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DECEMBER 1995



### I SISHOWIME

From Matthew Sweet to Maya Angelou, colleges book the best

"Elvis 101

The Dead Live

Best of Bad TV

Cheap Gifts

Mascot 'Napping

QUENTIN TARANTINO WISHES YOU A BLOODY MERRY CHRISTMAS



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squooshing around your toes.

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and outsole heel wraps

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to the boundaries

and going

beyond

them.



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Mad about Morrissey

If anything is pretentious, it's [the Morrissey] review, not Morrissey's lyrics [Rock, Oct. 1995]. As a fan, I must inform the reviewer that the new album blows Vauxhall and I away! Maybe it

isn't as pretty as Vauxhall, but Morrissey ain't pretty, and Southpaw Grammar is the superior album. The "lush pop melodies" of Vauxhall were muffled and boring. The more powerful sound of Southpaw brings me out of my seat.

The review surprised me. Meanwhile, fans are happy as hell, and Morrissey is preparing to tour with David Bowie in the U.K.

Carl E. Villarreal, junior, U. of Texas, Austin

I'd like to express my sadness at the review of Morrissey's new Southpaw Grammar. Morrissey is a talented artist who has been around for years. Compare him with other talentless bands, and he comes up No. 1 every time. Admittedly, the Smiths are of a higher caliber, but you can't disrespect Morrissey

> Eva Svec, sophomore, U. of Western Ontario, Canada

Eva read the Morrissey review on the U. Magazine web site. For more reviews and lots of other stuff that didn't fit in the magazine, check it out: http://

just because you don't feel his pain.

#### www.umagazine.com - ed. Tenure, tenure

Thanks so much for your article "Riding on the Tenure Track" [Oct. 1995]. It was very informative and showed why tenured professors are often dull. Now I know the politics of acquiring tenure, and I'm very sorry this is how the system works. After all, a professor's job is to teach students. Colleges should have the finest teachers (not necessarily researchers) achieving tenure. I used to want to be a professor, but now I'm not sure I'd be willing to play their game.

#### April McClory, junior, Bowling Green State U., Ohio

The article about tenure is disturbing but true. If professors have the option of quitting whenever they want to, universities should have the option of dismissing professors whenever they want to. I find it humorous that the emphasis is placed on research and publishing instead of teaching ability.

If research isn't effectively passed on to students, it's useless to them. Research is important, but it's far more important to be able to convey

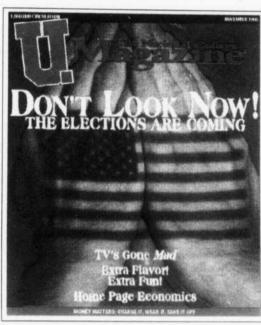
knowledge in class than in obscure journals nobody reads.

> Andrew Norris, junior, U. of Tennessee. Knovville

Berkeley,

Berkley, whatever

In the October 1995 issue, you featured a story on a female wrestler ["Can't Pin Her Down"]. The article said she attended Berkeley High School



in Huntington Woods, Mich. The school is Berkley High, and it's in your mag very much.

Berkley, Mich. Other than that, I enjoy

Steven D. Urban, U. of Michigan law school

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL WEBB, U. OF NORTH CAROLINA



#### Block the vote

[Regarding "Poll Vault," Nov. 1995], I've given up finding a party I like and resorted to voting for a deadlock. One party in Congress, the other in the White House. At least if the government is consumed in partisan squabbling it won't be able to pass any new laws to screw me over.

How about this for next month's poll question: "Do you think it's time for a revolution?" I bet you'd be surprised how many of us are just complete-

> ly sick and tired of our sorry excuse for a government of, for and by the people.

Brad Hill, sophomore, Michigan State U.

#### Reefer Madness

In "High Time for a Change" [October 1995]. Frank Calhoon, assistant director of the health center at the U. of Texas, Arlington, made a few outlandish comments. including that under the effects of marijuana, "you have no drive for anything." This simply isn't true. There are millions of very productive marijuana users. The notion that a joint will remove my desire to get off my ass is absurd.

He also had the gall to declare. "The stuff now is at least 10 to 20 times more powerful than the old stuff Ifrom the [60s]." Has the cannabis species somehow mutated in the past 30 years?

Marijuana does not cause brain damage. Marijuana is not addictive. You cannot overdose on marijuana. Marijuana is not

> laced with heroin or PCP (it isn't cost-effective for the dealer).

> Calhoon's rhetoric had no business being published in your magazine. He isn't a reliable source.

anonymous, U. of Maryland, College Park Re-Reefer Madness

In response to the letter from "anonymous," I have a few things to add. First, it's a matter of study and record that chronic [marijuana] use can lead to reduced productivity, motivation and drive. Second, the growing techniques and the hybridization of the plant have produced a much more powerful plant. Finally, marijuana does not contain substances, such as PCP or heroin. But that's not to say somebody couldn't lace it or put an additive in it. I guess you have to trust that your dealer isn't slipping you something you don't know about.

Frank Calhoon, assistant director, U. of Texas, Arlington health center

Hey, Frank, sorry for spelling your name wrong in the October issue. It was a shameless error and we believe 30 lashes with the wet corporate noodle are in

You guys rule! This is the mag we have been waiting for on campus for as long as I can remember. Keep up the most excellent work and stay on the edge - you guys and gals look good riding the rail!

Jorge Diaz (a.k.a. Hacksaw). grad student, Florida Int'l U., Miami

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#### **U. Polls**

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> Lights on or lights off?

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Liberal or conservative? Conservative: 55% Liberal: 35% Other: 10%

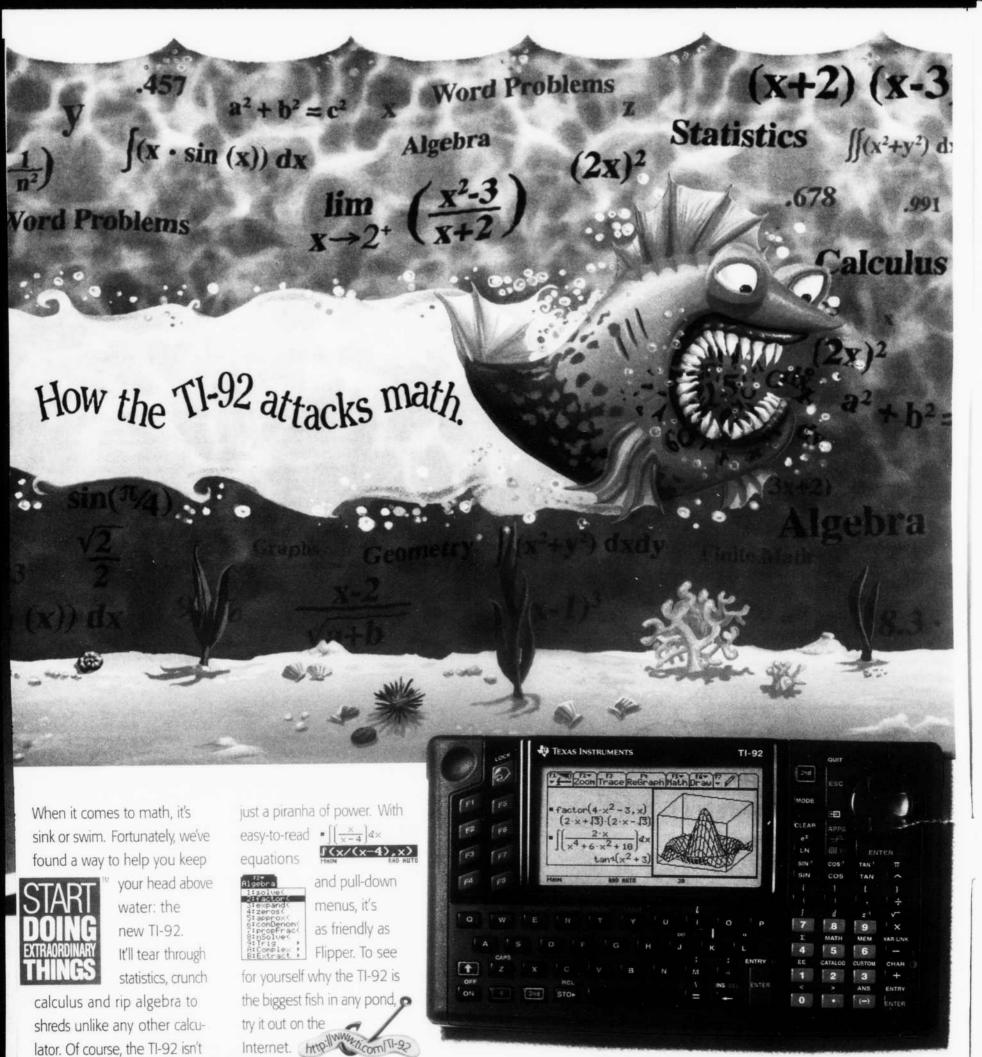
I consider myself intelligent, informed and intellectual, which would automatically mean that I'm a liberal. Brad Nation, senior, U. of Oklahoma . In 1996, Clinton and Gore will fall. Phillip Angus, senior, U. of Northern Colorado • More conservative, or whatever Colin Powell is. Victor Scamardo, junior, U. of Arkansas · I think the majority of people in our generation are liberal. I believe that in the next decade there will be a huge increase in the number of liberals and a decrease in conservatives. Meegan Glaser, sophomore, Washington State U. . I'm more middle-ofthe-road than strongly for one side or the other. I think most people my age feel the same way I do because we grew up watching nothing change for the better. Both parties have had their shot at either the presidency or controlling Congress, and we got nothing. Nathan Byrne, fresh-man, U. of Missouri, Columbia • I am liberal by current standards, but conservative when it comes to the Constitution. Sam Meyer, sophomore, Ithaca College, N.Y. · I'm progressive more than liberal. Liberal has some negative connotations. I want some positive changes to be made that would include all people, not just the rich and privileged. Mona Ables, senior, U. of Alabama, Birmingham • I don't believe a one-word description is adequate to describe one whole ideology and belief. So I'm neither liberal nor conservative. I just have facets of both. Dave Zatz, senior, U. of Maryland . I'm conservative. Rush Limbaugh and Newt Gingrich are the best things to happen to this country. Jon Denny, sophomore, U. of North Dakota . I primarily label myself as liberal, but as far as my voting record is concerned. I am first and foremost a thinker. Adam Smargon, senior, U. of Florida

Do you have a name for your "thingy?" Yes: 95% No: 5%

Of all the weird-ass names you guys came up with for your "thingies," these three popped up the most often: Stanley the Power Tool, Mr. Happy and Russell the Love Muscle. Here are some of the more unusual entries:

Party Torpedo. Chris Hinkley, junior, Eastern Michigan U. . Jojo. Michael Bowman, sophomore, Illinois State U. . Uncle Freddy. John Clift, freshman, Ohio U. . Pipa for girls and Pipo for boys. Helen Rocha, sophomore, U. of LaVerne, Calif. • Pepe the Cuban Love Sausage. Ted Elliott, senior, Eastern Kentucky U. . Little Elvis. Mike Moser, senior, U. of Illinois. . Garden weasel of love, for my boyfriend's. Melissa Jacobs, freshman, Mills College, Calif. . Nigel. Ben Underwood, sophomore, Kansas State. • Fred, because my girlfriend's name for hers is Wilma. Juan Albalate, freshman, U. of North Florida. · Tarzan. Andy Redalen, freshman, U. of Missouri, Columbia. . No, but the phrase "Oh, God" seems to come up a whole lot. Celine Harris, senior, U. of New Mexico. • Tommy Stout. Warren Johnson, senior, U. of Mississippi. . Mr. Bubba. Keith Johnson, grad student, U. of North Florida. . I call my thingy Hope, after the diamond, because everybody wants it, but no one can seem to get their hands on it. Kristi Moffett, junior, George Mason U., Va. . Elvis. Travis Scribner, senior, Fuller State U., Fla. • Chilly Willy. Jeremy Brynes, senior, State U. of New York, Cortland. · Mr. Salty. Mike Luescher, senior, Florida State U. . Scammy the Fire Drill. Paul Rasmussen, junior, California State U., Sacramento. . One-Eved Gila Monster. Chris Chudik, junior, Northern Arizona U. . Sausage, but pronounced like "saasaage." Ben Thompson, freshman, U. of Southern California. . The Pillar Of Fury. Adam Stonewall, senior, U. of Arizona. . The Dwarf. Nichole Fromm, freshman, U. of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. . Stop asking stupid | ef questions. You sound like little babies. Bob Barth, freshman, Ithaca College, N.Y. . Supersoaker. Cho Chomjinda, freshman, U. of California, Davis . Herman. Pat Comeaux, junior, Louisiana State U. . Bernie. Josh Evans, junior,

Southern Illinois U.



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#### U. VIEWS / The Campus Dialogue

3 U. Mail, editorial cartoon and nasty names for your "thingy."

#### QUICKIES / Our Concession to Your Attention Span

6 Lively campus anecdotes individually wrapped for freshness.

#### U. NEWS / Pretty Sneaky, Sis

8 The Buzz, Byte Me, U. Lose, 15 Minutes and oh-so-much more.

#### U. LIFE / Lawyer's Salary, Please

#### 12 In-Play / Raiders of the Lost Art

The once time-honored tradition of mascot stealing has gone the way of the dodo. Harsh penalties are preventing students from pilfering lions and tigers and bears. Oh my!

#### 12 Dollars / Nifty Thrifty Gifties

Care enough to send the very best, but can't afford to? No problem. *U. Magazine* has the solution to all your holiday shopping needs in our guide to cheap gifts. And we mean cheap. Wow! Thanks for the origami, dude.

#### 13 Class / The King and IQ

There's a velver picture of him in your living room at home. His face is on your record albums, your commemorative plates and your stamps. And now, he's in your classroom. He's the king of rock and roll. No, not Jon Secada, Elvis Presley.

#### 13 Etc. / Greek Tragedies

Should fraternities and campus organizations be responsible for deaths and accidents at their functions? It's hard for fraternities to tell. With unclear guidelines and confusing court rulings, it's all Greek to them.

#### 17 OffBeat / The Dead Will Never Die

Collegiate Deadheads realize it may be time to move on now that the illustrious career of the Grateful Dead is in jeopardy. How are Jerry's kids coping with the emptiness in their lives? Some may try to fill the void by going Phishing.

#### 21 Pop / Dumb and Dumber

Married... With Children, Beverly Hills, 90210 and Beavis and Butt-head aren't high-brow entertainment, but they are like potato chips. You know they're bad for you, but you can't stop watching 'em. It's a complete loss of remote control.

#### FEATURES / The Wacky Doctor's Game

#### **COVER STORY**

#### 14 Let Us Entertain U.

Some schools get to see Pearl Jam and Blues Traveler. Other schools get pan flute master Zamfir and some guy playing spoons. You can thank or blame your student programming board.

#### 16 Blood Brothers

Quentin Tarantino is back, ina delightful Christmas movie. It doesn't have all the caroling and chestnuts one might expect from a holiday special, but it does have the vampires and the killing.

#### 18 Rock

The seven deadly songs. *U. Magazine* offers up the top seven college rock albums of all time, plus our *U.* radio chart.

#### 19 Reel

Matthew Modine and Geena Davis star in *Cutthroat Island* — plus get in the act with *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and Woody Allen's new one.

#### 20 Contests!

Wanna win big money? Turn to the contests page right now!

#### WRAP / Drive Reckless! Take Chances!

#### 22 A Christmas Wish

How to handle the holidays, plus Double Take and Strip Tease.

#### 23 Holiday Gift Wish List

U. Magazine's annual survey of what students really want this year. "All I want for Christmas/Hanukkah/Kwanza is peace on Earth... and Antonio Banderas... dipped in chocolate. Oh please, oh please."

## We "frid from cross ters, inte

#### GUEST EXPERT / Torry the Traffic Guy

We searched far and wide this month for a guest expert we could call "friend." Someone we could count on. Someone who would gladly stand in front of a bus for us (or inadvertently usher us into its path). Torry Osby, crosswalk operations manager at our *U. Magazine* Los Angeles headquarters, holds up traffic to offer his insight on myriad collegiate topics of interest. Let's take a ride with Torry the Traffic Guy, shall we?

GUEST EXPERT PHOTOS BY FRANCES HUFFMAN

#### December 1995



Alcohol gets trashed.
Page 8



Best of brain rot.
Page 21



Have music, will travel ws Page 14

#### **Campus Shots**



A happy reveler at Michigan State U.'s gay pride march. A little more rouge under the cheekbones, Eddie. The secret is blending.

PHOTO BY JEN BRUNO, MICHIGAN STATE U. tet

#### TOUCHY TOUCHY Iowa State U.

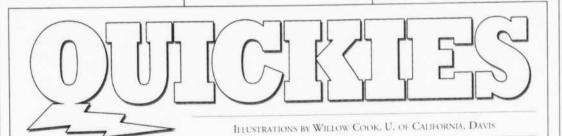
Ever want to jump up and touch the goal posts before a football game? Just reach on up there and... oops. U. of Iowa freshman band member Robert Rubocki got on a friend's shoulders to touch Iowa State's goal post before the Iowa-Iowa State game, but as he was hanging from it, the post got a little tipsy. In fact, it was falling down. Both sides say they'll stick to the tradition of the players tearing down the posts after a victory. But nice try, Robert.

#### ALL PRESENT? BEEP! Michigan State U.

Students aren't just numbers at MSU - they're UPCs. Not only are ID cards scanned when students go to the cafeteria, now some economics professors are experimenting with swiping the cards to check attendance. The system was tested on two days, and all 500 students checked in on time. Either that or they all ordered the ham on rye. One of those.

#### SMOKE THE VOTE U. of Massachusetts, Amherst

The pro-hemp and -marijuana folks always get a bad rap. Who says they're not motivated enough to mind their soapbox and work toward legalization? The students at U. Mass have gotten approval to include a check-off box on the university's tuition bills. It will allow them - or their parents -





#### GOD ON THEIR SIDE U. of Nebraska

Herbie Husker, the longtime mascot of Nebraska's Cornhuskers, was recently retired by the administration in favor of a new, vet-to-be-named mascot. As you can imagine, this did not go over too well with many Nebraska traditionalists. Of all the forces rallying to save Herbie, none are as tough and tenacious as, well, as the Contemplative Sisters of the Good Shepherd. Six nuns at the north Omaha convent have taken to sewing Herbie Husker windsocks in support of the fallen mascot. Although the convent has been sewing the windsocks for the past six years, orders have quadrupled this season. Why are the sisters so supportive of Herbie? "He's civilized," says Sister Grace Irene Marshall. "He's the only one we don't have to go behind and pick up after.

to contribute \$5 to Campus Cannabis Coalition. Says the U. Mass chancellor, who disagrees with the decriminalization of marijuana: "It should not be high on the university's agenda." Oh well, wanna hit?

#### NOSE GETTING LONGER?

**U.** of Virginia

A study at UVA shows that when college students call home, there's a 50-50 chance that they'll

lie to Mom. The study was based on the diaries of 77 UVA students in which they recorded every conversation they had and what lies

> YOUR SALAD San Diego State U.

they told for a week. The test group reported a total of 1,000 lies - about two a day for each student. The most common lie to Mom is that books cost more than they do - so she'll send more money. Another popular lie is that you're staying in for the night to study. Yeah, right. Pinocchio.

#### CREDIT CONDOM Clemson U.

In an effort to get people to practice safe spending, those financial wizards at the National Center for Financial Education have gone and slipped, er, broken, into the condom craze. The Center manufactured prophylaeties for your plastic - the small slips of paper form a pocket for credit cards. Clemson distributed thousands to its students.

Now, before they charge on in there, students have to take the time to remove the credit card from the condom. Clemson hopes they'll make students think twice before they spend. If only they'd make those for pints

#### SOY SAUCE

U. of Missouri, Columbia This school takes soybeans

future number will benefit from taking a look at the technological aspects of soybeans will continue to grow -this is where the interest is," assures Steve Knorr, assistant director for the development of the agriculture college. MU is conducting a national search for the lucky recipient of an endowed professorship in sovbean bio-technology. Don't laugh. The endowment is \$1,100,000. That's a lotta beans. Interested yet?

#### THANK HEAVEN FOR SCIENCE Harvard U.

Residents of fraternity and sorority houses are far more likely to go on drinking binges than their classmates, according to a study by researchers at Harvard U. Duh.

#### **UPS AND DOWNS** U. of Idaho

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#### LIP SERVICE Northern Illinois U.

Talk about slow news days. U. Magazine got a big shipment of Blistex products (with yummy lip-shaped chocolates, too - thanks, Blisten, but you don't see us wasting valuable space pushing Blistex. (Blistex, Blistex, rah rah rah!) The weekend edition of the Northern Star, however. devoted a whole page to the bodacious balms. OK, they were a little tongue in cheek themselves. They scolded the company for not considering its male consumers and ended by asking for reader suggestions on lip gloss uses. Next week: a scorching exposé on new Tylenol Cold and Flu.



One of the most sought after felons this country has seen in years was brought to justice. A San Diego State student was cited after allegedly stealing a \$3.76 salad from a university eatery. The alleged criminal hid the

salad between her body and a spiral notebook. As a diversion, she became embroiled in a conversation on her cellular phone and walked coolly past the cashier. An SDSU theft-prevention agent saw the transgressor in the act, followed a crouton trail and caught the culprit redhanded (Catalina dressing). After asking her to end her phone conversation, the officer cited the outlaw for petty theft.



#### BEEROMETER

**Rochester Institute of Technology** 

After years and years of extensive research, the work of three RIT engineering students came to a head. The trio has invented a keg tap that will tell even the drunkest reader how much brew is left in the barrel. The hallmark of the new tap design is that it doesn't increase the foam quotient of the out-coming beverage. "There is just no other way to tell how much beer is left," explains co-creator Dave Kneale. Finally, an answer to one of this country's greatest riddles. These modern-day Edisons are currently working on a project to determine how many licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Roll Pop.

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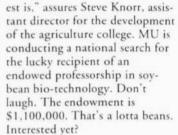
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### DINEWS

### Rocky Mountain Dry

HEN IT COMES TO LISTING the nation's top party schools, the U. of Colorado eems to have gained tenured status. So 's hard to believe that as of this fall, all 8 fraternities at CU self-imposed a ban n booze in their chapters.

But it's true.

The fraternities have joined their ready dry sorority counterparts id approved a resolution pledging: so member chapter will host any nction in its chapter house... durg which alcohol is distributed or nsumed." (The fraternities are still lowed to have alcohol in their buses — it just can't be served at rties they host.)

It was the first campuswide edge by any of the nation's univery Greek communities to stay dry. and the debate wasn't even close, ortly after, the U. of Iowa enacted similar policy, and Utah State U. nned alcohol completely from franity and sorority houses.

"There was a lot of pressure om the community," says



One man's trash...

Intrafraternity Council president and Alpha Tau Omega member Brian Phillips, a senior.

After two high-profile alcoholrelated tragedies last spring — an acquaintance rape that led to second-degree rape convictions of two fraternity members and the death of a freshman in a drinking and driving accident after a fraternity party — authorities were fed up with Greek underage and binge drinking.

"People have been really nervous — afraid that police are going to raid their houses anytime," says Chad Fisher, a CU senior and president of Kappa Sigma.

"We've definitely been busting the hell out of the fraternities," says Boulder Police chief Tom Koby.

Since July, fraternities had been

targeted by police for raids on an almost routine basis. Hundreds of minor-in-possession-of-alcohol tickets were issued by local police. Fraternity officers were being held responsible for serving underage drinkers, and there was a threat that some chapters could lose their houses.

Jonathan Brant, executive vice president for the National Interfraternity Conference, says it was clear Boulder authorities were looking to force a change.

"But we think this is an opportunity to reshape the stereotypes of the Greek system — back to leadership, scholarship and community activism," Brant says.

Jim Moscou, U. of Colorado / Photo by Frances Huffman

#### Candid Campus

S IF FRESHMAN YEAR ISN'T AWKWARD ENOUGH. Imagine living it on camera and before a national television audience. That's exactly what Elizabeth liller of Syracuse U. and Antoinne Harris of the U. of buthern California are doing.

Producers of ABC's Good Morn-\*\* America are documenting how \*\* students' lives change during s exciting yet transitional period.

"We wanted to show how chalging the first semester can be for

Students at I.C.U.

a freshman," says Sandra Aikens, a GMA associate producer.

Show producers chose Miller and Harris from the pool of incoming freshmen at Syracuse and USC.

GMA tracked Harris. 18. as he left his small hometown of Henderson. N.C., en route to the foreign land of Los Angeles.

Cameras followed Harris during his first few days at USC. "It's hard handling all the work and the pressures of balancing my

time," he says.

Miller's selection
came with some surprise. Shortly after arriving on the Syracuse

campus from Baltimore, Miller, 17, discovered she had been chosen as a finalist. After interviews with Syracuse administrators and GM4 producers, a camera crew was assigned to follow her through opening-weekend events.

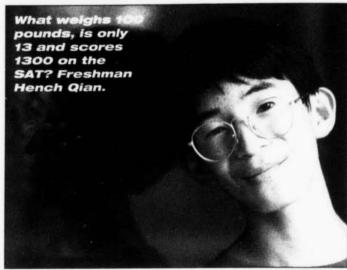
After the first few days, the crews left Harris and Miller, and GMA producers provided the freshmen with cameras to tape their experiences. There is no money in it for them, just the thrill of seeing themselves on national television.

"It's sort of like [MTV's] The Real World." Miller says. "I've been given a camera and very lew guidelines." Miller says she's taped herself hanging out with friend, and sitting in a few of her classes. "Of course, I'm busy," she says. "But it's fun."

The first segments aired Sept. 5, and *GMA* will be checking in with Miller and Harris periodically.

Haven't we seen this somewhere before? Perhaps GMA producers should call the installments The Real Similar World.

Carrie Hutchison, Syracuse U./ Illustration by Jason Jeffers, U. of South Carolina



#### Real Genius



E'S NOT OLD ENOUGH TO DRIVE, YET HONors Calculus III is part of his daily grind. What? That's right, Hench Qian is a 13year-old freshman at Mississippi State U.

He's a down-to-earth smartypants. "There are a lot of people out there who are probably smarter than I am, and they are just staying back." Qian says. "I saw an opportunity, and I took advantage of it."

Weighing in at only 100 pounds, he ripped the testing scales with scores of 33 on the ACT and 1300 on the SAT. Obviously, he didn't have the typical trip through grammar school — he leap-frogged a couple of grades. And while the other juniors at his high school were in line to take the king-of-the-hill position as seniors, Qian crowned himself a college freshman.

Michael Pearson, Qian's calculus professor, says he's impressed with Qian. "He's quiet, but right on top of things," Pearson says.

Honors Calculus III isn't enough to keep Qian busy, either. He's taking 20 hours this semester — the average is 15 hours, and the limit without special permission is 19 — and spends most of the day on the MSU campus. But this fast-track freshman is still more comfortable hanging around with kids his own age. Joining his 13- to 15-year-old friends at the end of the day to play baseball is a nice change from the collegiate grind.

As for being several grades above his friends, Qian says, "I don't mind helping them do their homework, but I don't do it for them."

Qian is happy he doesn't get treated differently from anyone else. No one seems to notice he's five years younger than the average college freshman. But he doesn't live on campus.

Dorms may be the ultimate college experience, but Qian lives at home and gets all the perks: home-cooked meals and free laundry. Heck, his mom usually does his laundry!

By LaRaye Brown, Mississippi State U./Photo by Garland Cary, Mississippi State U.

#### The Buzz

\* All nine U. of California campuses staged demonstrations Oct. 12 in support of affirmative action. UC was the first university system in the nation to scale back its affirmative-action programs since they've been ruled vulnerable to court challenges. Teach-ins, walkouts and rallies were held in an effort to push the board of regents to rescind its rollback.

 Remember the Common Fund fiasco? Now First Capital Strategists Inc., which lost \$138 million in college investments, is going after the company partners' personal assets to cover the losses. It's also rumored that the 15-year-old Pennsylvania-based company is shutting down.

Religious publications can now get financial support at the U. of Virginia. The university had banned using student fees for religious activities, but the editors of a Christian newspaper sued in 1990, and in June the Supreme Court ruled that the ban was unconstitutional. The new policy doesn't extend to activities other than publications.



"Where do you want to go?" "I don't know, where do you want to go?" GEV 50W ..

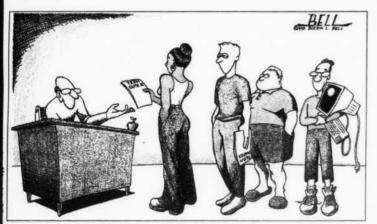
MasterCard. Accepted wherever you end up. MasterCard

## Byte me

#### Turbo Term Papers?

FOLKS, YOUR VIRTUAL TERM papers are due Friday. And I expect at least two rap video clips to go with each section of commentary. If you have any questions, just catch me on the Web chat...."

Students at many colleges have come to expect this kind of assignment. Innovative computer-oriented courses are popping up in every discipline, from philosophy to agriculture. "Since I teach media and pop culture analysis courses, the ability to use visual, moving images is a big bonus," says Tom Kushman, professor of sociology at Wellesley College in Massachusetts.



Kushman pioneered the virtual term paper in 1993. "It allows students to break away from using magazines and newspapers as their only sources for media examples," he says.

Wendy Wong, a sophomore at Wellesley who took Kushman's media analysis class, says, "The emphasis on computers made [sociology] seem less dry. We could really personalize our work."

Lucinda Roy, a Virginia Tech professor, has taught interactive classes, but she cautions against relying too heavily on computers.

"My students seemed to really enjoy the class I taught online last summer," Roy says. "But the topic — the civil rights movement — included some highly emotional material. Students seem to need [some] face-to-face discussion with that kind of subject matter."

David Hibler, an English professor at the U. of Nebraska, Lincoln, is blazing a trail with a Webbased class. "Students of the 21st century will need to know how to manipulate text effectively, and they will have to manipulate the entire environment in which that text is displayed."

Hibler's students have created a class home page (http://cwis. unl.edu/mama/mama.html) and have completed many projects and assignments on the Web.

So hold on to your hard drives, computerphobes, your class may be the next to go online.

Tara Tuckwiller, Virginia Tech/ Illustration by Darrin Bell, U. of California, Berkeley

#### **Bits & Bytes**

Towering above the rest

Northwest Missouri State U. students will be getting a bonus in their 1995–96 *Tower* yearbooks: a CD. No, not Alanis Morissette. CD-ROMs, with audio and video to accompany the stories in the printed version. *The Tower* will be the first college yearbook with an interactive component. The book won't cost any more. But if you want *Jagged Little Pill*, too, that'll be another 12 bucks or so.

Cyberprudes rule

A Carnegie Mellon U. study on Internet use indicates that the average network user is not interested in cyberporn. Researchers reported that fewer than one-fifth of the users sampled have looked at any sexually oriented newsgroup more than twice since the project began in February. Take that, Cindy Silicone Chip.

Look out, MTV. U. of Texas,
Austin, students can now see music
videos on the Web via student-run
KVR-InterneTV. The station offers a

KVR-InterneTV. The station offers a mix of music videos, an animated program, a rap/hip-hop documentary and a weekly visit to Austin. Tune in at http://www.utexas.edu/depts/output/tstv.html.

Home page contest

Wake up and smell the cash!
Vivarin's giving away a \$10,000
scholarship and other neat-o prizes
to students with zippy home pages in
its "There's No Place Like Home
Pages Contest." Enter your home
page by Dec. 31, 1995, at http://
www.vivarin.com/vivarin/.

#### Scholarship sunk

The old adage "If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is," was never more applicable than in the case of Peter Panos.

Panos, a sophomore at the Metropolitan State College of Denver, answered an advertisement for a "guaranteed" scholarship. Just pay a modest fee (\$30 to \$125), then sit back and wait for opportunity to come knocking, the ad read.

Panos followed the ad's instructions and contacted a company called Academic Investment Money. When he made the call to AIM's 800 number, he found that the company asks for an \$89 fee upfront, and it's automatically withdrawn from students' bank accounts.

"I paid the fee like they asked, but I never got a response," Panos said.

After more than a month of waiting, Panos called the company.

Panos says he was told that he needed to talk to a customer service representative, who was supposed to be available from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time. When Panos called the new number he was given, it turned out to be a fax line. Undaunted, he called the first number again.

The receptionist became so irate with Panos, she started insulting him, Panos says.

"She called me a dummy and told me I needed to learn to tell time," he said

This isn't an isolated incident for this company. According to the Better Business Bureau of New York, Academic Investment Money has chalked up 44 complaints, 27 of which came between August '94 and August '95.

Academic Investment Company would not comment on the allegations.

Panos still hasn't received a scholarship or refund, but he has learned a lesson.

"I just got took," he says. "I'll be tougher with my money next time."

Students don't have to go to outside companies for scholarship information.

Jeane Goody at the BBB in Colorado says these companies generally provide information that students can obtain through their financial aid offices.

"If students can do the work on their own," Goody says, "they won't need to take the risk of using these companies."

Robert Arrieta, Metropolitan State College of Denver

#### All Over the Bit Map

INKING THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY WITH the old-fashioned concrete highway, a young band of virtual travelers piled into a van with some igh-priced technology and hit the road.

Five 20somethings are exploring e United States and relaying their adings via America Online in an venture dubbed Lost in America.

One of the travelers, Tony stra, describes the process as amblin' from town to town, doin' me late-night drivin', then wakin' to a whole new city and different ople around you."

The crew has run into a few adblocks along the way. Two of e five PowerBooks fizzled out. Id with the idea being to visit the aller towns of America, some of hotels they've stayed in haven't actly been introduced to '90s hnology.

"The phone lines don't always ork, so they have to transmit

from local diners, or the back offices of bars," says co-creator Alex Okuilar. "That's probably the biggest problem."

The intrepid cast — Lystra, Shannon Guthrie, Kiely Sullivan, Amaani Lyle and Nick Wise have developed a bit of a cult following.

"We have a few people that seem like they're living through us," says Guthrie from a pit stop in Chattanooga, Tenn. "People write to us and say, 'This is just like the trip I took in the '70s.' You don't want to let them down."

AOL users actually control the fate of the travelers. Each week, one of three destinations is selected by the online masses.

"That makes it kind of interesting for us," Guthrie says. "But one time I really wanted to go to the Florida Keys, and we got sent up into Tennessee. I was a little bummed, but everywhere we've been has been cool."

Nowadays, any time a group of strangers has to live together for awhile there inevitably are comparisons to MTV's *The Real World*.

"We're very much a different story," says Lystra, who took the semester off from the U. of Oregon to participate. "Those people are pretty controlled by the network. Our employers can't really stop us from doing what we want to do. We're much more... well, real than The Real World."

AOL members can type the keyword LOST to visit the travelers and learn how to be one in future trips. The next trek starts in January.

PowerBook? Check. Digital camera? Check. Snowshoes? Check. You're armed and ready.

Shad Powers, Assistant Editor





## Raiders of the Lost Art

art in America.

The once time-honored tradition seems to have gone the way of the dodo. And ust what really happened to the dodo, anyway?

Swiping a rival school's mascot used to make you a hero — even a legend. Just a little added competition petween friendly rivals. No harm done.

But today, school officials aren't so forgiving. Although each season brings enewed threats, it seems ncreasingly difficult to do he deed without incurring penalty.

In the most recent highprofile case, former U. of Fexas, Austin, student Neil sheffield paid a hefty price or his doggy tricks.

A determined Sheffield, long with his larcenous osse, "the Texas Rustlers," swiped ival Texas A&M U.'s Aggie masot, Reveille IV, just before the 1993 Cotton Bowl.

#### IN-PLAY

To Sheffield's surprise, UT dministrators didn't find his prank umorous. Although he returned he dog unharmed, he was disqualied from running in student electors and ultimately pressured into aving the university.

"This one's going to go down



Well, it's one way to get your sheepskin.

in the history books," UT senior Ashley Callahan says. After the theft, Callahan formed a student organization to raise funds for a statue in Sheffield's honor. "As crazy as Texas politics are, this is the kind of thing that could get you elected."

Snatching a competitor's cow, a rival's rabbit or an adversary's albatross requires a brilliant blend of deception and trickery. By contrast, avoiding such a heist is a credit to the animals' owners and caretakers.

Until Sheffield's theft, Reveille IV was the only Southwest Conference mascot never stolen.

books," UT senior an says. After the formed a student or raise funds for a field's honor. "As politics are, this is ing that could get Uga, the U. of Georgia Bulldog, still hasn't been taken. Frank "Sonny" Seiler, a Georgia alumnus has owned all Ugas since the lare 1950s. He says the dogs have been shown nothing but goodwill from home and visiting fans alike.

"Uga has always been treated with respect." Seiler says, "I can't think of anyone anywhere who has threatened or would do harm to our dogs."

Frank Pierz, director of special programs for agriculture and public service at Colorado State U., is responsible for the CSU mascor. Cam the Ram. He says Cam provides his own best

"If it was a parakeet, he'd be easier to steal," Pierz says, "But he weighs about 350 pounds. And can you imagine something that doesn't have horns butting heads with him?"

But in general, Callahan attributes the decline of mascor stealing to stiffer penalties and enhanced security measures.

"It's healthy as long as it's not destructive," Callahan says, "It's a lost art. What happened to Neil it's detrimental to those of us who appreciate mascot stealing."

Grant J. Heston, U. of Florida/ Illustration by Michael Webb, U. of North Carolina



It's the thought that counts, right? Right?!

## Nifty Thrifty Gifties

aid money months ago. The echo in your refrigerator rivals that of the Grand Canyon. With the Xs on the calendar inching ominously close to Dec. 25, what are cash-poor students to do?

In a mall-oriented world where even simple cotton T-shirts sport \$19.95 price tags, finding gifts on a college-student budget takes a little ingenuity.

#### DOLLARS

U, of Florida senior Kristen Olson suggests a candle because the price can be so ambiguous.

"It's a pretty gift," Olson says, "Some candles cost \$30 and some cost \$4, and you'd never know the difference."

The homemade gift is always a popular way to save money and give a little bit of yourself. Cookies, poetry or a heartfelt card will often do the trick. Besides, it's the thought that counts, right?

For many, a specific talent can be turned into a thoughtful gift.

"I'm a photography major, so usually when I'm trying to save money. I give people one of my photographs," says Cinnamon Cooper, an Ohio State U. senior. Cooper makes her own frames out of colored paper and uses black-andwhite film to keep costs low.

But for those whose talents don't lead to inexpensive presents, most college campuses have arts and crafts centers for students to make their own jewelry, ceramics and other crafts.

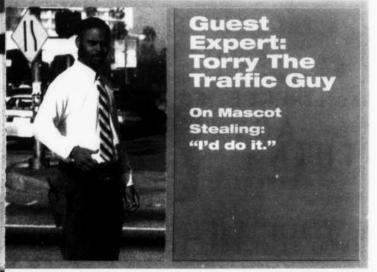
"During Christmas time, we do silk screenings, and people come in and make cards and T-shirts," says junior Tamara Neff, who works at a UF craft center. "Almost everything that you make here is under \$20."

Brian Hedger, a junior at Michigan State U., says he doesn't fret when the big day is approaching and he's out of cash. "I'm not exactly the most creative person in the world. I don't make stuff. But I've always somehow found a way, whether it be working a couple of weeks before Christmas, or something like that."

Last holiday season. Hedger spent his Christmas break hanging snow gutters on houses to earn some extra dough.

"I had to do some Christmas Eve shopping, but I got some pretty nice stuff."

Tiffini Theisen, U. of Florida



## The King and IQ

CHOOLHOUSE ROCK MEETS
Jailhouse Rock as students slip into their
jumpsuits, slick back their hair and
tackle classes focused on The King
— er, Elvis Presley, that is.

Vernon Chadwick, an assistant English professor at the U. of Mississippi, teaches The Polynesian Novels and Hawaiian Movies of Melville and Elvis. The class, affectionately nicknamed "Melvis," digs up issues of race, class, ethnocentrism and colonization.

#### CLASS

"Elvis is a gateway of all the issues we raise in the classroom," Chadwick says. "Elvis rock and roll was considered too black for white society, too sexual for Puritan society and too barbaric for American aultural society."

Ole Miss sophomore Sony Felts, who is enrolled in one of Chadwicks classes, says the course isn t as easy as some might expect.

"A lot of people have the idea of this Graceland fan course, but it's on a much deeper level than that." Felts says. "I think we're going to see a lot more teaching about Elvis. How he affected the culture is what it's about."

Many modern-day performers still emulate Elvis, says Peter Nazareth, professor of English and African-American world studies at the U. of Iowa. Their imitation allows his musical style to live on in all forms of music. "Elvis still has 150 voices coming from different people," he says.

UI grad student Cherry Muhanji, who has taken Nazareth's course American Popular Art: Elvis as Anthology, says she considered Elvis a racist before she took the class but now believes there is much more to him. "Elvis is as important as Shakespeare. T.S. Eliot and Tennessee Williams," she says.

Chadwick, Nazareth and other Elvis enthusiasts gathered to wax philosophic about the sequined one in August at the inaugural U. of Mississippi International Conference on Elvis Presley. But not everyone thinks The King is a viable topic of study.

"He's an important figure. Whether that in itself is enough to teach a course, I don't know, says

John Shelton Reed, a sociology professor at the U. of North Carolina. "Listening to [the discussions], I didn't find it particularly persuasive."

Elvis in the classroom may not have earned everyone's stamp of approval, but there's a whole lotta shakin' goin' on at the U. of Memphis in a course called Memphis Music, taught by David Evans. The course delves into Elvis' musical characteristics and the social forces that underlie his style.

Evans doesn't deny he's an Elvis fan, but does he believe the man who did so much for polyester and velvet is still alive?

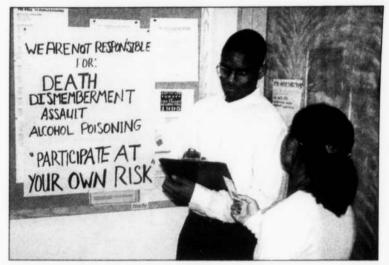
"No — I don't make pilgrimages to his grave and light candles or anything."

Kathleen Seiler, Syracuse U./Illustration by Sean Murray, Syracuse U.

Guest
Expert:
Torry The
Traffic Guy

On Elvis:
"I wouldn't want to
see myself in a
class trying to do
my hair up like
Elvis and walk like
Elvis with this bigass cape on.
That's crazy."





Don't blame it on the frats.

## Greek Tragedies

FTER 19-YEAR-OLD SOPHomore pledge Gabe Higgins drowned at a Texas Cowboys function, the popular U. of Texas, Austin, spirit organization joined the less-than-illustrious ranks of campus organizations and fraternities under suspension for accident liabilities.

Higgins was still wearing his cowboy boots when his body was pulled from the Colorado River the day after a Cowboys party in April. His blood-alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit for driving.

#### ETC.

Although police are still investigating whether hazing was involved, the university didn't hesitate to slap a five-year suspension on the Cowboys.

"We look at the severity of the case and the past record of the organization," says Jim Vick, UT vice president for student affairs.

Whether fraternities and campus organizations should be held responsible for accidents, hazing and assaults that occur at their functions is a hot issue. In June of 1995, there were two major court rulings on this front. Both cases were against fraternities accused of fostering an irresponsible atmosphere at a party. Both parties ended with a freshman being sexually assaulted.

A state appeals-court judge threw out the case against Delta Tau Delta at Indiana U., but a federal jury in Rhode Island ruled against Tau Kappa Epsilon and the U. of Rhode Island for \$1 million.

Confused? Many are. The pertinent question faced by both courts — and now the Cowboys — is when does responsibility shift from the individual to the group?

"For an individual to be held responsible, the group's leaders must direct the activity or fail to perceive a risk," says the Cowboys' attorney, Scott Young.

The Cowboys incident shows that these problems are not limited to the Greek system; however, it's traditionally fraternities that get caught in the harsh spotlight.

In recent years, the 63-member National Interfraternity Conference has made efforts to reduce potential problems. These days, rush parties feature not steins of beer but glasses of milk. Some also hire security officers and host invitation-only parties. And fraternities even close their bars at 2 a.m. — just like the local joints.

But in the crackdown on Animal House antics, local law enforcement can sometimes go overboard. The Phi Gamma Deltas at UT were fined \$10,000 for a fall of 1989 mud fight that resulted in an infected cut.

With the courts providing an inconsistent guide for those in student organizations, members are left to decide what's harmless fun — and what's illegal.

James Hibberd, U. of Texas, Austin/Photo by Daymion Smith, U. of Massachusetts, Amherst





If you've
seen
Pearl Jam
or P.J.
O'Rourke
for free
at your
campus,
thank
your
student
activity
council

#### BY COLLEEN RUSH

ASSISTANT EDITOR

fall 1994. Big Head Todd and the Monsters are playing IU's 2,500-seat venue. Opening for the band is a funny little no-name group called Hootie and the Blowfish.

Who and the Whatfish?

Ask that question today and you're likely to elicit some serious stares. But Brandon O'Leary, director of IU's student programming board, knew last year — when he booked them for less than \$1,000 — he had a winner.

"It's exciting to know we had the band before they got big," says O'Leary, a junior. "Six months after they played IU, they couldn't have played in our venue. They're too big."

And too expensive. According to Harris Goldberg, president of Concert Ideas, the band that once was mistakenly referred to as Homey and the Goldfish is now going for \$100,000 to \$150,000 a night.

Forget about frat parties, kids

Imagine what it was like to book the Red Hot Chili Peppers when alternative was alternative. Then imagine what it's like to bring Hal and the Polka Kings to campus for the annual Spring Fling weekend — hey, who says polka isn't about to make its big breakthrough?

Just when you thought it was safe to be entertained, college programming boards are at it again.

Programming boards, concert/lecture committees, campus activity councils — whatever you call 'em — are the ones who can make or break campus life.

Made up of students devoted to the business of entertaining, programming boards spend many a day every semester tracking bands, speakers and their agents and bargaining and booking performers for the right (or sometimes not-so-right) price ... all while trying to gauge who's hor and who's not on the college circuit.

"Providing the best entertainment at a price students can afford, knowing I had a part in helping 4,000 people forget about everything but having tun for two hours—that's what it's all about," says Ron Opaleski, a senior at the U. of Florida and chair of Student Government Productions." I got that feeling looking out at Natalic Merchant, just watching the crowd have a great time.

But it's not all love and glory for the students who bring names like Ross Perot, Dan Quayle and, um, Barry Williams (a.k.a. Greg Brady) to campus. First, there's the money situation.

The size of a school's concert or lecture budget (usually a flat rate or percentage of student activities fees) may not be the sole factor in who it can get, but it sure does help.

With a whopping \$100,000 to dish out, Reid Cox. co-director of the lectures committee at IU, snagged Spike Lee, William F. Buckley and Kurt Vonnegut Jr. last year. P.J. O'Rourke and Ralph Nader highlight this year's guest list.

"It's also who will give us a good deal," says Adrienne Bradley, a programming assistant and grad student at Western Michigan U. "That's definitely a consideration when you're dealing with student money and trying to be conservative."



Students with a taste for music like their G. Love with Special Sauce.



Natalie Merchant takes her "Carnival" on the road this year — maybe to a college near you.

Eeny meeny miney moe

After money matters, picking a band or speaker that will pack the house is the biggest concern for student programmers.

Choosing performers for campus is just like picking melons at a supermarket. You start by looking at the choices, be it rock or rap, activist or businessman, honeydew or. cantaloupe. The most obvious choice is what's in season and whether it's in your price range.

For the most part, students rely on catalogues and conventions that showcase the hippest and hottest acts on the college circuit. like the Groups National Association

had a part in helping 4,000 people forget about everything but having fun for two hours that's what it's all about,"

RON OPALESKI, U. OF FLORIDA

"Knowing I

for Campus Activities (NACA) sponsor conventions and publish brochures that give programmers the chance to see the goods and thump-test them

Programmers agree that the most inexpensive and hassle-free method of booking performers is to go straight to the source - the performer's agent.

But there are no guarantees in the college booking game. Even if programmers pick a sure thing, it's a given that some shows will bomb. Whether it's rain, faulty equipment or performers who flake, the programming show must go on.

You've got to make a lot of lucky predictions." says Mark Shulman, a senior at Penn State U. and director of the university's concert committee. "Sometimes you'll fall flat. It's all a risk.

And sometimes, you've just got to wing it. When Richie Havens, a folky throwback from the Woodstock days, showed up at California State U., Chico, minus instruments, student programmers scrambled for backups. "Luckily, all he needed was acoustic guitars," says Ajamu Lamumba, adviser to the programming council.

Scheduling conflicts are just part of the risk. When programmers at the U. of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, booked Alamo - a hot local country act - they were sure they had a hit. And if it weren't for a Green Bay Packers game, they would have raised the roofs, says Owen Sartori, a senior at Wisconsin and student coordinator for Centertainment Productions. "About 20 people showed up for the show. Everyone else was at home watching the Packers game," Sartori says. "It was a lesson learned."

The money pit

Even if they use an agent, colleges can still end up paying a higher market price for performers and

"It's a cutthroat business," Opaleski says. "If I'm an agent selling a band, I know that college boards are there to entertain, not to make money. The funds are replenished every year, and agents know that the money is there to be spent, so the price we pay can be higher than what they would get at other

With acts like the Black Crowes, Notorious B.I.G. and Jon Stewart under his campus entertainment belt. Opaleski says spending UF's \$250,000 budget is a risky game.

And then there are those bands (who will remain unnamed) that milk the college circuit for money, exposure and a following, only to jack up their price or dump the campus scene the second they hit the cover of Rolling Stone. What's up with that?

Students are the ones who buy the music. We're the ones who listen, and we're the ones who give some of these bands their big breaks," says Sandy Brouillette, a senior at Nicholls State U. in Louisiana and president of the student programming association. "Now those bands say they don't even want to do the college circuit.'

Bureaucracy is part of the problem. Programmers are bogged down with school procedures and guidelines and spend precious bargaining time choosing performers and getting checks approved. Goldberg says.

The growing rift between college radio and programming boards is also changing the college music scene. College radio tends to lean toward giving airplay to the poor and unknown. while programmers look for big-name bands that will pack the house.

"The college market hasn't been as much of a launching pad for bands as it used to be," Goldberg says. "Radio thinks that anything you've heard of is too commercial and mainstream. It's like, if a band has commercial success, it's sold out.'

And if colleges aren't breaking out the talent like they used to, why bother with the college circuit at all?

You can't always get what you want

The most common complaint programmers face is about who they choose. Even the big names draw criticism from remote corners of campus. Hootie and the Blowfish? A frat boy's band. Phish? No more hippie stuff! Dan Quayle? Die, Republican scum! The Walltones? Who?!

"You can't please everybody" seems to be the universal mantra chanted by all student programmers. Getting a variety of performers is the ideal, but so is accurately predicting the whims of students' entertainment interests.

"Our mission is to provide entertainment for students at the lowest prices," Opaleski says. "Students have no idea what goes on behind the scenes — the risks we take, how much we pay

And what's the reward for this seemingly thankless and harrowing job?

Being able to say "I got 10,000 Maniacs for \$200 back in '90.'

Or better yet, telling stories about rubbing elbows with the now rich and famous - or just getting them clean towels.

For others, being on the programming board is just a foot in the door to opportunities after college.

"I get paid \$65 every two weeks. For the amount of time I put in, that works out to about 35 cents an hour," says Opaleski. "You don't do it for the money. You do it because you love music and want to work in the industry.'

Colleen Rush, assistant editor, is currently touring on the college circuit. With a little coaxing and a few beers, she'll stuff herself into a shimmery prom dress and do the best Aretha Franklin impression this side of Detroit.

#### Catch 'em if you can

Here they are, kids - listed in no particular order (other than our preference). Some you've heard of, some you haven't. Like it or not, these acts are coming to a campus near you soon.

Natalie Merchant

Joan Osborne **Bob Dylan Neil Young** The Bodines **Matthew Sweet** Soul Asylum **Blues Traveler** Sponge Coolio G. Love & Special Sauce Big Head Todd and the Monsters Luscious Jackson Widespread Panic Sugar **Godstreet Wine Rusted Root** The Archers of Loaf Phish **Better Than Ezra** The Samples **Violent Femmes** George Clinton and the P-Funk Allstars



Wining and dining (or is it boozing and cruising?) the acts that come to campus is a tough job, but someone's gotta do it. For all the thankless hours that student programmers put in, they get to tell stories like these:

- . Brandon O'Leary's claim to fame is trying to get Mark Bryan of Hootie and the Blowfish from the U. of Miami, Ohio, to Indiana U. a few hours before the show. The bus left Miami, minus the guitarist, the morning after a show. But O'Leary, a junior at IU, was a tad late and a thumb short. Bryan hitched his way to an airport, rented a car and made it in time for the performance.
- · Mark Shulman, a senior at Penn State U., remembers getting the Red Hot Chili Peppers in '91. Only slightly more bizarre than Pearl Jam opening for practically nothing was the Peppers' request for four Penn State socks. Knowing their rep for wearing socks on their pee-pees and nothing else, the students waited until after the show to hand over the goods.
- . Carrot Top had students lining up backstage at Nicholls State U. "They weren't asking questions or getting autographs or anything," says senior Sandy Brouillette. "They just asked to touch his hair."
- · Keith Lobdell, a senior and programmer



- at Colorado State U., didn't notice the glamour of his job until he booked Sheryl Crow... two days before she picked up five Grammys. "Seeing her on TV was like, 'Whoa, we are bringing big names to campus," Lobdell says.
- The student programmers at Texas A&M U. can't help bragging about teaching Mikhail Baryshnikov how to western dance. "He was on campus for a performance of The Nutcracker, and he said he was really interested in country-and-western dancing," says Jonathan Neerman, the executive vice president of relations for student programming and a senior at A&M. "So some students took him out and taught him how to Texas two-step."



Meaty performers like Blues Traveler are a big hit on the college circuit.

## BLOOD BROTHERS

#### BY BONNIE DATT

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire.
"This should be an interesting Christmas release — red blood and green blood."
— Greg Nicotero, From Dusk Till Dawn Special-effects artist.

Jack Frost nipping at your nose.
"There's no angst. There's just a
bunch of rat—bat f—kin' monsters."
— Quentin Tarantino

EAVE IT TO QUENTIN Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez to release a gory action-horror movie three days before Christmas. Tarantino - known for his bloody, ultra-violent yet smart Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction - stars in and executive produces the first script he was paid to write. From Dusk Tili Dawn was shelved, but the \$1,500 got him out of clerking in a video store and into writing scripts that would win an Academy Award, a Golden Globe, Cannes' Palme d'Or and national and international acclaim.

Rodriguez — known for his bloody, ultra-violent yet funny El Mariachi and Desperado — directs, edits, executive produces, shoots.... Heck, he probably brings the coffee and doughnuts. That's after he sketches the vampires for the special-effects people to create. And throws together some "fake" trailers (They're too gory to get past the ratings board, he says. "But they keep the crew excited."). And experiments with sound effects on his computer at home.

"I think Robert was shooting movies in his last lifetime," says executive producer Lawrence Bender. "There's never any sitting around, 'OK, how are we going to shoot this?' You see the rehearsal, and before you know it, there's a method of how he's about to go shoot it: You got a camera here, here, here and here, and the lighting this way and boom. And we'll go. I've never seen that before, I don't know who else can do it."

#### Ashes to ashes

By the time the dust was blown off *Dusk*. Tarantino and Rodriguez nad become friends.

"It was kind of perfect timing," explains Bender, who also produced *Dogs* and *Pulp*. "Quentin said, 'Well, I'll do it if Robert wants to direct it.' And that was what made this whole thing explode."

And explode it does, in green monster goo. But not right off the bat (no pun intended). Come on, we're talking Tarantino.

"It's a straight-on suspense, gangster, getaway kind of film—until it turns this corner," Tarantino says. "And once it turns that corner, you are in a completely other movie.

## Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez deliver a gory holiday gift

When people first read the script, they had no idea what it was, and then all of a sudden, when they got to page 70 (sound effect of turning page) — 'What the hell?'

They were like questioning their own sanity — 'Is this what's going on?' [It becomes] a head-banging horror film for the horror-film fans.

#### To a bloody Pulp

Tarantino and Rodriguez both say they'll be happy if they only please these horror fans. "We're making a full-on horror film for that crowd, and everyone else is invited, all right?" Tarantino says. They don't expect a Pulp phenomenon.

"We got like 11, 12 million dollars, which is, uh, they don't even shoot comedies for that these days." Rodriguez says. "We thought it would be a good way to keep creative freedom - be able to do whatever we want because we weren't spending a lot, yet make it look really big and expensive so that we could do crazy things and get away with it. If you make a bigger movie for a regular studio, it has to be a middle-ofthe-road kind of horror film. It has to appeal to more people because they spend more money and have to make back more money.

"All we have to do is go after our horror fans — people who just like horror movies — and if nobody else wants to see it, it's all right because it'll still make back enough money."

But, Tarantino admits, the Pulp crowd and the Durk crowd aren't necessarily that different. "They would be hanging our on the same part of the campus — the same corner of the prison yard."

Also hanging out in that yard are Juliette Lewis and Harvey Keitel, no strangers to Tarantino scripts; Cheech Marin and Salma Hayek, no strangers to Rodriguez films; Tom Savini, no stranger to horror films, and George Clooney, um....

Clooney, riding high on his ER success, made a good move in doing a low-budget horror flick. Rodriguez says. "Instead of doing some middle-

of-the-road, big-budget, American comedy, where he'd just be part of the decoration, he gets to come in here and take over, in a low-budget situation, where, worse to worst, he can always just blame me."

Clooney and Tarantino play the gangster Gecko brothers, who go on a bloody crime spree culminating in the kidnapping of the Fuller family (Keitel plays the minister father: Lewis, the daughter). In the Fuller RV, they all head for the border, where the Geckos promise to let the Fullers go. But at the border is the Titty Twister bar, which just happens to be operated by vampires.

And these aren't your average vampires. Come on, we're talking Rodriguez.

"They're still these ghoulish monsters and everything," Tarantino says, "But it's great to have this kind of Mexican slant. The movie never actually stops to do that, but you see it in the architecture. You see it in the Titty Twister, which used to be this temple for hundreds of years. They just built this titty bar around to disguise it.

"The production designer actually drew this whole subtext — not the eastern European vampire myth, but the Mayan/Mexican/Aztec — without changing anything."

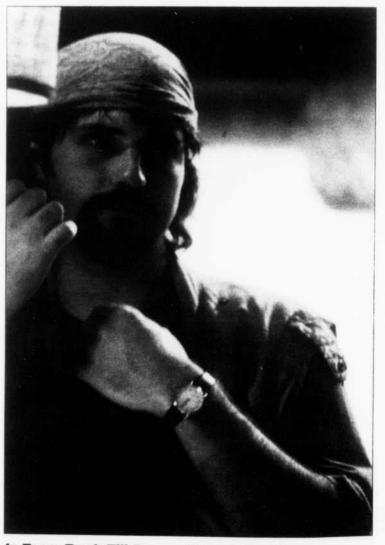
#### The dynamic duo

Water, not stakes and garlic, is the weapon of choice against these monsters — launched with guns, balloons, condoms.

Condoms. Well, we are talking Tarantino and Rodriguez. But still, a vampire movie at Christmas?

"Usually I don't go see any movies at Christmas." Rodriguez says. "You get there, everyone's smiling and happy all the time. I want to see a real intense movie."

Ask Bonnie Datt about The Bonnie Situation.



In From Dusk Till Dawn, Robert Rodriguez directs bats out of hell.



Quentin Tarantino gives George Clooney a hand.

## The Dead Will Never Die

O THE LAWYER SAYS TO THE DEADhead, "What are you going to do when Jerry dies?"

"I'm gonna go back to college, man!"

For years, it was only a joke — a way to poke fun at the thousands of enraptured souls who, led in song and spirit, interrupted their lives to follow the Grateful Dead.

What will happen to the tie-dyed students of Hamlin now that the Pied Piper has packed up his guitar and, to paraphrase one of his sweetest tunes, gone where the climate suits his clothes?

#### OFFBEAT

Michelle Striegel, a junior at Guilford College in North Carolina, couldn't even listen to the Grateful Dead after she heard of Jerry Garcia's death.

"I thought it was a cruel joke at first," she says. "Then I was really bummed."

But now that she's gotten over the initial shock of his death and has resumed listening to their music. Striegel says she'll start hitting the books again.

Susan Ranheim, a grad student at the U. of New Orleans, spent a week in a secluded cabin mourning Garcia's death.

"I was bummed when I heard about it." she says. "I wanted to call all my Deadhead friends, but most of them don't have phones."

Any professor in a Dead tour city will attest to the fact that the requests for extensions increased in direct proportion to the approach of concert dates.

Ranheim must have kept her professors guessing, "I ended up spending two weeks in the middle of my junior year following these guys around, making hippie jewelry and selling grilled cheese sandwiches," she says.

Some have suggested that other bands — Phish, for example — will pick up the Dead's following and keep alive the hedonistic life of parking lot parties, veggie burritos and universal kindness. Still, most 'heads hesitate to suggest that any band, even Phish, could replace the Dead.

"Phish is a followers' band — true — but they're not the Dead," says John Grant, a Tufts U., Mass., senior. "I don't think the following will transfer itself, because it's just not the same experience as going to a Dead show.... You can't duplicate that."

Grant still hangs on to the ricket that will never be. The untorn ticket was for Sept. 19, the last show on the Boston run and what would have been the last concert at Boston Garden before the building was razed.

"Jerry made the Dead," says Eustacio Humphrey, a senior at Northeastern U, in Massachusetts. "The Dead can't be a band without Jerry's sound. It was so unique."

Jessica Ruzz, Tufts U./
Photos from the documentary Tie-Dyed



One of Jerry's kids.



The bus stops here.

e ran through a generation-and took us with him. Now follow Forrest on your own computer to a time when a disk was something your dog caught in midair, a hard drive was that road trip in your van to Woodstock. and everyone was user-friendly. It was a time for musicmusic that rocked the world.

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#### U. Magazine's Magnificent Seven

BY GLENN McDONALD

#### The Top College Rock Albums Since the Dawn of Time\*

#### College Rock

Sympathy for the Devil?

Hey, Tipper! Hey, PMRC! Never mind these chucklehead death metal bands. Slayer? Geeks. Morbid Angel? Gimps. Napalm Death? Pansies! College rock is the real enemy. These bands are polluting our children's minds. If, on some crisp winter day. you hear any of the below elements on the car radio beware! You may be listening to the hedonistic, subversive strains of college rock.

Jangly, Byrds-ian guitar -This ringing, chiming guitar style is designed to echo in your cerebral cortex, weakening your resistance to dream-pop bands like the Church. Next thing you know, you're humming along to lyrics about clouds and liberal politics.

Lo-fi production -

Droning, muddy sound mixing helps bands record subliminal messages about Satan and drugs. Listen carefully to Pavement's "Trigger Cut" and you'll hear this cryptic message - "Read the evil devil fax! Ooh! Nutmeg!"

Monosyllabic bands -Blur, Live, Bush, Sponge, Dig, Beck, Whale, Seam, Gene,

Dish, Low. Make... you... talk...in...small...words... and... sound... dumb.

Semi-ironic anthems -"Kill Yr. Idols," "Teen Angst," "Youth Against Fascism." This is the kind of souped-up rock and roll that gets the kids all riled! Hormones and stuff, you know. Soon they'll be smoking

"grass" and going to "discos."

Upstart females -

PJ Harvey, Liz Phair, Alanis Morissette. These women curse frequently and sometimes even wear slacks. Beware! They are wicked succubi.

Weird MTV videos —

Say what you want about Warrant and Winger - at least their videos had hardrocking boys ogling seminaked girls, which is natural and normal. These new-fangled college band videos have all manner of perversity. That Nirvana video - the boy's in a dress! What the hey?

OR SOME REASON NO ONE UNDERSTANDS, THE MUSIC BUSINESS ALL BUT shuts down after Thanksgiving. Hardly any albums get released, and the ones that do tend to be of the Boxcar Willie's Yodeling Jubilee variety. So we've turned our gaze to the rosy, hazy past. Popular music wouldn't be where it is today without the influence of college radio, especially in the 80s. While Bon Jovi and Whitesnake were topping the charts, campus stations were quietly talking 'bout a revolution, nursing the bands and style that would conquer the planet in the post-Nirvana era.

Below are seven of the most important college rock albums of all time, in no particular order. These are recordings that probably would not have survived outside the fertile confines of left-of-the-dial radio, and whose relevance and influence can still be felt to this day. This list isn't by any means comprehensive, and in anticipation of the impending barrage of righteous criticism, we'd just like to say: Get off our backs, already! You wanna fight? All right, tough guy. Behind metal shop, after school. Be there.

R.E.M. Murmur/1983

The archetype of the little college band that could, R.E.M. have risen from quirky art-rock combo to one of the most popular and impor-



tant bands in rock history. Their full-length debut album contained the elemental seeds of what would later bloom into R.E.M.'s signature sound - folksy melodicism tempered by a solidly post-punk ethic. If you can hear the Velvet Underground in Peter Buck's guitar, you can also hear the Beach Boys in Mike Mills' harmonics. One thing you can't hear are the bries - singer Michael Stipe's enigmatic abstract vocals prompted more than a few DJs to rename the tock" as we know it with this record, and their up

#### **Public Enemy** It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back/1989

Although the development of hip-hop has ultimate ly very little to do with college radio, the two move ments have occasionally met with profound synergy.

When Long Island college radio DJ Carlton Ridenhour (Chuck D) formed Public Enemy in the late '80s, rap was still very much underground. With Nation of Millions, Chuck D's controversial (and incisive) political stance scared away all but the most courageous radio programmers (Chuck D's confrontational attitude toward black radio didn't help: "Radio/Suckas scared of me/Cuz I'm mad/Cuz I'm the enemy.") And so P.E. found its way to Middle America primarily through word of mouth and support from college radio hip-hop programming. Nation of Millions arguably remains rap's masterpiece, its dense production and lyrical intensity a landmark in music history

#### The Replacements Let It Be/1984

when they hir them

band. Their combination of sloppiness, heart and balls-our punk bravado is best documented on Let It Be, which moves from delicate confessionals ("Unsatisfied") to crude in-jokes ("Gary's Got a Boner") with the kind of woozy grace you can only find in the hardest-drinking band in show business. The Mars has they came to be known) never fully broke our of their underground status, which some how makes them all the more legendary. Warch for Frantistan Phal Westerberg to grow into a dignified

#### Camper Van Beethoven Key Lime Pie/1990



series of critically praised, commercially ignored albums in the mid-to-late '80s. Camper best reflect the early spirit of nonformat college radio, gyrating wildly from countrified rave-ups to Middle Eastern music to garage-punk to psychedelia to ska - often within a single song. Key Lime Pie is the band's final release - a darker, calmer record that sounds like a bittersweet goodbye to the gilded cage of underground music. Frontman David Lowery would go on to form the significantly more straightforward band Cracker.

More reviews, more releases, plus sound bytes at

#### **Throwing Muses** Throwing Muses/1986

Kristin Hersh's fragmented pop sensibilities would have been crushed anywhere outside of college radio (in fact, only the eccentric British label 4AD was initially willing to sign the band). With Throwing Muses. Hersh and stepsister Tanya Donelly (Belly) made some of the most consistently interesting guitar pop of their time. In a sense, this record is somewhat emblematic of a larger scene of East Coast female-driven rock (Blake Babies, Kini Deal) that foreshadowed the early '90s boom of strong women performers (Liz Phair, PJ Harvey),

#### Hüsker Dü Warehouse: Songs and Stories/1985

Probably the most musically influential band to never break out of the college rock scene. Hüsker Dü took



the primal and direct punk pop of the Buzz-cocks and made it more primal, more direct - and more honest. Guitarist Bob Mould's jackhammer chording virtually created the sound practiced by the Pixics. Superchunk and even Nirvana. Warehouse is the band at its finest, with crisper production revealing both the austere sonics and graceful melodies th band was capable of.

#### Sonic Youth

Daydream Nation/1988

Sonic Youth's ground-breaking experimentation with song structure and guitar tonalities are best displayed on this sprawling double album. General ly regarded as the hippest band in the world. they've long fought the lonely battle for main stream acceptance. But, you know, their hearts were never really in it, and it's probably better that way. Nowadays, it seems you can't trust anything labeled "alternative," but rest assured - Sonic Youth are your friends. This may be your last chance to hear a state-of-the-art underground rock band in its natural environment.

\*Well, OK, not really the dawn of time. Just the '80s and '90s.

#### RADIO, RADIO

- 1. Sonic Youth, Washing Machine, DGC
- 2. Luna, Penthouse, Elektra
- 3. Superchunk, Here's Where the Strings Come In, Merge
- Rocket from the Crypt, Scream, Dracula, Scream!, Interscope
- 5. That Dog, Totally Crushed Out!, DGC
- 6. Six Finger Satellite, Severe Exposure, Sub Pop
- 7. Palace Music, Viva Last Blues, Palace/Drag City
- 8. Kids Soundtrack, Various Artists, London 9. Dambuilders, Ruby Red, EastWest
- 10. Eve's Plum, Cherry Alive, Sony 550

Chart based solely on college radio airplay. Contributing radio stations: KTRU, Rice U., Texas: KRNU, U. of Nebraska: KUCB, U. of Colorado. Boulder: KUOM, U. of Minnesota: KWVA, U. of Oregon: WCBN, U. of Michigan: WFAL, Bowling Green State U., Ohio: WUTK, U. of Fennessee, Knoxville, and WWVU, West Virginia U.

The U. Radio Chart is sponsored by





#### BY BONNIE DATT

OLLYWOOD'S GETTING A BIG OL' lump of coal in its stocking this year. Tim Allen's tossed out his pillows. Macauley Culkin's too busy partying to outfox those wascally burglars. Even Tiny Tim's probably off trying to sneak into Showgirls. We've got adventure, fantasy, drama and scandal, but no heartwarming holiday hash. If you want Bumble the abominable snowman, rent Rudolph.



Anthony Hopkins plays Mr. I-Am-Not-a-Crook. Ed Harris (*Apollo 13*) also stars, but it just may need a scene with Juliette Lewis shimmying to liven it up à la Stone's *Natural Born Killers*.

#### **Mary Reilly**

Columbia/TriStar

Let's see. How to get a gorgeous woman in the old Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde story.... Make the



Jekyll half be a gorgeous woman? Done already. OK, make the gorgeous woman Dr. Jekyll's maid. Who falls in love with him. Julia Roberts is the maid. John Malkovich (In the Line of Fire) is the mad scientist.

#### Wild Bill

MGM/UA

It's about time someone glorified the Old West, brought to life some of those legendary heroes..., Ahem. Jeff Bridges (Blown Away) plays the famous sharpshooter Wild Bill Hickok, Ellen Barkin (This Boy's Life) plays Calamity Jane, And if

you're really good, Buffalo Bill Cody will make an appearance, too.

#### Sabrina

7\сыныка

Bogart and Hepburn made the first one a classic. Now Julia Ormond (First Knight) fills



lla tale of two innear (the guy brother. Talk

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lan so dumb it's uinking they live ad the Whiners.



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Robert De Niro is the thief he's burning to catch. Both are obsessive



in their pursuits, so suspense should simmer as they try to outwit each other. Add Val Kilmer (the new Batman) to the picture, and this movie burns hot, hot, hot!

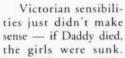
#### Nixon

Hollywood Pictures

Oliver Stone raked some muck with his take on JFK's story. Now he's going after Tricky Dick.

#### Sense and Sensibility

Columbia/TriStar





Emma Thompson (*Howards End*) plays a daughter left with money and men problems. Hugh Grant plays one of the men. Thompson also adapted the script, so expect women with old-fashioned oomph.

#### Dracula: Dead and Loving It

Castle Rock

He's spoofed westerns, space and Kevin Costner, Prince of

Thieves. Now Mel Brooks (Robin Hood: Men in Tights) is taking a bite out of the horror genre. Leslie Nielsen (Naked Guns), another king of satire, stars as a clutzy Dracula. He's not a bad guy — he just wants to neck.

#### Father of the Bride Part II

Touchstone Picture

The bride (Kimberly Williams) is expecting; so is her father. Can Steve Martin deal with being an old Daddy and a young Grandpap? Didn't Dianne Wiest do this in another Steve Martin movie (Parenthood)? Martin Short returns, only this time he's coordinating the baby shower.

Previews! Reviews! Movie Trailers! http://www.umagazine.com

#### Screen Saver

The Rocky Horror Picture Show

You're not still a virgin, are you? Isn't there some sort of rule that you have to do it by Thanksgiving break? Why not do it this Saturday night, at midnight — and don't forget your squirt gun.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show, one movie that only gets better the more you watch it, turned 20 this year. And it's still going strong, probably at a cheesy theater near you.

Rocky Horror features Tim Curry (*The Hunt for Red October*) as Frank N Furter, the sweet transvestite from the planet Transylvania. He provides shelter—and a whole lot more—for Brad (asshole!) and Janet (slut!) on a dark and stormy night. A pre-Bull Durham Susan Sarandon plays Janet.

Rocky Horror is the longest-running film in cinema history. How could it die? It's not like you can pop it in your living room VCR, dance around in lingerie, throw toast at your brother and shout at the TV. Well, maybe you can. But you kind of miss something if you can't have group sex in a packed theater and learn new responses from people who have taken in Shows around the nation.

Why such a cult following for a movie that's just plain bad?

"Maybe it's like being in love," suggests Sarandon. "You shouldn't try and dissect it."

#### The Reel Deal

Mighty Aphrodite

And you thought there would never be use in knowing deus ex machina and all that other Greek tragedy crap. Mighty Aphrodite, written and directed by Woody Allen, has all the elements: A hero whose hubris almost gets the best of him, a blind soothsayer named Tiresias, a Chorus that narrates the tale from an outdoor amphitheater then steps into the hero's New York apartment to stop him from calling a prostitute. It's classic.

Allen and Helena Bonham Carter (Mary Shelley's Frankenstein) play a couple who adopt a baby (no Woody Allen adoptee cracks, please). Mira Sorvino (Quiz Show) plays Linda, the birth mother, a porn star and actress/hairdresser wannabe.

Sorvino, whose character has an apartment tastefully decorated with phallic symbols, calls her part the greatest dumb blonde role in the past 25 years, if not ever.

"I walked around in Philly in spiked heels and in crazy little fluffy sweaters and outrageous leopard prints, and I was Linda for three days in preparation for starting the film."

When the Chorus breaks into a Broadway number, you know you're watching high comedy. Er, tragedy. Whatever. Euripides would be proud.





BY GLENN McDONALD

#### **U.** Magazine's Magnificent Seven

#### The Top College Rock Albums Since the Dawn of Time\*

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#### **Public Enemy** It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back/1989

Although the development of hip-hop has ultimately very little to do with college radio, the two movements have occasionally met with profound synergy.

When Long Island college radio DJ Carlton Ridenhour (Chuck D) formed Public Enemy in the late '80s, rap was still very much underground. With Nation of Millions, Chuck D's controversial (and incisive) political stance scared away all but the most courageous radio programmers (Chuck D's confrontational attitude toward black radio didn't help: "Radio/Suckas scared of me/Cuz I'm mad/Cuz I'm the enemy.") And so P.E. found its way to Middle America primarily through word of mouth and support from college radio hip-hop programming. Nation of Millions arguably remains rap's masterpiece, its dense production and lyrical intensity a landmark in music history.

#### Replacements

when they h stride, were to American po-It Be, which m Boner") with the find in the hard

#### Beetho Key Lime Pie

for which the relege radio darlo Beethoven rel series of critical albums in the mic early spirit of non from countrified

garage-punk to psychedelia to ska - often within a single song. Key Lime Pie is the band's final release — a darker, calmer record that sounds like a bittersweet goodbye to the gilded cage of underground music. rontman David Lowery would go on to form the significantly more straightforward band Cracker.

http://www.umagazine.com

#### Throwing Muses Throwing Muses/1986

Kristin Hersh's fragmented pop sensibilities would have been crushed anywhere outside of college radio (in fact, only the eccentric British label 4AD was initially willing to sign the band). With Throwing Muses. Hersh and stepsister Tanya Donelly (Belly) made some of the most consistently interesting guitar pop of their time. In a sense, this record is somewhat emblematic of a larger scene of East Coast female-driven rock (Blake Babies, Kim Deal) that foreshadowed the early '90s boom of strong women performers (Liz Phair, PJ Harvey),

#### Hüsker Dü Warehouse: Songs and Stories/1985

Probably the most musically influential band to never break out of the college rock scene, Hüsker Dü took



the primal and direct punk pop of the Buzz-cocks and made it more primal, more direct - and more honest. Guitarist Bob Mould's jackhammer chording virtually created the sound practiced by the Pixies, Superchunk and even Nirvana. Warehouse is the band at its finest, with crisper production revealing both the austere sonics and graceful melodies the band was capable of.

#### Sonic Youth Daydream Nation/1988

Geffen

Sonic Youth's ground-breaking experimentation with song structure and guitar tonalities are best displayed on this sprawling double album. General-

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The U. Radio Chart is sponsored by



#### College Rock

Sympathy for the Devil?

Hey, Tipper! Hey, PMRC! Never mind these chucklehead death metal bands. Slaver? Geeks. Morbid Angel? Gimps. Napalm Death? Pansies! College rock is the real enemy. These bands are polluting our children's minds. If, on some crisp winter day, you hear any of the below elements on the car radio beware! You may be listening to the hedonistic, subversive strains of college rock.

Jangly, Byrds-ian guitar -This ringing, chiming guitar style is designed to echo in your cerebral cortex, weakening your resistance to dream-pop bands like the Church. Next thing you know, you're humming along to lyrics about clouds and liberal politics.

Lo-fi production -

Droning, muddy sound mixing helps bands record subliminal messages about Satan and drugs. Listen carefully to Pavement's "Trigger Cut" and you'll hear this cryptic message — "Read the evil devil fax! Ooh! Nutmeg!"

Monosyllabic bands -

Blur, Live, Bush, Sponge, Dig, Beck, Whale, Seam, Gene, Dish, Low. Make... you... talk... in... small... words... and... sound... dumb.

Semi-ironic anthems -"Kill Yr. Idols." "Teen

Angst," "Youth Against Fascism." This is the kind of souped-up rock and roll that gets the kids all riled! Hormones and stuff, you know. Soon they'll be smoking "grass" and going to "discos."

Upstart females -

PJ Harvey, Liz Phair, Alanis Morissette. These women curse frequently and sometimes even wear slacks. Beware! They are wicked succubi.

Weird MTV videos -

Say what you want about Warrant and Winger - at least their videos had hardrocking boys ogling seminaked girls, which is natural and normal. These new-fangled college band videos have all manner of perversity. That Nirvana video — the boy's in a dress! What the hey?



Let It Be/1984

The Repla band. Their con balls-our punk l ("Unsatisfied"

#### Camper

More reviews, more releases, plus sound bytes at



#### BY BONNIE DATT

OLLYWOOD'S GETTING A BIG OL' lump of coal in its stocking this year. Tim Allen's tossed out his pillows. Macauley Culkin's too busy partying to outfox those wascally burglars. Even Tiny Tim's probably off trying to sneak into Showgirls. We've got adventure, fantasy, drama and scandal, but no heartwarming holiday hash. If you want Bumble the abominable snowman, rent Rudolph.



#### **Cutthroat Island**

MGM/UA

It's 1650 on the high seas, where real men wore patches (for motion sickness — those waters were rough). Matthew Modine plays the swashbuckling, treasure-hunting, rum-swilling, skull-and-cross-bone-waving, timber-shivering lord of the plank. And Geena Davis plays the babe.

#### **Othello**

Castle Rock

Moor Shakespeare. And what's a Hollywood Brit pic without Kenneth Branagh? In this classic tragedy,



Branagh plays Iago, one of Will's most legendary bad guys. Laurence Fishburne (*Higher Learning*) plays the tragic hero. Guess Keanu wasn't available.

#### Heat

Warner Bros

Al Pacino is the heat. Robert De Niro is the thief he's burning to catch. Both are obsessive



in their pursuits, so suspense should simmer as they try to outwit each other. Add Val Kilmer (the new Batman) to the picture, and this movie burns hot, hot, hot!

#### Nixon

Hollywood Pictures

Oliver Stone raked some muck with his take on JFK's story. Now he's going after Tricky Dick.

Anthony Hopkins plays Mr. I-Am-Not-a-Crook. Ed Harris (*Apollo 13*) also stars, but it just may need a scene with Juliette Lewis shimmying to liven it up à la Stone's *Natural Born Killers*.

#### **Mary Reilly**

Columbia/TriStar

Let's see. How to get a gorgeous woman in the old Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde story.... Make the



Jekyll half be a gorgeous woman? Done already. OK, make the gorgeous woman Dr. Jekyll's maid. Who falls in love with him. Julia Roberts is the maid. John Malkovich (In the Line of Fire) is the mad scientist.

#### Wild Bill

MGM/UA

It's about time someone glorified the Old West, brought to life some of those legendary heroes.... Ahem. Jeff Bridges (Blown Away) plays the famous sharpshooter Wild Bill Hickok. Ellen Barkin (This Boy's Life) plays Calamity Jane. And if



you're really good, Buffalo Bill Cody will make an appearance, too.

#### Sabrina

Paramount

Bogart and Hepburn made the first one a classic. Now Julia Ormond (First Knight) fills Audrey's shoes, Harri-



son Ford Bogie's, in this Cinderella tale of two brothers vying for one girl. Greg Kinnear (the guy on after Conan) plays the playboy brother. Talk show guy or Han Solo? Tough call.

#### The Stupids

Samo

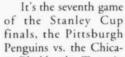
Need we say more? Tom Arnold stars. Now, need we say more? OK, OK. Based on the bestselling kids' books, *The* 



Stupids is about the Stupid family, a clan so dumb it's happy. Even the dog, Kitty. We're thinking they live somewhere between the Coneheads and the Whiners.

#### Sudden Death

Universal

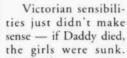




go Blackhawks. Terrorists take a hostage. Pittsburgh needs a hero. Mario Lemieux? No. Jean-Claude Van Damme plays a fireman who races the clock to save the day. Wonder if he has a hat trick up his sleeve.

#### Sense and Sensibility

Columbia/TriStar





Emma Thompson (*Howards End*) plays a daughter left with money and men problems. Hugh Grant plays one of the men. Thompson also adapted the script, so expect women with old-fashioned oomph.

#### Dracula: Dead and Loving It

Castle Rock

He's spoofed westerns, space and Kevin Costner, Prince of



Thieves. Now Mel Brooks (Robin Hood: Men in Tights) is taking a bite out of the horror genre. Leslie Nielsen (Naked Guns), another king of satire, stars as a clutzy Dracula. He's not a bad guy — he just wants to neck.

#### Father of the Bride Part II

Touchstone Picture

The bride (Kimberly Williams) is expecting; so is her father. Can Steve Martin deal with being an old Daddy and a young Grandpap? Didn't Dianne Wiest do this in another Steve Martin movie (*Parenthood*)? Martin Short returns, only this time he's coordinating the baby shower.

Previews! Reviews! Movie Trailers! http://www.umagazine.com

#### Screen Saver

The Rocky Horror Picture Show

You're not still a virgin, are you? Isn't there some sort of rule that you have to do it by Thanksgiving break? Why not do it this Saturday night, at midnight — and don't forget your squirt gun.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show, one movie that only gets better the more you watch it, turned 20 this year. And it's still going strong, probably at a cheesy theater near you.

Rocky Horror features Tim Curry (*The Hunt for Red October*) as Frank N Furter, the sweet transvestite from the planet Transylvania. He provides shelter—and a whole lot more—for Brad (asshole!) and Janet (slut!) on a dark and stormy night. A pre-*Bull Durham* Susan Sarandon plays Janet.

Rocky Horror is the longest-running film in cinema history. How could it die? It's not like you can pop it in your living room VCR, dance around in lingerie, throw toast at your brother and shout at the TV. Well, maybe you can. But you kind of miss something if you can't have group sex in a packed theater and learn new responses from people who have taken in Shows around the nation.

Why such a cult following for a movie that's just plain bad?

"Maybe it's like being in love," suggests Sarandon. "You shouldn't try and dissect it."

#### The Reel Deal

Mighty Aphrodite

And you thought there would never be use in knowing deus ex machina and all that other Greek tragedy crap. Mighty Aphrodite, written and directed by Woody Allen, has all the elements: A hero whose hubris almost gets the best of him, a blind soothsayer named Tiresias, a Chorus that narrates the tale from an outdoor amphitheater then steps into the hero's New York apartment to stop him from calling a prostitute. It's classic.

Allen and Helena Bonham Carter (Mary Shelley's Frankenstein) play a couple who adopt a baby (no Woody Allen adoptee cracks, please). Mira Sorvino (Quiz Show) plays Linda, the birth mother, a porn star and actress/hairdresser wannabe.

Sorvino, whose character has an apartment tastefully decorated with phallic symbols, calls her part the greatest dumb blonde role in the past 25 years, if not ever.

"I walked around in Philly in spiked heels and in crazy little fluffy sweaters and outrageous leopard prints, and I was Linda for three days in preparation for starting the film."

When the Chorus breaks into a Broadway number, you know you're watching high comedy. Er, tragedy. Whatever. Euripides would be proud.



#### CONTESTS

#### **HURRY! ENTER** U. CAPTURE THE **NIKE SPIRIT** CONTEST NOW!

Time is running out! There's only a few weeks left to win \$1,000!

Wherever you go, climb, hike, raft, spelunk, skydive, parasail, hang glide, bike, jump, explore or kick back, take your cam-



e Hicks, Southwest Missouri State U. 'All of my Nikes. Notice the Jordan tattoo on my arm. I also have a swoosh on my ankle. It reads 'Nike or Nothing.'

era and Capture the Nike Spirit - those unforgettable experiences in sports and everyday life.

Maybe you and your Nikes will hike to the most awesome place on earth, climb the biggest mountain or rock, catch big air (with or without wheels), ride the rapids, backpack into a canyon, run around (or into) a lake, bungee jump off a bridge, rappel (or leap over) the tallest building on campus. Or maybe you own the World's Oldest Living Pair of Nikes or the most battered pair still alive, or you can get the most pairs of Nikes in one photo. with people attached. You decide and JUST DO IT!

The Grand Prize winner will collect



Ed Valerio, U. of Wisconsin, Madison "Spicing up our already exciting vacation by bungee jumping 590 feet in the Alps.'

\$1,000, and the winning photo will be published with Nike's ad in the Jan./Feb. 1996 issue of U.

Send your entries on color print or slide film, labeled (gently) on the back with your name, school, address, phone number (school and permanent) and a brief description of the Nike spirit you've captured (who, when, where, doing what, etc.). Deadline for entries is Dec. 1, 1995. SO HURRY! Entries cannot be returned and become the property of U. Magazine. There is no limit on the number of entries you can submit.

> Mail your entries to U. MAGAZINE

CAPTURE THE NIKE SPIRIT CONTEST

1800 Century Park East, Suite 820 Los Angeles, CA 90067-1511



#### Brent Finley, Arizona State U. Air ballet.

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The Grand Prize winner will get \$1,000 cash AND round-trip airline tickets for two to anywhere in the U.S., Mexico or the Caribbean AND a new Canon BJC-70 Color Bubble Jet Printer! PLUS, two second prize winners will each receive a new Canon BJC-70 Color Bubble Jet Printer AND \$500 cash. Five third prize winners each win \$349 cash (about what it takes to buy a Canon BJC-70. Color Bubble Jet Printer).

To enter, send your entry (50 words max) describing your most creative print site to U. MAGAZINE. Canon Cool Print Site Contest, 1800 Century Park East, Suite 820. Los Angeles, CA 90067-1511 or e-mail to contests@umagazine.com.

All entries (snail mail or esmail) must include your name, school, address (school and permanent) and phone number to be eligible to win. There is no limit to the number of times you may enter. Deadline for entries is Dec. 1, 1995. SO HURRY! Winners will be notified by Dec. 20, 1995, so be sure to include your permanent phone number.

#### **4TH ANNUAL** U. PHOTO CONTEST **FOUR \$1,000 GRAND PRIZES**

Here's your chance to win big money! U. is offering four \$1,000 cash grand prizes for the best photo entries submitted in four categories: Campus Life/Traditions, All Around Sports (mud to varsity), Road Trippin' and Funniest Sights. PLUS, for each entry published in U. during the year, we'll pay \$25. Last year's con-

Susan Phelps, Michigan State U. "Who's feeding whom?"

test had more than 100 winners - and \$10,000 in cash prizes.

Photos can be of anyone or anything on or off campus, from normal (whatever that is) to outrageous. For best results, keep the faces in focus and the background as light as possible.

Winners of the month will be published in U. and on our Web site. The four \$1,000 Grand Prize winning entries will be featured in U.'s May 1996.

Send entries on color print or slide film, labeled (gently) on the back with your name. school, address, phone number (school and permanent) and a brief description of the event (who, when, where, doing what), (Funny captions get extra points.) Entries can-



Kevin Braverman, Indiana U. "The man who likes to eat planes."

not be returned and become the property of U. Magazine. Deadline for entries is March 15, 1996.

Mail your entries to

U. MAGAZINE PHOTO CONTEST

1800 Century Park East, Suite 820 Los Angeles, CA 90067-1511



Faith Amon, Florida International U. Leaf it to those students at Florida International U.

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## Dumb and Dumber?

ALK INTO ANY DORM ROOM, and you're bound to find a television set in maximum use. The images flying from the screen shape our worldly outlooks, stimulate our minds and make us look deep within ourselves for life's

And that's just Beavis and Butt-head.

Shows like Picket Fences and 60 Minutes win the awards, but you're more likely to find a college boob rube playing such modern classics as Married... With Children, Martin or

What could be behind this trend? Have we grown tired of stuffy dramas, or are we truly

"People like those shows because they

don't have to think while watching them," says Becky Redmond, a junior at LeMoyne College in New York. They insult my intelligence.

At colleges across the country. Metrose Place parties are as much a Monday night institution as their rival football gatherings. Roommates bond over Beavis, and girlfriends order their significant others to rid their dorm rooms of Baywatch posters.

U. of North Carolina sophomore Damon Remigailo says the shows are an escape. "The characters can get away with anything without having to face the consequences." he says. We all want to be like that,

And Lauren Self, a freshman at St. Olaf College in Minnesota, watches out of nostalgia. "I went to high school with people like Beavis and Butt-head," she says. "The way the show makes fun of them is perfect.

When, if ever, will this all stop?

As long as there's an audience for this mindless maybem, such future classics as Beavis and Butt-head the College Years. Return to Melrow Place and the inevitable Married ... With Grandchildren can't be

Bud's bound to get some sooner or later.

Josh Massey, U. of Georgia



We dream of good acting.



Al Bundy — our lord, our savior, our favorite hippie?



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## Wrap



BY GLENN MCDONALD

ILLUSTRATION BY C.S. HARDING, U. OF ARIZONA

#### Double Take

First-Day Freshman — A Haiku Series

The slow droning buzz My stupid-ass alarm clock! Take that, clock! Take that!

Mmm. Sleepy. Yawn. Stretch. Nine-thirty. Nine-thirty! Damn! My eight o'clock. Missed.

This milk's gone chunky. Expiration dates! And so... Water with corn flakes.

Where's Hobbes Hall? Hey, you! Where in the hell is Hobbes Hall? Goddammit! HOBBES HALL!

Late to class, I sneak Quietly to the back row. Whoops! Tripped. Ow! Head wound.

Hemorrhaging freely
As the ambulances wail.
Losing... consciousness....

My body... floating...
A long tunnel...
bright white light...
Bad... first day... of class...

## TIS THE SEASON... ...to lie, hide, weep, fight and run

has been around for years — maybe you've heard of it — about how the holidays are joyous occasions of eggnog and love. Please. We college students know better — the holiday break is a tortuous crucible of overinquisitive relatives and amped-up high school friends. You end up spending half your waking

hours defending your lifestyle and the other half knocking back spiced rum.

December has the highest suicide rate of any month, and with good reason. You've just come off that terrifying period of accountability known as finals week when, violently and abruptly, they shut down campus and send you home to deal with your family. In your weakened emotional state, you're subjected to reunions, dinners, intense interrogations by various relatives and interminably lengthy visits with long-gone great-uncles:

"Well, nephew, I remember during the war... got these bunions, y'know... this Ted Koppel feller needs a swift kick in the — Great Balls o' Fire! Left the wife at the Wal-Mart! Go kick-start the Studebaker, boy! Who's president? Where the hell are my pants?"

The holidays are not to be enjoyed. They are to be endured. Your best bet for surviving the next few weeks is to go on the offensive. Take this opportunity to throw a gentle spin on reality as your relatives know it. Lie like crazy. Make stuff up. Twitch a lot. It will keep them off-balance and keep you occupied.

There are a few questions you're bound to be asked, so be prepared. For example, imagine an exchange of this nature: Fragile Aunt Helen approaches you at the tree-trimming party. "How's the new apartment?" she asks.

"I date sheep.

"What?"

"The rent's cheap, Aunt Helen. I'm very happy. Thanks for asking," Wait for her to stop trembling, and excuse yourself to get more punch. For the rest of the night, whenever she's in earshot, bleat quietly.

Everybody has a burly, sporto Uncle-Al-type guy in the family, and he will always, without fail, ask the following question: "How's the team this year, boy?" (Even if you're female, Uncle Al will say boy.) This is a good opportunity to play it up as the snot-nosed college kid. May we suggest one of the following:

— "The team? Oh, yes. That little adolescent war fantasy played out every Saturday by the boys. How droll."

— "I don't care about sports. I'm a poet now."

- "Piss off, fascist!"

If you really want to go for it, try this approach,

which I personally used in 1993 with astounding results. Show up at Aunt Gladys' Christmas Eve party in an all-black mortician's suit and heavy mascara. Wear latex gloves and refuse to eat anything that hasn't been boiled. (This is a nice touch, as it makes everyone else a little nervous about the food.) Otherwise, act naturally and engage in typical banter. When some cousin finally works up the nerve to ask about your getup, go bug-eyed and start backing slowly across the room. Whisper in terror. "You're one of them, aren't you?" Then lock yourself in the bathroom for the rest of the night.

Remember, your job is to kill time and stay sane. Get some laundry done, maybe, or steal canned goods to bring back to school. Remain calm, stay fairly drunk and don't make any sudden moves. January will arrive in time, and with it, escape.

Then you can start planning for summer vacation.



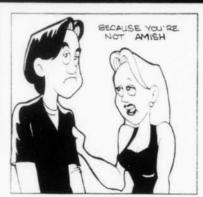
#### Parliament of Crows, Carter and Coleman, Wichita State U.

Strip Tease



MAY CAN'T I MEET
A NICE GIRL NAMED
SARAH? WE'D
LIVE A TIMELESS
ROMANCE -- ME IN
MY WIDE-BRIMMED
STRAW HAT. HER
IN HER CALLCO
DRESS THE WARM
EARTH BETWEEN
OULR TOES AS
WE CHURN THE
BUTTER OF OUR
LOVE.

AND AT NIGHT
WE'D SNUGGLE
UP IN A HOME
MADE QUILT
AND DRIFT
OFF TO SLEEP
TO THE SWEET
SONG OF THE
CICADAS.
WHY CAN'T I
DO THAT KELSEY?





22 U. Magazine • December 1995

ASKED 675 students at 27 schools what they want this holiday season. The results, in order of preference:



#### **TECH TOOLS**

- 1. Computer
- CD-ROM drive
- 3. Printer
- 4. Software
- 5. Modem



#### COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Cordless phone
- 2. Cellular phone
- 3. Fax machine
- 4. Online account
- 5. Pager/Beeper



#### **AUDIO EQUIPMENT**

- 1. CD player
- 2. Speakers
- 3. Mini CD player
- 4. Headphones 5. AM/FM Receiver

#### TV/VIDEO **EQUIPMENT**

1. TV

2. VCR



- 3. Camcorder
- 4. TV video game system
- 5. Video games

#### **ENTERTAINMENT ACCESSORIES**

- 1. CDs
- 2. Videos
- 3. Concert tickets
- 4. Movie tickets
- 5. Books



#### PHOTO **EQUIPMENT**

- . Camera
- 2. Film
- 3. Camera lens
- 4. Instant camera
- 5. Single-use camera

#### TRANSPORTATION - 4-WHEELERS

- 1. Car
- 2. Sport utility vehicle
- 3. Truck
- 4. Van

#### TRANSPORTATION 2-WHEELERS

- 1. Mountain bike
- 2. Motorcycle
- 3. Scooter/moped
- 4. Touring bike

#### **VEHICLE ITEMS**

- 1. Car stereo
- 2. Car phone
- 3. Car alarm
- 4. Tires
- 5. Tune-up

#### SPORTS/ **FITNESS GEAR**

- 1. Athletic shoes
- 2. Hiking boots



- 3. Skis/Skiing equipment
- 4. Camping gear
- 5. In-line skates



#### CLOTHES/ **ACCESSORIES**

- 1. Jeans
- 2. Jacket/Coat
- 3. Shoes
- 4. Shirts
- 5. Sweaters



#### **PERSONAL** CARE

- 1. Perfume/Cologne
- 2. Glasses/Sunglasses
- 3. Cosmetics/Skin care
- 4. Contact lenses
- 5. Sunscreen

#### SURVIVAL GEAR

- 1. Car insurance
- 2. Backpack
- 3. Microwave
- 4. Luggage 5. Condoms



- 1. Children
- 2. Homeless
- 3. AIDS-related
- 4. Cancer-related 5. Religious

#### IN YOUR DREAMS

- 1. A real job
- 2. A car that never breaks down
- 3. Rich uncle pays off your student loans
- 4. Tickets to the 1996 Olympics
- 5. A lifetime supply of beer
- 6. Free/ample parking on campus
- 7. A diamond ring



- 8. Pamela Anderson dipped in chocolate
- 9. X-ray vision
- 10. Antonio Banderas dipped in chocolate
- 11. Free trip to Calif. to hang with U. editors

#### IF YOU HAD ONLY ONE HOLIDAY WISH:

- · Enough money to travel the world on my brand new Harley low-rider
- . To get inside O.I.'s mind and find out what really happened
- To spend Christmas '96 as a newlywed
- A paid trip for spring break · Enough sleep during the
- next semester · See the Eagles before I die
- (or they do)
- Nonstop sex
- · Peace, love and understanding... and UNM wins a NCAA basketball game
- A beefy falafel
- · A great weekend in the Bahamas with Don Juan DeMarco
- · Not to ever fill out any more STUPID surveys
- · Joey from Friends wrapped in a big red bow
- For the Cubs to win the World Series
- · To win the Nobel Prize in my field





#### Guest Expert: Traffic Guy

On Torry's Wish List: "I want a 1995 Lexus - black with chrome rims.

Oh, and my own circus. That's about it."





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