified as ahead of its time. This record will be around for a long time to come, and will inspire future music snobs (and I mean that adoringly) to pick up instruments and rock out like that crazy band from Virginia.

Gigage: Engine Down plays NorthSix in Brooklyn, NY on April 15, with Circle and Square. Denali plays the First Unitarian Church in Philly on April 21 with Owls and Fin Fang Foom, and Knitting Factory in NYC on April 26 with Mink Lungs and the Reputation.

Linkage: www.enginedown.com, www.denali.vze.com, www.lovitt.com, www.jadetree.com



ALANIS IS BACK WITH UNDER RUG SWEEP



"King of Pain" on her unplugged CD. She played God in the Kevin Smith movie Dogma. I'm talking about Alanis.

One of the most powerful female performers is back with a shocking new album. Yep, you might remember her as the break through artist with *Jagged Little Pill*. I'm talking about that woman from Canada, who took a more spiritual approach on her second album *Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie*. She covered the Police song "King of Pain" on her unplugged CD. She played God in the Kevin Smith movie Dogma. I'm talking about Alanis

Morissette, whose new album *Under Rug Swept* sounds like a new beginning for the alternative pop queen.

The new spin-off of this album is that Alanis did the writing and producing for it, no more Glen Ballard, who also used to work with Wilson Phillips and Dave Matthews Band. She also plays on an electric guitar besides her usual piano, harmonica, or flute. So why should you go out and buy this album? Keep reading.

The opening song "21 Things I Want in a Lover" is not even close to exactly how much Alanis is really looking for. The song is an awesome opener because you have the heavy electric guitar sounds on top of her strong lyrics. To be perfectly honest, I really didn't know this was going to be the start because it didn't sound like her style. Some of her 21 things is, she asks to the listener, "are you inhibited in bed? More than three times a week? Are you athletic? Are you thriving in a job that helps your brother? Are you not addicted? Curious and communicative?" The next track, "Hercules" has a nice start. The song is about all different kinds of self-centered men, or in the words of the song "boys."

The radio happy song "Hands Clean" is a sure-fire hit. It's a great song to sing along to. The song is about an affair, my favorite line is "I know you'll realize me like a young thing would and I think I like it." "Flinch" is a slow and sweet

song. It just shows how much her voice has range and power. "So Unsexy" is a song that is good and fast. "Precious Illusions" is a song that is about the illusions she has about her own self. "That Particular Time" is a sad song about the particular time in a relationship when it falls apart or just ends. "A Man" has a cool marimba sound to it, however, the song is a bit on the whiny side. "You Owe me Nothing in Return" is a good song, along with "Surrendering."

My favorite song on this album is the last song, "Utopia" because it is such a beautiful lyrical and musical song. Imagine a world in which people wouldn't be afraid to share or express their feelings, she goes on to sing, "We would share and listen and support and welcome be propelled by passion not invest in outcomes. We would breathe and be charmed and amused by difference by gentile and make room for every emotion."

Overall, I highly recommend anyone to buy this album. Even if you were never an Alanis fan before, she does come as a great surprise to this amazing album. Alanis is here to stay and her comeback with *Under Rug Swept* is definitely an insight to the fact that she will never fade. She ends her song Utopia, before the final chorus, with these words "Release and disarm and stand-up and feel safe."

Tori Michael
Ass't. News Editor

English Singer/Songwriter At Top Of His Game



Ed Harcourt live, and follow his every move at his website, www.edharcourt.com.

Harcourt's debut is a mature mix of intense song-writing, full-on instrumentation, and beautiful vocal lines. On numerous tracks, like "God Protect Your Soul," and "She Fell Into My Arms," Harcourt raises the ghost of the renowned singer Jeff Buckley, and "She Fell Into My Arms" sounds like it could have come straight from an album of unreleased Buckley material. Without a doubt, every track on *Here Be Monsters* is a keeper, with no filler and no lack of catchy sing-along choruses.

Currently, Harcourt is riding a whirlwind of publicity following the original British release of *Here Be Monsters*, and he is now seeing similar attention stateside, since the album was released

Jacob Claveloux
Co-Insider Editor

Fans of the following three artists: Jeff Buckley, Radiohead, and Rufus Wainwright, be forewarned. You will thoroughly enjoy *Here Be Monsters* (Capitol/Heavenly Records,) the debut full-length from Ed Harcourt. Harcourt's songs will inspire in you the need to buy *Here Be Monsters*, see

here in late March. You might have caught him recently on MTV2's feature "You Hear it First," or you may have seen news of his performance at this year's South by

Southwest conference in Austin, TX. Certainly, if you haven't already heard of Harcourt, you will, and all the praise he receives will be well deserved, based on the release of what will prove to be one of the best albums of 2002.



"Real Artists Creating Great Recordings on Their Own Terms." This is the slogan which adorns the toolbar of the website for Epilaph's fairly new subdivision, Anti-Records. If this slogan intones anything significant it is that Anti- has compiled an extremely diverse lineup of artists (Legendary Folk/Country Singer/Songwriters Tom Waits and Merle Haggard, re-constructionist DJ's Tricky and Muggs, and Reggae legend Buju Banton.) Anti's newest release, *The Promise Ring's* fourth full-length, *Wood/Water* hits record store shelves on April 23, and is the band's first album away from their longtime home of Jade Tree records.

The Promise Ring Come of Age

Jacob Claveloux
Co-Insider Editor

On *Wood/Water* the Promise Ring do something which is fairly amazing, time travel. First, they step back in time, avoiding the pop-friendliness of 1999's *Very Emergency* and settling in on the stripped-down melancholy of 1997's *Nothing Feels Good*. The band then steps forward in time and reinvents it's sound with an infamous producer (Stephen Street, of Blur, The Cranberries, and The Smiths' *The Queen is*

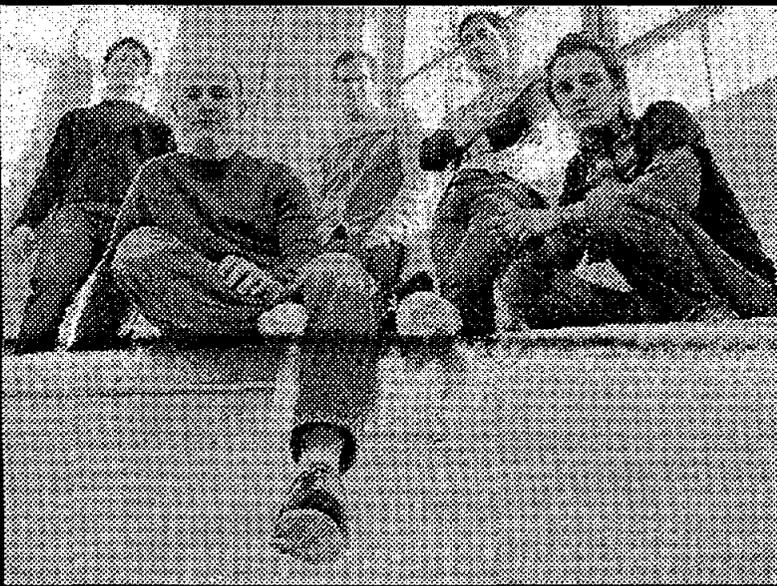
Dead fame) and some interesting, new, sound experiments. On the first track, "Size of Your Life," singer Davey Von Bohlen adds a reverb compression effect to his voice, something that the Promise Ring have not previously tried. And on what is possibly the album's best song (and the only one recorded with Mario Caldato Jr.

of Beastie Boys and Beck fame.) "Say Goodbye Good," the band rocks out in a way that will seem unfamiliar to longtime fans.

The song features guest musicians Scott Schoenbeck-bass, Roger Joseph Manning Jr.-keys (Air, Jellyfish) Quincy McCrary-soloist, Wolfgang-strings, and a three-person choir. In addition to the added personnel, the song also runs fairly long, clocking in at 6:36 total.

As a whole, *Wood/Water* is a record that grows on you. At first listen, it may disappoint some fans of *Very Emergency*, who are expecting upbeat, poppy, rock tunes. For fans of the band's earlier sound and for any mainstream rock kids out there who like Jimmy Eat

World's latest, *Fleed American*, this is a quality album. To those Jimmy kids: look at the name of the dude who does guest vocals on "A Praise Chorus." His name is Davey Von Bohlen, he is the vocalist for the Promise Ring. Now, get up off your asses and buy music by some bands that are not on the radio. Start with *Wood/Water*. www.tpr-online.com, www.anti.com



ECHO BRAIN SOUND MUCH BETTER THAN THEIR NAME

One of the benefits of being a music journalist is that I get to sample music by bands that I would not normally go out and spend my cash on. Most of the CD's that get mailed to us here at the Beacon, we at the Insider pop them out of our CD player as fast as we put them in. However, every once in a while one new band will catch my ears. This time, it was the debut CD by Echo Brain.

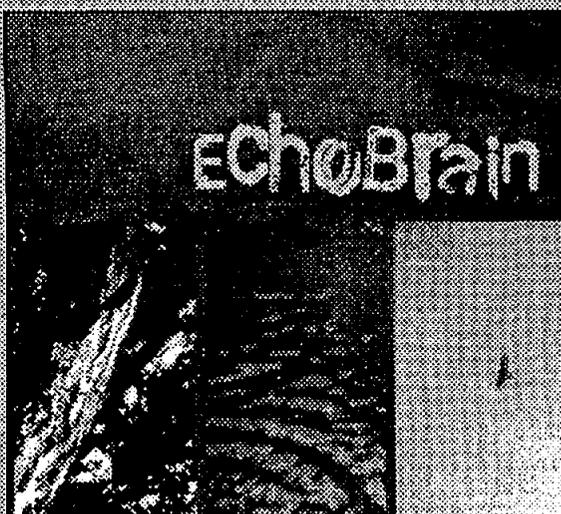


Before I listened to them, I decided they had one thing going against them (their name) and one thing going for them (ex-Metallica's Jason Newstead). I'm not a hard-core Metallica fan, but I do appreciate their music, so I was interested in what a side project from one of their ex-members would sound like.

(along-side fellow surf champion, Rob Machado and MTV personality, Peter King) in his spare time. Echo Brain are nothing like the Surfers musically, however, Dylan Donkin's vocals reminded me of Slater. What's also interesting about this is that Echo Brain are signed to Surfdog Records, in part with Newstead's Chophouse Records.

This is where you have to put all thoughts of Metallica out of your head. Echo Brain is a lot more mellow and adds a touch of pop-between guitar licks. However, one last note for Metallica fans, there is a sense of familiarity in that the San Francisco and National Symphonies were contracted to play on it. Also, Kirk Hammet makes a guest appearance.

Now, with thoughts of Metallica banished from your mind, imagine Radiohead. That's because on track 5, "We are Ghosts" Donkin's voice screams Thom Yorke. It's hard to believe he was singing this stuff when he was 16 years old. Yes, Jason Newstead, rock legend, began playing alongside a 16 year old Donkin way back in 1995. The two met at a mutual friend's New Year's Eve party. Soon after, Newstead invited Donkin to his home studio to jam. Brian Sacratena came along and thus led to the birth of a band



that's named after the voice's in their singer's head. Although they've only played one live show to date, it was hailed as "A first appearance that would rank with those of Nirvana, Green Day and the Smashing Pumpkins. It was straight-ahead rock, deep and rich, with layers you wanted to hold up and examine and listen to over and over." The CD itself vanes in mood. It opens on a high note and ends with the dark "Crying Shame". The focus of their collaborations range from false rock star egos ("Colder World") to a truck driving Elvis impersonator on a meth-binge ("Highway 44"). It'll take you a ride you'll want to travel on for days to come. Go on over to www.echobrain.com.

Joelle Caputa
Co-Insider Editor

NEW SILVERCHAIR... YES, I SAID SILVERCHAIR

By Mix Masta Metal

It's a very rare thing for a band to produce an album that is considered not just their masterpiece, but a masterpiece of their time. It's even rarer for a band to top that masterpiece, but with *Diorama*, their fourth studio album, Silverchair has achieved this feat.

By the way, do you even remember Silverchair? They were the 16-year-old Aussies that had that song "Tomorrow" back in 1995, when we were in middle school or high school. The band's first two albums were good hard rock records, but their third effort, 1999's *Neon Ballroom*, was an emotional, moody powerhouse of a record that showed a band growing up. Now, at the ripe old age of twenty-three, Silverchair have made an album for the ages.

Diorama is both a departure from and expansion on the band's sound from *Neon Ballroom*. On the whole, the album is much brighter than its predecessor, while the band still retains a heavy, dark edge with "Lever" and "One Way Mule", both chock-full of great drop-tuned nu-metal riffing. Strains of melodic Led Zepppelin can be heard on the album in "Too Much of Not Enough", while many of the songs have a definite Beatles influence

when it comes to vocal harmonies. The forty-piece orchestra (for which lead singer/guitarist/lyricist/pianist Daniel Johns wrote the parts) is used not just in addition to the guitar/bass/drums, but to weave layers of melody that mesh with lush, often beautiful rock arrangements. "Across the



Night", the album's opener, sets a good tone with a shiny harpsichord played by Daniel Johns and continues with orchestral flourishes that remind me of a Broadway show tune. "Tuna in the Brine" has a very catchy, off-beat feel that alternates between light and dark, while the first single in Australia, "The Greatest View", starts

off with a riff that Tony Iommi would be proud of, only to soar into sweet pop harmonies in the chorus. "World Upon Your Shoulders" has a similar feel, but starts off with some awesome guitar melodies. More beautiful acoustic guitar and orchestral interplay highlights "My Favourite Thing", while Daniel's piano skills really come out in "After All These Years", the first song he ever wrote on that instrument.

This entire CD is amazing, but one of my personal favorites is "Without You", an atmospheric wall-of-sound that has one of the catchiest chorus melodies I've ever heard. The song just puts a smile on my face. I can't really explain in any more detail, it's just one of those feelings you get when you hear a song that affects you. "Luv Your Life" is the same way for me. Many will see this song as bubble gum pop, but it is one of the sweetest, most beautiful, most sincere love songs I have ever heard in any genre. This song will melt many a heart when the record hits U.S. shores on July 9th, and is prime single material.

Ambitious, uplifting, and extremely artful, *Diorama* is a refreshing beacon of hope in a rock scene that's currently dominated by dark, angst-driven nu-metal. Not that I have a problem with that type of music, but it's nice to hear a band that wants to bring positive vibes to the airwaves. Many old-school Chair fans will hate this record, and I say fuck 'em. This album took a lot of

courage to produce and release, and if for no other reason, Silverchair should be respected for that. And although many metal kids will be turned off by the album, I think they will open up a new fanbase as



well. All the girls that loved Daniel Johns back in 8th grade will fall in love all over again, watch. Musically, the band has come light years from their first album *Frogstomp*, and *Diorama* will cement them as a force to be reckoned with. The album debuted last week at number one on the Australian charts, and comes out here in the States on July 9th. I suggest you all buy it, and experience, as far as I'm concerned, one of the greatest rock albums made in the past fifteen years.

Silverchair official website-
www.chairpage.com

Local Band SPOTLIGHT: THE MIASMICS

Among the fresh crop of young New Jersey talent are the Miasmics, six self-proclaimed gentlemen (Dean Nevolis, Matthew

Ryan, Rob LaFalce, Matthew Schoenebaum, Andrew Lyman, Stephen Palatucci) who are keeping Ska alive and their audiences sweaty. They've been playing together for six years, making

what LaFalce likes to call "Progressive Ska...deviant from the norm."

Their technique is working- it's led them to shows where they've played with such established bands such as King Django. On April 12, they played a show at Club Krome that allowed them to share the stage with Irish punksters Flogging Molly, along with the Slackers.

Live, the Miasmics drive the crowd nuts. A fan favorite is when they play "The Funky Dance." During it, LaFalce performs on top of his drum set for his solo. It was something that started spur of the moment. He says, "I just didn't know what to do for my solo, so I just jumped up there." Another entertaining element of their show is comedy, which often comes through their songs. For example, one of their songs is about "the international sign of peace" titled "Food." The lyrics ("Me and you, we don't really get along/I don't like you and you don't like me/But we both like food") are simple and make



you laugh. They benefit from this during gigs like Possible Side Effects improv comedy, where they periodically open the shows. On the contrast, there is a serious side to the band, like in the song "Trapped," that focuses on relationship issues. "The things you'd say/The things you'd do/My heart couldn't get away from you," it goes.

The band's influences are vast. Individually, they are inspired by Dave Matthews Band, Tool, Silverchair, John Mayer, Puya, Rancid, Bob Marley and the Wallers, the Beatles, Stone Temple Pilots, and Reel Big Fish among others.

However, they do share one thing in common. "We all share the same dream...of one day meeting Carson Daly...and punching him in the eye."

Currently, they are recording a follow up to their seven song debut, THE GEP. It's expected to be completed midsummer. Until then, you can check out their songs via their web site (www.miasmics.shows.it). Or better yet, catch them in action. Upcoming shows include a tentative May 3 date in Randolph at The Out House with the Hectics, In Hope and Silent Witness. On May 26, they will be at the VFW in Brick Township with Superspecs, Kid Go Home, Last Picked, Day by Day and Melmac.

Ecstasy

does a body harm

Get the Facts

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The Arsons: Finally a Real Punk Band

Whole Life Crisis by the Arsons really kicks the shit out of all pop punk boundaries. Think of the possibilities of a good catchy punk rock record with out the crying Emo boys and the whiney vocals. *Whole Life Crisis* mixes an awesome blend of an "old school punk rock frenzy" along the lines of X or The Ramones, and a balls to the wall New York City hardcore feel that could be compared to Warzone, Madball, or Agnostic Front.

Brian Morris
Insider Writer

I am totally pleased with this record, it's



got every ingredient of an awesome album, real life lyrics, kick ass tunes, and no stupid dirty Mohawk 14 year old rich kids yelling about the government... These guys were born and raised in the streets, and it really shows in their music. From beginning to end, this record will blow you away with something totally different from the last in every track. Finally after years of Blink 182 Pop Emo shit we have a punk rock band that can really put their money where their mouth is.

As I flip through this cd and listen to the tracks I can almost feel the pit around me. Each song is just another punch in the face and kick in the ass. I'll raise my glass to the true punk rock the Arsons are grinding out every record and every show. Finally we have a band that can appeal to every kind of punk and still bring back the real punk rock mentality.

Link-www.thearsons.com,
www.chunksaah.com.

RAINIER MARIA MEMBER COVERING OPEN GROUND

Your party has finally ended and people are passed out on the floor, wedged between the sofas and empty beer bottles. Everyone had a good time tonight. Slowly step over the mess and place Kyle Fischer's disc *Open Ground* into your stereo and hit play. You casually fall back into your recliner and listen to the first track, "Headphones." This is how it should be.

Rainier Maria member Kyle Fischer has put out a good attempt at a quiet album. This album's vibe is directly linked to the first line of that first track, "The record shop on Sunday is a kind of church for you." Yeah, it is. This whole album plays like a church: Fischer's Neil Young-like nasal voice teetering around the note, arpeggios ringing throughout, a lot of space and breath.

Fischer's wife/band-mate Caithlin De Marrais also shows up in places. Her voice is a welcome change from Fischer's rather "acquired" tone. The only problem I found with this recording, in fact, has to do with their voices. Fischer definitely takes some getting used to. I still think he sounds like Neil Young trying to do a Roger Waters impression, not necessarily a bad thing, but one that might scare off a first time listener. De Marrais' voice is beautiful,

John Findura
Lit Editor

but she never really lets loose; she doesn't give into emotion as much as I would have liked. Speaking of Caithlin, the weakest

song on this album was also penned by her, "Too soon to know." The lyrics are kind of bland and someone should take that guitar away from her! Please!

But, overall, Fischer's lyrical quality is good, the musicianship is good, and the songs are well done. I won't be blasting this in my car on that road trip, but you'll catch me listening to this when the party's over.

For more info on Kyle Fischer and Rainier Maria, head on over to www.rainiermaria.com or www.polyvinylrecords.com.



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Big Trouble (PG-13) 5:30 PM
The Sweetest Thing (R) 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30

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Abstracts

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

North East Prints 2002



Virginia Bruner, "Berlin Atrium", 2001, digital print



Carol Rosen, "Going to Synagogue", 2001, photo transparency

Bree Falato
Abstracts Writer

Day after day, I walk into the Ben Shahn Building and glance to my right at the exhibition in the South Gallery. The other day (with much urging from the editor) I finally entered it, and walked away satisfied that I did. From now until April 26, the South Gallery in Ben Shahn Hall is presenting "North East Prints," a juried exhibition collection of prints of various mediums by artists from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Connecticut. The genres range from the abstract to realism to the surreal. While strolling through the gallery going from print to print, many of them evoked emotions that went from joy and happiness, to a darker mood. These emotions were provoked by the subject of the prints; children, feminist movements, touches of the Holocaust and September 11. The winner of the exhibition, though not my favorite was called, "Sampler Soloex," a mono-print. The print was comprised of red cards hand sewn and hand printed with the image of a mother and child holding hands. Above and below are words that are opposing to one another. The image provoked ideals of women in the past, the stay at home mother, housework, contradicted

by today's evolving standards for women.

My personal favorite of the show, which came second, was "Footnotes" by Maureen Cummins, a silkscreen from 2001. Peering at the print, it was both chilling and stirring. The image is of a silhouette of a man's lower body that appears to have been hung. In the silhouette, it tells the story of a black man who was to be lynched in the street for raping a white woman. Though the woman claimed it was not him, the town's people dragged him from his home, and instead of hanging him burned him alive. The image itself was eerie and haunting and definitely brought a flood of emotions on to me.

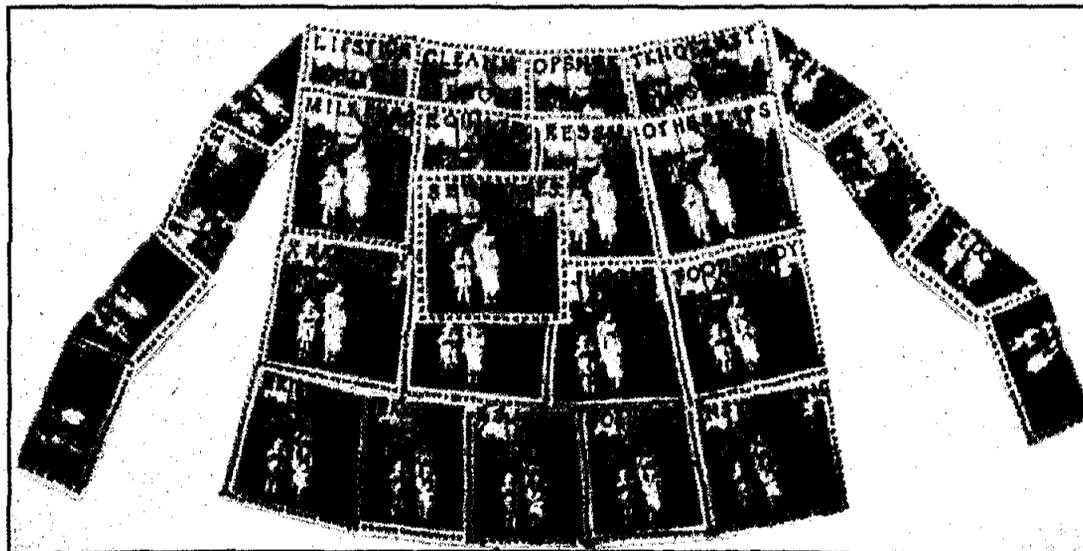
Though there were many pieces in the show that struck me, One however, truly left an impression on me. "Going to Synagogue" a photo transparency is the image that did it. It is an old black and white photo of two children holding an unidentifiable women's hand. The image evokes such raw emotion. The child crying brings such sadness to the picture. The only image that I could bring to mind was the Holocaust because the photo was so old and the child's face was caught in such a tormented state.

Whether these prints are stating



Maureen Cummins, "Footnotes", 2001, silkscreen

a political message, making you aware of events, or are just of beautiful aesthetic value, the collection is quite impressive. Curated by Judith Hecke, the assistant curator of prints at the Museum of Modern Art, she definitely has lent her expertise and put on an excellent exhibition that showcases print makers from the Northeast region. This show gives us the opportunity to associate with artists we may not have otherwise known from our area. The variety of images and subject matter blend in this exhibition and execute an enjoyable show.



Patricia Cudd, "Sampler", 2001 monoprint lithograph, with hand-stitching and hand stamping

*Cudd will receive a one-person exhibit in the Ben Shahn South Gallery Spring 2003 for her grand prize work.

www. abstracts10@yahoo.com

Carol Westfall's "Cityscapes"

Chris Moses
Abstracts Editor

Carol Westfall's work, being presented in the east gallery of Ben Shahn Hall, can be easily misinterpreted. The work can be seen as a selfish act, using the despicable events of Sept. 11 for a sort of attention-garnering personal gain. Reading into the work though, her aims and sensibilities become clear. "Cityscapes, Remembrance of things past" is one of the three exhibits concurrently held in the Ben Shahn Galleries. Westfall was the grand prize awardee of last years Northeast Prints Show and recipient of her own show. Westfall, a Professor of Art at Montclair State University uses large pieces of linen and gets her images digitally printed on them. Also accompanying her prints are two other aspects; neon light-sculptures with meanings buried within and an installation piece. The lighting within the gallery space is turned off and only the neon-allowed to light the

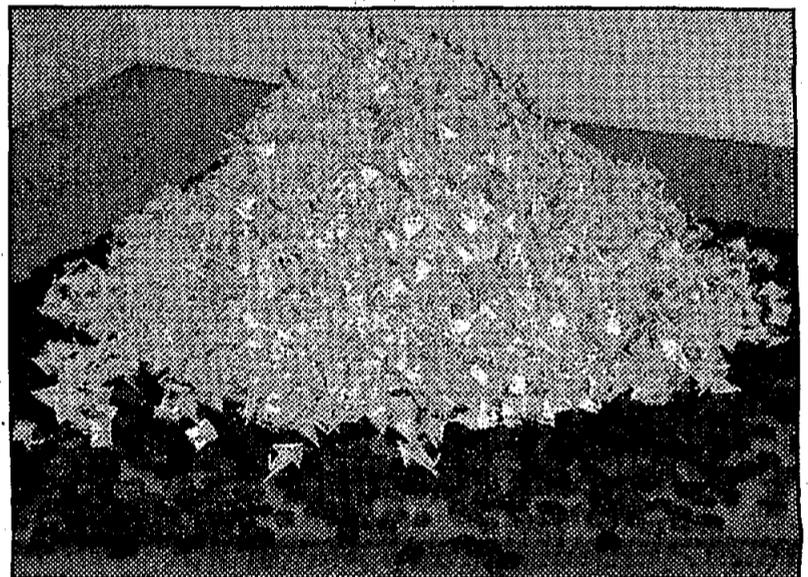
artwork. Westfall has a home located near where the Twin Towers used to be, and used this opportunity to photograph the landscape at all times of the day and in different weather conditions. At the time she was concerned with depicting a "personal view" of her surroundings; proud statements about the Americas freedom and power since transformed into depictions of sorrow and deep loss. The results are stunning; Westfall in her prints captures the majesty and power of the Towers. The large format of the prints adds heroism and sense of immediate scale to the images. Westfall photographed the towers in all times of the day in similar sensibility to the way Impressionist painter Claude Monet painted "La cathedrale de Rouon" in differing positions and light during the day. In Westfall's infatuations with the Towers, they become forms themselves, transformed from a place of capitalist economy to visages of beauty. The installation "Elegy" is a stunning piece,

abstracted sculpture juxtaposed against the pictorial quality of the prints. The piece, comprised of 3063 paper cranes, one for all who perished, and stones mixed together of the floor of the gallery. The viewer looks down on the piece and receives a corporeal response of the destruction of Sept 11. "Elegy" is a profound depiction of the frailty of man, a mixture solid earth and fragile forms.

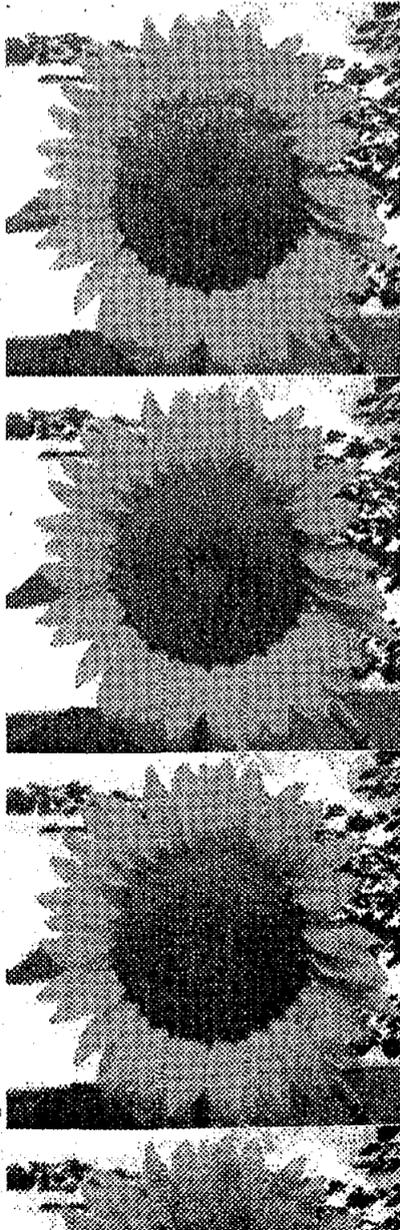
It's beginning to be a clichéd to show outbound patriotism eight months after the deadly attacks on America's sovereignty. We don't see the American flag flying on every car, house or person anymore. The commonplace of it all has turned it all into ritual. Some of it is America as a whole moving on, putting a tragedy behind them to start something new. Carol Westfall's work here can be interpreted as feeding into this cliché, an unnecessary gesture of remorse in a time where we all should be taking the next step. I for one will take any chance to see and remember what I can.

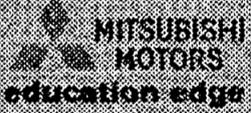


Carol Westfall, "XWTC" digitalprint on cotton, 2000



Carol Westfall, "Elegy" Installation of stones and Japanese paper cranes, 2002





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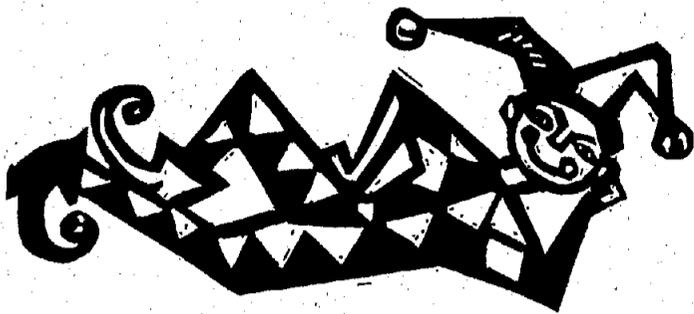
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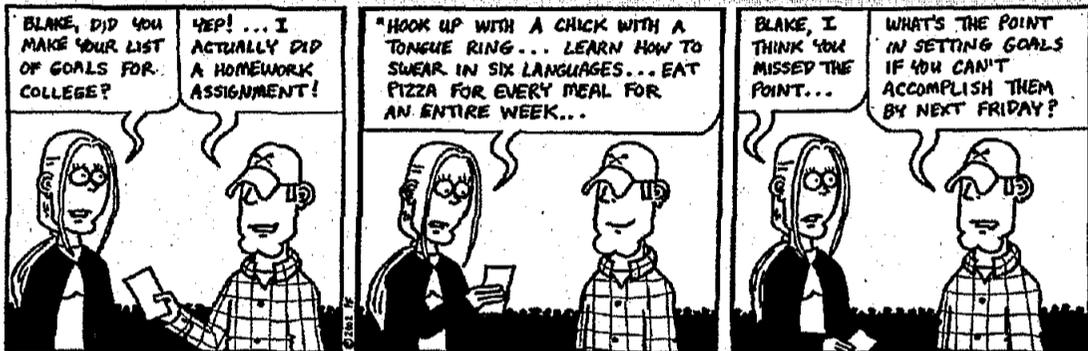
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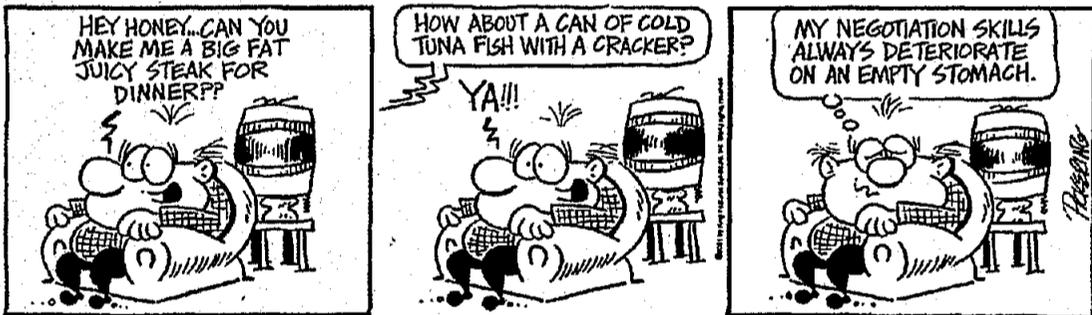
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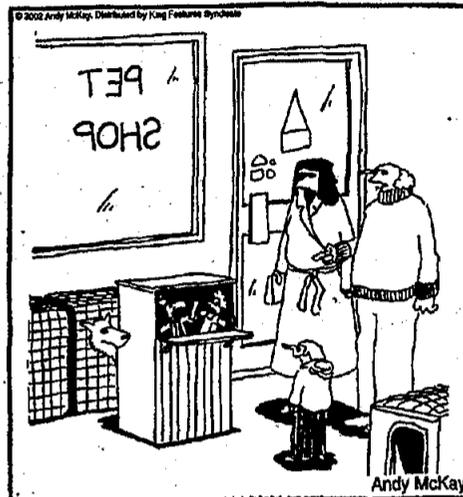
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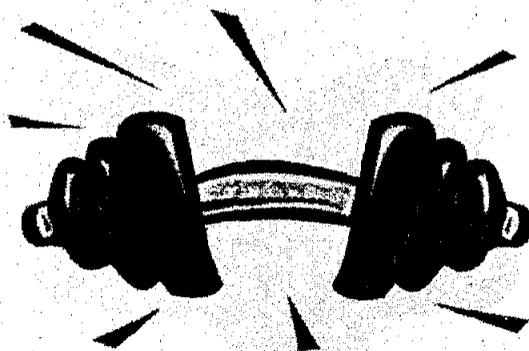
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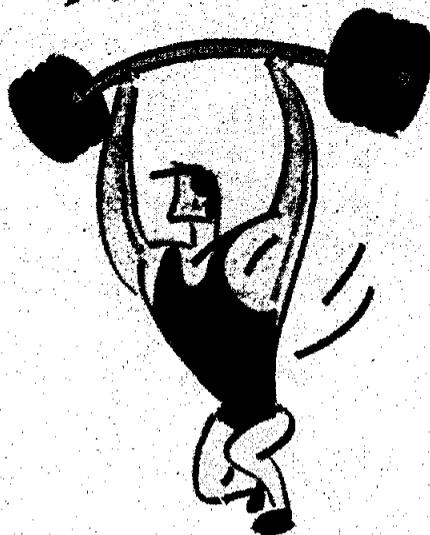
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Beacon Book Reviews

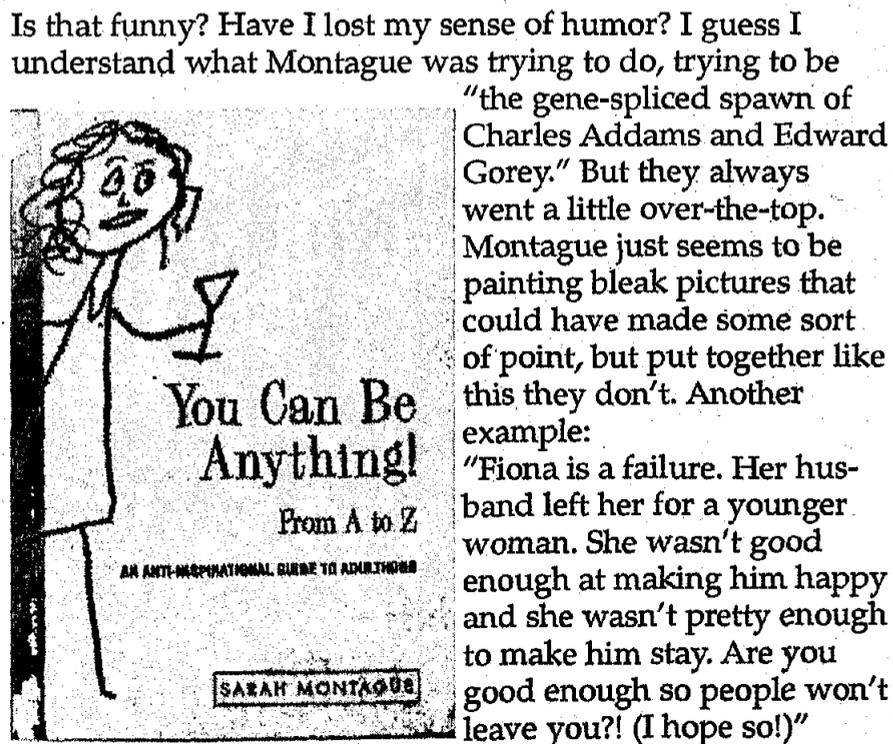
YOU CAN BE ANYTHING!
 FROM A TO Z
 AN ANTI-INSPIRATIONAL GUIDE TO
 ADULTHOOD

by Sarah Montague
 Villard

Maybe I'm not as jaded as I previously thought. I just finished reading *You Can Be Anything!* by Sarah Montague, a slim little volume that mysteriously appeared in my mailbox, and I don't get it. The blurb on the back cover proudly proclaims this to be "hilariously perverse." Perverse, maybe. Hilarious? Not really.

John Findura
 Lit Editor

The stick-like figures that take you through this "A to Z" guide were interesting at first, but then I started to read. "A" goes something like this:
 "Amy is adopted. Her real parents did not want her, so they gave her away to live with strangers. Are you a good girl?"



Is that funny? Have I lost my sense of humor? I guess I understand what Montague was trying to do, trying to be "the gene-spliced spawn of Charles Addams and Edward Gorey." But they always went a little over-the-top. Montague just seems to be painting bleak pictures that could have made some sort of point, but put together like this they don't. Another example:
 "Fiona is a failure. Her husband left her for a younger woman. She wasn't good enough at making him happy and she wasn't pretty enough to make him stay. Are you good enough so people won't leave you?! (I hope so!)"

Anyone out there rolling in the isles? Hmmm, I thought not.

THE BLURRY GIRL

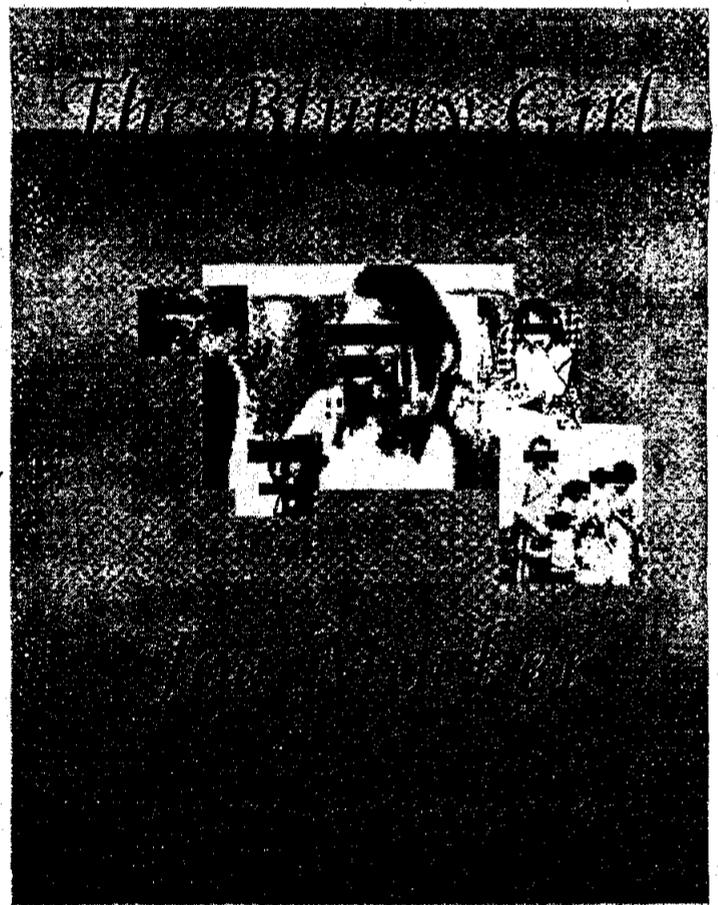
AND OTHER POEMS
 by Joe Mocker
 Beacon Books

Joe Mocker has finally released his first book of poems, appropriately titled *The Blurry Girl*. Mocker's entire world seems blurry. The blurb on the front cover calls it "brilliant," and it just may be. He is not afraid to delve into the dark, seedy realms of the sub-conscious. His legendary series of "Friar" poems is also included. The most enlightening new piece is titled "For Deirdre" which includes the lines, "She bit my finger,/ her ear tastes like wine -/ oh supple moon over Mon Amie."

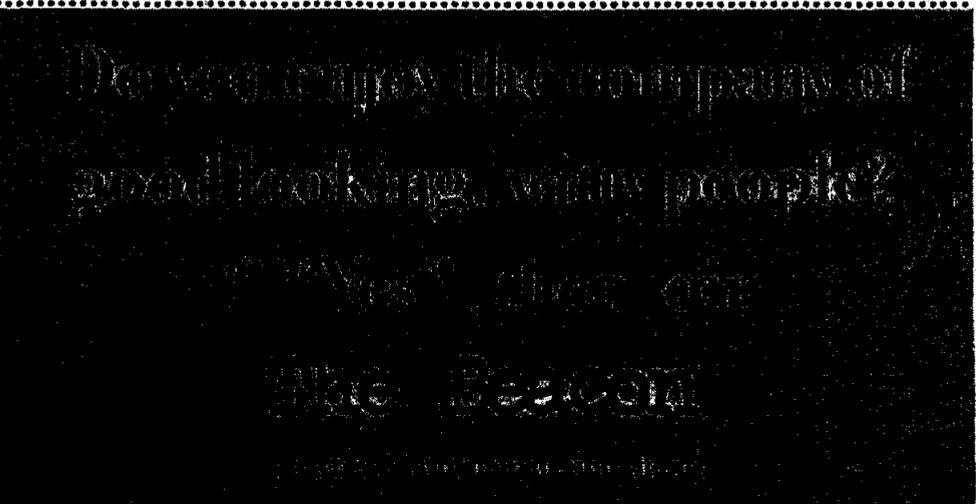
Andy Flynn
 The Beacon

Mocker refuses to stay in one place, however. At one point he fancies himself Jack the Ripper ("Ballad of the Cheap Women"), another he is Penelope Cruz ("Kissing Tom"). The man is crazed, yet able to work magic with words.

The only bad thing about the book is that he does not include any of his prose pieces. He does offer one poem in the guise of a teleplay for a *Laverne and Shirley* episode, sans Carmine.



The book is in limited supply, so it is not the easiest to track down. Rumor has it that Mocker paid for the production of the book completely out-of-pocket with money he won at the dog track. The dog's name? Friar Larry. How could he lose?



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6. Professionalism of overnight guards.

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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.

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11. Amount of campus police officers.

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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?

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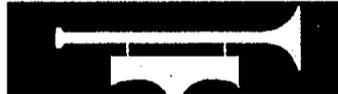
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WPU wipes out Montclair State on the diamond

Kricket Kszepka
Contributor

"Don't Tread on Me", the motto of the Lady Pioneer Softball team, proved true as they improved their record to 16-6, making them 7-1 in the NJAC. The team swept Montclair State 1-0 and 8-0 Tuesday, April 9, sending Montclair home with a record of 4-4 in the NJAC's.

In game one, junior Sam Kszepka had a stellar performance on the mound and at the plate. Kszepka pitched a four-hitter, striking out four and walking one. This is her fourth shutout this season and improves her record to 8-2. Offensively, Kszepka stroked a double to score senior Lauren Hertzberg, who got

on by beating out a throw to first, batted 2 for 3 and scored the teams only run.

Senior Diane Catalano, who tossed a one-hitter, striking out five, walking none, pitched the second game to win it 8-0 in the fifth. Freshman Nicky Arias slugged a two-run double in the first to lead off the start of the rally. Other key hitters were junior Liz Carroll, Morgan Dunlap who went 2 for 3, and senior Jen Menges who doubled, tripled, had 2 RBI and scored twice.

This is the seventh straight win for the Pioneers and places them first in the NJAC's. Come support the team on Thursday, April 18 as they play Muhlenberg Home at 3:00.



One of the Lady Pioneers takes a big cut from Montclair's pitcher

photo by Matt DeFranza

BONDS SIXTH ON ALL TIME HOME RUN LIST, GOING FOR FIRST

Matt DeFranza
Sports Editor

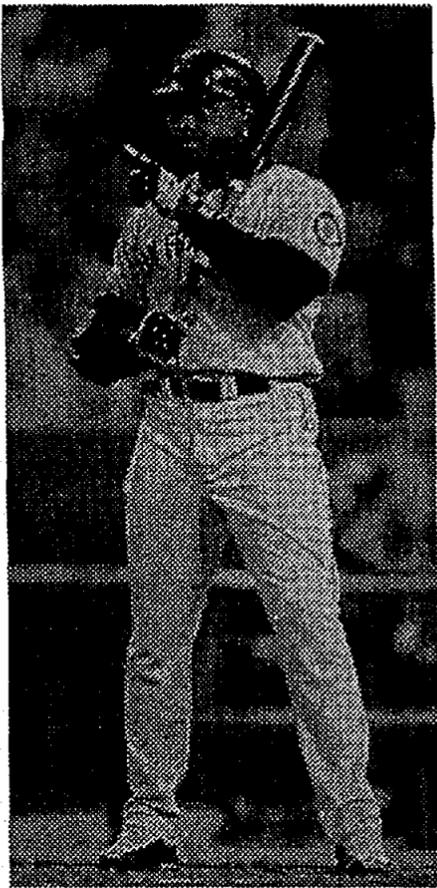
The runs are adding up, and Barry Bonds is getting closer to being put in the record books. After belting his 573rd homer on Saturday April 13, Bonds took his place at number six, tied with Harmon Killebrew on the career home runs list. He is only 10 runs behind Mark McGwire, who's season home run record in 1998 was broken by Bonds last year with 73 long balls. When he was chasing the single-season record last year, Bonds repeatedly said the homers didn't matter. He wanted the Giants in the playoffs. This season is no different to him.

Bonds' major league-leading sixth homer of the season, a three-run shot, came off pitcher Ben Sheets in the third inning. He nearly connected again in the seventh, but his long drive hooked foul and landed in the water beyond the right-field wall at Pacific Bell Park. Sheets appeared a bit nervous facing Bonds in his first at bat, throwing his first pitch behind the single-season home run leader. After Sheets intentionally walked Bonds, Bonds pulled ahead of the legend Mickey Mantle with 1,735 career walks, placing sixth in the record books.

One more interesting note about Bonds is that he leads the "500 club" with almost 500 stolen bases, surpassing former leader Willy Mays, who had 660 home runs and 338 stolen

bases. The "500 club" is a list of players who have broken the 500 mark in career home runs.

Granted Bonds still has a way to go before he passes home run legends Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron (714 home runs and 755 homeruns respectively) but it doesn't mean it is not possible. At the rate he's going, Bonds will surely take his spot as number one within the next three seasons.



Barry Bonds ready to step up to the plate.

photo by: Matt DeFranza

Arnold Palmer calls it quits

Matt DeFranza
Sports Editor

After 43 years, golf legend Arnold Palmer has finally decided to call it quits. On Friday, April 12, Palmer officially retired from The Masters. He is now nearing 73 years old, and came to his conclusion after realizing that he had difficulty reaching the greens at the

Augusta National, and struggled to break 90 by attempting an 8-foot putt.

Palmer doesn't seem too unhappy about the situation at all. With four green jackets under his belt, there is really nothing holding Palmer back from retiring in style. Palmer finished off his final round with a 13-over-par 85 and the standing ovation he deserved.

Pioneer Baseball upset by Kean

Matt DeFranza
Sports Editor

On Thursday April 11, the Pioneers traveled to Kean with high hopes in continuing their four game win streak. But despite an excellent pitching performance by junior Jack Baker, the William Paterson Pioneers (15-8, 4-4 NJAC) lost to the Cougars in a 4-2 upset. Baker only allowed six hits and four runs, but also walked six

(three intentional), and struck out one.

Junior designated hitter Ron Hayward went 2 for 4 for the game. He also had two stolen bases, and accounted for the teams only two runs, both on sacrifice flies. Overall, the Pioneers out-hit the Cougars 8-6, but that wasn't enough to pull ahead for the win. Senior Dan Sherlock and junior Brian Graham had 11 game hit streaks running, but unfortunately lost their

opportunity to continue them.

Even though the Pioneers losing to Kean was an upset, they still played extremely well. On Tuesday April 16, the Pioneers will be heading back to Kean for a double header beginning at 3:00pm. Their next home games are Monday April 15 against Ramapo, and Tuesday April 16 against FDU-Madison. Both games will begin at 3:00pm.



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