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The Beacon WEEKLY

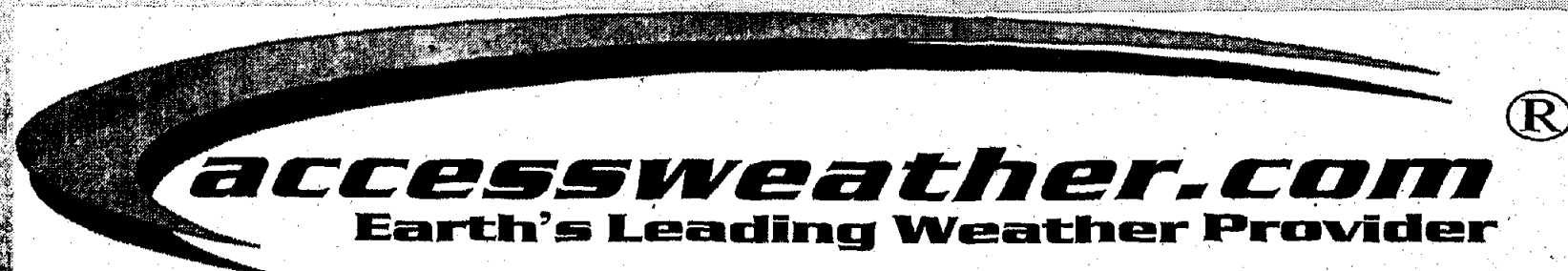
TUESDAY, SEPT. 5, 2000

FREE

New Format!

*Why are college students
and adults engrossed in a
kids' book?*

*Welcome
Back!*
WPU



WEEKLY WEATHER FORECASTS

coming to **The Beacon**
beginning **Monday, Sept. 11**

*Calendar
of
Events*

Next week *The Beacon* will begin to print a campus calendar of events. Clubs, organizations, academic departments, etc. can submit campus calendar information via email at beacon@student.wpunj.edu. The deadline for campus calendar submissions is always the friday (by 5 p.m.) for the following Monday's issue. You can also fax to 720-2093 or drop off at SC 310.

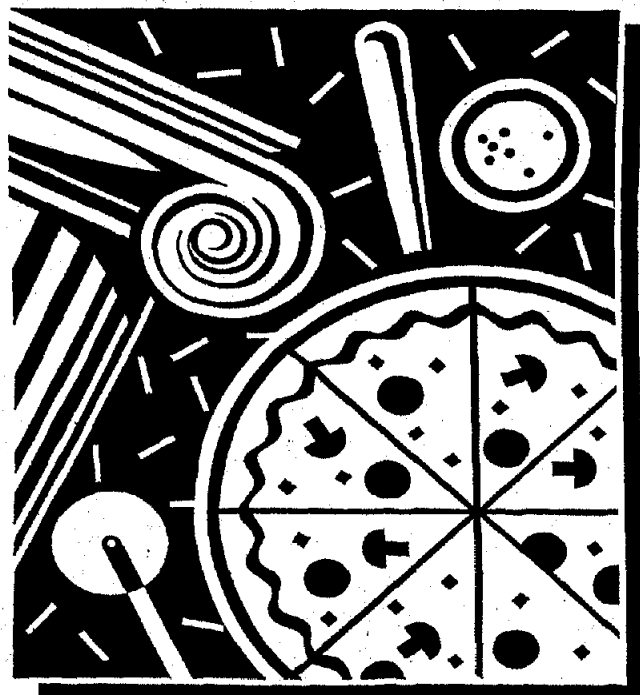
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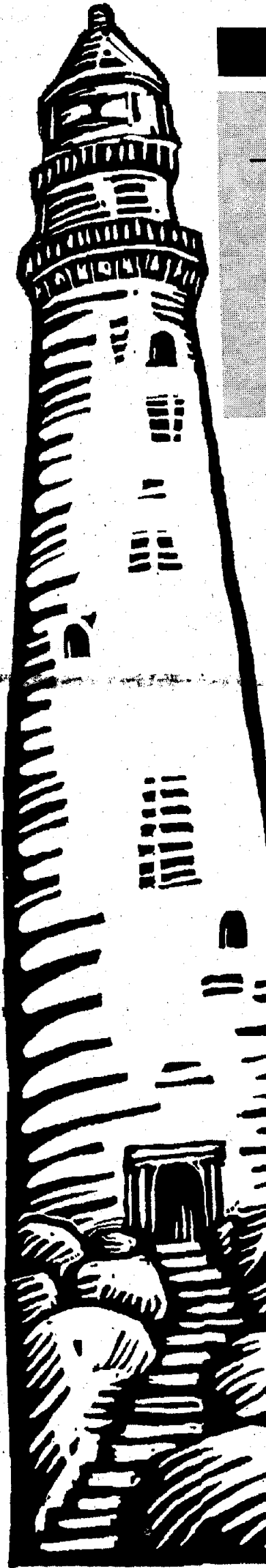
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The Beacon

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Will YOUR name be here soon?

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Sylvana Meneses

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

Member:



Produced completely on a MAC



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The Beacon Mission Statement

• The Beacon's mission is to acknowledge the importance of the collegiate environment as the ideal forum to provide readers with content that encourages the free exchange of intellectually diverse viewpoints.

• The Beacon's mission is to promote active discussion of published content in an educational environment that allows readers to accept, reject, deny or dispute such published content in order to better understand the world and the people in it.

• The Beacon's mission is to stimulate critical thinking, encourage discussion and debate, increase awareness of self and society, challenge majority and minority opinions, promote familiarity with politically and socially diverse views, present new, traditional and extreme ideas, challenge existing norms, and present diverse perspectives on a plethora of ideas so as to reinforce the educational and intellectual purpose of the institution.

• The Beacon's mission is to provide a microcosm of ideas, talent, interests, life experiences, and knowledge in an open forum within which all members of the community have access to read, respond, and publish.

• The Beacon's mission is to be a vehicle for members of the William Paterson University community and society at large to publish content spanning an infinitely diverse array of ideologies, opinions, and convictions in a manner that seeks to allocate space for both minority and majority schools of thought.

• The Beacon's mission is to mirror the Mission Statement of the University, valuing "diversity and equity as essential to educational excellence, with an obligation by everyone in the University community to create and maintain a climate in which respect and tolerance are recognized as part of the institution's commitment to educational quality." The Beacon's mission is to provide diversity through its writers, editorials, advertisements and other content, and promotes the tolerance of such diverse viewpoints to support the educational mission of the University.

• The Beacon's mission is to further acknowledge the Mission Statement of the University for "distinguished teachers, scholars, and professionals actively challenge students to high levels of intellectual and professional accomplishment and personal growth for careers, advanced studies, and productive citizenship in an increasingly global economy and technological world." The Beacon's mission is to complement the challenges that may or may not be communicated in the classroom, and to provide an arena for social discussion outside the classroom.

• The Beacon's mission is to allow its readers the right and responsibility to discern content that may or may not be contrary to personal philosophies and belief systems. The Beacon allows its readers to individually censor such content, and further provides a medium for feedback in the form of written submissions to express objections, questions, clarifications, challenges and other responses to published content.

Advertising Policy:

In concert with our Mission Statement, The Beacon has the right to accept and print all advertisements not prohibited by law.

A message from the editor...

WELCOME to the new Beacon! I have been feverishly working to transform The Beacon into a "kickass" paper that has something in it for everyone. And this first issue is JUST the beginning.

The Beacon has undergone a metamorphosis, and will continue to change as the semester progresses; new features, columns and great content will be added each week. I think the pages speak for themselves, and I think you will be happy with the scope of content you will see in upcoming issues. As always, we want readers to submit stories to us. Get involved. Get published. Share your talent, your passion, and your interests with the campus community.

I have big plans for The Beacon. This issue serves to introduce a new format and style that is more interesting and - above all - different. We're going to bend some format and design rules that professors in the journalism department will have a fit over. But many of them tend to be dyed in the wool anyway, and their opinions are moot.

The Beacon is no longer JUST a newspaper; it's a news magazine that covers everything from what's going on in China to concert reviews to features on society, technology and the world we live in. Oh, and really odd stuff that you won't find any place else. Keep your eyes posted for the next few issues!

The Beacon is diving into territory that we have never before traversed. We have introduced new sections such as Diversity, Biz, Eat, Well, and Lit. These sections encompass both informative and entertaining content. They will, as I say, "kick ass."

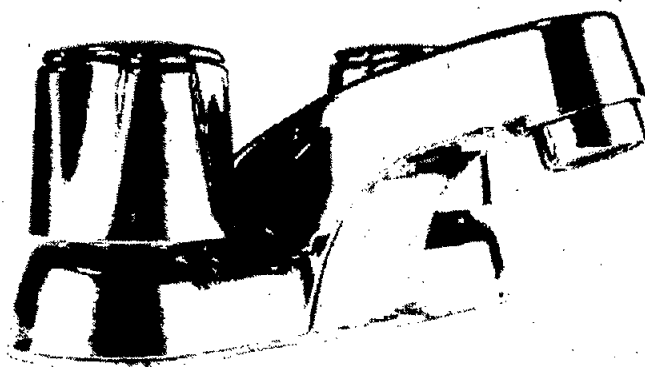
What we print depends on what you submit. If you want to contribute and be a part of The Beacon, come to the Student Center room 310. True, we are a little crazy at times, but we want to encourage everyone to use the newspaper as a forum that supports the mission statement on the left.

So, get involved today. Otherwise don't complain that The Beacon sucks if you are not willing to write articles that DON'T suck. Like the Nike commercial says, Just do it. I'll be here to help you any way I can.


Ryan Calazzo
Editor-in-Chief



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ACLU sues San Diego to End Preferential Treatment for Boy Scouts

SAN DIEGO, CA--The American Civil Liberties Union of San Diego & Imperial Counties and the Tom Homann Law Association today filed a federal lawsuit seeking to require the City of San Diego to terminate lease agreements with the Boy Scouts for use of city park property.

"The Boy Scouts cannot have it both ways," said Linda Hills, executive director of the ACLU of San Diego. "Having gone to great lengths to convince the courts that they have a constitutionally protected right to discriminate, the Boy Scouts cannot now turn around and ask the taxpayers of San Diego for a public subsidy."

Under the leases between the Scouts and the City, the Scouts have exclusive use of prime park property in city-owned Balboa Park for 50 years, for a rent of \$1 per year, and free use of an aquatic facility on city-owned Fiesta Island in Mission Bay. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of two families who are barred from utilizing the city land controlled by the Boy Scouts because of the Scouts' discrimination based on religious non-belief and sexual orientation.

"The City of San Diego should not give favored status to an organization which tells some San Diegans that they are unwelcome," said M.E. Stephens, immediate past president of the Tom Homann Law Association, San Diego's gay and lesbian bar association.

The Breen family are agnos-

tics who do not participate in organized religion. Their six-year old son, Maxwell, would like to become a Boy Scout, but would be unable to take the Boy Scout oath, which avows a reverence for God.

The Barnes-Wallace family are a same-sex couple with a seven-year-old son, Mitchell, who would also like to join the Boy Scouts. However, he cannot join because the Scouts consider his lesbian parents morally unclear. "Every time these families visit Balboa Park, the message they receive is, 'The city government of San Diego thinks the Boy Scouts — who think your family is undesirable — is a terrific group that deserves government support.' Today we will go to court to change that," said Stephens.

In 1998, the Boy Scouts argued to the California Supreme Court that they should be exempt from the state's anti-discrimination law because excluding non-believers and gays is essential to the core mission of the organization.

This past June, the United States Supreme Court, reviewing a New Jersey case in which the Scouts ousted a gay leader, said that homophobia was so essential to the Scouts' viability that it was protected by the organization's First Amendment right of association.

Since these rulings, numerous public entities have severed their ties with the Boy Scouts, including the cities of San Francisco, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.

Texas commissioner: Anglos 'do more oral sex'

AUSTIN, Texas -- Texas Health Commissioner Reyn Archer. Ooops.

Maybe we should just make that a standing headline. As you know, Archer, Gov. W. Bush's pick for the job, has this tendency to put his foot in it. He's often disastrously frank, which is sort of endearing.

Last time he got into trouble was for saying Texas has a high teen-age pregnancy rate because the state's Hispanic population does not believe that "getting pregnant is a bad thing."

The Alan Guttmacher Institute says that Texas Hispanics have a higher pregnancy rate than Anglos or blacks, but that the white rate is among the highest in the nation, too.

All this upset the Mexican-American community.

(Actually, I thought the most shocking statement in that New York Times interview with the

Only Health Commissioner We've Got was when he said he doubts that health insurance coverage makes much real difference to health. He also explained why Texas has 600,000 poor children eligible for Medicaid who aren't covered: "The problem is that the Legislature knows, if we are successful and we get all those kids enrolled, they would not balance their budget." That has the merit of being completely true, but we're not supposed to be admitting that we balance our budget on the backs of poor children while our governor is running for president.)

So in an effort to get past this unpleasant flap-pette, Archer, who is known as "Dr. Love" due to an earlier unfortunate episode -- OK, it was the time he posted a \$76,000 job opening for an assistant commissioner requiring "knowledge or the ability to comprehend and articulate the conflicting dynamics of love and alienation as root causes of social dysfunction and marginal health status." For all we know, he could be onto something here.

So Dr. Love, attempting to get past this new snafu, goes to talk to the Mexican-American Legislative Caucus in San Antonio earlier this month, and these folks are not happy with him.

Caucus Chairman Rene Oliveira had invited him to the meeting so that instead of everybody being mad, they can start to work together to fix teen pregnancy, and all hands are ready to be polite. So he tells them that he is not a racist and that his earlier

remarks about the propensities have been misconstrued.

Then, according to participants, he informs them that according to a new study, the difference in the teen pregnancy rates between Hispanics and Anglos is because Anglo teen-agers engage in more oral sex.

"He definitely said it," said one state rep -- "that Anglos do more oral sex, and he said it more than once. So one question was, 'Knowing what you now know and what you have just told us, why did you make that remark (about Hispanics and being pregnant as a bad thing)?"

Others have the same recollection, although still others have more vague recollections of what Archer said.

Oliveira's recollection is that Archer made that statement, but in further discussion seemed to indicate that oral sex was

up among all ethnic groups, accounting for a decline in teen birth rates.

After checking with the commissioner, Doug McBride of the Health Department's public information office reported that Archer said he did not say the increase in oral sex was mainly among Anglos, but rather in all ethnic groups, and Archer says his source was information in *Talk* magazine, which McBride said was also reported in *Newsweek* and *U.S. News and World Report*.

Both the Guttmacher Institute and Child Trends, a nonprofit research center in Washington, D.C., that studies kids and families, said they were aware of such articles but that the articles cite only anecdotal evidence.

"They (the media) have all asked us for data, and there are no data," said Amber Moore of Child Trends.

Guttmacher cites four studies showing that teens are trending toward later first intercourse and improved contraceptive practice, and another showing that differences in teen sexual behavior across poverty and racial and ethnic subgroups narrowed over the years 1982 to 1995.

Some legislators said they felt that, although it was a little odd to be sitting around discussing oral sex among teen-agers, they felt it was a useful discussion of the overall teen pregnancy problem and appreciate Archer's willingness to address them.

On the Left



Molly Ivins

Writer for the *Forth Worth Star-Telegram*, Texas

Dear Carolyn:

I recently left my girlfriend of three years for "time on my own." We moved to Colorado about a year into the relationship, and I love it out here but I left my entire social life in California. My girlfriend was not a social butterfly and would much rather have one or two good friends—in this case me. I started finding that I was bored and felt trapped, and decided I needed a clean break.

I currently have no desire to rekindle the relationship, which may just be a matter of time, but the ex will call from time to time with, "When are we getting back together?" I have to say I don't know if we will. She says I am being cold and distant, and I find myself thinking about her and wondering if she is OK. Is it possible I did the wrong thing?

—N.

No, it's absolutely certain you did the wrong thing. Just not the thing that you think I don't mean to be cruel (this time), but the breakup was a great move. If you're

only move, really, when the words "bored" and "trapped" found their way into the conversation.

But I'm red-carding the flagrantly foul I-don't-knows when she calls to ask for you back. You do know—unless I'm gravely misinterpreting the phrase, "I have no desire to rekindle the relationship." To leave that little window open, to throw in "currently," to suggest that tomorrow you won't be bored and trapped and socially incompatible and completely devoid of interest in going out with her again, is an exquisite form of sad-insecure-ex-girlfriend torture. Can't you see? She's hanging around for tomorrow. Tell her, please, not to wait.

Dear Carolyn:

I am a longtime vegetarian. I never want to impose or expect a meal prepared by someone else to be catered to my specific needs, but there is sometimes no way to avoid making someone aware of my preferences. This is where it gets gnarly. If someone asks, "Do you do it for health reasons?"

and I reply yes, I am deluged with self-righteous stories about how they lost 20 pounds on a meat-centric diet, and I'm the one making a health mistake. If I reply, "No, I am doing it for animal-rights reasons," I've been called a plant-murdering hypocrite. If I reply, "I am concerned about the environment," I am criticized for owning a car and draining the planet's resources in other ways.

In fact, even when responding to direct questions, I have been accused of "preaching"—by simply explaining myself. What can I do to be treated with more respect?

—Steamed Broccoli in Boston

Maybe it's the tofu, but there's something about vegetarianism that makes people think "virtue" and "discipline"—and no two guests are less welcome at a party than those two.

That makes it sound like your fault, and it's not anyone who cares what you eat and why needs a copy of "101 Constructive Uses for One's Gray Matter." But it's not even about you, really. These people are

about themselves, and when they hear that you've traded lamb for legumes, you make them feel like coronary-bypass-baiting Bambi-blasters. By condemning your choice, they're really defending their own. How many healthy eaters have you counted among your critics?

In a way, this is a form of respect—but unless you like your conversations bloody, I suggest not telling them this. Instead, discuss the subject as you would any political topic. As in, not at all among people you don't really know. Tell anyone who asks that you went veggie for the only reason worth having: Your oldest friend is a cow.

Write to "Tell Me About It," c/o The Washington Post, Style Plus, 1150 15th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20071 or e-mail: tellmet@symbol.washingtonpost.com. Chat online with Carolyn each Friday at noon and Monday at 5 p.m., both Eastern time, at www.washingtonpost.com.

TELL ME ABOUT IT® Advice for the Under-30 Crowd

Race matters at Washington Post

"The Washington Post cordially invites you to the 15th annual National Council of Caucasian Women's White Family Reunion Celebration."

Can you imagine the uproar if one of the nation's largest newspapers issued invitations to a cultural gathering designed to enhance "white history," "white heritage" and "white pride"? Substitute "black" for "white," however, and what do you get? Utter indifference.

On Sept. 9 and 10, The Washington Post will sponsor the 15th annual National Council of Negro Women's Black Family Reunion in Washington, D.C. It's a major celebration "dedicated to the history and tradition of the black family." Other corporate participants include Coca-Cola and Southwest Airlines.

One might argue that The Washington Post's sponsorship of the Black Family Reunion is benign community outreach. But the National Council of Negro Women, which pro-

promotes a pro-government, social justice agenda, is not exactly a non-political group. The group's leader, Dorothy Height, for example, held a seat at the table during Jesse Jackson's shakedown of Texaco following complaints of racial discrimination. Race-based gatherings are, by their nature, exclusionary. Julie B. Walker, Dallas chapter president of the National Council of Negro Women, described the event's purpose a few years ago this way: "We are celebrating the black family values, our culture, our achievements, our hope for the future," she said. "It shows unity, solidarity."

There may be nothing wrong with private individuals getting together to celebrate these "values." But why is it racist when white Southerners gather to celebrate their history and tradition, and not when black Northerners gather for the same purpose? Why is it promoting "bigotry," as The Washington Post editorialized, when South Carolinians rally around a Confederate flag, but promoting "diversity" when black activists in the nation's capital rally around a multicultural flag?

More importantly, why should a purportedly objective newspaper be involved in elevating the solidarity of one race? Isn't this, to use a word invoked often by liberal media types, "divisive"?

The Washington Post is notorious for allowing its

biased obsession with race to color its coverage. Five years ago, The New Republic magazine exposed countless examples of stories that were slanted or spiked to appease the black establishment in D.C. The paper got scooped on news of municipal corruption under former Mayor Marion Barry; reporters and editors were bogged down by the baggage of racial resentment. Affirmative action advocates assert that their agenda strengthens competition, but in the Post's case, the newsroom has suffered. And so have readers.

In its misguided effort to appear racially sensitive, The Washington Post succeeds only in stoking tensions. Last fall, the paper ran a front-page headline

that announced: "White Man Gets Mayoral Nomination in Baltimore." What did the candidate's race have to do with his qualifications? The black voters of Baltimore saw past Martin O'Malley's skin

color. The Post headline writer couldn't see anything else.

The editors apologized, but not for another little-discussed incident of racially based editing. Last month, after the murder of 8-year-old Kevin Shifflett in Alexandria, Va., investigators learned that a man being investigated in the white child's murder had expressed virulent hatred of whites before -- and possibly during -- the killing. The suspect, a black man, had earlier assaulted a white man in 1993 with a hammer. The victim recalled the assailant saying, "What the (expletive) are you looking at, whitey?"

Ombudsman E.R. Shipp explained that Post editors deleted "whitey" from the victim's quote because they were not sure about the relevance of race to the unfolding investigation. They'll deny it, but you can be sure that if the young victim were non-white and the assailant's past racial epithets were directed at minorities, the editors would have put the slurs in a banner headline decrying a brutal hate crime.

"Sometimes," a reader advised the Washington Post, "the best way to improve relations between the races is just to stop harping on racial differences every chance you get." The newspaper could start by ending its participation in racial separatism and getting back to the business of journalism.

On the Right



Michelle Malkin

Writer for the Washington Post Writer's Group

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WANNA HAVE A VOICE?

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Paid Advertisement

Speert's tsunami will not douse Beacon's light

It was a tidal wave that rocked the foundation of *The Beacon*, splashing high above the Student Center, leaving water everywhere in its wake, and almost — but unsuccessfully — dousing the light that every week shines from room 310 to points all over the 320-acre campus of William Paterson University, and extending to capes far beyond the sheltered inlet of Willy P.

The storm was short but destructive, and threatened the very existence of the lighthouse that for more than 65 years has been burning brightly, most often in calm waters. But as the weather patterns changed last semester, the water began to get choppy and unpredictable. In the midst of the tempest and for the first time in as many as four years in the recollection of some students' memories, President Arnold Speert showed signs of life from his secluded office as he became an outspoken public figure in the media, denouncing *The Beacon* for exercising its First Amendment right not to censor the opinions, creativity and satire of its dedicated staff of journalists.

Initially it was the Holocaust studies advertisement purchased by Bradley Smith of the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust, a San Diego group that questions the eyewitness testimony of several well-known Holocaust scholars. The advertisement struck a major nerve with some closed-minded members of the WPU campus community, including Speert, who later launched an all expense-paid campaign to squelch the *Beacon's* flame. His campaign was not successful; after all, you are reading *The Beacon*.

Then it was the publication of the annual parody issue of *The Beacon* (The Bacon) that incensed Speert, who was appalled that our editors had the gall to satirize Jews (among other groups). *The Beacon* was accused of perpetuating anti-Semitism, sexism, heterosexism and racism. Indeed, the issue was a satire.*

The backlash of community members expressing their staunch opposition to *The Beacon's* editorial discretion is ironic in its hypocrisy. There are always those individuals who are so extremist in their emotional-religious attachment that they counteract their own arguments (against the diversified free speech of others) with contradictory statements about who should and should not be permitted to express a view. It is funny how they all want their opinion printed (and validated) but not those of others.

Speert spent more than \$3000 mailing (first class) an impassioned letter to every member of the campus community announcing his dismay. But Speert's *Beacon* "boycott" has only created a communication barrier between the administration and the student body.

Faculty and staff refuse to talk to *The Beacon* because they fear losing their jobs if they fail to honor Speert's ban. The only losers in the quagmire are the students and the administration. *The Beacon* will always have material to print, and our presses will always roll. As a matter of fact, *The Beacon* had to cut more than a dozen pieces for this first issue—this paper is TWENTY-FOUR pages and will continue to grow. The first semesterly issue of *The Beacon* has not been 24 pages in

its entire 65-year history. And our circulation increased to 10,000 this fall. We now distribute off campus to Paterson, Haledon and Wayne. Oh, and we can't forget our new website (beaconweekly.com) which will be operational in coming weeks. *The Beacon* is back...with a vengeance. Well, sort of.

The administration has lost an effective (and cheap) public relations tool for event promotion and communication with students. Students lose out on university information that will no longer be contained in *The Beacon*. Speert's boycott has left *The Beacon* with many questions. What will the university say when we request comment on more police brutality lawsuits when they arise? What will they say when we print a report on state fire code violations that have yet to be corrected? Will their refusal to comment imply guilt to the average reader? Will it be advantageous for the university to give *The Beacon* the silent treatment?

The Beacon will continue to cover campus events as best it can, but this task is stymied by employees of the university who will not stray from Speert's boycott. Some (tenured) faculty have come forward (out of the woodwork) and said they don't "give a damn what Arnie wants," and will speak with writers from *The Beacon* or submit articles for publication.

Although *The Beacon* received intense criticism from some members of the university community regarding last semester's Holocaust advertisement and subsequent Bacon parody issue, the criticism has only served as motivation for the staff to keep the light lit and cater to the needs of a diverse group of readers with new features, columns, articles, and sections. We have already adapted a new style, a new format — a new attitude. *The Beacon* is better than ever.

Finally — on a more emotional level — last semester Dr. Roberta Goldberg taught me in "Myth and Folklore" to be inquisitive and to question the validity and motivation of all storytelling, including the storytelling of history that is often purported as black and white factual accounts of what may or may not have occurred and in what circumstances and details. Dr. Goldberg's assertion (and I hope she has tenure because she's a great professor) that all storytelling is motivated is a logical and valid premise; in a nutshell, nothing is totally proven, nothing is black and white, and experts are often just experts of their own agenda.

The Beacon is going to open the eyes of the entire community this year as we dive head first into the tumultuous waves that may try to douse our light, but will only make it glow brighter as we stand strong against the currents that seek to sweep us under. I hope everyone enjoys the new *Beacon*, but more, I hope everyone "gets" something from every issue. Open your mind to the concepts of minority thinkers, that is, those who don't think like you. Ponder. Debate. READ. *The Beacon* is here to stay. Pick it up. Read it. Learn about the people in your university — your world. Keep and open mind. GODSPEED.

SGA President welcomes students

Welcome—I could not be happier and more grateful that I have been given the opportunity to serve as your SGA President for 2000-2001 school year. The Student Government Association has always held a special place in my life and heart and I hope to spend this year helping WPU and representing you—the students.

Your SGA Exec Board has spent the summer preparing and working hard to make a better SGA and a better William Paterson. Your Exec Board includes: Executive Vice President, Angela Sarrica; Vice President, Takia Campbell; Treasurer, Nokima Holloway; and Court of Judicial Review Chair, Vincent DiTerlizzi.

With the student activity fee increase, clubs and organizations have the opportunity to program even more than before and great activities are already planned. Please look out for the great events that the elected class officers have put together for the fall semester as well.

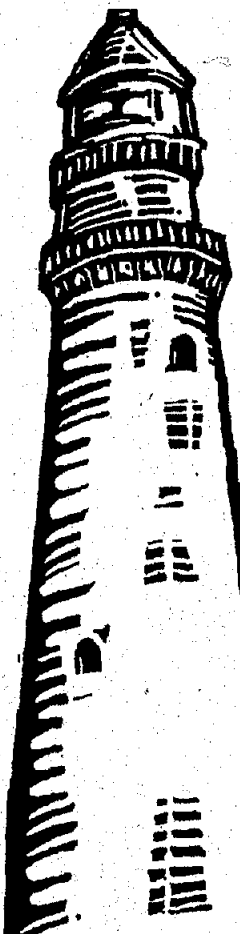
I would like to especially welcome the 2000 freshman class and encourage them to join clubs and organizations, and/or committees. Getting involved is the best thing you can do.

The SGA foresees a bright and positive year ahead and would love for anyone to join them this year. Election information can be in the Student Government office in the Student Center, room 332. Open positions can be found in *The Beacon* and in the SGA office.

On behalf of the whole 2000-2001 SGA administration I would like to wish you luck this semester, and if we can be of any assistance to you please feel free to contact us any time at 720-2157, or visit our website at euphrates.wpunj.edu/clubs/sga

Samantha E. Lugo
SGA President

Letters to the editor



All letters to the editor must be signed and contain the author's full name and daytime and evening telephone numbers. All letters will be verified for authenticity prior to publication. Letters should not exceed 500 words. Anonymous letters will promptly be filed in the shredder. If we put our names on the stuff we write, so should you. The best medium for sending a letter to the editor is through email. Since we are understaffed like most organizations, we do not have time to retype a zillion letters. Since the volume of mail may exceed the space available for printing, the editor may literally pick letters for publication out of a top hat. (Ryan Caiazza really does have a black top hat in his office.) *The Beacon* does not censor content (see our mission statement) and will print any signed and verified letter that won't get us sued.




2000-2001 Student Government Association
L to R: Nokima Holloway, Treasurer; Angela Sarrica, Vice President; Samantha Lugo, President; Takia Campbell, Treasurer

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Holocaust advertiser responds to Beacon letters

Editor:

I run advertisements in student newspapers at college and university campuses around the country encouraging an open debate on the Jewish holocaust story. My ads have run some 300 times. On 17 April 2000 I ran one in The Beacon titled "Holocaust Studies: Appointment with Hate?"

President Arnold Speert wrote (24 April) that my ad contains "lies" and that The Beacon should apologize for having run it. I find it rather tacky that a university president would use the position of his office to attack a student newspaper staff for running a controversial text containing "lies" without demonstrating what those "lies" are. President Speert believes students should simply take his word for it, eh? President Speert writes: "The Holocaust did happen." He ignores the fact that in my ad I do not write that the Holocaust did not happen. As a matter of fact - that's what is at issue. What was the Holocaust? The first thing we have to say is that the Jewish holocaust story is a vast collection of war stories. Like every other war story, some of them happened and some of them didn't. I'm doing what I can to encourage our professors (and their administrators) to separate the wheat from the chaff.

President Speert quotes the "New York Times Manager of Advertising Acceptability" as stating that the Times will not accept advertisements that deny a recognized crime of substantial proportions or vividness.

He suggests that The Beacon's staff get together with its faculty advisors and legal counsel to devise advertising policies that can be used to suppress revisionist texts. That is, get the lawyers in, make it illegal for student newspapers to allow expressions of skepticism regarding those historical issues about which their professors have declared a consensus. Why not? It worked for Hitler. It worked for Stalin. It still works for Fidel Castro and every other tin pot dictator the world over. Professors Carol Gruber (History), Neil Kressel (Psychology), Peter Stein (Sociology) and Miryan Wahrman (Biology) expressed their astonishment that a student newspaper would run an advertisement encouraging an open debate on an historical controversy: "It is ironic ... that the Beacon saw fit to accept and print this ad a scant week after a British court's ... rejection of David Irving's libel suit against historian Deborah Lipstadt [Emory University]." That is, these WPU professors approve of the idea that historical controversies should be decided in courtrooms sanctioned by the State rather than through a free exchange of ideas. Every tyrant past and present would certainly agree with them.

The professors find it "twisted" that I would observe that to ask for proof that "one (one!) Jew was gassed in any German camp as part of a program of 'genocide' is hate." Why is it hateful to ask for proof of a great crime that another is accused of? And then - where is the "one" proof? The professors are dismayed that I would suggest that Democrats and Republicans committed the same "crimes against humanity" that the National Socialists committed. Let's take a look at this one.

The great "crime against humanity" that the German National Socialists are accused of committing during WWII is that they intentionally killed civilians - we don't really care whether the victims were Jews, do we?

Why would we care? A human being is a human being. And there, of course, is the rub. The Bi-partisan State policy of Democrats and Republicans during the war included the intentional killing of hundreds of thousands of German and Japanese civilians, including tens of thousands of children and babies. These

civilians were intentionally blown apart and burned alive in the great firestorms purposely set by US air arms (along with the British, mainly), culminating in the nuclear obliteration of the civilian populations of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. It is not immoral - to the contrary - to hold Democrats and Republicans to the same moral standards to which we hold German National Socialists.

Why would you argue otherwise? Count the books, the monographs, the essays, articles and fulminations (count them if you can - for they are endless) the professorial class has written about the intentional killing of Jewish civilians, then add up the tiny, tiny number that they have written about the intentional killing of Japanese and German civilians. Who benefits from this immense Holocaust publishing industry? The Japanese? The Germans? Christians? Or is it the folk who invaded and conquered Palestine at the close of WWII, destroyed Palestinian culture, formed a Jewish settler state on Palestinian land, and now receive billions (billions!) of dollars yearly via the US Congress?

The weapons used by Democrats and Republicans to intentionally kill civilians are known to all and denied by none. The gassing chambers allegedly used by the Germans to intentionally kill civilians can not be demonstrated to have existed, and there are men and women in every nation in Europe and North America who are willing to argue in public debate that they never did exist. At the Irving/Lipstadt trial referred to by the WPU professors, the expert on the fabled "gassing chambers," the Dutch-Canadian professor of architecture Robert van Pelt, was reduced on the witness stand to stating that the presence of gas chambers at Auschwitz is a "moral certainty."

A "moral" certainty? Really? We have been told for half a century that the murder weapon was an "historical" certainty. What is this? Stand-up comedy?

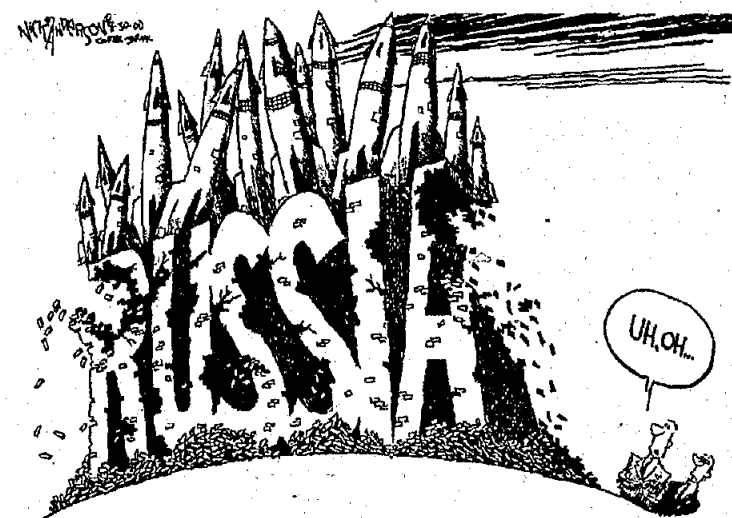
The Beacon printed a number of letters from students who were offended by the text of my ad. Their letters contain, for the most part, the same accusations and misunderstandings reflected in the letters published by their professors. My work is to encourage a few students to set out on their own, to find out for themselves, what the truth of the matter - the gas-chamber matter - really is. It is not immoral - to the contrary - to argue for the innocence of Germans on those counts where you suspect they might be innocent. On 24 April the Beacon printed a letter from Matthew G. Helpem, the business manager of The Beacon last semester, and the individual I dealt with in having my ad run. He suggests that reading the text of my ad might "open your mind a little ... [so that you can ask yourself] ... are the stories we hear 100 percent true? Is there something more to it? ... Personally, I do not believe what this advertisement claims ... [but] when we ask the questions, rather than yelling out at one another just

because something doesn't sound right, we all benefit from the answers ... Open your mind, ask the questions, and listen for the answers. 'Free your mind and the rest will follow ...' Bravo! Written by a student who understands what the ideal of the university stands for in Western culture. I ask myself: Who needs to be teaching whom at WPU?

Bradley R. Smith
San Diego, CA

Editor's Note:

Bradley R. Smith is publisher of The Revisionist (www.codoh.org) and was requested to respond to letters that The Beacon received regarding his advertisement last semester. His letter is printed verbatim. Mr. Smith may contribute to The Beacon in the future. RC



WELCOME to the ALL NEW Beacon

A New Front in the Drug War

California's voting on relaxing penalties for possession

Michael Isikoff

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

California's voters may be in revolt again. The folks who have to foot the bill in the state with the highest ratio of imprisoned drug offenders in the country—134 per 100,000 people, compared with 49 in Texas—may have had enough.

THIS FALL THEY WILL VOTE on a sleeper ballot initiative, Proposition 36, that would effectively end jail terms for possessing any illegal drug—including crack cocaine and heroin—and substitute drug treatment instead. Last week Prop 36 was ahead by 10 points, and antidrug warriors were in an uproar. The real objective, they said, was a well-financed national movement that would stop short of nothing less than decriminalizing drug use.

Prop 36 is drawing supporters from across the ideological spectrum: from civil-rights leader Jesse Jackson to Republican Senate candidate Tom Campbell, who says the drug war amounts to "Jim Crow" justice for minorities. Financier George Soros and two other wealthy business-

men have pledged \$3 million to push the cause. They are also financing antidrug-war initiatives in five other states. Soros, long a supporter of relaxing the drug laws, sees it as a "human rights" issue, according to former Princeton professor Ethan Nadleman, his principal adviser on the matter.

Prop 36 organizers sense they have tapped into more than California's quirkiness. Thanks to mandatory-sentencing laws enacted across the country in the 1980s, the prison population passed 2 million this year, up from 500,000 in 1980. Now the California initiative will challenge the idea that most Americans still back the massive crackdown. "Traditionally, you've got to be tough on drugs or you get marginalized [as a candidate]," says Campbell. "I'm putting that to the test."

But will Prop 36 do anything to solve the drug problem? Under Prop 36, offenders arrested for possession—not trafficking—are given the option of entering a treatment program for up to 18 months. If they completed it, their records would be wiped clean. That would allow about 24,000 people a year—those who are now incarcerated in California for possession—to stay out of prison. "This is a watershed," says Sam Vagenas, a consultant to the initia-

tive's organizers. "It can blow apart the whole notion that the only way to get people off drugs is to incarcerate them."

Opponents are just as vehement. They are led by the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, the prison guards' union, which has made building more prisons its signature issue. The union pumped more than \$2 million into the 1998 campaign of Gov. Gray Davis, a tough-on-crime Democrat, who quickly signed legislation authorizing \$525 million in new prison construction. Letting more drug users stay out will simply put more criminals on the streets, the prison guards and their allies argue. "By the time [users] come to us, they've got rap sheets as long as your arm," says Jeff Thompson, chief lobbyist for the guards.

Union officials have enlisted their own heavyweights to fight Prop 36: White House drug czar Barry McCaffrey, San Diego Chargers owner Alex Spanos and "West Wing" president Martin Sheen, whose son Charlie has struggled with addiction. The campaign will be heated and expensive; and both sides realize that Americans far beyond California will be watching.

But Where's the Salsa?

Arian Campo-Flores

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

To get a feel for the cozy rapport between George W. Bush and the Latino community, says Adman Lionel Sosa, watch this. He pops in a tape of TV spots his team has produced for the Bush campaign,

leans back and exults in the cheery images and melodic soundtrack.

BUSH LIFTS UP a little girl in a colorful Mexican dress and gives her a peck on the lips. A young Latino kid rushes up to the governor and high-fives him. A woman built like a tank hugs Bush with such gusto that she nearly tears his head off. "See that spot there," says Sosa. "Did it talk about issues?... Nada." In other words, personal-

ity, not policy, is the key to Latino hearts—and votes.

But votes, predicts Democratic ad maker Armando Gutierrez, will ultimately respond to issues, not mushy images.

Try telling that to Al Gore. In his Latino ads, Gore puts the issues front and center. Yes, he cradles a baby, but with a voice-over promising child care. He also chats with an elderly Latina woman (Social Security), strolls beside a doctor (Medicare) and reads with a little Latino boy (first-rate schools). Pretty dry stuff. But Latinos, predicts Democratic ad maker Armando Gutierrez, will ultimately respond to issues, not mushy images. Bush can't run on substance, Gutierrez chides. "It's like selling Marlboro cigarettes or Firestone tires."

Who has the better strategy? Both camps agree on one point: the winner of the Latino ad wars will take home a bigger-than-ever prize. The candidates are fighting over nearly 8 million registered voters, many of them young and up for grabs politically, concentrated in states rich with electoral votes. In key battlegrounds like Florida, Illinois and New Jersey, Latinos could prove decisive come November. So Bush and Gore are prepared to spend up to \$10 million each—far more than ever before—on Latino ads. "This is the first time, certainly at the national level, where you're going to have both sides aggressively going after this community," says Gutierrez, 52. Both candidates are going all out to show they're attuned to Hispanic culture and Hispanic needs. And, of course, they're brushing off their Spanish phrase books and unleashing sometimes excruciating verbal displays—Bush frowning his brow as he tries to roll his R's and Gore fastidiously laboring over every consonant.

Bush has reason to trust Sosa's decision to keep the ads warm and bubbly. The guru of Hispanic advertising, Sosa, 61, has been selling Latinos for decades on everything from Coca-Cola to Ronald Reagan. Two years ago he helped Bush capture roughly half of the Hispanic vote in Texas—a huge

victory for a Republican. As Kathy Sosa, Lionel's wife and business partner, summarizes the gist of their ads: "If you got a chance to meet George W. Bush, this is how it might feel." Sosa's team has also made extensive use of Bush's heartthrob nephew George P. They've cut eight ads featuring him, all dimples and hair gel, invoking his Hispanic roots in a less grating (but still imperfect) Spanish. The point of all this: to portray Bush as a different breed of Republican, one who embraces multiculturalism. Sosa "doesn't try to make Latinos Republican," says Andy Hernandez, co-author of *The Almanac of Latino Politics 2000*. "He tries to make Latinos comfortable with Republicans."

That's making some Latino Democrats uncomfortable. They think the Gore media effort could use some luster; in private meetings at the Democratic convention, some strategists complained that the campaign wasn't supporting a more sophisticated ad push. "It's canned footage, no creativity, the kind of spots you change the channel on," says Antonio Gonzalez of the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project.

"If you look at the Bush side, they're gorgeous."

The ad wars are just revving up. So far, Gutierrez has produced three spots and Sosa 10; but only a few of these have run and only in select states, such as Florida, Illinois and New York. Future media buys will be dictated by the polls. Wherever the race is tight and Latinos color the landscape, expect to see Gore and Bush making their appeals en español. Gone are the days when Republicans ignored Hispanics and Democrats could take them for granted. "We want 50 percent," says Sosa. "And by 2012 and 2016, we better be getting it, or we'll be the minority party forever." That competitive drive—by both parties—means that Latino voters have already won.

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will spend record
sums to woo the
Latino vote—with
very different ad
campaigns**

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Back to school movie review

An aging, ex-con safecracker named Vic Kelly (Christopher Walken) can't pay his debts and is lured into going for one last score to ensure his family's future, while his wisier and flinty girlfriend, Sally (Cyndi Lauper), warns him and frets over the turn his life takes. If you need yet more clichés, the local police are too inept to detect a robbery being planned under their noses and the "long lost relative" from the Old Country isn't quite who he claims to be.

The *Opportunists* is the first feature from writer/director Myles Connell, who has managed to make a heist movie without any tension or surprises (outside of seeing Walken wearing an apron and serving dinner), because none of Connell's characters have the depth or imagination to break outside their narrow, assigned places. Vic is told he's a loser so often in an roughly ninety minutes that his pulling off the heist successfully is never a possibility. Walken is a perfect choice to play Vic, with his native Queens accent and usual haunted look, but the most dramatic line he—or anyone else—gets to say here is "The regular citizen

thing is not going too good."

Connell does a better job laying out the film's setting in residential Queens. That outer borough staple, the silver-encrusted diner makes an appearance when Vic explains his why he went to prison to Irish "cousin"

The Opportunists Christopher English, The Beacon

Mikey over breakfast, and the street where the Kelly family resides is a dead ringer for the block the Bunker family lived on in "All in the Family" television series, itself an exploration of the constraints of family life in working class New York City. The drab rooms and streets in *The Opportunists* rarely show any hint of a horizon or life outside of the neighborhood. Connell has

done an excellent job of matching his no hope characters to an exact setting.

The idea of a neighborhood enclosing the lives of its inhabitants was vividly and violently explored by Martin Scorsese in his 1973 film, *Mean Streets*, but *The Opportunists* has none of that film's visceral punch or short-fused characters to lift it above a telegraphed plot. Connell has exchanged the New York Italian-Americans of *Mean Streets* and *Goodfellas* for New York Irish-Americans without providing crooks with enough maniacal edge or belligerence to frighten way Harvey Keitel and Joe Pesci did in those Scorsese films.

The *Opportunists*' ending comes with a twist, but by then you may be wondering why it took this long before Connell attempted to surprise the audience.

Cyndi Lauper's performance as the hard-shelled bar-keep Sally, though, deserves special notice. When she and Vic split up over his return to crime and he has to leave Sally's apartment, her idea of a romantic tag line is "And leave the keys."

Three decades after taking the British crime film to its apex with his 1971 Michael Caine vehicle *Get Carter*, director Mike Hodges makes an assured return to the film noir form with *The Croupier*, a study in character (or the lack thereof) that takes place among the denizens of a London casino.

The movie is narrated by its title character, Jack (Clive Wilson), a struggling writer who returns to the casino work he tried to leave behind after emigrating to London from South Africa. Surrounded by the hard-face, addicted gamblers he reads well enough to predict their next bets, Jack senses the return of his own addiction to one side of the gambling trade when the end of his late night shift leaves him shaking. "He was hooked again, watching people lose," Jack relates dispassionately while the house wins another round at the roulette table.

Jack promises his concerned girlfriend that he'll leave the casino within a month, but instead finds himself held to his job by the material that croupier work provides for his novel. His decision to stay is cemented

by Jack's enlistment by a femme fatale (Alex Kingston) in a plot to rob the casino.

There isn't much daylight in *The Croupier*, either in the two rooms where most of the film takes place—the casino itself is a windowless hall of mirrors and Jack and his girl-

The Croupier Christopher English, The Beacon

friend share a basement apartment—or in the lives of the film's characters. The gamblers who populate the plush demi-monde of the casino are single-minded and grim as they inevitably lose. "Gambling isn't about money," Jack tells Yanni, the femme fatale who shares his South African background, "it's about not facing reality." Jack is the ultimate realist, a man who figures and refines the odds on emerging unscathed from his part in the robbery and sees

through the gift that overlays the casino's sophisticated fleecing and the hardened shells that cover the gamblers' desperation.

Director Hodges leaves the audience little room for interpretation. All the characters are unflinchingly tough and closed to change, fated to returning to the addictions the casino feeds. Jack's hard drinking and casually cynical attitude toward others resemble the flinty private detective Sam Spade perfected by Humphrey Bogart in John Huston's *The Maltese Falcon* (1941), a film noir touchstone.

The *Croupier* is not without its faults. The characters are generally one dimensional and the robbery scene is exciting but confusing, and Jack's description of himself as a "Contradiction" has to substitute for an explanation of his motives. Viewers seeking noble characters or pleasant scenery should probably skip this film. Views looking for a well-directed story of manipulation and deceit should come away satisfied.



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Holmdel, NJ-
Third Eye
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e to you yet and I
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pile," he paused, taking a solid look
at his people. Then he continued,
"I'm willing to try."

True to his word, Jenkins leaped
off and ran through the crowd and
ended up behind the audio board
in the center of the amphitheater.
It was a stunt that captured the
attention of the combine in a spon-
taneous - yet rehearsed - manner.
This Barnum-esq feat was, by far,
the pinnacle of the performance.
This portrait of fan appreciation
earned this California native a
resounding standing ovation.

"I like it out
here," said an
enthusiastic
Jenkins. "I
now have ten-
thousand backup
singers."

His new free-
lancers chimed for the
presentation of

Third Eye
Blind jamming at the
Summer Sun Tour

new found company, Jenkins
hammed it up by taking pictures,
allowing fans to sing into the
microphone, and simply encourag-
ing a state of vibrant
euphoria. He was then whisked
back on stage by security and fin-
ished the remainder of the song.

After regaining his composure,
Jenkins and company followed
with "Get Fooled," "Red

sake), "Larger," "Whole and
"Farther," and "How's It Gonna
Be," a song heard all too often on
prunes for "Dawson's Creek."

3EB went on to play a fresh track
off their latest effort "Blue." "It's a
song about behaving really badly,"
said Jenkins before the band's per-
formance of "1000 Julys." "I'm
sure there's no bad behavior in
Jersey," he said whimsically.

"We've been out of town the last
three years," Jenkins remarked fol-
lowing the performance of "I Want
You." "On this tour this is the best
we ever had, the best we

The set concluded with
"Motorcycle Driveby" and pop
favorite "Semi Charmed Life."

Third Eye Blind was received with
stentorian praise prior to their
encore. The first song to begin
their second wind was "Graduate."

"People ask, 'what do you like
better: making videos or playing
live?'" stated Jenkins. "This right
here -- live. This is the shit...I
hope you found what you were
looking for tonight."

In the wake of this high-octane
performance, Third Eye Blind fans
found what they were looking

ILY SAVAGE: Australian Duo SWOONS Sell Out Crowd in Radio City Debut

0 New York - THERE ARE MANY WAYS ONE CAN CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF ONE'S BIRTH. SAVAGE GARDEN INSTRUMENTALIST DANIEL JONES CELEBRATED A BELATED BIRTHDAY BY PERFORMING, FOR THE FIRST TIME, IN RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. THE LIGHTS WENT OUT AT THE HALLOWED ASSEMBLY ROOM. THE SOLD OUT CROWD WAS FEET AS TWO SILHOUETTES APPEARED ON STAGE. DARREN HAYES AND DANIEL JONES WERE GREETED BY A BOIS-IVRE OF CHEERS AND HOLLERS THAT REVERBERATED THROUGHOUT THE MID-TOWN CONCERT HALL.

ent from complete darkness to vivid illumi-
nations, which resembled Times Square, were
cross between "SoulTrain" and MTV's "The
Tiger Square fixtures seemed odd at first,
quite well as the show progressed.
I off the exhibition with "Best Thing," a song
and keyboard and bass riffs.
young demoiselles seared
Radio City, the Australian-bred
into the riveting "Break

the vibe from these sav-
age assembly broke into a
during their renditions of
the Moon and Back," and
a Love After Me."
evening of 'affirmation,"
ten vocalist Darren Hayes. "This is a two-
is your show tonight...I want to take you
ed. "Will you come with me?"
followers were ecstatic with the invitation.
out a snowy day," said Hayes prior to per-

forming "I Don't Know You Anymore." The song jump-started
the acoustic portion of the show, which included: "Santa
Monica," "Two Beds and a Coffee Machine," and a cover of
John Lennon's "Imagine," which was dedicated to the mem-
ory of the late John F. Kennedy, Jr.

After their pause for solidarity, Darren and Daniel went
back to the show's origi-
nal tempo. The second
half began with "The
Animal Song," a percus-
sion oriented song, which
is also showcased on
"The Other Sister"
soundtrack.

Throughout the show,
a young girl waved a
rather large sign pro-
claiming her devotion to the Australian tag team. During the
performance of "Hold Me," Hayes hand picked the maiden
and requested her presence on stage.

As the seconds went by the girl's face grew increasingly
red. Hayes attempted to comfort the girl by serenading her

on one knee. The entire scenario overwhelmed her. With
disposable camera in hand, the young lass managed to cap-
ture an unforgettable experience with her heroes.

Savage Garden followed the stunt with "Gunning Down
Romance," and Jones' favorite song "Crash and Burn." The
duo's faithful faction roared for the world-renowned "Truly,
Madly, Deeply," a song that provoked Hayes to remove his
ear plugs in order to attend to the voices of the capacity
crowd.

When the boys from down under returned for their encore,
Hayes triumphantly returned looking like Elvis Presley and
motioning like Michael Jackson. The encore included
"Chained To You," as two buxom vixens groped the front
man.

The dyad closed with the popular - yet unrealistic - "I
Knew I Loved You." Oddly, they also went into a techno ver-
sion of the aforementioned ditty, a move that should have
been second-guessed.

The quote of the evening came from Hayes: "At no time
during the performance was my crotch harmed in anyway."
Any contusing below the belt would have made Hayes quite
a bit less savage.

Photos by Sylvana Meneses

SMOKE SIGNALS: SUMMER RAP SHOW IGNITES JERSEY

Brian LoPinto
The Beacon

Despite torrential downpours, fans piled into the Continental Airlines Arena to witness a cavalcade of rap all stars. To quote Ice Cube, "Damn right it was a good day."

The crowd was still filing in at the Meadowlands as Ice Cube finished the last three songs of his set; "Check Yo Self," "It Was A Good Day," and "We Be Clubbin'."

It was quite obvious that the latecomers were there for the unofficial headliners of this tour: Dr. Dre, Eminem, and Snoop Dog.

As smoke filled the Meadowlands stage, (hence "Up in Smoke Tour") a backward 'E' blinked. Faster...faster...faster. It was a sign that has been a trademark for Eminem; a sign that proves he has made his mark and if you don't like it, he doesn't care.

Eminem jump-started his set with the fast paced and oft-controversial "Kill You"; he then quickly went into a tribute to the memories of 2 Pac and The Notorious B.I.G.

The Detroit rapper covered Biggie's "Dead Wrong" off B.I.G.'s posthumous album "Born Again." He then switched back to his own brand of lyrics and performed "Just Don't Give A Fuck," off his Grammy Award winning debut album "The Slim Shady LP."

"We got the whole east coast in this mother fucker," said Eminem. "I'm gonna call you 'New York/New Jersey.' It's easier cause I'm drunk."

The crowd roared for his inebriated state as he chimed in with "My Name Is."

"I'm so fuckin' sick of this song," said Eminem of the hit that practically drove him into mainstream society. "I don't want to hear that shit again."

He then went into a more self-reflecting mode as he sang the song named after his birth name Marshall Mathers.

The lights dipped black and returned with two enormous hands on each side of the stage. Both hands with the middle finger extended. Naturally.

"How many people get angry?" asked Eminem. "So pissed off that you could kill somebody! Next time that you feel like that, play this song." That song: "The Way I Am."

Eminem then went on to perform "Still Don't Give A Fuck," the sequel to "Just Don't Give A Fuck."

Mr. Mathers took time out to comment his on going drama with fellow Detroit area musicians Insane Clown Posse. Eminem and an element of ICP's entourage engaged in an altercation at a car audio store in Michigan.

Oakland County prosecutors believe that Eminem was the "initial aggressor" in the melee. Both Eminem and ICP have had bad blood in the past. Both factions have mocked and berated each other on their respective albums. Eminem performed a skit involving ICP and oral gratification, while ICP cited Eminem as Slim Anus."

"A lot of you may have heard of my beef with the Insane Clown Pussies," said Eminem of the incident. "We settled the beef with ICP, in fact they're here tonight."

ICP was not in attendance. Instead two blowup dolls filled in. "We made peace," Eminem said as the dolls simulated oral sex on him. He ended his set with his chart-topping anthem "Real Slim Shady."

A very elaborate set showcased the vocal styling of Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dogg. The stage was complete with a liquor store, neon marijuana leaves, and an enormous skull with "2001" underneath.

The duo started with the smooth flowing "The Next Episode" off of "Dr. Dre 2001," an album that has seen five times platinum thus far. Then they went back to one of their first tracks that established Dre and Snoop as one of rap's premiere tag teams: "Deep Cover."

Snoop Dogg then went on to perform the exceptionally lyrical "Who Am I (What's My Name)?" off the stoic rapper's 1993-debut album "Doggystyle," then quickly eased into "Nuthin' but a G Thang," a song that received the accolade of "best single of the 90's" by *Spin* magazine.

"Let's do something special for the ladies," said Dr. Dre. That "something special" was the hard hitting "Fuck You."

As Dr. Dre took a "smoke" break, Snoop per-



The Doctor Is In: Dr. Dre (top) performing at the Meadowlands along with Eminem, Snopp Doggy Dog.

formed with his protégé band Tha Eastsidaz. The only highlight was "G'd • Up" which featured Butch Cassidy.

Immediately following Dre and Shady's rendition of "Forgot About Dre," the entire "Up In Smoke" family paid respect to the notable names of rap that are now deceased. The tribute highlighted the songs, triumphs, and lives of such artists as The Notorious B.I.G., Big Punisher, 2 Pac and especially Easy-E of N.W.A fame.

The showstopper of the evening was during the performance of "Let Me Ride." Dr. Dre drove a classic convertible on the Meadowlands stage complete with hydraulics. The crowd went in a complete frenzy for this unexpected stunt.

The remainder of the show featured "Still D.R.E." and an encore

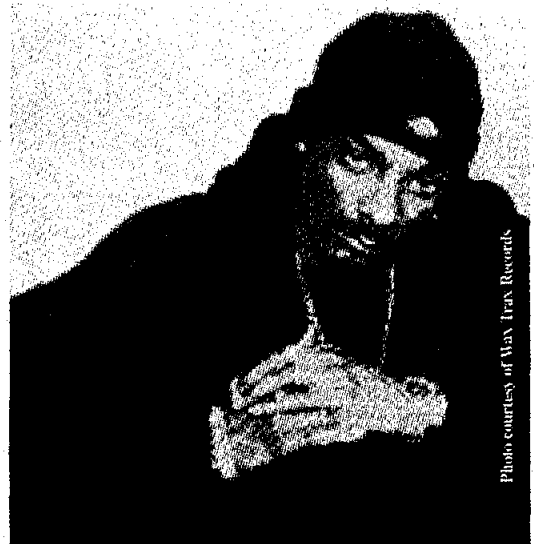
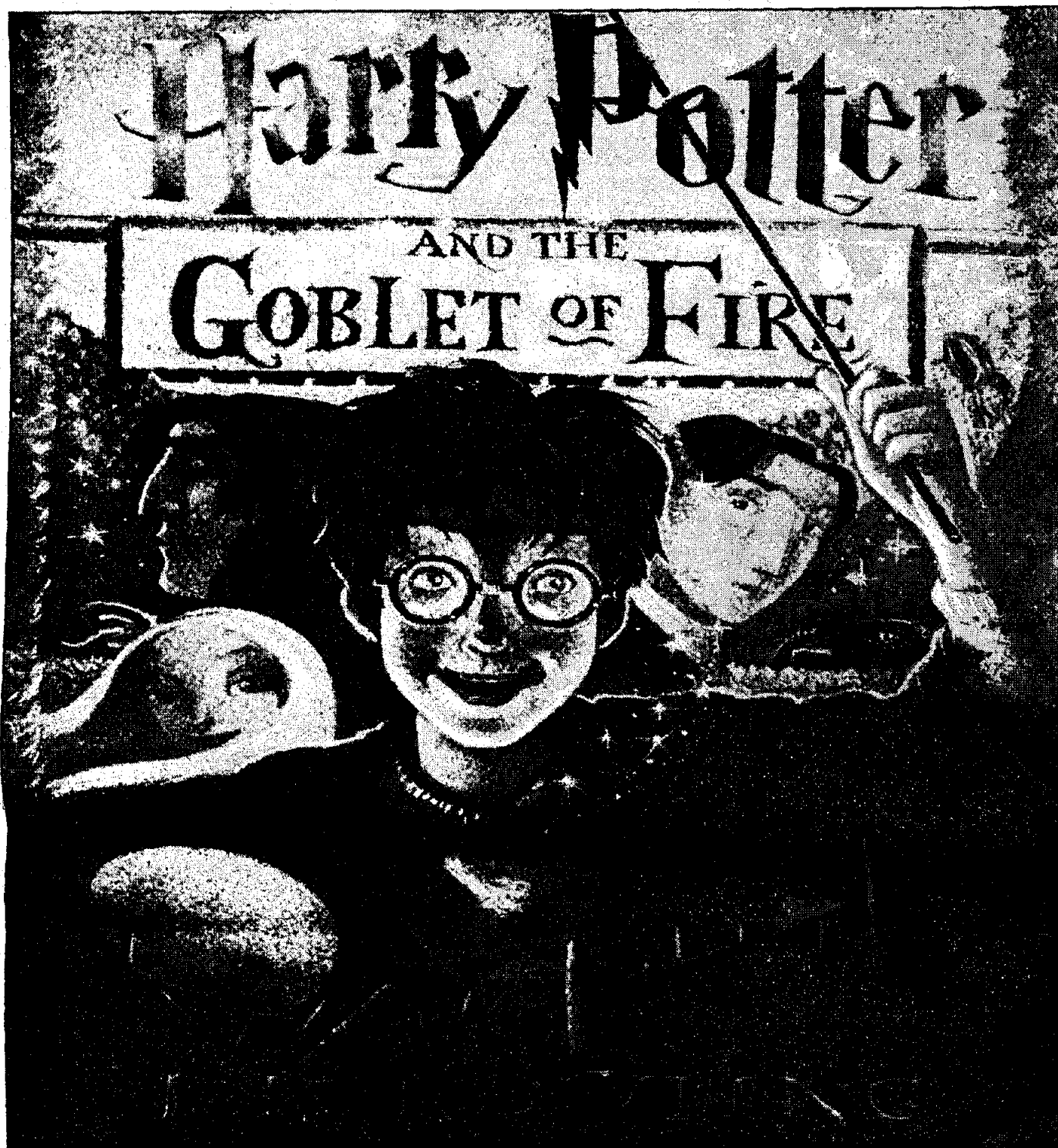


Photo courtesy of May Day Records



I admit it. I've succumbed to the Harry Potter mania that is sweeping the nation. I had to read the first book for a class in children's literature and I was hooked. I'm certainly not one to follow trends simply because they are being waved in my face by the media, but with Harry Potter, I could actually see what all the fuss was about. I've never spoken to someone who has read Harry Potter and disliked it. I've heard how people placed orders months in advance or lined up outside bookstores to secure copies of the latest Harry Potter book.

For all those who don't understand this recent phenomenon, I'd like to try and answer the question: What's the big deal??? For those who live in a dark hole and have not even heard of Harry Potter, it is a series of books by British author J.K. (Joanne) Rowling. There have been four books published of a planned seven, chronicling the life of a young wizard-in-training during his years in school. The first was published in

England in 1996 and came out in the United States the following year. The fourth and latest book in the series was just published in the U.S. in July. Warner Brothers has begun casting for the film version of the first Harry Potter book, which is slated to open in the U.S. on November 16, 2001. There are numerous websites about both the Harry Potter books and the film and Harry Potter reports abound on the evening news.

Carina Gunder
The Beacon

It's hard to ignore all this media attention, but I'd still like to answer our question by going back to the books themselves. I had some vague idea that Harry Potter was popular when I started to read the first book, but that made no difference to me once I found I could not put the book down. The book almost seemed to have some strange power over me! It was extremely engaging, intelligently written, brilliantly creative, and I couldn't get enough of it! In the Harry Potter books, Rowling creates a world with two separate entities co-existing:

magic people (wizards and witches) and non-magic people (Muggles). We, of course, would be Muggles by this standard.

The wizard world is basically the same as our world, with the exception of magic, which is a fairly large exception. Rowling has crafted a world that we can relate to easily, but that is more alluring than our own world.

The true stroke of genius, however, is that we learn about this world along with the central character, Harry Potter, who has grown up in the Muggle world without the knowledge that he has magical powers. Shortly after he turns 11 years old, he goes to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry to begin his magical education. Having grown up with Muggles of the worst sort, who despise magic of all kinds, Harry has no knowledge of the wizard world. As he learns about it, so does the reader. Often we think of wizards and witches as very old-fashioned and in a world completely apart from ours.

The wizard world in the Harry Potter books, however, is every bit as modern as our world. True, they wear robes and write with quills on parchment, but they have news media, commercialization, and sports just like we do. Wizards in England can read The Daily Prophet newspaper or listen to the WWN (Wizarding Wireless Network). Some wizards/witches put a lot of stock in material things, like the newest model of broomstick or fashionable clothing.

The wizard sport of quidditch is extremely popular and there is a Quidditch World Cup every year. Thus, the wizard world isn't so different from ours, but it's more exciting because it's new to us. The Harry Potter books have it all: adventure, mystery, comedy, drama, etc. Each book has a mystery that the characters are trying to solve and Rowling does an excellent job of placing clues in the story so the reader can try to figure out the puzzle as well.

There is lots of adventure, from exhilarating quidditch matches to the Triwizard Tournament, where students have to complete dangerous and exciting tasks. The ongoing drama of Harry's history and the unfortunate demise of his parents when he was just a year old takes a major part in each book in the central plotline.

There is also plenty of comic relief, between the hilarious Weasley twins and the constant banter among Harry and his two best friends. All of these factors combine to make the books irresistible for children. They are an excellent educational tool, as well.

Rowling uses many plays on words when she invents names and spells. For example, in London witches and wizards go shopping in Diagon Alley (say it out loud), an area accessible from the street, but hidden from Muggles. Also, a spell to get rid of a nasty magical creature (who fears laughter) is Riddikulus! Also, in addition to using magic, wizards often have to use logic, and readers are given the opportunity to work out some of the riddles with which the characters are faced.

Most importantly, children love Harry Potter so much that they want to read! All the Harry Potter books are chapter books, the shortest being just over 300 pages and the longest over 700. What could be better than a book with educational value that children would rather read than watch television or play video games?

Another interesting facet of the Harry Potter books is the positive emphasis the books place on school. Harry would rather be at Hogwarts than anywhere else, which is partially due to the horrible life he has with his Muggle relations, but also due to the fact that he enjoys his classes and wants to learn. The children complain about homework and like some classes better than others, but they wouldn't trade it for anything. Hogwarts is the predominant setting for all the books and the place where the action is.

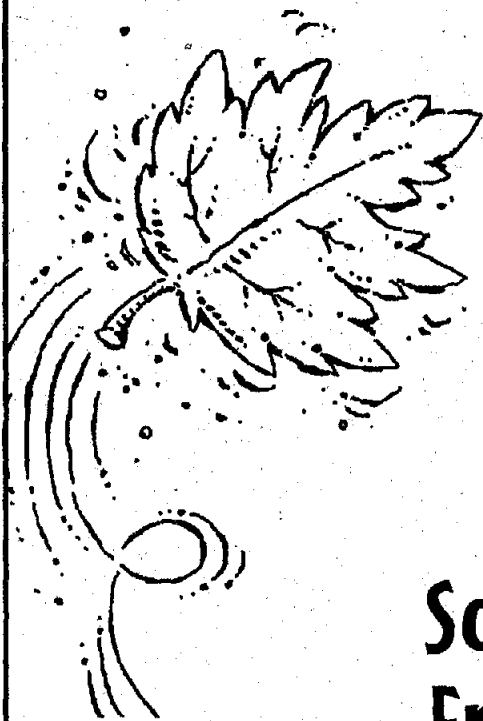
It is obvious to me what the appeal of Harry Potter for children is, but I can also see why adults are drawn to the book. (Incidentally, all the recommendations I received for the book came from adults.) The books deal with issues that are important, in any world. True, they are mostly about children, but the adult characters play an important role as well. Also, the major theme of escaping from a world in which you feel trapped is applicable to people of all ages.

Harry hates his life (as well he should!) and he is offered this outlet to all his problems. Who wouldn't want such an opportunity? So what's the big deal? I hope you can see that Harry Potter is a wonderful contribution to literature, for both children and adults. Even if you don't buy into all the media hype, don't rob yourself of the chance to escape from your life through these books. Read them and see for yourself!

What's up with Harry Potter?

SGA OPEN POSITIONS

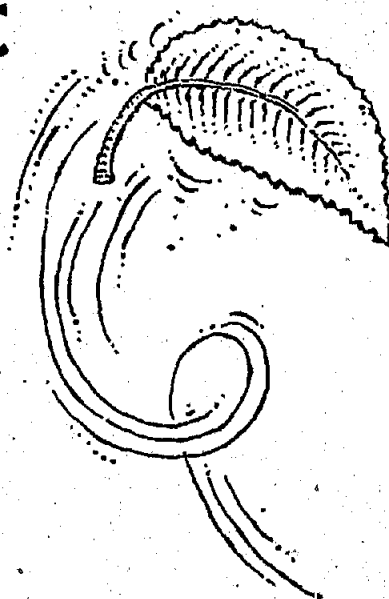
FALL 2000



Senior Class Treasurer
Senior Class Secretary
Junior Class Treasurer
Sophomore Class Secretary
Freshman Class President
Freshman Class Vice President
Freshman Class Treasurer
Freshman Class Secretary

Stop by Student
Center 332 for
more information

5 Club "B" Representatives
1 Club "C" Representative



2 College of Education Representatives
2 College of Science and Health Representatives
2 College of Business Representatives
2 College of Humanities and Social Science Reps.
2 College of Arts and Communication Reps.

Election Dates:

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2000 and
Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2000



FIT



Health • Fitness
Nutrition • Wellness

MENINGITIS: College students' nightmare

For some reason the alarm clock seems louder than usual. As you move to turn it off, you suddenly

realize that you feel absolutely miserable—

Christopher Hess
The Beacon

auseous, a pounding headache, sore throat, fever, the works. Your neck is stiff and the effort required to drag yourself out of bed seems too enormous to consider. Must be the flu, you think. "Get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids" echoes somewhere in your mind. You close your eyes and try to think about not spending the next couple of days in bed will disturb your increasingly hectic day...

It is a scene that is bound to be played out by college students all across the country this year.

unquestionably, the vast majority of them will be correct—they will have the flu or another common ailment. But if they are wrong, according to U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), they could be dead in 48 hours or less, succumbing to meningococcal meningitis, a disease which strikes approximately 3000 Americans annually. In 10-15 % of cases, the disease is fatal.

Meningitis is a growing concern among college students and their parents, who must decide whether or not to opt for a vaccination that is not covered by many insurance plans. Though outbreaks of meningitis on college campuses are infrequent, the high fatality rate and incidence of permanent disability following active infection justify the relatively high cost of vaccination to many parents and students.

College-aged young adults have the second highest incidence rate of meningococcal meningitis in the country. Approximately 125 college students develop meningitis each year, with 5-15 cases resulting in death, according to The American College Health Association. Particularly at risk are freshmen who live in campus dormitories, whose risk of infection is six times higher than that of their age cohorts. Increased risk is also associated with lifestyle behaviors, according to the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. Those who smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol, and patronize bars are more likely to become infected.

According to a source on campus, there has never been a recorded case of meningitis at William Paterson University. However, statistics from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services show that New Jersey averages about 65 cases of meningococcal infection per year.

Colleges in other states across the country have not been so fortunate. Last year, 10 students at Virginia colleges were diagnosed with meningitis.

Between 1992 and 1997, 14 students at colleges in Maryland were diagnosed with meningococcal infections, 4 of whom

died, according to the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. On May 18th of this year, Maryland passed a groundbreaking law requiring all dormitory residents at colleges in the

state to pay for vaccination (which costs about \$75) or sign a waiver, according to the Washington Post. Schools in other states, such as the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, have chosen to offer the vaccine to its students at no charge.

Most institutions of higher learning across the country have chosen to follow the guidelines set forth in 1999 by the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), which stops short of recommending the vaccine for college students. They instead suggest that "those who provide medical care to this group give information to students and their parents about meningococcal disease and the benefits of vaccination. Vaccination should be provided or made easily available to those freshmen who wish to reduce their risk of disease. Other undergraduate students wishing to reduce their risk of meningococcal disease can also choose to be vaccinated."

Though many public health experts recommend the vaccine for college students, particularly freshmen living in dormitories, others believe that low incidence of meningococcal infection does not justify the cost of vaccination. However, the cost to the individual student is about the same as they would pay for a textbook.

Dr. Robert Chesney, professor of biology at William Paterson, believes that all students should get the meningitis

**College-aged young adults
have the second highest
incidence rate of
meningococcal meningitis
in the country.**

vaccination, as well as the influenza vaccination. "It is especially important for students living in the dorms," said Dr.

Chesney, whose daughter was vaccinated when she was a freshman in college. "One case can rapidly lead to an epidemic."

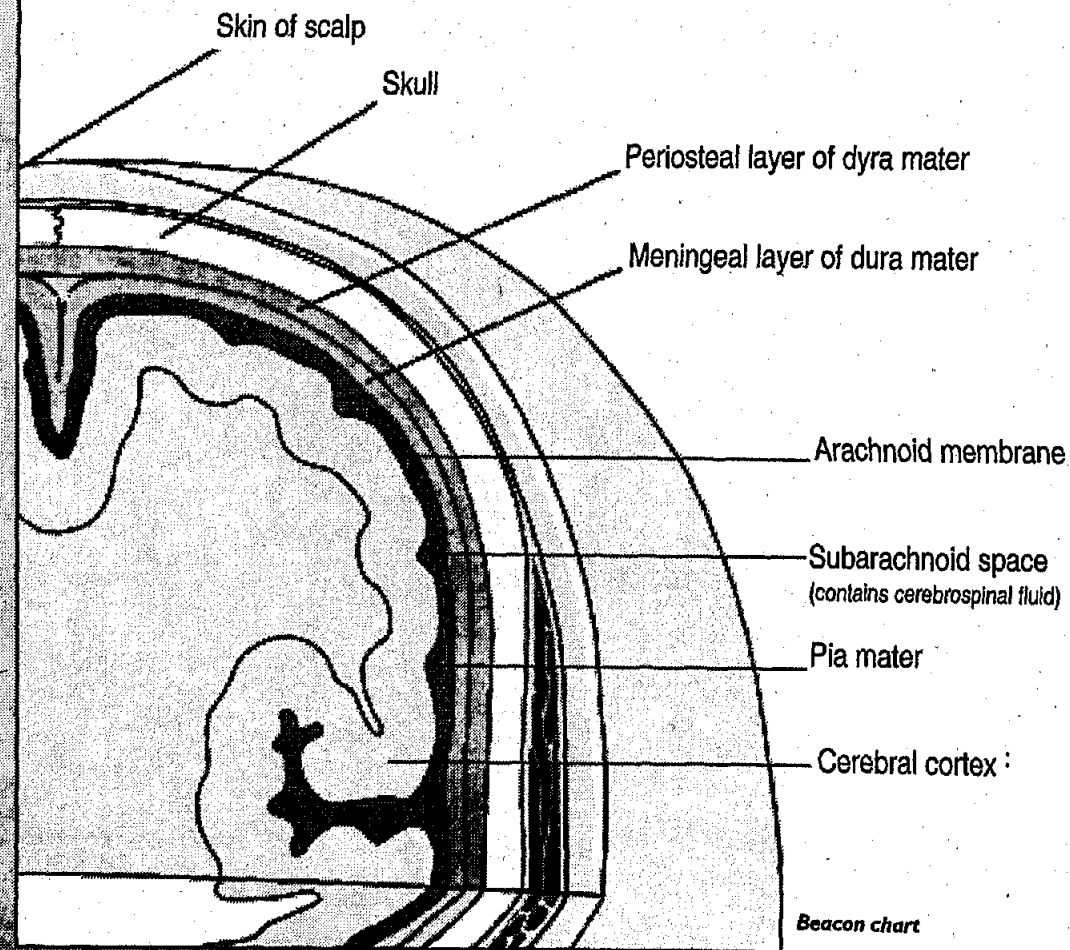
The current meningococcal vaccine has been used for almost 20 years to prevent outbreaks in the U.S. military. It is a one-time vaccination that is 85-95 % effective in preventing meningitis caused by four of the five serogroups of meningococcus (A, C, Y, and W-135), which account for about 70% of meningococcal meningitis cases. Protection from

meningococcal infection lasts 3-5 years. The vaccine has an excellent safety profile, with an extremely low risk of severe allergic reaction, according to the CDC Vaccine Information Statement. Some people may experience redness and swelling at the site of injection that usually lasts 1-2 days, while a small percentage of people may develop a fever.

Both the meningitis and influenza immunizations will be offered to William Paterson Students on Thursday, November 9th. The cost is \$ 75 for the meningitis vaccine and \$ 15 for the influenza vaccine. For more information about the vaccinations, stop by the William Paterson University Health and Wellness Center. For more information about meningitis and meningococcal

Editor's Note: The Beacon welcomes submissions to FIT, our new health, wellness, nutrition and fitness section. Community Health, Exercise Physiology, Nursing and Pre-med students are especially encouraged to contribute to this section. Writing for The Beacon has advantages. Call 720-2568 or stop by SC 310 today to join the staff.

The protective coverings of the brain



Beacon chart

What exactly IS meningitis

Christopher Hess
The Beacon

Meningitis is an infection or inflammation of the membranes, or meninges, which cover the brain and spinal cord. The meninges consist of three layers: the pia mater, the arachnoid, and the dura mater. Between the innermost pia mater and the middle arachnoid membrane lies a space that contains cerebrospinal fluid. The meninges and cerebrospinal fluid provide an essential layer of protection to the nervous tissue of the spinal cord and brain.

Although meningitis can be caused by a virus or chemical exposure, the most common (and most severe) cause of meningitis is bacterial infection with *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, or *Neisseria meningitidis*. According to the CDC, *N. meningitidis* is the leading cause of bacterial meningitis in college-age youths.

The bacterium *N. meningitidis* can be divided into 5 serogroups (A, C, Y, and W-135) that are classified according to characteristics of the outer membrane protein. It is spread from person-to-person through the exchange of respiratory tract secretions, as occurs with kissing, sharing glasses or eating utensils, and coughing and sneezing.

Approximately 5-10 % of all healthy Americans carries *N. meningitidis*, or meningococcus, in their nose and throat. These asymptomatic carriers account for most of the transmission of the bacterium, though infection from a patient with active infection sometimes occurs. Active infection is most dangerous for those in whom the bacterium invades the cerebrospinal fluid, giving rise to meningitis, or the bloodstream, resulting in a disease called meningococcemia. Meningococcemia can result in multiple organ failure and is fatal for 20-60

% of people who develop the disease.

The first symptoms of meningitis can occur within hours of infection, and mimic symptoms of the common flu. They include high fever, headache, nausea and vomiting, and stiffness in the neck. Later symptoms, such as a rash (particularly on the head and ears) are further indicators that infection with the meningococcus bacterium has occurred.

As meningitis progresses untreated, it begins to destroy pathways of cerebrospinal fluid circulation, and damages cranial nerves and the barrier that protects brain cells from harmful substances in the bloodstream.

Pressure inside the skull rises as the brain begins to swell, and blood pressure falls rapidly giving rise to septic shock. The infected individual may experience irritability, drowsiness, confusion, and seizures, and eventually will become comatose. Without treatment, the disease is often fatal.

Diagnosis of meningitis is made by spinal tap, in which a needle is inserted into the spinal canal to obtain a sample of cerebrospinal fluid. The fluid is then tested for the presence of the bacterium. Treatment for meningococcal meningitis is aggressive, and is often begun before spinal puncture if the individual is acutely ill. It consists of multiple intravenous antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs. If treated early, the disease is fatal in only 10-15 % of cases, according to The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. However, those who survive may suffer permanent damage, such as limb amputations, mental retardation, and hearing loss.

Cloning Pigs for Parts

It wasn't what you'd call a normal pregnancy. The mother carried 72 embryos in her womb. Only five survived to term. Even weirder, the newborns weren't related to their birthmother; they were clones of somebody else. Fortunately, the mom and her offspring were all pigs.

SCIENTISTS HAVE ALREADY CLONED mice, sheep and cows, but until now swine had stumped them. Why bother with pigs? Because doctors hope to alleviate the worldwide human-organ shortage with genetically compatible pig parts. By breaking the pig barrier last week, two teams of researchers brought cross-species organ transplants one step closer.

Pig and human organs are similar in size and structure. But pig organs carry sugar molecules that act as red flags, triggering destructive attacks by the human immune system. If cloned pigs could be genetically designed not to carry these flags, then the humanized animals could "donate" hearts, livers and kidneys to people. In studies released last week, teams based in Scotland and Japan used different methods to make genetic modification possible.

Writing in the journal *Nature*, researchers at the Scottish biotech firm PPL Therapeutics (co-creators of Dolly the sheep) said they had cloned five piglets using a two-step process. As in past experiments, they fused an adult cell, complete with its DNA, with a waiting egg cell whose own DNA had been removed. Then they transferred that genetic material into another empty egg—

this one fertilized and ready to develop. In the other study, reported in the journal *Science*, Japanese and American researchers used a technique called microinjection. Like the PPL team, they transferred cellular DNA into a hollowed-out egg, but instead of fusing two cells, they used a tiny device to remove the genetic material from one and inject it into the other.

It's too early to say which method will prove most useful in the long run, and pig-organ transplants won't happen overnight. Scientists still have to learn how to breed pigs whose organs can survive in the human body. And doctors must contend with another threat. All pigs carry strands of genetic material with viruslike qualities. In a third study reported last week in *Nature*, scientists confirmed that these "porcine endogenous retroviruses" (PERVs) can infect human cells in a test tube. Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., also transferred pig cells into mice whose own immune systems had been knocked out. After two months the PERVs had spread to mouse organs. The mice didn't get sick, but researchers are wary, because humans can fall victim to animal viruses that mutate when placed in new hosts. Daniel Salomon of Scripps says his data doesn't necessarily spell doom for pig-organ transplants, but his results injected a note of caution into a week otherwise filled with oinking bundles of joy.

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE



melanoma/skin cancer detection & prevention

Skin Self-Examinations: The Exam That Could Save Your Life

Of all the things your skin does for you each day — protecting your vital organs, muscles and skeleton, and controlling your body temperature and fluids — one of the skin's most important functions is its ability to shield you against the sun.

You can help your skin perform this function by wearing a broad spectrum sunscreen, staying out of the sun during peak hours and following the other sun safety guidelines set out by the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). The AAD also encourages everyone to perform a monthly skin self-examination.

This year, an estimated 1.3 million new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed in the United States. You can give yourself the best possible chance for survival if you perform a skin self-examination. A skin self-exam isn't like any other exam you've ever taken. You don't have to study and there aren't any notes to memorize. You already know the material. You spend each day with your skin, so you're the best person to notice any changes or suspicious marks on your skin that could be a sign of skin cancer.

By examining your skin, especially your scalp, the soles of your feet, between your toes, and the palms of your hands, and using a hand-held mirror for those hard-to-see areas, you can spot potential trouble at the best possible time — early. Here's what to look for:

- A mole that has changed size, color, shape or texture.
- New moles.
- Changes in your skin, especially skin discoloration.

If you spot any of these changes, see your dermatologist immediately.

"Six out of seven skin cancer deaths are from melanoma," warns Richard Scher, M.D., President of the American Academy of Dermatology. "Skin

self-examinations can be the difference between life and death, since melanoma can usually be treated successfully if detected in the early stages."

It is estimated that approximately 47,700 people in the United States will be diagnosed with melanoma this year, an 8 percent increase from 1999. The overall incidence of melanoma is rising at an alarming rate. In 2000, at current rates, one in 74 Americans have a lifetime risk of developing melanoma; a 2000 percent increase from 1930.

Melanoma can strike anyone, but incidents in Caucasians are far more prevalent than those of other races. However, even among Caucasians, certain individuals are at higher risk than others. For example:

- Your chances increase by nine times if you've already had one malignant melanoma.
- You have a substantially increased risk of developing melanoma if you have many moles, large moles or atypical (unusual) moles.
- Your risk is increased if your parents, children or siblings have had melanoma.
- If you are a Caucasian with fair skin, your risk is twice as great as a

Caucasian with olive skin.

• Redheads and blondes have a twofold to fourfold increased risk of developing melanoma.

• Excessive sun exposure in the first 10 to 15 years of life increases your chances of developing melanoma threefold.

In addition to practicing frequent skin self-examinations, the American Academy of Dermatology recommends that everyone follow these sun safety precautions year-round:

- Avoid "peak" sunlight hours — between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. — when the sun's rays are the strongest.
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15, apply 15 to 30 minutes before going outdoors, and reapply every two hours, especially when playing sports, swimming, gardening or doing any other outdoor activities. Cloudy days are no exception. Sunscreens should not be used to increase the time spent in intense sunlight.

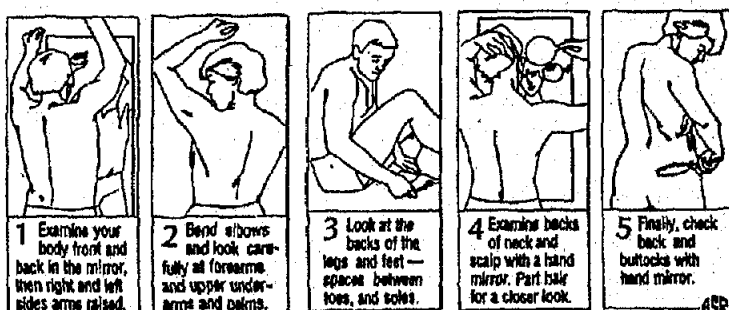
• Wear protective, tightly woven clothing, such as a long-sleeved shirt and pants during prolonged periods of sun exposure. And don't forget to wear a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses when outdoors.

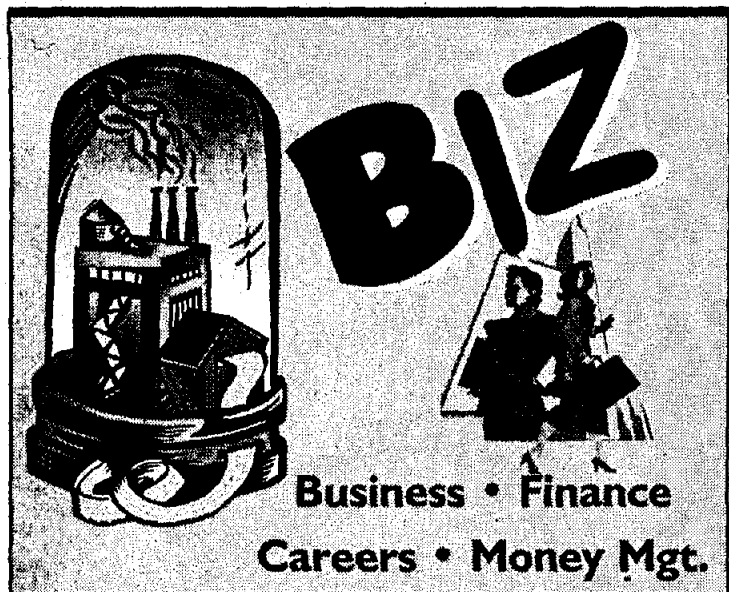
• Avoid reflective surfaces, which can reflect up to 85 percent of the sun's damaging rays.

• No shadow...seek the shade! If your shadow is shorter than you are, the damaging rays of the sun are at their strongest and you're likely to sunburn.

For more information, contact the AAD at (888) 462-DERM or www.aad.org.

Self-Examination for Melanoma





Workers to Ford: Don't Tread on Us

Sarah Downey

**Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE**

In Decatur, Ill., they still call it the War of '94. That's when the United Rubber Workers began a two-year strike against Bridgestone/Firestone, the local tire plant. Labor actions

are always contentious, but in Decatur, time hasn't healed wounds.

TODAY LOCAL 713'S UNION hall still features a wall of shame, lined with names of workers who crossed picket lines. "Firestone's sole purpose was to bust the union," says union vice president Randy Gordon. "But we made life miserable for the company."

No question: Firestone is mis-

erable. It's recalling 6.5 million tires that federal safety regulators suspect may have caused 62 deaths, and last week several members of Congress called for hearings on the matter. As the controversy heats up and workers threaten renewed strikes, investigators are focusing on the Decatur plant.

According to data released last week by Ford Motor Co., whose Explorer sport utilities wear most of the recalled tires, most were manufactured in Decatur, which Firestone admits. Firestone denies its tires are defective, and Ford insists its Explorers are safe. But as unhappy consumers steam, Ford is trying to make it clear: this problem was not invented here.

In Decatur, many workers feel like perps in a police lineup. Several lawyers representing plaintiffs in accidents say they'll present testimony from former Firestone workers describing quality problems at the plant even before the strike. Other lawsuits allege that workers intentionally let damaged tires leave the factory. Blame has been heaped on replacement workers. Outside

the plant, workers say a move to quotas and performance pay (which the union opposed) has upped pressure to keep lines moving. But they deny their plant caused the problem. Plant workers, they say, are told to discard subpar tires. "Managers preach quality and safety," says replacement worker Roy Buckner.

Inside the union hall, most fingers point back to Ford. Union members speculate that the Explorer could have a design flaw. They also blame Ford for telling customers to put less air in tires (for a softer ride) than Firestone recommends. "What they're using is a dangerous inflation pressure," says union member Larry Werve. (Ford has increased its recommended tire pressure, but says low pressure didn't cause the accidents.)

The union expects to be vindicated when the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration releases its own findings, though that could take months. Until then, questions about the source of this blowout will linger.

Attention BUSINESS MAJORS

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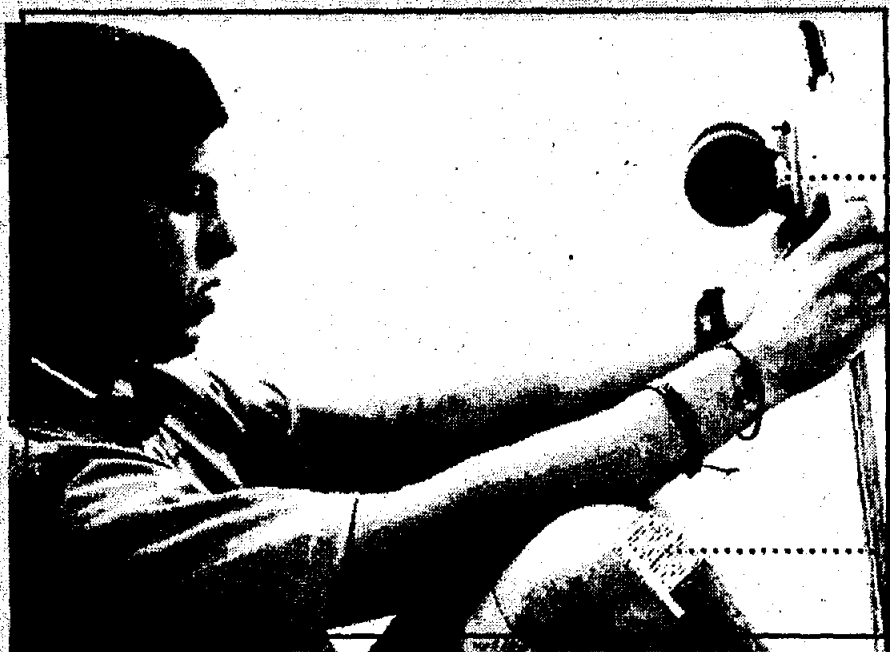
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Food • Drink • Dining



The Beacon Mixed drink of THE WEEK **Killer Kool-Aid**

1/4 oz. vodka
1/8 oz. peach schnapps
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1/2 oz cranberry juice

Layer into shot glass. Pour heaviest liquids first, and do it slowly. The best trick is to pour them over the back of a tea spoon. If you screw it up, the drink won't be right.

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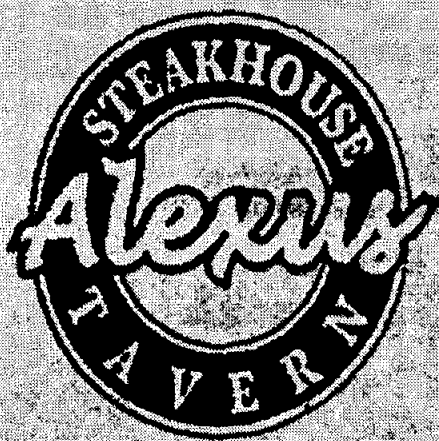
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Like a flower I am growing and struggling, changing and searching for myself. Nobody knows that I am a timid daisy and an audacious sunflower, a shy violet and an outspoken rose all at once. Nobody knows that I am a little girl inside looking for comfort, that I tiptoe downstairs at night to look at the moon, that I listen to the trees talking and I talk back. Nobody knows what is best for me, only what they would like for me. Nobody knows what I think or feel or dream. Nobody knows but me.

Jaclyn Gergowitz

Out of work at 11:00. Back home by 11:15. Eat leftovers minutes. Shower. Explore my . . . Make-up. Outfit. Hair. Out the door 11:45 PM. My nightly routine summertime as a fairly new 21 year-old yet to become tiresome. Twenty-one yes, more or less, become my passport to another dimension... a place completely separate from the habitual movie outliner's bland coffee, and the occasional party of some high school crony haven't seen in three years. You see, the sion of twenty-one years completely end me this summer. I was lured in by the charm of the South Jersey night life expansive hippodrome laden with the rumble of live music, the sultry scorching perspiration, and the ceaseless wif of what each night would bring.

Atlantic City rock casbah, Margate was home to the "Svaroline" collegiate crowd, Somers Point always humming to the rhythm of the boys, live Reggae bands invaded Sea Isle, Avalon had it's very own Calypso Wildwood pulsed with eternal drum and bad Cape May was the shorebirds' bungalow. Twenty-one years, however, has introduced to more than just the dual personalities of South Jersey's cape islands. Everything about the nightlife, I to realize, was entirely devoted to a group.

From the drink specials to the dress codes, each nightspot uniquely catered to it's youthful patrons. Whether it was dollar drafts or \$3.00 rum-runners, flip-flops or loafers, Louis Armstrong or Britney Spears... there was always something for everyone's tastes. And it was all of these charming "somethings" that created the memories I'd wake up with the next morning- be it the adorable British Soccer team that bought drinks all night, or the late-night ocean swimming ventures on 12th St., or the honest yet gossip heart-to-hearts with girlfriends, or the embarrassing dance partners (hindsight!), and of course the occasional phone number that would curiously appear a week later when I finally found time to clean. Some nights were chock full of surprises (Irish Car Bombs, Red Deaths, Prairie Fires), new faces and new names (Yukon Jack, White Russians, Jack and Ginger). Other nights were brimful with familiar peers (Bud, Mickey, Miller) and brought with them the kick-back comfort of "remember when's".

Ultimately, though, the best nights (the unforgettable ones) this summer were always the spur-of-the-moment ones- the times when friends dragged one another out, when everyone was broke, when the dancefloor was cramped, and when work beckoned early the next morning. ...the next morning... Brittany Williams

Waves were crashing on the same line, you know w/ the wet sand meets the dry. The noise was a pleasant relaxing sound and wind was very peaceful. The sun was a beautiful orange and pink hue which seemed as if it was being swallowed by the seafoamer.

As I sat there watching such a gorgeous sight, a ray of the last sun and the roughness of each wave crashing and was back into the earth. The time went by quickly and the sun was soon gone. Although I will see it again tomorrow it doesn't seem like it will ever be there. The passion I had felt has now disappeared and it tears at the core. This feeling will eventually fade but for now it will not away.

Jaclyn Gergowitz

Email poems,
short stories,
etc for publica-
tion in LIT.
beacon@stu-
dent.wpunj.edu
This section
will grow!

The Way He Writes

by Erik Ortiz

Every one hangs on to his words.

As if they were poles in a subway car,
or handlebars on a motorcycle.

The last time he got on stage to say something
people watched with so much intensity and concern
it was overwhelming.

His consciousness became ours.

Every sour word left in his mouth, we tasted.
And every dream of his crushed, stung us too.

Women were swayed by his honesty,
and their faces became flushed
as he caressed them with the word "love"
like a feather on their bodies.

Maybe it was the dim lights, and the smoke,
and the alcohol,
or maybe it's just the way he writes and the
way he expresses himself.

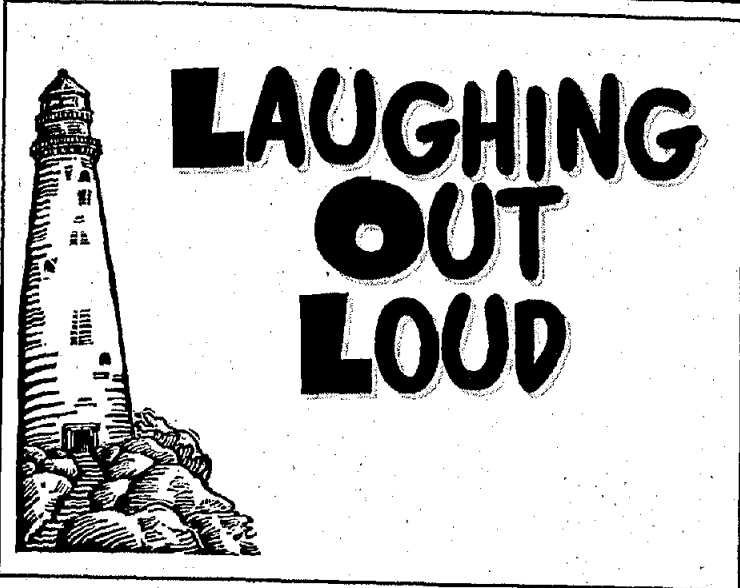
We all wish we could write like him.

Just like last time,
he walks onto stage with his scribbling in one hand
and the mic in the other.

Everyone anticipating what he is willing to share with us ton.
We all sit breathless as he begins to speak...

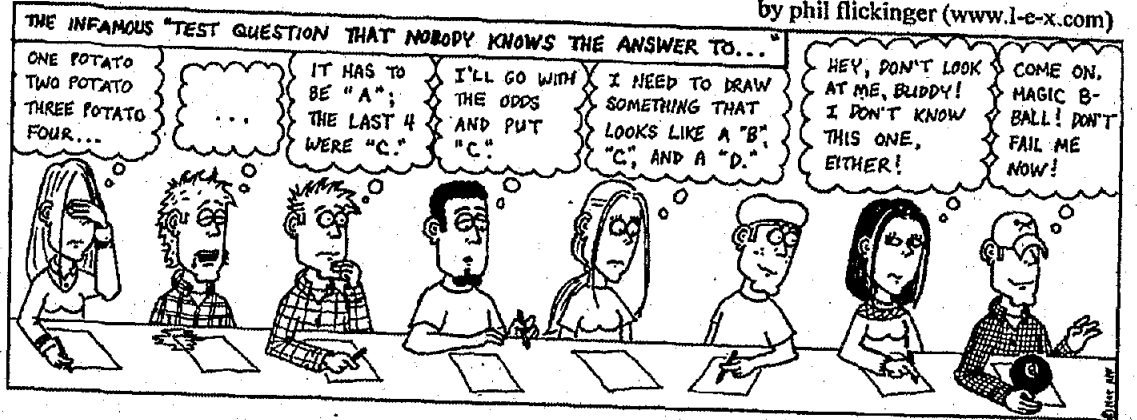
Nobody really know who I am
a nerd, princess or even a god
wether I act as a snob
or as a loving girl
people still call me imperfect
How I try to be thin
how I dye my hair blonde
give me some blue contacts to go to the
prom
They don't understand how hard it is
to keep up with all these trends
but now I think it has come to an end
I look down and think "should I jump"
then awaken and realize this is just
dumb

Jaclyn Gergowitz



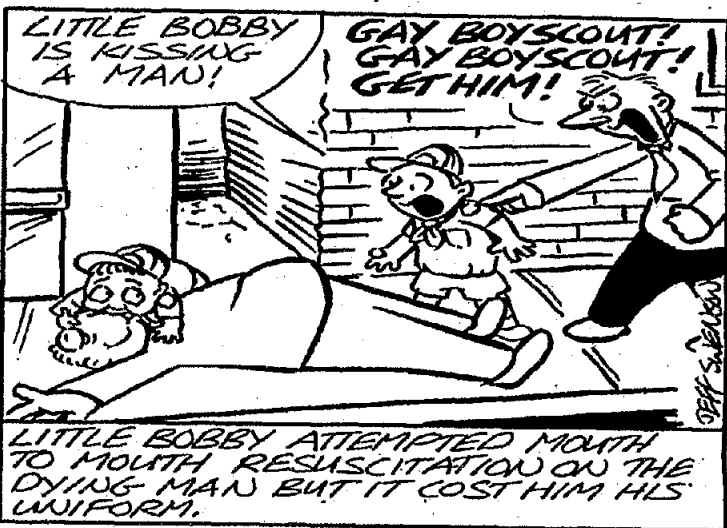
LEX

by phil flickinger (www.l-e-x.com)

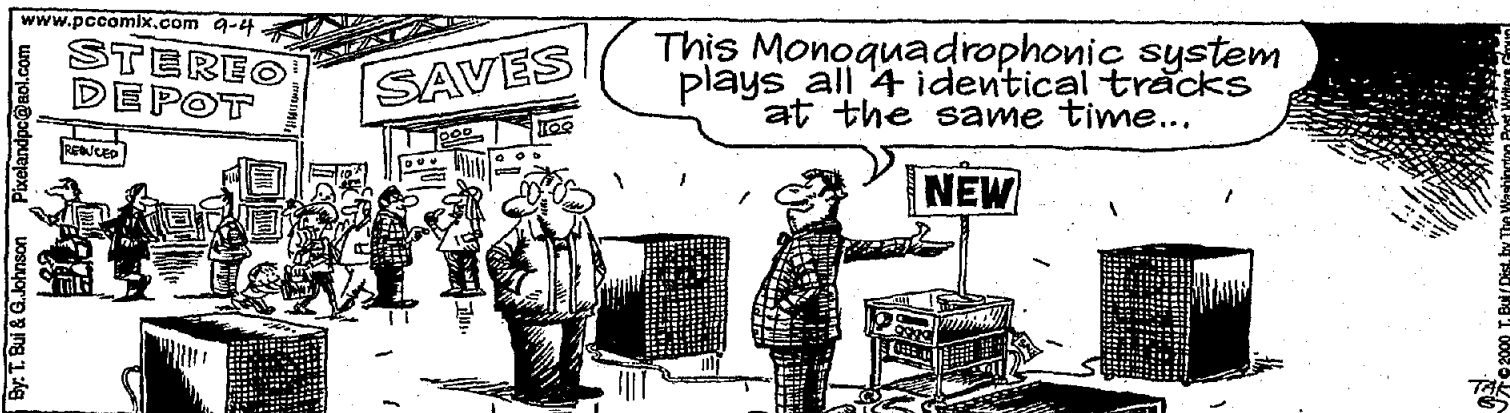


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Checks or
money orders
payable to
The Beacon

Child Care Services



Afterschool babysitter

Energetic babysitter wanted for weekday afternoons in Upper Montclair to assist 5th grader with homework, arrange playdates and drive to afterschool activities. Must have own car. Call 973-275-2391 before 5 pm or 973-744-7698 after 7:30 p.m.

Nanny

Care for my 7 y/o son in my Wayne home (minutes from WP). Responsible, mature person needed ASAP. Must have own car. Local driving, some errands, light house-keeping. Summer hours: Mon-Fri. 4:30 p.m.-8:30. Fall hours 6:00 p.m.-8:30. 4 days/5th day varies. Call Margo, 973-942-7667

Childcare

Seeking special ed/speech major to care for our son with autism and daughter in our Wayne home. After school hours and opportunity to visit his school program. Contact Lisa at 973-835-3039

Mother's Helper

Looking for someone a few afternoons 3-5 p.m. and Saturdays to help with developmentally delayed child. Andrew is 6 y/o and has no speech. He is able to walk and has minimal self help skills. Looking for someone with special ed or speech background. Good learning experience, good pay, flexible hours, and a happy kid. Contact Jeanne, 616-0275. References a plus.

Local Nursery school

11:30-12:30. Mon, Tues, Wed., Thu. Friday. Sit with children while they eat. No food preparation. \$15

per day. Contact Melissa, 238-0895.

Babysitter

Flexible hours. Earn while you learn. \$10 per hour. Wayne location near WPU. No car? We can pick you up and bring you home. 633-7734.

Shadow/Aide

Duties: Assist 2.5 y/o with mild Pervasive Developmental Disorder at his regular preschool. You will help the child stay "on task," and help redirect him as needed. You will also encourage child to participate in group activities and to interact with others in the classroom.

Majors and qualifications: Prefer special ed, early childhood education, or a graduate familiar with Pervasive Developmental Disorder, but am willing to train the right individual. Position could be used as an internship or independent study.

Days/Hours:

Start in August/September. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00-11:45 a.m. (additional hours possible, if desired)

Salary: Dependent on experience
Contact: Dorothy, 201-569-4964

P/T childcare-Wayne

Two, six-weekend days per month (approx 10-6). Two older children, some very light housekeeping required. Must be mature, responsible, have clean driving record and provide references. Great pay. 973-835-1679

P/T babysitter

3:30 p.m.-8:30 M-F. Two children 12 & 9. Must be non-smoker, own car, be english speaking. Two references. Call Judy at 427-7353. Leave message.

Babysitter

After school babysitter needed 3 days/week 3-6 p.m. for 2 adorable

boys. \$10/hour. 973-227-3699.

Learning Express

is looking for reliable, mature pt sales associates, pt stockboy, and seasonal help. Flexible hours and minutes from campus 904-9113

CHILDCARE/ P/T Flex.

hours (8-10 per wk). Stay-at-home expecting Mom needs day-time help in Wayne home to care for 2 1/2 and 17 mo. yr. olds. Great working envir. & salary. Educ. majors preferred. (973) 696-5659

Employment



P/T Office Asst

Close to campus, phones, clerical, friendly company. 201-612-9055

Telemarket, days/eves local, friendly, light computer 201-612-9055 or 973-616-8367

Restaurant Help.

Now hiring servers, bartenders, hosts, food runners and bus boys for busy steakhouse. Exp. pref. but will train. Eve. hours, weekends a must. Apply after 4 p.m.. Alexis Steakhouse. 80 Wagaraw Rd, Hawthorne. 973-427-9200

Earn Cash

Bennigans on Rt. 46 E by Target is now hiring hosts, servers and bartenders. Come work in a fun environment that offers flexible schedules for students. Apply in person 7 days 2-4 p.m.

Appointment Setters- NO selling

Busy call center needs qualified people to call doctors' offices to set up appointments for dinner meetings. Must have basic computer skills. P/T positions M-F flex hours

9 a.m.-2 p.m. / 2 p.m.-7 p.m. \$8.75 per hour guaranteed. Come for interview at Apex Communications., Inc. 1-800-996-APEX

P/T Help-Wayne

Unfinished furniture store. Two positions available: 1-Sales (friendly and non-competitive) 2-Assembly, repairs, delivery, stock. Both positions for weekend days and flexible weekdays. Must be mature and responsible. 973-872-8006.

P/T Assistants & Substitutes

New Beginnings Preschool/Kindergarten handicapped program. Fairfield, NJ. Immediate Openings. Competitive Salary. Contact Lisa at 973-808-9607 or fax resume to 973-227-8626.

Make Your Own Hours..

Sell Spring Break 2001 trips. Highest commissions, lowest prices. No cost to you. Travel free including food, drink and non-stop parties!!! World Class Vacations. 2000 Student Travel Planners "Top Producer" and MTV's Choice (Spring break Cancun Party Program). 1-800-222-4432

Pizzeria positions

P/T waitresses, service, drivers, counter people. Call Bob 942-9500 or stop by Big Jim's Pizzeria, Haledon Ave., Equal Opportunity Employer.

Business Manager

The Beacon is hiring a responsible student to oversee the administrative and financial functions of the newspaper. Duties include working with ad agencies, securing new accounts, managing large budget, processing purchase orders, updating accounts, collections, etc. Business, accounting or finance

major preferred, but not mandatory. Applicant must know Microsoft Word and Excel and preferably a mainstream accounting program. Individual will receive initial stipend to reorganize files, computerize records and set-up new record keeping system. Call Ryan at 720-3264. Email resume to beacon@student.wpunj.edu or fax to 720-2093.

Ad Director

Seeking a responsible person to oversee the advertising operations at the Beacon. All that is required is excellent communication skills, motivation to make money for the paper and yourself, and a kick ass attitude. Call Ryan at 720-3264. Email resume to beacon@student.wpunj.edu or fax to 720-2093.

Flexible Hours

Local co has 19+ immediate openings. Good weekly pay. Scholarships available for all majors. Fun Environment. Call today 10-5. Paramus 201-291-9090, Parsippany 973-541-0122

Rec Counselors/ Program Supervisors

for YWCA Before and After School Programs. PT/FT, flex hours, 7:30-8:30 a.m. & 2-7 p.m., Sept.-June. Ideal for college student. Equal Opportunity Employer. 201-444-5600 x323 or x365

Car for sale

Great campus car. 1992 Geo Metro Convert. Red; new roof (1998); 106K; exc. gas mileage. Sold as is. \$2,000 or B/O. Call (973) 790-5106 after 6 p.m.

Models

Women 18 and older for outdoor test shoot. Tasteful Nudity. Will exchange pictures for modeling. No experience necessary. Call 973-365-4054

The biggest threat to depression is your awareness of it.

Serious depression strikes millions. Serious depression strikes indiscriminately. Serious depression is MOST dangerous when it goes unrecognized. That's why it's so important to always be aware of the threat of depression. And if your life is ever interrupted by a period of depression, remember that it is readily, medically treatable.

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Public Service message from SAVE (Suicide Awareness, Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>



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Sell advertising in The Beacon.
Call today, 720-2571, or stop by
Student Center 310. Earn great
commission and experience.

All majors.

CAPPUCCIO AND ROSE: Gone But Not Forgotten

By Brian LoPinto

Trenton — The distance between Yogi Berra Stadium and the state's capital is a little over 70 miles. But for four New Jersey Jackals fans it was a mere stone's throw to visit two of their favorite former players — Carmine Cappuccino and Pete Rose Jr.

Little Falls' Debbie Brown and her 17-year-old daughter, Laura, made the pilgrimage from Jackal country along with Debbie's sister, Barbara Rudy, and family friend Barbara Germann, both from Montclair. They piled into their car, and headed down Route 1 to see the Trenton Thunder take on the ex-Jackals' new team, the Reading Phillies.

"They are the only reason we came down," said Laura Brown regarding the trip to see Carmine and P.J. "I think it's great that they're moving up. The further they get the better. We can say we knew them 'way back when."

"Every year I try to adopt a Jackal," said Debbie Brown, a season ticket holder since the team's inception. "Carmine was my choice for last year. One night it was '60's night' and I was dressed in my tie-dies and beads and it also happened to be 'Carmine Cappuccino Autograph Night.' Foolishly, I went over to where he was sitting and I said, 'I look like a nut but you're my favorite player this year.' He looked at me and said, 'Boy I really appreciate that.'"

Both Cappuccino and Rose fared quite well during their stint in the Northern League; Cappuccino hit .349 with 17 HR and was second in the league with 75 RBIs. He also had a 43 game hit streak and was the recipient of Northern League Player of the Year honors. The month of August helped solidify the accolade; during that stretch he hit .398, 5 HR and 38 RBIs and was player of the month.

Rose, too put up consistent numbers for New Jersey last season. During the Jackals

1999 campaign Rose hit .300, 15 HR, 53 RBIs. In 1998 he joined the club in the latter part of the season and was an influential toward their drive to the Northeast League Championship, before the merger.

This season, the former Jackals are an integral part of the 2000 Reading Phillies of the AA- Eastern League. Reading has clinched the Eastern League's Southern Division title, earning the squad a chance at the Eastern League Championship.

"He's a great leader in the clubhouse," said Reading Phillies manager Gary Varsho of Rose, Jr. "He provides some information for our young players to make sure they can compete at this level. If they have questions Pete is always willing to help."

Help is what the 2000 Jackals could have used. New Jersey has been decomposing in the Southern Division's cellar the entire campaign. The Jackals ended the season with a dismal 30-51, the franchise's worst showing in their short history.

"We need a clutch hitter," said Rudy as she waved a sign proclaiming her appreciation for Cappuccino and Rose Jr. "Carmine could always be counted to get a hit...and Pete was great at hitting the ball when he needed it and they were both really good outfielders," she added.

On a beautiful Friday evening that was meant for baseball, Rudy and company witnessed Rose Jr. go 0 for 4 and Cappuccino didn't even see an 'at bat.'

"They have great fans in Montclair," said Rose Jr. "That was one of the reasons that I went back there. They pack them in every night and they stick behind their team. They're good baseball fans," he continued. "It was nice to see them (Jackal fans). I wish I could have got some hits for them."

"It was a nice reminder of last year," said Cappuccino. "It was a nice little surprise." Hopefully for the Jackals, next season will not be a reminder of this season.

The People's Game: Will Fans Smell What McMahon Is Cooking?

By Brian LoPinto

NEW YORK—Imagine. Cameras and microphones are monitoring your every move. No, it is not "Survivor," "Big Brother," or any other copy cat 'reality based program.' This is the mantra for the XFL, a tweaked version of gridiron action brought to you by your friends at the World Wrestling Federation.

"The 'X' in the XFL stands for 'X'-citement, it stands for 'X'-treme, it stands for lots of things," said President of XFL League Operations, Basil DeVito. "Television viewers will be given unprecedented access with cameras positioned in locker rooms, on sidelines and in the helmets of selected players. XFL players, coaches, locker rooms and huddles will also be miked, providing view-

ers with unique insight into the strategy of the game."

The XFL, slated to kickoff February 2001, is the brainchild of wrestling mogul Vince McMahon. A man who has molded characters such as "The Rock," "Stone Cold" Steve Austin, and Chris Jericho into household names. A man who turned programs with titles of "WWF Smackdown!," "Sunday Night Heat," and "Raw Is War" into must-see TV.

In a 17-week face off with ABC's "Monday Night Football," WWF telecasts on USA Network earned an 8.5 national rating among 12-24-year-old males vs. the 5.8 score chalked up by MNF charting the same demographic. Although the numbers are impressive, many skeptics feel that with wrestling's rough yet choreographed reputation, McMahon football might remain in the secondary.

According to league officials, football's image will not be compromised but enhanced. In addition to players receiving their contractual salaries, every game throughout the campaign will have a victory bonus. Spoils to the victor.

The upstart league will field eight teams, four in each division, in its inaugural season. Fans in the eight markets will root for: the Las Vegas Outlaws, Memphis Maniax, San Jose Demons, and after a seven year drought, football returns to Los Angeles with the LA Extreme. The east will cheer for the Birmingham Thunderbolts, Chicago Enforcers, Orlando Rage, and playing in the presence of Jimmy Hoffa, the NY/NJ Hitmen.

Spring football leagues such as the United

States Football League (USFL) and the World League of American Football (WLAF) made attempts to capture the attention of football fans in the NFL's off-season, but to the dismay of league organizers, their attempts were thwarted. Even the Canadian Football League (CFL) crossed the boarder to introduce Canada's brand of pigskin to the states; the effort gained little to no success.

So what makes the XFL different than their dearly departed spring football counter-

parts? In one word: Money.

From wrestling to theme restaurants to big time pay-per-view events, practically everything McMahon touches turns to gold. Not only does he possess a savvy business sense, he has committed backers. The XFL will be a joint venture with NBC Sports, something that no other spring football league could have ever fathomed.

Another question is the level of quality competition.

"What we're offering is to give players an opportunity," said Drew Pearson, Vice President and General Manager of the New York/New Jersey Hitmen. "There's a lot of players in the NFL that are NFL caliber players but sit the bench and don't get game experience," the former Dallas Cowboy con-

tinued. "They can play an NFL season and virtually have an opportunity to play with us once their NFL season is over. Our pool of players will come from everywhere."

The XFL is not intended to compete with the NFL, it is merely an alternative to what some critics have dubbed the "No Fun League." First and foremost, "over-exuberant celebration" will never be uttered within the parameters of the XFL's 100 yards.

The league will do away with the fair-catch rule, only one foot is required to be in bounds on pass attempts, a 35-second play clock will be used, and halftime will be decreased to 10 minutes. As for the quarterback, rules protecting the signal caller will be lax.

Some may criticize the decision to eliminate the fair-catch rule and the laissez-faire attitude toward protecting the league's crop of arms. Others will welcome this brand of, dare I say: "no holds barred football."

"You say 'no fair catch?,' but were holding up the outside guys giving the return man a chance to return the football," said Pearson. "We're just trying to add excitement to an otherwise boring play."

"Hey, quarterbacks need to be part of the game. All that does is force them to get in shape just like everybody else," Pearson said. "I bet there's more injuries created with quarterbacks — trying to protect them and trying to shelter them from other aspects of the game — then there is when you just let them go and be football players."

Whether you're a football purist or a high-strung Gen-X fanatic, the XFL will tap into the curiosity of gridiron soles; the question is: Will it be enough to fly?

For more information regarding the XFL, log on to www.xfl.com