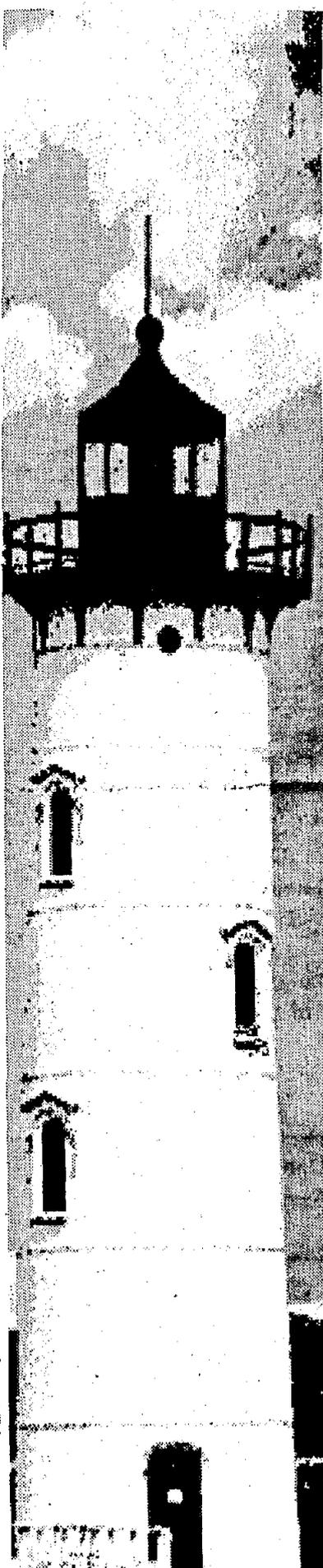
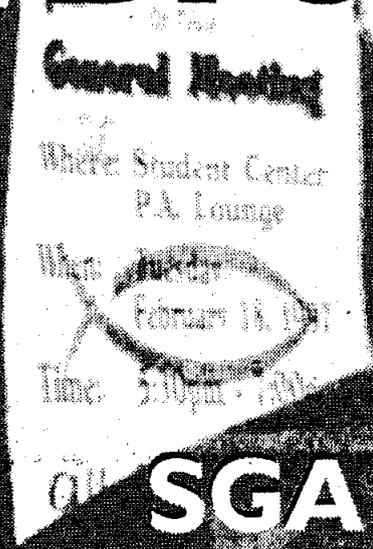
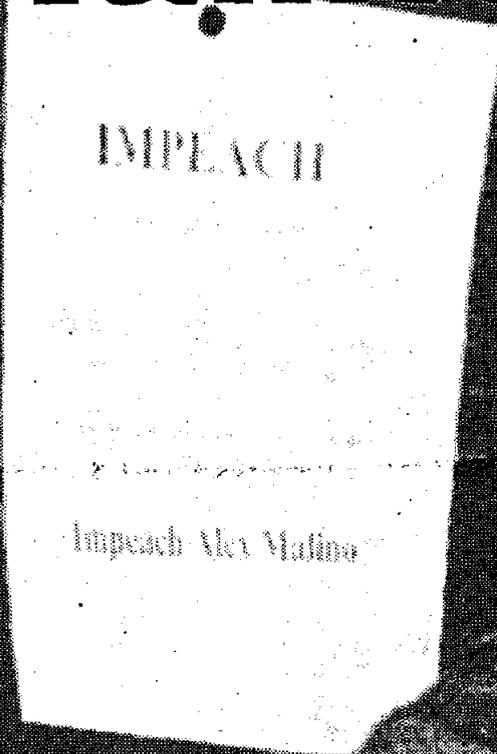


BEACON



# Students attempt to remove Malino/Brooks



**SGA President and Court of Judicial Review Chair come under fire for protest**

**SPECIAL SECTION PAGE 17**

**Issues of Debate: Rev. Sharpton's visit to WPC**

**News Page 2**

**For SGA executive officers, it's not all volunteer work**

# For SGA executive officers it's not all volunteer work

By Norman DeFelippo

All executive board members of the William Paterson College Student Government Association (SGA) receive tuition reimbursement, a form of compensation for their role in SGA government. At the end of each semester those SGA members who qualify for tuition reimbursement receive a check for the amount of that semester's flat-rate tuition, which does not include any fees or room and board costs.

The process for tuition reimbursement has a set procedure, and students who hold positions where tuition reimbursement is a possibility are not guaranteed a full reimbursement.

Barbara Stomber, SGA financial adviser, explained that if the students get a C-minus (1.7 GPA) or better they receive half of the reimbursement.

After students meet the minimum requirements, the proposals for tuition reimbursement are received by SGA Legislature, says Stomber, and the Legislature votes on them. Stomber then receives the approved requests and sends the names of those approved to the Bursar's office to check "if they have met all of their financial obligations with the college," said Stomber. If they meet those requirements, then they will receive full tuition reimbursement.

"Any student receiving full reimbursement taking 12 to 18 credits this year would get \$1264.12," Stomber explains.

Of course, the amount stated is for New Jersey residents only and only for one semester. Because tuition reimbursement covers the fall, spring, and summer semesters the reimbursement of one SGA member enrolled in 36 credits could amount to \$3792.36 for his or her one year as an officer.

"All of the money [for tuition reimburse-



Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

Only William Paterson Student Government Association Executive Officers receive tuition reimbursement. This includes President, Executive Vice President, Vice President and Tr

ment]," says Stomber "from student activities fees." Each student pays \$33 a semester for Student Fees and a portion of those funds tuition reimbursement.

Wanda Acosta, senior psychology major, feels that the coron executive SGA members receive give an impact on the job they do.

"They should do their utmost potential," said Acosta. "are holding a position where everyone up to them, they are the role model." So I feel they should go over and their duties."

Other students feel confident in the

capacity of the SGA to perform at a level worth monetary compensation.

Melissa Kirton, junior and nursing major, wonders, "What are they doing that we are not doing? I cannot think of any legitimate answer that they could give me to make me say 'Okay I understand why they are getting tuition reimbursement.'"

"I think the reason [for tuition reimbursement]," said Stomber "was that these positions required a tremendous amount of time and they couldn't get people to fill them because, students of course need to earn some income, as well, to support their col-

see IRS page 5

## the Beacon

A NEWSPAPER THAT'S CLEARLY FOR YOU

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ON THE COVER -- A member of the William Paterson College Community pauses to read one of the signs that call for the impeachment of WPC Student Government Association President Alex Malino.

Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

# African-American students angry over protest demand resignation of two SGA leaders

## 'I will not resign' responded William Paterson College Student Government Association President Alex Malino at the meeting of the SGA Legislature last Tuesday.

By Matthew Halpern

Members of the William Paterson College African-American community called for the impeachment of Alex Malino, WPC Student Government Association president, and Thom Brooks, SGA Court of Judicial Review (CJR) chairperson.

The demands which were made at the SGA Legislature meeting held last Tuesday, February 18, followed a protest by Malino, Brooks and Miriam Janoff, president, WPC Hillel. The protest occurred February 4 at the opening ceremonies for African Heritage Month, where Rev. Al Sharpton was the keynote speaker. Standing outside of the Student Center Ballroom, the three displayed a stating "Rev. Al Sharpton is a reverend of HATE" and equating him to the controversial Minister Louis Farrakhan.

"I protested because of my personal convictions, as a Jewish male," said Malino. "We protested because we feel Al Sharpton is anti-Semitic."

WPC students who opposed the actions of Malino, Brooks and Janoff did so for a variety of reasons.

"Whenever you are on the college campus, you represent the SGA," said one WPC student at the recent SGA Legislature meeting. "A lot of people know him as the SGA President, not just Alex Malino, and so people looked at him as a leader, not just a student."

Additionally, some students felt that there are other ways to effectively get a point across while still representing the best interest of the student body at large.

"I feel as though he could have done it [expressed his opinion] another way--he could have written him a letter, or he could have talked to him," said NaSheeda Thompson, sophomore. "It made me feel uncomfortable, since you represent me; he is showing a bad image for the Student Government Association."

The accusations were brought only against Malino and Brooks and dealt with the alleged violation of rules and regulations from the SGA constitution and WPC student handbook.

In a document distributed at the SGA meeting these actions were described as not representative of the rights, interests and welfare of WPC students. Also stated in the document was the charge that standing outside the presentation was a hindrance of communication and an interference with a college-sponsored event.

Mark Hawkins, senior, felt that the interests and welfare of African-American students was not represented by Malino's actions.

"According to the purpose of your constitution, you did not represent me and I cannot see you representing me nor people of color any longer," said Hawkins at the Legislature meeting. "Your resignation is needed."

The SGA Constitution states "the purpose of the association is to promote the interest and welfare of the student body by providing a means through which members may express themselves effectively in matters which affect the student as a member of the William Paterson College community."

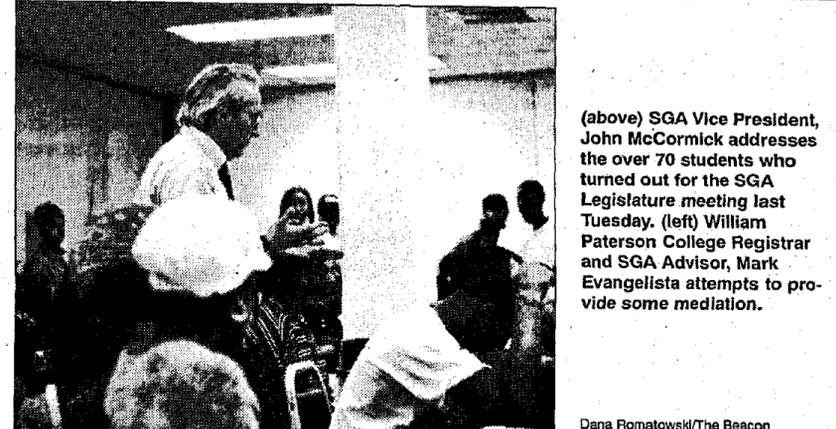
Present at the meeting, Janoff feels that the difference in their positions has kept the public eye away from her.

"Since I don't hold an SGA position, they don't come after me," said Janoff. "I'm not as known among students, though I am mentioned as a third person."

Following an often heated discussion by SGA Legislators and audience members, a motion for impeachment of Alex Malino and Thom Brooks was made by Dorothy Thomas, a Club "B" representative, and seconded by John Fuqua, Freshman Class vice-president. No discussion followed and no vote was taken on

### "The Board of Trustees does not get into the day-to-day activities of the college"

-Gruel



(above) SGA Vice President, John McCormick addresses the over 70 students who turned out for the SGA Legislature meeting last Tuesday. (left) William Paterson College Registrar and SGA Advisor, Mark Evangelista attempts to provide some mediation.

Dana Romatowski/The Beacon

this matter.

Ed Marsh, Senior Class vice-president and vice chairperson of the CJR, then explained what would proceed based on his interpretation of the SGA constitution. Marsh said that the matter would be presented before the CJR at its meeting the following Tuesday.

"The members of the CJR would convene and call in the students in question and evidence that you have will be presented," Marsh said. "Alex would be brought in and all the evidence he has, the then make it's finding."

Based on the recommendation of the CJR, the matter can be brought back the SGA Legislators for a vote. The motion must pass with a 2/3 affirmative vote for two consecutive

utive meetings, meaning that the two would vacate office until Mar. 18 at the earliest.

Malino then announced at the SGA Executive Board meeting this past Thursday that, following consultation with the SGA attorney, Gerald Brennan, the motion did not hold any ground, since it was submitted improperly.

According to Malino, Marsh and Mark Evangelista, SGA adviser, spoke with the SGA lawyer, who stated that the motion were "dead," because they had been done incorrectly. "A separate motion must be made specifically for Thom and for me," he stated. "In addition, no vote was taken, possibly because of the emotion and confusion, making a dead motion."

Another problem with the motion is that it includes violations from both the SGA constitution and the WPC Student Handbook. The SGA can only hear complaints based on its constitution; violations regarding the student handbook should be taken to the attention of the Dean of Student Development, states the handbook.

At the start of this past

Saturday's Board of Trustees meeting, two WPC professors, Edward Bell, Educational Leadership, and William Small, Political Science, along with four WPC students addressed the board about this issue. Subsequently, the trustees agreed to hand the situation over to the Minority Affairs committee, who will come back to the board in April with a report on their findings.

According to Fred Gruel, chairperson, WPC Board of Trustees, the board holds an oversight role concerning issues of this matter. By giving the Minority Affairs committee jurisdiction over this issue, the administration will become more active in the proceedings.

"The Board of Trustees does not get into the day-to-day activities of the college," said Gruel. "What we are doing is putting this back into the hands of the administration, who will look into the events as a whole, and determine the atmosphere that comes out of that--whether diversity is accepted in the college community."

Marc Schaeffer, executive

see SGA page 5

# Record year drains SGA club account

By Michele Mielko

The William Paterson College Student Government Association Finance Committee sent out a memo this past week stating that the club account is drained. The money was spent on programs and events by club "B" organizations of the SGA.

Each fiscal year, a budget is set for club expenses by the SGA budget committee, which consists of SGA executive officers and three members of the finance committee chosen by SGA Treasurer, Jasmine Lopez. Last year's amount was set at \$103,600. Since not all money in the club account was spent during the 1995-96 academic year, the account was decreased to \$90,195 this year, said Barbara Stomber, SGA financial adviser.

"Last year, we didn't use all the money allocated," said Stomber. "Clubs probably did not even use \$90,000, so the account was decreased."

Though the account is low right now, Stomber said that this is a record amount of money accessed through the club account.

"This is the most money accessed in club account history," she said. "When we had the fund available, many clubs may not have been in tune with accessing this money, but we are glad to see they are doing so now."

Currently, there is only approximately \$3,500 left in the account. The reason

why there is so little so early in the spring semester is that you can request money for an event far before the event is to take place, Stomber added.

"Clubs can request something in January for the end of the semester, that's why it goes so quickly," said Stomber.

Some of the events that have already been paid for are Chinese New Year/Asian Day which exceeded \$3,000, The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) Semi-formal in April, which also exceeded \$3,000, and the Newark Boys Choir also \$3,000. Other pre-paid events include the Health Fair in April, Elizabeth Cady Stanton in March, a Psychology Lecture, and Multi-cultural week with Edgar Cruz in March.

There are approximately 40 active Club "B" Organizations, 30 of which have dipped into the club account so far. Last year, only 30 clubs used the account for the entire year. This year, Stomber is hoping to have probably 32 or more clubs accessing the fund.

"We have many clubs that have needed the account but have put a request to do so, which is quite good."

The three biggest for the Fall Semester were AS Dance in December, the Ski Concert which

**"Last year, we didn't use all the money allocated, said Stomber. "Clubs probably didn't even use \$90,000, so the account was decreased."**

took place on v. 23, and the SGA Dance performance in Shea Auditorium. Each of these events exceeded \$1,000.

The largest expense to date is AS. Their account comes to 2,663. When AS runs events, they bring some income to help defray the cost of the activity, Stomber said.

Though there are only \$7,000 in requests, clubs are discouraged to keep sending in requests.

There will be a Meeting Thurs., Feb. 27, at 12:30 p.m. at the meeting, they will announce if there are any additional funds available. If a certain group didn't use their funds up,

some may be given to the SGA club account. The second part of the meeting will be to hear financial requests from clubs and organizations.

Many of the programs that clubs requested money for were beneficial, "It's hard because some of these programs are really excellent," said Stomber.

When asked if this will happen again next year or if it can be prevented, Lopez replied, "It all comes from student fees, it depends on the enrollment for next year."

According to Stomber, the money is not all given to one particular group. It is distributed on a first come, first serve basis. "There has been some talk about allocating funds to clubs, which was done in the past," Stomber said. "That was a dismal failure, because when leadership would change, that club may not do the same programs and no one could touch those funds."

Although there is only a small amount of money left in the account, which may be enough for only one or two more events, Stomber encourages clubs to keep handing in requests. She said that the SGA will work hard to use its funds efficiently and help to keep good programs running.

"We've continued to tell people to hand in their requests," said Stomber. She added that it is the hope of the SGA that they will receive additional funds to allow clubs to run as many programs as possible.

# SGA Legislature to hold special meeting tomorrow

from SGA page 3

assistant to the President, stated that administrators have been working with students to create a dialogue where these issues can be addressed and dealt with.

"I know that the office of the

Provost and the Dean of Students and the SGA adviser are working with members of the African American and SGA communities to see if they can be brought together to see if they can reach an agreement," said Schaeffer. "This will help them to understand each others positions."

Roland Watts, interim dean, WPC Student Development, feels that the Legislative meeting was a positive experience. He hopes that this is the beginning of an interaction where all members of the WPC community can

understand one another.

"Clearly one of the pluses of Tuesday's meeting was that it began a dialogue," Watts said. "A goal for me and my office is to try and continue this dialogue, such that all different groups of the college community can understand, respect and appreciate each other."

**"Once you take on the responsibilities of being a representative of the student on this campus, you sacrifice a lot of things."**

-Williams

As a representative of the students, Marc Williams, student member of the WPC Board of Trustees agrees with Watts, saying that the meeting was positive because it opened the lines of communication, and he is happy to see this. His point, along with many SGA Legislators and WPC students, is that the leader aspect

As a result of the confusion regarding the SGA motion, a mandatory special SGA Legislature meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 25 at 3:30 p.m. in Student Center rooms 203-5. At that time, explained Malino, there will be an opportunity to remake any motions.



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# IRS sees tuition reimbursement as form of income

from SGA page 2

lege education."

In contrast to WPC's system, Josa Miller, SGA President at The College of New Jersey explained that at her college, "The president and the vice president of legal services are the only two people who get paid in the SGA." No one else in their SGA is compensated in any way for the work they do, she added.

Montclair State University has a much different way of reimbursing their executive board compared to WPC. President of Montclair's SGA, Amy Fisher, says "Executive board members get room and board over the summer. We also go on a conference over the summer and we get paid minimum wage but, once the year starts there is nothing."

Alex Malino, WPC SGA president, said "[tuition reimbursement] is irrelevant to the job as a whole [and] it is not a reason to run for the position."

Stomber explains "Since I've been here, since 1988, tuition reimbursement has remained constant." But Anthony Cavotto, director, WPC Auxiliary Services, informed her "that there was tuition reimbursement as [far back] as the 70's...and that involved just the SGA president."

"And then, Cavotto said that in the 1980's, he believed at the time when Henry Morris was the director of student development, the tuition policy encompassed not only the SGA President, but

the other officers: the Executive Vice President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, and then the 'A' clubs."

Jennel P. Cooper, SGA Executive Vice President, said "I personally have financial aid, so my loans pay for it [tuition] and then I get the money back after it is proven that I have done my duties. Then I will have the money to pay back my loans as soon as the bank asks for the money."

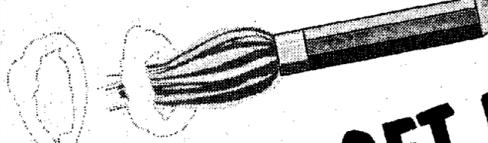
Diane Ackerman, acting director, WPC Financial Aid, explained that all the information about tuition reimbursement goes to the Financial Aid office and all financial aid packages are adjusted accordingly.

However, one discrepancy about tuition reimbursement has yet to be resolved.

According to Charlotte O'Brien, Campus Activities bookkeeper, tuition reimbursement is not considered income and no taxes are taken out of reimbursement.

However, Colleen Hancock, spokeswoman for the Internal Revenue Service, says the reimbursement is income and therefore it is taxable.

"In as much as they are doing something, acting as officers, which is why they are receiving the money they would have to pay taxes," said Hancock. Also, Hancock added that the standards SGA officers must meet "only makes it a little more firm as to why they are receiving the money, it really is compensation."



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## Railroad Jerk: Waving The Flag Of Rebellion



By Joe Giglio

"What the fuck is country punk?" asks Marcellus Hall, singer/songwriter of New York's own Railroad Jerk, while reading a review of their latest effort, *The Third Rail*. Describing the sound of the quartet's past four LP's is about as complex as describing the ethics of botany to a city dweller. Everything's multi-layered and all influences are sporadically fused in each song. Critics have named influences from Robert Johnson and Donovan to Captain Beefheart and the Sex Pistols to capture the essence of the sound. In reality, the very fabric of RRJ's sound uses a ramshackle, folked-down version of the Rolling Stones meeting a tamed Blues Explosion. The guitar lines of Marce Hall and Alec Stephen are staggard and loose Tony Lee's bass and occasional organ arrangement are kiltered but fitting and Dave Varenka's percussion and infrequent use of the pots and pans couldn't be better placed. It's a blues vs. folk vs. punk vs. hard rock vendetta, somewhat giving a slap-happy, industrial folk persona.

"Hey man, I was walking down the street and this car alarm was going off, so I took out my recorder and taped it. It's going to be the percussion segment of a song we recorded," Hall continues, "We just love combining our 'back porch' sound with tap-

ing bites of drunks falling down stairs and construction site sounds." Best heard on their 2.20.93 seven-inch, some of the songs are stripped of the full-band sound, giving ones like the Stones version of "Back Off Bitch" a dingy, jangley acoustic aura.

"Sometimes we tape up guitar strings, add metal objects to Dave's drum kit or use the keyboards in odd ways just to to recapture the acoustic side of Railroad Jerk," explains Alec Stephen.

Through a deeper evaluation, RRJ's music is honest; the product of everyday life of a Lower East Side clan about record contracts, the music industry and commercial success with simple pleasures. Marce elaborates, "We love the situation we're in because we do what we want, we got scorned sometimes for singing about our contracts or the industry but it's what we want to sing about," he continues, "Call us what

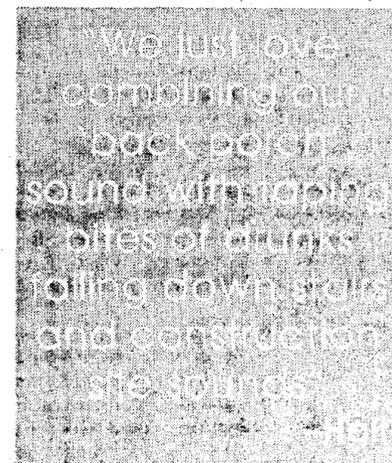
you may, but we're just a rock band singing about our lives."

"I don't think we're country punk," bandmates still dumfounded about the album review, "I just don't see any country punk banner hanging from our records. I don't get these bands

Matador. I knew from the get go that bandmembers (especially Hall and Lee) didn't favor the acknowledgement of being an "indie-rock" outfit:

"What is indie-rock, there is no indie-rock anymore," Dave Varenka expresses, "the term came about to re-separate that music from the mass market and major label music, but now it's just the mentality of indifference; kind of like a Sid Vicious, punk attitude." While this hybrid form of commercial "ignorance" or pessimism (depending on how you look at the issue) raises posterity amongst the bandmates and critics, RRJ simply sings about it. In "Objectify Me" off last year's *The Third Rail*, Hall sings, "Chauffeur with a limousine/that's not what this song's about/lifestyles of the idled rich, you can count me out," he goes on, "True love with commercial appeal/that's not what this song's about/champagne and a private yacht/you can count me out." These few lines explain Railroad Jerk's mentality crystal clear. "You don't need good ideas and a lot of money to make good music, you just need good ideas," Hall explains.

Once quoted as an "organic punkified, countrified, folkified version of the 60's and 70's" bandmates admitted to their discovery of classic rock, now. Tony Lee explains, "We rebel with what's in. We loved punk rock of yesteryear so we rebelled against it, now we're rebelling against Green Day." This indie-rock attitude often caught members of RRJ in contract chaffering between larger record labels and Matador and their sojournment with



# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



**Cake**  
*Fashion Nugget*  
(Capricorn/Mercury)

Take a laid-back funk, country twang, rock groove, and a mariachi influenced waltz, throw it in a blender, and you come out with one *Fashion Nugget*. Racing through the fourteen tracks of tight, metamorphic creativity; originality is the word that comes to mind.

Where else could you explore the dripping irony and nearly bombastic grooves of the band's first single/video "The Distance" and, moments later, be bombarded with the temperamental waltz, glowing trumpet solos, and lyrical poetry of "Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps." California's quintet, *Cake*, pulls it off beautifully.

Throughout *Nugget's* fourteen sentiments, a raw humor, confused sadness, and emotional passion are found underlying John McCrea's lyrics. The songs either portray some problematic relationship or race cars. "The Distance" and "Race Car Ya-Yas" are very thematic and self-explanatory when it comes to race cars, meanwhile "She'll Come Back To Me," "Open Book," and "Sad Songs And Waltzes" tango with harkening black-hearted lyrics about a troubled romantic affiliation. "She leaving your house/she had to get out/she's mad and she'll take her mattress with her...It's coming down," McCrea cries on "It's Coming Down."

Musically, Brown and McCrea's guitars, Roper's percussion, Damiani's bass, and di Fiore's trumpet have such a tight sound. The cover of "I Will Survive" and "Italian Leather Sofa" have the same formula with an opening acoustic leading into the electric and finishing with a decorative trumpet solo. Overlapping a stylistic terrain of musical boundaries, *Fashion Nugget's* mamba meeting funk meeting rock & roll approach pulls it off sublimely. (JG)

**The Mighty Mighty Bosstones**  
*Let's Face It*  
(Big Rig/Mercury)

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones are back with their seventh release, their fourth on Mercury, entitled *Let's Face It*. This offering seems a bit slower than earlier albums and more ska sounding than ever. It makes one wonder if the success of bands like *No Doubt*, who have incorporated the ska sound, have had an effect on mainstream music and on certain band's sounds.

The well-produced, twelve tracks seemed like a hassle for the band to record. The fun sounds like it was lost somewhere between this disk and the last

one. Songs like "The Rascal King" and "Another Drinking Song" sound just plain bland. There are no tempo changes and Dicky Barret, vocalist, seems bored singing them.

There are a few decent songs on *Let's Face It*, not many and they're nothing to brag about, but "The Impression I Got" is worthy of mention as "Desensitized." The two of these tunes contain some energy and carry the weight of the entire album.

The *Bosstones* have never really been a big part of commercial rock radio in this area, but with all of the garbage that has come out on the airwaves, this album might change things for the band even though it isn't their best album. Better luck next time.

**Archers of Loaf**  
*Vitus Tinnitius*  
(Alias) (EE)

Apparently *Archers of Loaf* have reached the plateau of success where there is a demand for a live release. *Vitus Tinnitius* is an eight-song E.P. that features six live tracks from an Oct. 20 performance at the Middle East in Massachusetts and two remixes of songs from the *Archers* latest L.P., *All the Nations Airports*.

The sound quality of the live performance is crisp and clear. But not so clear as to eliminate the energy of their live show. It sounds like a high quality bootleg. Some of *Archers* best songs are captured like "Harnesses in Slums," "Underdogs of Nipmo," and "Greatest of All Time." But others are mysteriously missing. Surely there's a demand for live versions of "What did you Expect," "All the Nations Airports," and "Web in Front." For some bizarre reason these classics were not included.

The two remixes of "Vocal Shrapnel" and "Scenic Pastures" are unnecessary. They take up space on the album that would be better suited for the inclusion of more live tracks.

This being an E.P. and all, it's not much of a financial risk to pick up a copy and check it out. Hopefully it will be the first in a series of live E.P.'s to capture the live sound of *Archers of Loaf*. (TB)

**The Chainsaw Kittens**  
*The Chainsaw Kittens*  
(Scratchie/Mercury)

The *Chainsaw Kittens* are a seasoned Oklahoma pop-rock band that has opened up for the likes of *Jane's Addiction* and *The Smashing Pumpkins*. Not surprisingly then, they're on *Scratchie Records* (in conjunction with Mercury), which is a label started in part by D'arcy and James Iha of *The Smashing Pumpkins*.

Tyson Mead, lead vocalist for *The Chainsaw Kittens*, has a voice that reminds one of *Morrissey*, only less whiney. His talent is displayed from the beginning on the first track, "Dorothy's Last Fling" and carries on throughout. The third track, "Tongue Trick," shows Mead's stylistic range as the *Chainsaw Kittens* do what most pop bands are incapable of these days, which is creating a decent ballad filled with genuine emotion. The band slows down even more on the next track "King Monkey Smile," only to pick it up at the end without losing their momentum, which hasn't been done successfully since the breakup of the *Pixies*.

On certain tracks, the *Chainsaw Kittens* incorporate pianos into their music, which furthers the music even more. Even a violin or two can be found

on certain parts of the album. All of this combined forms an album with very few weakspots. Even the songs that do fall short, such as "Waltz Across Debris" aren't complete failures.

The *Chainsaw Kittens* will inevitably be categorized as a "college rock" band. But unlike the cliched college rock band, the *Chainsaw Kittens* do possess genuine talent. This self-titled album is definitely worth checking out. (DR)



**Silver Chair**  
*Freak Show*  
(Epic)

*Silver Chair's* *Freak Show* is a good follow up to their debut album *Frog Stomp*. But don't expect much, it is just the type of album one expects from seventeen year-olds.

The band enjoyed the use of "obscure Indian instruments" like the sitar and a barrage of strings such as the violin and the cello, to name a few. This is where the band has grown the most; musically *Freak Show* has surpassed *Frog Stomp*.

The lyrics, however, leave much to be desired. Those who appreciated the uniqueness of Daniel Johns' lyrics on *Frog Stomp* are sure to be disappointed. Lyrics like "Now I Gotta dump you/ Continue my life too/ I tried to help you/ Don't care what you do" exemplify the mediocrity that has found its way onto this album.

While the song "Cemetery" shows *Silver Chair's* promise, it leaves listeners wanting more. Its use of strings are well placed, and adds another dimension of depth to the song. Despite its lyrical brevity, "Cemetery" is one of the better songs on the album. The one complete verse the song contains is solid, absent of the clichés that fuel most of the release.

*Silver Chair's* influences are easily identified. For instance, songs like "Abuse Me" and "Lie To Me" sound like renditions of Nirvana songs. While "Learn To Hate" lets listeners know immediately: although the band likes *Rage Against the Machine* they just cannot play like them. In fact, *Silver Chair* so lacks the intensity of *Rage Against the Machine* that the song sounds like a complete farce and one cannot help laughing.

*Freak Show* comes across as what it is: an attempt to put out a new album while the band was still hot, and not worry about the possibility of damaging the bands reputation with a finished product that is far less than perfect. (NCD)

**Chester Copperpot**  
*Poems and Short Stories*  
(Dolores)

This album is a release from a record label in Sweden. Meaning, this is an import. Meaning, A) it's going to be difficult to find, and B) it's going to be fairly expensive. Is it worth it? Well, if passion-

see MICROSCOPE page 10

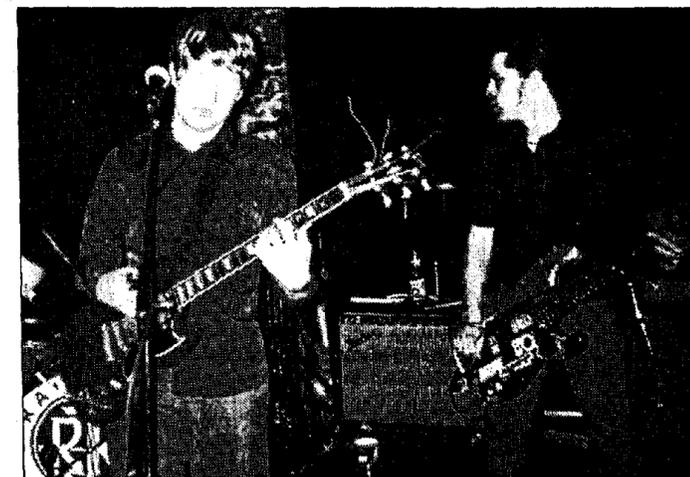
# Waiting for the free trips to Europe...

from RAILROAD page 7

"Whatever your music is, whether it's alternative, punk, indie, or D.I.Y. (Do It Yourself), it all means a challenged authority of mainstream, and it's something that I think about all the time. We've always felt like we wanted to challenge ourselves with making music 'on the edge' but to refuse to go overboard." After asking if a major label contract is something that should be feared, Dave Varenka and Alec Stephen agreed that there are too many niches and loops that cannot be avoided when signing and the biggest one--the self-respect is lost. Tony Lee

and Marcellus Hall both agreed that along as *Railroad Jerk* is doing their own thing, they didn't mind the "paid trips to Europe."

The show that followed the interview later that evening had about 80% of the new material that can be found on *The Third Rail*, songs that not only followed a format of melodramatic, fashion folk or an inbred country funk, but they sang the blues without primarily having them. The songs were straightforward, clean, and different. One moment, Tony Lee is opening with an organ solo and the next minute Dave Varenka emulates his moment, like his own version of "Bang The Drum" (a single off 1995's



Railroad Jerks Marcellus Hall and Tony Lee.

Photo By Joe Giglio

*One Track Mind*, and Hall is catering-wauling on some harmonica. "We wanted to write a song on this album that would make us the most money," Hall adds jokingly. *Railroad Jerk's* sound, though primed for mainstream attention, saluted a herky-jerky roots rock where boundaries

were crossed into nearly every realm of music. It raises the question, "Where else can you have a Dylanesque monologue and a punk rock attitude and get away with it?" (*Matador Records: 676 Broadway 4th Floor, NY, NY 10012*)

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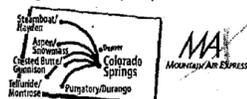
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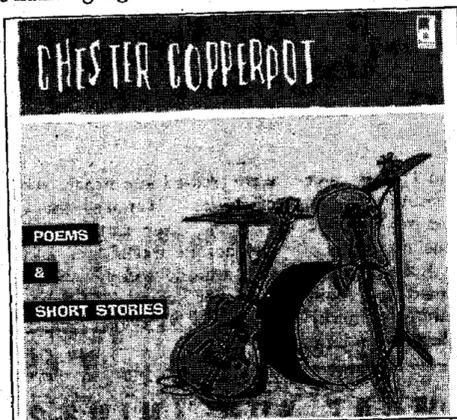
# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

from MICROSCOPE page 8

ate, melody driven power pop is your cup of tea, then hells yes.

Chester Copperpot is a three piece, made up of guys with very Swedish sounding names. Fredrik Karlsson, guitar and vocals, Christian Sjogreen, drums, and Niklas Alden (all have accents on some of the vowels in their names that this computer can't make,) have created a near flawless release that is upbeat, fun, and keeps the listener engaged throughout.

The main highlights on this album are the fast paced tracks;



"Apathy #4," "Guitar Solo," and "Lyrical Gangsta." The thick Swedish accent is a perfect marriage with the tight rhythm section and masterful guitar work.

To avoid the hassles of tracking this record down, it would probably be easier to write the label directly at: Dolores Records, Drottninggatan 52, 411 07, Goteborg, Sweden. So write and experience the magic of Chester Copperpot.

(TB)

Armchair Martian  
Armchair Martian  
(Cargo/Headhunter)

Good solid pop punk - pardon the cliché description. It's very obvious, though, that Armchair Martian is a Cargo Records band. While they're a bit poppier than most of their label mates, they still have the trademark full, bass laden guitar noise, resulting in a big powerful sound. This is not a bad thing, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Armchair Martian is another refugee from the infamous My Records *Happy Meals* compilation, which is spawning an insane number of bands getting record deals, both major and indie. Armchair Martian's current line up of Jon, guitar and vocals, Chad, bass, and Paul, drums, have created an impressive debut. If this is any glimpse into the future, expect to hear a lot of these boys.

The best tracks on this album are the opener, "Back in the Hammock," "Barely Passing," and "Jessica Suicide." "Jessica Suicide" starts off with mellow, non distorted guitar accompanied by Jon singing "Jessica Suicide/ Take me for a ride/ I'm just a crazy one armed man/ Strange world, strange world/ Dead girl." From there the song gradually builds momentum until it becomes the best song on the album.

Armchair Martian's full length debut is an unquestioned success that hopefully will create a solid fan base that the band rightly deserves.

(TB)

James  
Whiplash  
(Fontana)

This English-sounding band is led by Tim Booth on vocals and Larry Gott on guitar. The two combine on the first track, "Tomorrow" and perform powerful, melodic music. It doesn't end here either. Songs like "She's a Star" and "Go to the Bank"



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# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

from MICROSCOPE page 10

show the diversity that is contained in the band James.

Saul Davies, playing violin, adds a strange touch to the songs and creates a distinct sound for the band. Booth's vocals shine through on melodies such as "Avalanche" and "Lost a

Friend." He carries the songs -slow points and smooths out the band when they begin to become rough.

Whiplash contains many high points and rarely slows down in pace. "Greenpeace" and "Play Dead" seem to be two of the few exceptions. They seem dull, kind of

drawn out, and they clash with the timing and grace that the rest of the works on this release possess.

David Bayton, drums, and Jim Gleenie, bass, lay down the rhythm and create the backbone of the band. They combine with the other members of James to make Whiplash a success.

(AG)

Sick of it All  
Built To Last  
(East/West)

Boy oh boy! It almost seems impossible to say that Sick of it All could do anything wrong. If there was a list of the top ten artists that have contributed to the New York music scene, SOIA would have to be in the top five. These hardcore superheros have returned once again with another ear blowing, stage dive inducing, album. East/West Records deserves mad props for not trying to change a sound so distinct that every hardcore kid in the entire tri-state area, even the whole country, can relate to.

Built to Last, once again defines what the NY underground is all about. Songs like "Good Lookin' Out," "Don't Follow," and "End the Era" only further the notion that hardcore is here to stay. I don't think there's a bad song on this record, not even one that's half bad. This one is all killer and no filler.

Exceptional tracks include "Us vs. Them," which is about unity among different people. The song borders on punk and has excellent sing along choruses that could get any crowd jumping. Lyrically, Lou Koller sings, I mean screams, "Brother, I'll

always look out for you, if I feel it back. Sister, we'll brave the outside world off the beaten track." He means what he says and the listener believes it.

Another gem comes in the form of the title track "Built to Last." On this one, the matter of fake scenesters comes to light. "Old school or the new, doesn't mean a thing if you're heart's not true. Greedy ones faded fast, we're here, built to last!" There's an incredible breakdown as well to keep with the fun and intensity of "Sick of it All."

Buy this album if you know what's good for you. Don't buy this album if you think moshing is something you do to kick someone's ass. That's not what SOIA is about, even though the music may sound like it.

(EE)

Reviewers this week are: Tim Bornemann, Norman DeFelippo, Ed Erlenmeyer, Al Giamarino, Joe Giglio, and Dave Roe.

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# ON STAGE

Less than Jake  
@ Maxwells  
Hoboken, NJ  
2/10/97

Four bands made up this line up for the show at Maxwells, which was filled to capacity. Starting things off were the Gotohells who are unoriginal and sound exactly like the Queers, except they don't say "fuck" quite as much. After them were the Nobodys, who are also unoriginal and sound exactly like the Queers except they say "fuck" a lot more.

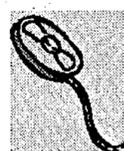
Next up were teen heart throbs Weston. The crowd was much more receptive to them and a good time was had by all as Weston went through hit after hit from their latest L.P., *Got Beat Up*.

Finally Florida's budding rock stars, *Less Than Jake*, took the stage. The crowd was instantly energized and more moshing and crowd surfing took place than I've ever seen at Maxwells. LITJ played pretty much an equal number of songs from their various albums and singles. Highlights coming in the form of songs like "Rock and Roll Pizzeria" (dedicated to the "guy who keeps yelling it up here"), "Jen doesn't like me any more," and an insane cover of Twisted Sisters' "We're Not Gonna Take It Anymore."

Less Than Jake's masterful ability at working the crowd shone through as always. Joking, poetry readings, sparker guns being thrown to the crowd, stage diving, audience members on stage singing, and people dropping their pants all had home at this show and kept the evening going strong.

Every time they come around, LITJ just get better and better live. They are easily one of the best(if not the best) live shows around. Don't be a fool and miss them next time they grace New Jersey.

By Tim Bornemann



## Movie Review -- Absolute Power

Associated Press -

So there's this film called "Absolute Power." It's got Clint Eastwood in it and he plays a cat burglar with a heart of gold who just happens to witness the Secret Service murder the President's mistress.

Well, the philandering President (Gene Hackman) and his high-strung chief of staff (Judy Davis) are real, real worried about the cat burglar being at large. In fact, get this, they even want to MURDER the guy, which goes to show how powerful people sometimes do really terrible things.

Eastwood would just as soon get out of town, but when he watches the President on television embracing his late mistress' husband (E.G. Marshall) and vowing to find the killer, that's going too far. President or no President - no one is above the law.

What a shame the Eastwood of old didn't make this film. He'd have marched right into the Oval Office and the whole shebang would have been over in no time. Instead, we get two hours of Eastwood wearing obvious disguises, playing guardian angel to his estranged daughter (getting her into plenty of trouble in the process) and endlessly filling his sketchpad.

The film is a bore, a total bore. Eastwood's

directing is lifeless and the script's a dud. "A Perfect World" was graced by the touch of John Lee Hancock, whose subtlety complemented Eastwood's. The new release, written by William Goldman, hits us with lines such as, "Every time I see your face, I want to rip your throat," and "You heartless whore, I'm not about to run from you."

Historians of the Clinton administration might find "Absolute Power" of interest. It's the latest of several recent films dwelling on the presidency, among them "The American President," "Independence Day," "My Fellow Americans" and "Mars Attacks." An adaptation of "Primary Colors" is in the works.

But for now, all we have is a bad film. If you're looking for drama, you might wonder how Eastwood got Hackman, Davis, Marshall, Ed Harris (as a detective given to deep, macho sips of coffee) and Scott Glenn to join a project that must have looked pretty silly even on paper.

Talk about absolute power.

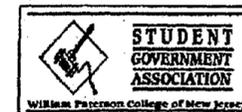
The Castle Rock Entertainment film was produced by Eastwood and Karen Spiegel and distributed by Columbia Pictures. "Absolute Power" has a running time of two hours and one minute. It is rated R, containing violence, profanity and adult situations.

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Campus Activities	Weekend Mall Shuttle offers a great diversion for potentially hundreds of students that reside on campus.
Performing Arts	Miss Julie and the Stronger, a production of two one-act plays by August Strindberg. Production will be extended to the weekend.
Spanish Club	Caribbean writer and poet, Maritelmia Costa, will give a talk about her work in a multicultural environment. This will be followed by a writing workshop.
Spanish Club	Poetry reading featuring WPC students reading from their original work and supported by three known and published authors reading from their works also. This bilingual poetry reading [English and Spanish] will present contemporary artistic themes as well as latest stylistic modalities.
Spanish Club	Café Con Leche. The Spanish Repertory Theater, will stage a play in English at the college. The staged play would be one in their current repertory.
Spanish Club	Latin American Film Festival. The festival will be divided into five separate sections, each section dedicated to a specific area of Latin American culture and civilization. Section I deals with the issue of Bilingual Education, Section II with the Aztec and Incan civilizations, Section III with Cuba, Section IV with Modern Mexican Art and Section V with the writer Isabel Allende. All films will be shown in English.
Campus Police	Students, faculty, staff and Campus Police "Softball Bash." This will be a softball game and picnic for the WPC Campus Community.
Campus Activities	Saturday Matinee performance of "STOMP." Included in this trip would be bus transportation. Tickets will be offered to students for only \$15
Campus Activities	New York City Theater Trip "Bring In Da Noise, Bring In Da Funk." Included in this trip would be bus transportation. Tickets will be offered to students for only \$15.
Campus Activities	Saturday Leadership Institute. This program will provide an opportunity for leaders to enhance their leadership skills; empower leaders to recognize and develop their own leadership style; motivate leaders to continue to learn and grow in their positions; encourage leaders from different organizations to work cooperatively; to teach leaders new strategies for recruitment and publicity.
Campus Activities	A variety of entertainment to be held in Billy Pat's on Friday and Saturday evenings. Some of the entertainment would be dedicated to theme month artists i.e. Women's History, African Heritage and Latin Week.
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**Leo (July 23 to August 22)**  
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**Taurus (April 20 to May 20)**  
 You make financial gains through career interests this week. At the same time, a co-worker is being unnecessarily obstinate and uncooperative. Perhaps the motivation is jealousy, something which shouldn't concern you. The weekend promises romance and passion.

**Virgo (August 23 to September 22)**  
 You are disappointed by a close friend who lets you down early in the week. Later, however, you are pleased with the progress made on collaborative ventures at work. This weekend, you're at your charming social best.

**Gemini (May 21 to June 20)**  
 There are problems on the home front, particularly concerning children this week. Romantically, you and your partner are enjoying a long-overdue renaissance. This weekend, an intriguing social invitation arrives from a surprising source.

**Libra (September 23 to October 22)**  
 You make a breakthrough concerning a childhood problem that has been haunting your life. However, try not to wallow in self-pity. Domestic problems confront you later in the week but are quickly resolved.

**Cancer (June 21 to July 22)**  
 The extra money you need becomes available to you for that pet project. An irritating event has you angry later in the week.

**Scorpio (October 23 to November 21)**  
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# Men's hoops make a comeback at WPC

By Jeremy Singer

Two years ago, the William Paterson College men's basketball team finished the season with a 9-14 record and an uncertain future following the resignation of its head coach.

But since Jose Rebimbas replaced former WPC coach Jerry Dallessio following the 1994-95 season, the Pioneers have turned into one of the best NCAA Division III teams in the nation.

"Basically, it all boiled down to the will to work hard in the offseason and the philosophy that defense will win championships," said Rebimbas, who watched from the sidelines as WPC beat the top ranked team in the country, Rowan College, Wednesday at the Rec Center, to clinch its first New Jersey Athletic Conference playoff bid since 1987.

When the Pioneers, who have won 18 games and lost just five this season, beat Rowan, it snapped WPC's season-high three-game losing streak and Rowan's nation-best 28-game winning streak. The game dispelled a growing feeling over the past week that WPC is unable to deal with adversity, following consecutive losses to conference rivals Jersey City State College, Rutgers University (Newark Campus), and the College of New Jersey,

which dropped the Pioneers out of the NCAA Division III "Top Ten" and threatened to end their hopes of qualifying for the conference playoffs.

Last year, the Pioneers won six straight games at the end of the season but were beaten by the College of New Jersey (known at the time as Trenton State College) in the last game of the season to fall one game short of qualifying for the playoffs.

This year, WPC players would not allow themselves to fail again, according to senior guard Gerard Wilson, the Pioneers' leading scorer.

"Rowan is a good team, but they're beatable," said Wilson a day before the Pioneers beat Rowan. "We can win the tough game, but we have to realize that we can't come back with one shot. We have to buckle down and let the defense become the offense."

WPC players agree that keeping cool down the stretch was a major reason for victory against Rowan -- last-minute foul shots by standout players Justin Frederick and Norman Greene helped secure the two-point win -- but they realize they must keep it up for the rest of the season. Chances are, the Pioneers will have to meet both Rowan and Stockton in the playoffs in their search for a conference



Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

The WPC Mens Basketball team on defense during their 53-51 win over the top-ranked Division III school in the country, Rowan College. This win gave the Pioneers their first berth in the NJAC playoffs since 1987 and a chance at an NCAA playoff berth.

championship.

Senior forward DuJuan Jones said that if the Pioneers can continue to adjust both their mental outlook and their court strategy to match the strengths of the teams they play, they can beat anyone.

"We changed our whole game plan against Rowan," Jones said. "We just have to ride this feeling into the playoffs."

Although the Pioneers roster is devoid of playoff experience, their head coach played on the 1991 Seton Hall University basketball squad that advanced to the NCAA Division I National Championship and, after being hired as interim coach at Montclair State University midway through the 1994-95 season, led the Red Hawks to the NJAC Final.

The reason for success at Seton Hall and Montclair had to do with a nucleus of good kids, discipline, and defense," Rebimbas said. "Those are the factors we put into this team. It took a shorter time than we thought to get as good as we are now."

When Rebimbas was hired at WPC, he said, he put together a "three-year plan" with the intention of turning the Pioneers into a playoff contender by the 1997-98 season.

"At the beginning, the players had a tough time getting down the defensive concepts," he said. "We're still making mistakes. I wish I had the opportunity to coach the four-year seniors here for four years, not just two. If that had been the case, we wouldn't have been making some of the mistakes we're making today."

Rebimbas cited the additions of junior guards Arik Cotten, who was recruited as a transfer during the offseason, and Victor Humphrey, who missed all of last season with an injury, plus the leadership abilities of senior guards Tim McDonald and Wilson and senior forward Greene, as personnel factors which have helped the Pioneers overcome their mistakes and become a legitimate national force.

"Having a winning attitude means playing to win, as opposed to playing not to lose," said Rebimbas, who admitted that his players simply did not have the correct attitude during the team's recent three-game losing streak. "It becomes a psychological game. If the players don't execute, both the players and the coaches have to look in the mirror and understand that the philosophy of strong defense works."

The Pioneers players hope to carry Rebimbas' philosophy of strong defense to the NJAC Championship. WPC is also playing for an NCAA Tournament bid, which may impend on the team's performance in the conference playoffs.

"I want to win the conference title real bad," said Wilson, one of six seniors on the WPC roster. "If this was my sophomore year, it would be different. But, as is the case with the other seniors on this team, I want it all."

NEXT WEEK:

UP CLOSE WITH  
THE  
LADY PIONEERS

Dan Marino and the Miami Dolphins in Superbowl nineteen.

For it to happen, the Pioneers must limit their turnovers, and players like Wilson, Greene, Arik Cotten, and Tim McDonald must turn in big-time efforts. One thing is certain: Rowan will enter the game with a dent in their armor of invincibility having already lost once to the Pioneers. This should give WPC plenty of confidence heading into Glassboro.

Even if the Pioneers come away empty handed, they still have brought something that for the past decade we had in name only, a men's basketball team to talk about. This team plays hard night after night and should be rewarded with a strong fan support Wednesday night, fans of the Pioneers should have the decency to make the two-hour drive to cheer them on, much the same way they did at the Rec Center last Wednesday. The Pioneers have earned at least that much this season.

## Top Billing

By Bill Berthold

They will dance again Wednesday night in the semifinals of the New Jersey Athletic Conference tournament and if it is anything like their second waltz last Wednesday at the Rec Center, it will be one for the ages. William Paterson College will travel to Glassboro to square off for the third time this season with Rowan College.

Seven days removed from their biggest victory of all time, a 53-51 upset win against the Profs, the Pioneers will have to try to do it one more time. They will have to do it in hostile waters in Glassboro where Rowan hasn't lost this season. The Pioneers hope they can pull off dejavu.

WPC finished the regular season with a 18-6 record, their best finish since the Reagan Administration. Rowan ended with a mark of 23-1. The Profs remember where the first loss came from, and will be out for revenge on Wednesday.

The Pioneers say, they did it once, they can do it again. It won't be easy, by any means, and maybe coach Jose Rebimbas should show his troops the tape of their win over Rowan for inspiration.

Not as if Pioneers need a tape to remember what transpired during their biggest upset ever. It was the night the Pioneers beat the unbeatable. The night March Madness returned to Wayne. The scene at mid court told it, all last Wednesday; hundreds of WPC faithful stormed the court much the same way the Americans did at Normandy during World

War II.

The 700 plus, their highest attendance of the season, witnessed an upset along the lines of Evander Holyfield knocking out Mike Tyson or the Panthers and Jaguars in the NFL Championship games. What these fans witnessed was a classic triumph of w9ill as the Pioneers pulled off their biggest upset in team history.

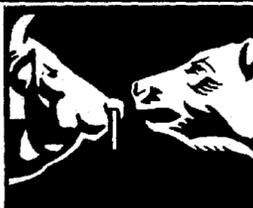
Rowan came into the Recreation Center riding a 28 game winning streak and had won 12 straight over the Pioneers. The Pioneers came in losers of three in row, and self doubt starting to creep in. A victory would ensure them of their first trip to the NJAC playoffs since 1986-87.

Fittingly the hero was senior Norman Greene, who went to the foul line with 2.7 ticks remaining in a tie game and sank both free throws for the win. For it was seniors like Greene, Gerald Wilson, and DuJuan Jones who had been around for the 9-14 and 6-18 years, they have so desperately wanted to taste the glory of post season. And now after three frustrating seasons, thanks to Greene's clutch free throws, the trio is finally getting the opportunity.

It will happen on Wednesday against ironically the same team they beat to get there. Once again the Pioneers will be the underdogs, the ones with no chance to win, and once again they have a shot to prove the critics all wrong.

A win Wednesday should all but guarantee the Pioneers a place in the 64-team Division III NCAA tournament field which hasn't happened since Joe Montana's San Francisco 49ers defeated

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#### BUSINESS ISSUES

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#### When Can You Deduct a Home Computer?

Can you get any tax benefit from that home computer you bought for Christmas? Maybe you can, but there is a maze of rules to negotiate.

Generally, you may deduct the cost of your home computer to the extent that you use the computer for business or investment activity. For example, if you use the computer 60% for your business, 30% for tracking your investments and preparing your personal tax returns and 10% for writing personal letters, 90% of the cost is deductible.

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If your computer is not used more than 50% for business, depreciation is limited to the straight-line method and the expensing election is not available. Investment does not count for this test.

An employee may deduct as a business expense the cost of a computer only if its purchase is for the convenience of the employer and is required as a condition of employment. As with other employee business expenses, this deduction is subject to the 2% adjusted gross income limitation.

One final point - a home computer is generally considered to be "listed property," so it is subject to strict substantiation rules regarding business or investment use. To protect your deduction, keep a log of your computer use.

If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Business.

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## ISSUE OF DEBATE

# Rev. Sharpton's Visit to WPC

## The Views on a Protest Against the Minister's Appearance

### The Protesters Acted Like Cowards

#### To the Editor:

On Feb. 4, 1997, I experienced the most insulting day of my collegiate years here at William Paterson College. Insulting, because three students, including the president of the Student Government Association, deemed it necessary to disrespect all that the African-American students, faculty and staff have worked for in the name of First Amendment liberty.

Alex Malino, SGA president; Thom Brooks, SGA representative; and Miriam Janoff, Jewish Student Association representative, protested against Rev. Al Sharpton delivering the keynote speech at opening ceremonies of African Heritage Month. With a banner that read, "Rev. Al Sharpton is a Reverend of Hate," they stood outside the Student Center Ballroom in what they called a friendly protest.

Now, the protesting in itself was not the problem: It was how and why they protested. We all understand every citizen has a right to free speech under the First Amendment. However, to protest and assault a man's character, solely on the premise of you having the right to, is blatant disrespect for him and for those who wish to hear him. "This is our opinion," Alex said to me when I asked him what premise, or what facts does he have to support his claim that Rev. Sharpton was Anti-Semitic. Only a coward acts like that.

In addition, Farrakhan's name was also on the banner and Rev. Farrakhan was not even the topic of discussion or anywhere near the campus of William Paterson. Yet another assault on his character.

Thom Brooks, who claims he is of Islamic faith, was standing holding this banner in direct conflict with Islamic principles. You do not slight a man or talk behind his back without him having the chance to defend himself. When I asked him why he would take part in something that goes against these principles, he responded, "he doesn't agree with that." However, he continued to protest despite of it. Thom Brooks, you're a coward. Only a coward acts like that.

Furthermore, African Heritage Month takes place in February, but the planning of the month's events were being carried out since October of last year. Incidentally, I was one of the persons who helped plan these events. I made many trips to the SGA office and passed both Alex Malino and Thom Brooks at those times. Never once did they pull me to the side to say they dis-

approved of Rev. Al Sharpton speaking or to discuss these feelings in any way, never. Neither did they alert any other member of the planning committee, any African American faculty, or any students of their desire to protest. In so doing, Mr. Malino and Mr. Brooks demonstrated their blatant disregard for the African-American Community. Only cowards act like that.

Then, to add insult to injury, these three found it necessary to protest directly outside the entrance of the Ballroom. This caused people to stop and look which caused the entrance to get clogged up with people, including the campus news who went on to film the protest; this filming of the event was done without the approval of the committee. When asked to move, the protesters remarked that they had the right to according to the First Amendment and they were peaceful. However, what they did not take into consideration was the embarrassment they caused to the African American community by refusing to move. They disregarded the fact that people trying to get into the ballroom could not because others stopped to read their banner. Plus, they would have been just as effective if the protest took place at the Information Desk or outside the Student Center. But I suppose respecting African-Americans is too much to ask. Only a coward acts like that.

If that wasn't enough, I made note of the fact that Mr. Malino, Mr. Brooks and Ms. Janoff did not even stay to listen to the whole speech delivered by Rev. Sharpton. Herein lies a serious problem and it is coming from the person who holds the highest office of students. Not only did Alex Malino protest without evidence or facts illustrating Rev. Sharpton as Anti-Semitic, but he did not even listen to the man speak, which would have allowed him to formulate an opinion of Rev. Sharpton. That opinion, undoubtedly, would have showed his reasons for protesting were wrong. Rev. Sharpton showed how in 1996, at the highest level of corporate America, blacks are still being referred to as "jellybeans and niggers." He spoke of the meaning of African Heritage month, how it got started, why it is needed and the fact that he need not hate White people in order to love himself.

If Alex Malino and friends had taken the time to listen instead of acting as only cowards act, then we truly would be about solving the problems of racism. If they had approached members of the committee beforehand about their discomfort with Rev. Sharpton, then we would truly understand the meaning of respect.

However, to protest without a legitimate reason that justifies your

carry out the protest without listening to the person you're protesting against demonstrates ignorance. To claim you uphold and value the principles of a religion but go against them is contradictory and hypocritical. Only cowards act in this fashion.

So then it is only befitting that Alex Malino, Thom Brooks, and Miriam Janoff be referred to as cowards. They have defined the term through their actions. If we are to progress and put an end to all race prejudice, especially on this campus, we cannot have cowards holding office. When that office is president of the SGA, whereby we voted for a coward to represent us, then we must question how we will progress if he remains in office. So then Alex Malino, the only solution to your actions is your resignation from office. Unless this happens, then every attempt to rectify this situation will also be seen as futile. The underlying premise remains of your cowardice, and if it does not result in your resignation, then this will be a clear indication of the school's disregard of the African American Community.

Furthermore, if the school does not demand your resignation, then the message of racial harmony and diversity on this campus can only be interpreted as non-existent, and that it was never intended to be existent. In the wake of William Paterson College achieving university status, the lingering effects of the protest will only serve to show how divided this campus really is. Plus, the simple fact of Malino selfishly separating himself from his position as president of SGA, indicates a lack of interest in the campus community as a whole.

Hubert Chase

### SGA President Can No Longer Represent the Students

#### To the Editor:

My name is Mark Hawkins, an African-American senior here at William Paterson. I am upset with the treatment of Rev. Al Sharpton on Feb. 4, 1997. This man was accused, tried and convicted by the same people that sponsored him to come here. I feel this vicious act was racially motivated, as is a lot of things at this institution.

I feel that SGA President Alex Malino was totally out of line because of the position that he is currently holding. Alex knows the do's and do not's as SGA president, but that didn't stop his actions. I feel that he acted "anti-SGA constitu-

he lashed out at Rev. Sharpton. He went directly against some of the people that put him into office. I feel this way because he used his title and position to achieve his "closed-minded" plan. He is also wrong because his actions were pre-meditated. He sat back and calculated the exact moment that he would express "his" one-sided opinion. Alex had ample enough time to voice his disapproval of Rev. Sharpton coming here. The form passed over his desk, a couple of month's ago, and that's when he developed this scheme of his. I also think he felt that the people of color wouldn't notice what he had done.

Alex Malino didn't have the need to express his religious opinions until the people of color had one of their own come to speak. I am not questioning him being Jewish, but he himself admits that he doesn't follow the religion. Alex doesn't follow the religion, but uses it to cover his behind after exposing himself. Alex didn't act religious all semester, but now since Rev. Sharpton came to speak, he feels compelled to embrace his religion.

Him being Jewish still shouldn't have conflicted with his duties as SGA president. Whatever a person is, they should be that 24 hours a day, in order to avoid people questioning their motives when things like this happen. Religion is not something you turn on and off, like a faucet. He used his position and office to fight a personal battle, "not his battle, just a battle."

You don't wait until "the enemy" gets to your house to put up a fight. You should be fighting him while he's on his way. I don't have a problem with freedom of speech, just be correct when you exercise your right. I sense that a coward was put in office and he is carrying on that "lingering racism" that is prevalent today. If you are truly sorry, Mr. Malino, your resignation will show this. If not, your being sorry isn't even worth the "bad breath" you used to utter it.

As for Thom Brooks being on the other end of that sign, This was an injustice to society at large, regardless of class, gender, race, religion, and political view. Here is a prominent RA, part-time political thinker, and full-time bull — artist. He is simply an opportunist. Whatever is happening now, that's the position he takes. He is a prime example of our society and the one our children will soon face, if we don't speak up now.

I feel that Miriam Janoff was the only one that possibly should have been protesting out there. As long as her reasonings were legitimate, I would question her protest, if no other protests went on like this by JSA before Rev. Sharpton came to William Paterson. As head of the

should have been other events before Feb. 4. Protests are good, and even welcomed, but they should be done right away, and for the right reasons.

This lay-down-and-take-it attitude has got to go. We people of color must organize, unite, stand up and fight for our rights. If we don't, who will? I don't feel we can move as a people until we raise the standards for ourselves. And, without them, measuring the level of progress we make.

I pray that this situation will lead us people of color to a higher level of conscienceness about the struggle confronting us. I feel that if Alex was a person of color and acted in that manner, his resignation would have been requested before the speaker-finished his/her speech. Or the SGA president of color would have previously been instructed upon taking office the consequences of "acting-out" of character. I pray, for us all as a race; "The Human Race, Black to the future," the perfect theme for the coming millennium. It's gonna be for the future since they are trying to erase us from the past.

The past of America was built by people of color. Without us in the past, there is no present, and with us in the present, a place in the future is being preserved. All the adversity we've faced in the past and present, and we are still here. The more stuff that happens like this, the more mentally aware we become. Once we get that back, a lot of changes are going to be made. People like "three the hard way," won't try stunts like this. The future for people of color starts today.

I urge the college administrators and faculty to assist the community in getting Mr. Malino removed because we have a right to fair representation on campus. I don't feel he can properly represent me, or people of color, anymore. If the administration doesn't intervene, to me it reveals something about "our level of worth as people of color," at this institution. If the administration allows things like this, what image are they giving off?

Food for thought: Hindsight explains the injury, that foresight would have prevented. Biblical interpretation: (Proverbs Chapt. 4 verses 4 & 12).

Mark Hawkins

### A Month for Heritage

#### To the Editor:

As many of you may know, February is African Heritage Month. African-Americans take the time to acknowledge heroes that have impacted our history which has been omitted from

# OPINIONS & REVIEW

## NOW is the time!

The United States Constitution guarantees a number of rights, one of which is freedom of speech. Alex Malino, Thom Brooks and Miriam Janoff exercised this freedom when they spoke out against the appearance of Rev. Al Sharpton on the William Paterson College campus. That this was their right can not be called into question.

What is correctly being questioned is the appropriateness of this action considering the positions held by Alex Malino and Thom Brooks. As SGA President and Chair of the SGA Court of Judicial Review was it appropriate for Malino and Brooks to express their dissatisfaction with the appearance of Sharpton in this manner?

The argument has been made that because Malino and Brooks are elected officials, they should not lose their individual identity.

Proponents of this argument are indeed correct. However, just as they are right, it is wrong for Malino and Brooks to believe that just because they don't intend their actions to be representative of the

SGA, that they are indeed seen that way.

Those members of the WPC community who have called for their resignation have done so because they see their actions as insensitive and inappropriate. The action does not represent insensitivity, rather immaturity; for it to have been insensitivity it would mean that Malino and Brooks knew it was wrong, yet did it anyway. Closer investigation will reveal that this was probably not the case.

What the anger and frustration expressed by these students represents is something much more than just disgust with the actions of Malino and Brooks. These emotions represent anger and frustration upon more anger and frustration. For these students, this incident was yet another insult; this insult was not the first and certainly won't be the last.

Additionally members of the SGA and the college community at large have tried to say that this is a racial issue - a black vs. white

issue. In actuality, this is an U.S. issue.

We are all stakeholders in the community we call William Paterson College. Working together or apart we make this community what it is. Change can only occur when we work together as a group, when all members of the community are heard and when all members of the community are listened to.

Let us not add insult to injury, by ignoring the real pleas being made here. Let us not transfer the responsibility from one administrator to another, one committee to the next. Let us work together to confront and address the issues no matter how painful they our. It is not a matter of blame, but change.

We may become a great University by the signing of a document, but becoming a great community will take a lot more work. That work may appear greater than us. But we should not be swayed, for only when we stand together can we stand as one, and only then will we be a great community.

## Mailbag

schools. You might also be aware that students and faculty plan events throughout the month for this purpose. It is then with great displeasure that noted figures and representatives of the William Paterson College Community would interrupt such a prestigious and special day. The protest has undoubtedly altered the mood of African-American students and faculty for the duration of the month. Although the protest was peaceful, the message was loud and clear, and the overwhelming attention it received was welcomed.

Open your eyes!  
It's not about the first amendment. It's about respect for the opening of what African-Americans can finally call African Heritage Month.

Navondi Vaughn  
senior

Rev. Sharpton. A double standard exists on this campus. Some of the WPC community feel Mr. Sharpton has every right to appear on campus but do not grant the same to those who oppose his presence.

It seems that the protesters' appearance is being misconstrued and made into a Black/White issue. What is meant by this is that Malino, Brooks, and Janoff are against Mr. Sharpton's known anti-Semitic views, not Sharpton himself or African Heritage Month. Nowhere on their sign was the word "racist." It is beyond our comprehension where race plays a part in the protest.

No apology is necessary for exercising rights granted to every U.S. citizen. Just because one might not agree with the protesters' stance, does not mean their rights should be stripped.

Christin L. Turs  
senior  
Deborah Turs  
senior

### They Had A Right to Protest

**To the Editor:**  
This is in response to Nicole Grave's letter in the February 10, 1997, edition of the Beacon concerning the peaceful protest by Alex Malino, Thomas Brooks, and Miriam Janoff against Rev. Al Sharpton's appearance. As guaranteed in the First Amendment, the above-mentioned students have the right to freedom of speech. They have as much of a right to espouse their opinions and beliefs as does

### Why Mr. Brooks Protested

**To the Editor:**  
I would like to be straightforward and tell why I did what I did. I completely oppose oppression, violence, and capitalism in every form. As a Political Science student, I am deeply involved with these political issues. Being from New Haven, Connecticut, I am no

stranger to Reverend Al Sharpton. I have already recently both seen and heard him at a protest rally at Yale University. I protest what I have heard Sharpton say: scapegoating Jews, as a race, in New Haven, in Harlem, in New York City, and the far abroad, unfairly.

I strongly oppose any person or organization that creates division between the proletariat, non-elites. I see the proletariat's focus on declining wages, growing homelessness, hunger, unemployment, poverty and not on scapegoating any racial group. In this case, Jews - a group considered for centuries to be non-white.

The bourgeoisie is at odds with the proletariat. They will do anything to preserve their power by using sexism, racism, anti-immigrant, anti-poor, pro-wealthy language action and deeds. I oppose the bourgeoisie, or elites (politicians, CEOs, etc.) in every way and in every form.

I hope this letter has proved helpful in understanding what my motivation was for silent protesting. I will not speak for anyone else. The problems of all people is the system: Capitalism.

Capitalism breeds exploitation of markets, the transformation of human labor into something artificial and unnatural that can be taken away, it leads to the concentration of wealth. How can you have any equality in a system of inequality? A politician or leader only gives both you and I lip-service when they promise equality in capitalism.

I am not Jewish, but I will not let them be scapegoated falsely. I am against racism. I am against the bourgeoisie. That is why I protested the speech.

Thom Brooks

### Club Sports Article Was Inaccurate

**To the Editor:**  
As Chair of Club Presidents and Executive Vice President of the Student Government Association, it is my duty to oversee all SGA funded clubs and their activities. Reading the Jan. 27 edition of the Beacon, I would like to set the record straight regarding three major statements printed by the Beacon in their cover article on club sports:

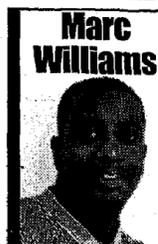
"According to the respective team officials, the SGA gives up to \$4,000 per year for the ice hockey and bowling teams and up to \$10,000 per year for the equestrian team, provided that the teams raise that much on their own."

The SGA gives each team the equal amount of \$4,000. Each club team is also given the opportunity to receive another \$4,000 provided they match up to this amount.

Regarding the incorrect title of "Men's Volleyball Team," it is important that students know that this is not a men's volleyball team.

continued on next page

# VIEWS OF THE NEWS



Marc Williams

## Baptiste Will be First From WPC on "Jeopardy"

Joe Clark ("Lean on Me"), Ian Ziering ("Beverly Hills 90210"); Dick Vitale (Basketball Commentator); Robert Townsend (comedian/actor). What do all of these names have in common? They are famous people who attended William Paterson College. This may be an unlikely

"Jeopardy" question, but the names are real and synonymous to WPC.

One question, however, that everyone here can answer is: Who is the first William Paterson College student to be a contestant on the game show "Jeopardy?" The answer: Oliver Baptiste.

That's correct. This witty, multi-talented, intelligent, successful and scholarly brother with the engaging personality, from Paterson, NJ, will be a contestant on the game show Jeopardy. Oliver was chosen as one of 16 finalists nationwide to compete for \$25,000 in California and play television's most popular game show today, Feb. 24, 1997.

This young man is no stranger to success. He came to WPC in the fall of 1993 and took the campus by storm. His life here could be looked at as some possible Jeopardy questions. The following snippets provide a clear picture of the kind of things that summarize what he has accomplished:

### Category A: Freshman year

Question: Awarded the prestigious Trustee Scholarship, worked for WCRN and had his own hip hop/R&B show; an active member of Brothers For Awareness; an orientation leader; achieved a 3.7 GPA; and made the Dean's List. He walked away with the Dean of Students Award for academic excellence and was elected president of Brothers for Awareness. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

### Category B: Sophomore year

An orientation leader whose brilliance, humor, personality and incredible knowledge of WPC earned him the title "The Most Liked and Respected Orientation Leader." Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

A Daily Double: Became a household name in the SGA for his superior knowledge of government. He was seen as a challenger and fighter for the rights of students. He even tested his acting prowess and starred in the WPC play, "A Day of Absence." It became quite apparent to everyone at WPC that he could accomplish anything he put his mind to. He was named "Scholar Leader of the Year" and he received Dean of Students Award for the second straight year for all of his efforts. In addition, he landed an internship in film animation at Buzzco Associates in Manhattan. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

### Category C: Junior Year

Voted legislator of the month in the first month of tenure as Arts and Communication Representative and a member of the Constitutional Judicial Board. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

He became one of the first students hired as a Student Computer Consultant. He was the producer of "Up Close and Personal," a public affairs show dealing with issues in Paterson, was the Narrator and Assistant Producer of "A Tribute to Football," a five minute musical video production, and listed in the 1996 edition of "Who's Who Among College Students." Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

Daily Double: There are two student leaders that are responsible for making the 744 bus run from Paterson to Wayne Hills Shopping Center, Monday-Saturday until 11 p.m. Name one of them. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

Returned to his musical roots and plays the bass in the Stanleybirch band, a rock and roll group that will be releasing a 5-track CD this spring. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste. (Side note: His group, Stanleybirch, will make their musical debut in Billy Pats, Tues. Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.)

Given these questions, it's not difficult to understand how a man of Oliver Baptiste's caliber made it to the game show "Jeopardy." I dub him as the Renaissance Man. I have never met a person that has had as much success with various groups and nationalities. He is known throughout the campus by people of every race, and the most intriguing thing is that he is embraced by all of them! If you talk to most administrators and professors they will tell you he is arguably one of the most tal-

ented people to ever grace this campus. That is pretty impressive considering he is just a Junior, and has greater years ahead of him.

He has proven that you do not need a prestigious position or always be in the limelight to succeed. His motivation comes from within, and he possesses the wisdom and insight of an individual well beyond his years. Fans of "Jeopardy" know that it takes a well-rounded individual to win, and Oliver is someone who is, without question, well-rounded. On top of that he is an African-American male who is "on the move."

Many in our community were not surprised that Oliver was selected as a "Jeopardy" contestant. He epitomizes the term "student leader." There has not been a student in recent memory that has accomplished as much as he has. When mentioning his name to any group, the response is a thoughtful silence followed by beaming smiles.

He was a driving force for the past two years in the WPC College bowl. Although his Brothers for Awareness team did not place well two years ago, Oliver was so impressive, that the winning team and members of Campus Activities included him as a participant to attend the regionals. Last year, (1996), he led Brothers for Awareness to their first College bowl title and a trip to the New Jersey Regionals. Unfortunately, tragedy struck in the Baptiste household during the regionals; his grandmother passed away and he was unable to attend. One could assume that if it had not been for this unfortunate event in his life, that he would have led BFA to a state title. It is amazing how fate falls, because exactly one year later, he is now a contestant on the most respected and watched game show in the United States.

If you are ever in the Art Building, or the Library Computer Lab, stop by to say "hello" to the friendly, outgoing, dread-lock brother, and wish him "good luck." Tune your television set on Channel 7 at 7:30 p.m. on May 12 (the taping is Feb. 24, however the show will not air until May 12) and watch WPC make history once again. After he competes on Jeopardy, whether he wins or loses, I am confident that millions of Americans will know WPC for all its household names, National Championship Baseball and Bowling Teams.

In addition, they will be able to answer the final Jeopardy question: Name the gifted and talented 21-year-old African American male from Paterson, New Jersey....

## Mailbag

but all are welcome to join this or any other SGA club on campus regardless of their sex.

SGA has three chartered club "E" sports organizations: equestrian, bowling, and ice hockey. Although a WPC student wearing a "Pioneer Lacrosse" T-shirt was pictured on the front page of the same paper, please be advised that lacrosse is not and never has been a club sport under the SGA.

It is important that these issues are clarified to uphold the SGA's integrity. If anyone is interested, additional documentation will be given upon request.

Jennell P. Cooper  
Executive Vice President  
Student Government Association

### Phi Kappa Tau Thanks Campus

**To the Editor:**  
We, the members of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity at William Paterson, would like to send out a thank you to some people on campus.

Recently we had our fund-raiser, the Couch-a-thon, in which we sit outside the Student Center for a 24-hour period and raise money for the Children's Heart Foundation by sitting down. While this may seem like a joke for a fund-raiser, the students and faculty on this campus took our cause very seriously, and donated generous amounts on money, as well as their services.

Sbarro's, pizza donated two pies at nighttime for our brothers to eat and Burger King donated breakfast sandwiches in the morning as well. So to the student center food services we extend a heartfelt thanks and also to the

college community as well.

Our fund-raiser could not have been the success that it was without your help and support for a great cause.

The brothers of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Epsilon Epsilon Chapter

### WPC Has A Lack of Support for Disabled Students

**To the Editor:**

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the college campus and its lack of service and support for disabled students.

I have been a student at William Paterson for two years. I have a disability which confines me to a wheelchair. I can get around pretty well most of the time, however, there are occasions when I need assistance, such as in inclement weather where it is impossible for me to get around campus.

There are also unfortunate times, as on Friday, Feb. 14, when I become stranded at the science building when my wheelchair became inoperable due to the fact that one of

the wheels became detached from the chair. I promptly called the campus police for assistance. I spoke with a dispatcher who placed me on hold to ask a superior officer if they could render assistance. I was told that they will not transport me. I was shocked and very disappointed.

I understood that we are soon going to be a university. As such, the quality of the campus police department must be more responsive to the students' needs. If I cannot receive assistance from the police during an emergency, to whom am I supposed to look for help? There are a few officers that care and have shown their kindness above the call of duty.

Everyone knows who those few officers are. If we are to grow as a campus community then I strongly suggest that you make sure that an integral part of the community, Campus Police, contribute to the quality of life on this campus.

I eventually received assistance from the police after contacting the Student Health Office and the Provost's office. I was able to obtain a ride to

my dorm.  
I also wish to mention that I registered for a class this semester which was to be in Science 200B which is inaccessible to one in a wheelchair. Before the semester began, I contacted Janet Barone DeSenzo, coordinator of Student

Services, and asked if she could submit a room change request. She did so on Jan. 7.

The first day of the semester, I put in another call to the Registrar's Office confirming that the room had been changed. I was told that it had been changed to Science 200A. Upon arrival at Science 200A, I was notified that the room had been switched back to 200B. I had to be carried up and down the stairs. No room change was made into the third week into the semester, by which time I had already withdrawn from the course.

In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was put into affect, mandating that most of which is accessible to the able bodied population also be made accessible to the disabled population. Seven years later, William Paterson College is still not yet in compliance with the law.

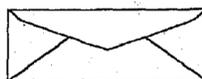
In addition, I wish to address yet another issue concerning the campus. As you are well aware, the campus was closed on Monday Feb. 17, including the Student Center. As a result, I was not able to utilize the food services on campus, which I have paid for. I am very disgusted and appalled at how an institution of higher education could be so inconsistent with their policies regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

I thank you very much for any consideration given in this matter.

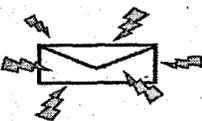
Marc Molde

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editorial page editor  
Student Center 310  
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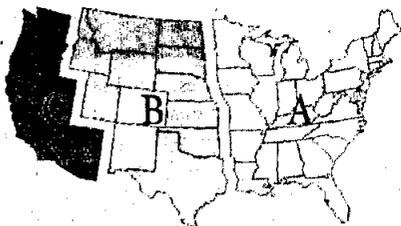


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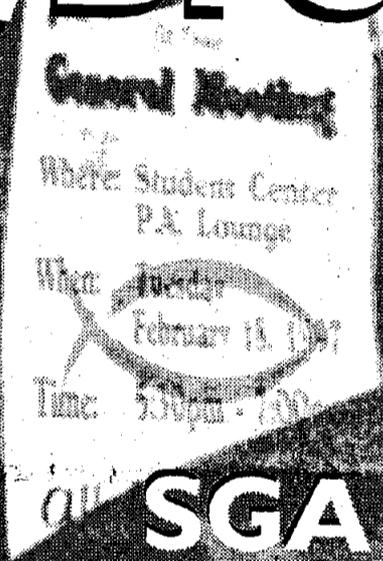
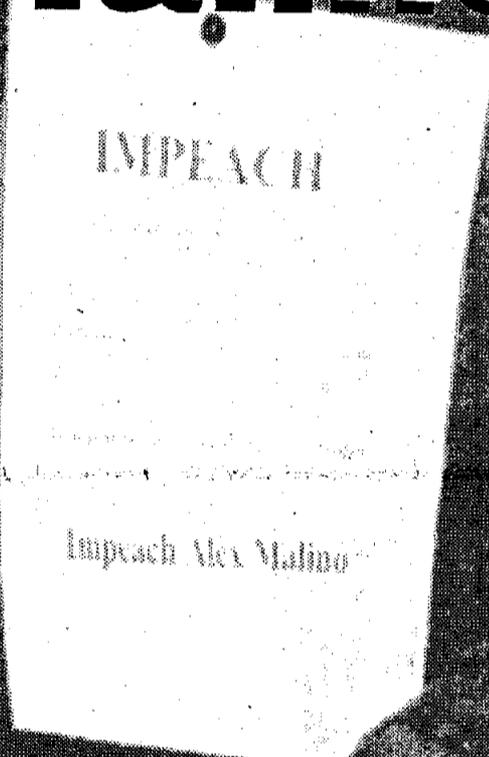


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BEACON

# Students attempt to remove Malino/Brooks



**SGA President and Court of Judicial Review Chair come under fire for protest**



**SPECIAL SECTION PAGE 17**

**Issues of Debate: Rev. Sharpton's visit to WPC**

**News Page 2**

**For SGA executive officers, it's not all volunteer work**

# For SGA executive officers it's not all volunteer work

By Norman DeFilippo

All executive board members of the William Paterson College Student Government Association (SGA) receive tuition reimbursement, a form of compensation for their role in SGA government. At the end of each semester those SGA members who qualify for tuition reimbursement receive a check for the amount of that semester's flat-rate tuition, which does not include any fees or room and board costs.

The process for tuition reimbursement has a set procedure, and students who hold positions where tuition reimbursement is a possibility are not guaranteed a full reimbursement.

Barbara Stomber, SGA financial adviser, explained that if the students get a C-minus (1.7 GPA) or better they receive half of the reimbursement.

After students meet the minimum requirements, the proposals for tuition reimbursement are received by SGA Legislature, says Stomber, and the Legislature votes on them. Stomber then receives the approved requests and sends the names of those approved to the Bursar's office to check "if they have met all of their financial obligations with the college," said Stomber. If they meet those requirements, then they will receive full tuition reimbursement.

"Any student receiving full reimbursement taking 12 to 18 credits this year would get \$1264.12," Stomber explains.

Of course, the amount stated is for New Jersey residents only and only for one semester. Because tuition reimbursement covers the fall, spring, and summer semesters the reimbursement of one SGA member enrolled in 36 credits could amount to \$3792.36 for his or her one year as an officer.

"All of the money [for tuition reimburse-



Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

Only William Paterson College Student Government Association Executive Officers receive tuition reimbursement. This includes President, Executive Vice President, Vice President and Treasurer.

ment]," says Stomber "comes from student activities fees." Each full-time student pays \$33 a semester for Student Activity Fees and a portion of those funds pays for tuition reimbursement.

Wanda Acosta, senior and psychology major, feels that the compensation executive SGA members receive should have an impact on the job they do.

"They should do their job to their utmost potential," said Acosta. "They are holding a position where everyone looks up to them, they are the role models of WPC. So I feel they should go over and beyond their duties."

Other students feel less confident in the

capacity of the SGA to perform at a level worth monetary compensation.

Melissa Kirton, junior and nursing major, wonders, "What are they doing that we are not doing? I cannot think of any legitimate answer that they could give me to make me say 'Okay I understand why they are getting tuition reimbursement.'"

"I think the reason [for tuition reimbursement]," said Stomber "was that these positions required a tremendous amount of time and they couldn't get people to fill them because, students of course need to earn some income, as well, to support their col-

see IRS page 5

## the Beacon

A NEWSPAPER THAT'S CLEARLY FOR YOU

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# African-American students angry over protest demand resignation of two SGA leaders

'I will not resign' responded William Paterson College Student Government Association President Alex Malino at the meeting of the SGA Legislature last Tuesday.

By Matthew Halpern

Members of the William Paterson College African-American community called for the impeachment of Alex Malino, WPC Student Government Association president, and Thom Brooks, SGA Court of Judicial Review (CJR) chairperson.

The demands which were made at the SGA Legislature meeting held last Tuesday, February 18, followed a protest by Malino, Brooks and Miriam Janoff, president, WPC Hillel.

The protest occurred February 4 at the opening ceremonies for African Heritage Month, where Rev. Al Sharpton was the keynote speaker. Standing outside of the Student Center Ballroom, the three displayed a staking "Rev. Al Sharpton is a reverend of HATE" and equating him to the controversial Minsiter Louis Farrakhan.

"I protested because of my personal convictions, as a Jewish male," said Malino. "We protested because we feel Al Sharpton is anti-Semitic."

WPC students who opposed the actions of Malino, Brooks and Janoff did so for a variety of reasons.

"Whenever you are on the college campus, you represent the SGA," said one WPC student at the recent SGA Legislature meeting. "A lot of people know him as the SGA President, not just Alex Malino, and so people looked at him as a leader, not just a student."

Additionally, some students felt that there are other ways to effectively get a point across while still representing the best interest of the student body at large.

"I feel as though he could have done it [expressed his opinion] another way--he could have written him a letter, or he could have talked to him," said NaSheeda Thompson, sophomore. "It made me feel uncomfortable, since you represent me; he is showing a bad image for the Student Government Association."

The accusations were brought only against Malino and Brooks and dealt with the alleged violation of rules and regulations from the SGA constitution and WPC student handbook.

In a document distributed at the SGA meeting these actions were described as not representative of the rights, interests and welfare of WPC students. Also stated in the document was the charge that standing outside the presentation was a hindrance of communication and an interference with a college-sponsored event.

Mark Hawkins, senior, felt that the interests and welfare of African-American students was not represented by Malino's actions.

"According to the purpose of your constitution, you did not represent me and I cannot see you representing me nor people of color any longer," said Hawkins at the Legislature meeting. "Your resignation is needed."

The SGA Constitution states "the purpose of the association is to promote the interest and welfare of the student body by providing a means through which members may express themselves effectively in matters which affect the student as a member of the William Paterson College community."

Present at the meeting, Janoff feels that the difference in their interpretation of the SGA constitution. Marsh said that the mat-

ter would be presented before the CJR at its meeting the following Tuesday. "The members of the CJR would convene and call in the students in question and evidence that you have will be presented," Marsh said. "Alex would be brought in and all the evidence he has, the then the CJR would make it's finding."

Based on the recommendation of the CJR, the matter can be brought back the SGA Legislators for a vote. The motion must pass with a 2/3 affirmative vote for two consec-



(above) SGA Vice President, John McCormick addresses the over 70 students who turned out for the SGA Legislature meeting last Tuesday. (left) William Paterson College Registrar and SGA Advisor, Mark Evangelista attempts to provide some mediation.

Dana Romatowski/The Beacon

this matter.

Ed Marsh, Senior Class vice-president and vice chairperson of the CJR, then explained what would proceed based on his interpretation of the SGA constitution. Marsh said that the mat-

ter would be presented before the CJR at its meeting the following Tuesday.

"The members of the CJR would convene and call in the students in question and evidence that you have will be presented," Marsh said.

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At the start of this past

utive meetings, meaning that the two would vacate office until Mar. 18 at the earliest.

Malino then announced at the SGA Executive Board meeting this past Thursday that, following consultation with the SGA attorney, Gerald Brennan, the motion did not hold any ground, since it was submitted improperly.

According to Malino, Marsh and Mark Evangelista, SGA adviser, spoke with the SGA lawyer, who stated that the motion were "dead," because they had been done incorrectly.

"A separate motion must be made specifically for Thom and for me," he stated. "In addition, no vote was taken, possibly because of the emotion and confusion, making a dead motion."

Another problem with the motion is that it includes violations from both the SGA constitution and the WPC Student Handbook. The SGA can only hear complaints based on its constitution; violations regarding the student handbook should be taken to the attention of the Dean of Student Development, states the handbook.

At the start of this past

Saturday's Board of Trustees meeting, two WPC professors, Edward Bell, Educational Leadership, and William Small, Political Science, along with four WPC students addressed the board about this issue. Subsequently, the trustees agreed to hand the situation over to the Minority Affairs committee, who will come back the the board in April with a report on their findings.

According to Fred Gruel, chairperson, WPC Board of Trustees, the board holds an oversight role concerning issues of this matter. By giving the Minority Affairs committee jurisdiction over this issue, the administration will become more active in the proceedings.

"The Board of Trustees does not get into the day-to-day activities of the college," said Gruel. "What we are doing is putting this back into the hands of the administration, who will look into the events as a whole, and determine the atmosphere that comes out of that--whether diversity is accepted in the college community."

Marc Schaeffer, executive

see SGA page 5

FEBRUARY 24, 1997

Vol. 61 No. 24

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ON THE COVER -- A member of the William Paterson College community pauses to read one of the signs that call for the impeachment of WPC Student Government Association President Alex Malino.

Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

# Record year drains SGA club account

By Michele Mielko

The William Paterson College Student Government Association Finance Committee sent out a memo this past week stating that the club account is drained. The money was spent on programs and events by club "B" organizations of the SGA.

Each fiscal year, a budget is set for club expenses by the SGA budget committee, which consists of SGA executive officers and three members of the finance committee chosen by SGA Treasurer, Jasmine Lopez. Last year's amount was set at \$103,600. Since not all money in the club account was spent during the 1995-96 academic year, the account was decreased to \$90,195 this year, said Barbara Stomber, SGA financial adviser.

"Last year, we didn't use all the money allocated," said Stomber. "Clubs probably did not even use \$90,000, so the account was decreased."

Though the account is low right now, Stomber said that this is a record amount of money accessed through the club account.

"This is the most money accessed in club account history," she said. "When we had the fund available, many clubs may not have been in tune with accessing this money, but we are glad to see they are doing so now."

Currently, there is only approximately \$3,500 left in the account. The reason

why there is so little so early in the spring semester is that you can request money for an event far before the event is to take place, Stomber added.

"Clubs can request something in January for the end of the semester, that's why it goes so quickly," said Stomber.

Some of the events that have already been paid for are Chinese New Year/Asian Day which exceeded \$3,000, The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) Semi-formal in April, which also exceeded \$3,000, and the Newark Boys Choir also exceeded \$3,000. Other pre-paid events include the Health Fair in April, Elizabeth Cady Stanton in March, a Psychology Lecture, and Multi-cultural week with Edgar Cruz in March.

There are approximately 40 active Club "B" Organizations, 30 of which have dipped into the club account so far. Last year, only 30 clubs used the account for the entire year. This year, Stomber is hoping to have probably 32 or more clubs accessing the fund.

"We have many requests to be looking into," Stomber said. "There are many clubs that have not accessed the account but have put a request in to do so, which is quite good."

The three biggest events for the Fall Semester were the OLAS Dance in December, the Skin Deep Concert which took place on Nov. 23, and the Creative Dance Ensemble performance in Shea Auditorium. Each of these events exceeded \$4,000.

The largest assessor to date is OLAS. Their account comes to \$12,663. When OLAS runs events, they bring in some income to help defray the cost of the activi-

ty, Stomber said.

Though there is currently \$7,000 in requests, clubs are not discouraged to keep sending in requests.

There will be a Finance Meeting Thurs., Feb. 27, at 12:30 p.m. First, at the meeting, they will announce if there are any additional funds available. If a certain group didn't use all of their funds up,

some may be given to the SGA club account. The second part of the meeting will be to hear financial requests from clubs and organizations.

Many of the programs that clubs requested money for were beneficial, "It's hard because some of these programs are really excellent," said Stomber.

When asked if this will happen again next year or if it can be prevented, Lopez replied, "It all comes from student fees, it depends on the enrollment for next year." According to Stomber, the money is not all given to one particular group. It is distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

"There has been some talk about allocating funds to clubs, which was done in the past," Stomber said. "That was a dismal failure, because when leadership would change, that club may not do the same programs and no one could touch those funds."

Although there is only a small amount of money left in the account, which may be enough for only one or two more events, Stomber encourages clubs to keep handing in requests. She said that the SGA will work hard to use its funds cautiously and help to keep good programs running.

"We've continued to tell people to hand in their requests," said Stomber. She added that it is the hope of the SGA that they will receive additional funds to allow clubs to run as many programs as possible.

"Last year, we didn't use all the money allocated," said Stomber. "Clubs probably did not even use \$90,000, so the account was decreased."

# SGA Legislature to hold special meeting tomorrow

from SGA page 3

assistant to the President, stated that administrators have been working with students to create a dialogue where these issues can be addressed and dealt with.

"I know that the office of the

Provost and the Dean of Students and the SGA adviser are working with members of the African-American and SGA communities to see if they can be brought together to see if they can reach an agreement," said Schaeffer. "This will help them to understand each others positions."

Roland Watts, interim dean, WPC Student Development, feels that the Legislative meeting was a positive experience. He hopes that this is the beginning of an interaction where all members of the WPC community can

understand one another.

"Clearly one of the pluses of Tuesday's meeting was that it began a dialogue," Watts said. "A goal for me and my office is to try and continue this dialogue, such that all different groups of the college community can understand, respect and appreciate each other."

"Once you take on the responsibilities of being a representative of the student on this campus, you sacrifice a lot of things."

-Williams

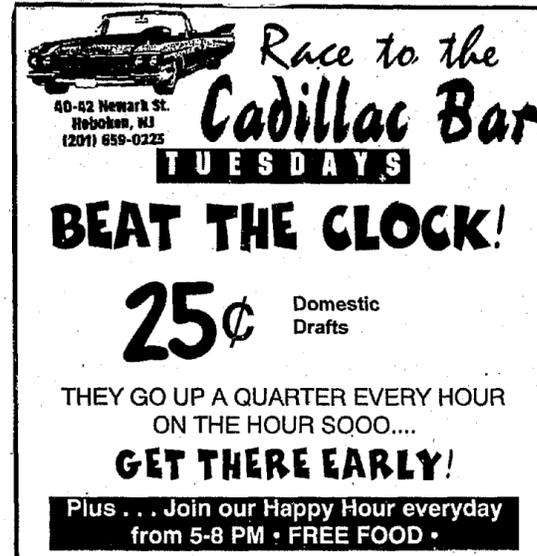
and the personal aspect of a student's life go hand in hand.

"You cannot separate from the title and position, regardless of what position you have here or in society," said Williams. "Once you take on the responsibilities of being a representative of the student on this campus, you sacrifice a lot of things."

As a representative of the

students, Marc Williams, student member of the WPC Board of Trustees agrees with Watts, saying that the meeting was positive because it opened the lines of communication, and he is happy to see this. His point, along with many SGA Legislators and WPC students, is that the leader aspect

As a result of the confusion regarding the SGA motion, a mandatory special SGA Legislature meeting is scheduled for Tues., Feb. 25 at 3:30 p.m. in Student Center rooms 203-5. At that time, explained Malino, there will be an opportunity to remaķe any motions.



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# IRS sees tuition reimbursement as form of income

from SGA page 2

lege education." In contrast to WPC's system, Josa Miller, SGA President at The College of New Jersey explained that at her college, "The president and the vice president of legal services are the only two people who get paid in the SGA." No one else in their SGA is compensated in any way for the work they do, she added.

Montclair State University has a much different way of reimbursing their executive board compared to WPC. President of Montclair's SGA, Amy Fisher, says "Executive board members get room and board over the summer. We also go on a conference over the summer and we get paid minimum wage but, once the year starts there is nothing."

Alex Malino, WPC SGA president, said "[tuition reimbursement] is irrelevant to the job as a whole [and] it is not a reason to run for the position."

Stomber explains "Since I've been here, since 1988, tuition reimbursement has remained constant." But Anthony Cavotto, director, WPC Auxiliary Services, informed her "that there was tuition reimbursement as [far back] as the 70's... and that involved just the SGA president."

"And then, Cavotto said that in the 1980's, he believed at the time when Henry Morris was the director of student development, the tuition policy encompassed not only the SGA President, but

the other officers: the Executive Vice President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, and then the 'A' clubs."

Jennel P. Cooper, SGA Executive Vice President, said "I personally have financial aid, so my loans pay for it [tuition] and then I get the money back after it is proven that I have done my duties. Then I will have the money to pay back my loans as soon as the bank asks for the money."

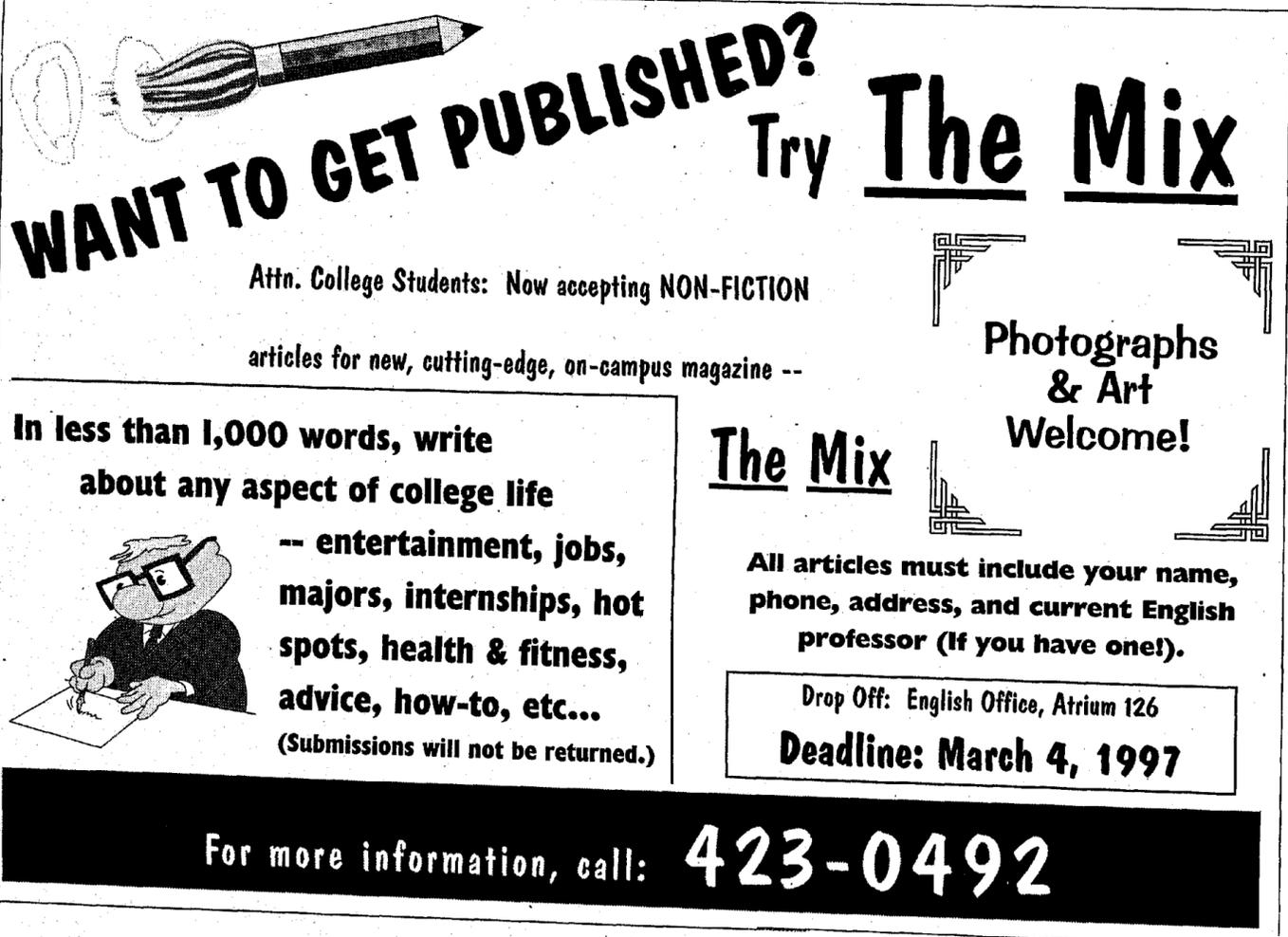
Diane Ackerman, acting director, WPC Financial Aid, explained that all the information about tuition reimbursement goes to the Financial Aid office and all financial aid packages are adjusted accordingly.

However, one discrepancy about tuition reimbursement has yet to be resolved.

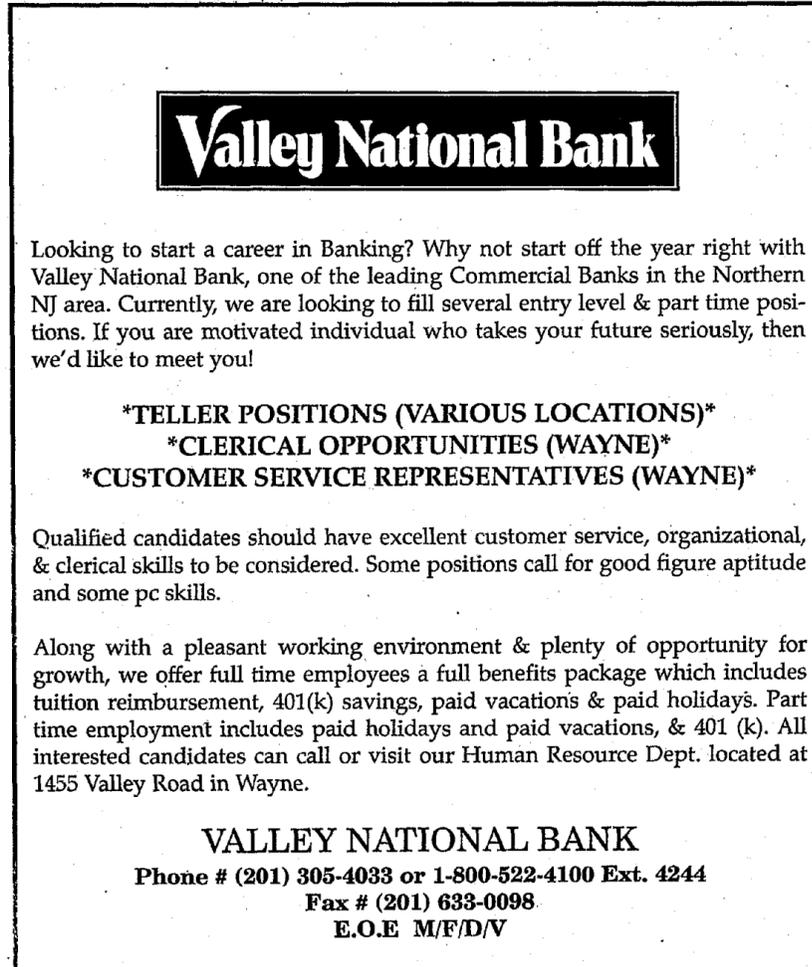
According to Charlotte O'Brien, Campus Activities bookkeeper, tuition reimbursement is not considered income and no taxes are taken out of reimbursement.

However, Colleen Hancock, spokeswoman for the Internal Revenue Service, says the reimbursement is income and therefore it is taxable.

"In as much as they are doing something, acting as officers, which is why they are receiving the money they would have to pay taxes," said Hancock. Also, Hancock added that the standards SGA officers must meet "only makes it a little more firm as to why they are receiving the money, it really is compensation."



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## Railroad Jerk: Waving The Flag Of Rebellion



By Joe Giglio

"What the fuck is country punk?" asks Marcellus Hall, singer/songwriter of New York's own Railroad Jerk, while reading a review of their latest effort, *The Third Rail*. Describing the sound of the quartet's past four LP's is about as complex as describing the ethics of botany to a city dweller. Everything's multi-layered and all influences are sporadically fused in each song. Critics have named influences from Robert Johnson and Donovan to Captain Beefheart and the Sex Pistols to capture the essence of the sound. In reality, the very fabric of RRJ's sound uses a ramshackle, folked-down version of the Rolling Stones meeting a tamed Blues Explosion. The guitar lines of Marce Hall and Alec Stephen are staggard and loose Tony Lee's bass and occasional organ arrangement are kiltered but fitting and Dave Varenka's percussion and infrequent use of the pots and pans couldn't be better placed. It's a blues vs. folk vs. punk vs. hard rock vendetta, somewhat giving a slap-happy, industrial folk persona.

"Hey man, I was walking down the street and this car alarm was going off, so I took out my recorder and taped it. It's going to be the percussion segment of a song we recorded," Hall continues, "We just love combining our 'back porch' sound with tap-

ing bites of drunks falling down stairs and construction site sounds." Best heard on their 2.20.93 seven-inch, some of the songs are stripped of the full-band sound, giving ones like the Stones version of "Back Off Bitch" a dingy, jangley acoustic aura.

"Sometimes we tape up guitar strings, add metal objects to Dave's drum kit or use the keyboards in odd ways just to to recapture the acoustic side of Railroad Jerk," explains Alec Stephen.

Through a deeper evaluation, RRJ's music is honest; the product of everyday life of a Lower East Side clan about record contracts, the music industry and commercial success with simple pleasures. Marce elaborates, "We love the situation we're in because we do what we want, we got scorned sometimes for singing about our contracts or the industry but it's what we want to sing about," he continues, "Call us what

you may, but we're just a rock band singing about our lives."

"I don't think we're country punk," bandmates still dumfounded about the album review, "I just don't see any country punk banner hanging from our records. I don't get these bands

that proudly hold up these banners of country punk or straight punk or whatever and go with it, we're not like that."

Once quoted as an "organic punkified, countrified, folkified version of the 60's and 70's" band mates admitted to their discovery of classic rock, now.

Tony Lee explains, "We rebel with what's in. We loved punk rock of yesteryear so we rebelled against it, now we're rebelling against Green Day." This indie-rock attitude often caught members of RRJ in contract chaffing between larger record labels and Matador and their sojournment with

Matador. I knew from the get go that bandmembers (especially Hall and Lee) didn't favor the acknowledgement of being an "indie-rock" outfit.

"What is indie-rock, there is no indie-rock anymore," Dave Varenka expresses, "the term came about to re-separate that music from the mass market and major label music, but now it's just the mentality of indifference; kind of like a Sid Vicious, punk attitude." While this hybrid form of commercial "ignorance" or pessimism (depending on how you look at the issue) raises posterity amongst the bandmates and critics, RRJ simply sings about it. In "Objectify Me" off last year's *The Third Rail*, Hall sings, "Chauffeur with a limousine/that's not what this song's about/lifestyles of the idled rich, you can count me out," he goes on, "True love with commercial appeal/that's not what this song's about/champagne and a private yacht/you can count me out." These few lines explain Railroad Jerk's mentality crystal clear. "You don't need good ideas and a lot of money to make good music, you just need good ideas," Hall explains.

And figuring that throughout the years, indie-rock no longer had a means of obscurity on a band's part, it, more or less turned into separate beliefs on the members of RRJ.

"We just love combining our back porch sound with tapping bites of drunks falling down stairs and construction site sounds," says Marce Hall.

# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE



**Cake**  
*Fashion Nugget*  
(Capricorn/Mercury)

Take a laid-back funk, country twang, rock groove and a mariachi influenced waltz, throw it in

a blender, and you come out with one **PICK HIT** *Fashion Nugget*. Racing through the fourteen tracks of tight, metamorphic creativeness; originality is the word that comes to mind.

Where else could you explore the dripping irony and nearly bombastic grooves of the band's first single/video "The Distance" and, moments later, be bombarded with the temperamental waltz, glowing trumpet solos, and lyrical poetry of "Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps." California's quintet, Cake, pulls it off beautifully.

Throughout *Nugget's* fourteen sentiments, a raw humor, confused sadness, and emotional passion are found underlying John McCrea's lyrics. The songs either portray some problematic relationship or race cars. "The Distance" and "Race Car Ya-Yas" are very thematic and self-explanatory when it comes to race cars, meanwhile "She'll Come Back To Me," "Open Book," and "Sad Songs And Waltzes" tango with harkening black-hearted lyrics about a troubled romantic affiliation. "She leaving your house/she had to get out/she's mad and she'll take her mattress with her...It's coming down," McCrea cries on "It's Coming Down."

Musically, Brown and McCrea's guitars, Roper's percussion, Damiani's bass, and di Fiore's trumpet have such a tight sound. The cover of "I Will Survive" and "Italian Leather Sofa" have the same formula with an opening acoustic leading into the electric and finishing with a decorative trumpet solo. Overlapping a stylistic terrain of musical boundaries, *Fashion Nugget's* mamba meeting funk meeting rock & roll approach pulls it off sublimely. (JC)

**The Mighty Mighty Bosstones**  
*Let's Face It*  
(Big Rig/Mercury)

The Mighty Mighty Bosstones are back with their seventh release, their fourth on Mercury, entitled *Let's Face It*. This offering seems a bit slower than earlier albums and more ska sounding than ever. It makes one wonder if the success of bands like No Doubt, who have incorporated the ska sound, have had an effect on mainstream music and on certain band's sounds.

The well-produced, twelve tracks seemed like a hassle for the band to record. The fun sounds like it was lost somewhere between this disk and the last

one. Songs like "The Rascal King" and "Another Drinking Song" sound just plain bland. There are no tempo changes and Dicky Barret, vocalist, seems bored singing them.

There are a few decent songs on *Let's Face It*, not many and they're nothing to brag about, but "The Impression I Got" is worthy of mention as is "Desensitized." The two of these tunes contain some energy and carry the weight of the entire album.

The Bosstones have never really been a big part of commercial rock radio in this area, but with all of the garbage that has come out on the airwaves, this album might change things for the band even though it isn't their best album. Better luck next time.

**Archers of Loaf**  
*Vitus Tinnitius*  
(Alias)

Apparently Archers of Loaf have reached the plateau of success where there is a demand for a live release. *Vitus Tinnitius* is an eight-song E.P. that features six live tracks from an Oct. 20 performance at the Middle East in Massachusetts and two remixes of songs from the Archers latest L.P., *All the Nations Airports*.

The sound quality of the live performance is crisp and clear. But not so clear as to eliminate the energy of their live show. It sounds like a high quality bootleg. Some of Archers best songs are captured like "Harnessing in Slums," "Underdogs of Nipmo," and "Greatest of All Time." But others are mysteriously missing. Surely there's a demand for live versions of "What did you Expect," "All the Nations Airports," and "Web in Front." For some bizarre reason these classics were not included.

The two remixes of "Vocal Shrapnel" and "Scenic Pastures" are unnecessary. They take up space on the album that would be better suited for the inclusion of more live tracks.

This being an E.P. and all, it's not much of a financial risk to pick up a copy and check it out. Hopefully it will be the first in a series of live E.P.'s to capture the live sound of Archers of Loaf. (TB)

**The Chainsaw Kittens**  
*The Chainsaw Kittens*  
(Scratchie/Mercury)

The Chainsaw Kittens are a seasoned Oklahoma pop-rock band that has opened up for the likes of Jane's Addiction and The Smashing Pumpkins. Not surprisingly then, they're on Scratchie Records (in conjunction with Mercury), which is a label started in part by D'arcy and James Iha of The Smashing Pumpkins.

Tyson Mead, lead vocalist for The Chainsaw Kittens, has a voice that reminds one of Morrissey, only less whiney. His talent is displayed from the beginning on the first track, "Dorothy's Last Fling" and carries on throughout. The third track, "Tongue Trick," shows Mead's stylistic range as the Chainsaw Kittens do what most pop bands are incapable of these days, which is creating a decent ballad filled with genuine emotion. The band slows down even more on the next track "King Monkey Smile," only to pick it up at the end without losing they're momentum, which hasn't been done successfully since the breakup of the Pixies.

On certain tracks, the Chainsaw Kittens incorporate pianos into their music, which furthers the music even more. Even a violin or two can be found

on certain parts of the album. All of this combined forms an album with very few weakspots. Even the songs that do fall short, such as "Waltz Across Debris" aren't complete failures.

The Chainsaw Kittens will inevitably be categorized as a "college rock" band. But unlike the cliched college rock band, the Chainsaw Kittens do possess genuine talent. This self-titled album is definitely worth checking out. (DR)



**Silver Chair**  
*Freak Show*  
(Epic)

Silver Chair's *Freak Show* is a good follow up to their debut album *Frog Stomp*. But don't expect much, it is just the type of album one expects from seventeen year-olds.

The band enjoyed the use of "obscure Indian instruments" like the sitar and a barrage of strings such as the violin and the cello, to name a few. This is where the band has grown the most; musically *Freak Show* has surpassed *Frog Stomp*.

The lyrics, however, leave much to be desired. Those who appreciated the uniqueness of Daniel Johns' lyrics on *Frog Stomp* are sure to be disappointed. Lyrics like "Now I Gotta dump you/ Continue my life too/ I tried to help you/ Don't care what you do" exemplify the mediocrity that has found its way onto this album.

While the song "Cemetery" shows Silver Chair's promise, it leaves listeners wanting more. Its use of strings are well placed, and adds another dimension of depth to the song. Despite it's lyrical brevity, "Cemetery" is one of the better songs on the album. The one complete verse the song contains is solid, absent of the clichés that fuel most of the release.

Silver Chair's influences are easily identified. For instance, songs like "Abuse Me" and "Lie To Me" sound like renditions of Nirvana songs. While "Learn To Hate" lets listeners know immediately; although the band likes Rage Against the Machine they just cannot play like them. In fact, Silver Chair so lacks the intensity of Rage Against the Machine that the song sounds like a complete farce and one cannot help laughing.

*Freak Show* comes across as what it is: an attempt to put out a new album while the band was still hot, and not worry about the possibility of damaging the bands reputation with a finished product that is far less than perfect. (NCD)

**Chester Copperpot**  
*Poems and Short Stories*  
(Dolores)

This album is a release from a record label in Sweden. Meaning, this is an import. Meaning, A) it's going to be difficult to find, and B) it's going to be fairly expensive. Is it worth it? Well, if passion-

see MICROSCOPE page 10

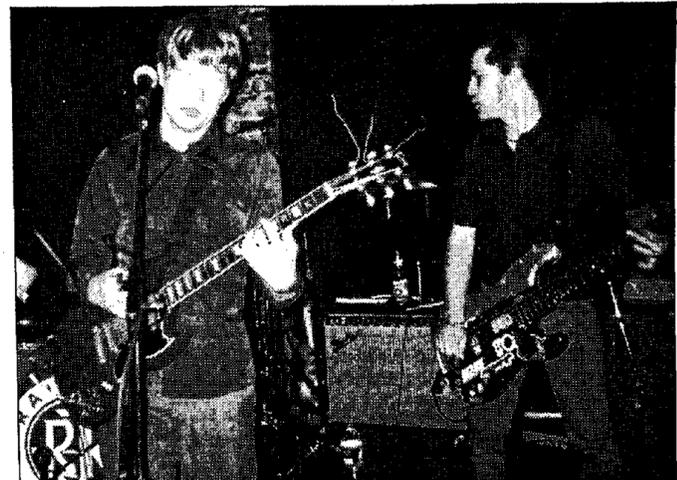
# Waiting for the free trips to Europe . . .

from RAILROAD page 7

"Whatever your music is, whether it's alternative, punk, indie, or D.I.Y. (Do It Yourself), it all means a challenged authority of mainstream, and it's something that I think about all the time. We've always felt like we wanted to challenge ourselves with making music 'on the edge' but to refuse to go overboard." After asking if a major label contract is something that should be feared, Dave Varenka and Alec Stephen agreed that there are too many niches and loops that cannot be avoided when signing and the biggest one--the self-respect is lost. Tony Lee

and Marcellus Hall both agreed that along as Railroad Jerk is doing their own thing, they didn't mind the "paid trips to Europe."

The show that followed the interview later that evening had about 80% of the new material that can be found on *The Third Rail*, songs that not only followed a format of melodramatic, fashion folk or an inbred country funk, but they sang the blues without primarily having them. The songs were straightforward, clean, and different. One moment, Tony Lee is opening with an organ solo and the next minute Dave Varenka emulates his moment, like his own version of "Bang The Drum" (a single off 1995's



Railroad Jerk's Marcellus Hall and Tony Lee.

Photo By Joe Giglio

*One Track Mind*, and Hall is catering on some harmonica. "We wanted to write a song on this album that would make us the most money," Hall adds jokingly. Railroad Jerk's sound, though primed for mainstream attention, saluted a herky-jerky roots rock where boundaries were crossed into nearly every realm of music. It raises the question, "Where else can you have a Dylanesque monologue and a punk rock attitude and get away with it?" (Matador Records: 676 Broadway 4th Floor, NY, NY 10012)

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Oklahoma City	\$49**	San Francisco \$119**

From The WEST		
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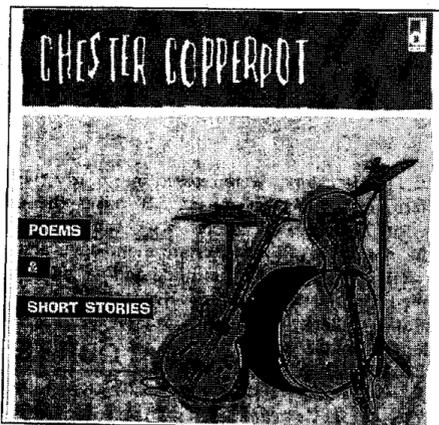
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# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

from MICROSCOPE page 8

ate, melody driven power pop is your cup of tea, then hells yes.

Chester Copperpot is a three piece, made up of guys with very Swedish sounding names. Fredrik Karlsson, guitar and vocals, Christian Sjogreen, drums, and Niklas Alden (all have accents on some of the vowels in their names that this computer can't make,) have created a near flawless release that is upbeat, fun, and keeps the listener engaged throughout. The main highlights on this album are the fast paced tracks;



"Apathy #4," "Guitar Solo," and "Lyrical Gangsta." The thick Swedish accent is a perfect marriage with the tight rhythm section and masterful guitar work.

To avoid the hassles of tracking this record down, it would probably be easier to write the label directly at: Dolores Records, Drottninggatan 52, 411 07, Goteborg, Sweden. So write and experience the magic of Chester Copperpot.

(TB)

Armchair Martian  
Armchair Martian  
(Cargo/Headhunter)

Good solid pop punk - pardon the cliché description. It's very obvious, though, that Armchair Martian is a Cargo Records band. While they're a bit poppier than most of their label mates, they still have the trademark full, bass laden guitar noise, resulting in a big powerful sound. This is not a bad thing, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Armchair Martian is another refugee from the infamous My Records *Happy Meals* compilation, which is spawning an insane number of bands getting record deals, both major and indie. Armchair Martian's current line up of Jon, guitar and vocals, Chad, bass, and Paul, drums, have created an impressive debut. If this is any glimpse into the future, expect to hear a lot of these boys.

The best tracks on this album are the opener, "Back in the Hammock," "Barely Passing," and "Jessica Suicide." "Jessica Suicide" starts off with mellow, non distorted guitar accompanied by Jon singing "Jessica Suicide/ Take me for a ride/ I'm just a crazy one armed man/ Strange world, strange world/ Dead girl." From there the song gradually builds momentum until it becomes the best song on the album.

Armchair Martian's full length debut is an unquestioned success that hopefully will create a solid fan base that the band rightly deserves.

(TB)

James  
Whiplash  
(Fontana)

This English-sounding band is led by Tim Booth on vocals and Larry Gott on guitar. The two combine on the first track, "Tomorrow" and perform powerful, melodic music. It doesn't end here either. Songs like "She's a Star" and "Go to the Bank"



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## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE SHEA CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS

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March 1 at 8:00 p.m.  
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(This event is in the Hunziker Black Box Theatre)

MIDDAY ARTIST SERIES:  
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JAZZ ROOM SERIES:  
WPC LATIN JAZZ ENSEMBLE  
Sunday, March 2 at 4:00 p.m.

MIDDAY ARTIST SERIES:  
CONCERT OF MUSIC BY GEORGE CRUMB  
Thursday, March 6 at 12:30 p.m.  
(Join us for a special open rehearsal at 9:30 a.m., with a symposium to follow the concert at 3:30 p.m. Both events are free)

WAYNE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA:  
HARBINGERS OF SPRING  
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ANDY LAVERNE ALL STAR TRIO  
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# UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

from MICROSCOPE page 10

show the diversity that is contained in the band James.

Saul Davies, playing violin, adds a strange touch to the songs and creates a distinct sound for the band. Booth's vocals shine through on melodies such as "Avalanche" and "Lost a

Friend." He carries the songs slow points and smooths out the band when they begin to become rough.

Whiplash contains many high points and rarely slows down in pace. "Greenpeace" and "Play Dead" seem to be two of the few exceptions. They seem dull, kind of

drawn out, and they clash with the timing and grace that the rest of the works on this release possess.

David Bayton, drums, and Jim Gleenie, bass, lay down the rhythm and create the backbone of the band. They combine with the other members of James to make Whiplash a success.

(AG)

Sick of it All  
Built To Last  
(East/West)

Boy oh boy! It almost seems impossible to say that Sick of it All could do anything wrong. If there was a list of the top ten artists that have contributed to the New York music scene, SOIA would have to be in the top five. These hardcore superheros have returned once again with another ear blowing, stage dive inducing, album. East/West Records deserves mad props for not trying to change a sound so distinct that every hardcore kid in the entire tri-state area, even the whole country, can relate to.

Built to Last, once again defines what the NY underground is all about. Songs like "Good Lookin' Out," "Don't Follow," and "End the Era" only further the notion that hardcore is here to stay. I don't think there's a bad song on this record, not even one that's half bad. This one is all killer and no filler.

Exceptional tracks include "Us vs. Them," which is about unity among different people. The song borders on punk and has excellent sing along choruses that could get any crowd jumping. Lyrically, Lou Koller sings, I mean screams, "Brother, I'll

always look out for you, if I feel it back. Sister, we'll brave the outside world off the beaten track." He means what he says and the listener believes it.

Another gem comes in the form of the title track "Built to Last." On this one, the matter of fake scenesters comes to light. "Old school or the new, doesn't mean a thing if you're heart's not true. Greedy ones faded fast, we're here, built to last!" There's an incredible breakdown as well to keep with the fun and intensity of "Sick of it All."

Buy this album if you know what's good for you. Don't buy this album if you think moshing is something you do to kick someone's ass. That's not what SOIA is about, even though the music may sound like it.

(EE)

Reviewers this week are: Tim Bornemann, Norman DeFelippo, Ed Erlenmeyer, Al Giamarino, Joe Giglio, and Dave Roe.

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# ON STAGE

Less than Jake  
@ Maxwells  
Hoboken, NJ  
2/10/97

Four bands made up this line up for the show at Maxwells, which was filled to capacity. Starting things off were the Gotohells who are unoriginal and sound exactly like the Queers, except they don't say "fuck" quite as much. After them were the Nobodys, who are also unoriginal and sound exactly like the Queers except they say "fuck" a lot more.

Next up were teen heart throbs Weston. The crowd was much more receptive to them and a good time was had by all as Weston went through hit after hit from their latest L.P., *Got Beat Up*.

Finally Florida's budding rock stars, *Less Than Jake*, took the stage. The crowd was instantly energized and more moshing and crowd surfing took place than I've ever seen at Maxwells. LIJ played pretty much an equal number of songs from their various albums and singles. Highlights coming in the form of songs like "Rock and Roll Pizzeria" (dedicated to the "guy who keeps yelling it up here"), "Jen doesn't like me any more," and an insane cover of Twisted Sisters' "We're Not Gonna Take It Anymore."

Less Than Jake's masterful ability at working the crowd shone through as always. Joking, poetry readings, sparker guns being thrown to the crowd, stage diving, audience members on stage singing, and people dropping their pants all had home at this show and kept the evening going strong.

Every time they come around, LIJ just get better and better live. They are easily one of the best(if not the best) live shows around. Don't be a fool and miss them next time they grace New Jersey.

By Tim Bornemann

## Movie Review -- Absolute Power

Associated Press

So there's this film called "Absolute Power." It's got Clint Eastwood in it and he plays a cat burglar with a heart of gold who just happens to witness the Secret Service murder the President's mistress.

Well, the philandering President (Gene Hackman) and his high-strung chief of staff (Judy Davis) are real, real worried about the cat burglar being at large. In fact, get this, they even want to MURDER the guy, which goes to show how powerful people sometimes do really terrible things.

Eastwood would just as soon get out of town, but when he watches the President on television embracing his late mistress' husband (E.G. Marshall) and vowing to find the killer, that's going too far. President or no President - no one is above the law.

What a shame the Eastwood of old didn't make this film. He'd have marched right into the Oval Office and the whole shebang would have been over in no time. Instead, we get two hours of Eastwood wearing obvious disguises, playing guardian angel to his estranged daughter (getting her into plenty of trouble in the process) and endlessly filling his sketchpad.

The film is a bore, a total bore. Eastwood's

directing is lifeless and the script's a dud. "A Perfect World" was graced by the touch of John Lee Hancock, whose subtlety complemented Eastwood's. The new release, written by William Goldman, hits us with lines such as, "Every time I see your face, I want to rip your throat," and "You heartless whore, I'm not about to run from you."

Historians of the Clinton administration might find "Absolute Power" of interest. It's the latest of several recent films dwelling on the presidency, among them "The American President," "Independence Day," "My Fellow Americans" and "Mars Attacks." An adaptation of "Primary Colors" is in the works.

But for now, all we have is a bad film. If you're looking for drama, you might wonder how Eastwood got Hackman, Davis, Marshall, Ed Harris (as a detective given to deep, macho sips of coffee) and Scott Glenn to join a project that must have looked pretty silly even on paper.

Talk about absolute power.

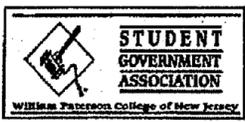
The Castle Rock Entertainment film was produced by Eastwood and Karen Spiegel and distributed by Columbia Pictures. "Absolute Power" has a running time of two hours and one minute. It is rated R, containing violence, profanity and adult situations.

**Seen any good movies??? Let the Insider know**  
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## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS AND CLUBS.

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INCENTIVE WEEKEND PROGRAM GRANT FUND

Sponsor	Program Description
Speech & Hearing Club	Joyce Gores, a licensed CCC and practicing Speech-Language Pathologist from the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in Saddle Brook, NJ will be the guest speaker. Joyce Gores will discuss the effects of Medicaid on this profession, the job market and its many concentrations and most importantly, the client case load.
Campus Activities	Weekend Mall Shuttle offers a great diversion for potentially hundreds of students that reside on campus.
Performing Arts	Miss Julie and the Stronger, a production of two one-act plays by August Strindberg. Production will be extended to the weekend.
Spanish Club	Caribbean writer and poet, Marithelma Costa, will give a talk about her work in a multicultural environment. This will be followed by a writing workshop.
Spanish Club	Poetry reading featuring WPC students reading from their original work and supported by three known and published authors reading from their works also. This bilingual poetry reading [English and Spanish] will present contemporary artistic themes as well as latest stylistic modalities.
Spanish Club	Café Con Leche. The Spanish Repertory Theater, will stage a play in English at the college. The staged play would be one in their current repertory.
Spanish Club	Latin American Film Festival. The festival will be divided into five separate sections, each section dedicated to a specific area of Latin American culture and civilization. Section I deals with the issue of Bilingual Education, Section II with the Aztec and Incan civilizations, Section III with Cuba, Section IV with Modern Mexican Art and Section V with the writer Isabel Allende. All films will be shown in English.
Campus Police	Students, faculty, staff and Campus Police "Softball Bash." This will be a softball game and picnic for the WPC Campus Community.
Campus Activities	Saturday Matinee performance of "STOMP." Included in this trip would be bus transportation. Tickets will be offered to students for only \$15
Campus Activities	New York City Theater Trip "Bring In Da Noise, Bring In Da Funk." Included in this trip would be bus transportation. Tickets will be offered to students for only \$15.
Campus Activities	Saturday Leadership Institute. This program will provide an opportunity for leaders to enhance their leadership skills; empower leaders to recognize and develop their own leadership style; motivate leaders to continue to learn and grow in their positions; encourage leaders from different organizations to work cooperatively; to teach leaders new strategies for recruitment and publicity.
Campus Activities	A variety of entertainment to be held in Billy Pat's on Friday and Saturday evenings. Some of the entertainment would be dedicated to theme month artists i.e. Women's History, African Heritage and Latin Week.
Campus Activities	Yankees vs. Oakland Game [Second game of the season] Tickets to students \$10 and includes transportation
Freshmen Class	Fashion Show '97 - A Night of Spring Fever.



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To run 20 words for one issue is \$6.50, 21-35 words \$7.50, each additional 10 words \$1.00	Classified ads must be placed by 12:00 PM, Friday before publication.	All classified ads must be paid in advance, unless you have an account with the paper.	The Beacon 300 Pompton Rd, SC310 Wayne, NJ 07470 ATTN: Classifieds	THE BEACON

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## Natasha's Stars

**Aries (March 21 to April 19)**  
You are faced with a change in your basic life philosophy because of recent events. While change is sometimes hard for you, it's a good time to explore this. Some long-held convictions are subject to questioning. This weekend, a new hobby has you fascinated.

**Taurus (April 20 to May 20)**  
You make financial gains through career interests this week. At the same time, a co-worker is being unnecessarily obstinate and uncooperative. Perhaps the motivation is jealously, something which shouldn't concern you. The weekend promises romance and passion.

**Gemini (May 21 to June 20)**  
There are problems on the home front, particularly concerning children this week. Romantically, you and your partner are enjoying a long-overdue renaissance. This weekend, an intriguing social invitation arrives from a surprising source.

**Cancer (June 21 to July 22)**  
The extra money you need becomes available to you for that pet project. An irritating event has you angry later in the week.

**However, as the weekend approaches, your mood improves considerably.**

**Leo (July 23 to August 22)**  
It is a great time for you careerwise. Some receive a raise or promotion, while others make a great deal of progress. Domestic matters need your attention later in the week, as do matters of the heart.

**Virgo (August 23 to September 22)**  
You are disappointed by a close friend who lets you down early in the week. Later, however, you are pleased with the progress made on collaborative ventures at work. This weekend, you're at your charming social best.

**Libra (September 23 to October 22)**  
You make a breakthrough concerning a childhood problem that has been haunting your life. However, try not to wallow in self-pity. Domestic problems confront you later in the week but are quickly resolved.

**Scorpio (October 23 to November 21)**  
A friend is being unreasonably difficult due to a financial concern; try not get involved. In particular, don't lend any money. In romance, everything goes your way, and a new beginning is made.

**Sagittarius (November 22 to December 21)**  
You're upset by the delays you encounter this week on the job. However, business contacts you make bode well for future gains. This weekend, feel free to invite friends and loved ones into your home.

**Capricorn (December 22 to January 19)**  
Someone you've helped out in the past needs your aid yet again but don't be afraid to say no. This person is using you as a crutch. Constantly coming to the rescue is not helpful in the long run.

**Aquarius (January 20 to February 18)**  
It is an inconsistent week for you on the job. You are best with setbacks followed by triumphs as you move through the week. This weekend, you're exhausted and need to catch up on your rest.

**Pisces (February 19 to March 20)**  
You find it difficult to hide your resentment of a hurtful acquaintance. It's best to let go of this anger since this person isn't worth your trouble. The weekend promises fun times.

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**Is this your best friend? Why not make new ones working at The Beacon?**

# Men's hoops make a comeback at WPC

By Jeremy Singer

Two years ago, the William Paterson College men's basketball team finished the season with a 9-14 record and an uncertain future following the resignation of its head coach.

But since Jose Rebimbas replaced former WPC coach Jerry Dallesio following the 1994-95 season, the Pioneers have turned into one of the best NCAA Division III teams in the nation.

"Basically, it all boiled down to the will to work hard in the offseason and the philosophy that defense will win championships," said Rebimbas, who watched from the sidelines as WPC beat the top ranked team in the country, Rowan College, Wednesday at the Rec Center, to clinch its first New Jersey Athletic Conference playoff bid since 1987.

When the Pioneers, who have won 18 games and lost just five this season, beat Rowan, it snapped WPC's season-high three-game losing streak and Rowan's nation-best 28-game winning streak. The game dispelled a growing feeling over the past week that WPC is unable to deal with adversity, following consecutive losses to conference rivals Jersey City State College, Rutgers University (Newark Campus), and the College of New Jersey,

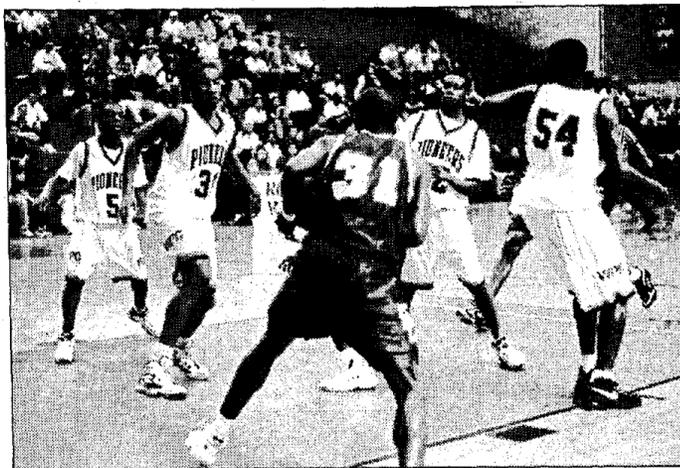
which dropped the Pioneers out of the NCAA Division III "Top Ten" and threatened to end their hopes of qualifying for the conference playoffs.

Last year, the Pioneers won six straight games at the end of the season but were beaten by the College of New Jersey (known at the time as Trenton State College) in the last game of the season to fall one game short of qualifying for the playoffs.

This year, WPC players would not allow themselves to fall again, according to senior guard Gerard Wilson, the Pioneers' leading scorer.

"Rowan is a good team, but they're beatable," said Wilson a day before the Pioneers beat Rowan. "We can win the tough game, but we have to realize that we can't come back with one shot. We have to buckle down and let the defense become the offense."

WPC players agree that keeping cool down the stretch was a major reason for victory against Rowan -- last-minute foul shots by standout players Justin Frederick and Norman Greene helped secure the two-point win -- but they realize they must keep it up for the rest of the season. Chances are, the Pioneers will have to meet both Rowan and Stockton in the playoffs in their search for a conference



Sylvana Meneses/The Beacon

The WPC Mens Basketball team on defense during their 53-51 win over the top-ranked Division III school in the country, Rowan College. This win gave the Pioneers their first berth in the NJAC playoffs since 1987 and a chance at an NCAA playoff berth.

championship.

Senior forward DuJuan Jones said that if the Pioneers can continue to adjust both their mental outlook and their court strategy to match the strengths of the teams they play, they can beat anyone.

"We changed our whole game plan against Rowan," Jones said. "We just have to ride this feeling into the playoffs."

Although the Pioneers roster is devoid of playoff experience, their head coach played on the 1991 Seton Hall University basketball squad that advanced to the NCAA Division I National Championship and, after being hired as interim coach at Montclair State University midway through the 1994-95 season, led the Red Hawks to the NJAC Final.

The reason for success at Seton Hall and Montclair had to do with a nucleus of good kids, discipline, and defense," Rebimbas said. "Those are the factors we put into this team. It took a shorter time than we thought to get as good as we are now."

When Rebimbas was hired at WPC, he said, he put together a "three-year plan" with the intention of turning the Pioneers into a playoff contender by the 1997-98 season.

"At the beginning, the players had a tough time getting down the defensive concepts," he said. "We're still making mistakes. I wish I had the opportunity to coach the four-year seniors here for four years, not just two. If that had been the case, we wouldn't have been making some of the mistakes we're making today."

Rebimbas cited the additions of junior guards Arik Cotten, who was recruited as

a transfer during the offseason, and Victor Humphrey, who missed all of last season with an injury, plus the leadership abilities of senior guards Tim McDonald and Wilson and senior forward Greene, as personnel factors which have helped the Pioneers overcome their mistakes and become a legitimate national force.

"Having a winning attitude means playing to win, as opposed to playing not to lose," said Rebimbas, who admitted that his players simply did not have the correct attitude during the team's recent three-game losing streak. "It becomes a psychological game. If the players don't execute, both the players and the coaches have to look in the mirror and understand that the philosophy of strong defense works."

The Pioneers players hope to carry Rebimbas' philosophy of strong defense to the NJAC Championship. WPC is also playing for an NCAA Tournament bid, which may impend on the team's performance in the conference playoffs.

"I want to win the conference title real bad," said Wilson, one of six seniors on the WPC roster. "If this was my sophomore year, it would be different. But, as is the case with the other seniors on this team, I want it all."

**NEXT WEEK:**

**UP CLOSE WITH THE LADY PIONEERS**

Dan Marino and the Miami Dolphins in Superbowl nineteen.

For it to happen, the Pioneers must limit their turnovers, and players like Wilson, Greene, Arik Cotten, and Tim McDonald must turn in big-time efforts. One thing is certain: Rowan will enter the game with a dent in their armor of invincibility having already lost once to the Pioneers. This should give WPC plenty of confidence heading into Glassboro.

Even if the Pioneers come away empty

handed, they still have brought something that for the past decade we had in name only, a men's basketball team to talk about. This team plays hard night after night and should be rewarded with a strong fan support Wednesday night, fans of the Pioneers should have the decency to make the two-hour drive to cheer them on, much the same way they did at the Rec Center last Wednesday. The Pioneers have earned at least that much this season.

## Top Billing

By Bill Berthold

War II.

They will dance again Wednesday night in the semifinals of the New Jersey Athletic Conference tournament and if it is anything like their second waltz last Wednesday at the Rec Center, it will be one for the ages. William Paterson College will travel to Glassboro to square off for the third time this season with Rowan College.

Seven days removed from their biggest victory of all time, a 53-51 upset win against the Profs, the Pioneers will have to try to do it one more time. They will have to do it in hostile waters in Glassboro where Rowan hasn't lost this season. The Pioneers hope they can pull off dejavu.

WPC finished the regular season with a 18-6 record, their best finish since the Reagan Administration. Rowan ended with a mark of 23-1. The Profs remember where the first loss came from, and will be out for revenge on Wednesday.

The Pioneers say, they did it once, they can do it again. It won't be easy, by any means, and maybe coach Jose Rebimbas should show his troops the tape of their win over Rowan for inspiration.

Not as if Pioneers need a tape to remember what transpired during their biggest upset ever. It was the night the Pioneers beat the unbeatable. The night March Madness returned to Wayne. The scene at mid court told it all last Wednesday; hundreds of WPC faithful stormed the court much the same way the Americans did at Normandy during World

of the season, witnessed an upset along the lines of Evander Holyfield knocking out Mike Tyson or the Panthers and Jaguars in the NFL Championship games. What these fans witnessed was a classic triumph of w9ill as the Pioneers pulled off their biggest upset in team history.

Rowan came into the Recreation Center riding a 28 game winning streak and had won 12 straight over the Pioneers. The Pioneers came in losers of three in row, and self doubt starting to creep in. A victory would ensure them of their first trip to the NJAC playoffs since 1986-87.

Fittingly the hero was senior Norman Greene, who went to the foul line with 2.7 ticks remaining in a tie game and sank both free throws for the win. For it was seniors like Greene, Gerald Wilson, and DuJuan Jones who had been around for the 9-14 and 6-18 years, they have so desperately wanted to taste the glory of post season. And now after three frustrating seasons, thanks to Greene's clutch free throws, the trio is finally getting the opportunity.

It will happen on Wednesday against ironically the same team they beat to get there. Once again the Pioneers will be the underdogs, the ones with no chance to win, and once again they have a shot to prove the critics all wrong.

A win Wednesday should all but guarantee the Pioneers a place in the 64-team Division III NCAA tournament field which hasn't happened since Joe Montana's San Francisco 49ers defeated

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**BUSINESS ISSUES**  
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**When Can You Deduct a Home Computer?**

Can you get any tax benefit from that home computer you bought for Christmas? Maybe you can, but there is a maze of rules to negotiate. Generally, you may deduct the cost of your home computer to the extent that you use the computer for business or investment activity. For example, if you use the computer 60% for your business, 30% for tracking your investments and preparing your personal tax returns and 10% for writing personal letters, 90% of the cost is deductible.

In the above example, suppose you are self-employed and that you spend \$3,000 on a computer setup. You can depreciate \$1,800 of the cost (60% of \$3,000) over six years, or you can make an election to expense the entire \$1,800 in the current year if you have at least \$1,800 of business income. You can depreciate, but not expense the \$900 of the cost (30% of \$3,000) allocable to investment use as a miscellaneous itemized deduction. Such deductions yield a benefit only to the extent their total exceeds 2% of your adjusted gross income.

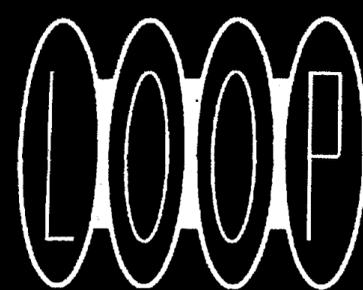
If your computer is not used more than 50% for business, depreciation is limited to the straight-line method and the expensing election is not available. Investment does not count for this test.

An employee may deduct as a business expense the cost of a computer only if its purchase is for the convenience of the employer and is required as a condition of employment. As with other employee business expenses, this deduction is subject to the 2% adjusted gross income limitation.

One final point - a home computer is generally considered to be "listed property," so it is subject to strict substantiation rules regarding business or investment use. To protect your deduction, keep a log of your computer use.

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**ISSUE OF DEBATE**

**Rev. Sharpton's Visit to WPC**

*The Views on a Protest Against the Minister's Appearance*

**The Protesters Acted Like Cowards**

**To the Editor:**  
 On Feb. 4, 1997, I experienced the most insulting day of my collegiate years here at William Paterson College. Insulting, because three students, including the president of the Student Government Association, deemed it necessary to disrespect all that the African-American students, faculty and staff have worked for in the name of the First Amendment liberty.

Alex Malino, SGA president; Thom Brooks, SGA representative; and Miriam Janoff, Jewish Student Association representative, protested against Rev. Al Sharpton delivering the keynote speech at opening ceremonies of African Heritage Month. With a banner that read, "Rev. Al Sharpton is a Reverend of Hate," they stood outside the Student Center Ballroom in what they called a friendly protest.

Now, the protesting in itself was not the problem. It was "how" and why they protested. We all understand every citizen has a right to free speech under the First Amendment. However, to protest and assault a man's character, solely on the premise of you having the right to, is blatant disrespect for him and for those who wish to hear him. "This is our opinion," Alex said to me when I asked him what premise, or what facts does he have to support his claim that Rev. Sharpton was Anti-Semitic. Only a coward acts like that.

In addition, Farrakhan's name was also on the banner and Rev. Farrakhan was not even the topic of discussion or anywhere near the campus of William Paterson. Yet another assault on his character.

Thom Brooks, who claims he is of Islamic faith, was standing holding this banner in direct conflict with Islamic principles. You do not slight a man or talk behind his back without him having the chance to defend himself. When I asked him why he would take part in something that goes against these principles, he responded, "he doesn't agree with that." However, he continued to protest despite of it. Thom Brooks, you're a coward. Only a coward acts like that.

Furthermore, African Heritage Month takes place in February, but the planning of the month's events were being carried out since October of last year. Incidentally, I was one of the persons who helped plan these events. I made many trips to the SGA office and passed both Alex Malino and Thom Brooks at those times. Never once did they pull me to the side to say they dis-

approved of Rev. Al Sharpton speaking or to discuss these feelings in any way, never. Neither did they alert any other member of the planning committee, any African American faculty, or any students of their desire to protest. In so doing, Mr. Malino and Mr. Brooks demonstrated their blatant disregard for the African-American Community. Only cowards act like that.

Then, to add insult to injury, these three found it necessary to protest directly outside the entrance of the Ballroom. This caused people to stop and look which caused the entrance to get clogged up with people, including the campus news who went on to film the protest; this filming of the event was done without the approval of the committee. When asked to move, the protesters remarked that they had the right to according to the First Amendment and they were peaceful. However, what they did not take into consideration was the embarrassment they caused to the African American community by refusing to move. They disregarded the fact that people trying to get into the ballroom could not because others stopped to read their banner. Plus, they would have been just as effective if the protest took place at the Information Desk or outside the Student Center. But I suppose respecting African-Americans is too much to ask. Only a coward acts like that.

If that wasn't enough, I made note of the fact that Mr. Malino, Mr. Brooks and Ms. Janoff did not even stay to listen to the whole speech delivered by Rev. Sharpton. Herein lies a serious problem and it is coming from the person who holds the highest office of students. Not only did Alex Malino protest without evidence or facts illustrating Rev. Sharpton as Anti-Semitic, but he did not even listen to the man speak, which would have allowed him to formulate an opinion of Rev. Sharpton. That opinion, undoubtedly, would have showed his reasons for protesting were wrong. Rev. Sharpton showed how in 1996, at the highest level of corporate America, blacks are still being referred to as "jellybeans and niggers." He spoke of the meaning of African Heritage month, how it got started, why it is needed and the fact that he need not hate White people in order to love himself.

If Alex Malino and friends had taken the time to listen instead of acting as only cowards act, then we truly would be about solving the problems of racism. If they had approached members of the committee beforehand about their discomfort with Rev. Sharpton, then we would truly understand the meaning of respect.

However, to protest without a legitimate reason that justifies your actions, is an act of infutility. To

carry out the protest without listening to the person you're protesting against demonstrates ignorance. To claim you uphold and value the principles of a religion but go against them is contradictory and hypocritical. Only cowards act in this fashion.

So then it is only befitting that Alex Malino, Thom Brooks, and Miriam Janoff be referred to as cowards. They have defined the term through their actions. If we are to progress and put an end to all race prejudice, especially on this campus, we cannot have cowards holding office. When that office is president of the SGA, whereby we voted for a coward to represent us, then we must question how we will progress if he remains in office. So then Alex Malino, the only solution to your actions is your resignation from office. Unless this happens, then every attempt to rectify this situation will also be seen as futile. The underlying premise remains of your cowardice, and if it does not result in your resignation, then this will be a clear indication of the school's disregard of the African American Community.

Furthermore, if the school does not demand your resignation, then the message of racial harmony and diversity on this campus can only be interpreted as non-existent, and that it was never intended to be existent. In the wake of William Paterson College achieving university status, the lingering effects of the protest will only serve to show how divided this campus really is. Plus, the simple fact of Malino selfishly separating himself from his position as president of SGA, indicates a lack of interest in the campus community as a whole.

Hubert Chase

**SGA President Can No Longer Represent the Students**

**To the Editor:**  
 My name is Mark Hawkins, an African-American senior here at William Paterson. I am upset with the treatment of Rev. Al Sharpton on Feb. 4, 1997. This man was accused, tried and convicted by the same people that sponsored him to come here. I feel this vicious act was racially motivated, as is a lot of things at this institution.

I feel that SGA President Alex Malino was totally out of line because of the position that he is currently holding. Alex knows the do's and do not's as SGA president, but that didn't stop his actions. I feel that he acted "anti-SGA constitution" as well as "anti-society," when

he lashed out at Rev. Sharpton. He went directly against some of the people that put him into office. I feel this way because he used his title and position to achieve his "closed-minded" plan. He is also wrong because his actions were pre-meditated. He sat back and calculated the exact moment that he would express "his" one-sided opinion. Alex had ample enough time to voice his disapproval of Rev. Sharpton coming here. The form passed over his desk, a couple of months ago, and that's when he developed this scheme of his. I also think he felt that the people of color wouldn't notice what he had done.

Alex Malino didn't have the need to express his religious opinions until the people of color had one of their own come to speak. I am not questioning him being Jewish, but he himself admits that he doesn't follow the religion. Alex doesn't follow the religion, but uses it to cover his behind after exposing himself. Alex didn't act religious all semester, but now since Rev. Sharpton came to speak, he feels compelled to embrace his religion.

Him being Jewish still shouldn't have conflicted with his duties as SGA president. Whatever a person is, they should be that 24 hours a day, in order to avoid people questioning their motives when things like this happen. Religion is not something you turn on and off, like a faucet. He used his position and office to fight a personal battle, "not his battle, just a battle."

You don't wait until "the enemy" gets to your house to put up a fight. You should be fighting him while he's on his way. I don't have a problem with freedom of speech, just be correct when you exercise your right. I sense that a coward was put in office and he is carrying on that "lingering racism" that is prevalent today. If you are truly sorry, Mr. Malino, your resignation will show this. If not, your being sorry isn't even worth the "bad breath" you used to utter it.

As for Thom Brooks being on the other end of that sign, This was an injustice to society at large, regardless of class, gender, race, religion, and political view. Here is a prominent RA, part-time political thinker, and full-time bull — artist. He is simply an opportunist. Whatever is happening now, that's the position he takes. He is a prime example of our society and the one our children will soon face, if we don't speak up now.

I feel that Miriam Janoff was the only one that possibly should have been protesting out there. As long as her reasonings were legitimate. I would question her protest, if no other protests went on like this by JSA before Rev. Sharpton came to William Paterson. As head of the Jewish Student's Association, there

should have been other events before Feb. 4. Protests are good, and even welcomed, but they should be done right away, and for the right reasons.

This lay-down-and-take-it attitude has got to go. We people of color must organize, unite, stand up and fight for our rights. If we don't, who will? I don't feel we can move as a people until we raise the standards for ourselves. And, without them measuring the level of progress we make.

I pray that this situation will lead us people of color to a higher level of conscienceness about the struggle confronting us. I feel that if Alex was a person of color and acted in that manner, his resignation would have been requested before the speaker finished his/her speech. Or the SGA president of color would have previously been instructed upon taking office the consequences of "acting-out" of character. I pray, for us all as a race; "The Human Race, Black to the future," the perfect theme for the coming millennium. It's gonna be for the future since they are trying to erase us from the past.

The past of America was built by people of color. Without us in the past, there is no present, and with us in the present, a place in the future is being preserved. All the adversity we've faced in the past and present, and we are still here. The more stuff that happens like this, the more mentally aware we become. Once we get that back, a lot of changes are going to be made. People like "three the hard way," won't try stunts like this. The future for people of color starts today.

I urge the college administrators and faculty to assist the community in getting Mr. Malino removed because we have a right to fair representation on campus. I don't feel he can properly represent me, or people of color, anymore. If the administration doesn't intervene, to me it reveals something about "our level of worth as people of color," at this institution. If the administration allows things like this, what image are they giving off?

Food for thought: Hindsight explains the injury, that foresight would have prevented. Biblical interpretation: (Proverbs Chapt. 4 verses 4 & 12).

Mark Hawkins

**A Month for Heritage**

**To the Editor:**  
 As many of you may know, February is African Heritage Month. African-Americans take the time to acknowledge heroes that have impacted our history which has been omitted from American

*continued on next page*

# OPINIONS & REVIEW

## NOW is the time!

The United States Constitution guarantees a number of rights, one of which is freedom of speech. Alex Malino, Thom Brooks and Miriam Janoff exercised this freedom when they spoke out against the appearance of Rev. Al Sharpton on the William Paterson College campus. That this was their right can not be called into question.

What is correctly being questioned is the appropriateness of this action considering the positions held by Alex Malino and Thom Brooks. As SGA President and Chair of the SGA Court of Judicial Review was it appropriate for Malino and Brooks to express their dissatisfaction with the appearance of Sharpton in this manner?

The argument has been made that because Malino and Brooks are elected officials, they should not lose their individual identity.

Proponents of this argument are indeed correct. However, just as they are right, it is wrong for Malino and Brooks to believe that just because they don't intend their actions to be representative of the

SGA, that they are indeed seen that way.

Those members of the WPC community who have called for their resignation have done so because they see their actions as insensitive and inappropriate.

The action does not represent insensitivity, rather immaturity; for it to have been insensitivity it would mean that Malino and Brooks knew it was wrong, yet did it anyway. Closer investigation will reveal that this was probably not the case.

What the anger and frustration expressed by these students represents is something much more than just disgust with the actions of Malino and Brooks. These emotions represent anger and frustration upon more anger and frustration. For these students, this incident was yet another insult; this insult was not the first and certainly won't be the last.

Additionally members of the SGA and the college community at large have tried to say that this is a racial issue - a black vs. white

issue. In actuality, this is an U.S. issue.

We are all stakeholders in the community we call William Paterson College. Working together or apart we make this community what it is. Change can only occur when we work together as a group, when all members of the community are heard and when all members of the community are listened to.

Let us not add insult to injury, by ignoring the real pleas being made here. Let us not transfer the responsibility from one administrator to another, one committee to the next. Let us work together to confront and address the issues no matter how painful they are. It is not a matter of blame, but change.

We may become a great University by the signing of a document, but becoming a great community will take a lot more work. That work may appear greater than us. But we should not be swayed, for only when we stand together can we stand as one, and only then will we be a great community.

## Mailbag

schools. You might also be aware that students and faculty plan events throughout the month for this purpose. It is then with great displeasure that noted figures and representatives of the William Paterson College Community would interrupt such a prestigious and special day. The protest has undoubtedly altered the mood of African-American students and faculty for the duration of the month. Although the protest was peaceful, the message was loud and clear, and the overwhelming attention it received was welcomed.

Open your eyes!  
It's not about the first amendment. It's about respect for the opening of what African-Americans can finally call African Heritage Month.

Navondi Vaughn  
senior

Rev. Sharpton. A double standard exists on this campus. Some of the WPC community feel Mr. Sharpton has every right to appear on campus but do not grant the same to those who oppose his presence.

It seems that the protesters' appearance is being misconstrued and made into a Black/White issue. What is meant by this is that Malino, Brooks, and Janoff are against Mr. Sharpton's known anti-Semitic views, not Sharpton himself or African Heritage Month. Nowhere on their sign was the word "racist." It is beyond our comprehension where race plays a part in the protest.

No apology is necessary for exercising rights granted to every U.S. citizen. Just because one might not agree with the protesters' stance, does not mean their rights should be stripped.

Christin L. Turs  
senior  
Deborah Turs  
senior

### They Had A Right to Protest

**To the Editor:**  
This is in response to Nicole Grave's letter in the February 10, 1997, edition of the Beacon concerning the peaceful protest by Alex Malino, Thomas Brooks, and Miriam Janoff against Rev. Al Sharpton's appearance. As guaranteed in the First Amendment, the above-mentioned students have the right to freedom of speech. They have as much of a right to espouse their opinions and beliefs as does

### Why Mr. Brooks Protested

**To the Editor:**  
I would like to be straightforward and tell why I did what I did. I completely oppose oppression, violence, and capitalism in every form. As a Political Science student, I am deeply involved with these political issues. Being from New Haven, Connecticut, I am no

stranger to Reverend Al Sharpton. I have already recently both seen and heard him at a protest rally at Yale University. I protest what I have heard Sharpton say: scapegoating Jews, as a race, in New Haven, in Harlem, in New York City, and the far abroad, unfairly.

I strongly oppose any person or organization that creates division between the proletariat, non-elites. I see the proletariat's focus on declining wages, growing homelessness, hunger, unemployment, poverty and not on scapegoating any racial group. In this case, Jews - a group considered for centuries to be non-white.

The bourgeoisie is at odds with the proletariat. They will do anything to preserve their power by using sexism, racism, anti-immigrant, anti-poor, pro-wealthy language action and deeds. I oppose the bourgeoisie, or elites (politicians, CEOs, etc.) in every way and in every form.

I hope this letter has proved helpful in understanding what my motivation was for silent protesting. I will not speak for anyone else. The problems of all people is the system: Capitalism.

Capitalism breeds exploitation of markets, the transformation of human labor into something artificial and unnatural that can be taken away, it leads to the concentration of wealth. How can you have any equality in a system of inequality? A politician or leader only gives both you and I lip-service when they promise equality in capitalism.

I am not Jewish, but I will not let them be scapegoated falsely. I am against racism. I am against the bourgeoisie. That is why I protested the speech.

Thom Brooks

### Club Sports Article Was Inaccurate

**To the Editor:**  
As Chair of Club Presidents and Executive Vice President of the Student Government Association, it is my duty to oversee all SGA funded clubs and their activities. Reading the Jan. 27 edition of the Beacon, I would like to set the record straight regarding three major statements printed by the Beacon in their cover article on club sports:

"According to the respective team officials, the SGA gives up to \$4,000 per year for the ice hockey and bowling teams and up to \$10,000 per year for the equestrian team, provided that the teams raise that much on their own."

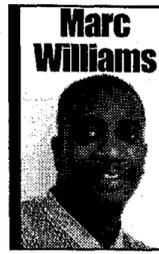
The SGA gives each team the equal amount of \$4,000. Each club team is also given the opportunity to receive another \$4,000 provided they match up to this amount.

Regarding the incorrect title of, "Men's Volleyball Team," it is important that students know that this is not a men's volleyball team,

continued on next page

# VIEWS OF THE NEWS

## Baptiste Will be First From WPC on "Jeopardy"



Marc Williams

Joe Clark ("Lean on Me"), Ian Ziering ("Beverly Hills 90210"); Dick Vitale (Basketball Commentator); Robert Townsend (comedian/actor). What do all of these names have in common? They are famous people who attended William Paterson College. This may be an unlikely "Jeopardy" question, but the names are real and synonymous to WPC.

One question, however, that everyone here can answer is: Who is the first William Paterson College student to be a contestant on the game show "Jeopardy?" The answer: Oliver Baptiste.

That's correct. This witty, multi-talented, intelligent, successful and scholarly brother with the engaging personality, from Paterson, NJ, will be a contestant on the game show Jeopardy. Oliver was chosen as one of 16 finalists nationwide to compete for \$25,000 in California and play television's most popular game show today, Feb. 24, 1997.

This young man is no stranger to success. He came to WPC in the fall of 1993 and took the campus by storm. His life here could be looked at as some possible Jeopardy questions. The following snippets provide a clear picture of the kind of things that summarize what he has accomplished:

### Category A: Freshman year

Question: Awarded the prestigious Trustee Scholarship, worked for WCRN and had his own hip hop/R&B show; an active member of Brothers For Awareness; an orientation leader; achieved a 3.7 GPA; and made the Dean's List. He walked away with the Dean of Students Award for academic excellence and was elected president of Brothers for Awareness. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

### Category B: Sophomore year

An orientation leader whose brilliance, humor, personality and incredible knowledge of WPC earned him the title "The Most Liked and Respected Orientation Leader." Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

A Daily Double: Became a household name in the SGA for his superior knowledge of government. He was seen as a challenger and fighter for the rights of students. He even tested his acting prowess and starred in the WPC play, "A Day of Absence." It became quite apparent to everyone at WPC that he could accomplish anything he put his mind to. He was named "Scholar Leader of the Year" and he received Dean of Students Award for the second straight year for all of his efforts. In addition, he landed an internship in film animation at Buzzco Associates in Manhattan. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

### Category C: Junior Year

Voted legislator of the month in the first month of tenure as Arts and Communication Representative and a member of the Constitutional Judicial Board. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

He became one of the first students hired as a Student Computer Consultant. He was the producer of "Up Close and Personal," a public affairs show dealing with issues in Paterson, was the Narrator and Assistant Producer of "A Tribute to Football," a five minute musical video production, and listed in the 1996 edition of "Who's Who Among College Students." Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

Daily Double: There are two student leaders that are responsible for making the 744 bus run from Paterson to Wayne Hills Shopping Center, Monday-Saturday until 11 p.m. Name one of them. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste.

Returned to his musical roots and plays the bass in the Stanleybirch band, a rock and roll group that will be releasing a 5-track CD this spring. Answer: Who is Oliver Baptiste. (Side note: His group, Stanleybirch, will make their musical debut in Billy Pats, Tues. Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.)

Given these questions, it's not difficult to understand how a man of Oliver Baptiste's caliber made it to the game show "Jeopardy." I dub him as the Renaissance Man. I have never met a person that has had as much success with various groups and nationalities. He is known throughout the campus by people of every race, and the most intriguing thing is that he is embraced by all of them! If you talk to most administrators and professors they will tell you he is arguably one of the most tal-

ented people to ever grace this campus. That is pretty impressive considering he is just a junior, and has greater years ahead of him.

He has proven that you do not need a prestigious position or always be in the limelight to succeed. His motivation comes from within, and he possesses the wisdom and insight of an individual well beyond his years. Fans of "Jeopardy" know that it takes a well-rounded individual to win, and Oliver is someone who is, without question, well-rounded. On top of that he is an African-American male who is "on the move."

Many in our community were not surprised that Oliver was selected as a "Jeopardy" contestant. He epitomizes the term "student leader." There has not been a student in recent memory that has accomplished as much as he has. When mentioning his name to any group, the response is a thoughtful silence followed by beaming smiles.

He was a driving force for the past two years in the WPC College bowl. Although his Brothers for Awareness team did not place well two years ago, Oliver was so impressive, that the winning team and members of Campus Activities included him as a participant to attend the regionals. Last year, (1996), he led Brothers for Awareness to their first College bowl title and a trip to the New Jersey Regionals. Unfortunately, tragedy struck in the Baptiste household during the regionals; his grandmother passed away and he was unable to attend. One could assume that if it had not been for this unfortunate event in his life, that he would have led BFA to a state title. It is amazing how fate falls, because exactly one year later, he is now a contestant on the most respected and watched game show in the United States.

If you are ever in the Art Building, or the Library Computer Lab, stop by to say "hello" to the friendly, outgoing, dreadlock brother, and wish him "good luck." Tune your television set on Channel 7 at 7:30 p.m. on May 12 (the taping is Feb. 24, however the show will not air until May 12) and watch WPC make history once again. After he competes on Jeopardy, whether he wins or loses, I am confident that millions of Americans will know WPC for all its household names, National Championship Baseball and Bowling Teams.

In addition, they will be able to answer the final Jeopardy question: Name the gifted and talented 21-year-old African American male from Paterson, New Jersey....

## Mailbag

but all are welcome to join this or any other SGA club on campus regardless of their sex.

SGA has three chartered club "E" sports organizations: equestrian, bowling, and ice hockey. Although a WPC student wearing a "Pioneer Lacrosse" T-shirt was pictured on the front page of the same paper, please be advised that lacrosse is not and never has been a club sport under the SGA.

It is important that these issues are clarified to uphold the SGA's integrity. If anyone is interested, additional documentation will be given upon request.

Jennel P. Cooper  
Executive Vice President  
Student Government Association

### Phi Kappa Tau Thanks Campus

**To the Editor:**  
We, the members of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity at William Paterson, would like to send out a thank you to some people on campus.

Recently we had our fund-raiser, the Couch-a-thon, in which we sit outside the Student Center for a 24-hour period and raise money for the Children's Heart Foundation by sitting down. While this may seem like a joke for a fund-raiser, the students and faculty on this campus took our cause very seriously, and donated generous amounts on money, as well as their services.

Sbarro's pizza donated two pies at nighttime for our brothers to eat and Burger King donated breakfast sandwiches in the morning as well. So to the student center food services we extend a heartfelt thanks and also to the

college community as well.

Our fund-raiser could not have been the success that it was without your help and support for a great cause.

The brothers of the Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, Epsilon Epsilon Chapter

### WPC Has A Lack of Support for Disabled Students

**To the Editor:**

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the college campus and its lack of service and support for disabled students.

I have been a student at William Paterson for two years. I have a disability which confines me to a wheelchair. I can get around pretty well most of the time, however, there are occasions when I need assistance, such as in inclement weather where it is impossible for me to get around campus.

There are also unfortunate times, as on Friday, Feb. 14, when I become stranded at the science building when my wheelchair became inoperable due to the fact that one of

the wheels became detached from the chair. I promptly called the campus police for assistance. I spoke with a dispatcher who placed me on hold to ask a superior officer if they could render assistance. I was told that they will not transport me. I was shocked and very disappointed.

I understand that we are soon going to be a university. As such, the quality of the campus police department must be more responsive to the students' needs. If I cannot receive assistance from the police during an emergency, to whom am I supposed to look for help? There are a few officers that care and have shown their kindness above the call of duty.

Everyone knows who those few officers are. If we are to grow as a campus community then I strongly suggest that you make sure that an integral part of the community, Campus Police, contribute to the quality of life on this campus.

I eventually received assistance from the police after contacting the Student Health Office and the Provost's office. I was able to obtain a ride to

my dorm.  
I also wish to mention that I registered for a class this semester which was to be in Science 200B which is inaccessible to one in a wheelchair. Before the semester began, I contacted Janet Barone DeSenzo, coordinator of Student

Services, and asked if she could submit a room change request. She did so on Jan. 7.

The first day of the semester, I put in another call to the Registrar's Office confirming that the room had been changed. I was told that it had been changed to Science 200A. Upon arrival at Science 200A, I was notified that the room had been switched back to 200B. I had to be carried up and down the stairs. No room change was made into the third week into the semester, by which time I had already withdrawn from the course.

In 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act was put into affect, mandating that most of which is accessible to the able bodied population also be made accessible to the disabled population. Seven years later, William Paterson College is still not yet in compliance with the law.

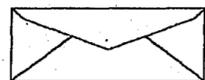
In addition, I wish to address yet another issue concerning the campus. As you are well aware, the campus was closed on Monday Feb. 17, including the Student Center. As a result, I was not able to utilize the food services on campus, which I have paid for. I am very disgusted and appalled at how an institution of higher education could be so inconsistent with their policies regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

I thank you very much for any consideration given in this matter.

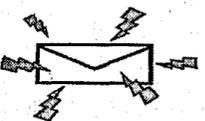
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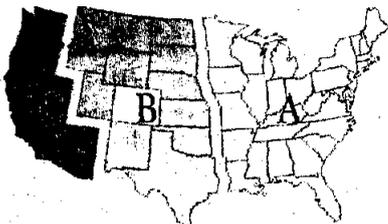
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