



Vol. 67
No. 16

The
Beacon
WEEKLY

MONDAY, JAN. 29, 2001

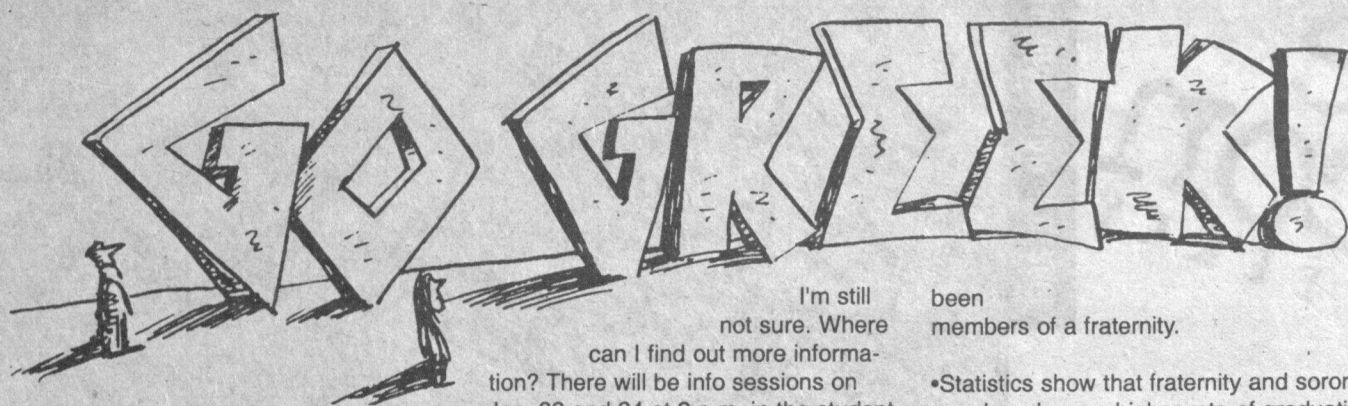
FREE

BEHIND THE BADGE

*The first day of training for
police recruits in
Camden County*

P. 10





Frequently asked Q's about Sorority Rush

What is "Rush"? Sorority Rush is the process of getting to know the different sororities and deciding which organization suits you best. Rush is not a commitment; it is simply gathering the information you will need to make an informed decision on pledging.

Who can Rush? Any woman from William Paterson University can go to sorority rush. However, only women with 12 or more credits and a GPA of 2.0 or higher can pledge. If you do not currently meet these requirements, you can still find out what it's all about now for the future.

Where can I sign up for Rush? Rho Chi representatives will be stationed at tables in the student center, outside the cafeteria between Jan. 22-25 from 11-3 & Jan. 29-Feb. 1 from 11-3

What is a "Rho Chi"? A Rho Chi (PX) is a sorority woman who disassociates herself from her organization during the time of Rush to better and impartially help those women interested in rushing.

I'm still not sure. Where can I find out more information? There will be info sessions on Jan. 22 and 24 at 9 p.m. in the student center. You can call 720-2534 and leave a message or Don Phelps x2273. Someone will get back to you with specific answers to your questions. Additionally, on Jan. 30, at 12:30 in the Student Center Ballroom, there will be an around the world session where there will be music, favors, and a chance to meet each sorority.

When is Rush?
Rush is Feb. 5-9 When you sign up, times, locations, and the actual process will be given to you.

WHY GO GREEK?

•Of north Americas 50 largest corporations, 43 are headed by fraternity men and sorority women.

•85% of fortune 500 executives belong to a fraternity or sorority.

•40 of 47 Supreme Court Justices since 1910 were fraternity men.

•76% of all Congressmen and Senators belong to a Fraternity or Sorority.

•EVERY US President and Vice-President, except two in each of fice, born since the first social fraternity was founded, have

been members of a fraternity.

•Statistics show that fraternity and sorority members have a higher rate of graduation from college than do their non-member counterparts.

•Future job opportunities and networking possibilities.

•More opportunities for community service.

•More involvement in school and social activities.

•Lifelong friendship and sisterhood.

With all of these reasons to go greek why wouldn't you?

It's a proven fact that the Greek Community provides a fun environment, where leadership and social skills are fostered and developed. Fraternities and sororities produce graduates who are assets to the society in which we all live and belong. Going greek—a recipe for success! —Greek 101 magazine

For more information call Don Phelps at campus activities, 720-2273

Top 10 excuses NOT to Rush

Excuse not to rush #1:

"I DON'T NEED TO BUY MY FRIENDS!"

Feb. 5-9 Rush Week

Neither do we! We just buy the some shirts! The bond we have can NOT be bought!

Excuse #2: "BUT I'VE HEARD..." Do you always believe everything you hear? Find out the real deal for YOURSELF!

Excuse #3: "AT MY OLD SCHOOL, GREEKS WERE..." Does this look like your old school?

Excuse #4: "I HAVE ENOUGH FRIENDS" Great. Now come get some sisters!

Excuse #5: "MY FRIENDS DON'T THINK I SHOULD." If they were your REAL friends, they'd support you. Don't be judged, go greek.

Excuse #6: "I'M NOT THE TYPICAL SORORITY GIRL." Every girl is the sorority type!

Excuse #7: "I DON'T WANT TO GO TO RUSH ALONE." Come alone and be alone for the LAST time!

Excuse #8: "I CAN'T. I HAVE TO GET GOOD GRADES." So do we. Put something extra on your résumé. (Also, writing for The Beacon can be a great résumé bilder).

Excuse #9: "I DON'T KNOW ANYONE IN ANY SORORITIES." That's the point. Come get to know us and be a part.

Excuse #... THERE IS NO EXCUSE... RUSH!

Willy P's Calendar of Events

Monday 1-29

New Music Festival
Shea 7pm 720-2371

Catholic Campus Ministry
11:30am Bible Study
CH Mass, Catholic Chats
@1PM, Visits to Preakness
Nursing Home @ 6:30PM
720-3524

Tuesday 1-30

Multi-Cultural Awareness
Week Meeting

CH-1:30PM SC Rm. 326

"Calling all Singles"

FOR GAME SHOW "SINGLED
OUT" SIGN UP 1/30 OR 2/1A
CH 52 GIRLS & 52 BOYS CAN
PLAY CALL STACY 720-5333

Java & Jazz

CH SC Cafe 720-2271

SGA

Leg. Mtg. 3:30PM SC Rm.
326 720-2157

Wednesday 1-31

United Cultural Greek Council
"Meet The Greeks"
SC BR @8PM

Open House: Women's CTR.
First Open House of the Year
3-5PM SC Rm.214
Everyone Welcome!

Thursday 2-1

Midday Artist Series:
Band Day -

CH Shea \$ 720-2371

Spotlight Series

SC Cafe CA 720-2271

Opening Ceremony

African Heritage Month

4PM BR

Friday 2-2

DLS: Lou Dobbs

8 PM Shea 720-2934

CCM

Visits to Eva's Soup Kitchen

@ 10AM

720-3524

BR = Student Ctr Ballroom
CH = Common Hour
SC= Student Center

Saturday 2-3

Trip to: The Blacks

In Wax Museum

Baltimore, MD

720-3244

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

Submissions for calendar
due fridays by 5 P.M. for fol-
lowing Monday's publication.
Fax: 720-2093

Email:
beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Sunday 2-4

Jazz Rm. Series:

Javan Jackson All-Stars

4PM Shea \$ 720-2371

The Mothers Club of
Packanack Lake is Holding
Their Annual Huge Garage
Sale AT the Packanack Lake
Clubhouse, 52 lake DR.

West, in Wayne on FRi &
Sat 2/16 & 2/17 10-4PM

Cover photo by
Alli Chavanon,
The Beacon

The Beacon

NEWSPAPER

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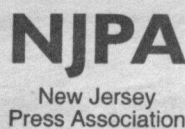
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Can Bush Undo a Pardon?

Bill Clinton had done it one last time: left the GOP hopping mad. When the exiting president issued his eleventh-hour pardon of Marc Rich, the fugitive financier living in Switzerland, Republicans immediately went on the attack, accusing Clinton of abusing power and once again diminishing the dignity of the Oval Office. Even more frustrating: there was nothing they could do about it. The pardon was a done deal the moment Clinton signed it.

Or so it appeared. Just days after the pardon was announced, Newsweek has learned, a handful of Bush Justice Department lawyers began searching for a way to block it. Young and zealous, they hit the law books, convinced they could find something that would give their new boss the power to undo the damage. They found what they were looking for in a series of obscure, 19th-century court cases. According to the Bush lawyers' interpretation, a pardon is much like a warrant—it must be served on the person or his lawyer to be valid. Some of Clinton's pardons, though signed by the president, hadn't been processed at the Justice Department and awaited delivery. Rich's was among them.

The discovery touched off a weekend debate among Justice lawyers. Could—or should—Bush order the department not to deliver Rich's pardon to his lawyer, thereby invalidating it? It was more than just an academic debate. What would the political fallout be if the new president simply brushed aside the judgment of his predecessor? Some argued Bush shouldn't even try, since it would inevitably touch off a media and legal hailstorm that would distract the president

from his agenda. Then again, the move might enjoy bipartisan support—and could endear Bush to prosecutors. By Saturday night, sources told Newsweek, the lawyers were still hunkered down, arguing the pros and cons.

It was the latest twist in a week during which the Clinton hangover competed hard for attention with Bush's first days. The former president may have retired to New York,

Department asking for documents on the case, and has requested copies of Quinn's billing records. Quinn says he'll cooperate with any investigation. A spokesman added Quinn was so moved by Rich's arguments that he did not charge him for his work over the last several months.

Clinton is also taking heat for shortening the prison sentences of four men convicted of swindling the government

out of millions of dollars. The men, Hasidic Jews from New Square, a small village outside New York City, had set up a phony religious school and used it to steal federal grants. Republicans now accuse Hillary of buying the town's votes with promises of shortened jail time for their brethren. In November, New

Square had voted overwhelmingly for Hillary, while surrounding Hasidic towns voted 20 to 1 for her opponent. Last August, Mrs. Clinton visited New Square and met with its spiritual leader, Rabbi David Twersky. But her spokesman, Howard Wolfson, insists she first heard about the imprisoned men after the election, when Twersky visited the Oval Office shortly before Christmas to push the president for clemency.

There was one small consolation for Clinton: his staff may not have trashed the White House quite as badly as the Bushies claimed earlier in the week. They said they found the place in ruins, with power cords ripped from machines and furniture destroyed. In fact, aside from a few lame attempts at humor—W's were removed from some computer keyboards—the offices were intact, as Clinton transition staff hastened to announce. The specter of scandalous behavior, the justifications and spin—maybe private life won't be all that different for Clinton after all.

Rollback: The new team eyes ways to heat on Marc Rich

Dan Klaidman

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

Mark Hosenball

but he left behind enough controversy and ill will to keep him front and center on talk TV—and Capitol Hill—for weeks.

Rep. Dan Burton, the conservative Indiana Republican who made a career of investigating Clinton's questionable behavior, fueled the controversy, announcing he would begin an official inquiry of the Rich pardon. The facts of the case certainly provoked questions. Why would Clinton want to help an indicted tax swindler living on the lam? It probably didn't hurt that Rich's ex-wife had given generously to Bill and Hillary Clinton's campaigns. But according to Clinton aides, it was former White House counsel Jack Quinn, hired by Rich, who persuaded the president to give Rich the nod—despite opposition from Justice Department officials.

Now Burton and other Republicans want to know why he made the list. Burton has already sent a letter to the Justice

A New Line of Attack

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

When Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee delayed the vote on John Ashcroft's nomination as attorney general last week, they said it was because he hadn't finished his homework: more than 300 written questions submitted by committee members after confirmation hearings ended on Jan. 19. But the blizzard of

queries also bought opponents more time to press their case, and the movement to block his confirmation took a bitter new turn

with charges of lying and homophobia.

Philanthropist James Hormel said that Ashcroft opposed his 1997 nomination as ambassador to Luxembourg because he is openly gay. Ashcroft had told the committee

Ashcroft fends off questions on credibility

it was the "totality of the record" that caused him to reject Hormel. But when

pressed to elaborate in a written follow-up, he clearly implied that sexual preference was the issue, saying he didn't think Hormel "would effectively represent the United States in Luxembourg, the most Roman Catholic country in all of Europe." (Clinton appointed Hormel during a Senate recess.) The other charge came from health-care expert Paul Offner, who said that the then Missouri Governor Ashcroft quizzed him on his sexual orientation during a 1985 interview for a top state job. Offner, a Democrat who says he came forward on his own after watching the hearings, recalls Ashcroft asking, "Do you have the same sexual preference as most men?" (The answer was yes;

Offner wasn't hired.) Ashcroft says he doesn't recall the meeting and can't imagine asking the question.

The latest allegations aren't likely to topple Ashcroft. All 50 Republicans and at least three Democrats are set to support him when the nomination reaches the floor after a committee vote that is expected this week. Liberal interest groups will continue to pressure wavering senators, but concede that the goal now is 40 "no" votes—a warning to the White House that more bruising battles over Justice Department jobs lie ahead.



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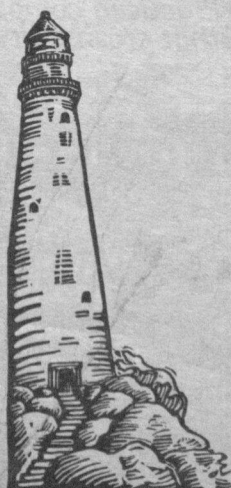
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Up In Smoke over Guns

For more than 50 years, George Romanoff's family has been selling Smith & Wessons: .357 revolvers with hardwood handles, sleek pistols forged from blue and stainless steel. Smith's vaunted handgun line was easily the biggest seller at Romanoff's Pittsburgh-area store, Ace Sporting Goods—until last March. That's when the 149-year-old gunmaker signed a stunning agreement with the Feds to get out from under lawsuits, promising to impose strict new rules on all its dealers. Now those who wanted to keep selling Smith guns would have to keep computerized records of every sale and store all their guns—not just Smiths—in some kind of vault. And they'd have to limit their customers to one gun every two weeks.

Romanoff was about to kick off a weekend sale—up to \$50 off on Smith & Wessons—but he had to cancel it because his customers were furious over Smith's surrender to the enemy. To them, the new recordkeeping alone sounded like a first step toward a police state, and Smith was the government stooge. Since then, sales of the company's pistols have been so slow that Romanoff has slashed his inventory by a third. Now Smith & Wesson, reeling from a consumer boycott, wants him and other dealers to go along with a scaled-back version of the agreement. But Romanoff says there's no way he can keep selling Smiths if he has to accept the company's terms. Like his customers, he feels betrayed by Smith & Wesson's sellout; at the same time, it's as if he's turning his back on an old friend. "If Smith & Wesson goes under, it will be an extremely sad day for our industry," he says. "It's like a nail in our coffin."

The government's celebrated pact with Smith & Wesson was supposed to bring the secretive gunmakers to their knees, much like the assault on Big Tobacco. But a year later, the deal is all but dead—and the nation's largest handgun maker faces real questions about its survival. Analysts say its sales lag behind the rest of the struggling industry by at least 20 percent. "This is a critical time for us," says Ken Jorgensen, Smith's spokesman. "We need the dealers to sign this in order to go on and do business." How the deal became a disaster says a lot about power in the gun world—power that the people who buy guns wield over the people who make them. The Feds were sure that other gunmakers would follow Smith's lead, but the rest of the industry ran for cover instead. Smith & Wesson, meanwhile, ran face first into a gun lobby at the height of its power, and a gun culture hostile to change. "They entered into an agreement

that was silly," says the NRA's Bill Powers. "Sooner or later you've got to pay for the mistakes of the past, and they're paying for them."

A shifting political landscape didn't help. When Smith & Wesson signed the deal, the Clinton administration was threatening its own suit to force gunmakers to change their ways,

leader. Cuomo had no plans to take the Smith deal to a judge to enforce it immediately; he'd wait for other gunmakers to sign on first.

It would prove to be a long wait. In the gun world, where any small step toward new restrictions is seen as a giant leap toward tyranny, the deal exploded like buckshot. Shultz had

ernment witness in a mob case.

By midsummer, Shultz had to close his plant for an extra two weeks and was planning to lay off 120 workers. Shultz told Cuomo he'd have to kill the deal if another gunmaker didn't sign on soon. Desperate for another ally, Cuomo set his sights on Glock, the nation's leading supplier of cop guns.

Glock's general counsel, Paul Jannuzzo, had been in on the original negotiations but had passed on the deal at the last minute.

Now Cuomo took the extraordinary step of leaning on Glock's foreign owner instead. He had one of his aides call the U.S. ambassador in Vienna, Kathryn Walt Hall, who'd been a major contributor to the Democratic Party. She then took a message to 72-year-old Gaston Glock—Europe's answer to Samuel Colt. Hall told the wealthy gun baron that Cuomo wanted to see him alone: no lawyers. Glock was "polite but non-committal," Hall recalls. He was willing to see Cuomo, perhaps, but not until his next trip to the United States in November. For Cuomo, that was too late.

The deal came undone, and, in a sense, so did the men who negotiated it. Cuomo and the Democrats were turned out of office, in part because gun owners felt

deeply threatened.

Shultz, meanwhile, left Smith & Wesson in September. Smith still hasn't given up on settling the lawsuits, however. With the federal deal officially abandoned by both sides, Smith has reached what it calls a "less onerous" version of the agreement, this time with the city of Boston. It's expected to become binding in February, which means that other cities can join if they want to, and any dealer nationwide who wants to sell Smith guns will have to abide by the new terms. But some large dealers say they can afford to drop Smith & Wesson; the name has lost its aura in the gun world, and customers aren't clamoring for its revolvers the way they used to. Smith & Wesson may yet reclaim its place as a proud symbol of the Old West. For now, it remains the unforgiven.

As a landmark pact to control gun sales falls apart, Smith & Wesson takes the hit.

and there were cries for new gun laws on Capitol Hill. It didn't last. The gun lobby played a key role in electing George W. Bush, and its leaders expect him to oppose more

expected a backlash, but nothing so visceral. The NRA immediately faxed ferocious alerts to its 3 million-plus members, calling Smith a British-owned traitor to the Bill of

restrictions. The gunmakers, meanwhile, are hoping Bush will do what he did in Texas: sign a law blocking any city from suing the industry. The gun war remains hard fought, but the momentum has shifted.

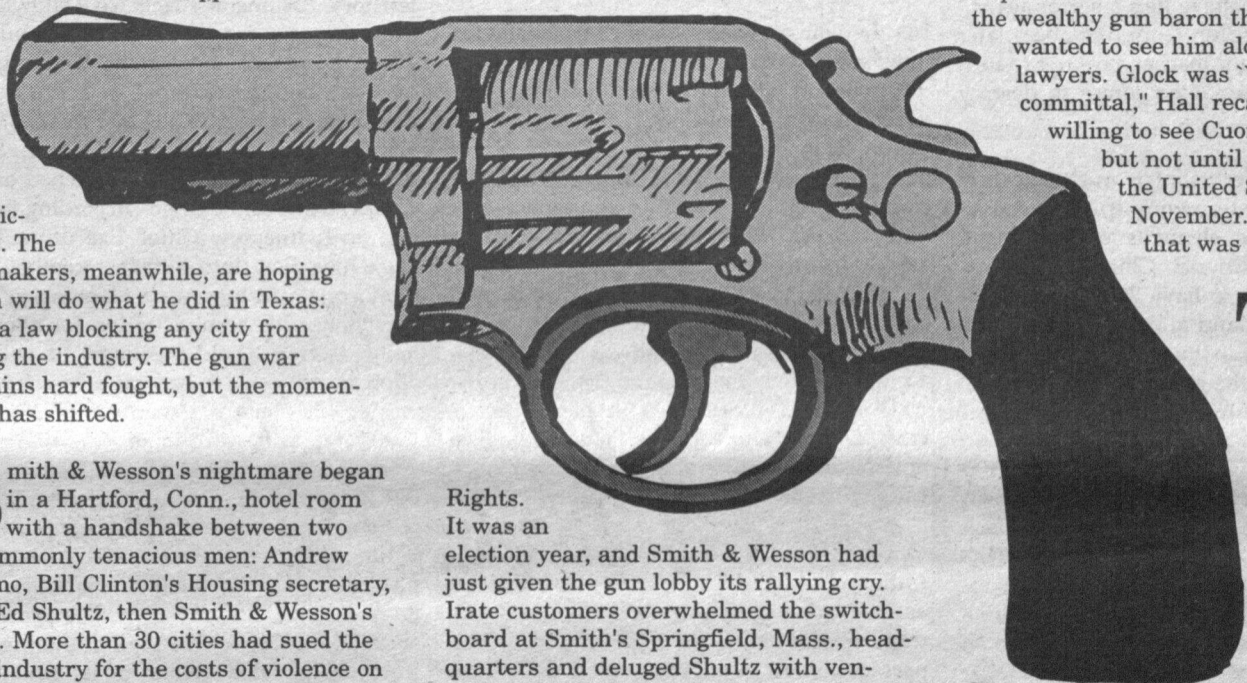
Smith & Wesson's nightmare began in a Hartford, Conn., hotel room with a handshake between two uncommonly tenacious men: Andrew Cuomo, Bill Clinton's Housing secretary, and Ed Shultz, then Smith & Wesson's CEO. More than 30 cities had sued the gun industry for the costs of violence on their streets. Cuomo had brashly stepped into the legal swamp, hoping he could be the guy to force concessions from an obstinate industry. Most gunmakers refused to negotiate. But Shultz, a plain-spoken farmer and onetime Army sergeant, figured Smith's legal bills would soon surpass its income. His British parent company, Tomkins PLC, wanted to get Smith out of the courts so it could sell the company.

Shultz and Cuomo talked in personal terms. "I have two 5-year-olds and a 3-year-old, and I have a gun in my home," Cuomo told Shultz. "If you can make me a safer gun, I'll buy it." Shultz agreed to do that—and more. The 25-page pact was so sweeping that lawyers for the cities feared until the last minute that Shultz would back out. Once Smith signed, the assumption was that other gunmakers would inevitably follow the

Rights. It was an election year, and Smith & Wesson had just given the gun lobby its rallying cry.irate customers overwhelmed the switchboard at Smith's Springfield, Mass., headquarters and deluged Shultz with venomous e-mail.

Soon Smith was getting pounded from all sides. In a business where Smith controlled more than a quarter of an ever-shrinking handgun market, competitors couldn't resist piling on. Brazilian-owned Taurus started giving away an NRA membership with every new gun, just to underscore its commitment to gun rights. Meanwhile, two new cities brought lawsuits against Smith & Wesson, despite pleas from the administration to leave Smith alone.

Those who tried to help Smith made matters worse. Two states, New York and Connecticut, launched antitrust investigations against the other gunmakers, accusing them of trying to run Smith out of business. Their lawyers sprayed subpoenas up and down New England's Gun Valley, which only served to make Smith & Wesson look like a gov-



Joshua Phillips
Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

Something

BIG

is happening
in next week's
Beacon...

China's Growing Holy War

As night falls over the working-class district of Yau Ma Tei in Hong Kong, the bustling streets become silent and murky. Inside a second-floor tenement, two dozen Falun Gong practitioners sit closely together, chanting from their handbooks. Seated against the wall, a lone man does not chant. He is a tall, thin Chinese northerner with a pockmarked face. As new members enter the room, he glances up nervously, as if to register their faces. Two years ago, he joined the group of Hong Kong believers. Yet in almost every way, he is unlike them. Some of the men and women in the group have spent time in prison, or have been tortured. All of them are eager to talk. He never speaks. Recently, some practitioners saw him entering the offices of the central government in Hong Kong. Others note with dread that he lingers until the end of every session, as if to mark down all that is said. "We all believe he's a secret agent," says one of the Falun Gong members later that night. "But our teacher says not to turn away anyone, even if he comes to destroy us."

The Chinese government is out to destroy Falun Gong, a fast-growing spiritual movement that blends elements of Buddhism, Taoism and traditional Chinese morality. The group claims to have 70 million members on the mainland and an additional 30 million followers in the rest of the world. Beijing describes the group as an "evil cult" with subversive intentions, and has stepped up its violent crackdown. According to Falun Gong, Beijing has killed more than 100 followers over the last two years and thrown tens of thousands of members into prison camps and psychiatric hospitals. The Chinese government disputes those figures—but there is no denying that the conflict between the two sides has devolved into an increasingly desperate war of wills. That seemed apparent last week when five protesters—thought to be Falun Gong followers, although the group's leadership contends they weren't—set themselves on fire in Tiananmen Square. One of the demonstrators died; the other four are in the hospital. According to a source in Hong Kong with knowledge of Chinese policy, hard-line Chinese leaders now consider Falun Gong the country's No. 1 threat—more serious than independence activists in Taiwan, Tibet and Xinjiang.

With neither side inclined to back down, the struggle is spreading to other parts of Asia. Under siege on the mainland, Falun Gong is taking its recruitment and public-relations campaigns to Taiwan, Macau, Singapore and especially Hong Kong, where followers held a massive gathering two weeks ago to publicize their plight. Beijing is countering by pressuring governments in the region—most of which have invested heavily in China—to avoid offering sanctuary to its enemy. The issue threatens to become an early flash

point in relations between China and the Bush administration. Last week Secretary of State Colin Powell, in his first meeting with Chinese Ambassador Li Zhaoxing, decried the assaults on Falun Gong and called for the freeing of its members held in Chinese prisons and labor camps. "The message the secretary delivered was one of tolerance and

and autonomous government seem to offer protection from Beijing's witch hunt. In fact, dozens of mainland Falun Gong members made risky journeys to the Hong Kong conference to share their experiences. "All the 20 million people in Guangzhou can see Hong Kong television," Lu says. "They will wonder why, just across the river, Falun

Falun Gong doesn't want to get involved in Taiwan's independence struggle with Beijing, so Li Hongzhi, the group's exiled founder, canceled his planned trip to the rally. But Taiwan's vice president, Annette Lu, whom Beijing sees as a radical independence supporter, made an appearance—and offered her good will.

The test of wills with Falun Gong is getting more violent—and spreading abroad

rule of law," said a State Department spokesman. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao shot back that any U.S. criticism of China's handling of the group would have dire bilateral consequences.

As the war escalates, some China watchers now suggest that, as happened with student protesters in 1989, the communist leadership is beginning to split over how deal with Falun Gong. According to the Hong Kong source, President Jiang Zemin is fearful of Falun Gong because the movement has caught hold within the Communist Party ranks. "So many party members believe in Falun Gong that (he) wants to scare them," says the source. Frank Lu, director of the Human Rights Information Center in Hong Kong, asserts some Communist Party officials are uncomfortable with Jiang's fierce crackdown. "Falun Gong is showing that it's not afraid of death, not afraid of anything," Lu says. "That must scare the party."

Outside of mainland China, Falun Gong finds what it desires most—freedom of assembly and speech, and the group is using those liberties to appeal for an end to the persecution. At recent conferences in Taiwan and Hong Kong, attended by thousands, the group held parades, candlelight vigils and "experience-sharing" sessions. Followers carried large photographs of members who'd been assaulted or killed by Chinese authorities. "This is how they beat up our practitioners," said Mei Zhang, 41, a recent Chinese immigrant to Australia, who took part in the Hong Kong conference earlier this month. She was holding a photograph of a middle-aged Chinese practitioner whose legs were red and bloated from torture. Standing in front of Beijing's government office in Hong Kong, Falun Gong members from 12 countries held aloft a large banner condemning China for killing followers. Says Falun Gong's Hong Kong spokeswoman, Sophie Xiao: "Our brothers and sisters inside the mainland are the suffering body. We are the mouth screaming."

Lu says that for oppressed Falun Gong members on the mainland, Hong Kong has become a promised land. To them, the former British colony's separate legal system

Gong can be practiced freely. The impact will be huge."

Maybe. Hong Kong's government is under intense pressure from Beijing to prevent the group from gaining a strong foothold on the territory. "Numerous facts have shown that 'Falun Gong's' organization and activities in Hong Kong are undergoing a change in quality," said an editorial in a pro-Beijing newspaper in Hong Kong last week. "What is more serious is that the 'Hong Kong Falun Buddhist Society' has stretched out its hands farther and farther." According to several eyewitnesses, Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa flew into a rage recently when democrats said they were planning to publicly praise his administration for allowing Falun Gong to hold meetings. "I will not allow Hong Kong to become a base for subverting the central government," he said, slamming his fist on a table.

Beijing is twisting arms elsewhere in the region, too. Last month Macau deported 40 Falun Gong activists who'd arrived to protest a visit by Jiang to mark the first anniversary of its handover. The protesters accused Macau of receiving intelligence from Beijing, in violation of its autonomy, and revealing their identities. Singapore, which has long cultivated business interests in China, faces a serious dilemma. On New Year's Eve, 100 Falun Gong activists demonstrated in Singapore against the group's persecution in China. Police arrested 15 protest leaders, including 12 Chinese nationals. But the court has yet to charge them. "Singapore is caught between its traditional toughness toward controversial sects and a need to not be seen leaning too close to the Chinese line," said a commentary in the New Straits Times.

Taiwan must walk a tightrope of its own. With more than 10,000 practitioners, according to the group, it could soon become the leading center for Falun Gong outside China. That can only worsen its already tense relationship with China. Last December 3,000 yellow-clad practitioners stood in formation on the grounds of the Chiang Kai-shek Memorial, forming the three Chinese characters representing the group's underlying principles: "Truthfulness, Goodness, Forbearance."

While scrambling to mobilize support outside of China, Falun Gong members on the mainland have become increasingly defiant. Each day several followers demonstrate in Tiananmen Square and other public places.

They are quickly arrested. Beijing seized on last week's immolations in Tiananmen to buttress its assertion that Falun Gong practitioners have been cruelly brainwashed. "The (Chinese) people have expressed their deep concern over the cult's harmful effects on families, the health of Falun Gong members themselves and the country's social stability," the government news agency said recently. Falun Gong groups denied that the Tiananmen protesters were associated with them. Hong Kong spokesperson Xiao explained that Falun Gong prohibits all forms of violence. "We strictly forbid killing, and we'd never commit suicide," she said. But Li Hongzhi, who now lives in New York, wrote in a recent message to followers that the principle of forbearance may not always be appropriate in the struggle. Some suggest that he was encouraging practitioners to actively resist those who, he wrote, "had already lost their human nature."

For most of its history, China has tried to justify its rule as a form of moral guidance. Falun Gong practitioners, in their own way, are carrying on that tradition. The group's teaching "represents the pearls and the gems of Chinese traditions that were lost during the turmoil in Chinese history," says Hui Kwok-hung, a Hong Kong government engineer. Adds Sharon Xu, a 25-year-old practitioner from Shanghai who studies in New York, "Mao was all about solving the particular problems of the time. This movement helps us to understand the meaning of life."

For all their faith, the Falun Gong movement is entering a period of uncertainty. To the Communist Party, the group is a growing threat to China's social harmony, and so must be squashed. Falun Gong members insist they've been dragged into a nasty war they want no part of. The result, sometimes, is paranoia. During a rally in Hong Kong, a tall, muscular Chinese man with a buzz cut seems to be everywhere, listening in on every conversation. Some Falun Gong participants move edgily away from him, worried he could be another secret agent. That would not be surprising. In this intensifying struggle for hearts and minds, both sides are deadly serious.

Newsweek
NEWS SERVICE

Did you know The Beacon is the only college newspaper in the nation to print Newsweek articles the SAME WEEK they appear in the actual Newsweek Magazine? The Beacon brings you world and national news from Newsweek as a convenient way for busy students to read educational articles without having to go to the library to pick up the magazine. We will continue to increase our scope of coverage.

SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE . . .

By Sue Cook
The Beacon

Following Dr. Deborah Lipstadt's November 19th lecture at the William Paterson University regarding her experiences in writing about Holocaust deniers, The Beacon has decided to examine attitudes in the University community toward Jews. This is the first of a series of interviews with William Paterson University staff members and students on the topic of attitudes toward anti-Semitism at WPU.

The WPU Mission Statement [see sidebar] presents a inspiring portrait of opportunity for students and faculty members from of all walks of life, but not all members of the WPU Community agree that the University goes far enough in its efforts to provide an environment that welcomes students of all faiths. The following interview was granted exclusively to The Beacon by Psychology Department Chair Dr. Judy Green.

Green, who has been a member of the WPU staff for over 20 years, defines anti-Semitism as, "Negative stereotypes and beliefs toward Jews - like any prejudice," but cautions that anti-Semitic people don't always need to assign characteristics to a group of people whom they don't know.

"They don't always 'need' to do that," she said; "They learn it growing up in environment where it is a prevailing belief; [they] inhale it with the air around . . . even if they never met a Jew . . . so that they just have learned it." Regarding anti-Semitism on the WPU campus, Green stated, "I don't think it's a major problem. I don't think that there is an institutional bias against Jews but I have known instances in certain departments where Jews were disliked. One person did not get tenure about 10 years ago - it is the same department that discriminates against women." She then addressed the issue of providing diversity, which is listed prominently among WPU's stated mission.

"That's an institutional directive. We have a diversity policy here but there can be subtle ways of not supporting diversity; on the other hand, there are people who would complain that women and minorities have an unfair advantage," she said.

Green stated that she has never felt personally hindered by institutional bias at WPU. "We do have academic freedom here and I don't think that administration gets involved with what people teach unless there are some flagrant breaches of professionalism; then those would result in a lot of student complaints. In the Political Science department there are a lot of views that might be considered extreme that are discussed and voiced, as it should be." She feels that incidents of anti-Semitism are less frequent than when she came to WPU in 1977. "I think that some of the older faculty who practiced anti-Semitism have retired." When asked if she feels that the anti-Semitic staff members who have subsequently retired could be hired today, she responded, "One cannot compare criteria for hiring now . . . they are so different."

Green feels that once enrolled, students of all faiths, including Judaism, are given opportunities to practice their respective faiths without interference from their scholastic duties. "We don't require that stu-

dents be tested on Jewish holidays, Ramadan and others. Professors are asked by administration to not test students on any religious holiday." She expressed her concern, however, that this sensitivity may not extend to WPU's efforts to recruit prospective students. "It seems to me that there are

courted as other groups are is that they are white and are not considered as a minority even though they are greatly under-represented on the campus, so while there are great efforts made to represent the surrounding community in the University community, it doesn't seem true to Jewish students . . . [the goal] is to make racial

tain a climate in which respect and tolerance are recognized as part of the institution's commitment to educational equality."

"Twenty years ago, William Paterson University formally recognized the importance of addressing issues regarding diversity of religions, races, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class and ability. In the mid-1980's, we developed a requirement for students to take a class in racism and/or sexism and we have encouraged faculty throughout the institution to address diversity and tolerance-related issues - including anti-Semitism.

"I believe that our University and our nation have made great strides in recent years regarding tolerance of backgrounds and beliefs. None the less, I believe that we must all work hard to eliminate the often subtle biases and barriers that prevent us from reaching the point where we can declare a victory over anti-Semitism, racism, sexism, and all other forms of hatred and intolerance."

Department Chair Questions WPU's Commitment Toward Diversity

few Jewish students here and I'm not sure why that is. I guess that I made assumptions that Jewish families wanted to send their children elsewhere."

She revealed the disturbance which she had felt when she heard, when returning from a sabbatical, about the Beacon/Bacon parody issue of Spring 2000.

diversity match, not religious diversity."

University President Arnold Speert declined to be interviewed, but provided the following written statement:

"I am proud of William Paterson University's commitment to diversity and our programs that have successfully



WPU PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT CHAIR
DR. JUDY GREEN

"I was distressed about it . . . I think that any bias has no place anywhere, but especially not in an institution of higher learning, where intellectual openness is highly valued. Diversity comes from highest echelons of administration. Every university has a board of directors. It comes right from there and I applaud it. In trying to improve the quality of students, as well as quantity, I think more focus on making the University attractive to Jewish students might help to meet the University's goals.

"The reason that Jewish students are not

addressed the importance of understanding and appreciating each other's backgrounds and beliefs. For many years, William Paterson University has been a leader in the development of educational and administrative programs that encourage diversity and tolerance.

"Our commitment is expressed succinctly in the University's mission statement, which reads, 'The University values diversity and equity as essential to educational excellence, with an obligation to everyone in the University community to create and main-

THE WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY'S MISSION STATEMENT

The William Paterson University of New Jersey is a comprehensive public institution of higher learning with a mission that incorporates teaching, research and creative activity, and service.

Maintaining a tradition of leadership in general education and multiculturalism, the University is committed to promoting student success, academic excellence, and community outreach with opportunities for lifelong learning.

It offers rigorous baccalaureate, graduate degree, and certification programs for both traditional and nontraditional students.

The University's distinguished teachers, scholars, and professionals actively challenge students to high levels of intellectual and professional accomplishment and personal growth in preparation for careers, advanced studies, and productive citizenship in an increasingly global economy and technological world.

The University values 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.

photo by Sue Cook/The Beacon

Thank God for George W.

AUSTIN, Texas— The president is a Texan, the governor is an Aggie, God's in His heaven, all's right with the world. And I want it noted for the record that I am doing my dead-level best to be cheerful about this revolting development.

Several reasons for non-Republicans to perk up:

George W. Bush is not stupid.

George W. Bush is not mean.

Most of us non-Republicans didn't vote for him, so no one can blame us. No matter what happens for the next four years, we can say, "It's not our fault; we didn't elect him." This will be especially useful when dealing with persons of the French persuasions.

High entertainment value: The fact that Bush cannot express himself well in the English language is a constant source of delight to us all. In

his defense, no matter how badly he mangles it, you can almost always tell what he was trying to say. The Texanism is, "My tongue got caught in my eyeteeth, so I couldn't see what I saw saying."

Is our children learning?

He wants to be the Education President.

He knows that Canada is one of our most important neighbors to the north.

Sometimes he is able to laugh at himself.

He married well.

We already know most of the people in his Cabinet, although quite a few of us are too young to remember them.

Although restoration of the glory days of the Nixon years was not what most of us had in mind, it should be interesting.

Many Texans will find employment in this administration.

It will get them out of Austin.

His favorite foods are chili dogs and chicken-fried steak, which will gross out the entire East Coast. Take that, you radicchio-eating foodies.

Laura likes writers.

Dubya likes dogs and cats.

Think what a refreshing new perspective he will bring. Who else ever thought that Jimmy Carter was "a European-style socialist"?

No one who loves baseball can be all bad. Try to forget that he traded Sammy Sosa.

The man is not a workaholic. This will save the taxpayers a bunch on the White House electric bill—no lights burning 'til all hours in the Oval Office.

His new ranch in Crawford will force the entire national press corps to spend tons of time in Waco, upping their cultural IQ by going to the Dr Pepper Museum.

New hope for the inarticulate.

Dyslexia becomes fashionable.

He wants more energy exploration in Mexico so we won't be so dependent on foreign oil.

"I mean, these good folks are revolutionizing how businesses conduct their business. And like them, I am very optimistic about our position in the world and about its influence on the United States. We're concerned about the short-term economic news, but long-term,

I'm optimistic. And so, I hope investors, you know—secondly I hope investors hold investments for periods of time—that I've always found the best investments are those that you salt away based on economics." — Jan. 4, 2001.

He's rich because the taxpayers of Arlington, Texas, built a baseball stadium for him, but he doesn't think government should do much else.

"I am mindful of the difference between the executive branch and the legislative branch. I assured all four of the leaders that I know the difference, and that difference is they pass the laws and I execute them." — Dec. 18, 2000.

"The Legislature's job is to write law. It's the executive branch's job to interpret law." — Nov. 22, 2000.

"Natural gas is hemispheric. I like to call it hemispheric in nature because it is a product that we can find in our neighborhoods." — Dec. 20, 2000. "Well, I think if you say you're going to do something and don't do it, that's trustworthiness." — Aug. 30, 2000.

All in all, we can conclude that George W. Bush will increasify the national joy with word that resignate with our people after full analyzation, possibly even adding to the joy of Grecians and Timorians; he should not be underestimated and will make the pie higher.

On the Left



Nolly Ivins

Writer for the Forth Worth Star-Telegram, Texas

Behind the Badge pg. 10

that's the thing you need to get freaked out about—not by perfectly normal and acceptable behavior from the men you're meeting. When I jot down ... I don't know, the name of a store, that isn't a promise I'll shop there. It just means, "eh, has potential." Guys are often no different with numbers.

And when they do call, and you go out all of twice, do you really want the third call to be, "OK, I'm going to stop calling now"? Unless you're sleeping with them (which would be your eminently solvable problem right there), there's no relationship yet to end. Memo to jerks: This is not permission to be a jerk.

Something else to consider. It's clearly not fun any more, and so what are the chances that you are fun at this point? Start laughing or take a hiatus.

Dear Carolyn:

My cousin, 16, has been giving the family the flux: She has run away from home repeatedly. Anywho, I thought I would talk to her to find out why the mysterious disappearing acts. She candidly explained the situation in detail, informing me that she may be pregnant. I did not discuss this

with her mom (my aunt) because I wanted my cousin to feel as if, no matter what happens, she could always come and talk to me (I'm 23). My aunt found out, from my cousin, that she was in fact pregnant, and when she asked me

if I knew something about it, I admitted that I did. Now, my aunt's got a big beef with me. Should I have spoken to my aunt about this?

—Trustworthy or Untrustworthy

Wow. Glad I'm not you.

To tell was to betray your cousin's trust, and to withhold was to betray your aunt's. There may have been a way out that could have preserved your standing with both, but it required your taking a more cautious route in to the whole mess.

Your candid confessor was a minor, and to me that says you had a higher level of responsibility than to lend a passive ear—especially after she dropped a bomb like that. Granted, this is all easy for me to say now, but I think you needed to tell your cousin that, as her friend and generation-mate, you would have loved to give full secret support—but that, as an adult, you were obligated to protect her as well. That meant getting help, and that meant telling the auntie.

Not necessarily YOUR telling the auntie—and that was your wafer-esque opportunity to appease both sides. You could have encouraged your cousin to do it herself. And if that didn't work, cajoled, begged and threatened. (Verrry gently: "One of us is going to have to tell her something, and she'll wig out far less if it's you.") Whatever it took to get her back under family wings. That way, you could have helped without betraying either side.

Theoretically. Had you tried this, you could have scared off your cousin and still embittered your aunt; you can never predict how people will respond, even to a careful, responsible plan.

Meanwhile, daughter told mother regardless, and you remain an adult your cousin can spill to, and maybe your actions were best. The randomness of these situations is why, in the end, you can only perform for your conscience—and hope like hell things work out.

Understanding this leads to your next step—asking your aunt to understand this in your effort to patch things up.

Write to "Tell Me About It," c/o The Washington Post, Style Plus, 1150 15th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20071 or e-mail: tellme@washpost.com. Chat online with Carolyn each Friday at noon and Monday at 3 p.m., both Eastern time, at www.washingtonpost.com.

Dear Carolyn:

I am a totally disgusted 29-year-old woman. I cannot understand how a man can ask for your number and then never call. An even better scenario is when you go out a time or two and, with no indication whatsoever, never hear from him again. I have racked my brains and those of my friends. I have been dating a lot lately and this keeps happening to me, but I have been told I am an attractive, fun, good person. Why can't a man be honest and say he's not interested? Why even get a number if you never plan on using it????

—Bothered

If this were a conversation between two friends, this is where I'd pour you a beer, push the honey-roasted peanuts your way (with a long stick so you can't bite my hand) and ask if you wanted to talk about

what was really bothering you.

I have no idea why two dates with you is enough. It could be bad dates, bad social skills, bad breath. It could be that you're unrealistic to expect clickage with even one guy in five, 10, 50. (Why do you think we do a goofy little dance when finally something does click?)

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

It could also be that ferociously bad attitude you're nursing, but that falls under "chicken or egg?" and I don't have the space to answer that one.

But whatever is fueling your slump,

Look Who Supports Americorps

President Clinton triumphs again. His relentless propaganda machine, in the last throes of its legacy-building frenzy, sent out a White House press release this week heralding the success of AmeriCorps. Created in 1993, this big-government boondoggle pays young people to "volunteer" in "community service" jobs at a cost of nearly half a billion dollars to taxpayers.

The press release doesn't cite liberal cheerleaders of the program. It cites Republican after Republican, from Arizona Sen. John McCain to Pennsylvania

Sen. Rick Santorum to Missouri Sen. Kit Bond and ex-Ohio Rep. John Kasich, praising Clinton's monstrous creation. "Although Congressional Republicans immediately

and frequently targeted the program for elimination, AmeriCorps' success in providing service to thousands of communities and opportunities for nearly 200,000 Americans has changed the minds of many opponents," the White House boasts.

McCain, who initially voted against AmeriCorps' creation, now says: "I was wrong ... I was extremely skeptical at first, mostly because I didn't trust the authors. But I've got to say that, overall, the program's been a success."

Santorum, who once lambasted the program as an opportunity "for hippie kids to stand around a campfire holding hands and singing 'Kumbaya' at taxpayer expense," turned around and voted to preserve AmeriCorps funding last year.

Kumbaya, indeed.

Bond, another former foe, declared on the Senate floor recently: "The battle over whether we ought to have an AmeriCorps program or not is over. It has been decided ... There is strong support." Kasich, once a staunch budget hawk who led the campaign to eliminate AmeriCorps, now believes Clinton's community service cadre has "done some really great work."

Other GOP members of the Senate and House who initially opposed the creation and funding of AmeriCorps but now support it include: Utah Sens. Robert Bennett and Orrin Hatch, Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran, Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell, Montana Sen. Conrad Burns, Ohio Sen.

Mike DeWine, New Mexico Sen. Pete Domenici, New York Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, Montana Rep. Rick Hill, Mississippi Rep. Charles Pickering, and Illinois Reps. John Porter and John Shimkus. Where have all the fiscal conservatives gone? Have

these Republicans forgotten the countless examples of AmeriCorps-sponsored projects that paid participants to lobby for left-wing causes? Like the tax-subsidized AmeriCorps volunteers who lobbied against the voter-approved California initiative to put violent criminals in prison for life after a third violent crime. Or the recruits who showed their community spirit by disrupting Republican political events while working for the liberal advocacy group, ACORN.

Or the AmeriCorps foot soldiers who pressed for rent control, expanded federal housing subsidies, and enrollment of more women in the Women, Infants and Children welfare program. Or the AmeriCorps enrollees who distributed low-flush toilets as part of a government campaign.

What about the millions of dol-

lars that were wasted during the program's first three years, when nearly 3,000 recruits were sent to do busy work for bureaucrats at the Department of Justice, the Department of Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Legal Services Corporation, and the National Endowment for the Arts?

Or the volunteers who were paid to encourage immigrants in Washington state "to talk with one another in English." Or the legions of untrained and miseducated young recruits who have been unleashed to tutor children in reading.

Citizens Against Government Waste, the Washington, D.C.-based watchdog group, has vigilantly tracked such stomach-churning examples since AmeriCorps' inception. In a recent report, the group concluded that Clinton's pet cause "has become a showcase for the waste, abuse and cynical political manipulation inherent in many federally subsidized civic enterprises." Both private and public investigators have deemed AmeriCorps' financial books "unauditable."

AmeriCorps' own inspector general documented cases in which recruits received grants for working at McDonald's, not working at all, and while incarcerated in prison. Nearly half of the participants drop out before their service term is over.

Nevertheless, government spending on AmeriCorps is up 248 percent since its creation and there's no end in sight, thanks to aid and comfort from Republicans, Clinton's legacy of waste and cynicism and corrupted volunteerism has achieved political immortality. The insatiable beast of bipartisanship lumbers on.

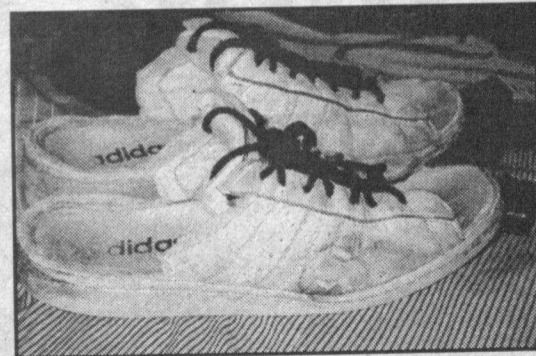
On the Right



Michelle Malkin

Writer for the Washington Post Writer's Group

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



I've built walls, A fortress deep and mighty, That none may penetrate. I have no need of friendship; friendship causes pain. It's laughter and it's loving I disdain. I am a rock, I am an island. Don't talk of love, But I've heard the words before; It's sleeping in my memory. I won't disturb the slumber of feelings that have died. If I never loved I never would have cried. I am a rock, I am an island.

—Paul Simon

Have a memorable quote? Send it to Alli at beacon@student.wpunj.edu

armed with this knowledge, I went back to the Bursar's Office.

Now, the line of people with tuition problems was outside of the building. Once I finally got inside to the office, it was still the same two employees working behind the desk. After waiting more than a half hour, I managed to get someone behind the desk to listen to my story.

"Well, I guess we can look for the check here," they said.

"I think that's the least you can do," I said back. "I've been waiting here for most of my day just because you can't seem to run an organized office."

So, the short little old guy behind the desk went and looked for my check. And can you guess where he looked for my payment check at?

Nope, not a filing cabinet. Not a safe either. No, the Bursar's Office, with all its 21st century technology and filing systems, looked for my check in a shoebox. A shoebox. My grandmother keeps receipts and old bills in a shoebox. I used to keep a rock collection in a shoebox. Shoeboxes have a million uses, but I don't think one of those uses should be as a deposit box in a college office. After the laborious task of rifling through the shoebox, I was told that the check couldn't be found. I complained some more, and that attracted the attention of the supervisor.

"Listen," I said. "I have records the check went out. I don't know if it's cleared yet or not, but I know it went out. So, my part in this transaction is done-obviously, there is something wrong on this end if you can't find the check."

"Obviously," the supervisor snapped at me, "the check is lost in the mail. It's not our fault."

"No, I think it could very well be your fault. Now, I don't know much about how this office is run, but I just saw you look for my check in a shoebox. Doesn't that tell you there is a large chance you could lose my check? I mean, a shoebox...for God's sake, put the checks in a safe or something!"

This didn't go to well with the supervisor, who defended her organizing skills further, and then begrudgingly let me move in for two days. The saga continued the

next day, when I found out the check cleared the bank, but that the Bursar's Office didn't know where the money was deposited too. Somehow, almost \$2000 was lost, and could not be found. Now

the Bursar needed a copy of the canceled check, in order to find out where they misplaced my money. It was then that I realized that bursar is a Latin term meaning "Head stuck up ass."

Two days later, though, the situation was resolved (I

guess someone found my \$2000 sitting behind a filing cabinet or something.

Either that or it was in another shoebox.), and my life returned to relative peace. I did learn a valuable lesson though: to work at a college, you don't have to be smart; you just have to make people's lives a living hell.

On that note, I'd like to ask you the reader to let me know if there are any moments of brain-bending stupidity in your life. Send all stories, complaints and gripes to: StupidityReport@hotmail.com

Larry Clow
Lit Editor

The Stupidity Report: WPU

After nearly a month back at home, I had almost forgotten how much William Paterson aggravated me. I'm not sure how I almost forgot this; I guess being at home with my friends and family and working 30 hours a week pushed all thoughts of school out of my head. When I got back to school last Monday, I was thrust back into the all-too familiar world of aggravation and stupidity that constitutes daily life here at Willy P.

I was here at school for all of 20 minutes when the idiocy started to drown me. After going up to the check-in desk to get back into my room, I was told that I wasn't on the "approved" list, and I needed to go see the Bursar's Office. I

seeing my tuition payment being sent out in the mail some time in December. So, down to the Bursar's office I went, where I waited for almost a half an hour before I could see some body.

For some reason, the Bursar's Office decided that with a line of almost 20 students, it was a good idea to only have two employees in the office taking care of everyone. Finally getting to talk to someone, I explained that the check had been mailed out almost a month ago, and the idea that I still owed almost \$2000 was ridiculous. I

thought this was kind of odd, since I distinctly remember

seeing my tuition payment being sent out in the mail some time in December. So, down to the

Bursar's Office Blues

was then told that no payment had been received, and that I couldn't move in until my debt was paid. I grumbled some more, tried to explain that I didn't have \$2000 on me, and said that I could pay about \$200 worth now and resolve the rest later when I could find out where the check

went. That strategy didn't work, and the guy behind the desk emphasized that I couldn't move

in until they got the money.

So, off I went, back to a friend's room, where I called my mother (who was on vacation in Las Vegas at the time), and told her what was going on. She told me she had records of the check going out, but we couldn't verify that the money had cleared until the bank opened the next day. So,

Behind the Badge:

A LOOK AT THE CAMDEN COUNTY POLICE ACADEMY



photo by Alli Chavanon/The Beacon

Every culture or society has its hidden secrets, certain aspects of life that the normal everyday person rarely thinks about. In this world there are millions of subcultures that are often overlooked, even if they are the most interesting. One of the many of these lifestyles is the life of a police officer. Yes, they're there to "serve and protect", and to drive around doing the simplest things such as writing a speeding ticket, to delivering babies or saving lives. These modern-day super heroes are often overlooked, and over this past Christmas break I decided to delve into the lives of a couple police officers and see what makes this clan of people tick.

Imagine this: You're tired, you just worked a long night of the midnight shift, you missed the football game you so badly wanted to watch, your newborn baby won't stop crying, and all you can do is put on a load of heavy equipment and go back to work. At work you will deal with the trash of society, see numerous cases of spousal abuse, and are expected to go home every night unaffected. This is the life of an everyday police officer. Despite doing their duty for which they were sworn in, and trying to remain sane in the process, police officers are still looked at as "bad people". People just assume that all cops are out to get them, and brand them as "pigs", or any other degrading phrase that you could think of. The life of a police officer is hard, and more often than not changes the way a person looks at the world. I figured that such a life-changing job decision had to start somewhere, so I visited one of

the toughest police academies in New Jersey, the Camden County Police Academy in Blackwood, New Jersey.

Just like every other person in the free world, when I think of a police academy I think of Steve Gutenberg running around getting himself in all kinds of fiascos, mentally inferior superior officers, and the usual blonde chick in a really tight police uniform.

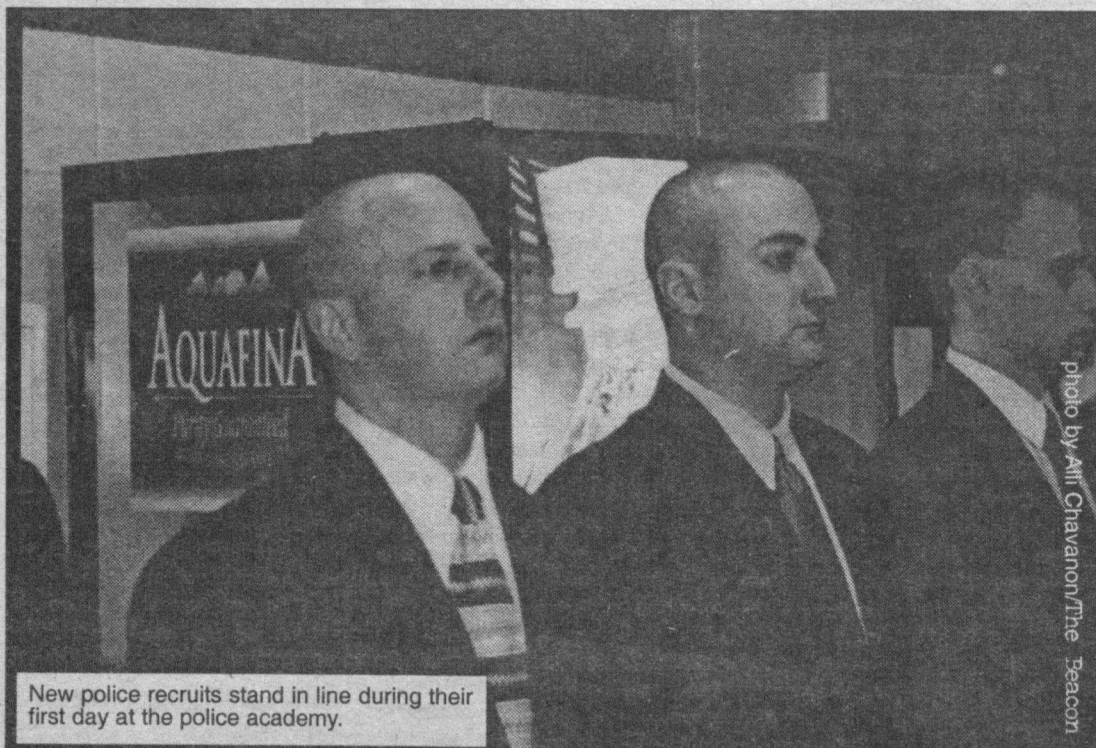
Alli Chavanon The Beacon

ignored the fact that I was the only woman wearing jeans within a two mile radius of the campus. I smoothed down my jeans,

pushed my hair back, and walked towards the school. In front were the "recruits", or soon-to-be police officers laughing and joking around, I guess, getting to know each other. All of the men wore suits and there seemed to be a sea of bald heads. I only saw one or two

the instructors went into overdrive. Anything that the recruits did wrong was pointed out with a screaming slur of words to their face, and one woman was reamed out in the hallway because her hair wasn't in the required bun.

The class members went through the day giving their personal information, medical histories and the like. It was almost like the first day of high school, except instead of a principal there were about five screaming, almost psychotic drill instructors.



New police recruits stand in line during their first day at the police academy.

photo by Alli Chavanon/The Beacon

Throughout the day I found my assumptions to be rather far from the truth.

I parked my dad's pickup in the parking lot in front of the academy that morning, and tried my best to look professional, and

women.

I put my camera bag and notebook in an office where the instructors were busy sipping coffee, talked to them for a little bit, and saw the recruits start to walk through the door. Automatically

Instructor Juan Acevedo started out the day by giving a speech to the recruits, which consisted of the phrase, "I am now your mother, your father, your cousin..." The fact that it didn't matter who the recruits were or who they

knew in whatever police force was stressed often.

One recruit made a mistake in the way he addressed Drill Instructor Bill Murray, and was ordered to stand up. Then Murray proceeded to attack everything he could that stuck out on the man. Their conversation went sort of like this:

Officer Murray: "Look at you you're completely out of shape! How did you prepare for this course?!"

Recruit: "Sir, I exercised, sir."

Officer Murray: "What kind of exercise? Stuffing your face with a bag of cookies is NOT exercise!!!"

Just imagine the conversation with a really scared slightly overweight recruit getting screamed at by a very intimidating 30-year instructor.

At first I was scared and almost annoyed at the way the recruits were getting treated. I don't like it when people scream at me, and it seemed like the drill instructors couldn't speak at a normal level; everything out of their mouths was a scream. After posing this view to a drill instructor standing nearby, I was given an explanation that made a lot of sense. The recruits aren't only at the academy to learn the basics of being a police officer. They're there to toughen up, learn how to talk to the average drug dealer or what have you. The recruits are screamed at on a daily basis as a stress test. Whoever can handle it will most likely make a good officer.

Nevertheless, I saw that even on the first day, this stress test was starting to have an effect on the students. When made to do pushups, many of them forgot how to count, they were so stressed out. I can't imagine being that scared.

From a woman's point of view I can see the academy as being much more difficult. There is only one woman instructor, Sharon Kohl, who teaches the aerobic course as part of physical training. Aside from Ms. Kohl, the women are on their own. They obviously can't shave their heads, so if one hair pops out of place because of a faulty bobby pin, all hell will break loose.

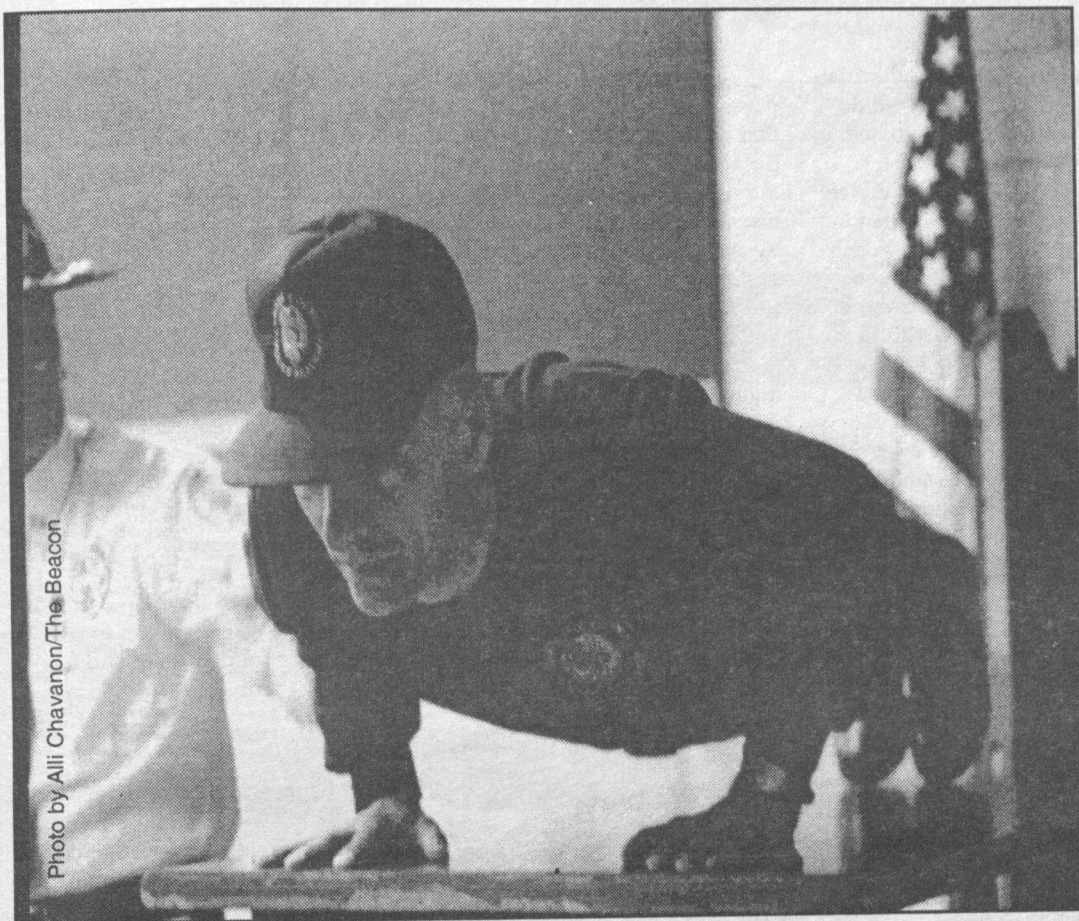
Women are also naturally more sensitive, so having a man scream in their face all day can hardly be looked at as an easy task for a man, let alone a woman. The men are at a little bit of an advantage. If the women recruits had to deal with a woman in their face all day, the day might go by a little easier.

The theme I noticed at the academy was "no sympathy." Whether the recruit was a man or a woman they were treated the same, talked to the same, and had matching regulations in every possible area.

Although Gloria Steinem would be proud of such innovations between the sexes, I can't help

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

COPS IN TRAINING



Officer Pascal Chavanon of the Camden County, New Jersey Police Academy shows the recruits how to do a proper pushup

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

but wonder if such treatment is ethical. Women are raised from birth to be softspoken, and to act as the submissive sex. One of the common misconceptions of our society today is that a woman police officer is to be laughed at, and not something to be taken too seriously. This is why women recruits today have to perform better than the average male. Women have to give 110% all the time, just to make a lasting impression.

The Police Academy is a course that lasts for 23 weeks. For all of the content of the course, the physical training aspect seemed to be the most grueling to me. The average person doesn't usually take time out of a busy day to work out, so it's not surprising that these recruits go through semi-culture shock when they step through the door of the college for the first time. They are expected to run many 5K races for charity, and have to go through several aerobic workouts a week.

The aerobics instructor, Ms. Kohl, is a pretty deceptive woman. The recruits almost always walk into their first class thinking that they won't

have to push themselves, but are usually surprised in the end. Kohl takes the recruits and puts them through a grueling array of sit-ups, crunches, and anything else that you can think of, and inevitably the recruits walk out feeling like they've been beaten up by a girl at recess. That's the name of the game at Camden County: looks are always deceiving.

Take instructor James McKeown, for example. The first thought that ran through my head was "fatherly." He just seemed like a simple man who was always joking around, loves to chain-smoke, and had a look in his eyes like he's seen too much too soon. The look that he had about him was rather charming. When he walked into the classroom to greet the recruits for the first time, McKeown went from fatherly to a war general. He made grown men stumble over their words, and set a precedent for the rest of the course.

All in all I would say that being a cop takes a lot of hard work and dedication; dedication that starts in the classroom, and continues on into the streets. I wish the recruits the best of luck, and praise the instructors for taking it so seriously.

Women with Power: Trading in lipsticks for night sticks

From a woman's point of view I can see the academy as being much more difficult. There is only one woman instructor, Sharon Kohl, who teaches the aerobic course as part of physical training. Aside from Ms. Kohl, the women are on their own. They obviously can't shave their heads, so if one hair pops out of place because of a faulty bobby pin, all hell will break loose.

Women are also naturally more sensitive, so having a man scream in their face all day can hardly be looked at as an easy task for a man, let alone a woman. The men are at a little bit of an advantage. If the women recruits had to deal with a woman in their face all day, the day might go by a little easier.

Women are raised from birth to be sensitive individuals, and walking into the police academy that morning, even though I was just a spectator, as a woman I experienced a culture shock. I personally don't think I could handle it, but the women recruits in Camden County looked like they were ready for war. Forget the softspoken, womanly image of the past; these ladies were showing those men what being girly but powerful is all about.

In today's society it's almost taboo to have a woman in such a position of power. Women are still fighting hard for their equality in

the workplace, and I can't think of a harder place to work than a male-dominated police station. The average woman has to deal with the

competition in pay that still only allows women to make 73 cents to every dollar a man

makes. Aside from this sickening statistic, the average police woman has to subject herself to all sorts of sexism on a daily work day.

I just want to say, "good luck" to the women recruits in the Camden County Police Academy. The bravery that you have shown while making your career decision will most likely follow you to those tough streets that you will soon be patrolling.

Alli Chavanon
Diversity Editor



A female police recruit waits in line to give personal information on the first day of training at the Camden County, New Jersey Police Academy.

Writers Needed for Diversity!!!

Have crazy opinions? Quotes of the Week?

Diversity needs an eclectic group of creative people to submit articles

Send submissions to Alli at beacon@student.wpunj.edu

Why WPU is FAILING

MANAGEMENT FOR MONKEYS

Part 1 of 12

The Bursar's Office— Every Student's Nightmare

Editor's Note: This is the first in a semester-long series of articles that will reflect situations which are causing WPU to fail in its mission of "Making a Difference." The following editorial is just the tip of the iceberg. This article was actually written two weeks ago, prior to more serious situations about which I am currently writing involving stupidity, ignorance and ineffective leadership at WPU. —RC

I'm going to the Bursar's Office" is a phrase that makes the average student at William Paterson University cringe. It's akin to the feeling that you get when you are in the waiting room at the dentist's office, where uncertainty and possible pain are imminent considerations.

In a normal business organization, paying clients who fork over their hard-earned dollars are treated with respect, courtesy and professionalism, not to mention a smile, but the WPU Bursar's Office is utterly devoid of these attributes.

I have always had problems with the Bursar's Office at WPU, and like untreated toothaches, they get worse and worse as time goes on. Even more annoying than the two-mile-long lines at the College Hall Bursar's Office are the people who work there. Aside from the ubiquitous bitterness and persnickety attitudes from many (not all) of the Bursar's clan, I have found that leaving voice messages when you need help or have a question is fruitless. I have left countless messages over the past two semesters about my bills, and have never received a phone call back. NEVER. I have actually never been able to speak to a live human being on the phone at the Bursar's Office. I don't think they even answer the phones—that would interrupt some serious nail filing or orange peeling.

A recent visit to the nefarious Bursar's Office (the ONLY way you can get a problem straightened out is by trekking down to College Hall) with a friend last week left me with yet another glimpse of how NOT to run an operation, a lesson that unfortunately William Paterson's "leadership" will never learn. While the University is laden with problems spanning every facet of its opera-

tion from the top dog (to whom students are not permitted to talk) to the bottom grounds keeper (Oops, we don't clean the grounds here), WPU is in need of an elephant-sized managerial enema.

My friend Brandon needed to have his bill explained because it contained charges from a summer travel trip that were unaccounted for, according to his records. Imagine receiving a bill without any description of the charges on it. (Welcome to the logical world of William Paterson). Then imagine trying to get a competent human at WPU to explain it. As I expected, the clerk at the counter did not have answers for him. She told Brandon that bills are no longer itemized with the "new" system.

The clerk could not offer assistance, so Brandon asked to see someone who could help. Enter Alyssa, an "authority figure"

had to get off her ass and actually help a student. God forbid she had to do her job—to help a client who pays 35% of her salary in tuition (the remainder comes from our hard-earned tax dollars). As I stood aside watching and listening to the conversation, I grew increasingly angry at her approach. Her attitude, tone of voice, body language and frown all communicated that she didn't care about Brandon's problem, and even worse, that she didn't want to help him. (Not to mention that she may need some long-overdue coitus—but that's another concern).

“WPU is in need of an elephant-sized managerial enema.”

As she shook her head with a smirk that anyone who demands respect would want to slap right off, I realized that the university is at fault a.) for hiring and keeping unprofessional, nasty and disrespectful staff, and b.) for creating and maintaining an environment that influences people like Alyssa to hate their job so much that they almost can't help but come to work with chips on their shoulders, and c.) for running this institution with more inefficiency and Ored tape than our state government.

Alyssa repeated a catch phrase to Brandon many times, and it bears repeating here. She continually said, "I can't help you." While this is a typical response at William Paterson, it should not be. No one should ever tell you that he or she can't help you.

Instead they should say, "Let me find someone to help with your situation NOW." Those were the good old days of WPU, before the regime of President Arnie Speert and his cronies. Staff I've talked to who have been at WPU for decades recall a time when no one would ever think to say, "I can't help you." What happened to that time? Where has the leadership of people like President Speert taken this institution? I know WHERE it is taking this "university", but I don't know why.

Alyssa seemed annoyed that she

Alyssa's advice to Brandon was that he should write a letter to the Comptroller, Russ Muter, to inquire about specific charges on his bill. She then told him that Russ Muter was in a meeting and couldn't see him. When Brandon and I marched up to the second floor of College Hall to Business Services, we only had to wait four minutes for Russ, who explained the bill in intricate detail. Finally, we had found someone who works at this university who is willing to take the time to explain something without an attitude or a frown.

There is no excuse for belittling or making a student feel incompetent. There is no excuse for ever wearing a frown. There is no excuse for

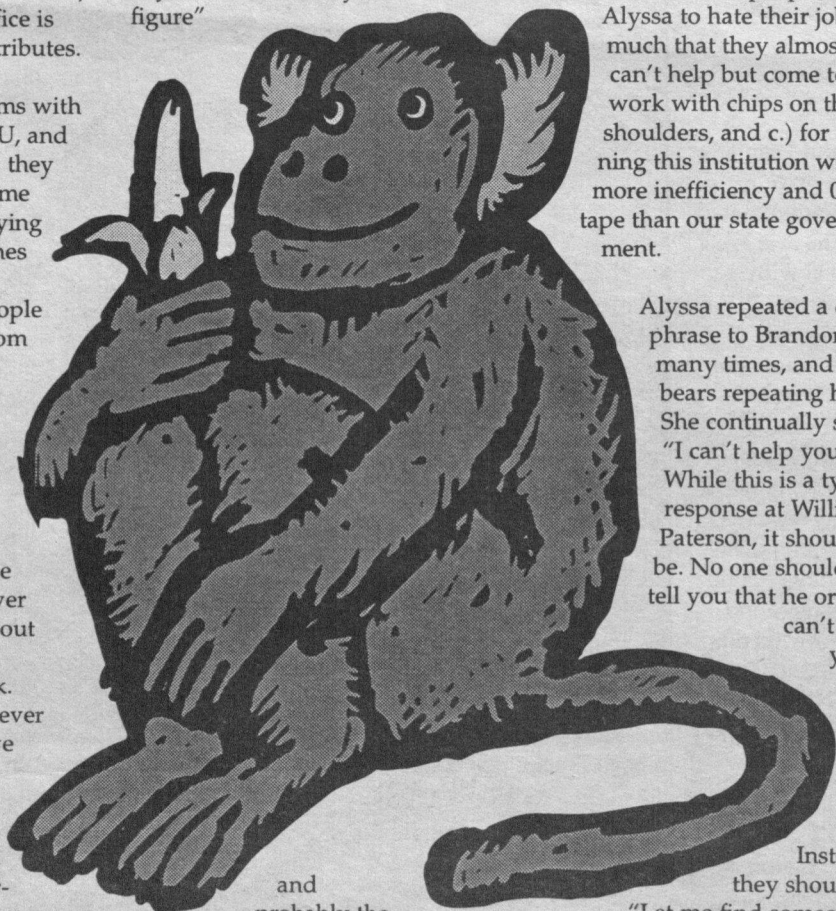
telling a student that his or her problem is just that—his or her problem. Staff like Alyssa in the Bursar's Office should not be permitted to interact with students in any capacity. I'd rather go to the dentist than have to deal with the Bursar's Office and the creodont who lives in its corner.

What people like President Arnold Speert forget is that students tend to remember the negative experi-

ences they encounter at WPU, and it is undeniably a tainting factor in terms of current students recommending—or NOT recommending, as the case often is—WPU to other potential students.

An extraordinary large number of students is extremely frustrated and dissatisfied with William Paterson. Does President Arnold Speert care that these students would sooner recommend Montclair or another college to a student who is considering to attend this ass-backwards institution of higher bureaucracy? If the answer were "yes," President Speert would sit down and talk to a student who called him to discuss major foundational and fundamental problems with his lackluster and ineffective leadership. (See story next week for the play-by-play of how I was denied the ability to speak with the President).

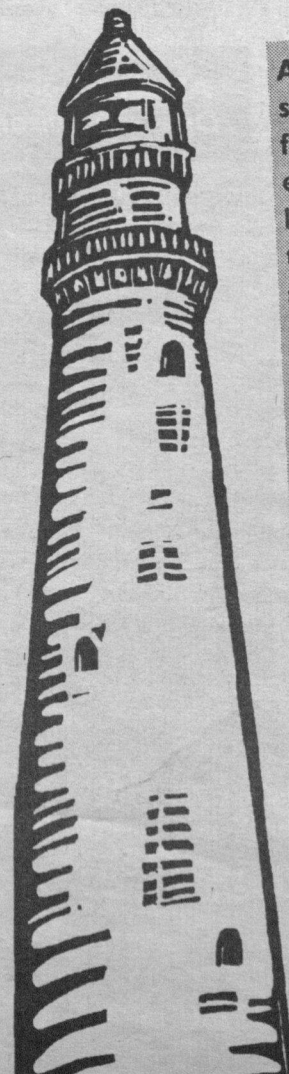
The administration at this college (our name may say "university", but we do not act like a university) still needs to enroll in some basic management courses, but this recommendation will go in vain because William Paterson doesn't realize that it has a problem. This university cannot improve if it cannot admit it has crippling management problems. The first step to recovery is admission and acceptance. Over the next few weeks, I will be using case after case to illustrate how WPU is failing its students.



and
probably the

stupidity behind the illogical operation of the Bursar's Office. Well, not really. She's just a cog in the broken William Paterson wheel. From the moment she emerged from behind her 20-foot-high cubicle walls, her demeanor spelled trouble, like when the dentist walks in with that smirk on his/her face after X-raying you—you know that look that says only one thing: not good.

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 Caiazzo 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 is not libelous otherwise prohibited by law.



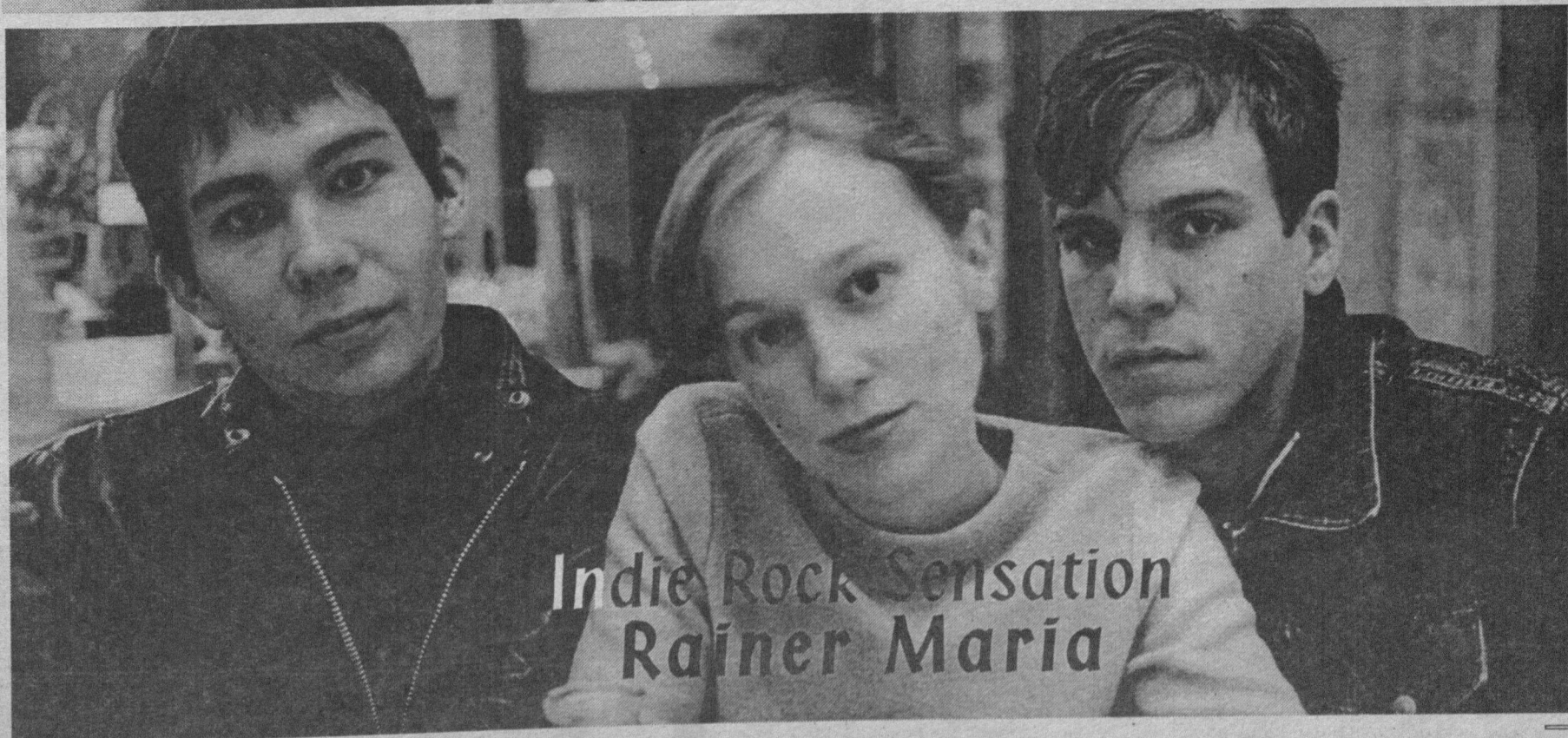
I n s i d e r

Music • Film • Art • Drama

Friends Forever: featuring



**The lovely
fellows from
Snatch**

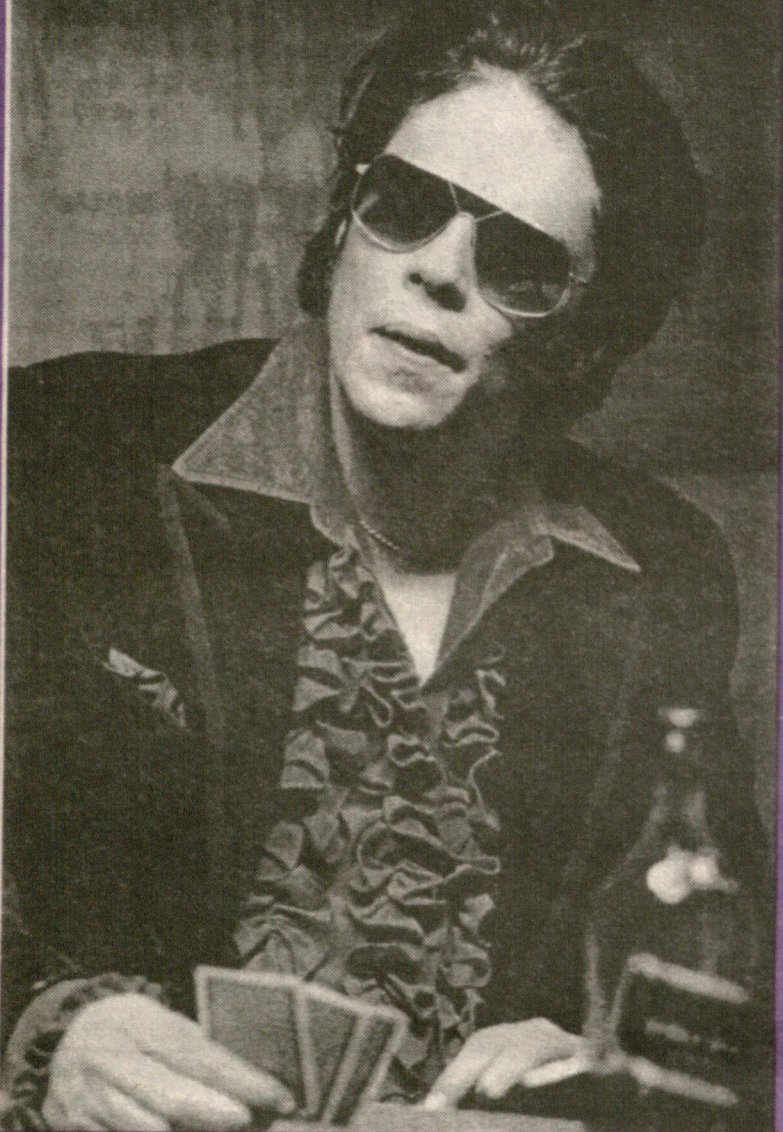


**Indie Rock Sensation
Rainer Maria**

Snatch-p. 16, Rainer Maria, Earth Crisis-p.17;
Buddy Guy, MTV2-p.18; Academy Awards-p.19.

Snatch Builds on Lock, Stock's Success

Franky Four Fingers



Married to pop icon Madonna, Guy Ritchie's latest film "Snatch" has more hype behind it than his previous film, "Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels." The hype is more than made up for once the film starts to roll. Snatch stars Jason Statham as Turkish, who shone in 1999's Lock, Stock..., Benicio Del Toro as Franky Four Fingers, Brad Pitt as Mickey O'Neil as well as others from Ritchie's previous film. Ritchie wrote the script, as well as directing it in the fashion he has become known for. Snatch is full of plot twists and interweaving

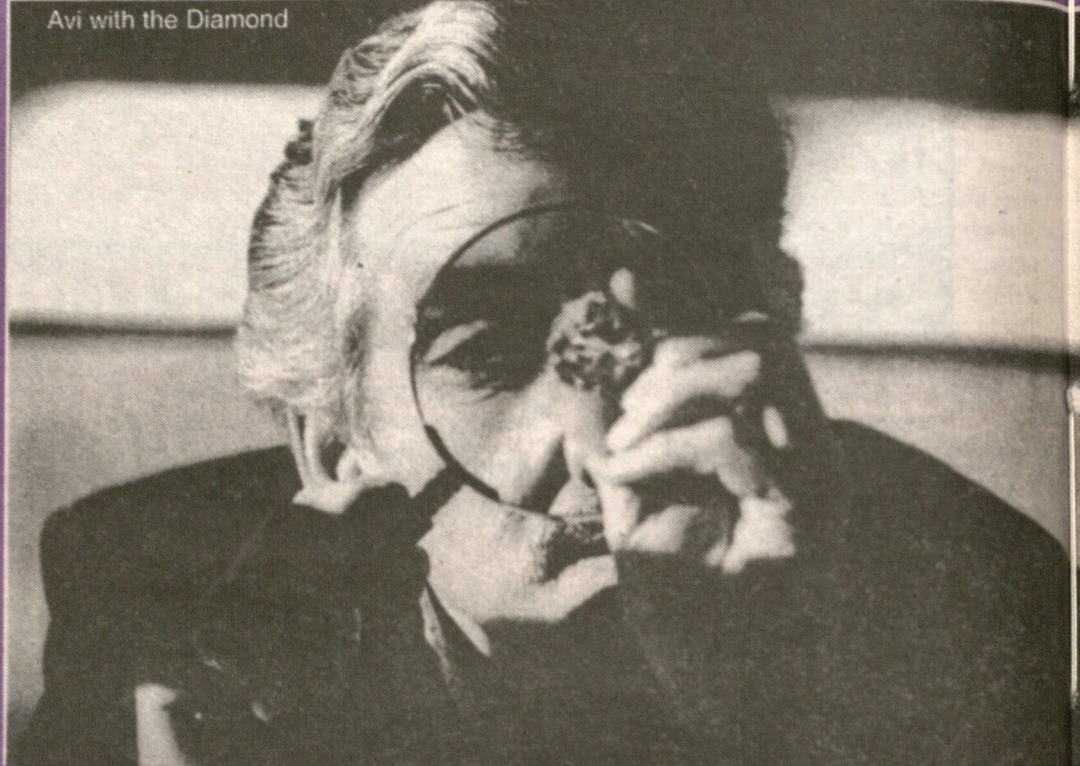
Matt Harabin
Ass't Insider Editor

about Pitt being he thought that Pitt's presence would throw everything away. However, Pitt understood exactly what Ritchie was trying to accomplish. Ritchie regarded Pitt highly, stating that after having been blown up, thrown around and burnt with never a moan; that's a real star! Del Toro added to the melting pot of talent. Vaughn was content with Del Toro since he has played strange and interesting roles in his past experiences. The Independent Spirit Awards have honored him with back-to-back Best Supporting

of characters that keeps you on your seat until the final credits appear on the screen.

The casting is quite different compared to Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels. Snatch is the first of Ritchie's films to incorporate a few big name actors. Brad Pitt and Benicio Del Toro come straight from America to help out Ritchie's newest film. Pitt was first attracted to Ritchie's style when he saw the premiere of Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels. Pitt immediately contacted Ritchie and asked to be cast in his next film. Producer Matthew Vaughn was unsure

Avi with the Diamond



Actor for his work in the "The Usual Suspects" and Julian Schnabel's "Basquiat." Vaughn was happy that the cast mixed well with each other and all formed a cohesive unit to reach a common goal. The casting shows how Ritchie picks a person who can play the part easily.

The entire cast helps to portray the movie the way Ritchie wanted it to be viewed. The movie opens up with the robbery of a Jewish jewelry store. The prize is one diamond that Franky Four Fingers has to bring to New York. The stolen diamond starts the ball rolling of intertwining plot twists. Franky Four Fingers appears on the screen for only a few scenes. In those scenes, he introduces characters into the scenes by either contacting them or being chased by them. Franky happens to get suckered into some gambling, for which he has a soft spot, and gets caught up in London's unlicensed boxing scene. Enter Turkish who has just acquired a small boxing club. The story then follows Turkish and his sidekick, Tommy. Brad Pitt's character Mickey appears on the scene when Turkish sends out Tommy and their boxer, Gorgeous George. Tommy and George are looking for a new office in Mickey's trailer

park. After purchasing a broken-down home, Tommy and George insult the mumbling Irish man. Mickey challenges George to a bare-knuckles match and knocks George out with one punch. This spells trouble for Turkish and Tommy, who need George to be ready to fight within days.

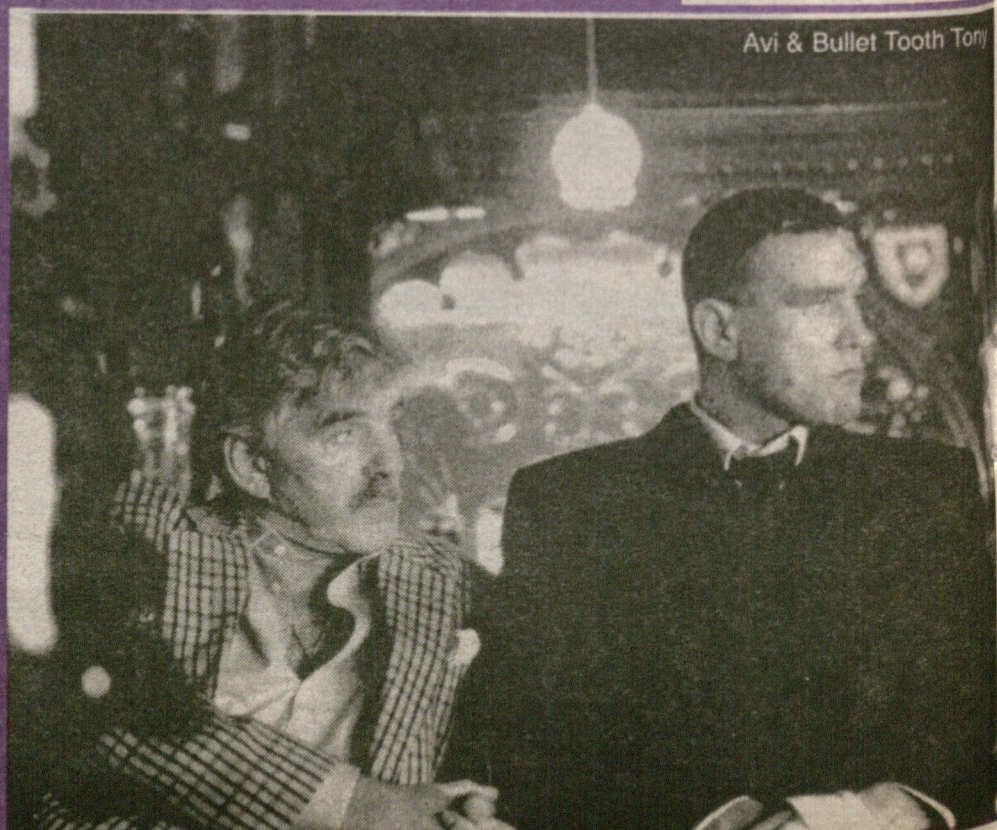
The movie constantly shuffles back and forth between Turkish and Tommy, including the boxing matches and their own travels, and switches to Franky and the diamond. With many movies that have multiple sub-plots, people often get confused, but Ritchie has already polished his craft and everything flows from one plot to the next. Saying that this movie was entertaining would be an understatement. The acting helps to paint the picture with vivid colors rather than a bland gray. If you haven't seen it yet, what are you wasting your time for? Don't you want to know what happens to the diamond? What kind of trouble is in store for Turkish and Tommy? Do yourself a favor and take some time out to run to the theatre. You won't think about what you could have done instead!

All photos by Daniel Smith
& Sebastian Pearson

Behind the scenes, Brad Pitt & Guy Ritchie



Avi & Bullet Tooth Tony



Rainer Maria Still Going Strong

1995 - The emo-indie rock scene begins to explode in many directions, creating new landscapes as musicians start to experiment with different sounds and styles of music. One of these new styles of music is the blending of male and female vocal poetry over wistful guitar rock. Two of the bands that excel at this genre are **Jejune**, from Boston, then San Diego, and **Rainer Maria**, from Madison, Wisconsin. The two bands receive rave reviews, draw immediate comparisons (both bands feature a male lead guitarist and female bassist sharing vocal duties and a skinny male drummer) and rely on the same fan base, both growing rapidly along with the entirety of the emo music scene. It is expected that this new vibrant form of punk rock will achieve crossover success.

1999 - Rainer Maria's *Look Now, Look Again*, and the **Promise Ring**'s *Very Emergency*, are chosen by Spin maga-

zine as two of the top records of 1999. Jejune disbands, and fans get word of the breakup from a forwarded email written by lead singer/bassist Arabella.

2001 - With the prospects of a huge emo break into the mainstream at slim to none, and with most original emo bands broken up (leaving mostly copycat bands, ie: *Saves the Gay*, *The 65 Film Show*, and *A New Found Glory*) most critics get off the bandwagon that they themselves started only a few years earlier and stop covering the emo scene. Rainer Maria sticks to what it does best and completes its third full length, *A Better Version of Me*, in 2000.

Released by Polyvinyl Records in January 2001, *A Better Version of Me* is by far Rainer Maria's best album to date, featuring the epitome of the sound

that the band has been trying to realize since its inception. One of the reasons that this LP has topped Rainer Maria's past efforts is the concentration on bassist/singer Caithlin De Marrais' vocals, as it features only one track with guitarist Kyle Fischer taking the vocal lead. While Kyle is a great guitarist, his vocal style is a very unoriginal, whiny, emo, drivel, reminiscent of bad Promise Ring.

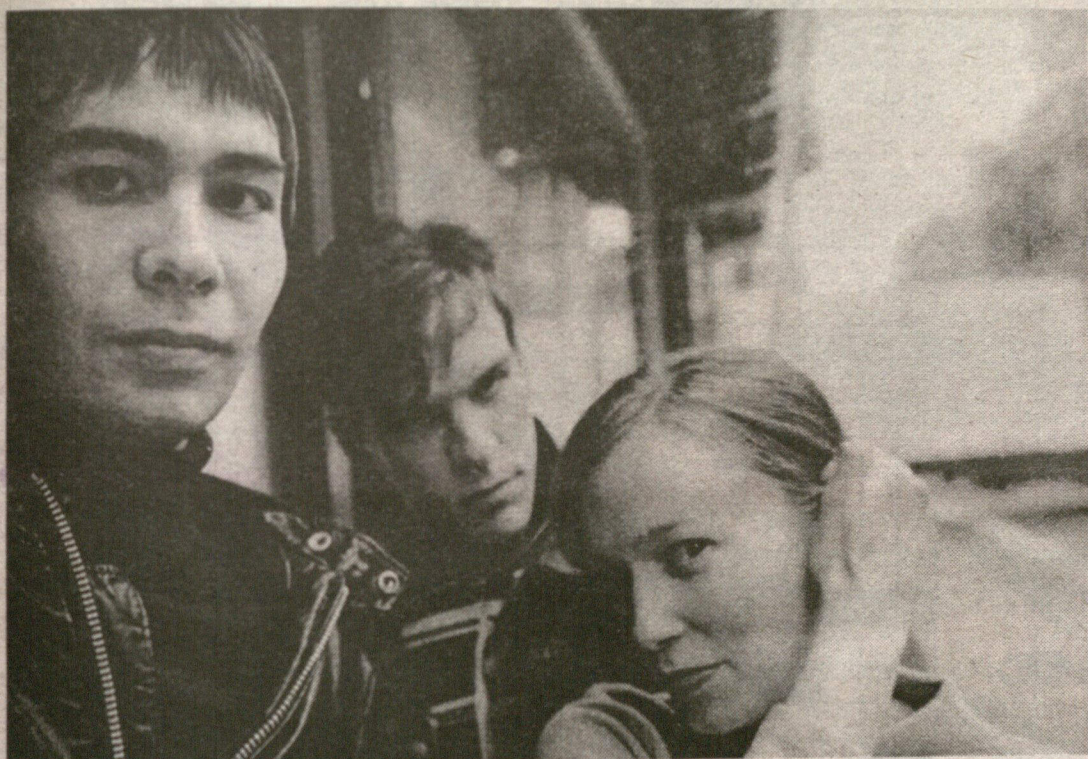
Jacob Claveloux
Insider Editor



rainer maria
a better version of me.

Along with a busy touring schedule, highlighted by many dates in its new home of New York City, Rainer Maria's *A Better Version of Me* should catapult the band into indie rock fame. This release proves that Rainer Maria has nowhere to go but up, as they consistently get better from album to album.

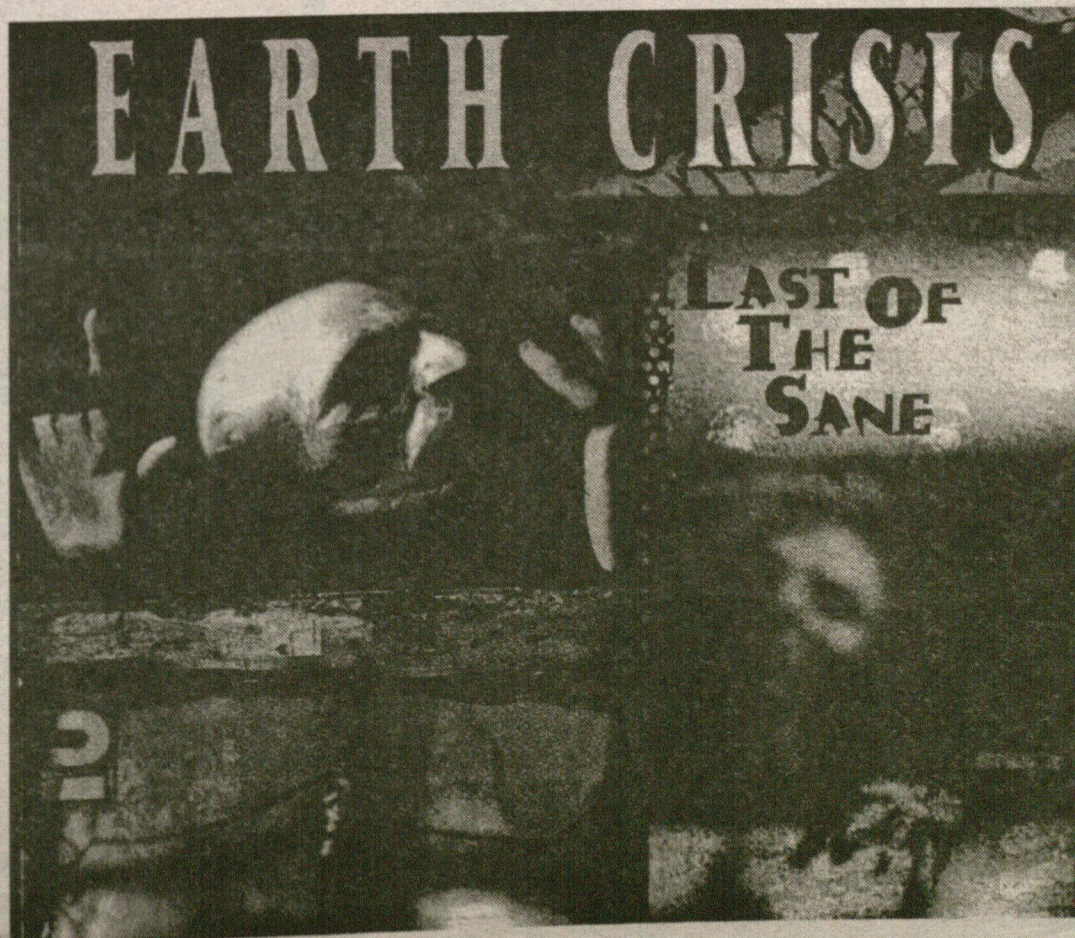
Photo from girlie action, CD cover from PolyVinyl



Earth Crisis Try Their Hand at Covers

When I heard **Earth Crisis** was releasing another album, I thought of how awful it was going to be. Don't get me wrong; I like Earth Crisis, but their past few records were complete shit. So I received *Last Of The Sane* and to my surprise, it was basically a cover album. The record begins with a "Hell Awaits Intro" which was done originally done by **Slayer**. This intro will kick your ass. It's followed by a **Led Zeppelin** song that didn't come out that well. Karl Buechner sounds a hell of a lot different and faster than the songs that they covered. "Children of the Grave" came out horribly as Karl tried to sing in his whiney voice. The **Rolling Stones** song, "Paint It Black", came out strong and is one of the best songs on EC's cover album. "Holiday in Cambodia", originally by the **Dead Kennedys**, was cov-

Pete Markowicz
Insider Writer



ered, which came out pretty good, especially with the astounding guitar solos; however, this song has been covered way too many times. I personally think that **Boy Sets Fire** covered it best.

A **Misfits**' song was also done over, but it sounds nothing like the Misfits. The last three songs are original EC songs and are flawless, aggressive hardcore. Torture and destruction come to mind while playing these songs. The last song, "Panic Floods," is one of their newest creations and I admit that their sound is getting better. If you respect EC at all, purchase their new project. I have to warn you, though, you're not going to be totally satisfied.

cover photo courtesy of
Victory Records

HOROSCOPES

Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19) There's more amour on tap for the ever-amorous Aries. Partnered relationships grow stronger, while lone Lambs could find a Leo romantically receptive.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your workplace finally sends you the good news you've been hoping to hear. Congratulations! Your personal life also takes a decided turn for the better.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) New information might emerge that could cause you to rethink a decision you made a while ago. Dig deeper for more facts, and then act on what you've learned.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) This might not be a good time to make major changes or commitments, unless you're absolutely sure you have all the information you need to act.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Love looms large in the Big Cat's aspect these days.

Paired denmates grow closer, while single Lions could find a Libra just right for romancing.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This could be a good time to reconsider that major purchase you've put off. But check everything -- including financing options -- before you buy.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your strength and love help a family member come through a crisis. Meanwhile, the adjustments you made in your business venture begin to pay off.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Patience is needed to help you cope with an apparently stalled relationship. Don't force it to move. Instead, give it time to grow into its own potential.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Romantic aspects are strong for the single Archer looking to turn a flirtatious

situation (with a Pisces, perhaps) into something more permanent.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) An unexpected admission could help clear up a painful misunderstanding. Keep an open mind about what you hear, and avoid being judgmental.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) This is a good time for one of the zodiac's great romantics (namely, you!) to consider making that love commitment you've been thinking about.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Although you enjoy fantasizing about romance, you enjoy the reality of it most of all. A Sagittarian would love to share that reality with you.

YOU WERE BORN THIS WEEK: You are a generous person who likes to make people happy. You also make friends quickly and keep them forever.



MOMENTS IN TIME

From the History Channel

Justice John Jay of New York presiding.

- On Jan. 31, 1606, at Westminster in London, Guy Fawkes, a chief conspirator in the plot to blow up the British Parliament building, jumps to his death moments before his execution for treason. Guy Fawkes Day is recognized across Great Britain every year on Nov. 5, where citizens celebrate his failure to blow Parliament and James I to kingdom come.

- On Feb. 1, 1790, in the Royal Exchange Building on New York City's Broad Street, the Supreme Court of the United States meets for the first time, with Chief

- appointed the first librarian of the Library of Congress. Today, the library's collection contains more than 17 million books.

- On Feb. 4, 1861, in Montgomery, Ala., delegates from South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana convene to establish the Confederate States of America.

- On Jan. 30, 1948, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, the political and spiritual leader of the Indian independence movement, is assassinated in New Delhi by a Hindu fanatic. Known as Mahatma, or "the great soul,"

during his lifetime, Gandhi's methods of nonviolent civil disobedience were influential to leaders of civil rights movements around the world.

- On Feb. 2, 1972, three days after 13 unarmed civil rights demonstrators were shot dead by British paratroopers in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, outraged Irish citizens burn down the British embassy in Dublin.

- On Feb. 3, 1994, nearly two decades after the fall of Saigon, President Bill Clinton announces the lifting of the 19-year-old trade embargo against Vietnam, explaining that Vietnam's communist government is cooperating in the U.S. government's efforts to locate the 2,238 Americans still listed as missing in the Vietnam War.

Beacon Crossword

ACROSS

1 Roofing material
6 Litigates
12 Director Peckinpah
15 Bull's babe
18 Florida eleven
20 40th president
21 Baudelaire's buddy
22 Nabokov novel
23 Mitch Miller hit
26 "Agnus --"
27 Throw a line to
28 She's a sheep date
29 Bakery display
31 -- Aviv
32 Blazing
36 Most mammoth
37 Elegant
40 Pebbles' papa
41 -- Leone
43 Black and white
44 Bing Crosby hit
46 Service member?
49 Tilden's opponent
51 Seize
52 Slip of the tongue
54 Tax shelter

DOWN

55 Animated Olive
56 Proofreader's mark
58 Word with tea or pepper
59 Get more magazines
61 Jack of "Flower Drum Song"
62 Be -- unto oneself
63 Tear to bits
64 Marry
65 Patti Page hit
67 Scold
69 Andrews Sisters hit
73 Tenor Slezak
74 Corporate VIP
75 Burlap fiber
76 Word on a pump
77 Supped in style
80 Pasta ingredient
81 Government group
82 Winter hazard
83 TV's "Scooby- --"
84 Too experienced
85 Flip
86 Sri --
88 Land mass

ACROSS

91 Wilbert Harrison hit
93 Doesn't come clean
94 Daze
96 -- Haven, CT
97 Exhausted
100 Enigmatic sort
102 Lost
104 Essen exclamation
105 Couldn't stand
106 First zoo?
107 Concerto --
111 Bachelor's last words
112 Gladys Knight hit
120 New Deal agcy.
121 -- later date
122 Used a ewer
123 Through the nose
124 Cartoon cry
125 -- de guerre
126 Beethoven's "Moonlight"

DOWN

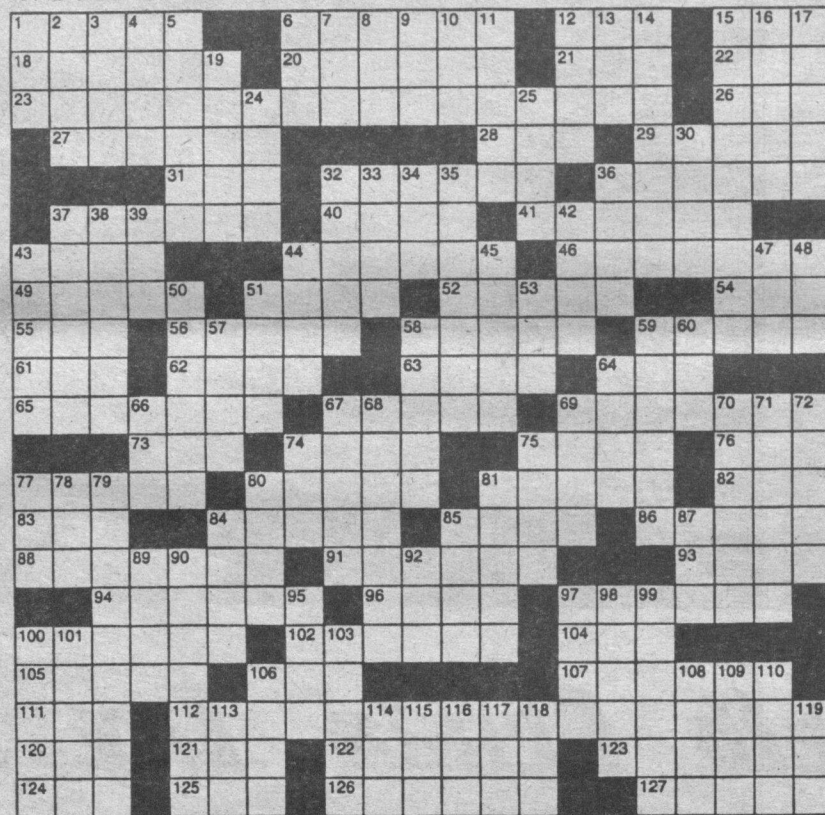
3 To -- (perfectly)
4 Petite pooches
5 Builds
6 Paid player
7 Actor Ayres
8 Musical sensitivity
9 Past
10 Wagner's "Rheingold"
11 Look like Hook?
12 Cash stash
13 Qly.
14 Blend
15 Mamas & Papas hit
16 "Golden Boy" dramatist
17 Dress part
19 Turns about
24 Portrait painter Peter
25 Is in debt
30 Taj town
32 G-sharp's keymate
33 Chow
34 Creepy Christopher
35 Stuck fast
36 Munich mister
37 Kindergarten item
38 Defeat
39 Affirmative vote

ACROSS

42 Sacred image
43 That's the spirit
44 Make tea
45 Worth or Papas
47 Prior to, to Prior
48 Damp and chilly
50 Cleaned a carp
51 Schwarz-egger's birthplace
53 Cabernet color
57 Voice type
58 It's run of the mill?
59 Nullify
60 Tokyo, once
64 Power unit
66 Wayfarer's whistle wetter
67 Stream
68 Earphones
69 Propel with a pole
70 Entertainer Kazan
71 Played soccer
72 Zones
74 Third degree?
75 Panel of peers
77 SHAEF commander
78 Letters of credit?

DOWN

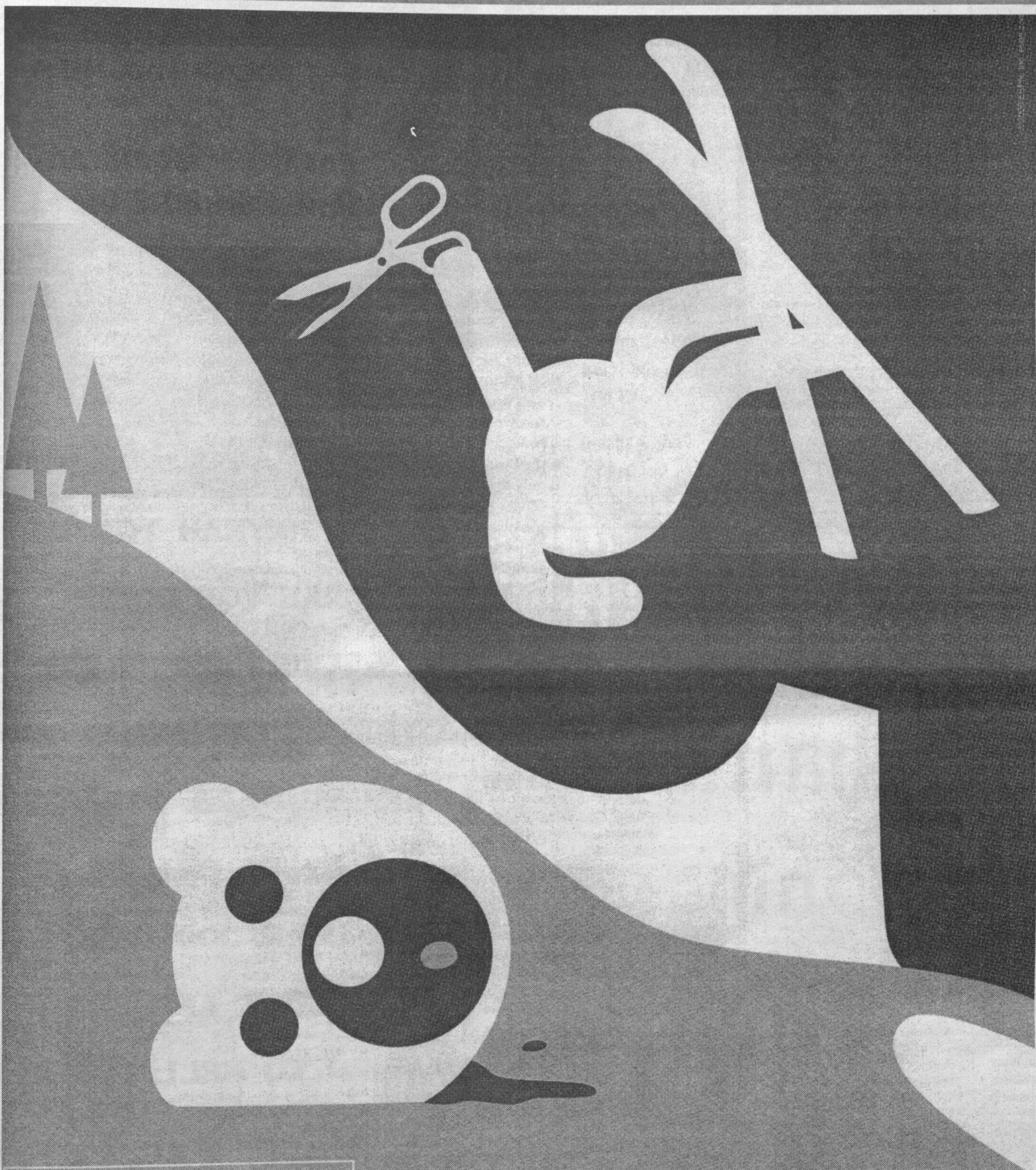
79 Johnny Horton hit
80 WWII unit
81 Dock of the bay
84 Put the whammy on
85 Galileo's birthplace
87 Heidi's hangout
89 Racer Luyendyk
90 Nocturnal visitor
92 Subway unit
95 Merit
97 It's a long story
98 Caustic
99 Conversation pieces?
100 Gleam
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103 Excludes
106 Smith or Sandler
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113 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
114 Sticky stuff
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116 La-la lead-in
117 Asian holiday
118 Nutritional abbr.
119 Writer Rand



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The Beacon



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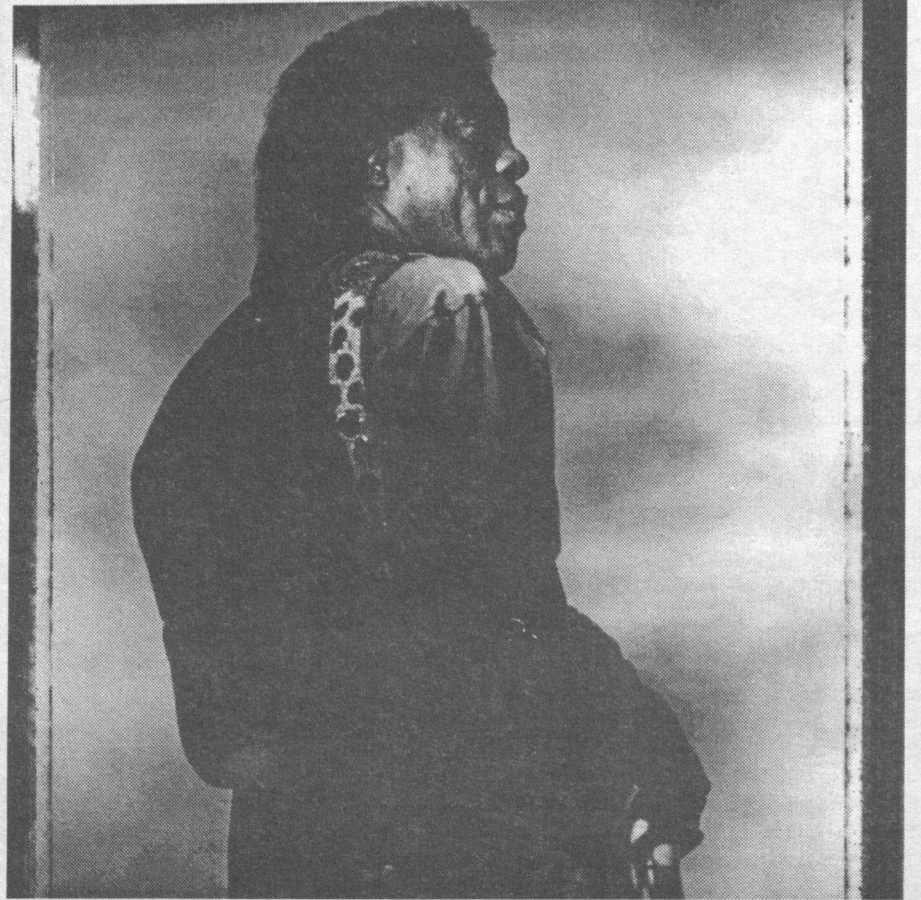
BLUES PROTEGE SET TO SERVE 'SWEET TEA' ON TOUR

From Silvertone Recordings

New York, NY - Silvertone recording artist Buddy Guy is gearing up to release his first studio album in three years. After the success of 1998's critically acclaimed *Heavy Love*, Buddy is back with *Sweet Tea*, a return to the primitive fusion of the Delta and Chicago Blues of the late 50's. A protege of the late Muddy Waters, Buddy's searing, frenetic guitar lines first came to prominence in the late 50's as the migration of the Blues progressed from the Deep South to the North of Chicago.

Recorded in Mississippi with producer Dennis Herring (Counting Crows, Cracker, Jars Of Clay), *Sweet Tea* finds Buddy careening through a body of songs written largely by Mississippi Bluesmen like R.L. Burnside, Junior Kimbrough, and T-Model Ford. All of these Artists are known largely through their association with the highly influential Fat Possum Records label, a label whose own raw, unpolished recordings have met with enormous critical acclaim and acceptance with such cutting-edge rock artists as Jon Spencer, Beck and The Beastie Boys. Some of the musicians appearing on *Sweet Tea* include members of some of rock's most influential groups, as well as platinum newcomers. They include Jim Mathus (Squirrel Nut Zippers), Pete Thomas (Elvis Costello and The Attractions), and Bobby Whitlock (Derek & The Dominos). *Sweet Tea* hits stores on April 17, 2001.

After an extremely successful summer tour with B.B. King and Susan Tedeschi, Buddy is set to hit the road for a full tour of North America. The tour will begin on February 7th in Northampton, MA and run through April 1st in Madison, WI (go to buddyguy.com for full itinerary). Buddy keeps himself visible by performing over 200 live shows a year, in addition to running his own club, Buddy Guy's Legends, in Chicago, IL. Buddy has been nominated for six Grammy Awards, winning four, and selling millions of records worldwide in the process.



On January 1, 2001, the cable station The Box was taken over by MTV2. It is a change which I was grateful for. M2, for too

long, had been a channel in my dreams, one on which I caught incredible, but fleeting, glimpses of in the past. The William Paterson cable department used

to get the channel on satellite, but hasn't in well over a year now. Since I stopped being able to enjoy the channel while at school in my "lovely" dorm room, I always looked forward to weekends at my father's house all the way in New Hampshire because he was the closest person to me with DirectTV, a satellite service that M2 appears on. Other than my visits up North I also had a few

friends closer to home who either had satellites, digital cable, or just a better cable system than the one I have at home. All this to watch a television channel? Hell, Yes!

For those not in the know, MTV2 is the best music video channel since, well, MTV, or at least what MTV started out as. M2 actually plays nothing but videos all the time. No whining snobs on the

Jacob Claveloux
Insider Editor

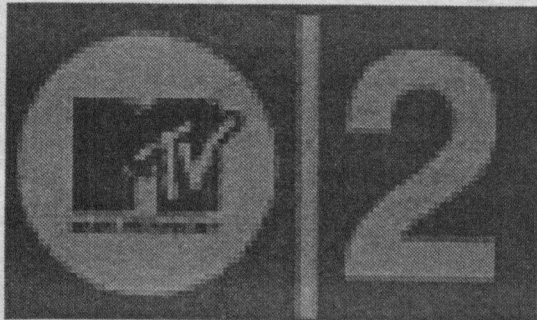
Real World, no nonsensical shows hosted by dumb pop stars, and no fake-soapdramas like *Undressed*. And, as if the program director at M2 were making a play right for my "music snob" heart, it plays videos by artists that you would rarely, if ever, see on MTV.

Underground artists are shown often, alongside reluctant stars like *Radiohead*, which makes it seem as if the music critics of America have united to run the channel. Thank God for MTV2. But, be warned, all is not perfect. With its new range of viewers, it is no surprise that MTV2 is already starting to weaken under the mainstream pressure. More time is devoted to horrible Nu metal and rap rock acts like *Crazy Town* and *Linkin Park* than ever would have been in the past. At least it's not *Limp Bizkit* and *N'Sync*, though.

Another downside is the problem that M2 inherited from the Box on my cable system: the fact that the channel turns to *Playboy* at 10 every night until 6 the next morning. While I do not have a personal objection to the

option of *Playboy* for those who choose to order it, it does piss me off that I should have to stop watching good music videos at 10 pm. Hopefully, something will be done about that soon, though. For now, the William Paterson cable department ought to consider offering our resident students M2 on campus. Many people would be pleased.

Thank God For



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Pass Me An Oscar

By JEFF GILES AND DAVID ANSEN

The nominations are a few short weeks away. Listen in as 2000's hottest producers talk shop.

Oscar nominations will be revealed unto the world on Feb. 13th, at some ungodly hour, Pacific time. Already we can't stand the wait. Every year, at the height of the melee known as awards season, Newsweek invites Hollywood's most acclaimed filmmakers to a hotel room in Beverly Hills for a full-contact discussion of movies, money and trophies. Directors have compared notes. Screenwriters have swapped outrages. This time we reached out to producers. It's a tenuous time in Hollywood. The Oscar race is strange and uncertain--Can Steven Soderbergh beat Steven Soderbergh? Will Miramax get shut out of the best-picture category? Will Liz Taylor be allowed near a podium?--and there's the threat of strikes by the Writers Guild of America and the Screen Actors Guild. What follow are excerpts from the producers' two-hour talk.

NEWSWEEK: So who can tell me what it is that you people do for a living? Are you mostly on the phone all day long?
STACEY SHER: Oh, that was so cheap! (BEG ITAL) Mostly on the phone all day long. (END ITAL) That's the problem. That's the perception. Producing is probably the most undervalued job. It's the credit that's given away the quickest because it's really hard to define. But it's all-encompassing. For every movie it's a different thing.

JAMES SCHAMUS: I spend most of my time on the phone.
SHER: You do? (Laughter)

Q: Producers have to be willful, clearly. They have to keep pushing to get movies made when the studios keep saying no. Brian, you once said you were "completely impervious to rejection."

BRIAN GRAZER: Yeah, I still operate under that tenet. After my first success--after "Splash"--I was intoxicated to the state of just about euphoria for six months. And then I realized that people were still going to say no to the things that I wanted, no matter how smart I thought I was. This is what put it in perspective for me. At the time, Steven Spielberg was getting put into turnaround (i.e., put on hold) for "E.T."--after "Jaws" and "Raiders of the Lost Ark." And I thought, "Wow, even this guy is getting put into turnaround."

Q: Stacey, what were the early meetings like for "Erin Brockovich"? Was it difficult getting it made?

SHER: I remember when we were trying to get somebody to finance buying the rights to Erin Brockovich's life story. Before we moved over to Universal, we sat in a room with other executives where the actual Erin Brockovich told her life story. The executive yawned in the middle of it, and (executive producer) Carla Shamberg said, "I'm sorry. Are we keeping you awake?" Erin looked gorgeous. She's unbelievably compelling, and a great speaker. I'm reduced to tears--and I've got a brick wall in front of me ...

SCHAMUS: I would simply add that there are a few movies I wish people hadn't let me make. I guess that's not for this panel. (Laughter)

SHER: Yes, we'll have that conversation when the tape recorder is off.

Q: How'd the "Crouching Tiger" pitches go?
SCHAMUS: We were pitching the movie while riding on the unbelievable wave of success that was "Ride With the Devil." (Laughter)

"Devil" was a dud at the box office.) So there was that six-month period of euphoria, at which moment we decided to go around, hat in hand, and say, "By the way, we'd like to make the biggest Chinese-language movie ever made. And it's a martial-arts flick." It didn't make any sense whatsoever, but there is a hucksterism side to being a producer. There is a Barnum & Bailey aspect to the job. If you don't embrace (the sell) and love it, you'll never get a movie made anyhow.

Q: Once you've gotten the studio to say yes, and they're onboard ...

EDWARD ZWICK: But of those of us here at the table, how many of us have ever had a

real green light?

GRAZER: Me. A lot.

ZWICK: Really? In the 10 movies that I've directed or produced, I cannot remember the very moment in which anybody has ever said, "Yes, you're doing this movie."

Q: What is a fake green light?

SHER: It's very conditional. If you get this star. If you hit this (budget). It's basically, "Bring me the broomstick of the Wicked Witch of the West!"

Q: When a movie opens, how soon do you know if it's a hit? After the Friday matinees in New York?

GRAZER: I don't trust that. I don't want to even hear it anymore. I just have anxiety the entire day. At night I go from theater to theater. I get drunk usually every time, because I am so neurotic about the whole thing. And then I wake up at 5 or 5:30 the next morning, and they either say it worked or it didn't work.

Q: You all call each other at 5:30 a.m. on Saturday?

SHER: The head of distribution calls everybody, and you get a fax ... The nice thing about going from theater to theater on opening night is, you get the movie back--you get to hear people actually talk about it for the first time. I love that.

DOUGLAS WICK: What's scary is, you see all the theaters where they forget to flip the Dolby switch.

ZWICK: Or they're cutting the top and bottom off of the frame!

WICK: Exactly ... Brian is right about opening night: it's an itch you can never scratch. I mean,

you're basically just anxious. On "Gladiator," my wife and I went to the theaters with (executive producers) Walter Parkes and Laurie MacDonald. We thought we had made a really good movie, but the sure thing that was going to bring people into the theaters was obviously seeing guys kill each other in the arena. So the first theaters we went to ... When the audience came out, it was all male--and they all looked like they were in biker gangs. It was like, "Oh, my God, we think this is a very powerful movie and a romantic, spiritual story--and we ended up only having a biker gang there."

Q: Well, bikers have feelings, too.
WICK: Yeah, but there are not that many of them. Believe me, if there were zillions, I would be happy to have all biker gangs. But by Saturday night, there started to be women in the audience, which was a huge relief.

Q: Jim, what was your experience on "Crouching Tiger"? Women love it.
SCHAMUS: We were scared of the action because we were scared it would drive away what we believed was the core audience for the film, which was female. But after the Cannes Film Festival screening all these women came out and said, "Oh, it was so great, and they kicked such butt!" We'd thought that the action and the romance were working at cross-purposes, but in fact the action has ended up selling it to women. And that's a wonderful change.

Q: You also co-wrote the script. How much detail did you go into for the fight scenes?
SCHAMUS: Oh, I had a brilliant strategy for the fight scenes. I found two words that worked for each one. It was: "They fight." I knew we had ("Matrix choreographer) Yuen Wo Ping. It was like, what do they need me for?

Q: The world's obsessed with box office. It's depressing, isn't it?

ZWICK: We've all been co-opted by the numbers.

GRAZER: More than ever.

ZWICK: This notion of what the opening is,

what the gross is ... All of us at this table came to our passion for movies based on a love of movies, none of which we could sit here and name the grosses of. The whole culture has ascribed meaning to numbers. It began in the '80s when we didn't know what baseball players made, we didn't know what CEOs were paid ... And now we're all prey to it. There is a constant reaffirmation of its importance in all our lives. So much of our days, our talk, becomes consumed by it that we begin to believe it.

Q: Ordinary people don't just talk about opening weekends. They talk about "per-screen averages."

SHER: I once went to a wedding in Boca Raton, Fla., and they asked me if a movie that I had done was going to "have legs";

Q: Let's talk about Cameron Crowe's movie "Almost Famous."

SHER: I loooved "Almost Famous."

ZWICK: A great movie.

Q: But if it had been made on a smaller budget, it could have been perceived as a great hit.

ZWICK: Possibly.

Q: Why'd that movie cost \$60 million?

(Dead silence)

SHER: There's not a single one of us that is going to take a shot at Cameron Crowe.

(Laughter)

SCHAMUS: Duck and cover! Duck and cover!

Q: Well, I tried.

WICK: You almost had us ... Let me say one thing about these budgets. It is a lot easier to get \$100 million than it is to get \$25 million.

Studios all want to be in the "event" film business.

Q: That changes the content of movies.

ZWICK: Oh, I'll tell you what's changed the content of movies ... Think about the need for an opening. If, for instance, you have the need to make \$15, \$20, \$30 million on an opening weekend--and at the same time you need to service

2,000, 3,000 theaters--then already just by definition you have to appeal to some common denominator.

Q: Is it fair to say this was a mediocre year for movies?

SCHAMUS: I think this was a bad year for crappy movies. The crappy movies really were so crappy that they kind of made a bigger splash in the sewage system of the world. A lot of the formula stuff just really crashed--which is great, by the way.

ZWICK: It's the best thing that could have happened.

SCHAMUS: But I do think that there are as many great films coming out of Hollywood and the rest of the world this year as there were last year. A lot of the films that are being considered as (Oscar) front runners this year ... What I really enjoy about them is how seriously they take old-fashioned Hollywood filmmaking. I look at things like "Gladiator," or "Crouching Tiger"--we were thinking about Errol Flynn when we were making the thing. Or "Traffic," which makes you think of things like Louis de Rochemont and Henry Hathaway and those kind of issue films. And there's "Brockovich." You know, it's really interesting to see this reinvigoration of grand old traditions in Hollywood.

Q: Speaking of the Oscars ... Stacey and Ed, you've got competing Steven Soderbergh movies.

SHER: I don't worry about it. I'm such a fan of Steven's that I just root for them both, and I kind of assume it's the same thing for Edward. And Steven will not take a position of one film versus the other. People keep saying, "Steven, you are going to have to jettison a film if you want to win!" And he says,

"Would you jettison a child?"

ZWICK: The funny thing about the awards dance is ... Look, between the people at this table, we probably know 4,000 of the 5,000 members of the Academy. And I don't know one of them who could be influenced by anything (now).

Q: So what are Oscar campaigns for?

ZWICK: That's a very good question.

Q: You think the studios are wasting their money? The campaigns clearly work.

ZWICK: Why do you think they work?

Q: Look at "Cider House Rules." That movie would not have been nominated had it not been for Miramax's campaign.

GRAZER: I agree with you. My God.

ZWICK: I was more referring to what might actually win.

WICK (to Zwick): I don't think everybody's opinions are as ironclad as you do. I saw a great ad for "Cast Away" last night on TV. The ad was so riveting that it reminded me of the wondrous parts of that movie. I don't think people's opinions are quite that solid now. They think about the last thing they heard.

Q: Ed, I have this poignant memory of you from when "Shakespeare in Love" won best picture. (Zwick was a producer on the movie, but Miramax's Harvey Weinstein gave the acceptance speech.) I remember your trying--and failing--to get your turn at the microphone before the orchestra started up again. Am I misremembering this?

ZWICK: No, no. It's been variously referred to as a "mugging." But I think I had a choice at that moment between a random act of violence before a viewing public of 2 billion people or false modesty.

WICK: It was one of the riveting television moments.

Q: Let's talk about the potential writer and actor strikes. They've become the new Y2K bug--everybody's waiting for the moment when there will suddenly be no more movies. Or, even worse, there will be all this junk that studios rushed into production to beat the strikes.

SCHAMUS: It's like the draft just got called and a lot of people are getting married in Vegas. They're making movies and babies, and nine months from now we will see what happens.

SHER: And we're gonna have to live with those movies. None of those movies are going to have an asterisk next to them that say, "We went into production six months sooner than we should have because there was a strike, and it would have been better."

Q: Brian, you and Ron Howard are about to start shooting "Beautiful Mind" with Russell Crowe. Are you concerned about a writers' strike?

GRAZER: No. We've got enough prep time. We're fine.

Q: But what if you need rewrites?

GRAZER: Well, we always have the writer there all the time, anyway. So the writer will be there throughout the shoot.

SHER: But not if he's on strike.

WICK: He'll be wearing a mustache.

GRAZER: I don't have anxiety in relation to "Beautiful Mind." I have really smart actors. My experience is that actors know their role better than everybody. We're in good shape.

Q: "The Grinch" was a massive hit. Do people call you more when you have a hit, because they want to congratulate you, or when you have a bomb, because they want to see how depressed you are?

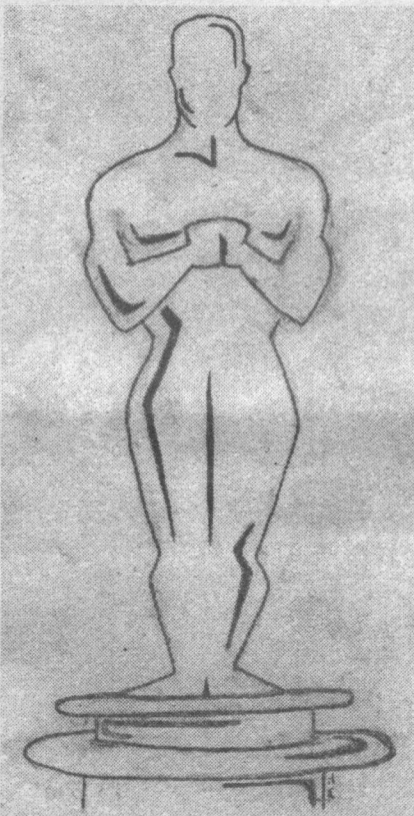
GRAZER: Wow, I love that question, because it's so relevant to me. Too relevant in my world. Because "The Grinch" was sort of unusually successful, I got a lot of people that called and wrote letters. I don't know if I really buy it, but it feels better than the other ...

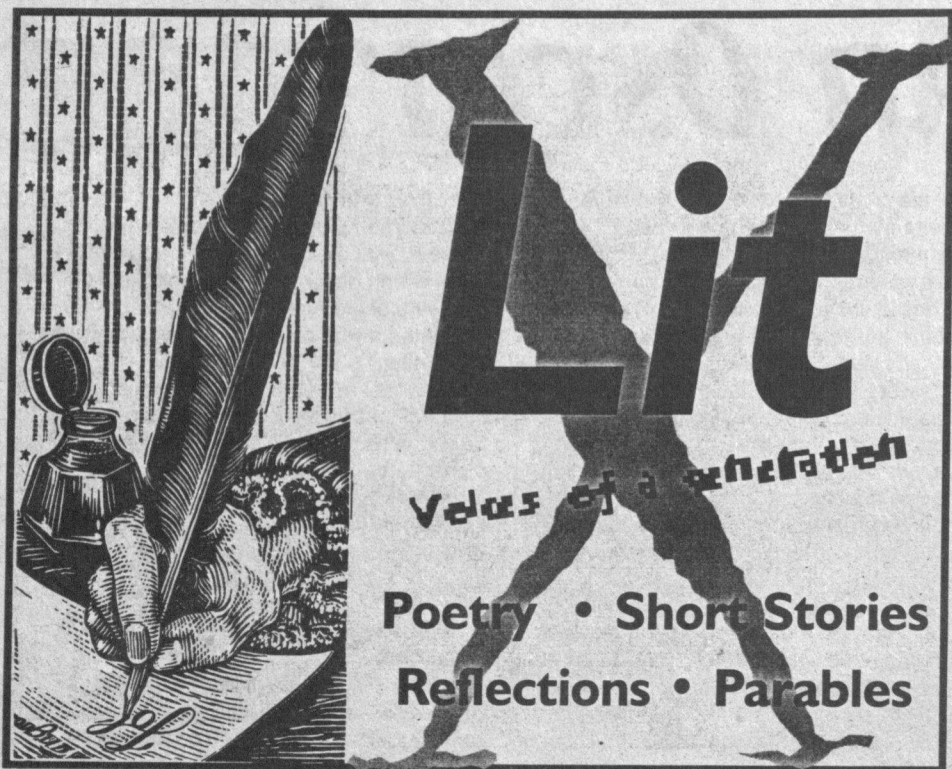
When I've had a movie that didn't do well at all, I've had people call and say, "How are you feeling? How are you doing?" I had one person try to develop an intimacy with me because, you know, "I don't want to be there just when things are great." And it's like, "Well, you weren't." (Laughter) People just want to know: what does the pain feel like?

They're dying for you to show your pain.

Q: What do you do? Do you show it?

GRAZER: Never.





Seduction Over 3 Haiku

*Our Eyes met
Like old friends
Uncomfortable at first*

*My deep breath
Was followed closely
By her hand*

*Dancing through smoke
You look
Beautiful in bed*

-John Findura

Wednesday

My small voice
wasn't heard
until I put my
mouth
to your ear
and flicked out
the words with
my tongue
and you put
out your cigarette,
touched me warm
and filled me there

-Rebecca Simone

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ONE SUMMER

I NEVER FELT A PAIN
QUITE LIKE THAT
STINGING AT FIRST
THEN LIKE CRUSHED GLASS
BUT JUST A MOMENT
THEN DULL AND MONOTONOUS
A SMALL TEAR
FILLED WITH LOVE
A FLASH FLOOD OF A
THIN COAT OF MY
BLOOD

I THINK OF A FREEFALL
TO THE GROUND
AFTER, MUCH LATER,
A NEEDLE PULLED FROM
MY SKIN
THIS WAS FOR YOU

-REBECCA SIMONE

For The Simone Girls

Why don't you drive safely
on the road instead of the
sidewalks?
Why are your poems dangerous to me
as they move, breakneck, like
falling hopes?
Why are they as beautiful as
you are, why do they have the
same curves as you?
Why do I love your words almost as
much as

I love you, and how did you make me
understand?

What have you done, Simone girls?
How did you end up in my garden
one slow summer, drunk and laughing
along with Bird and screeching tires?
Please take me with you when you
leave,
don't leave me here,
please tattoo me with your smiles.

-William P. Caldwell



Reviewed by Joelle Caputa
The Beacon

Chasing Down the Dawn

by Jewel Kilcher

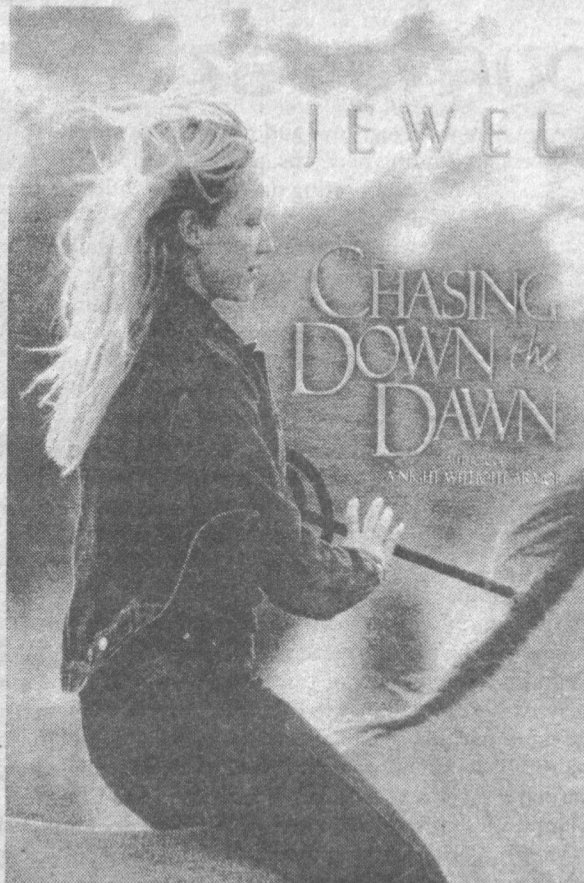


In 1998, musician/actress Jewel Kilcher penned the best-selling poetry book *A Night Without Armor*. When *Chasing Down the Dawn* was published in 2000, the singer gave her fans another page-turner. Instead of poems, however, this book is filled with diary excerpts, photographs and drawings that provide a glimpse into Jewel's past and a look into her life now. Even if you're not a fan of Jewel's music, you'll enjoy the heartwarming stories in *Chasing Down the Dawn* and perhaps become inspired to write yourself.

Many of the writings in the book have inspired Jewel's songs. She writes, "When I sing, I know somehow in the deepest parts of me that we are all just learning, fumbling toward ecstasy in perpetual youth, gathering experience and runny noses and love poems and tender words and scraped knees like a handful of bright threads, which we weave into our very souls."

Jewel uses her experiences to advise her readers. She writes about many topics, such as her first love, which occurred when she was 18 years old. Jewel writes about how she feels that young couples are often blinded by love and avoid conflict. She writes of her own relationship, "It was as though some part of me was aware that it was too intoxicating and somehow unreal, like a fantasy."

Though she grew up in Alaska, Jewel shows her readers that she has hardly lived a fantasy life. She relates stories about issues that she has faced, such as her relationship with her father, from which she has learned: "I've had things to work through and sorrows, but I can say to others who have suffered that we are whole no matter how broken we feel, and we can recover the experience of our



wholeness, no matter our age."

Jewel also includes telling, emotional stories about her personal life. On the one-year anniversary of her best friend Jacque's loss to her battle with cancer, Jewel had to perform. About that night she writes, "Tonight I could barely face people. I had to force myself to walk on stage." Jewel notes that it was Jacque, whom she had known since transferring from school in Hawaii to Anchorage, who loved her even when she couldn't love herself.

In her memoirs, Jewel even confesses to stealing from a more fortunate friend. She stole everything she thought she would need to feel better about herself. In the end, she stopped stealing because she was caught and realized that it showed a lack in her faith in God.

During that time, Jewel lived with her mother, since her parents were divorced. When she was 16 she moved out on her own. Many of the experiences from that point in her life are told in the book.

There are stories that will make your eyes tear and stories that will make you think about your own life. Reading this book shows you that Jewel may be a celebrity, but deep down inside, she is simply a woman living her dreams and dealing with struggles along the way. She has faced the same issues that members of today's generation are dealing with. For those who are fans of Jewel's lyrics, *Chasing Down the Dawn* has plenty of insightful phrases, such as her desire, "To be loved until you come undone at the seams," that will keep you reading.

In Memory Of Gregory The Poet

By John Findura, The Beacon

I just found out that Gregory Corso died last week. "Gregory the Herald", "Gregory the Poet", as Ginsberg and Burroughs called him. He survived the rough streets and prisons of New York City to become an arm of

the Beat movement in the fifties. Corso carved his poems out of brick and mortar so they would last through the imminent bombs and nuclear warheads of the Cold War.

I always hoped I would get a chance to meet him. This is a man who, according to William S. Burroughs, called up W.H. Auden one night. When Auden asked who was calling, Corso replied, "Gregory."

"Gregory who?"

"Gregory the poet!"

My brother is the one who turned me onto Corso.

"Read 'I Am 25' by Gregory Corso," he said. He threw me a copy of "Gasoline". He pointed out his favorite line:

"O I would quiet old men

say to them: I am your friend

what you once were, thru me

you'll be again."

Corso will still live through today's writers. Poet and musician William P. Caldwell used to tell me how the only things that got him through the tough times of frequent hospitalizations were his girlfriend and Corso's "The Vestal Lady On Brattle".

There's a lot I could say about Corso and the whole gang of Beat's that passed on. Instead, just go out and read his words. Get to know his poetry. Pick out a favorite and memorize it. Tell others of Gregory the Herald.

I keep this stanza from "Writ On The Eve Of My 32nd Birthday" in my wallet and frequently turn to it when I question this silly little art called poetry.

"I love poetry because it makes me love
and presents me life.

And of all the fires that die in me,

there's one burns like the sun;

it might not make day my personal life,

my association with people,

or my behavior toward society,

but it does tell me my soul has a shadow."

Thanks for letting us see it. Sleep well, Gregory.

Survivor

by Chuck Palahniuk

Reviewed by Larry Clow
The Beacon

By now, I imagine that most everyone has experienced *Fight Club*, one of the quintessential movies of all time. You've either seen the movie or read the book--maybe you've even done both. Even though *Fight Club* has achieved fairly widespread notoriety, most people still don't realize that Chuck Palahniuk is an accomplished author with another two books in his repertoire. *Survivor* is his second book, and, to avoid confusion, it has nothing to do with the hit TV show.

The novel opens with Tender Branson, the sole survivor of a religious cult that committed mass suicide, getting ready to commit suicide. Tender was raised in the compound of the cult, but was sent to the outside world at the age of 16 in order to get a job and raise money for the cult. While he is away, a mysterious disaster befalls the cult and all the members,

including the ones on the outside world, commit suicide. Tender is unaware of this development, and goes on living his mundane life as a house cleaner. When it is discovered that he is the only survivor of the cult, he becomes an international celebrity and is taken in and groomed by an agent eager to capitalize on his fame. Overnight, Tender is transformed from a humble, homely, house cleaner into a buff, tanned, steroid-pumped religious leader. Tender can't figure out how he got to his current state in life, and his world becomes even stranger when a mysterious woman named Fertility keeps popping up in his life. Tender's newfound fame, as well as the mystery of Fertility, shuttles him into a bizarre world that, because of his religious upbringing, he cannot comprehend or try to change.

At first glance, *Survivor* bears a great resemblance to *Fight Club*. Both make use of a first person narrator, and both begin their stories by actually starting at the end,

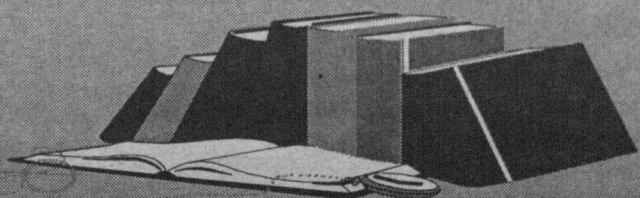
however, that's where the similarities end. In *Fight Club*, Palahniuk tackles such broad themes as body image, pop culture, the idea of freedom, personal responsibility, capitalism and personal sanity. *Survivor*, however, is a much more specific book. Palahniuk focuses on the cult of celebrity, and the media's ability to make anyone into a celebrity. Religion is also discussed, as well as the public and private perceptions we hold of people. Tender's narration of the story, is, like *Fight Club*, cynical and sarcastic, yet it cuts straight to the point. And, like *Fight Club*, the book is full of humor--black, black humor. The world of *Survivor* is not a pretty place--it's filled with unscrupulous agents, mysterious women, and a look into the darker aspects of modern life. Palahniuk challenges us to take a look at ourselves and our celebrities, and why we chose them. *Survivor* is an excellent book that will make you cringe and laugh at the same time.

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HOW SAFE IS YOUR JOB?

By DANIEL MCGINN and KEITH NAUGHTON

Pink slips are suddenly flying again, as employers show a new willingness to cast off workers at the first hint of trouble. Why this wave of layoffs is different, and what workers can do to prepare for the worst.



When Sara Proman arrived at her cubicle at a consulting firm in Boston on a recent morning, she received an ominous voice mail. A partner wanted to meet with her. The agenda? His assistant wouldn't say. So Proman, a 24-year-old research consultant who joined the firm 17 months ago, began working the office grapevine. A supervisor confided that she'd be one of 400 staffers terminated in what a spokeswoman later termed "a periodic rebalancing of the skill sets of our work force." Proman, a self-assured, chatty Wellesley College grad, was hurt but not devastated. She sat stoically while a partner broke the news. Within two hours her AmEx corporate card had been confiscated and her phone disconnected, and she'd been escorted from the building.

It's a grim scene playing out in too many offices as America's smooth-running economic engine suddenly sputters. Pink-slip parties are already old hat for dot-comers, whose jobs have been vaporizing for months. Now invitations are spreading across the Old Economy. Last week a new list of employers—AOL, JCPenney, Lucent Technologies and Sara Lee—announced massive cutbacks, which may lift January's layoff tally ahead of December's, which was already the highest in eight years. Half of all Americans now expect unemployment to rise in 2001, according to the University of Michigan consumer survey, double the number in November. And when the new consumer-confidence numbers come out this week, they'll likely show the sharpest two-month decline since the last recession. A remarkably frank Alan Greenspan worried to Congress last week that in the echo chamber of our wired economy, this drumbeat of bad news could discourage spending, undermining the Fed's efforts to finesse a soft landing. In lunchrooms and on e-mail, workers who once bragged about fat job offers are asking anxious questions: How safe is my job? Could I be next? Says Mark Oldman, co-founder of Vault.com, a job-research site where employees trade gossip: "There's almost a layoff panic."

Grizzled veterans who've ridden over the crest of past business cycles find this unsurprising. Booms always end, and workers lose their jobs. But there are numerous signs that the new shakeout signals a more dramatic shift in employment trends. Witness the stunning speed with which companies are pre-emptively jettisoning workers, before it's even clear the slowdown will be that long or deep. Another new twist: as so many Internet start-ups implode simultaneously, a younger generation accustomed to employers' begging for their services is catching its first glimpse of a normal job market, where not every worker is pursued like Alex Rodriguez. The final striking feature is just how matter-of-factly—even happily—many elite workers are taking their "reduction in force" notices. That's partly because they've become resolutely optimistic after growing up in a strong job market. It's also because after years of near-continuous downsizings (many due to mergers), many workers have come to accept the risk of layoff as the price of admission to the New Economy. "It's almost a rite of passage," says Dale Klamfoth, a VP at the outplacement firm Drake Beam Morin. "If you haven't lost at least one job in your career today, you haven't taken enough risk."

Let's be clear: despite all the dour headlines, today's job market remains remarkably strong. Unemployment still

hovers near a 30-year low, and recruiters say most laid-off workers are finding new jobs quickly. Even with dot-coms evaporating daily, people with computer know-how remain in high demand. And while some businesses, like retailers and auto-parts suppliers, are cutting jobs, other sectors such as health care, insurance and education remain desperate for workers. And despite all the scary talk about a downturn, most experts expect sharp interest-rate cuts to cure the anemic economy before it suffers two quarters of contraction, the classic definition of a recession. Hardly anyone expects the jobless rate to rise much above 5 percent this year, far below normal recessionary levels.



Still, even that 1 percent rise in the jobless rate would sting, translating into more than 1 million new job hunters pounding the pavement. Says economist Allen Sinai of Primark Decision Economics: "Five percent is a low rate historically, but tell that to the unemployed—to them it's going to feel just as bad as it's always felt." Jackie Chase is painfully aware of his plight. The 33-year-old single mom earned \$35,000 a year laboring at Cleveland's LTV Steel plant until her November layoff. On a recent morning she sat at her kitchen table, trying to conjure a way to buy food after using her \$261 weekly unemployment check for rent and car payments. She's agonizing over whether to take a sub-\$10-an-hour job, the only kind she can find. Her family is so distraught that daughter Melody, 8, took \$10 of her Christmas money, put it in an envelope and crayoned a note to LTV execs suggesting they use the money to rehire workers. "When times are good, you think they'll stay good forever," Chase says, staring at bills. "Then suddenly you're one of those people they're talking about on the news."

As sad as it is, there's a timeless element to her plight. Blue-collar workers are always hit hardest when business slows, says Princeton economist Henry Farber. What's changed in the last decade is how high up the job ladder that danger now extends. As the economy began its slow recovery from the 1991 recession, companies accelerated the "downsizing" of middle managers, who became expendable as computers reduced paper-pushing. During the mid-1990s the trend garnered tons of attention, mostly because the media elite had never seen so many peers suffer joblessness. Since then, white-collar layoffs have been a year-in, year-out routine, and as we face the first slowdown in a decade, these workers face bigger risks of job loss than ever before.



The upside is that white-collar folks traditionally find new jobs more quickly, and with less earnings decline, than lesser-skilled workers. Until last month David Leone, 53, was a purchasing agent at air-bag manufacturer TRW. Then his boss led him to HR for a little chat. "All I remember hearing was, 'How many boxes do you need?'" says Leone, who packed up his desk and was home by lunchtime. But the good news is that even in Detroit, hit hard by slowing auto sales, Leone could start work at a new job next week.

Rosy stories like his abound in part because so many layoffs are coming so early in the slowdown. In the past many companies waited until the depth of a recession to cut staff, which left victims job hunting when unemployment was high and positions scarce. During the 1991 recession, for example, General Motors CEO Robert Stempel waited until GM was submerged by red ink before cutting 74,000 jobs; as a result, GM's board axed Stempel, too. Today more companies cut jobs pre-emptively. So last December, after just two months of subpar sales, GM announced plans to cut 15,000 workers—despite having its second most-profitable year in history. This time, says GM Vice Chairman Harry Pearce: "We want to get ahead of the curve and anticipate the downturn instead of being surprised by it."

That swiftness has several causes. Blame some of it on new

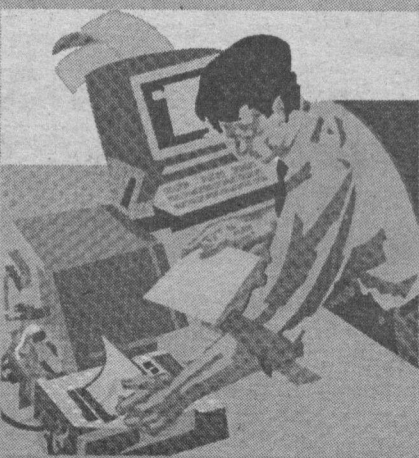
technology, which gives managers better information faster. "Firms know exactly what their inventories and sales are moment by moment, so they'll act faster to lay off workers," says economist Marvin Kosters of the American Enterprise Institute. Outplacement expert John Challenger calls that practice "just-in-time employment." Wall Street gets some of the blame for demanding that bosses take quick action when earnings fall short (although, contrary to populist rhetoric, the average company's stock price doesn't jump on layoff news). Blame another part on the public's growing acceptance of job cuts as an everyday management tool. CEOs used to face scorn for cutting jobs; today many Americans own stock, watch CNBC and idolize CEOs even as they downsize. "The sense of vilification isn't there anymore," says Jeffrey Sonnenfeld of the Chief Executive Leadership Institute.

Still, there's risk in putting workers on the chopping block so soon. Wasn't it only yesterday that desperate companies were doling out back massages and BMWs to attract and retain employees? If the current slowdown proves short-lived, companies laying off today could end up spending more to hire tomorrow. Not to worry, bosses say. Now that the old seniority-driven practice of "last hired, first fired" has died off, companies say they're handling layoffs with new sophistication. Today managers seek to carve out deadwood while holding on to MVPs. "The good performers are not at risk," says GM's Pearce. Outplacement pros refer to this Darwinian downsizing as "deselection." Yet despite managers' alleged growing skill in choosing layoff victims, some could still use some training in communications. Consider Curt Christensen's last day at EmployeeService.com. "I have some good news and some bad news," he says a boss told him. "Which do you want to hear first?" Christensen chose the good news. "You'll be doing a lot of skiing this winter," the boss said.

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IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE

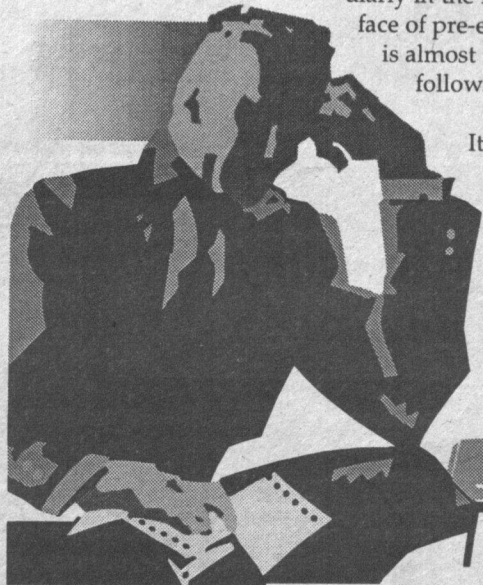
By TONY EMERSON and SCOTT JOHNSON

Jobs are on the increase across Europe, but so are the worries: Will American-style layoffs spread to the continent?

At times like these it is odd to speak of one "Western world," so wide are our differences. Mounting layoffs in the United States have aroused barely a whimper at home, yet inflamed the passions of protesters in France last week, where unions were staging their largest demonstrations in years. They marched in 25 cities—80,000 strong in Paris—against a plan to raise the retirement age by five years to 65, the same age as in the United States. Carrying slogans that read we want time to live before we die, they blasted songs of solidarity from sound trucks, and accused business leaders of trying to impose on France the rough rules of the American workplace. "For us, the American job market is a jungle," said SUD union founder and leader Annick Coupe. "The U.S. is not a model to be followed."

The pace of "creative destruction" is accelerating in the United States, which only reinforces Europe's view of America as a Darwinian survival test for workers. In the 1990s Americans saw the first wave of layoffs ever to strike in good times, as companies pressed for advantage in an ever more cutthroat economy. Now the pace of layoffs is quickening in anticipation of a downturn, and Europe is increasingly wary of the trends. "Even a year ago, the mood in Europe was, 'We're doing everything wrong. We

better follow the American model,'" says Eileen Appelbaum of the Economic Policy Institute in Washington. "Now I'm struck by the sense of optimism. Job growth is back, particularly in the European 'Tiger' economies. In the face of pre-emptive layoffs in America, Europe is almost relieved to have another model to follow."



It's become fashionable in London and Berlin to trash as a "myth" the image of a "sclerotic" European labor market, choked by regulations. Europe now looks to its Tigers—Austria, Denmark, Ireland and the Netherlands—to show the way. The Tigers have achieved American levels of unemployment—4 to 5 percent—with very different methods. They've persuaded unions to restrain wage demands in a

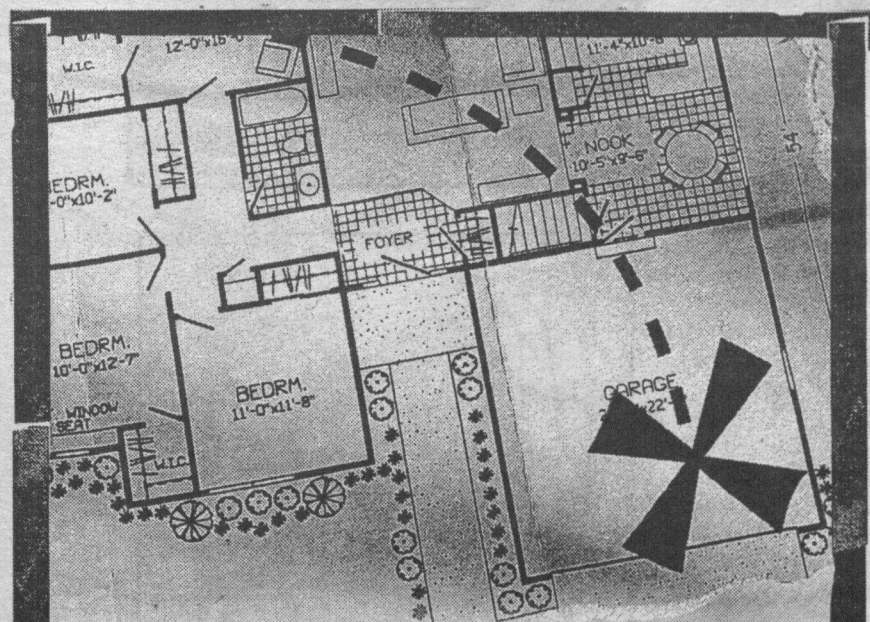
spirit of cooperation inconceivable in the United States. And they are leading a variety of European experiments with ways to boost the employment rolls by sharing jobs. French economist Dominique Foray dismisses the idea that Europe is "converging toward a U.S. style of capitalism," and predicts the emergence of many models on the continent.

Europe is showing surprising signs of flexibility. The high-tech boom is widely believed to have created a surplus army of freelancers and temps in America. The truth: part-time labor is falling in

the United States, and is more common in Europe. In a development recently cited by the European Union as a model, Volkswagen avoided layoffs in the mid-'90s by introducing a flexible 28-hour workweek that allows management to vary hours to meet demand. Last year the Netherlands passed a law that requires companies to meet worker demands for fewer (or more) hours, unless there is a valid business reason to refuse. Many companies are working harder to retain staff, on the ground that a high-tech economy requires "lifelong education." Job "tenure" is actually increasing, says International Labor Organization economist Duncan Campbell. "The workplace is becoming more and more like a university setting."

Worldwide, unemployment has risen by 20 million to 160 million since the financial crises of 1998—but Europe is well off compared with Asia and Latin America. In France unemployment has fallen from 12 to 9 percent since 1997. With the picture improving, France sees no reason to rethink new steps like the (inflexible) 35-hour workweek. In Paris angry strikers weren't about to back down. "Our bosses are trying to impose the American way of life on us," said union member Dominique Campagna. "The little Gaulois are still fighting. We will never accept what American unions have accepted." Perhaps. But the European way will be harder to defend if an American recession crosses the Atlantic.

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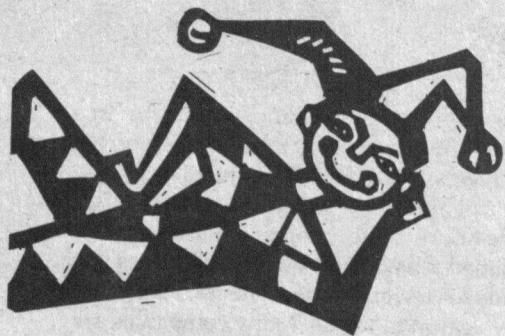
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Employment Tip of the Week

Before going on an interview make sure you know why you're actually going to a particular company. Remember, there's nothing wrong with getting a job just to pay your bills, but if you're applying for a position to start your career, it's best you have a good idea what you're seeking from the job and the company. Here are some don'ts when interviewing: When a hiring manager asks, "What are you looking for in a job?" Don't reply, "Something to pay my bills."

- When asked, "What made you interested in this company?" Don't reply, "I just thought it might be fun to work here."
- When asked, "What skills do you have to offer?" Don't reply, "I know how to use AOL."
- When asked, "Do you have any questions for me?" Don't let the first question you ask be, "What does the job pay?"



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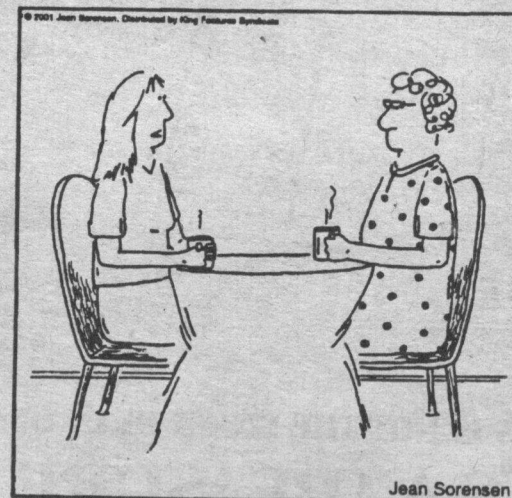
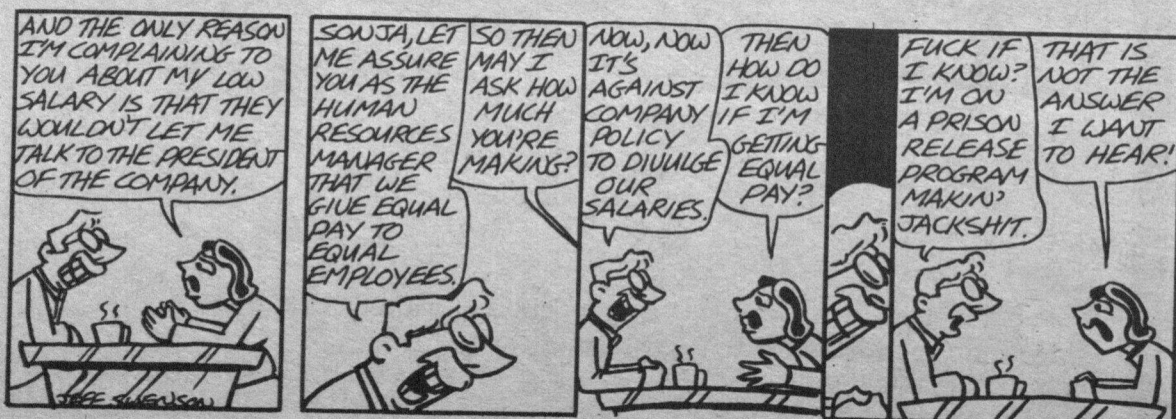
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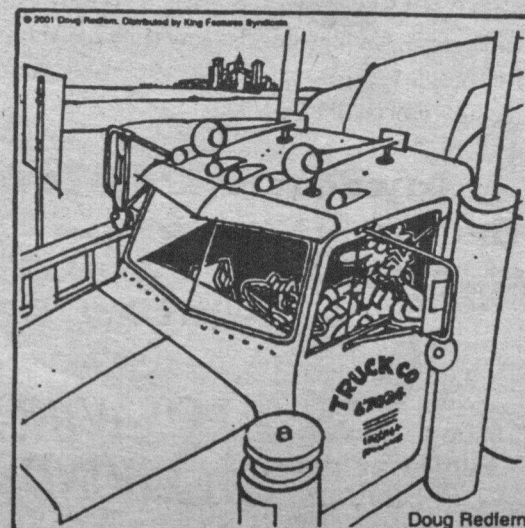
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THE CYNIC



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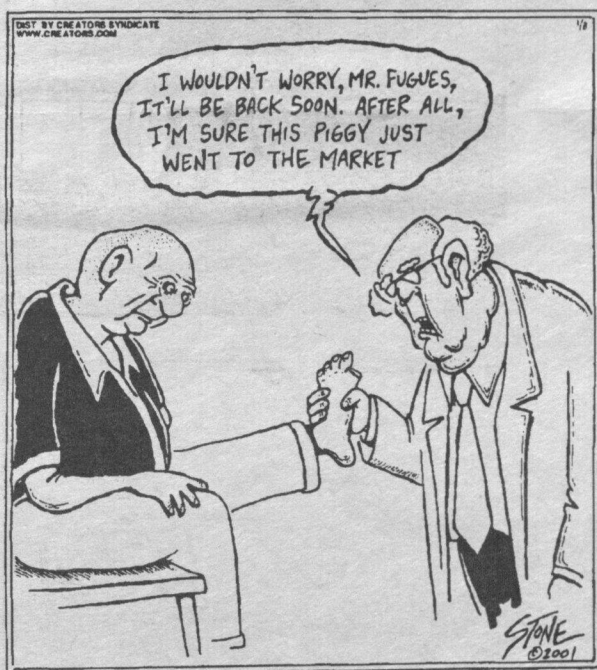
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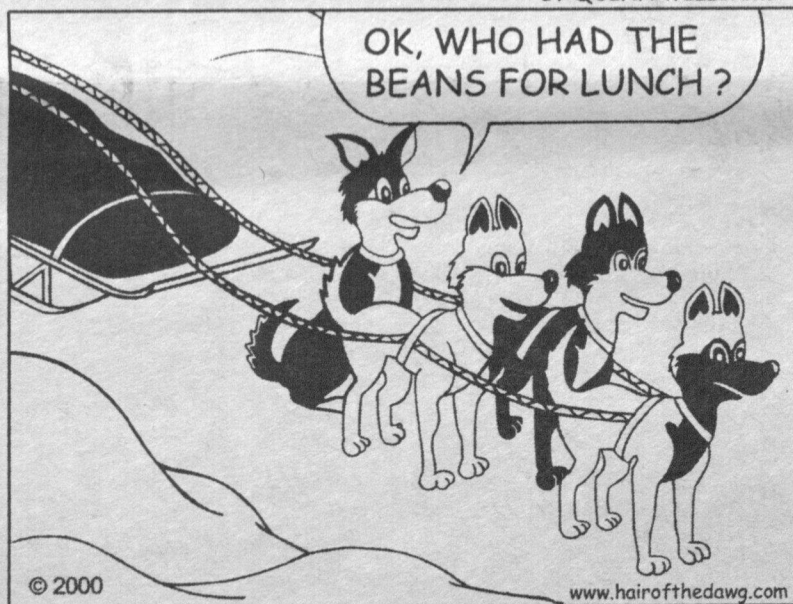
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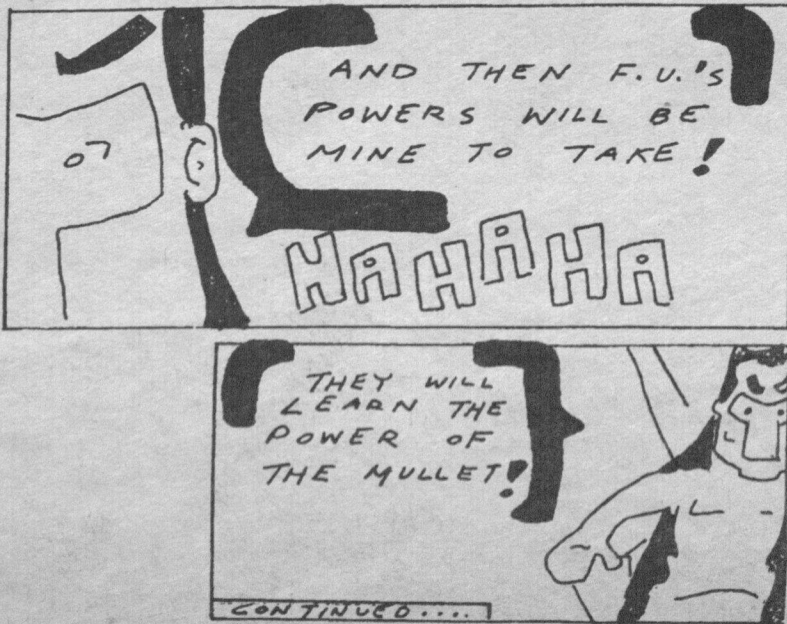


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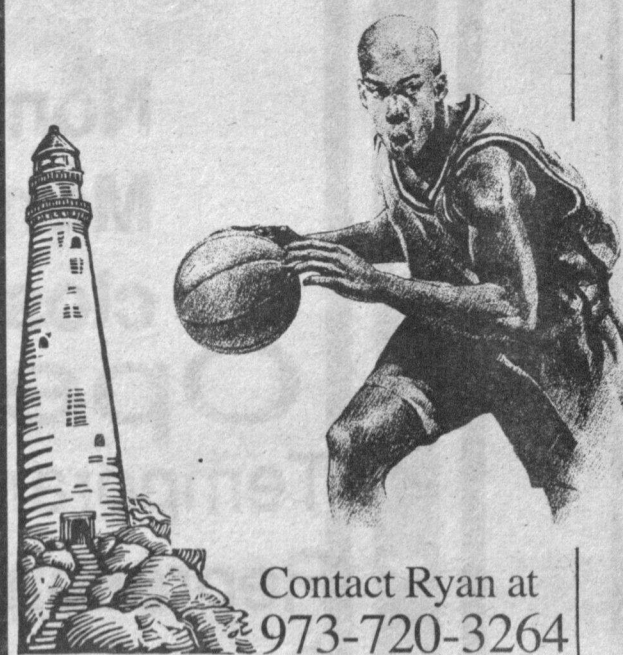
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