

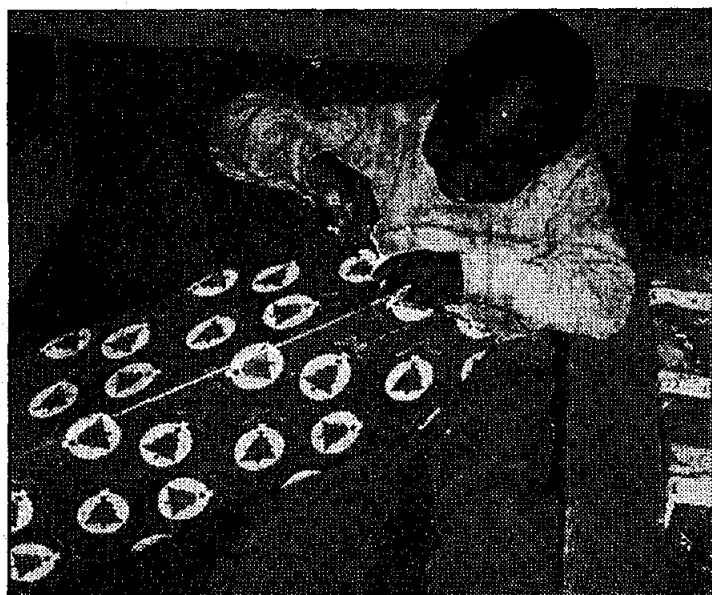


the beacon weekly

William Paterson University • Volume 69 No. 14

Monday, December 16, 2002

Gifts, games, and Santa at SGA holiday party



Above: A child, too excited about opening his gift to give his name, proudly exclaimed, "I've got a Batman car!" after getting his gift from Santa.

Right: The Gallery Lounge was decked out in holiday cheer, including lights, a Christmas tree, and the biggest decoration of all: Santa Claus. For more pictures, turn to page 4. Photos by Larry Clow

By Larry Clow
The Beacon

The Gallery Lounge in the Student Center was transformed into a winter wonderland, with snowflakes, Christmas lights, and other decorations adorning the room as part of the Student Government Association's annual Children's Holiday Party.

More than 70 children from Hilltop Haven and Eva's Shelter in Paterson attended the party in the Ballroom, where they were treated to cotton candy, games, and a surprise visit with Santa Claus.

"It's (the party) very important," said SGA executive vice-president Olivia Amanfor. "To see their (the kids') faces means so much."

Amanfor organized the event, along with help from various clubs in the SGA, including the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS), the Caribbean

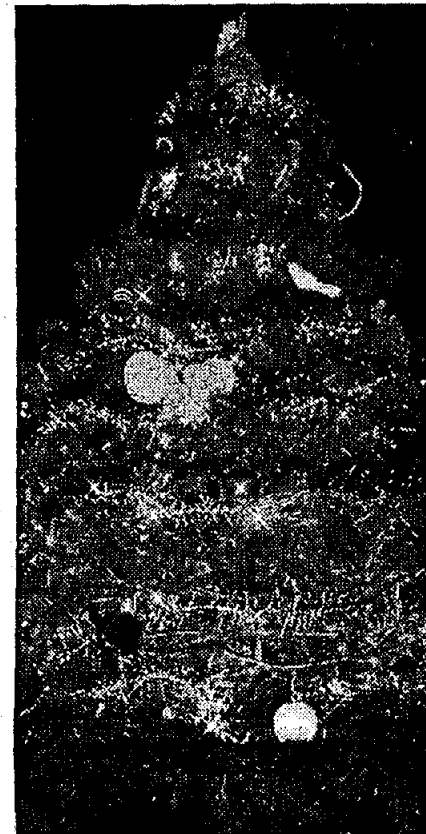
Students Association (CARIBSA), United Asian Americas (UAA), the Education Club, the Outdoors Club, and the Math Club.

"I'd like to thank those that came out, helped...and donated toys," Amanfor said. "I look forward to next year."

At the end of the party, the children were taken into the Gallery Lounge where they received presents from Santa Claus (portrayed by SGA Court of Judicial Review Chair Jim Schofield). Amanfor said that the SGA and some clubs purchased the presents based on wishlists obtained from the children.

"I really enjoyed it, especially when the kids enjoyed their presents and came back to thank me," said Schofield.

Tyler, a four-year-old from Paterson who was too shy to give his last name, said that he liked his new bike, but wasn't sure if he was going to ride it around or not.



Controversy surrounds stipends for Student Government legislators

By Lori Michael
The Beacon

Disputes surrounded the disbursement of stipends in the Student Government Legislature last week when the stipends for SGA vice president Takeisha McCoy and Commuter Student Representative Steve DeGennaro were called into question. Close to \$28,000 in stipends were issued to approximately 50 members of the SGA legislature, provided each member hand in a report on his or her duties during the semester.

At the end of each semester, the Student Government Association (SGA) awards stipends to all Legislators and each Club A President. Each stipend varies in value. SGA executive officers receive an "Executive Stipend," equivalent to full-time tuition. Presidents of Club A organizations, which include Greek Senate, Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB), WCRN

Radio, and Pioneer Yearbook, are also eligible for an executive stipend. The Court of Judicial Review Chair can receive a "Judicial Stipend," the amount of which is equivalent to nine-credits of tuition. Legislators, including the Chairs of Public Relations, Elections and Academic Affairs Committees, can get a \$250 Legislative Stipend.

SGA President Tyeisha Henderson's stipend passed unanimously, a long with stipends for treasurer Lauren Smith and Executive vice-president Olivia Amanfor. Court of Judicial Review Chairman Jim Schofield's stipend also passed without objection. The majority of stipends for Club A presidents were passed without issue; however, there were objections to issuing a stipend to WCRN President Isaiah Jones, who did not submit a report about the fulfillment of his duties. Amanfor and Smith spoke on Jones' behalf, explaining that he forgot to write something up. Ward informed the

Legislature that she had told Jones to hand in something when she saw him the day before the meeting. The Legislature decided to award Jones the stipend provided that he turned in a report by Friday.

The vast majority of the Legislators were awarded their stipends without question.

The vote to approve SGA Vice President Takeisha McCoy's stipend was met with some dispute, however. At first, McCoy's stipend was passed with eighteen voting in favor, one against and ten abstentions; however, Commuter Representative Steve DeGennaro questioned McCoy about her office hours, availability and excessive absenteeism. Schofield put an end to the extensive debate by informing the Legislature that the Court of Judicial Review (CJR) would investigate the matter and McCoy's stipend would be put on hold pending the results of a CJR hearing. Schofield

wanted to delay the hearing until the next semester to allow time to gather evidence, but many members of the Legislature, including McCoy, insisted that he hold an emergency meeting before the close of the fall semester. Schofield agreed, reminding the Legislature that the decision of CJR would determine whether or not she would receive her stipend.

Members of the Legislature called DeGennaro's stipend into question following the discussion of McCoy's stipend. The dispute centered on whether or not DeGennaro performed all his required duties, which include "surveying" students. Members of the legislature contended that in this context "survey" was a noun, and that DeGennaro needed to submit written results of a survey; DeGennaro responded by saying that "survey" was a verb, and that he need not submit written results.

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Corner Christmas
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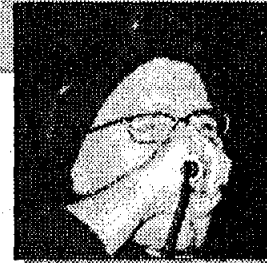
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the beaconweekly

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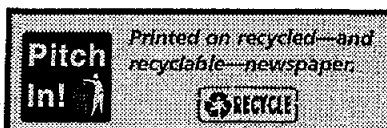
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The independent, student-run
newspaper of William Paterson
University. Published every Monday.

300 Pompton Road
SC 310
Wayne, NJ 07470
USA, Planet Earth
Main Telephone: 973-720-2248
Fax: 973-720-2093
Email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu

The Beacon does not receive funding
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Calendar of Events

Monday 12•16

— Exam Week Begins —

Tuesday 12•17

FINAL EXAMS

Wednesday 12•18

FINAL EXAMS

Thursday 12•19

FINAL EXAMS

Friday 12•20

FINAL EXAMS

Saturday 12•21

Fall Semester Ends

Campus Calendar submissions are taken
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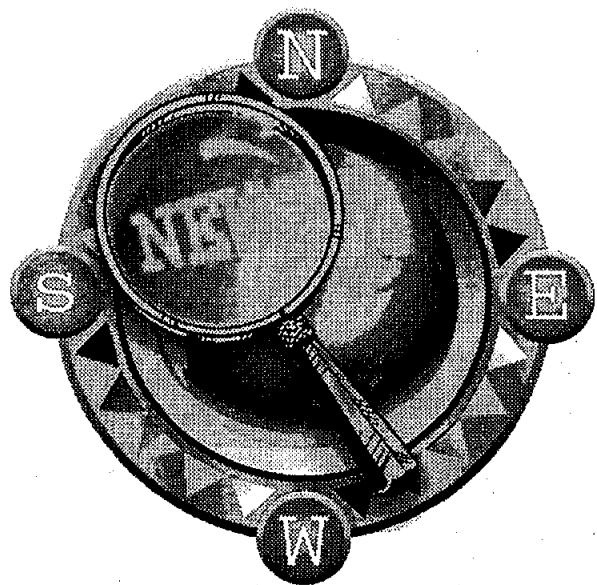
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Sunday 12•22

Winter Break Begins

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News In Brief

By Steve DeGennaro
The Beacon

International

North Korea Nuke Plan Called Unacceptable

President Bush told South Korean President Kim Dae-jung last Friday that he won't allow "business as usual to continue" with North Korea, but still seeks a peaceful resolution after the communist country announced it would reactivate its nuclear program.

"President Kim noted that North Korea's statement on unfreezing its nuclear program is unacceptable," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told reporters in Washington, recounting the telephone conversation, which was first announced by the South Korean government.

Bush called Kim to discuss renewed fears over the communist state's suspected nuclear weapons program. North Korea, accusing the Bush administration of taking a hard-line policy toward its regime, said last Thursday it will reactivate nuclear facilities that have been frozen under a 1994 deal with Washington.

"The two heads of state agreed that they cannot accept North Korea's decision to lift its nuclear freeze, and they agreed to urge North Korea to withdraw its decision," said Kim's national security adviser, Lim Sung-joon.

Iran: Nuclear Plants Open to Inspection

Iran rejected U.S. claims that it was developing a clandestine nuclear program, declaring last Friday that its nuclear plants were open to international inspection.

"We have no nuclear activity or study without the knowledge of the International Atomic Energy Agency," government spokesman Abdollah Ramezanzadeh said. "All our nuclear sites are for peaceful purposes and open to IAEA inspection."

Ramezanzadeh's spoke after U.S. officials last Thursday endorsed claims by an armed Iranian opposition group this summer that two construction sites in central Iran may be used for a clandestine program to develop nuclear weapons.

U.S. intelligence officials do not believe Iran has made nuclear weapons.

In Vienna, the director of the International Atomic Energy Agency criticized Iran for not revealing the construction projects earlier. Mohammad ElBaradei said he had been talking with the Iranians about the sites for the past six months.

"This is not a surprise to us," ElBaradei told a news conference. "It would have been better if we had been informed earlier about the decision to build these facilities."

ElBaradei said he was to have gone to Iran this week to inspect the sites to make sure they are part of the "civilian fuel cycle" and not for building nuclear weapons. But Tehran rescheduled the trip for February, he said, because President Mohammad Khatami was out of the country and "they need some time to prepare for the visit."

IAEA Chief: Most Data in Iraq Filing Old

Most of Iraq's nuclear weapons declaration to the United Nations is old material, and only 300 pages in Arabic are believed to contain any new information, the chief of the U.N. atomic energy agency said last Friday.

Mohamed ElBaradei, director-general of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency in charge of hunting for nuclear arms in Iraq, said 2,100 of the dossier's 2,400 pages "is material we already had before."

His assessment came as U.S. officials accused Iraq of failing to account for a number of missing chemical and biological weapons in its overall 12,000-page arms declaration, which includes the 2,400 pages the IAEA is analyzing.

The report appears to skip over purchases that U.S. intelligence believe are related to Saddam Hussein's nuclear program, officials in

Washington said last Thursday.

"Iraq has said they have not taken part in any nuclear weapons activities. We are far from reaching a conclusion on that matter," ElBaradei said. "Of course we must verify that statement. The process will take time but you need to bear with us because if successful, this is the best way of ensuring that Iraq disarms - and could spare innocent lives."

National

Lott Won't Give Up Leadership Post

Sen. Trent Lott apologized yet again for comments that seemed to show nostalgia for the nation's segregationist past, and a spokesman said the Mississippi senator does not intend to step down as Senate GOP leader.

Lott, who has apologized twice before for remarks made at a birthday party for Sen. Strom Thurmond, told reporters, "I am going to expand on that even more this afternoon" at a news conference in his home state. Asked whether Lott intends to give up his leadership post, spokesman Ron Bonjean responded, "No."

Lott touched off the furor while praising Thurmond, R-S.C., at his 100th birthday party. He said Mississippians were proud to have voted for Thurmond in 1948 when he headed the pro-segregationist Dixiecrat ticket.

"And if the rest of the country had followed our lead, we wouldn't have had all these problems over all these years either," Lott added.

The remarks triggered an outpouring of anger from Democrats and Republicans alike, culminating in criticism from President Bush last Thursday.

Cardinal Law Resigns

Cardinal Bernard Law, the central figure in the worst scandal to hit the Roman Catholic Church in America, resigned last Friday as archbishop of Boston after months of public outcry over his failure to protect children from abusive priests.

Law is the highest-ranking church leader in America, and the first U.S. cardinal to fall as a result of the clerical sex abuse crisis that has plagued the Church this past year.

Pope John Paul II accepted the resignation after the two men met last Friday morning, the Vatican said. The pope named Bishop Richard Lennon, an auxiliary bishop in Boston, to run the diocese temporarily.

"I am profoundly grateful to the Holy Father for having accepted my resignation as archbishop of Boston," Law said in a statement released by the Vatican.

Lennon takes over at a challenging moment for the church. More than 400 alleged victims are suing the archdiocese, and Law has taken steps to allow the archdiocese to file for bankruptcy.

Bush to Launch Small Pox Vaccination Plan

President Bush is setting in motion a plan for quickly giving smallpox vaccinations to military personnel bound for the Iraq region and opening a campaign to inoculate emergency teams most likely to encounter a domestic bioterror attack.

He will offer the shots to most members of the public but won't urge them to get it.

The disease, eradicated 22 years ago, is inspiring new dread as a terror weapon. But the government will not recommend that most Americans get vaccinations, because it does not see a smallpox attack as an "imminent threat," a senior administration official said.

Educating the public about the vaccine - its risks vs. benefits - will be a major focus.

"It's going to be very important for us to make sure there's ample information for people to make a wise decision," Bush said.

News in Brief is compiled from Excite.com and AP wire newsreports

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More pictures from the SGA Holiday Party



Five friends were excited about having their picture taken.



Santa, played by Jim Schofield, listens to a Christmas wishlist.

SEMINAR

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Stipends continued from Page 1

Schofield informed the legislature that there was not going to be another discussion about the word, which had prompted a similar debate at the previous Legislature meeting. However, Ward, Gomah, and other members wanted to see the results of the "survey." The Legislature motioned for DeGennaro's stipend to be put on hold and questioned whether he had fulfilled his duties under their interpretation of the word "survey." Schofield said that when CJR met to hear evidence about McCoy's duties, they would determine the exact meaning of the word "survey" and decide whether or not DeGennaro had fulfilled his duties.

At the subsequent CJR meeting, DeGennaro presented his case, bringing the Webster's dictionary and a grammar book to discuss the meaning and usage of the word "survey."

"Why is one person isolated," asked Francisco Diaz, director of Campus Activities and advisor to CJR. Diaz pointed out that neither the other Commuter Student Representative nor the Part Time Student Representative, whose duties include a nearly identical clause, had been asked to present such a report.

"The word was used as a verb. Therefore, an action is taking place and there is supposed to be results. Where are the results of your survey?" Ward asked.

The Court also considered two amicus briefs, the first of which was submitted by SGA Attorney Gerald Brennan. Brennan questioned whether or not the SGA could deny a stipend to a person who, in good faith, fulfilled all of

his duties according to how he read the Constitution. He also pointed to the established legal practice of consulting the framers of a legal document about their intentions when the meaning of a clause was in doubt. Schofield, who was framer of the duties of the Commuter and Part-Time Student Representatives, stated that it was his intention to leave the term loose.

After a heated discussion, the court decided that DeGennaro would receive his stipend based on the current language of the Constitution.

After DeGennaro's hearing, the Court discussed McCoy's stipend. DeGennaro alleged that there were several constitutional duties that McCoy neglected to perform, including making five scheduled office hours per week, submitting a written report to the legislature on the actions of the Student Center Advisory Board (SCAB), organizing an inventory of office supplies, and distributing the agenda of regular meetings to Legislators.

The Judges looked at evidence that Schofield had been able to uncover, including the log of office hours, McCoy's scheduled hours and attendance at Executive Board and Legislature meetings, among other things.

McCoy informed the court that she lost four family members over the course of the semester and experienced various health problems.

When asked why she didn't resign, McCoy said she wanted to "stick it out."

College of Arts and Communication Representative Christiana Gradwell spoke about her encounter with McCoy. Gradwell informed the court that she got points for being late to a

Legislature meeting and needed to get in touch with McCoy to appeal the points.

"I constantly called her [McCoy] and left numerous messages," testified Gradwell.

McCoy informed the Court that she had erased Gradwell's number and got three messages. McCoy later made an appointment after receiving a letter from Gradwell.

"If she [McCoy] has to go through this, then every person needs to go through it," Freshmen Class President Terrance Nelson told the Court.

After hearing the evidence, the court found McCoy guilty of two allegations: failing to maintain her required office hours and failing to present the Legislature with a written report on the activities of SCAB. By extension, CJR found that the Legislature had approved McCoy's stipend under false pretences, and awarded her half the stipend. The Court also decided to reevaluate the method of approving stipends next year to ensure that this kind of mishap would never happen again. Finally, CJR asked McCoy to reevaluate her personal situation and determine whether she would be able to continue in her position next semester.

SGA Advisor Mark Evangelista expressed his doubts that CJR had the mandate to make a decision on this matter, despite the fact that Schofield explained his intention to allow precisely that at the Legislature meeting. By a vote of two in favor with two abstentions, the Executive Board voted not to put the ruling into effect until the Legislature had a chance to review and approve it.

Supreme Court Looks Again at Sodomy Laws

By Gerry Brennan
SGA Attorney

In August 1982 Michael Hardwick was arrested in Georgia for violating that state's sodomy law. A police officer had observed Hardwick's having sexual relations with another man. The local prosecutor decided not to prosecute. But, Hardwick with the help of the ACLU challenged the constitutionality of the statute all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

Hardwick argued that the law violated his constitutional right to privacy. In a 5-4 decision in the case of *Bowers v. Hardwick* 1986 the U.S. Supreme Court disagreed and stated that the U.S. Constitution did not extend a right to homosexuals to engage in consensual acts that the law defined as sodomy.

Four years later Justice Lewis Powell who voted in the majority said that he probably had made a mistake in upholding the

law.

On December 2, 2002 the U.S. Supreme Court indicated that it would revisit the issue when the court announced that it would hear the case of *Lawrence and Garner v. Texas*.

In 1998 John Lawrence and Tyron Garner were arrested when officers were called to Lawrence's apartment on what later turned out to be a false report of a domestic disturbance. Lawrence and Garner were found having sexual relations and were charged and convicted under the Texas law that prohibits same sex "deviate sexual intercourse."

On the first appeal the appellate court overturned the convictions. At the next level of appeal, however, the reviewing court reversed and reinstated the convictions. The consequences of the final outcome of the case could be major for Lawrence and Garner. Under Texas law, if the convictions stand, the men could

be barred from certain professions. In some states they would be considered sex offenders. The Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is representing Lawrence and Garner.

Only 13 states still make consensual sodomy between adults a crime. The Fund believes, as do many court observers, that the trend away from sodomy statutes indicates that the court will overturn *Bowers v. Hardwick* and confirm a fundamental right to privacy for consensual sexual conduct regardless of the sex of the participants. The possibility does exist, however, that the current conservative U.S. Supreme Court could affirm *Bowers*, but that's not likely.

Arguments before the court have not yet been scheduled. (Information for this article came from *The New Jersey Law Journal*, November 25, 2002).

Amid the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, pause for a moment, and then join The Beacon.

The Beacon Application for unpaid but rewarding position

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Better review process needed for SGA stipends

By Larry Clow
The Beacon

Close to \$28,000 in stipends for members of the SGA Executive Board and Legislature were approved last Tuesday afternoon. What group approved these stipends, you ask? The very group that will receive the stipends: the SGA Executive Board and Legislature.

One might think that an outside, impartial group would decide whether or not stipends should be approved. After all, there is a certain amount of bias present when members of an organization are asked to decide if they deserve money or not.

However, there is no such impartial group here at WPU. The members of the SGA decide whether or not each person should get a stipend. How do the members of the SGA reach this decision? Each person eligible for a stipend is required to present a report stating whether or not they met the requirements for their position. That's it. No outside body to observe who does their job and who doesn't, no group of impartial students not directly involved with the SGA to decide whether stipends are warranted. Essentially, the members of the SGA have to decide whether or not to give themselves money, and do so by asking themselves whether or not they did their job. Obviously, something is wrong with the system.

Who should have this power? The student body, of

course. The \$28,000 handed out last Tuesday afternoon was taken from the SGA's yearly budget; much of the SGA's budget comes from the Student Activities fees, which is part of the total tuition paid by each student every semester. In short, every student that pays tuition contributes to the SGA budget.

Do students have a say in the stipend-approval process? No. The stipends were approved at a meeting of the SGA Legislature; at these meetings students who are not members of the Legislature are not allowed to vote. The most that any one student could do at one of these meetings is ask to speak; even then, the chair of the meeting is under no obligation to recognize anyone not part of the Legislature. The students who fund the SGA are not even given a vote on anything the SGA does.

How can this problem be solved? First off, a group of impartial students who are not directly involved with the SGA should be charged with deciding who gets a tuition stipend and who doesn't. This is the only way to ensure that each member of the SGA is evaluated fairly; the current system only encourages nepotism and favoritism. Secondly, the SGA should encourage, and allow, students to fully participate in the decisions made by the SGA. When student money is at stake, it is the students who should have the final say.

Ted Rall



V a c a n t L o t t

By Michelle Malkin
Creator's Syndicate

Trent Lott, the Republican Party's eternal Maalox moment, has given the Beltway's liberal pontiffs on race exactly what they crave: a big, fat excuse to extract legislative payoffs to ease their collective "pain."

On Wednesday, the Senate Republican leader went on Fox News and CNN promising more race-conscious government remedies to make amends for his tacit endorsement of segregation. In interviews with Sean Hannity and Larry King, Lott cravenly pledged support for "community renewal" (more minority set-asides); said he would "put more money into education so no child is left behind" (more federal spending for failed urban programs); and boasted of his "African-American interns" and appointments (more racial preferences).

My fellow conservatives, if you weren't already convinced that the Mississippi senator was a gutless, ineffective, self-preservationist sap before his remarks at Strom Thurmond's 100th birthday party last week, this pandering to the race Mafiosi in the aftermath of his comments seals the deal.

Democrats are circling the wagons. Senator Joe Lieberman of Connecticut demanded that Lott "speak from his moral center" (this presumes he has one) and that he "make clear his

commitment to racial equality." How does Lieberman think Lott should do this? Oh, no, not by calling for an end to government racial preferences (as Lieberman once did before he was re-educated) or by meeting with the true moral heirs of the civil rights movement — leaders like conservative Ward Connerly who could teach Lott a lesson or two about principled support for race neutrality and how best to achieve it.

Lieberman wants Lott to meet "with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus (to) show that he understands the hurt his comments have caused." Yes, by meeting with the racial demagogues of the Black Caucus, Lott can show his clarion commitment to racial equality.

And how will the "hurt" be repaired? Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., already has his wish list in order. According to the Biloxi Sun Herald, Thompson thinks Lott can "make up for his statement" by "pushing for a minimum wage increase, expanded affordable housing and a prescription drug benefit." Cha-cha-ching.

Both liberals and conservatives who are lambasting the vacant Lott as an unrepentant bigot give him too much credit, methinks. The former college cheerleader did at Thurmond's birthday party what he has done all of his life: He mouthed the words he thought his audi-

ence at the moment wanted to hear. Lott never actively donned a white sheet, like his Senate colleague and ex-Klansman Robert Byrd, D-West Va. Instead, Lott is, and always has been, on the sidelines of America's race debate.

There is only one cause, one animating spirit that Trent Lott is committed to: not the South, not the segregationist past, but himself and his future in high office. And now, to save his hide, Lott will shake his pom-poms and turn somersaults to please whomever (Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., the Rev. Al Sharpton) can help him stay in power.

One of the supreme ironies in all this mess is that the White House and GOP leadership are entirely comfortable with the kind of contemptible race-conscious payoffs Lott is poised to make on behalf of the Republican Party. As governor of Texas, George W. Bush signed laws supporting minority contracting set-asides; directing electric utilities to develop diversity and set-aside plans; and creating race-targeted scholarship programs.

So while the headless chicken brigade here in Washington screams about Lott "tearing the country apart" with his idiotic words, the New Segregationist policies supported by both the party of Sharpton and the party of Bush continue unabated. It's racial logrolling as usual.

Letters To The Editor

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

Larry Clow
Editor-in-Chief

CONTACT US



William Paterson University
300 Pompton Rd
SC 310
Wayne, NJ 07470
Main Number: 973-720-2248
Fax: 973-720-2093
Email: beacon@student.wpunj.edu
Confidential Tips: beacontips@hotmail.com

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Gentlemen's Corner

By Pat Bennett & Brian "Brain" Morris
The Beacon

Ho Ho Holy Shit!! Welcome everyone to this semester's last Gentlemen's Corner (please hold back your tears). Since Christmas isn't too far away, we will be talking about this wonderful, festive holiday.

Brain: Christmas is a wonderful time of year, filled with joy, happiness, love, stress, indigestion, and fruitcakes. Don't you all just love it?

Pat: Don't forget about the joy of trying to find parking spaces at the malls. It's almost as bad as trying to find spaces at school. All the crowds and their bullshit...it's awful.

Brain: Well, I don't have a parking problem. According to the doctors and the State of New Jersey, breaking a femur constitutes being handicapped for at least 6 months. So let's just say I'm the popular one when it comes to Christmas shopping. One thing I really can't stand are those mothers who use their baby carriages as battering rams at the mall, then when you turn around to say something you get tripped by her kid on a leash.

Pat: Don't you just wanna tell those kids that Santi Claus ain't real? Anyway, before I go shopping, I figure out exactly what I need, and then go in, get it, and get out...yeah right. Actually, it's more like go in, hope to God they have something, and then break out.

Brain: I try to stay away from the mall for as long as I can, so for me, going to the mall is like a new experience. I always forget where everything is, so I can never get in and get out. I can find where I'm going, it's getting back to the car that's the problem. Those mall people gotta make every parking lot and garage look the same.

Pat: Yeah, jerks. At least the music around the holidays is cool.

Brain: I HATE CHRISTMAS MUSIC! In my house, Christmas music starts the week of Thanksgiving. When you finally get to Christmas you are so happy, not because it's time to open pre-



sents, but because there's no more wretched music. Thankfully, there's only one bloody New Year's song to get through.

Pat: Oh come on dude, the music is great. When else can you hear John Mellencamp, Band Aid, U2, Springsteen & the E Street Band, and the Ramones singing holiday gems?

Brain: Luckily, I only have to hear it once a month out of the year. Remind me to start writing songs for May Day. Ooh, and we can't forget the festive Boxing Day. Maybe I'll write some annoyingly catchy music for that holiday too.

Pat: Whatever bitch, I mean, Grinch...anyway, I've kinda lost touch with the Christmas Spirit ever since I found out Santa Claus isn't real...a year ago. But regardless, I love seeing the houses with a million lights and decorations out front.

Brain: Yeah, that looks great, especially when the people with small-ass front yards get jealous of the people with lots of decorations, so they feel the need to cover every square inch of their yard with Santa Claus junk and reindeer shit (he-he-he). Their place looks like a Christmas ghetto, and what about the people that have those Christmas lights that put out like, 10 million candle power, so you're blinded as you slide your car through the ice into a snow drift.

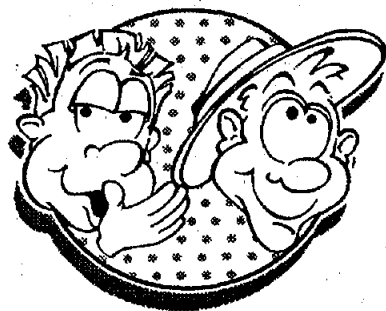
Pat: You know, if parents want their kids to behave, they should threaten them with reindeer shit instead of coal. Think about it, while Santa's stuffing his face with milk and cookies, Rudolph, Blitzen and the rest of the gang are leav-

ing steaming piles of shit on the roof for the kids. If the thought of that doesn't make them behave, I don't know what will.

Brain: You have a good idea; I think I'll use that on my kids someday. Now, the Santa Claus sitting on the lap thing, I'm not too keen on that idea. Why do I have to sit on some old guy's lap to get what I want for Christmas? Why can't everybody just say it a few times throughout the year? I mean, he knows if you're sleeping or awake, so he's gotta take a hint once in awhile. Well, one part of Santa's job isn't too bad; I wouldn't mind seeing a few people being naughty and nice...

Pat: Yeah, like strippers. Ok, Rummy time.

Christmas is the time to say I love you, when Santa Claus is comin' to town, and everyone is rockin' around the Christmas tree. Brain and I would like to extend our best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season to all of you out there who have supported us this semester, and we'll see you in Spring '03. To the ones who didn't, we hope you end up with reindeer shit on Christmas morning. And if you don't like it, tough shit (he-he-he)...



Dish with Diva & Dude

Dear Diva and Dude,

i just broke up with my significant other. should i still give him the christmas gift i bought him?

-tom in towels

Torn-

It depends on how long you were together. If it was a serious relationship and you want to remain friends, then you may want to consider giving him a gift. But first, feel him/her out and see if he/she will be giving you a gift. If he/she's not, then return the gift you got him/her and spend the extra cash on a gift for yourself!

-Diva

It all depends on who broke up with who. If you dumped him, then you are a witch and should at least give him a gift so he could leave the relationship with a little dignity before he posts the naked pictures he has of you on the internet. If he broke up with you, then he's a dick and probably doesn't deserve the gift, so send it to me instead. If the breakup was mutual, then pawn the gift and spend the money at Chippendale's stuffing dollar bills onto men's junk.

-Dude

LIBIDO LINGO

Shake, Rattle and Roll

Well, the holiday is coming up and everyone's taking finals and preparing to go home for Christmas. I thought of so many possible topics for this week's column and a couple of days ago I got a perfect one. I haven't written an exact personal experience yet. I've decided to end the semester with a personal one for you all. This week I had several new sexual experiences. I'm going to only tell you about three: Office sex, bondage, and full body shakes.

Let me explain. A couple of days ago me and boyfriend were sitting around after hours just making out when we started thinking about my column and how I needed new experiences for it. We thought about water sex first and wound up throwing that

idea out for several reasons. Then we came across office sex. As we talked about it more we thought about bondage as well.

To make a long story short, one of us ended tied to a chair (you guess who) and blindfolded. There was much teasing done that made one of us anxious and that the other one enjoyed. We wound up on the office floor having much needed sex. I was greatly enjoying myself when I realized that my hands had started sort of vibrating, followed by my legs and finally my nose. I'd had my legs shake during a sexual experience before but never my hands, let alone my nose. I've spoken to a few friends and they've all had their legs and hands shake but never their noses.

My experience has taught me a few things: 1: Bondage is a great thing. Everyone should do it. Bondage really adds something to

the sexual experience and makes for great foreplay. 2: Office sex is a hell of a good time. It adds excitement and danger to your sex. 3: Only have sex in places with soft carpeting and even then, be careful. One of us went home with bruised knees. Finally, my boyfriend is great. He really shows me a good time.

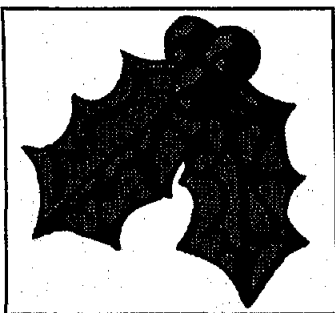
Oh yeah, a couple of pieces of advice. When you try bondage, use soft things that won't hurt you or your partner. Silk or satin scarves are best. And be careful with that office sex. You do run the chance of being caught. We almost got caught in a very compromising situation when a "coworker" came in. And, keep that carpeting advice in mind. You'll appreciate it later. Other than that, have a great holiday and great sex as well.

-Precious Booker

Yuletide Cheer

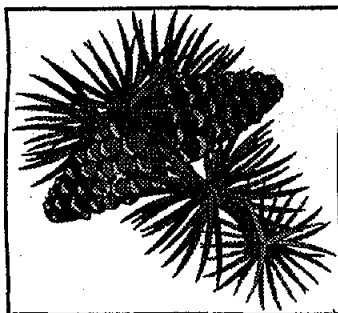
By Precious Booker
The Beacon

It's time for another Wiccan holiday. This upcoming holiday is Yule. It is like the Christian Christmas, except without gifts. However, a lot of Wiccans who come from families that traditionally give gifts do exchange gifts for the holidays. My friends just write "Happy Yule" on my gifts. Yule falls on December 20-23. Also called the Winter Solstice,



Yule celebrates the rebirth of the Sun, the Sun God, and honors the Horned God. On Yule, we experience the longest night of the year. Although much of the winter's harshest weather is still ahead of us, we celebrate the coming light and thank the Gods for seeing us through the longest night. It is a time to look on the previous year's achievements and to celebrate with family and friends. From this day until Midsummer, the days grow longer, everyday banishing the darkness a little more in a glow of the warm sunlight that brings the world to life again. This day is the official first day of winter. Yule will usually fall somewhere between the dates above and varies from year to year depending on when the Sun reaches the southern most point in its yearly trek.

A couple of things that we associate with this holiday are: 1. Herbs:



Holly, Mistletoe, Rosemary, Oak, Pine cones, 2. Incense: Bayberry, Pine, Cedar, Rosemary, Juniper, and 3. Colors: Red, Green, White, Silver, Gold. Decorations Wiccans use are Yule logs (oak or pine), mistletoe, wreaths, strings of dried flowers and cinnamon sticks, apples, oranges, and a Yule tree. Our traditional foods are nuts, apples, oranges, caraway rolls, mulled wine, and roast turkey. So, Happy Yule to all the Wiccans and Pagans out there, and happy holidays to everyone.

**All of us in the Features
Section wish all of you in the
William Paterson University
Community a safe and happy
holiday season.**

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Audioslave

Supergroup?

THE STROKES TAKE BACK THEIR CITY

Pat Bennett
The Beacon

Throughout the history of Rock 'n' Roll there have been bands that were both critically praised and critically bashed before they hit superstardom.

This also holds true in the case of **The Strokes**, who formed in late '98/early '99. Critics have anointed them as "the saviors of Rock 'n' Roll," while others have dismissed them as a band not worthy of any success.

Well, in my opinion, all of these "critics" don't have a clue as to what they're talking about. The Strokes aren't here to "save" Rock music; it never needed "saving" to begin with. They're simply doing things their way, the way they like it, and the way it should be done. They are proving to everyone that they have what it takes to become HUGE (if they want to be). Their talent was especially clear at their sold-out show in New York City's Roseland Ballroom.

They hit the stage a little before ten o'clock and, with the help of some feedback, burst into "New York City Cops," a song released on the import version of their debut album, *Is This It*, and on the U.S. single for "Hard To Explain." They kept the momentum going with one of their new songs (out of five they played that night), "Meet Me In The Bathroom," followed by "The Modern Age," also from their debut. Their latest single, "Someday," came next, along with "Hard To Explain." By this time the crowd was going nuts, singing along to every word.

Another new song, "You're Talkin' Too Much," was well received by the enthusias-



tic audience, as was "Trying Your Luck" and their first hit-single, "Last Nite." During the solo, lead singer Julian Casablancas smacked guitarist Albert Hammond, Jr. in the ass during the solo, giving an approving look.

The crowd was still going nuts during "Alone, Together," "The Way It Is" (another new one) and "Soma." Julian dedicated "Barely Legal," "For my minority of pervert friends." They ended the show with "Take It Or Leave It" (which also closes out *IS THIS IT*), leaving the audience still pumped up and wanting more. Unfortunately, there was no encore; after all, they did play every song they had (except for "When It Started" what happened to that one?!).

The set list was strong, with the songs from *IS THIS IT* sounding great. The new songs also sounded really good, leaving me in anticipation of their much-awaited second album. If what I heard that evening is any indication of what their next album will sound like, that album will be as much a classic as its predecessor.

The chemistry between guitarists Hammond, Jr. and Nick Valensi was superb. They don't always play the same

parts, which makes their songs sound even better. It's a classic rhythm/lead combo that makes for a match made in Heaven. Fab Moretti (with newly-shaven head no more fro!!??) was excellent behind the drums, never missing a beat and pounding them with authority and precision. Nikolai Fraiture has to be one of the best new bass players out there. While Valensi and Hammond were doing their things, Fraiture's bass sounded great and carried the whole band.

Julian Casablancas sang his lyrics to a crowd that understood the meanings. The only complaints I had for him, for that show at least, was he sounded a bit lazy and he didn't seem energetic. He didn't jump around that much or try to really get the crowd going, which is the job of a frontman. Granted, the rest of the band didn't really GET INTO IT as much as they could've, but I should also mention that they have been on the road for nearly a year and a half, touring the U.S. and overseas, several times. Other than that, collectively, the band sounded great, leaving the crowd hungry for more.

The one other complaint I had was how poor the lighting was. Since I was able to get a photo pass, I was in the photo pit for the first three songs.

Unfortunately for the other photographers and me, the lighting was not good for our cameras, and we couldn't use any flashes,



which added to the difficulty in getting some good shots. Also, we couldn't see Fab that well. Put some lights on Fab!! He did, however jump into the crowd afterwards, which was kinda cool, but being a fellow drummer, I would've loved to see him play during the show.

For those of you "critics" out there who don't like The Strokes, all I can say is, "I'm sorry." You really don't know what you're missing. They're just a cool frigin' Rock 'n' Roll band - that isn't here to change the world. In an industry

that's producing Rock bands who put out garbage, The Strokes aren't giving in to overnight pop stardom. They dress cool, act cool, put out music that's cool, and, well, ARE COOL. Is this really it? Hell yeah!!

- THE STROKES SET LIST**
 NEW YORK CITY COPS
 MEET ME IN THE BATHROOM
 THE MODERN AGE
 SOMEDAY
 HARD TO EXPLAIN
 IS THIS IT
 YOU'RE TALKIN' TOO MUCH
 TRYING YOUR LUCK
 I NEVER NEEDED ANYBODY
 LAST NITE
 ALONE, TOGETHER
 THE WAY IT IS
 SOMA
 I CAN'T WIN
 BARELY LEGAL
 TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

Punk Rock Summer Camp

Joelle Caputa
The Beacon

Need salvation from the winter blues? Then take a trip to Punk Rock Summer Camp, courtesy of **ONESIDEDUMMY** Records. The label will re-release the documentary film on February 4, 2003, with an 82 minute DVD. All proceeds will benefit Boarding for Breast Cancer, Lifebeat, the Surtrider Foundation, and Camp Pacific Heartland.

It's made up of footage from Vans Warped Tours of the 90's and offers exclusive behind the scenes looks at the bands, athletes, and crews who make each tour (all 10 weeks, 51 shows, 100 bands, in 13 countries) happen.

Viewers get a front row seat for performances by veteran bands such as **NOFX**, **Rancid**, **Bad Religion**, the **Deftones**, **Unwritten Law**, **Cherry Poppin' Daddies**, **Reverend Horton Heat**, **Hepcat** and more.

Athletes interviewed and shown working up a sweat include Steve Caballero, Carey Hart, and Rick Thorne. You'll begin to appreciate everyone who makes the tour

possible, as you see how hard they work. Every day the stage is built and taken apart. The main offices have become portable. Every day is a new city, a new task.



Highlights include the fusion of the Warped Tour and Ozzfest, voyages to Europe and Canada, and the out-takes. Jimbo Wallace of RHH takes the cameras along with him food shopping. Back at the venue, Punk Rock Karaoke is happening on stage with members of **Bad Religion**, **NOFX** and **Social Distortion** playing along while fans sing on stage.

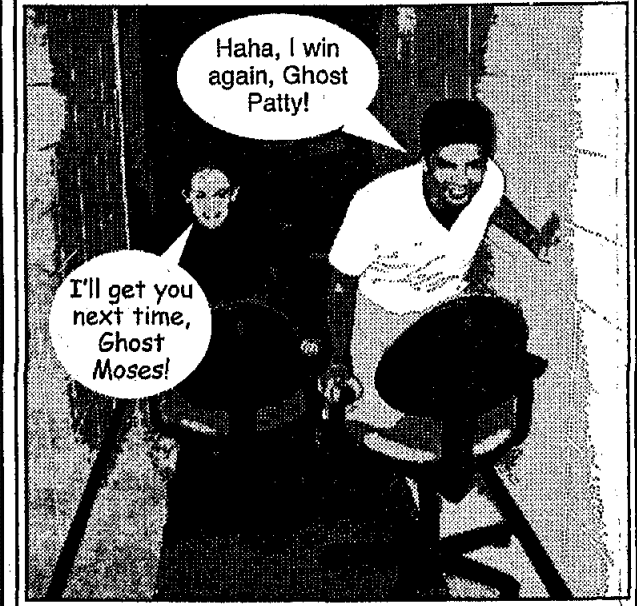
After watching this, one can't help but wish it was summer again. Vans needs to release a new DVD with more recent tours on it. They could make money just by releasing the highlights of each year individually.

Those who can't get enough of the punk rock lifestyle can get their hands on some Warped reading material, as well. The Warped Book: Tales of Freedom and Psychotic Ambition has even more stories and interviews. Plus, it's jam packed with photos from America's largest punk rock festival.

For more information, go to www.warpedbook.com.

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NICKEL CREEK

Robbie LaFalce
The Beacon

Sugar Hill records' **Nickel Creek** performed at McCarter Theater on a cold Tuesday night in November to a sold out crowd. True, the place wasn't much bigger than WPU's own Shea Auditorium, but for a band that plays music that has "bluegrass roots," I would say that is quite an accomplish-



ment. My friend Aleks and I had tickets in the 11th row, stage right. Tremendous seats with a great view- except for the guy with the large hair in front of my face.

Their opening number "Smoothie Song" (from their new album *This Side*) is a crazy instrumental which entertains solos from every member of the trio and their traveling bassist. The members of the band are: Chris Thile-Mandolin, Sara Watkins-Fiddle & Sean Watkins-Acoustic Guitar.

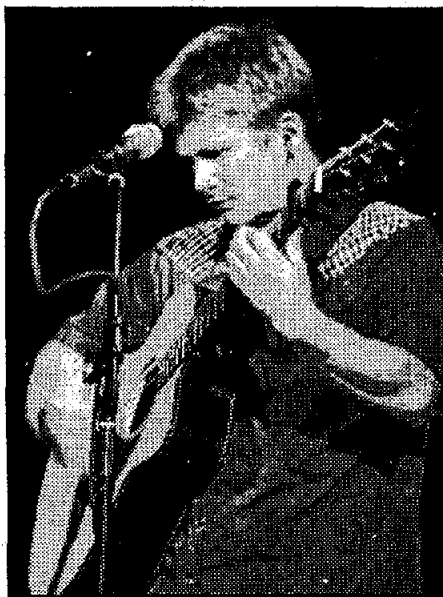
They sing some of the most beautiful harmonies I've ever heard.

Now, why would anyone go see a 'Bluegrass' band in 2002? Well, that's a bad question because I like bluegrass but if you go farther with that and answer why anyone "could" go I would say because of their amazing ability to cross the barriers of any particular genre. For example, at this particular performance they played a number of ballads and sweet love songs like, "When you come back down", and "Sabra Girl". They also have tremendously up tempo powerful songs with odd time signatures (which I'm a sucker for) and just amazing solos. My new favorite song (also from their new album *This Side*) "Beauty and the Mess" has all these such things and so did the song that introduced me to

them the already classic (in my mind) "House of Tom Bombadil", which is named after a character in the *Lord of the Rings* books.

Another positive quality is their appreciation for classics. While performing "House of Tom Bombadil", the band nonchalantly segued into "Lithium" by NIRVANA! The crowd was taken aback and was totally into it. Who would have imagined that! They also encored with a rendi-

tion of "Tax Man" by the Beatles. What made the show complete for me was their second encore. Normally I don't like when a band takes a second encore because, they're usually trying to look like hotshots, but this was genuine and totally surprising. For their second encore, Chris, Sara and Sean came out unplugged from the sound system. They stepped to the front of the stage with out microphones and started



talking to the audience. Soon they broke into one of the most beautiful presentations of the classic hymn "Thou Art My Vision". Mic less, ampless and in their purest form the band rocked harder than ever in peaceful solemnity.

I would recomend these guys to anyone anywhere: old, young, white, black, potato, iron skille. These guys are so good and so easy to listen to.

People were yelling out requests during the whole night. It was a very intimate setting. So... I being me decided that I would yell my own out. But here's some quick background first. Nickel Creek had done some work with the singer of *Toad the Wet Sprocket* over the past year and did some songs with him (Glen Phillips). So being that they had already done one of the collaboration songs

that night... without Glen, I thought I would request another. BAD IDEA. So I yell out "Sake of the World" which is one of those songs. Sara stops, turns and looks at me and says INTO THE MICROPHONE, "You don't want us! You want Glen!" as I slowly sunk into my chair all the people around me started looking at me funny. But not many people knew what the hell she was talking about and who Glen was. So she continues and goes (while pointing at me) "He knows



what I'm talking about!" Wow, I got yelled at by Sara Watkins. I'm either a legend or a big dumb ass. I'll take legendary dumbass if you don't mind. Peace!

Check out their website @ www.nickelcreek.com

REEL BIG FISH

Andrew Errichello
The Beacon

On October 19, Amidst the dyed hair, plaid outfits, and multiple piercings found rampant throughout the crowd, Reel Big Fish, The Starting Line, and The Kicks, rocked Philadelphia's Electric Factory. The rather small venue was packed to see a ska/punk show that was not necessarily your normal MTV headlining gig. As a security precaution, fans were searched airport security style. Lines stretched around the corner of the parking lot.

While they are a mainstream band, Reel Big Fish is not exactly the most popular band of its time. It wasn't one of those concerts where you go just to say you were there. You're there because you want to have a good time.

From the get-go, the young crowd was rambunctious. Kids, some not even in their teens yet, dominated the crowd. Except for the bar area up stairs, where only people 21 years of age and older are allowed, the audience was a rowdy and energetic youth that was going to be damned if they didn't have a blast. In fact some fans were so young that parents steadily watched their every move from atop the bar area.

"I feel so old, there's so many little kids here," said Maria, 20, a Modford NJ resi-

dent.

Although the crowd was young, that didn't stop anyone from rocking out to their favorite songs as the bands showed the place how things were done. The favorite band of the night award was a close race due in part that the opening band The Starting Line, was playing in front of their friends and family. It was a sight to see, as the punk band from Philadelphia got the crowd going after a very lackluster performance by The Kicks. Practically stealing the show from Reel Big Fish, The Starting Line got the crowd jumping and moshing as



most of the audience screamed the lyrics to their hometown heroes' songs. The venue started to sway back and forth and the air got too hot to breathe in the mosh pits. Intermission came and swarms, if not the

whole place made a mad dash for the concession stands in a dire effort to get water.

When asked what he thought of the concert so far, "It's so hot in here, but it's still really cool," said 12-year-old Eric.

People were drenched head to toe in sweat. But mere dehydration wasn't going to stop this party. After a 15-minute break, the festivities kicked off again, but this time it was the main course, Reel Big Fish. Complete in head to toe plaid, Afros and glasses, the zany ska band picked up where

The Starting Line had left off. The crowd roared and the tunes commenced. Reel Big Fish came out horns blazing, creating a perfect ending to an already outlandish concert. Their wacky performance inciting the audience to jump in unison like a tidal wave. One after another, the crowd surfers trounced on unsuspecting victims below, and sometimes even falling flat on their own heads. Shoes were lost and body parts flung in all directions- all in the name of rock



and roll. Empty water bottles became projectiles and the crowds continued their hazardous moshing.

The high point of the night came when the lead singer of Reel Big Fish asked the lead singer of The Starting Line to sing the female part of a song with his "girliest voice."

The sporadic screaming in between songs and general chatter amongst the Reel Big Fish members and the crowd was over. The madness finally came to a close and the night was over. The bands had induced a frenzy among their fans that many would remember for years to come.

"We get a lot of shoes at the end of shows," said Steve, a security guard working the front barricade, referring to the piles of shoes lost by those caught

up in the moment crowd surging.

All in all, the show was a success and a good time was had by many. The concrete floor, once covered in punk loving fans, was reduced to empty bottles, bags, and general trash. With the arena smelling like a sweat soaked gym sock, the cold air outside was a fitting welcome back into reality. The show was over and it was back to the normal lives that so many people came to escape from for a little while.

AUDIOSLAVE LEAVE AN IMPRESSION ALL THEIR OWN

Lori Michael
The Beacon

If there is any album that deserves recognition this year, it should go to...No, not Justin Timberlake and no, not Christina Aguilera either; **Audioslave**, the new album, which features ex-Soundgarden front-man Chris Cornell and the remaining members of **Rage Against the Machine** (RATM) Tom Morello (guitar), Tim Commerford (bass), and Brad Wilk (drums). The album holds true to old RATM and Soundgarden, but leaves a lasting impression for any music fan.

Before this album was created, Zack de la Rocha, the original singer of Rage, dropped out of RATM because of artistic differences. Morello and the others wanted to gear their music in a more rock direction, as opposed to de la Rocha who wanted to do a more hip-hop sound. Plus, this past summer, the band, which still did not have a name yet, was going to perform at Ozzfest. However, the band dropped out because Cornell dropped out of the band, but rejoined in September. Plus, the name of the group was originally going to be Civilian, but the band settled on Audioslave.

"Cochise," the first song on the album, Morello's guitar riffs sound like a machine gun. Although, the song is constantly on K-Rock and/or WDHA, I am really not complaining too much considering it is a great opener to the CD. "Show me how

to live," has a more classic Soundgarden sound to it, but it has the kick of Morello and bass line of Timmy C. "Gasoline" has again some cool Morello and Timmy C riffs, but Cornell's vocals have amazing range. "What you are" is a lighter song, at first, but explodes at the chorus. "Like a stone" has a cool synthesizer sound to it, but of course, its Morello supplying the funky riffs. The bridge part reminded me of some funky slide guitar sounds like Floyd; this is the next radio happy song. "Set it off" has a spiffy opening before Morello goes into a more RATM sound. "Shadow on the sun" Timmy C spats a cool bass line.

"I an the highway" is a more mellow beginning. This song has a different sound that I would never have guessed RATM musicians were backing Cornell up, but that is beauty of this album. "Exploder" goes right back into the heavy Rage/Soundgarden sound with killer drum kicks by Wilk. "Hypnotize" has some really awesome Morello riffs in the bridge of the song, which starts off really slow and mellow. "Bring 'em back alive" is another Morello toppt. "Light my way" has a trippy, cool beginning that sounds spacey. Cornell's range is overpowering. "Getaway Car" would be a nice driving tune, much

like the Seger or Metallica version of "Turn the page." The album closer, "The last remaining light" has a very melodic sound.

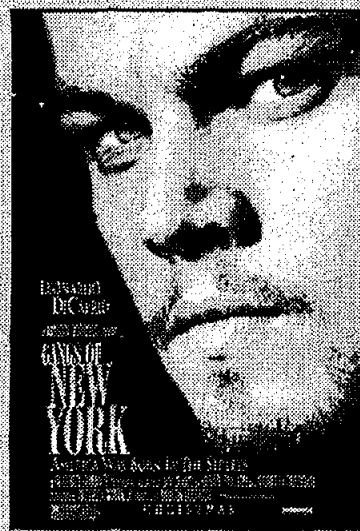
Overall, Audioslave is a must have for any music collector. Even if you do not want to buy the album because you feel you will be supporting Morello's political views, then simply burn it from your friend, who does not care about politics, but simply loves music. Cornell's vocals have amazing range and intensity. It is good to hear his voice on the airwaves and in a band again; although, his solo album was pretty good. Morello, Timmy C, and Wilk are a great bunch for Cornell to work with, even though they had a shaky start. Plus, it is cool to hear different musical interventions, which those RATM boys came up with. Audioslave conquered 2002.



MOVIE BYTES • MOVIE BYTES • MOVIE BYTES •

Jack Gattarella
The Beacon

Coming to Theaters this Friday. **GANGS OF NEW YORK**



Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Daniel Day-Lewis, Cameron Diaz, John C. Reilly, Brendan Gleeson, and Liam Neeson. Directed by Martin Scorsese

The best American motion picture of 2002

This has been well worth the wait- an epic that's taken legendary filmmaker Martin Scorsese 25 years to bring to the screen is sprawling, intricate, and most importantly, correct in all emotions- as much violence and good old vibes from the 19th century are shown here, emotion is always the underlying current, as in his other classics, and it is another grand achievement.

The film starts off in 1846, as a native gang, led by Daniel Day-Lewis, and the Irish gang, led by Neeson, have a battle that leaves

Neeson dead in the cobblestone street, and leaves his only son, Amsterdam, orphaned. Cut to 1863, with a grown up Amsterdam Vallon, played in a much better-than-expected performance by DiCaprio, who will soon have a view of the New York of that time, and of the gangs that will envelope him and his revenge.

While Gangs isn't the definitive Scorsese feature, it is his most ambitious in many years, and all of his passion for the material, characters, and events that unfold are layed like a near-realistic version of epics from the 40's and 60's. Even Diaz, who had a bomb earlier this year (The Sweetest Thing), delivers like a pro, and Day-Lewis is a very much human-like villain. During the holiday season, this is a sure must see, and for more than one viewing I can recommend.

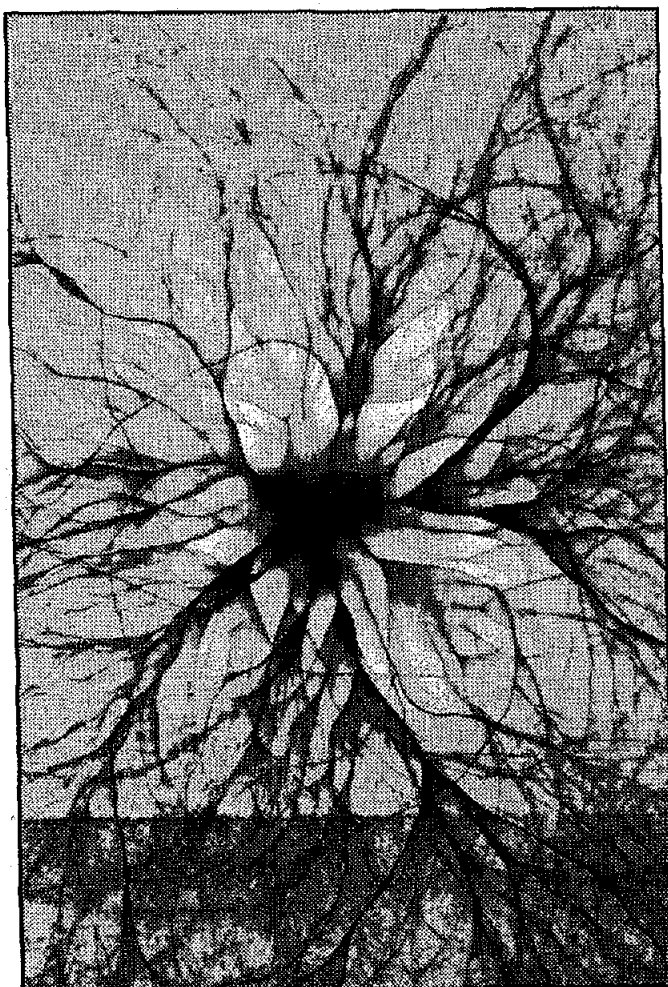
Grade: A+

HOW CAN JAKE AND MOSES MAKE JOELLE MAD?



Abstracts

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



Eric Heller "Transport II", Laser Print, 2000

Cyberartistic Oragnisms: Artistic visons seen through a Computer

Chris Moses
The Beacon

The fault line between "fine art" and electronic generated images has narrowed in recent years. In the past, computer generated work held very little merit because of the artworks means of creation, the computer. The major criticisms of computer-generated art are that its point and click and takes little or no artistic talent to create the images, that the computer executes the process. The artistic elitism is an idea that has lightened today but is still adhered to by many fine artists and critics. To a degree you can toss me into the pot with the elitists, but I'm willing to experience the visual beauty in anything, easel or computer generated.

In the Power Arts Building of Hamburg Turnpike, William Patterson is hosting the current location of the 2001 Siggraph Traveling Arts show. It will be at the Powers Arts gallery space through January. The show name, Siggraph, holds the largest expo for electronic technology based creation in the world and in this biannual show selections of some of the finest electronically created art are on display. The question again arises if this type of work should be given merit as a fine art. From a visual sensibility the work is astonishing. The use of imagination in this exhibit is dumfounding at times, and this "picture perfect" art makes me redefine my dogma on the art process. Is the process really the measure of a great piece of art or the end result and methodologies? The exhibit includes artwork by Eric Heller, who somewhat amusingly

is a Professor of Physics at Harvard University. Heller creates solely computer-generated art, and his visuals explore the beauty of nature and its biomorphic flows. Heller's artwork is sensual, rhythmical, colored with the electric vitality of a meteor shower. Heller creates his work on computer programs and scripts that he writes. Heller creates beautiful pictures with the computer as a tool instead of painted brushstrokes. Heller's work is just as captivating as any painting or sculpture I've seen lately and the answer to the previous question is that electronic work can exist as fine art if we apply value to it as an idea instead of process. This show is just as interesting and on a basic level the work is just as awesome to view. I suggest you visit the power arts building and decide for yourself.

Interview with a Graduating Art Student and his thoughts on Senior Thesis

Chris Moses
The Beacon

The senior Thesis Project is a task every undergraduate art student at William Paterson University must complete. The thesis project represents the culmination of the student's hard work and the control he or she has over their chosen medium. Presentations of Thesis projects take place in a gala-like setting, in the Ben Shahn Galleries, at the end of each semester. This thesis show took place last Tuesday and Thursday and student work from many different styles and mediums were represented with a lecture by the students. I took aside one of the participants in the Senior thesis, Sandeep Jambhekar for a brief interview to get his thoughts.

Chris Moses: What benefits did you receive after doing a senior thesis?

Sandeep Jambhekar: I think it's a way to express your own artwork without being bound to any project parameters.

CM: How did you feel about having to do a lecture?

SJ: It was interesting. Its good for the artist to be able to explain their work. And as a final evaluation I think its essential.

CM: How did you feel about the other students work in thesis?

SJ: I thought everyone did a great job in showing their work and talking about it. Mario's (Pena) work was really cool. It's hard to get a handle on what the students interests artistically without having a thesis.

CM: Do you equate the senior thesis with a professional level exercise?

SJ: I think it was a professional way to show your work at the end of a college

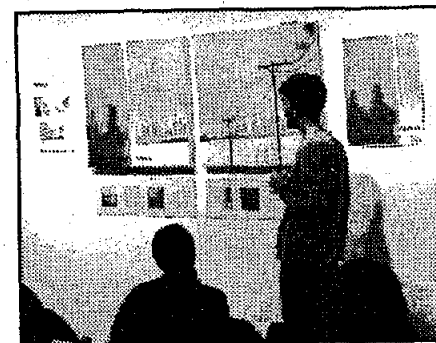
career. (Because) I'm pursuing a career in marketing or commercial design, I doubt I'll encounter it again though.

CM: How do you feel about your experiences as a graduating student of the art department?

SJ: I felt overall it was positive. I loved all my teachers here, working with the Beacon was a definite plus, my experiences with the Student Art Association was tremendous and I felt that I gained a lot knowledge that will help me in the future.

CM: Do you feel the Art Department has prepared you for a career as a professional?

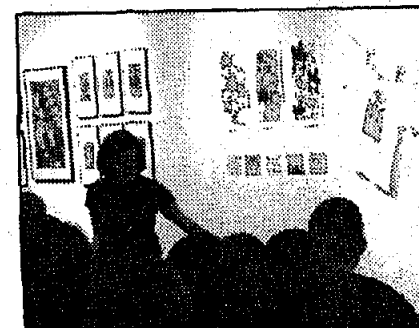
SJ: Yes. I feel it has given me a good foundation of the technical aspects of graphic design and the creative aspects of art. And as well I learned a little bit of knowledge of the business world, which I will need.



Tim Harrington, Thesis Presentation, 2002



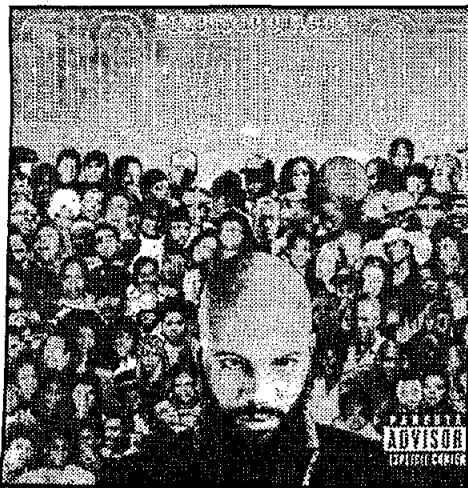
Sandeep Jambhekar
"Euphoria"
digital Print,
2002



Liz Urso, Thesis Presentation, 2002

Com-Plex & Profit

Album Reviews



Common "Electric Circus" [MCA Records]



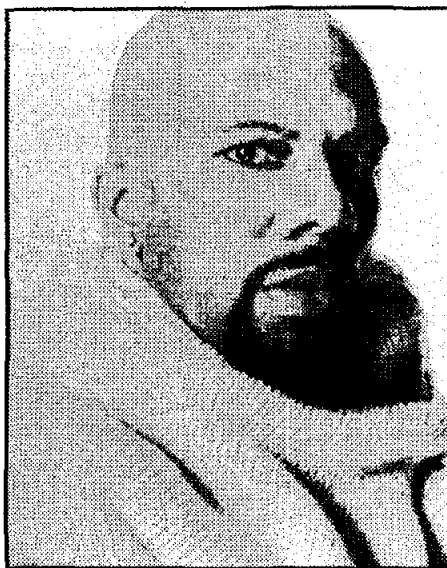
For those of us who have been into progressive hip-hop for some time, Common has long been a household name. Common (real name Lonnie Lynn) is just as infamous for putting the once slept-on Chicago hip-hop scene on the map, as he is for his unique lyrical wordplay and dope storytelling. When he hit us with "I Used to Love H.E.R." off of his classic 1994 album *Resurrection*, he had the hip-hop world on his jock. The first time you listened to the song and you heard the end and realized the woman he was rhyming about was really "hip-hop," I guarantee you flipped your shit. The MC hall of fame had to begin opening its doors for the light-skinned Chitown brother named Common Sense (most of ya'll probably already know that he dropped the Sense in his name after a rock band of the same name made it an issue).

Throughout his career, which now includes the brand spanking new LP *Electric Circus* (MCA Records), Common has been a populist rapper. He has fought back pimply-like tendencies to advocate feminist ideals. He never claimed to be an angel and wore his struggle for awareness on his sleeve throughout his career. Even still, Common got lumped into the Conscious Hip-Hop set, because of his resistance to the jiggy/glam and gangsta hip-hop scenes. Common's shit felt more appropriate lumped in with music-first hip-hop artists like the Roots, Mos Def, and the notorious Native Tongues family, than it did with mainstream artists like Jay-Z, Biggie, and 2-Pac.

The only problems that a lot of us bleed ing heart liberal hip-hoppers have was his well-known homophobic and (what could be perceived as) mildly racist opinions. This was, after all, the man who brought us lines like, "In a circle of faggots, your name is mentioned," on "Doinit" from his 2000 release *Like Water for Chocolate*, and "Hom's a noko, so faggots, stay solo," on "Heidi Hoe" from his 1992 debut, *Can I Borrow a Dollar?*, as well as the white boy dis "Don't watch the Bulls as much, they got too many white boys," on the single, "Resurrection '95." The white boy line was mild and could be written off as a playful jab, because after all, he could have said plenty of things much harsher than that. It was too bad though, some of us felt, that even if he wasn't pro-gay rights per se, that he couldn't at least make it a non-issue in his music; however, as I mentioned earlier, Common has always been the type of artist to wear his struggles with enlightenment on his sleeve. His homophobic tendencies were the only thing that may have kept the

otherwise positive, open-minded artist from becoming the full out poster child for the Conscious hip-hop movement.

Well, it seems Common has turned a new leaf, and changed his mind about how he feels about those who have a different sexu-



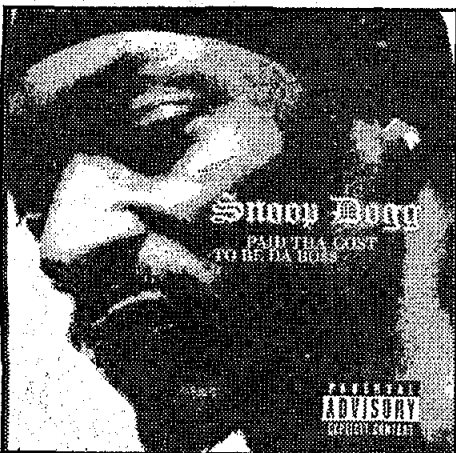
al preference than he. This change is a highly commendable one, an evolution which only a mature artist capable of growth could have pulled off. It would have been a much easier option for Common to rest on his laurels, but instead he discerned that he was ready to grow. On *Electric Circus*' tenth track, "Between, Me, You, and Liberation," which features the "super-freaky" Atlanta singer/rapper Cee-Lo, Common takes an opportunity in the third verse to drop a rhyme about a very close, gay, male friend coming out of the closet and finding unconditional love and support from Common. Now, whether this allegory is based on a real-life event or is entirely fictional, the support that

Common extends to his friend in the song makes a clear case for the change that he has gone through. Furthermore, *Electric Circus* is the first Common album on which there are no mentions of the word faggot, gay, or any possibly racist remarks.

Even amongst all this personal growth, Common didn't forget to record a hot album, ripe with guest appearances from R&B heavy hitters Mary J. Blige, Bilal, Jill Scott, Vinia Mojica, and his significant other Erykah Badu. Also appearing as guests on this album are a couple surprising spots from Sonny of Christian Rap-Metal kings P.O.D., Laetitia Sadier of pioneering British electro-pop rockers Stereolab (who lost band member Mary Hansen just days ago when her bicycle was hit by a car), and Minneapolis-star Prince, who plays keyboards and guitar on the phone-sex anthem "Star '69 (PS With Love)."

Guest stars aside, Common's fifth record, *Electric Circus*, is a fly journey, through the mind of a man with a social conscious who also just wants to let go and rock out. Much like the new albums by the Roots and Talib Kweli (as well as Mos Def's *Black Jack Johnson* project), *Electric Circus* is the portrait of a rapper exploring a much more decidedly rock side of his psyche, and, as is the case with those aforementioned artists rock-friendly releases, this exploration makes for some great listening. With production work from the "everything we touch turns to gold" team of the Neptunes, as well as his Soulquarian brothers Questlove, Jay Dee, and James Poyser, Common's futuristic vision will find its rightful place in hip-hop history.

-Com-Plex



Snoop Dogg Paid tha Cost to be da Bo\$\$ [Capital-Doggystyle]



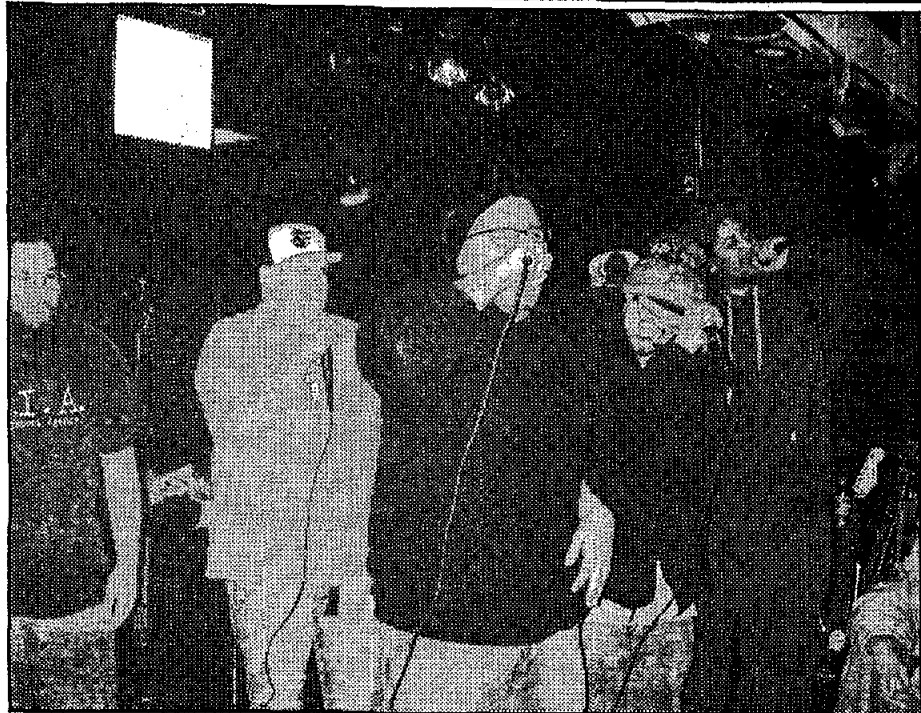
Oh Snoop. What do you think your doing here buddy? You made one of the most iconic albums of the past decade with "Doggystyle" but you need to stop this. Do tours and run off classic tracks like Big Daddy Kane and RUN-DMC did and keep your immortality. No more new, new-bad, old-good. Yes that's right; this is what I said to Snoop Dogg's media photo after I listened to his latest release "Paid Tha Cost to be da Bo\$\$". A collection of rehashed bits and dated material lace Snoop's sixth studio album. Snoop again is the supafly pimp on this album "slappin down the bitches" and "making loot" like he always has. But differencing from Snoop's past, doggie-based pimpness, Snoop's pimpin on Paid Tha Cost to be the Bo\$\$ is more mafia based and just comes off as light-hearted thug rap

backed by giggy west coast style beats. Snoop shows his more sensitive side this time on the track "I believe in you" a loyal love ballad to his wife. Snoop pledges his love for his woman with sensitive lyrics like "Can no other girl make me do what you do-I mean I'm so in love with you- boo- I never thought a girl can take me to a whole world and shake me". But on the next track "Lollipop" Snoop teams up with his friends Jay-Z and Nate Dogg for another steady dose of bling-bling bitch slappin and womanizing. Snoops once witty and clever lyrics have lost their edge and he shows his now senile skills on this album. Snoop has degraded from immortal catch lines like "im a dog- ill scratch you off my ballz with my paws" to "whos got the best flow-who got the most dough-who got

the best hoes...you know". Ahhh shit man, save me from this. Snoop leans on the success of "Doggystyle" on this album and incorporates some of the new Nelly inspired club sound and creates an album that has no original quality. I think the best thing about Paid Tha Cost to be da Bo\$\$ is the song titles. Snoop blesses us with great song titles like "I miss that bitch", "Batman and Robin" (the worst song ever made), Pimp Slapp'd and of course the iconic "A Message 2 Fat Cuzz". Guest production by the Neptunes, DJ Premier and an appearance by Redman make this album just barely digestible, but it'll taste nasty. Kind of like having spoiled milk with an Oreo cookie.

-Profit

New Jersey Underground Hip hop acts showcase skillz @Marfields in Roselle



Vital Connection Members from left to right: Bolical, Kurse, Def, Poet, Twilight, Ill Cee's hat in the back.

Photo by Chris Moses

By Profit

It was a cold ass rainy night last Friday, and I'm grumpy like an old man without his Ensure. I'm on the road this rainy night hunting down Marfield's in Roselle, the venue where some of Jersey's hottest upcoming acts and a couple of major label acts are scheduled to perform. On the bill this night were the versatile Vital Connection, New Brunswick based hip-hop duo Thought Breakers, and Union Based live hip-hop band Guy Incognito. The show was featuring Twizz, formally of the Artifacts, with special guest El Da Sensei.

The venue itself was rather unimpressive, the space was small and the set up wasn't suited for a hip-hop show of any kind. It was the kind of joint rock cover bands play creed and Bon Jovi all night, and then go back to their apartment around the corner. It was cold inside of the goddamn place and the energy was deadlier than Hoffa. Worse than all of this was the disorganized handling of the sound and lighting. Nobody representative of the venue knew what the fuck he or she where doing, and if it wasn't for the members of Guy Incognito helping out with the sound themselves this show probably would have never took place. This unprofessional handling of the sound and lights by the staff of Marfields was surprising considering major label acts were scheduled to perform. I'm

telling myself this may have been a bad idea and my initial excitement about the performances that evening was beginning to lose thunder. Location usually isn't a concern though for most hardcore musicians, they just want to their thing and perform, but the conditions at this place were even annoying them. As this nonsense went on everyone lightened up and made the best of the situation, even having a brief freestyle session on stage.

After seemingly an hour of sound checks and other delays the stage was prepped and the first group of the evening Vital Connection went up to rock. Vital Connection with Emcee's Poet, Def, Twilight, Kurse, Bolical, and Ill Cee is a conglomerate of New Jersey underground acts like Riddal of Da Sfinx?, Individualz, Written on your Psyche, Siamese Circles



Guy Incognito Emcee Com-Plex Photo By Chris Moses

and others. "Everything with Vital is about one unit, with one heartbeat, says Vital Connection member Twilight"; "and we all work together on beats and production" added Bolical. Vital's

stage presence and energy woke everyone up from the coma they where in after the delay and they delighted the growing crowd with fast passed, battle rap deliveries, clever lyrics, and gritty, organic beats. During the set Vital performed popular tracks as their individual groups like Wonderland" by Siamese Circles then later Poet, Def, and Kurse combined Riddal of Da Sfinx? to perform "Enter Stage Right". The set consisted of only two tracks of

Vital Connection as a whole like "Godzilla", which sounded hot, but I still would have liked to see more of the new project. The group is currently working on an album to be released on Hard Luck Produktz.

Up next were Guy Incognito, with members Andy Zampella on drums, Azev on guitars, Nat the magic dragon on bass and keyboards, and Com-Plex as Emcee, is a group that continues to get better and better every time I see them. Guy Incognito's driving style of instrumental hip-hop entertained a crowd that may not have been expecting the high-energy rock/hip-hop combo they provide. The group shares a special synergy on stage and will rock out hard no matter the crowd or numbers. And In what is becoming their signature song, GI performed the fast paced drum and bass track, "Mos Right" and got the heads noddin in satisfaction. The set moved well and GI was doing their thing and that's when the venues sound issues decided to appear again and cut short their set. Even though GI vocalist Com-Plex had no sound, he still yelled at the crowd, holding three mikes in hand hoping that one worked while the group performed a cover of "Scenario" as their final song. Dope.

Either put up with the inconsistency of the sound and lighting or a coming just to see Guy Incognito, a majority of the crowd dispersed after their set. And after even more jackassery with the sound, New Brunswick area sensations

Thought Breakers took the stage for a set that gained the most positive reaction of the night from what was left of the crowd. The Thought Breakers featuring Emcee's Zack Lost and Skeptic, intelligent, socially conscious brand of hip-hop, are

reminiscent of other acts like "Scienz of Life" and "Mass Influence" but do not distance themselves from reality and have a strong love for their home and the lost art of wordsmanship. In the second track they performed "Jersey represent" they devoted an entire song to the good ol' Garden State and show us all of the importance of digging in your roots, and not dreaming and losing focus. Thought Breakers had

hip-hop "is a more laid back version of the street" he mentioned in an interview after the set. "I'm always hangin on both sides, both the hip-hop back-packer scene and the more commercial side as well," Twizz continued. He also mentioned the sometimes disappointment when coming back to home in New Jersey stating, "sometimes Jersey doesn't support their artists the way they should. I did a tour with Dilated Peoples



Thought Breakers Skeptic and Zack Lost

Photo By Chris Moses

an animated set and really dove into their music backed by beats from Thought Breakers collaborator DJ Stealth. Most of the ooh's and ahhh's in this show came from their set. The Thought Breakers set was also plagued by bad sound, no one seemed to notice and were still feelin them. Talking to the guys after the set Skeptic told me that "where into bringing back the purity of hip-hop". "We love art, break beats, and pure lyrics," he continued.

By the time featured performer Twizz came up to rock most of the crowd, including the mysterious disappearance of El Da Sensei, had left and the remainder of us that where still there where tired at the end of a long night of delays and frustration. I felt awful for Twizz, originally a native of Elizabeth NJ, because he was sending mad love out to all of the people and acts that came out that night. He seemed genuinely interested in what everyone was doing and the turnout for his set was disappointing. Twizz took it in stride and performed a few tracks off his new album due out this summer "Polluted Slang", and called it a night. Twizz, formally of the popular act "Artifacts" says his brand of

in Europe over the summer and they went crazy every night. Even in New York they gave us a lot of support. I love Jersey and will never give up on it but I just can explain it". Twizz said.

This show was a brilliant idea but a bad place to have it. Giving a forum for the Jersey hip-hop acts to perform is of vital importance. The problems that reoccurred killed the mood of what could have been a great night. The show wasn't a complete failure, everyone that performed shined and bad planning isn't the fault of the artists. Good music never fails to overcome bad situations and on this night it didn't. Great show, bad place.



Twizz on the Mic

Photo by Chris Moses

Lit

book reviews

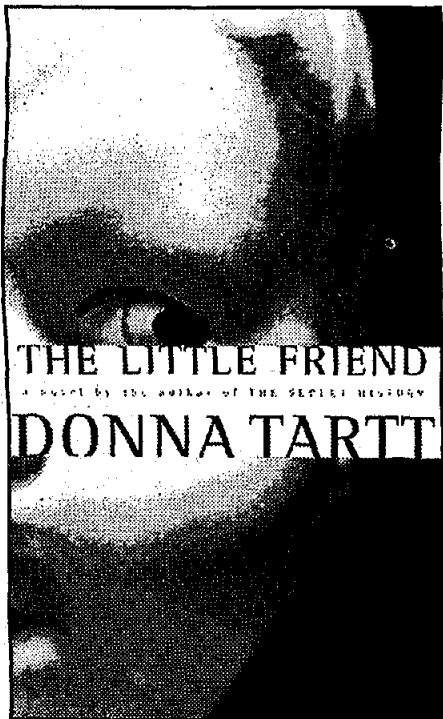
The Little Friend by Donna Tartt Knopf

By John Findura

Donna Tartt hit the big time with her first novel, *The Secret History*, in the early 90s.

It is no great surprise that *The Little Friend* comes as a great relief to those who have been patiently waiting for her next outing. Her Southern-tinged, gothic-influenced storytelling is precise and literary, yet warm and innocent at the same time.

Those who were hoping for another mystery like *The Secret History* presented may be a little disappointed in Tartt's latest offering. The plot this time focuses more on morals than anything else (not that this is a bad thing at all). Tartt is an excellent storyteller and the story she tells is worth reading, even if it is not what one expected.

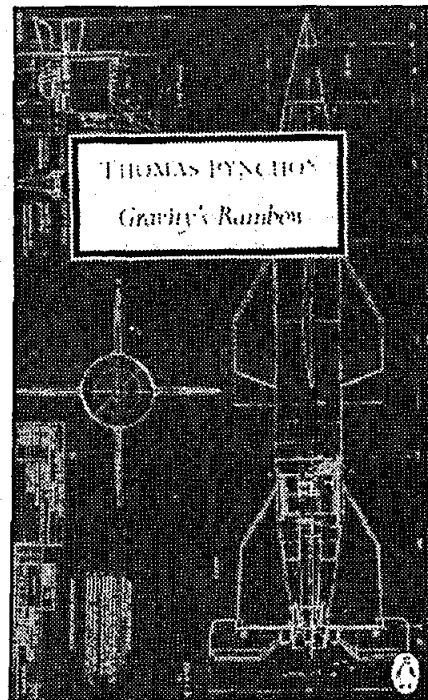


Tartt takes us into her portrait of a disturbing 1970s South. Taking place in a small Mississippi town, 12-year old Harriet Cleve Dufresnes decides to investigate the unsolved murder of her brother Robin. The most enjoyable part of the book is the way in which Tartt has written Harriet: as a very believable, highly intelligent, and a little innocent, child.

Her ability to write convincing characters is going to be the reason she will be writing novels for a very long time.

Do I recommend this book? I sure do. It may not be *The Secret History Part II*, but who really wants to see someone as talented as Tartt repeat herself? *The Little Friend* is certainly a worthy successor.

A Little Winter Reading List

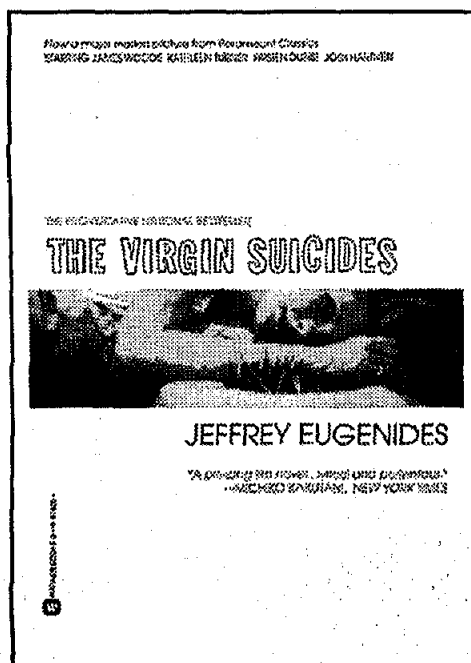


Gravity's Rainbow by Thomas Pynchon

A real trip of a book. I admit, this 700+ page monster is not easy to read, but it sure is beautifully written. Synopsis: An American G.I. in WWII England finds that every time he...becomes aroused, shall we say...a German V2 rocket follows close behind. Intelligent, funny, and strange, this is probably Pynchon's greatest achievement.

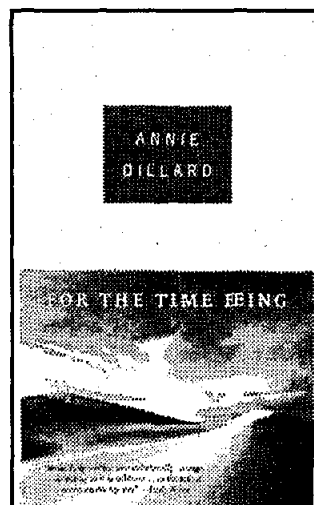
The Virgin Suicides by Jeffrey Eugenides

One of the best books I have ever read, lands down. Eugenides is a masterful writer whose prose is dead-on perfect (no pun intended). He somehow manages to bring alive characters who are literally dead. For a first book, or even for a tenth, this is an incredible read. If you've read *Middlesex* but haven't hit this one, do it now.



For The Time Being by Annie Dillard

To me, Annie Dillard is one of the greatest writers of the past 50 years. *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* and *Teaching a Stone to Talk* are two of my favorite books. In *For The Time Being*, Dillard again talks of her philosophy and the natural world.



Attention People Who Read this Section!

What do you want to see more of next semester?

What books do you want to see reviewed?

What events do you want covered?

Would you like to write for Lit? Get free books?

Meet interesting people?

email any suggestions and ideas to John at:

beaconliteditor@yahoo.com

Would you like to be a part of the beacon?

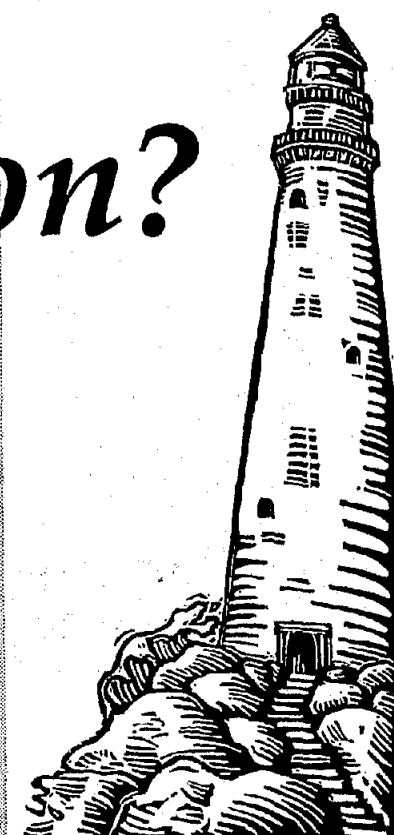
do you ever wake up with the burning desire

Write tantalizing articles?

Create your own cartoons to be published?

Want to spread the word about your favorite band?

Be involved with the student body?



You should be working for us

Come to our next meeting, Wednesday night at 8:00 PM, Student Center 310

Write for any of our sections

News • Features • The Insider • Abstracts • Lit • Comics • Sports

WPBN Television Network Program Schedule

WPBN-TV broadcasts on Campus TV
Channels 6 and 71.

Mon:

12:00 The Cutting Edge
12:30 World Business
1:00 Star Trek
1:30 Star Trek
2:00 WPU Sports
2:30 WPU Sports
3:00 WPU Sports
3:30 WPU Sports
4:00 Twilight Zone
4:30 Twilight Zone
5:00 Live at 5
5:30 World Business
6:00 Father Lou
6:30 Father Lou
7:00 Twilight Zone
7:30 Twilight Zone
8:00 Random Nonsense
8:30 Random Nonsense
9:00 The Cutting Edge
9:30 Entertainment Weekly

Tues:

12:00 The Cutting Edge
12:30 World Business
1:00 Twilight Zone

1:30 Twilight Zone
2:00 I Love Lucy
2:30 I Love Lucy
3:00 Star Trek
3:30 Star Trek
4:00 Random Nonsense
4:30 Random Nonsense
5:00 Live at 5
5:30 World Business
6:00 Father Lou
6:30 Father Lou
7:00 Twilight Zone
8:00 Star Trek
8:30 Star Trek
9:00 The Cutting Edge
9:30 Sports Rewind

Wed:

12:00 The Cutting Edge
12:30 World Business
1:00 Star Trek
1:30 Star Trek
2:00 WPU Sports
2:30 WPU Sports
3:00 WPU Sports
3:30 WPU Sports
4:00 Twilight Zone
4:30 Twilight Zone
5:00 Live at 5

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8:30 Star Trek

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9:30 The Cutting Edge

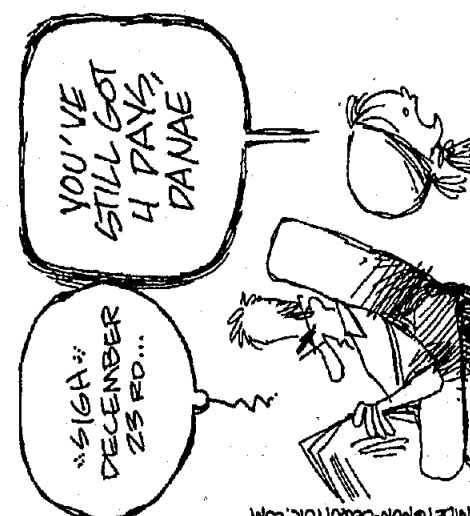
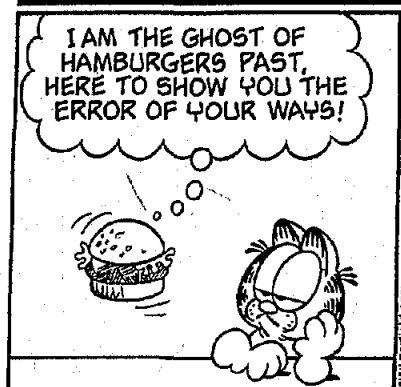
Fri:

12:00 Star Trek
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2:00 WPU Sports
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4:30 I Love Lucy
5:00 Random Nonsense
5:30 Random Nonsense
6:00 Sports Rewind
6:30 Entertainment Weekly
7:00 Star Trek
7:30 Star Trek
8:00 Films of WPU
8:30 Films of WPU
9:00 Films of WPU
9:30 Films of WPU

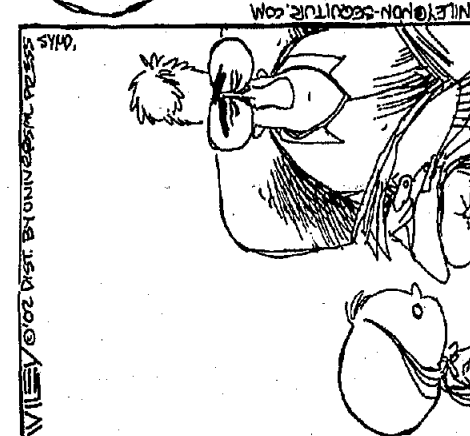
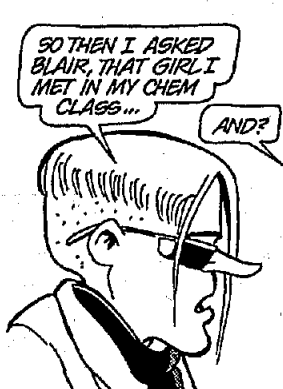
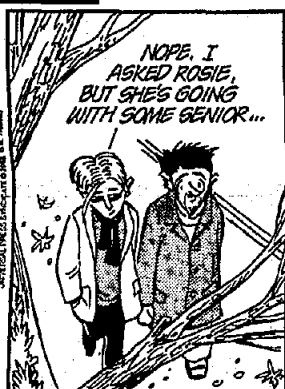
THE

BEACON COMICS

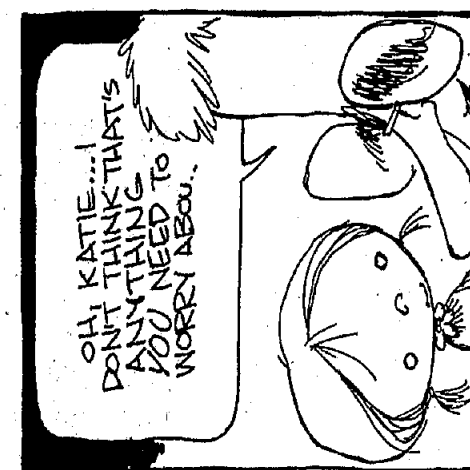
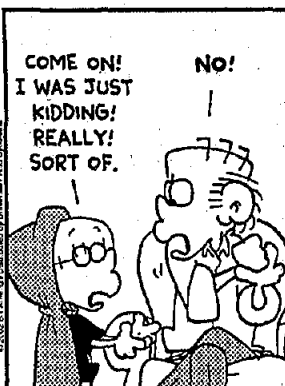
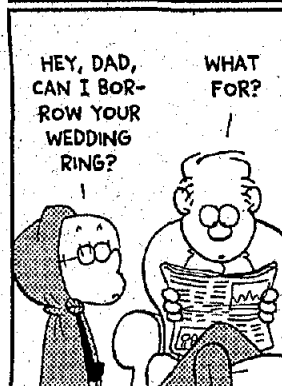
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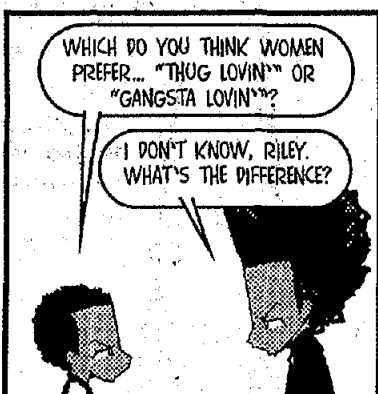
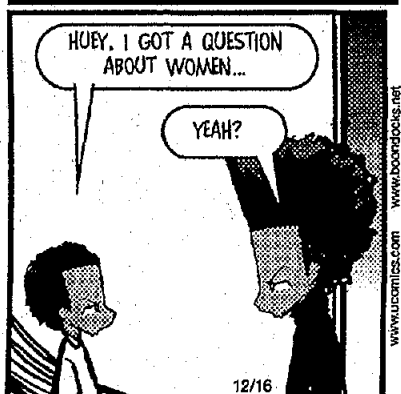
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Business Rate
\$0.50/word
WPU/Non-Profit:
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All ads must be paid in
advance. Make Checks
payable to The Beacon

Deadlines

All ads must be received by
noon, Friday before
publication date.

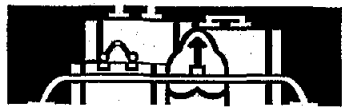
Send Ads:

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Attn: Ads

Contact:

beaconads@wpunj.edu
Subj: Ads
Phone: 973-720-2571
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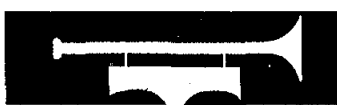
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Babysitter needed during break and possibly after, Kinnelon, NJ, Must have car. Call Paul or Shruti, 973-838-7647

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Thumbs up/ Thumbs Down



Thumbs UP 4 Tiffanita + Jackisita 4 the grub and luv.

Thumbs UP to the end of the semester and the quality time I spent with all my friends this year.

Thumbs DOWN to the people who don't understand the meaning of 24 hour quiet hours.

Thumbs UP to everyone you have supported the Beacon this year, either through reading it, writing for it, or advertising in it. Thank you and we'll see you next semester.

Have anything you want to get off your chest? Write a thumbs up or thumbs down and express yourself. You know...and everyone else should too! Call us at (973) 720-2571 to place your ad today!

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Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with a proven CampusFundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. contact Campus Fundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

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Thank You All for a Great Semester!!
We look forward to working with you next year!

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday and a Wonderful New Year.

-From the Beacon Advertising Staff

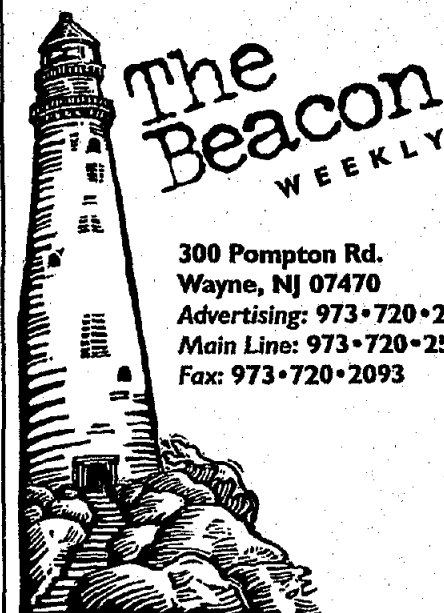
William Paterson Students ONLY!

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Fax: 973-720-2093

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

By Jon Oliver
Contributor

Every week of this year's football season is full of anticipation, stimulation, and astonishment. It seems every week a new team emerges that we think is the best team in the NFL. In these final three weeks, every game is tremendously important and crucial. Not one team has enough breathing room for a guaranteed spot in the playoffs. There are 11 teams in the AFC who are fighting for a playoff spot and only six will be given the chance to shine. At the top of the list are the Raiders (9-4), Titans (8-5), Patriots (8-5) and Steelers (7-5-1). But don't count out the leading contenders: Dolphins (8-5), Colts (8-5), Chargers (8-5), Jets (7-6), Broncos (7-6) and Chiefs (7-6). These extremely close standings will make the remainder of the season thrilling and stimulating. But, that's just in the AFC!

The NFC also has teams fighting for a playoff spot and for home field advantage. These teams include the Packers (10-3), 49ers (9-4), Bucs (10-3), Saints (9-4), Eagles (10-3), Falcons (8-4-1), and even the Giants (7-6).

I have carefully studied and chosen the 4 teams that I think have a shot at winning the Super Bowl.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers: With the best defensive team in the league, the Bucs are looking sharp. Their quick and powerful defensive line outnumbers their opponents in sacks 40 to 30 and the team only allowed 17 touchdowns to be scored against them. Last week, they made Falcon's star QB Michael Vick just seem plain ordinary thanks to two of the best defensive tackles in league, Warren Sapp and Simeon Rice (who combine for 22

sacks). All together, Brad Johnson is having a solid year at QB with a rating of 96.7%. Their running game is a little

Quarterback to play against, Farve continues to make an impression season after season. Like Rich Gannon from the

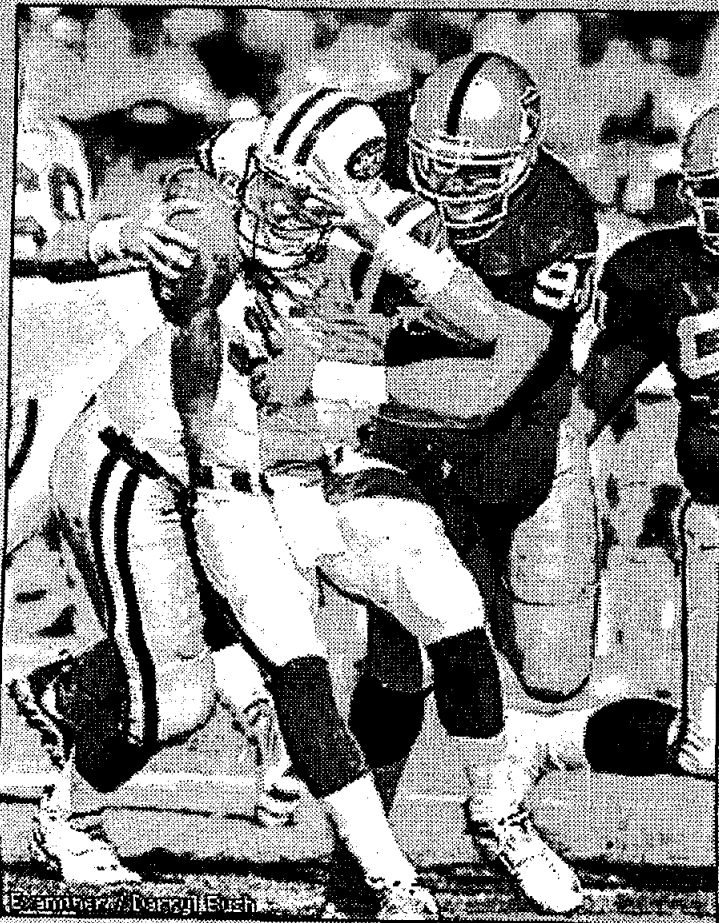
Raiders, Farve also has a number of receivers to choose from, including Donald Driver (960 yards, avg. 16), Terry Glenn (668 yards, avg. 15.2), Ahman Green and Bubba Franks. Running Back Ahman Green will rush over 1000 yards this season and is having an impressive year. Helping him out is fullback Tony Fisher (266 yards). Top defensive guys are Nate Wayne (53 tackles), Tyrone Williams (52 tackles), Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila (11 sacks) and Darren Sharper (6 interceptions).

Miami Dolphins: Teams playing against Miami usually spend the entire practice week figuring out ways to stop Ricky Williams. Still, his speed, strength and aggressiveness give him impressive statistics no matter what team he plays for. He is the third leading rusher in the NFL, only behind Preist Holmes and Ladanian Tohmilson. Quarterback Jay Fiedler is

back from his injury so look for receivers Chris Chambers and Randy McMichael to increase their yards. Plus, the strong defense led by Zach Thomas (76 tackles) and Jason Taylor (13 sacks) is enough for RB Ricky Williams to increase the leads.

The team that seems to be turning it up the most is my team, and my pick to win the Super Bowl, the Oakland Raiders. The victory this past Sunday over the San Diego Chargers has put them at the No. 1 team in the division at 9-4. The Raiders seem to have all the answers and have patched up the mistakes made during their 4-game losing streak. Now, they are on a 5-game winning streak and looking relentless. Led by Rich Gannon, who is also the leading candidate for this year's MVP, the Raider's offense seems to be unstoppable. They're outscoring their opponents in touchdowns (40-33), and field goals (24-13). They have the best receivers in the league: Jerry Rice, Tim Brown, Jerry Porter, Doug Jolley and RB Charlie Garner. Which set up impressive rushing yards from Garner, Tyrone Wheatley, and rookie Zack Crockett. Also, once they get into the red zone, you can expect at least three points from an excellent kicker, Sebastian Janikowski. Their defense has gotten better as the season progresses. Veterans such as Bill Romanoski (56 tackles) and Hall of Famer Rod Woodson (56 tackles/6 interceptions) have helped the offensive team to stay on the field for the majority of the game.

But this season has been so surprising maybe none of the teams mentioned above will be playing come January 26; we shall wait and see.



sluggish with Mike Alstott and Michael Pittman barely combining for 1000 yards, but their solid defense is enough to win football games.

Green Bay Packers: Leading the way is superb quarterback Brett Farve (40 touchdowns). Maybe the toughest

Quarterback to play against, Farve continues to make an impression season after season. Like Rich Gannon from the

SCOREBOARD CENTRAL

Allison Mopsick
The Beacon

The men's basketball team defeated Richard Stockton 59-50 on Saturday, December 7 at Richard Stockton. The women's team lost 76-61. The men's and women's swim teams defeated Arcadia with the men's score 98-52 and the women's 92-74.

On Monday, December 9, the men's and women's swim teams won again against the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The men won by a score of 100-70 while the women won 107-72.

On Wednesday, December 11, the men's team defeated Kean University 63-50 while the women fell to the top team in the conference, 74-64.

The winter sports teams seasons will continue through the month of January even though classes are not in session, so make sure to stay updated on how your Pioneers are doing.

Allison Mopsick
The Beacon

After coming off a big 59-50 win on Saturday, December 7, against Richard Stockton, the men's basketball team defeated Kean University 63-50 on Wednesday, December 11 at The Rec Center. The Pioneers led the Cougars for most of the first half and it looked as if they were going to go into the locker room at halftime up two, but sophomore guard Tan Kessler for Kean nailed a jumper with four seconds remaining.

With the score tied at 22 at the start of the second half, it was a constant bat-

tle. The Cougars scored the first four points to open the half, but that was the last time the lead was in their favor.

Junior guard Brandon Constantine went on a scoring spree in the second half for the Pioneers, connecting 10-of-10 free throws and knocking down two shots to give him 14 points in the second half and 17 points for the game along with four assists. Junior forward Khayri Battle chipped in 12 points, six rebounds, three assists and blocked two shots.

For the Cougars, Kessler paced the team with 13 points while senior forward added in 12. The Pioneers shot

57.9% from the floor while the Cougars shot 28.3%.

The Pioneers are now boast a 4-2 overall record and a 4-1 record in the NJAC. William Paterson is now third in the conference with Montclair State and Ramapo above them. The Pioneers will meet both teams in January and Montclair again in February. The team tops the NJAC in shooting percentage, free throw percentage, and rebounding. Their next home game is Saturday, December 21, against Lehman at 2:00 at The Rec.

MEN'S BASKETBALL TRIUMPHS OVER KEAN

YOU!!!! YEAH YOU!

Why aren't you writing for the sports section of The Beacon?
If you are interested, contact us at beacon@student.wpunj.edu
or call (973) 720-2576