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**Main Office**  
1800 CENTURY PARK EAST, SUITE 820,  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067  
TEL. (310) 551-1381  
FAX (310) 551-1659 OR 552-0836

WEB SITE: HTTP://WWW.UMAGAZINE.COM  
E-MAIL: EDITOR@UMAGAZINE.COM OR  
UMAGAZINE@AOL.COM

**PUBLISHER** GAYLE MORRIS SWEETLAND  
**ENTERTAINMENT AD DIRECTOR** PATTIKAY GOTTILIB  
**CLASSIFIED AD SALES** MELISSA E. ALGAZE  
**ASSISTANT TO PUBLISHER** MARIETTE MERCADO  
**INTERN** KASEY SEYMOUR

**New York**  
U. MAGAZINE, 170 E. 61ST ST.,  
NEW YORK, NY 10021  
TEL. (212) 980-2800 FAX (212) 980-2811  
ALAN STILES, BOB BERG  
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TEL. (415) 777-4383 FAX (415) 777-4385

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IN MEMORIAM  
CHRISTINE MARTIN  
AND THE BEAT GOES ON...



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Body slams! Eye gouges! Half nelsons! Politics! Plus Double Take and Strip Tease.

**GUEST EXPERT / The Alien**

And *you* thought Clinton had exclusive access to The Alien. Risking interplanetary conflict and journalistic integrity, we flagged down the Mothership for a quick chat with the *Weekly World News* regular. It had plenty to say about this month's issue, but reader be warned: This cryptic creature hasn't quite grasped the subtleties of the English language. Although the genitally challenged fella has no name (or clothes, for that matter), we've taken the liberty of christening our celebrity guest expert "Spud."

COVER PHOTO BY BENJAMIN GLOTZER,  
SYRACUSE U.

**November 1995**



**Stripping takes off.**  
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**Who'll be our next Capitol gain?**  
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**Campus Shots**



**Those wacky kids at Kappa Tappa Keg give new meaning to the phrase "Look, Ma. No hands!"**

PHOTO BY CHRIS IRICK,  
WEST VIRGINIA U.



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# U VIEWS

## Techno-phobes unite

Hey, nice editorial ["My technological clock is a-tickin'," Oct. 1995]. We are entirely too hung up on our computer systems. I have a friend that I can't even talk to unless I e-mail her. I cringe at the fact that universities might make us take tests on computers. Keep up the good work!

*Trevor T. Bailey, sophomore, Calif. State U., Sacramento*

Thank you for your thoughts about this whole superhighway/e-mail-crazy mode that seems to be taking over the world. I've been online for a few weeks, but I still don't know if I'll ever like it. There are too many little rules and very few guides to let me in on proper "netiquette." I'm glad to know that I'm not the only one out there that still remembers when people used a good old pen and a piece of processed tree flesh.

*Jani Binion, freshman, CSU, Chico*

I can relate to the editorial.

I'm a lab monitor in the student computer lab — talk about scary. The only thing I knew about computers I learned my freshman year in a basic computer class, and now I'm expected to help students troubleshoot and to answer their questions. The first thing I do when I get to work is check mail and write to everyone I can think of just so I can touch the keyboard! Hang in there, it'll get better!

*Betsy Ricker, junior, Oklahoma State U., Stillwater*

Funny how these letters were sent by e-mail, huh? —ed.

## Sexcess

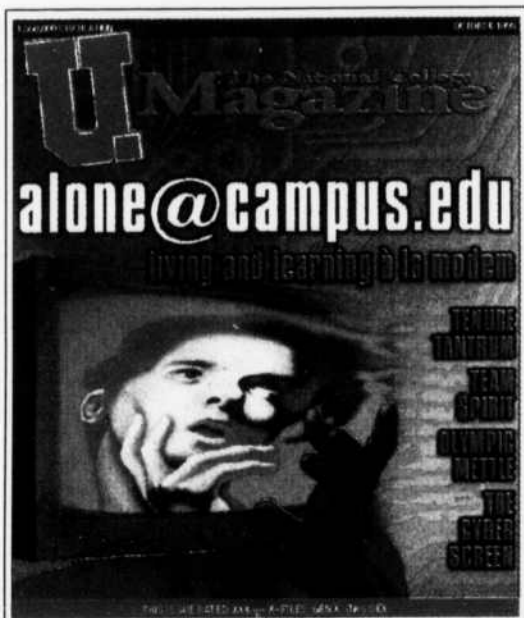
U. Magazine description in the front cover: "Editorial content focuses on the

diverse interests, activities, attitudes and concerns of students attending four-year colleges and universities." U. Magazine Table of

Contents: Sex, Drinking, Sex, Music, Sex, Drugs, Sex, Optional other story, Sex, Diversity... of sex?

*Rich Campbell, staff, U. of Delaware*

We'll try to abstain in the future. —ed.



## Back on Prozac

In response to the letter in the October issue that attacked my story on Prozac [Aug./Sept. 1995]: I'm sorry that the letter-writer was offended, but she is mistaken about the facts.

Fact: Prozac is used to treat drug addictions, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, problems with household pets and more.

Fact: Both Prozac and depression are responsible for sexual numbing. Any psychiatrist will tell you that one of the top complaints about Prozac is its effect on the sex drive.

Fact: A person on Prozac still has highs and lows, but these emotions are put into perspective.

Fact: I did not claim that Prozac would turn us into a "New World Order society of passionless robots." The quote was preceded by "Some fear..." and followed by me stating that this is "ridiculous."

*James Hibberd, senior, U. of Texas, Austin*

## Book 'em, Dano

You know, some of us do have an ability to read above a fifth-grade level. Maybe you should review books, too. Hmmmm... just a wise-ass thought.

*Daniel S. Griffith, sophomore, Purdue U.*

Well, Daniel, at the risk of printing more wise-ass thoughts, we'll answer you. We're working on the book reviews right now! Feel free to send us a suggested reading list. —ed.

## Bravo!

Hey, you guys! Some good stuff in the latest issue. Appreciate the good read and you making campus life a bit more bearable.

*Hafiz and Hazik Bin Mohamed, juniors, U. of Arkansas*

## Bravo! Part II

Thanks for giving non-traditional students notice in the Back to U. "Breaking Tradition" story [Aug./Sept. 1995]. I'm a married 31-year-old who

is trying to work a part-time job, carry a full course load and deal with my son and daughter's daily dose of "this/that person doesn't like me." This is one time I can truly relate to this magazine.

*Jonathan E. Johnson, senior, Western Illinois U.*

## Tough pill to swallow

I found the [editorial cartoon depicting a student being forced to swallow a pill labeled "multiculturalism", U. Views, Aug./Sept.] very offensive. It is truly amazing to me that people are upset about recognizing that the U.S. is culturally diverse. Multicultural education seems especially important in a university setting because the goal of education is to teach us how to live and work with people from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. I hope that U. Magazine will not run illustrations that are specifically designed to offend our diverse population.

*Cynthia Newberry, graduate student, Ohio State U.*

## Gimme s'more

I just love your magazine. I received it once when I was in high school, and the articles were really upbeat and humorous. Where can I get it? Do I have to have a subscription? Keep up the good work!

*Leslie D. Zeigler, freshman, Penn State U.*

Subscriptions are \$18, but you can get it free! Just look for it in your student newspaper. —ed.

## U. Goofs

Due to some random cosmic misalignment, we miscredited last month's U. Views editorial cartoon, "Next Season on MTV." The illustration was by Jason Jeffers, U. of South Carolina. Sorry 'bout that. It'll never happen again.

## Your first time — ecstatic or traumatic?

Ecstatic: 50%  
Traumatic: 39%  
Virgin: 7%  
Both: 3%  
Huh: 1%

My first time with a guy was traumatic, but my first time with a woman was ecstatic. **Jenny** ••••• **Junior, Emory U., Ga.** • I was 16 years old, out with my boyfriend, and we just decided to do it. It was unplanned. It really was the best time. I didn't want to try and make it good or bad. I think that's why it was best for me. **Brigitte Hradsky, sophomore, U. of Maryland** • It was basically like sexual freedom all over. **Andrea Hansen, sophomore, U. of Iowa** • No one is more deserving of my virginity than my future wife. Our sex will be ecstatic because we will have proven our mutual love by waiting for one another. **Bruce Lange, sophomore, U. of Michigan** • I was in Cozumel, Mexico, with my boyfriend, who I'd known a little over a month. I was 19 years old, and my parents had arranged for us to have a room together alone because they really felt my first time should be ecstatic. **Stephanie Bigbee, sophomore, Southwest Texas State U.** • It was ecstatic, but I think that's because I waited until I knew I was in love. **Darren Beltz, senior, Louisiana State U.**

## Should the government regulate the Internet?

No: 88%  
Yes: 12%

The Internet is a global network. For the U.S. to try and regulate the 'net, it would not only have to police the entire U.S. but each and every foreign post coming in. **Dennis Yates, senior, U. of Mississippi** • The Internet is one of the largest freedom forums people have. If the Internet was regulated, it would definitely violate First Amendment rights. **Lisa Lanspery, senior, Ohio U.** • I don't believe the government can regulate the Internet. It's dangerous when you have people setting up policies or trying to control behavior that's obviously outside of their control. **Bryan Vogh, sophomore, U. of Nebraska, Omaha** • The Internet is something that can expand our horizons socially, intellectually and just about any other kind of way. The government should not have its hands on it. **Eric Pratt, senior, U. of Nevada, Las Vegas** • Rights of free speech should be protected, but there shouldn't be anything on there that violates community standards — porn. Kids who are just surfing the 'net can end up in a place they shouldn't be. **Ray Hacke, sophomore, Syracuse U.** • If we allowed them to do so, we might as well allow the post office to read our letters every day. **Michelle Rydberg, senior, Michigan State U.**

## Hashing it out solo for Thanksgiving

Orphaned again. That's what I was. Another family holiday away from home. The only difference this time was that an ocean, not the Mason-Dixon line, was the great barrier between me and another down-home Louisiana Thanksgiving dinner. Sigh.

Going abroad for a semester was no different from being at school a zillion miles from home. It all amounted to the same thing — another holiday spent with Swanson's best, watching Snoopy whip up a toast and jelly bean feast for fellow Peanuts.

Or so I thought. Two other "orphans" were also saddled in London without plans. So being stranded Americans in a vehemently un-American land, we chose the equally un-American alternative: a 12-hour bus ride to Amsterdam.

Yep, that's right. Twelve hours. On a bus. With skeezy potheads on a pilgrimage to Marijuana Mecca. And a broken toilet.

So there we were, finally. Checked into our shady hostel and delirious with exhaustion. Orphan 2, the designated tree-hugger in our trio, insisted on a cultural Thanksgiving experience. We ate at "a vegetarian bistro run by two women and a cat," according to her peace, love and travel guide.

Two words: Big Mistake. A plate of falafel and a blob of congealed garlicky stuff looked adventurous at the time, but a few pints and a local smoke later, it was downright scary.

The whole experience was a slow trip down Surreal Lane: Orphan 2 begging to visit the Anne Frank house and tour cheese factories, and Orphan 1 and I dying to hang out in the Van Gogh museum and tour breweries.

In the end, we compromised. I ate cheese with a new understanding, and Orphan 2 experienced Van Gogh with the munchies.

Take that, Snoopy. How 'bout them peanuts?

*Colleen Rush, Assistant Editor*



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## OUT OF ORDER

### U. of New Mexico

Hello, is anyone there? A U. of New Mexico emergency phone was recently adorned with a memorandum reading: "Please do not get raped or otherwise attacked at, or near, this location. This Emergency phone has been inoperative since July. The UNM Police have been informed, but no action has been taken." This warning reaffirms a solid message for all students: If you plan to be attacked, please, by all means, bring a cellular phone.

## WHAT'S UP(STREAM)?

### U. of Nebraska

Something fishy was going on at Nebraska this fall: An unexplained giant fiberglass salmon appeared one morning illegally parked in front of the union. Turns out "Fin" is a walk-through display on a national tour to educate people about a House proposal that could endanger the Endangered Species Act. Fin had been parked legally, but some jokesters moved it to its new perch. How big was the fish, exactly? Oh, it was 10, no 15 — it was 100 feet long! Put up a helluva fight!

## CALIFORNIA DRIVIN'

### San Diego State U.

"On the road again." That's

# QUICKIES

ILLUSTRATIONS BY STACY HOLMSTEDT, ARIZONA STATE U.

what San Diego State's Steve Lewis said 20 times to his trusty sidekick Monte as the two attempted to visit all 21 schools in the California State U. system in one day. The road warriors did manage to plant an SDSU pom-pom at every university, but it took them 30 hours to accomplish the feat. Undaunted, Steve and Monte have already planned their next excellent adventure, and this one will not be easy. They plan to watch every *Police Academy* movie in one sitting. Good luck and happy Guttenberg.

## LA CROAK-ARACHA

### Kansas State U.

The officers at Bugnet are baffled, as 40 exotic roaches from Madagascar were found dead at Kansas State's entomology department. The roaches, valued at \$15 per thorax, were poisoned. Another 35 are missing. The experts have bugged the laboratory, but the culprit seems to have six legs up on the authorities. The cost of the crime in toe tags alone is staggering. This is the first case of reported insecticide in the state of Kansas this year.

## GO DIRECTLY TO CLASS

### West Virginia U.

Whoever said college was all fun and

## LOUNGE LIZARDS

### U. of Iowa

Talk about space constrictions. While residence services was scrounging, UI students were lounging. Those who missed the housing sign-up deadline were temporarily placed in dorm lounges, where as many as 10 people stayed for \$2 a night. Right on the ball was the housing office, which put out a newspaper, *The Temporary Times*, with such articles as "Dealing with Loungemate Conflict." Bedtime must have been a blast: "Good night, John Boy." "Good night..."



board games was, er, right? At least it is for students in a West Virginia U. accounting class. Playing a revved-up version of Monopoly can amount to three credits toward graduation. Professors say the class is a lesson in organizing personal affairs and transactions and learning how to borrow and invest money. We know it's just an excuse to get Boardwalk and Park Place, those sneaks. Now, if they could just translate that Free Parking space to campus, we'd really be in business.

## ...AND COUNT-Y-ING

### U. of Washington

John DeLeva has a dream. A weird dream, but a dream nonetheless. He wants to be the youngest person to visit all 3,086 counties in the United States. And he's nearly

finished. DeLeva's odyssey began in 1984 while he was a communications student at the U. of Washington. He made a bet with four of his fraternity buddies about who could travel to the most counties in 10 years. The winner was to receive an all-expenses paid trip to Heavenly, Calif. The losers would go to Hell. Hell, Mich., of course. Eleven years later, everyone else has bailed, but DeLeva is still trucking. He's currently on a 54-day, 23,260-mile cross-country trip to finish up the last few counties. After that, he'll swing up to Alaska and a few Northwest islands before settling down and writing a book. Heck, he's earned his wings.

## BAR EXAMS

### Metropolitan State College of Denver

Dartboards replaced chalkboards for a group of students at Metropolitan State this semester. A lack of space forced the western civilization class to meet at an old local bar that



has been rented by the school to house the class. The video game noises get frustrating after awhile, but it's not as bad as having to do your term paper in neon.

## NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS

### U. of Virginia

Why didn't restaurants catch on to this years ago: If you get a bad review, go straight to the source... and hide it. That's what a food-service contractor did at UVA when the student newspaper ran a story titled "Beware of inedible horrors lurking in University's dining halls." John M. Darmstadt, a food-service manager, said he hid the papers because he didn't think the review was fair. The paper also gave the movie *Babe* a bad review — the newspaper office is preparing for a slop assault.

## GO ON AND KISS THE CAR

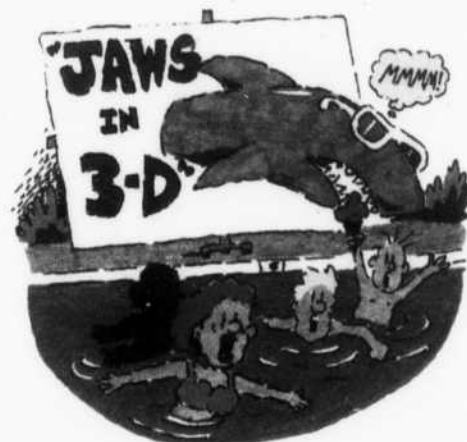
### U. of Missouri, Columbia

Carma — or maybe *kismet* — led Mizzou junior Amy Wissman to a brand-new Ford Explorer this summer. Wissman puckered up for 82 hours (minus brief breaks to rest and eat) to win a contest sponsored by local radio station KISS 107 as part of the Coca-Cola Red-Hot Summer Celebration. Good thing the car wasn't a Peugeot or a Renault. You know the French.

## DINOSAUR SIDE UP

### North Carolina State U.

Scientists at NC State are clucking about the recent donation of four rare dinosaur eggs to the school. The eggs, sporting price tags of \$100,000 to \$1,000,000, are nothing to yolk about — they still have the dinosaur embryos intact. Researchers still haven't decided what to do with the eggs: dissect and study them, or make the world's most expensive omelet.



## POOL SHARK

### U. of Montana

Cue the scary music. Just when they thought it was safe to go to the movies, students at Montana were treated to a dip and a flick. A large projection screen featuring the movie *Jaws* was set up at the edge of the Grizzly pool, and students were invited to dive in and enjoy the film. Approximately 30 students got into the swim of things, and the cool temperature of the people-infested water didn't put a damper on the screening. As if movie beverages weren't watered down enough already. Yikes!



## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

### Harvard U.

Do space aliens and higher education mix? Not according to officials at Harvard. The dean of Harvard Medical School warned John Mack, professor of psychiatry, that his study of people who claim they were abducted by aliens needed a more scholarly approach. Mack, who believes aliens have "invaded our physical reality and [are] affecting the lives of hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people," was given the warning after a one-year investigation of his UFO work. The investigation began after Mack appeared on *Unsolved Mysteries* to promote his book, *Abduction: Human Encounters With Aliens*, about his treatment of 120 patients who say aliens abducted them for sexual experiments. And the Freudian explanation for *this one*...?



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## Posing With Honors

**M**OST PARENTS DREAM THAT their child will attend an Ivy League university. Ah, the prestige. The contacts. The chance to pose for *Playboy* magazine?

To show that brains and beauty often do go together, *Playboy* devoted its October issue to The Women of the Ivy League. Magazine reps canvassed Harvard, Yale and the like looking for fresh-faced "collegiettes" to pose — and they found plenty.

*Playboy* interviewed hundreds of women but chose only 36 to appear. "On the day I went, 50 to 70 girls showed up," says Kelli Keller, a Harvard junior. Keller was photographed nude, but each woman was given the choice of posing *au naturel*, topless or even fully clothed. "I'm not ashamed of my body," she says. "If people have a problem with it, then it's their problem. They don't have to buy the magazine."

At least two groups did have a problem with it. A passel of naked women Yalies greeted *Playboy* personnel by streaking. Their demonstration was intended to protest the Ivy League issue, but the plan seemed to backfire. *Playboy* opened the 10-page layout with a two-page streaker spread.

"A little controversy makes our job easier," says Jim Larson, *Playboy's* managing photo editor. "It makes news and helps make our presence known."

An autograph session with the Cornell U. posers drew another such protest in early September. About a dozen women picketed

the session, accusing *Playboy* of encouraging violence toward women. Meanwhile, dozens of Cornell men stood nearby awaiting their personalized copies.

Danielle Helm, a Princeton senior, found opinions mixed on her decision to pose. "There were some [negative] articles in the school paper, and some people felt it was degrading to women," she says. "But most people I talked to were supportive."

Columbia U. junior Pamela Shaw had an atypical motive for



Women of the Ivy Leaf.

posing. "I'm 32 years old," she says. "It's a bit of a kick to still be considered cute enough for *Playboy*."

Unlike some protesters, Shaw doesn't see a contradiction in attending a prestigious university and posing for a men's magazine. "It's not an either-or proposition," she says. "You can be serious and intellectual and still be sensual and beautiful."

Dan Avery, U. of Maryland/Illustration by Miles Histan, Colorado State U.



### Guest Expert: The Alien

**On *Playboy*:** "This manuscript you call *Playboy* has been studied by our scientists and medical beings. As you should be aware, we do not wear clothing."

Mellette's brother is a cadet at the Citadel, and her father is a graduate. An exceptional athlete, Mellette is seeking to enter the Citadel next fall.

- It's not basic training, but 590 students are beginning their college semester at a run-down Army base that is slowly being turned into a new university. Busy construction workers outnumber students, and room numbers are spray painted on the sides of buildings to point the students of California State U., Monterey Bay, in the right direction.

- A small, soft-spoken 87-year-old woman has captured the attention of the academic world with a gift that won't soon be forgotten. Oseola McCarty surprised officials at the U. of Southern Mississippi with a gift of \$150,000 to be used as a scholarship for black students. This philanthropic gesture itself isn't the amazing part of the story. The surprise is that McCarty managed to save this money from her job doing laundry for the past 75 years.

## The Buzz

- Richie Parker, the former New York City prep basketball star convicted of sexual abuse last year, is attending classes at Mesa Community College, Ariz., but is not playing hoops. Parker was recruited by Seton Hall U., the U. of Utah and George Washington U. but was shunned by all three after his conviction.

- Anita Hill has hung up her beach towel and gone back to the classroom at the U. of Oklahoma. After a one-year unpaid leave from OU, Hill is now teaching two law courses. She spent her time off living in Laguna Beach, Calif., where she wrote two books.

- The female fight for Citadel access rages on. Nancy Mellette, a 17-year-old North Carolina military boarding school senior, has picked up where Shannon Faulkner left off.



Welcome to m. Waterworld

## Fish Outta Water



**M**AYBE IT ALL STARTED IN THAT PET SHOP where Dan Spinogatti worked for five years. He liked breeding tropical fish and even experimented with different ways to keep his fish tank water clean.

At any rate, the Paiute Indians of northern Nevada are glad that this U. of Nevada, Reno, grad student helped them clean up water polluted by the tribe's fish hatchery.

Spinogatti spent this past year monitoring an artificial wetland that he built with the help of the tribe. He calls his plastic-lined pond a huge fish filter.

The self-cleaning pond works like this: A big plastic lining is placed under the horseshoe-shaped pond, and about 3 feet of soil is backfilled over the plastic to keep the water from soaking into the soil. Add a few water plants and voilà! The algae grows all by itself, and the plants consume the pollution.

"The algae blossom like crazy," Spinogatti says. "Magically, it treats the water." OK, he's a scientist. He doesn't mean magically.

Once the treated water gets to nearby rivers — well, that makes life a whole lot nicer for the in-stream biota, he says.

Biota?

"Fish, bugs, critters — stuff people get excited about," he explains.

Although Spinogatti doesn't consider himself a hard-core tree hugger, he says there should be a balance between environmental and industrial concerns.

"People need to do things smartly," he says. His plastic "wetland," for example, is good for the environment, but it's also a cheap and easy remedy for low levels of polluted storm runoff water from cities and farms.

And just how much water does this water lover drink?

"Actually, I don't get off on just water, unless I'm working out," Spinogatti says.

Spinogatti's experiment in fish filtering will earn him a master's degree in December.

"This whole fish thing has kind of come full circle," he says.

At least he's not fishing for compliments.

Story and photo by Deidre Pike, U. of Nevada, Reno

# For Mercy's Sake

**A**TTENTION PROFESSORS. ATTENTION ALL PROFESSORS. Mercy College is having a midnight madness clearance sale. Enroll and retain a few students, get a raise. But hurry — students are going fast.

It sounds like bargain basement tactics, but administrators at Mercy College, N.Y., are serious about their offer: More students at the college means higher salaries for faculty. Fewer students, however, means a salary cut.

Last spring, when state and federal funding for financial aid was reduced by about \$2.2 million, the school had to make up for the loss.

Administrators feared that if they couldn't, they would have to eliminate approximately 70 administrative positions. Instead, Benjamin Weisman, chair of the business and economics department, proposed that the university determine salaries according to admission and retention goals. Depending on enrollment figures, faculty salaries could be cut or increased by as much as 7 percent.

According to Weisman, 85 percent of the faculty voted for the plan, but some worry about the impact it might have on the quality of higher education.

John DiElsi, director of academic computing, says the plan will encourage grade inflation. If professors are rewarded for retaining students, the temptation to give higher grades to keep students will increase, he says.

Weisman counters: "The plan is not about the faculty actively recruiting students. They don't work on a commission basis."

DiElsi's primary argument against the plan is that it shifts the focus away from academics and toward the business of running the school.

"Faculty shouldn't have to think about bringing in students," DiElsi says. "Faculty should think about



providing the proper educational atmosphere for the students that admissions brings in."

As the only school in the country with such a plan, Mercy College is sure to be monitored carefully by other schools, says Joy Colelli, dean of admissions at Mercy. With 500

more applications than last year, the faculty is expecting a 7 percent raise — but only final enrollment figures will tell.

*Karin Davidson, Bucknell U., Pennsylvania/ Illustration by Chad Mansfield, Colorado State U.*



## Hold thy tongue

After almost 10 months of academic turmoil, Brian Evenson, author of the controversial book *Altmann's Tongue*, took a one-year leave of absence from Brigham Young U. to work in the English department of Oklahoma State U. this year.

Administrators at BYU, which is owned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and operated in accordance with the Church's standards, questioned whether the book violated the school's honor code.

At the time concerns were raised, president Rex Lee and provost Bruce Hafen met with Evenson to discuss his upcoming third-year tenure review and how the controversial book might affect the outcome.

"If his future work follows the same pattern of, for example, extreme sadism, brutality and gross degradation of women characteristic of *Altmann's Tongue*, such a publication would, in our view, not further his cause as a candidate for continuing faculty status," Lee wrote in a memo after the meeting.

The book of short stories has been deemed "brilliant" by his editor at A. A. Knopf Publishing and "a showcase of graphic, disgusting, pointless violence" in an anonymous letter written by a student to a member of the board of trustees.

But Evenson defends the violence in his book.

"[I wrote the book to] work against this kind of violence-for-pleasure phenomenon that I think our society is caught up in," Evenson says.

Although some students back Evenson, others like Ryan Nelson, a senior who took critical interpretive writing from Evenson, sees the controversy in a different light.

"If we have to choose between academic freedom and support of the Church, then I think we have a duty to support the Church's standards if the two are in conflict," Nelson says.

For Evenson, the choice between his position at BYU and his work is clear.

"There are a lot of things that make me want to stay," he says. "But at the same time, the freedom for me to write [the way I'd like to write] seems to be something that will be denied to me here, and that for me is the most important thing."

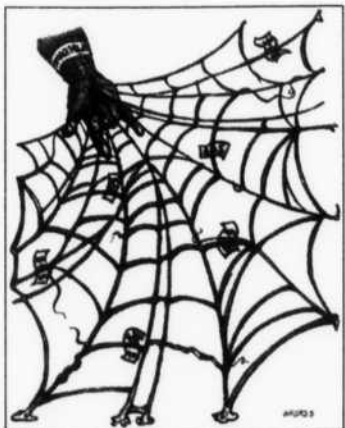
*Shea Nuttall, Brigham Young U.*

# Byte me

## Students Study Webonomics

**S**ENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR HOME PAGE CREATION and programming. Ah, no. Programmer and designer in chief. Ick. How about Webmaster? Mmmm, now there's a job title — a bit pretentious, but it's got moxie....

When you start free-lancing, you've got to have a title. And it seems that the new breed of designers on the World-Wide Web is going for the direct approach. So, Webmaster it is.



Web junkies got dollar signs in their eyes when Brian Pinkerton, a grad student at U. of Washington, became an instant millionaire by selling WebCrawler — the sophisticated search engine he created — to online giant America Online.

AOL isn't the only mega-company seeking out student Websters. Huge companies like Hitachi and AT&T are scouting for college Web enthusiasts to create their Web sites — the new-age corporate business cards, plus.

"Students seem to know a lot about the Web because they're the ones who have the time to play around on it and learn how to use it," says Jeremy Hylton, a grad student and Web designer at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Students are doing more than just playing around — they're turning their websessions into jobs.

"I started off doing my own home page, which is the way a lot of people start out," says Thomas Karlo, a junior at MIT. Karlo's home-page mastery has earned him Web gigs with NewMarket Ventures, a Boston-based computer company, and National Public Radio's *Car Talk*.

Hylton now earns an hourly wage — most Webmasters currently make \$10 to \$65 an hour, depending on their experience and the complexity of the project — and is working on the upcoming Columbia House site.

One of our very own Webmasters, Cabel Sasser (no, of course this isn't a sly plug for the U. Web site at <http://www.umagazine.com>), is making his mark on the Web. After his personal home page was awarded Cool Site of the Day in April, 1995, Sasser started getting calls from companies looking for a Web designer. His hit list now includes sites for Fox Television, KIIS-FM radio and the city of Los Angeles.

"The thing about the Internet is that it's so easily accessible," says Sasser, a sophomore at the U. of Southern California. "I can do it from my room. If I had to show up at an office from eight to five, I wouldn't make it."

Of course he wouldn't. A man has to get his education.

*Tricia Laine, Assistant Editor / Illustration by Josh Wilkes, Murray State U., Ky.*

## Bits & Bytes!

### Hooking up with professors

Remember when notebooks had wire spirals and snagged your sweaters? Now we know them as the little computers you can take anywhere. And for a pilot group of freshmen this year at Northwest Missouri U., they're constant companions. Professors and students both have the notebooks so they can communicate directly. It's being used for speech, health and wellness, math and English classes in specially designed classrooms. The 95 freshmen paid an extra \$395 to be in the program and were only allowed one elective in a conventional classroom. Northwest hopes to implement complete campuswide notebook use by spring 1998. Now, remember to raise your mouse if you have a question....

### Where do we keep the candles?

The first step is to admit you have a problem. U. of Minnesota students realized just how dependent they are on the Internet this summer when a fire destroyed the fiber-optic cable that links the school to the international Internet. Christopher Hyde, a senior, said the shutdown put his life in perspective — "Like when the lights go out and people realize how modern we've become. We still need to write and read and interact one-on-one." Yeah, but you can't download games from a piece of stationery.

# U LIFE Stripping for Dollars

IT'S 2 A.M. ON A SCHOOL NIGHT. The dimly lighted room reeks like someone tried to cover up the stale smell of a dirty ashtray with bourbon and Old Spice potpourri.

"All right now, gentlemen, start your engines and give it up for Lisa," says the DJ in his best used-car-salesman voice. With Whitesnake's "Here I Go Again" blaring over the speakers, Lisa\* struts out from behind the red polyester curtains. For the next five minutes, she will take off her clothes for a bunch of sweaty, lonely guys, half of whom are no doubt named Earl.

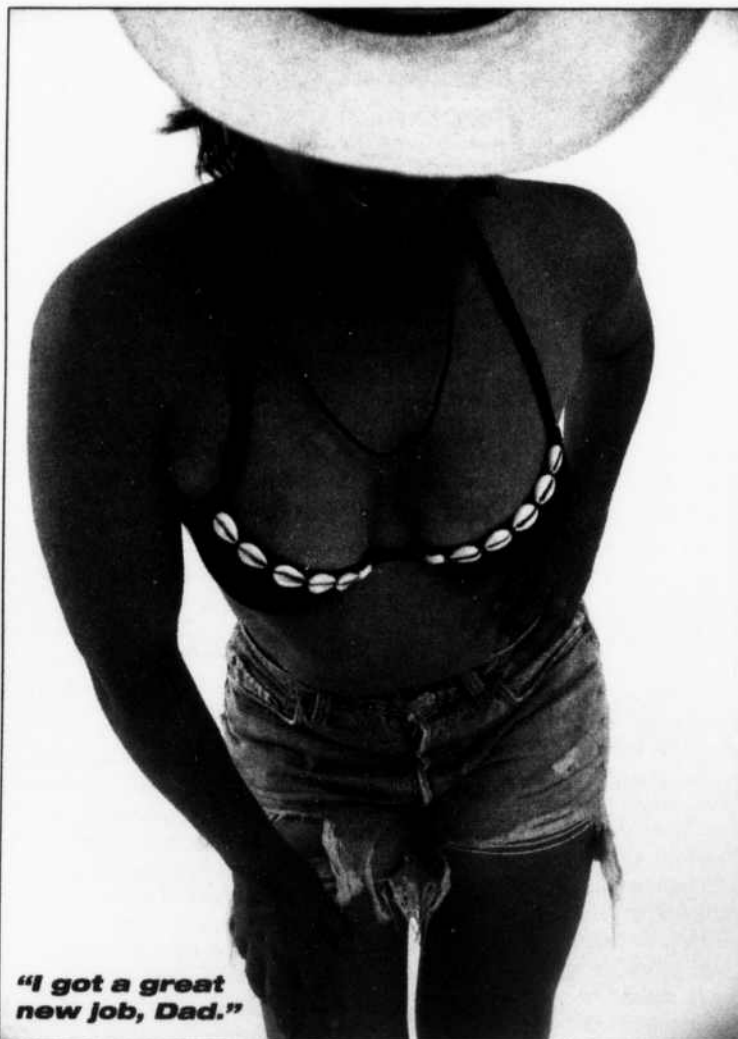
## OFFBEAT

And all she can think about is that philosophy test she has in seven hours.

With new films like *Showgirls* and *Strip Tease* glamorizing the world of strippers, the perennially taboo subject is on America's mind. Most parents would go ballistic if they found out their daughter was putting herself through college as an exotic dancer. But some students see it as a fast way to pay tuition.

"Hell no, [my parents] don't know," says Lisa, an Austin Community College student who dances in Austin, Texas. "They think I have three jobs."

Kim\*, another dancer in Austin, says that although the money is good, the stigma of exotic dancing can be a problem — when her boyfriend first found out about her job, he broke up with her. "He got over it, though," she says.



"I got a great new job, Dad."

Heidi Mattson, a '92 graduate of Brown U. and author of *Ivy League Stripper*, paid her college bills by stripping at Foxy Lady, a nightclub in Providence, R.I. Mattson says on a good night she earned \$900 in eight hours.

"It wasn't so horrible," Mattson says. "It was a practical option, and a lot of my financial crisis was taken care of in six weeks."

As one might guess, however, there are some risks that go along with the large amounts of money to be made in exotic dancing.

"One time I was doing a table dance, and this guy comes up behind me and grabs my breast," Lisa says in a tone of genuine disbelief. "I had a woman offer me \$2,000 to go home with her."

"I'm not planning on dancing much longer," she says. "I'm saving for massage therapy school. This is not a long-term thing."

Lisa hears the cue for her next turn on stage. The song is "Here I Go Again."

*\*Name has been changed.*

Jason Spencer, U. of Texas, Austin  
Photo: Kim Brent and Alyssa Banta / U. of Texas, Austin  
Geri Sahn, U. of Massachusetts, Amherst, contributed to this story



### Guest Expert: The Alien

On Stripping: "I see no evil significance to the function of 'stripping' and have in fact visited these functions from time to time, for anatomical research purposes."



## Licensed To Sell

YOU CAN DRINK FROM A U. of Miami beer mug or shot glass. You can wear that famous Miami orange from head to toe. You can protect yourself from the hot Florida sun with a Miami umbrella. But there's no way you can plant your cheeks on a Hurricane toilet seat.

Official licensing of college logos is big money for schools and big fun for fans, but some products step over the line.

## ETC.

"We'll turn down anything that's in bad taste," says Charles Canfield, director of licensing at Miami. "We've tried to steer away from things that depict us as the stereotypical 'Suntan U.' And we turned down a request to put our name on toilet seats."

Budd Thalman, sports information director at Penn State U., says the Nittany Lions, too, think carefully before entering merchandise deals. "We shy away from attitude T-shirts and anything regarded as in bad taste," he says.

About \$2.5 billion of licensed college merchandise is sold annually in the United States. About \$100 million of that goes directly to the schools as royalty fees — revenue generally earmarked for use as athletic scholarships.

Canfield says Miami joined the licensing game in January 1984 and

grossed just \$6,000 its first fiscal year. But by last year, Miami's licensing proceeds had exploded to a whopping \$4.5 million.

The U. of Michigan reportedly generated the most licensing revenue last year — nearly \$5.8 million.

Miami operates its licensing agreements independently, but many schools prefer to hire licensing agents. The Collegiate Licensing Corp., which handles more than 150 schools, is the largest.

Although there is big money to be made through licensing, not all schools are making the big bucks. Eastern Illinois U. signed on with CLC this summer to protect its name rather than to generate huge sums of cash.

"There's a real misconception that all schools are out to make piles of money," says Steve Rich, EIU assistant athletic director. "Licensing allows us to control the way our name is used."

Unlike some of the larger schools, any revenue generated through EIU licensing is funneled directly to general academic scholarships and to a growing women's athletic program.

"We're not going to break the bank with this," Rich says. "But we know our name won't be used in a way that goes against our attitudes."

Does this mean no EIU Panther toilet seats? Only time will tell.

Tony Hansen, Michigan State U.  
Photo by Somer Simpson, U. of Florida

# House of Cards

**M**ICHAEL VANCE HAD known for months he was in trouble, but literally becoming a "starving student" was a bit more than he bargained for.

Although the U. of Texas, Arlington, junior worked three jobs, nothing seemed to shrink the monthly stack of credit card bills, totaling more than \$5,000. One day, he hit bottom — his financial pinch was so tight he skipped meals for three weeks.

## DOLLARS

Vance could only blame himself — and the plastic domino effect triggered by his credit card — for his temporary fast. "I started opening one charge account after another," he says. "When I first got the [credit card], I said, 'This is only for emergencies.' After awhile, a new pair of shoes became an emergency."

Vance's situation sounds all too familiar to Akash Sharma, a former Arizona State U. grad student. He owed \$7,500 in tuition, plane tickets and other travel expenditures to two major credit card companies. But his dilemma was not so much plastic mania as the desire to be financially independent.

"In my situation, credit cards are a compulsion to not ask my parents for money," he says. "It's a pride issue for me. I've been a little unrealistic about it, though, which is why my debt has grown so high."

Jason Abell, author of the personal and financial advice book *Start Now*, doesn't find these situations at all surprising.

"Credit cards are exactly like fire," says the Loyola U., Md., '93 grad. "They are a great resource when you need them because they're a convenient alternative to cash. If you don't treat them with respect, though, they can also harm you."

"If you don't have the money in the bank, you shouldn't be buying," says Abell.

Jen Robinson, a Michigan State U. senior, has a bank card and "several" clothing store credit cards. She says she was irresponsible at first but has learned to avoid the pitfalls of plastic.

"You really have to manage your money," she says. "You have to tell yourself not to spend, spend, spend the second you're out of debt. It's not easy, but it's possible."

Bill Smith, a counselor with



**Pick a card, any card.**

New York-based Credit Counseling Centers of America, says the credit card issue should be addressed more thoroughly on campus.

"Since colleges require physical education credits, they should require one hour in budgeting and money management," he sug-

gests. "If they can teach about sex, they can certainly teach about credit cards."

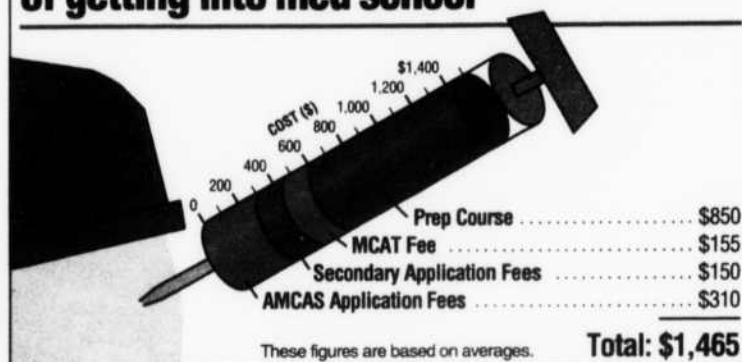
We can just see it now: Max-Out 101: Paper vs. Plastic.

*Kellie Gormly, U. of Texas, Arlington / Photo by Jeff Geissler, West Virginia U.*

**Guest Expert: The Alien**

**On Credit Cards: "Devote your energy toward the acquisition of knowledge. Do not sink into the abyss of indebtedness."**

## Getting stuck with the high cost of getting into med school



# The Price Isn't Right

**M**EDICAL SCHOOL. SOME consider it the pinnacle of prestige in this society hellbent on fame and fortune. What you may not know is that those future physicians will lay out thousands of dollars just to get their foot in the E.R. door.

It all starts with the American Medical College Application Service application — a packet made up of the student's transcripts, biographical information and a personal essay students use to get noticed.

## PULSE

The cost to send AMCAS applications to medical schools: \$50 for the first school, \$180 for up to five schools, then \$20 for every additional school.

"On average, I would say that most students apply to 10 or 11 schools, so that runs about \$300," says Robert Kucheravy, an AMCAS applications assistant.

Ty Brown, a senior at UCLA, considers the getting-in game a scam. "I think the whole selection process is weighted toward those who can afford the initial process," he says. "In other words, rich white people."

Don't jump on your soapbox too quickly, though. AMCAS does offer fee waivers based on financial need and special circumstances.

But wait, there's more. Add in another \$155 for the MCAT, a postgraduate test that determines a student's aptitude for the sciences.

(Go ahead and budget at least \$310 so you can take it again.)

"The majority of students take the MCAT at least twice," says Collin Morely, associate vice president for the medical division of Princeton Review.

And if you're thinking of signing up for one of those MCAT prep courses, you can tack on about \$850 to the tab.

In addition to paying the AMCAS fees, med school hopefuls have to lay out between \$10 and \$95 — the average being \$30 — for each university's individual application. Some students claim medical schools send out applications to unqualified students just to bank the fees. But remember: If AMCAS waives your fees, most schools will drop them, too.

"I don't know of any medical school that wouldn't allow a fee waiver for a good reason," says Millie Peterson, admissions director at the U. of Utah.

Don't put your gold card away yet. Med school hopefuls often have to travel to schools for interviews. "The only way to get into a school is to get a good interview," Morely says. "Person-to-person interviews are much more common than over the phone."

Once accepted by a school, you can avail yourself of all the financial aid you can muster. But if you can't come up with a lot of clams, the application process itself may shut the door.

Sickening, isn't it?

*Amy Zukeran, Florida A&M U.  
Illustration by Matt Ericson, U. of Iowa*



**Escape while you can.**

The first step was to make a boot with an outsole flexible enough to respond to every twist, spring, clench and push of the naked foot. The next step is up to you.

**adidas**

DIE MARKE MIT DEN 3 STREIFEN /  
THE BRAND WITH THE 3 STRIPES /  
LA MARQUE AUX 3 BANDES

# Life Is Short. Play Hardly

IN THE '90S, MANY TRADITIONAL sports have given way to a series of nontraditional, adventurous pursuits. Rock climbing, white-water canoeing and bungee jumping have all found their way into popular culture. But in this brave new world of equality and inclusiveness, the sedentary still have little sporting to do.

## IN-PLAY

This needs to be corrected. Low-impact sports have long been neglected as legitimate athletic pursuits. What is a low-impact sport? If you can win a match without mussing your hair or spilling your beer, you're probably playing a low-impact sport. We've listed a few below and rated them on three scales: ease, coolness and ability to hold onto the beverage of your choice.



### Bowling

Long the province of doughy guys, bowling is now going cutting-edge. The new trend is rock 'n' bowl: live music and the hurling of heavy objects. Bowling requires only moderate levels of strength and coordination. The minimum required is the ability to roll a 12-pound ball between two ditches. We'll let the pros on ABC's *Wide World of Sports* worry about actually knocking down the pins.

Bowling alleys typically offer soft drinks and domestic beers. Although it's somewhat challenging to hold onto your drink while actually rolling the ball, the majority of time spent sitting offers no such obstacles. Despite all these advantages, bowling is still typically looked upon as the sport of middle-aged Kiwanians with beer bellies.

Ease: 8  
Coolness: 3  
Spillage Resistance: 8

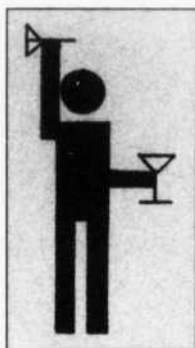


### Billiards/Pool

Pool has always had a mystique about it. Smoke-filled bars, big-city hustlers and Paul

Newman all come to mind. Pool requires a certain combination of hand-eye coordination and intricate trigonometry to be played successfully. And not unlike bowling, it's hard to actually hold onto your beverage while making a shot. But when your opponent or partner is shooting, you can enjoy your drink — often culled from the wide selection of foreign and domestic choices many pool bars offer. The best part of pool is the seedy tradition of the hustler. And if you want to draw comparisons of yourself with Newman, *The Hustler* poses much less trouble than *Slapshot*.

Ease: 6  
Coolness: 10  
Spillage Resistance: 9



### Darts

Darts, if thought of at all, is rarely thought of as a sport. It doesn't have the kitschiness of bowling or the romance of pool. It's basically

throwing stuff at a wall. You don't spill your beer when you throw, and even after you've emptied the cup, it's still pretty hard to miss the target.

Ease: 9  
Coolness: 5  
Spillage Resistance: 10

The sedentary have many other sports to choose from — horseshoes, lawn darts and, for the active burnout, Frisbee golf and Hacky Sack. As a society, we must move beyond the narrow vision that holds athletes must be athletic. The acceptance of low-impact sports is the first step. Indolent unite!

James Plummer, U. of Virginia



# Excuses, Excuses

**Y**OUR ALARM DIDN'T GO OFF, you couldn't pry your homework loose from your dog and your grandmother died... again. Right?

Two-hundred plus years of American higher learning have yielded many less-than-stellar reasons for going AWOL on test day. And professors have heard them all. Here are some of their favorites:

## CLASS

"I had a student say, 'Do you remember when my grandparent died, and I had to go to her funeral? Well, she really died this time, and I really have to go to the funeral.'" — David MacDonald, professor of history, Illinois State U.

"I had a fellow who said a bird in a tree 'went' on his head. He said he had to go clean it off, got his clothes wet and just couldn't make it to class." — David Royse, assistant professor of music education, Kansas State U.

"A young man called and said he was stuck in Fort Worth — 120 miles away — and his car wasn't running. Our caller ID showed he was calling from a dorm room on campus." — Emily LaBeff, professor of sociology, Midwestern State U., Texas

"A student said she was sprayed by a skunk. She had to stay home and take five baths and call the doctor, and it took all day before she felt presentable." — John Zelezny, professor of mass communication and journalism, California State U., Fresno

"One girl said her best friend

had gotten pregnant. The friend's family was having a shotgun wedding, and she had to leave school immediately to be the maid of honor." — Marshall Duke, professor of psychology, Emory U., Ga.

"A student called and said, 'My roommate fell out of the top bunk, and I had to take her to the emergency room.'" — Mary Gill, professor of speech communication, Buena Vista U., Iowa

"A young woman said her grandmother was near death, and she had to go see her [in Seattle]. I said, 'That's fine. Take care of your family problems first.' Well, we're about 300 miles east of Seattle. During the final period, I had some meetings in Las Vegas, so my [teaching assistant] gave the final. As I was boarding the plane, I looked up and there she was. I said, 'How's your grandmother?' She

said, 'I couldn't get a direct flight to Seattle. I have to go through Las Vegas.' And we both just roared. She wasn't going to see her grandmother. She was going to Las Vegas to gamble. I let her take a makeup exam, though. It was kinda funny." — John Crane, associate professor of biology and zoology, Washington State U.

"A student missed my final and called in a terror. She had a shrine in her dorm, and she'd had a fire, and this obscure shrine burned. The loss had so unnerved her and deprived her of a source of strength that she couldn't take the final, she said." — Stephen Chapman, professor of agronomy, Clemson U., S.C.

Ashley Estes, Auburn U., Ala.  
Illustration by Shin Kao, U. of California, Berkeley



## Guest Expert: The Alien

On Excuses:  
"After millions of eons of development, we have eliminated or solved the problems that require excuses."

# POLL VAULT



**BY BONNIE DATT**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PHOTO BY: BENJAMIN GLOTZER, SYRACUSE U.

CAPITOL PHOTO BY: CLAIRE DUGGAN,  
GEORGE WASHINGTON U.

**How to  
charm  
jaded  
potential  
voters in  
12 easy  
months**

*The scramble  
is again on to  
make voting  
seem cool.*

**C**OULD '96 BE THE FIRST ELECTION that hinges on who has the best Web site? In '92, Bill Clinton went for sax appeal on *Arsenio*. Now the hip thing is to go online. Worlds of information about each candidate — QuickTime movies of speeches we didn't listen to the first time around, pictures of monuments, flags and seals, copies of Senate bills — are available at the click of a mouse. No doubt we'll soon be able to download adorable pictures of Phil Gramm as a toddler. That's progress?

The 18- to 24-year-old vote steadily declined from 1972 — when the voting age was lowered to 18 and 49.6 percent of that age group voted — until an upswing in 1992, when 42.8 percent voted. But '94 saw new lows, with only 20 percent of 18-to-24-year-olds voting. Now the scramble is again on to make voting seem cool.

#### **I want a new plug**

"College students can literally be the deciding factor in this election," says Kevin Geary, College Democrats national president. "Coming up on the 25th anniversary of the change to an 18 voting age, we're in the position to issue a challenge to our generation: Your future is at stake."

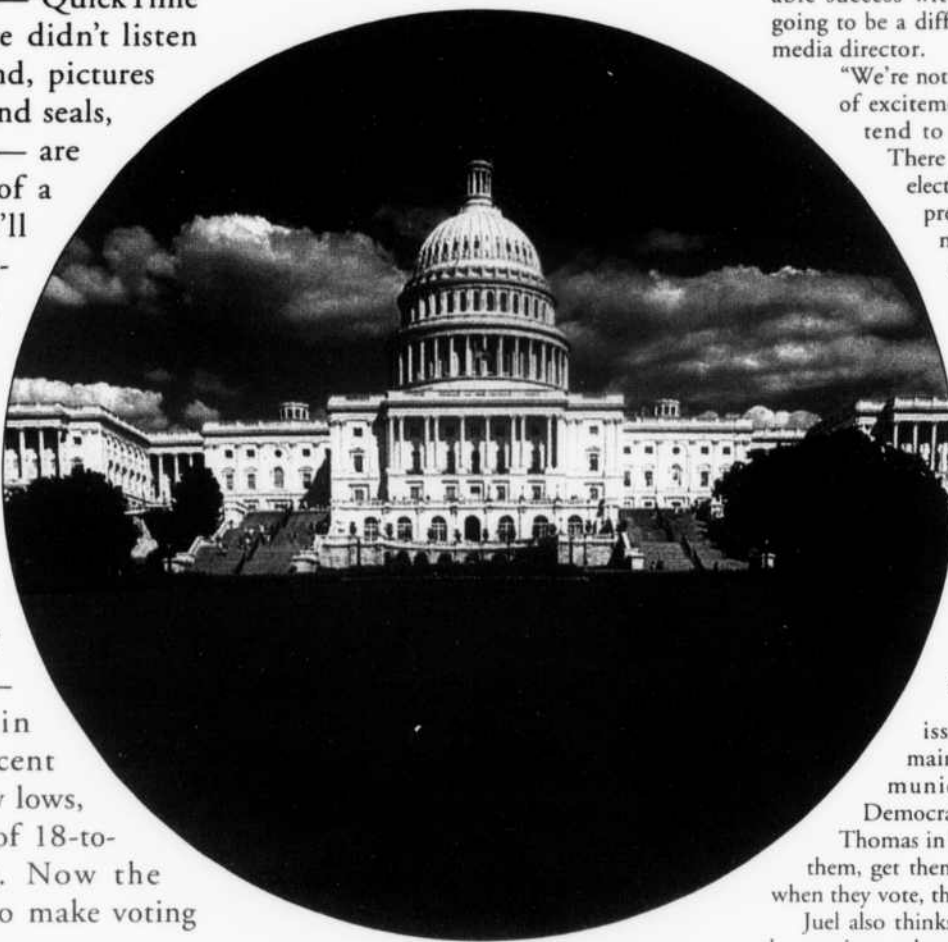
Go to the polls because our age group has only had the vote for 25 years? Whatever — everyone needs a gimmick. Of course, the biggest gimmicks come at those every-four-year blowouts. What else but a presidential election would induce Madonna

to swathe herself in an American flag and nothing else? OK, bad example.

"A major presidential election will attract a lot of voters," says Joe Galli, College Republicans national chair. "But generally, students are pretty apathetic. The majority are there to get an education, better themselves and get a part of the American Dream."

Tom Edwards, a grad student who runs College Park Libertarians at the U. of Maryland, notices this attitude at his school. "I don't think a lot of them take political groups seriously," he says. "We don't have a job to give them right now."

Mike Juel, Arizona state chair of the College Republicans, agrees that political interest falls off once a major election passes. "Only a few of us are



sadistic enough to keep involved. But I don't think the apathy on campus is any greater than in the nation as a whole."

And just because students aren't decking themselves in red, white and blue doesn't mean they don't care. Campuses and communities have thousands of groups — social, humanitarian, environmental, religious, political — that divide students' time and attention.

Geary, a senior at St. Joseph's College in Pennsylvania, worries about low voter turnout, too, but he also thinks activism is alive and well on campus.

"Although I hate the term GenX, we are GenX because we don't have anything tangible to rally around," Geary says.

"Are students doing something besides going to classes and partying on the weekends? Yes, they are, whether it's getting involved in Green Peace, Amnesty International or other smaller organizations, or volunteering — it's just not rallying around one issue."

#### **What's at issue here?**

So how will organizations get students fired up about one issue — that small matter of who's going to run our country for the next four years?

Rock the Vote, which targets 18-to-24-year-olds in its drive to encourage voting, had remarkable success with the '92 election. But '96 is going to be a different challenge, says Pam Batra, media director.

"We're not really sure we have the same level of excitement," Batra says. "Young people tend to need immediate gratification."

There was a lot of excitement in the '92 election and with Clinton as a young president, but there was not a lot of media attention about what he did once he got into office.

"There was a serious drop in the '94 election, and we got a new Congress that is not interested in youth issues."

And Washington won't care about youth issues if youths themselves don't, Batra says.

"It's important that we mobilize campuses to bring attention to youth issues. If students talk about them, the issues will be addressed. If they're not addressed, they're going to be overlooked."

Making students aware of the issues is the College Democrats' main goal, says Betsy Arnold, communications director for College Democrats and a senior at the U. of St. Thomas in Minnesota. "We want to educate them, get them to vote, and then we hope that when they vote, they'll vote Democrat."

Juel also thinks education is the best tactic, but he says it goes beyond just getting students interested in the election. He's wary of sounds-good politics that, upon examination, are full of holes.

"In '92, students got fairly involved with the presidential election because of the great work-for-school programs proposed by Clinton, but they weren't really involved enough to really check out the details," he says.

Galli thinks colleges are teeming with conservatives, and College Republicans hope to tap into it.

"They might not seem active, but if you talk to them, you'll find that this generation is generally conservative," he says.

"Our ideas are ideas that they can grasp. If we



educate college students and give them the facts, I think they'll fall in line."

While College Republicans remind students what Clinton hasn't done, College Democrats will explain what a Republican Congress has done.

"We're concentrating on college loans and the cuts Republicans are trying to make," Geary says. "If we do not keep the White House and take back the Congress, a lot of kids won't be going back to college or starting college in '97."

But the real facts come from the Libertarians, says Jeff Kanter, Ohio regional chair.

"The Democrats and the Republicans pass programs that are good for political hay," Kanter says. "We're more interested in the truth. Let everybody know: Get it all on the table."

### What have you done for me lately?

Back to the issues. College students are fiercely interested in issues ranging from scarcity of natural resources to scarcity of campus parking. Which ones are candidates targeting?

Republicans are going after the issues college-age voters are most concerned about, says Galli.

Which are?

"Welfare reform, reform of entitlement programs, balancing the budget."

Oh.

"MTV doesn't speak fairly for our generation," he adds.

Julia Herz, campaign manager for Republican candidate Tom Shellenberg, clarifies further. "Tom feels that if we don't address the balanced budget issue, when our generation is his age, we won't have a nation left," she says.

That's a little more like it. As for the incumbent party, College Democrats'

Geary says it may seem like Clinton isn't addressing specifically youth issues.

"Clinton has not talked about being the education president," he says. "He wakes up every morning and is the education president."

"No one anticipates a primary challenge at this point. If there were, I still think we'd be behind Clinton."

One who would like to be a contender is Bruce

Daniels. "His primary message, which could be of great interest to many students, is that President Clinton has not held strongly to the liberal principles of the Democratic Party," says Mark Baldwin, Daniels' press secretary.

And Libertarians? Students should favor the Libertarians because they're so darn brainy, says Kanter, who is also Libertarian candidate Irwin Schiff's campaign manager.

"Most professional politicians are very dependent on their advisers," he says. "Libertarians come from a very scholarly background. Once you get involved with Libertarians, you start to think, 'Thank God they're on our side — they're so smart.'"

### The greatest show on Earth

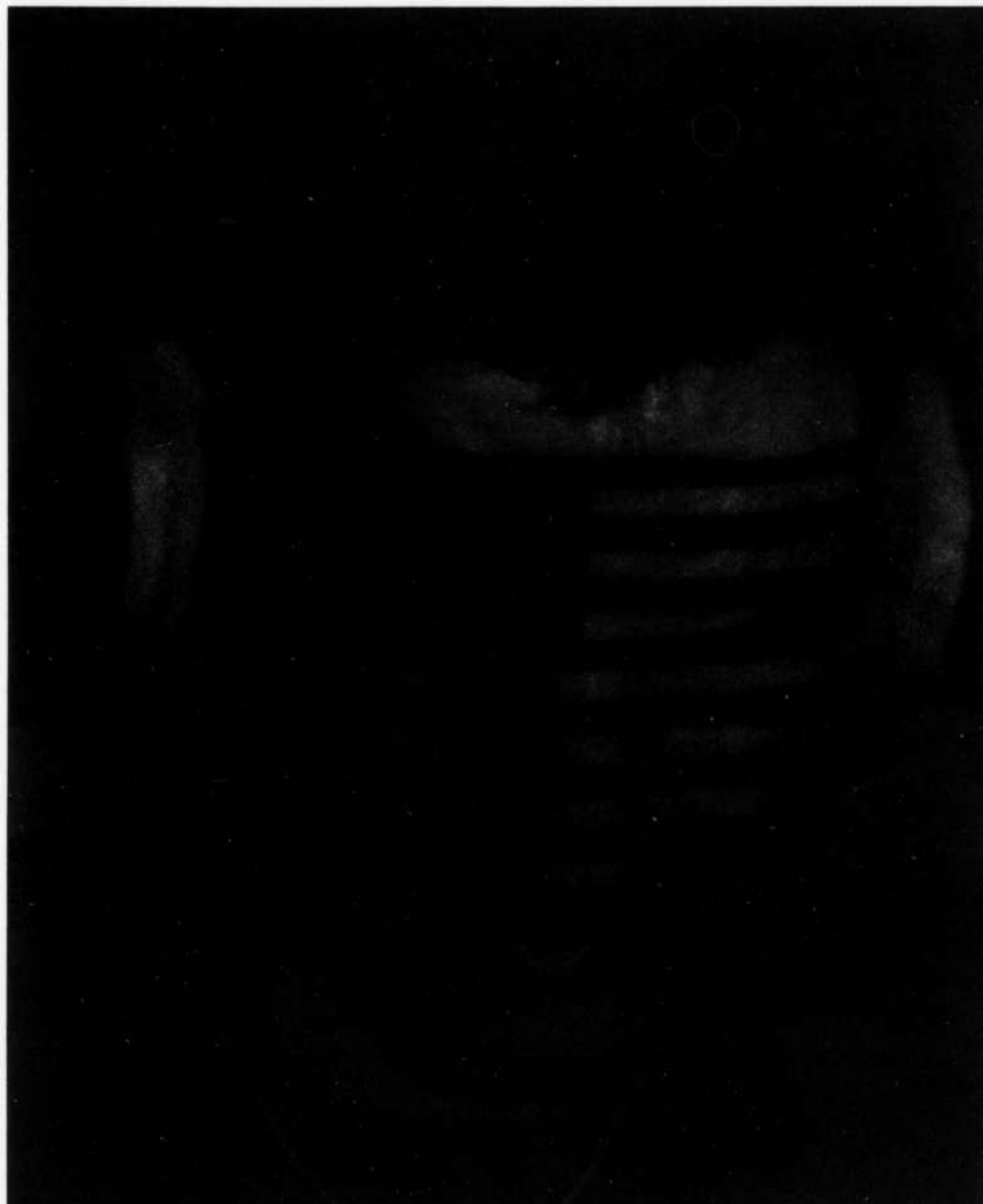
Not very specific, but that's about all the issue-addressing going on right now. However, the fun has just begun. Maybe Colin Powell will put out a rap album. Maybe Bob Dole will put out a rap album. Whatever happens, it should be a great show as, once again, the pols try to peg our elusive, yet exasperatingly desirable, demographic.

But that's their job. Our job is to make sure we don't settle for mere media bites. Let them entertain us, but make sure they're answering to our needs.

As Rock the Vote's Batra says: "Voting is not something that is supposed to be trendy."

It's fun to watch the fireworks, but it's even better when you helped spark them.

Bonnie Datt, associate editor, is registered Independent (her friends and family told her to).



Covering your ears won't make elections go away.

*It should be a great show as, once again, the pols try to peg our elusive, yet exasperatingly desirable, demographic.*



### Guest Expert: The Alien

On Politics: "The path by which the future is judged shows that there is a major change in store. There is currently a vacuum at the top."

### D.C. summer camp(aign)

Fold. Staple. Mail. Fold. Staple. Mail. Lyrics to the latest techno hit? No, it's the instructions Libertarian presidential candidate Rick Tompkins gives to his campaign volunteers — "a number of little things that are integral to any campaign."

Many college students spent this summer doing just that, and more.

Melanie Asher, a junior from Duke U. who volunteered on the Clinton '96 campaign, says she's always been involved in politics. Her parents constantly had the McLaughlin Group on the boob tube. "Living in D.C. makes you really politically conscious," the

self-proclaimed ardent Democrat says.

Asher's "in" to the world of politics was her 26-year-old sister, who worked on Clinton's '92 campaign. When her sister was doing "advance" (making arrangements with media before appearances), Asher volunteered her time three days a week, shuffling over to the campaign office after working full-time in a law office.

Asher attended the Democratic National Congress' presidential gala in June. She had the nonglamorous job of usher but nevertheless says it was thrilling. Although she has yet to meet *el presidente*, she says it would be an honor.

Unlike Asher, Georgetown U. senior Heather Lauer met the man whose campaign she volunteered for: Bob Dole. Unfortunately, it was only the industry

standard meet-and-greet — a quick handshake and hello.

Lauer worked Monday through Saturday, 50 to 60 hours a week, with about 20 other students in Dole's D.C. headquarters. Hailing from Idaho, Lauer was excited by the opportunities available in the capital. "[It] opened my eyes to a lot of different things," she says. "It's a great experience."

Besides being a fun or (remember staple duty?) at least different experience, working on a campaign provides insight no poli sci class can. It also can help you decide if the world of politics is for you and if so, where in the world you belong.

Kevin Geary, president of College Democrats and a senior at St. Joseph's College in Pennsylvania, knows from his experience working on campaigns that

he wants to be in politics, but not as a politician. At least not for a long time, he says. "I might work on a campaign to re-elect, or something involved with campaigns."

Lauer says she got involved because she's interested in the political process. "It's never the same," she says. "There are general rules — campaigns have learned from their mistakes, and they know what's right and what's wrong — but the process changes from day to day."

She noticed the job attracts a certain personality: quick-paced and detail-oriented. "I enjoy the pressure and the stress. It's constantly changing."

"People ask, 'What do you do?' It's so hard to say. It's whatever needed to be done 10 minutes ago."

John Youngs, U. of Connecticut

# Extra! Extra!

## Student extras go off campus and on the set

*"You tell them what talents you have — everything from riding a bike and waitressing to what kind of costumes you own."*

JOHANNA TOMKIEL,  
CSU, LONG BEACH

BY WENDY RUTHERFORD

U. OF TEXAS, AUSTIN '94 GRAD

**T**HOUSANDS OF HOPEFULS FLOCK to Hollywood every year, praying for a big break. What they don't know is that today's students are finding a little fame (with even less fortune) mere blocks from campus. And although they might not get a star on Hollywood Boulevard, movie or television extras can start the clock on their 15 minutes of fame.

"A lot of actors don't like doing [extra work], but since I'm in college, I need all the money I can get," says Rob Evors, a sophomore at Syracuse U. Being an extra won't make you rich — pay ranges from \$30 to \$75 a day.

Positive that Sly and Arnold's next adventure won't be on location in Kansas? Don't be too sure. Filmmakers found *The Bridges of Madison County* in Iowa, a *Tombstone* in Arizona and *A Perfect World* in Texas.

"Absolutely every state has a film agency," says Carol Pirie, communications director for the Texas Film Commission. The state agencies provide hot line recordings to give out production information on movies being filmed in the state, including when to show up for casting.

"A friend of mine was doing [extra work], and it looked like fun," says Johanna Tomkiel, a senior at California State U., Long Beach. "I went to a local casting agency, gave them my \$20 and got my picture taken. You tell them what talents you have — everything from riding a bike and waitressing to what kind of costumes you own."

Tomkiel has appeared in movies (*The Net*, *Showgirls*), TV series (*Chicago Hope*, *Party of Five*, *Dr. Quinn*, *Medicine Woman*) and a Soul Asylum video.

"The worst was when I was on *Dr. Quinn*," Tomkiel says. "I had been out late with my friends the night before and had to get ready at 3 a.m. I had to stay in a long, hot skirt and bonnet until 2:30 the next morning."

### Quiet on the set!

So let's say you're hired as Joe or Jody Average to play the part of background activity on a busy street corner. What can you expect on the set?

"Sometimes the crew treats you like dirt," says Andrea Lewis, a grad student at CSU, Northridge. But Lewis remembers a time when, while shooting an episode of *Blossom*, the late Bill Bixby took all the extras aside.

"He said, 'Without you, there wouldn't be classrooms full of people or crowded streets. Not only are you all actors, but you're also people, and don't let anyone tell you that you're worthless,'" Lewis recalls.

The days can be long (often more than eight hours), and it's often a hurry-up-and-wait situation, but sometimes the wait is worth it.

"The best set I've ever been on was *The Net*. It was on location at the beach in Palos Verdes,"

Tomkiel says. "I got to put on my bathing suit and hang out with the extras all day."

Seth Zachary Nagel, a senior at Ohio U., met his current girlfriend, a fellow extra, on the set of *The Great White Hype*. He has played everything from a computer nerd to a rich teenager. "While I was working on *Heat*, [Robert] De Niro was making faces at me over Al Pacino's shoulder."

Lewis took extra work to the next level as a stand-in for *The Brady Bunch Movie* and *Clear and Present Danger*. "I actually got to read lines with Harrison Ford. Interacting with a professional actor was such a high. It's been two years, and I still haven't gotten over it," she says.

Being an extra can be an easy segue for students from the college world to the film world.

"You meet a lot of contacts," says Kareem Ferguson, a senior at the U. of Utah who has appeared in *Class Act*, *Army of Darkness* and *Love Kills* and on *Beverly Hills, 90210*.

"I've used it as an opportunity to get to know the business better, and it's great experience," Ferguson says. "I've stayed in touch with actors, and they let me know about unpublicized movies and how to send my résumé to."

### "I'm ready for my close-up, Mr. DeMille."

Is extra work the solution for stardom-starved students? Maybe, maybe not. But it's definitely the answer for *starving* students. Extras are often treated to a sumptuous meal.

"Being a college student — I'm stoked on the food!" Tomkiel says. "They cater on location, serve halibut, steak and sushi and have stuff for you to snack on all day long."

Some students may use extra work to pay the bills, but Lewis advises potential extras not to quit their day jobs.

"The pay isn't worth it unless you're bored and have nothing to do that day," Lewis says. "It's a fun experience — when you know it's not your sole income."

Nagel advises would-be extras to be daring and take risks. "If you want to do this professionally, show them that you want to work. Impress them, and they'll call you back."

Wendy Rutherford desperately wants to be an extra in the next *Star Wars* trilogy. • Aaron J. Kearns, U. of California, Davis, contributed to this article



The new *Lois and Clark*? Student extras are flying high in Metropolis.



Being an extra brings out the beast in every student.

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# R+R

What, SNL Worry?

MAD TV. THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LATE NIGHT

IF YOU CAN READ THIS, YOU'RE TOO CLOSE

*Norman Winans*



## It's Mad, but it just might work

BY GLENN McDONALD

ILLUSTRATION BY: NORMAN MINGO, WHATSITOO U.

LEGENDARY *MAD* MAGAZINE ILLUSTRATOR SERGIO Aragonés is standing at the back of a Hollywood sound stage. Before him, cast and crew prepare for the final take of "Apollo the 13th," *Mad TV*'s Jason-meets-Jim Lovell send-up of the horror genre.

Aragonés, who just dropped in on the set out of curiosity, chuckles. "This should have happened a long time ago," he says. One of the founding fathers of *Mad Magazine*, Aragonés has seen efforts to bring *Mad* to the TV screen float and flounder for 20 years. "This is wonderful."

Aragonés pauses to consider the giant orbital module prop. "You *know* the Russians had sex up there," he says out of nowhere. "I mean — that's the first thing you'd do, right? Zero-gravity sex? Masturbation, at least."



**Gump Fiction** — "I am going to get medieval on your buttocks."

It's a mad, mad, mad *Mad* world. This fall, television's upstart network teams with juvenilia's sacred, satirical monthly to launch *Mad TV* — an ambitious foray into the occupied lands of Saturday night sketch comedy. The show has a lot going for it — the prestige of the *Mad* moniker, an experienced production team, a talented cast and a world-class director (John Blanchard, *SCTV*, *Kids in the Hall*). It also has some stiff competition — a pesky little 20-year-old comedy institution called *Saturday Night Live*.

### All right for fighting?

Executive producer Adam Small realizes the particular spot *Mad TV* is in. It's hard enough to make a sketch show work in a half-hour weekday format. (Small wrote for *In Living Color* and co-produced the frequently lame *House of Buggin'*). But competing with *SNL*, even considering that show's current slump, is a tall order.

"I don't think you can last at 11 p.m. on Saturday night without having that freedom to really be edgy," Small says. "We're going up against *SNL*, and the show's called *Mad*. We better be able to pack a wallop, or we won't last."

To that end, *Mad TV* hopes to incorporate some unorthodox elements into the show, including animated "Spy vs. Spy" and Don Martin cartoon sequences, as well as frenetic, MTV-like computer animation. The show will shoot about a third of its material on location, with the other two-thirds taped live before an audience a few days prior to the Saturday airing.

"One of the things we've tried to do is use lots of different looks and textures," says executive producer David Salzman. "Like the animation, and movie parodies in 35 mm letter-box. And we plan to do at least two significant music parodies each show."

### Raising heck

But can the show capitalize on the rich satirical tradition of the magazine? Will a network tolerate such wanton subversity?

"We're going on the air with a sensibility that there are no sacred cows," Salzman says. "The magazine was always about the mocking of authority, hypocrisy exposed. It's statement comedy as well as amusement comedy."

Well, we'll see. *Mad TV* draws its spirit from the magazine, but little else. There is no actual creative liaison between the magazine, produced in New York, and the TV show, written primarily by a young staff with sitcom and stand-up comedy backgrounds.

Still, there is a deliberate effort to move away from established sketch comedy norms, and you can't complain about that. Blaine Capatch and Patton Oswalt are one of the principal teams on *Mad TV*'s staff of 15 or so writers. Pop culture junkies and comedy scholars, they

riff effortlessly on everything from Ernie Kovacs to *The Simpsons*.

"We're aware of what limits *SNL* and other sketch stuff, and we try to look at our stuff through that," Capatch says. "They got the formula and they knew what worked, and they were afraid to move away from it. As it got bigger and more bloated, they would get one joke — 'OK, it's a guy with a massive head wound.' And they would write backwards from there."

"No offense to *SNL* — they've had their ups and downs — but right now they're in a real bad down," says Oswalt. "They lost their focus because they got too much money and became too much of an institution."

Those involved with *Mad TV* go out of their way to praise *SNL* for its pioneering history. They're anxious to avoid the inevitable media-fueled confrontation. But the criticism is valid — they know it, we know it and *SNL* knows it.

"This is going to sound snotty, but we're writing *endings* to the sketches," says cast member Nicole Sullivan. "I don't know where [*SNL*] lost the fact that they needed endings. I think they stopped caring."

### What, them worry?

Sullivan, a classically trained actress with considerable theater experience, says most of the cast has ensemble training and experience —

**"We're going up against *SNL*, and the show's called *Mad*. We better be able to pack a wallop, or we won't last."**

ADAM SMALL, *MAD TV* EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

another deliberate decision on the part of the producers.

"One of the things that shows have done before is just impressions of political figures or entertainment figures," Salzman says. "Usually the point of those sketches is 'Look how great I am at doing this impression.' Some of the people that do them are hilarious, but its kind of a one-level form of entertainment."

"So we looked for actors as opposed to stand-ups," says Small.

All of these elements add up to a show with fundamental differences from traditional sketch comedy television. *Mad TV* has an ambitious agenda, and a lot on its plate. It's time to skit or get off the pot.

"There's a lot of pressure," says cast member Bryan Callen. "But it's very exciting."

Like the rest of the *Mad TV* team, Sullivan says the ultimate goal is to produce a funny, maybe even ground-breaking, comedy program. And there's only one real judge of that — America's TV nation.

"My favorite moment was after shooting the pilot," Sullivan says. "My friends came out and said, 'You know what? This is funny.'"

"I went, 'Oh, my God. We could have a show here.'"

Glenn McDonald is *U. Magazine's* music editor, and he always, always pulls for the *White Spy*.



**Mad TV's sporty, reliable cast. Available in compact or mid-size sedan.**

# JIM CARREY

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## STARTS NOVEMBER 10

# Rock

BY GLENN McDONALD

## Pocket Band



### Bicycle

Back in the day, rock bands used to tour in squalid old vans, eating lots of Taco Bell and engaging in woefully unhealthy activities.

Not this month's pocket band. They want to ride their bicycles.

"I got laid off from my job," explains Kurt Noel Liebert, singer and bassist for the New York City power-pop trio Bicycle.

"And I'm a huge biking fan. So I thought I might just strap a guitar to my back and cross the country doing acoustic shows. I told the guys in the band, and they were like, 'Let's do it.'"

So for two months last summer, Liebert, guitarist Brian Chenault and drummer Forrest Kemper biked 2,700 miles across America — with Chenault's mom hauling the equipment and a pop-up camper behind them.

They played gigs in towns along the way, turning in sets of originals and covers — including Air Supply. And they camped. No tour bus. No per diem. Maybe s'mores.

"Chicago was the worst," Liebert says. "We came through right during that heat wave. We ended up staying in an air-conditioned Burger King for seven hours."

Nevertheless, Bicycle is again on the road, making their way from Maine to Florida. "We're hoping it will be a little easier this trip," Liebert says. Should be — it's all downhill from Augusta to Tallahassee. But the trip back will suck.

For more information on Bicycle, their tour and their upcoming EP *Souvenir*, call 1-800-988-0766.

## Rating System

- ★★★★★ super
- ★★★★ califragi
- ★★★ listic
- ★★ explall
- ★ docious

## Tracy Chapman

*New Beginnings*

Elektra

★★★



Critics will likely slam on this album for the same screwhead reasons they ripped on Natalie Merchant's lovely *Tigerlily*. Evidently, female "alternative" artists these days must be savvy and profane, their music raw and edgy. Well, thanks for the tip.

These critics can now kiss Merchant's platinum-selling grits, and they better be careful with *New Beginnings*. Tracy Chapman's songs of youthful strivings ("Fast Car") and political activism ("Talkin' 'Bout a Revolution") made her the most successful folk artist of the '80s. With this, her fourth album, Chapman doesn't wander far from form.

The politics are a bit thin, granted. To paraphrase David Lowery, the world needs another eco-social folk anthem ("The Rape of the World") like I need a hole in my head. But you'll forgive all this when you hear Chapman's gorgeous character sketches ("Cold Feet") and intensely personal meditations ("At This Point In My Life," "I'm Ready").

Although some of the studio strings will give you diabetes, a return to generally minimal instrumentation heightens the effect of Chapman's remarkably emotive voice. Quiet and courageous, *New Beginnings* is louder in its whispers than in its shouts.

## Old School Punk

Various Artists

Newotic Records

★★★★

West Coast punk in the early '80s is a fairly specific little chunk of music history. With Reagan in the White House and, like, "Mr. Roboto" on the radio, America was ripe for a subculture explosion. Thus '70s punk begat '80s hardcore punk, which seemed to spawn best in the sunny suburbs of southern California.

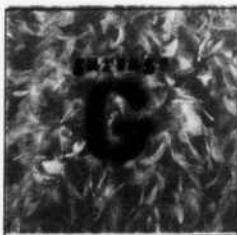


## Rapid Fires

### Garbage

Garbage

ALM



Big rock producer Butch Vig (Nirvana, Smashing Pumpkins) launches his own band with a pretty

frickin' great debut album of studio trickery, pop hooks and lean, mean guitars.

### Rocket from the Crypt

Scream, Dracula, Scream!

Interscope

San Diego's premier rock stars RFTC play inventive, dynamic punk songs with rare discipline and Beatlesque harmonizing. *Scream* will stick to your brain like gum to a shoe.

### Mike Scott

Bring 'Em All In

EMI

Scott, formerly of the Waterboys,

indulges his Gaelic mystical muse with a highland squall of love songs, tartan kilts and unfiltered, malted Scotch whiskey.

### Junior M.A.F.I.A.

Conspiracy

Undeas/Big Beat

These mediocre gangsta MCs from B.I.G.'s crew are interesting only due to their breathtaking Wu Tang-like marketing campaign. They will sell millions, so you may as well hop on the boat.

### Spain

Blue Moods of Spain

Restless

Sort of a high-brow Cowboy Junkies, Spain make slow, sad music for slow, sad moods. Some jazz, some R&B, some country, some soul. Some kind of wonderful.

### The Next Chapter

Compilation

Immortal Records

In hip-hop's never-ending quest to "keep it real," here's a compilation of 16 unsigned artists from all over the country. The results are mixed, but some stellar moments from America's young MCs make it a chapter worth reading.

*Old School Punk* is a solid collection of 14 songs from the scene's heyday. X's "Los Angeles" is the keystone of the collection, representing the stoic anti-tude of the times while foreshadowing punk's inevitable popular assimilation. (Included bands Redd Kross and Suicidal Tendencies gradually drifted toward pop and metal, respectively.) Most of the other bands are long gone, although their legacy lives on in Green Day, Rancid and the Offspring.

One exception is the Circle Jerks (who recently recorded with, no fooling, Debbie Gibson). Their 1980 anthem "Wild In The Streets" is almost perfect in its two-chord, melodic glory. Other definitive moments are turned in by the Germs ("Richie Dagger's Crime"), T.S.O.L. (the necrophilic "Code Blue") and Agent Orange ("Bloodstains"). In fact, only the conspicuous absence of seminal scenesters Black Flag and the Dead Kennedys handicaps this capable collection.

## Emmylou Harris

*Wrecking Ball*

Asylum

★★★★½

Every now and again, when you're so lonesome you could cry, nothing hits the spot like a good old country song. Not the foot-stompin', Stetson-wearin', achin' breakin' yee-haw country of Clint and Garth — but the deep, bluesy strains of the old school.

Emmylou Harris is among the last of these traditional country proponents, and her sadly beautiful voice is just the right medicine for your cheatin' heart. Teamed here with über-producer Daniel Lanois (U2, Bob Dylan), Harris has undertaken a boldly progressive agenda. *Wrecking Ball* includes songs by Jimi Hendrix, Steve Earle, Lanois, Lucinda Williams, Dylan and Neil Young, among others.

Harris interprets these songs with her usual grace, her voice steeped in sorrow and promises of redemption. But the real story here is the alchemy of her traditional sensibilities and Lanois' progressive production. "Where Will I Be," with its stuttering snare drum (supplied by U2's Larry Mullen) and delay-pedal guitar, could have fit in just fine on *Joshua Tree*. On "Deeper Well," Lanois paints an arid, abrasive soundscape as Harris' voice bottoms out into Johnny Cash territory. It's an odd marriage, but one that works.

A true meeting of the minds, *Wrecking Ball* is a testament to traditional country's enduring appeal — and one of its finest moments.

More reviews, more releases, plus sound bytes at <http://www.umagazine.com>



## RADIO, RADIO

1. Superchunk, *Here's Where the Strings Come In, Merge*
2. Kids Soundtrack, *Various Artists, London*
3. Mercury Rev, *See You on the Other Side, Work*
4. Palace Music, *Viva Last Blues, Palace/Drag City*
5. Rancid, *...And Out Come the Wolves, Epitaph*
6. Supergrass, *I Should Coco, Capitol*
7. Garbage, *Garbage, ALM*
8. Charlatans UK, *Charlatans UK, Beggars Banquet*
9. NOFX, *I Heard They Suck Live, Fat*
10. The Verve, *A Northern Soul, Vernon Yard*

Chart based solely on college radio airplay. Contributing radio stations: WUTK, U. of Tennessee, Knoxville; KRNU, U. of Nebraska; KUCB, U. of Colorado, Boulder; KWVA, U. of Oregon; KTRU, Rice U., Texas; ACRN, Ohio U.; KUOM, U. of Minnesota and KVRX, U. of Texas, Austin.

The U. Radio Chart is sponsored by

# VIBRANCE

## ORGANIC CARE

## Superchunk

*Here's Where the Strings Come In*

Merge

★★★★½

Superchunk is probably the most lovable band in rock. Remarkably generous, they crank out album after 7-inch after B-side after album of unpretentious punk-pop nuggets for their legions of fans. Staunchly independent — they own and run their own label — they never come off righteous or cranky. And they smile big in all their photos.

*Strings* finds the band in top form, the complex arrangements and generally speedier pace resulting in a more compact sound. The first single, "Hyper Enough," rocks with a kind of desperate abandon, flailing around like a heartbroken 10th grader drunk on Dad's beer. If frontman Mac McCaughan keeps writing songs like this, it won't be long before Superchunk makes the leap from great indie band to legendary indie band. No kidding — those making the Hüsker Dü /Replacements comparisons ain't just whistlin' Dixie.

If there's a problem, it's that McCaughan's distinctive voice and the guitars' often limited tonal range make every Superchunk song sound like a Superchunk song, if you know what I mean. Which isn't bad, but a little stylistic recklessness never hurts. Maybe next album.





# Sergeant

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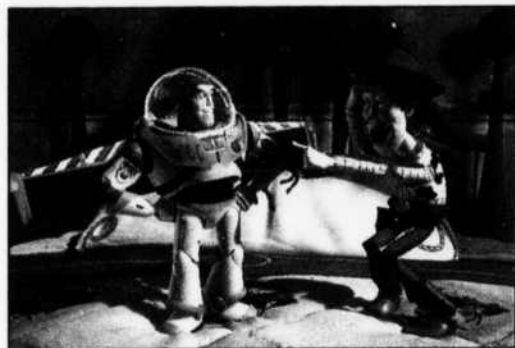
U.S. ARMY  
RESERVE



# Reel

BY BONNIE DATT

**T**HIS MONTH'S MOVIE SELECTION shows a striking lack of film-noir fare. What's going on? Where's the gratuitous violence? Where are the likable bad guys with oddball fetishes and even more oddball nicknames? Oh, that's right: It's a Disney sort of month. Buck up, though. Maybe at the end of *Toy Story*, Woody will pump Buzz with semiautomatic fire (Closing remark: "That's all I have to say about that.").



## Toy Story

Disney

Life is like a box of toys. Tom Hanks is the voice of Woody, a cowboy doll who maintains order in his owner Andy's room — until Buzz Lightyear, a high-fallutin' space action figure (voice by Tim Allen, TV's *Home Improvement*), moves in. Word is that the animation is anamazing.

## Goldeneye

United Artists

Never say never. Remington Steele's lucky number — 007 — finally came up. This time, Pierce Brosnan is Bond. James Bond. He goes to Russia. Former Soviet Union Russia. And there are girls. Sexy girls. (Famke Janssen and Izabella Scorupco play the latest Bond chicks.)



## Nick of Time

Paramount

Wait a second. Johnny Depp — a.k.a. Don Juan — a daddy? Yup. He plays a mild-mannered accountant whose daughter is kidnapped. He's forced to assassinate California's governor (Look out, Pete!) or his daughter will die. Christopher Walken (*The Prophecy*) plays one of the kidnappers.



## The American President

Castle Rock

What if the president were hooking up at the White House? Legitimately, that is. Michael Douglas plays a widowed president who starts dating an environmental lobbyist (Annette Bening, *Love Affair*). Pretty bad when your lovers' tiffs are the top story on the 6 o'clock news.



## Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls

Warner Bros.

Riddle me this: How do they churn the sequels out so fast? The dumb gets still dumber as Jim Carrey returns as that friend to the furry, feathered and flipped. This time he's needed in Africa, where he has to track down the sacred Shikaka (we don't know what it is, either) to prevent tribal war.

## Home for the Holidays

Paramount

Ah, Thanksgiving. Time to count our blessings. Claudia Larson (Holly Hunter, *The Piano*) feels particularly blessed: She just got fired; she's sick; she's flying to see her weird family; and her daughter (Claire Danes, TV's *My So-Called Life*) is planning to lose her virginity while she's gone. Pass the stuffing.



## The Journey of August King

Miramax

August King, a handsome white mountain man played by Jason Patric (*Rush*), goes to the market for supplies and comes back with a beautiful black girl. Sounds like mountain fever. Except it's pre-Civil War North Carolina, she's a runaway slave and hunters are now looking to check-mate them both.

## Money Train

Columbia

It's been awhile since we've seen a good old-fashioned train robbery. What? White men can't rob trains? How about re-pairing that wacky duo, Woody Harrelson and Wesley Snipes? They play brothers (foster) and New York transit cops who go underground to rob the subway.



## Casino

Universal Studios

Before the Disney-ization of the casinos, Las Vegas was down and dirty — a place where men were men, Elvis was King, the bars were seedy and the dancers were sleazy. Robert De Niro plays Ace, a greedy gambler. Joe Pesci plays his partner. Sharon Stone plays Ginger, the sexpot and Ace's love interest.



## Waiting to Exhale

20th Century Fox

You can stop holding your breath. Another women's movie — just what you've been waiting for — is out. These four women aren't shooting

men and taking off on a cross-country jaunt. But maybe they should be. Whitney Houston, Angela Bassett and Gregory Hines star. Breathtaking.

## Carrington

Gramercy

Androgyny, ménage à trois, marrying your love's lover then bagging your husband's best friend? Sounds like a modern romantic comedy, but this takes place in the early 1900s and is based on a true story. Emma Thompson (*Junior*) stars as painter Dora Carrington.



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

## The Reel Deal

### The Kids in the Hall Movie

You'd be forgiven for thinking you were at a taping of the Canadian comedy troupe's hit HBO series. Scott Thompson and Bruce McCulloch are wearing dresses; Mark McKinney is decked in a psychedelic shirt with a Hot Wheel hanging from his neck; Kevin McDonald, sporting glasses the size of Coke bottles, begs us not to say that the Kids seem serious.

The Kids created a bevy of memorable characters — but don't expect to see many in the Kids in the Hall movie, like in those bad SNL-spawned movies.

"We could have just taken our big hit characters and forced them in, but we set a higher goal," explains Thompson.

Something else will probably surprise Kids fans. When the Kids quit series TV, rumors flew that they hated the sight of each other, but you wouldn't know that from the relaxed atmosphere on the set.

"We fight ritualistically almost," explains McKinney. "When we stop fighting, we're dead."

Despite a yearlong hiatus, the Kids begin feeling comfortable after a couple of takes.

"We're nervous creatures," McDonald says. "The more you make us feel at home — the more you cuddle us, put slippers on us and give us a paper to read, the funnier we'll be."

Steve Gravestock, U. of Toronto

## Screen Saver

### Harlem Diary: Nine Voices of Resilience

"Who's your friend, with the camera?" may become as standard a greeting as "What's up?" in this post-*Hoop Dreams*, *Real World*, everyone-has-a-documentary-in-him/her fervor. *Harlem Diary* is one of undoubtedly many more to come, but this is a good thing.

In *Harlem Diary*, interviews with nine people, ages 12 to 26, are juxtaposed with black-and-white clips from the video diaries the young people kept. Terry Williams, who wrote *The Uptown Kids: Struggle and Hope in the Projects*, introduces and comments on the stories.

"These are stories of resilience, strength and endurance [within] a population that we consider disposable and expendable," Williams says.

The voices are of people who have been inside prison cells, shelters, TV studios and brokerage firms; seen drug deals and shooting deaths of friends; carried responsibilities as single mother, father figure and role model.

"Where I'm from, most of my friends are either dead or locked up in jail from being misled," says one of the subjects, Rasheem Swindell, 16, an aspiring boxer.

The film, directed by documentary filmmaker Jonathan Stack, opened in New York and Los Angeles at the end of October and is expected to go wider. Seek it out for a glimpse of the real Real World.





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Robyn Earley, San Diego State U. "A 14,000-foot 'high' in Aspen, Colo."

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### 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-



David Wierth, Central Michigan U. "Expression of freedom."

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!

Every month, at least one winning entry will be published in U. and on our Web site contests page (<http://www.umagazine.com>). Winners of the month will receive \$50 cash.

The Grand Prize winner will collect \$1,000, and the winning photo will be published with

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](mailto:contests@umagazine.com).

All entries (snail mail or e-mail) 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: Dec. 1, 1995.** Winners will be notified by Dec. 20, 1995, so be sure to include your permanent phone number.

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-



Lilette Evan, U. of Florida  
Chris studying at his "desk."

Nike's ad in the January/February 1996 issue of U. PLUS, the top 30 entries will win cash prizes.

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.** 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  
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Kyle van Hotter, U. of California, Irvine  
"Relaxing after climbing at Fallen Leaf Lake, Calif."

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



Marisa Oles, Michigan State U.  
Dorm kwon do.

# A Modest Proposal



BY GLENN MCDONALD

ILLUSTRATION BY D. SHAUN CARTER, WICHITA STATE U.

**Y**OU KNOW WHAT WOULD BE GREAT? If Bill Clinton just took off the gloves this upcoming election year. Enough with the patient diplomacy — he should start picking fights. I mean real fights.

I'd like to see him rabbit punch Bob Dole on the Senate floor. Body tackle Phil Gramm in the Lincoln Room. Use some vicious kung fu move on Buchanan — maybe a circle kick to the solar plexus. Can you picture it? Our esteemed president, a righteous warrior of justice, kicking ass all over D.C. Right on!

Now, I'm biased. I like Bill Clinton. I think he's cool. But maybe you're Republican, or Libertarian, or whatever you Perot people are calling yourselves these days. That's fine — pick your own prizefighter. What I'm saying is, let's drop all this tired election-year posturing and get down to business — a bloody, yearlong battle royale among any and all presidential candidates.

Which would you rather have — another election year of pathetic, fatuous attempts to misdirect America's attention? Or a Pete Wilson/Phil Gramm kick boxing match? Let's not kid ourselves — beneath the thinly veiled hostility of campaign rhetoric lies a primitive, barbarous aggression. So, slam! Let the boys be boys.

My money is on Clinton. What he may lack in ruthlessness he more than makes up for in wily cunning. He's younger and faster than these worn old Republicans. Take Bob Dole, for example. I pity the poor, confused man. He's pledging to make English the official national language. (For those of you who can't see through this, I'll type slowly — sound out the big words, OK?

*This is not a real political issue.*) So Clinton could easily outwit him. Tie his shoelaces together, maybe, then sneak up behind him and scream in his good ear.

The primaries alone would be fabulous. Imagine, instead of a New Hampshire primary, a Caesar's Palace preliminary. Fifty thousand screaming delegates, drunk on cheap Vegas gin, pay \$800 a pop to watch Lamar Alexander pound on Arlen Specter's kidneys with a 40-pound copy of the Packwood diaries.

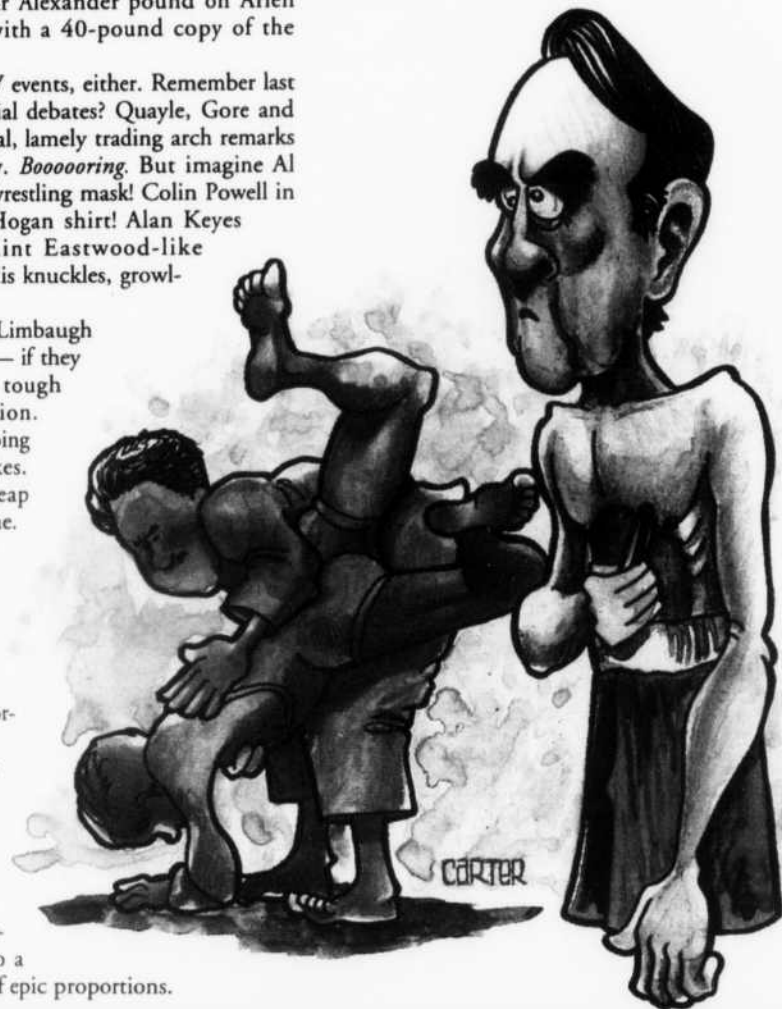
No more dull TV events, either. Remember last year's vice presidential debates? Quayle, Gore and that poor old Admiral, lamely trading arch remarks about Jack Kennedy. *Booooooring*. But imagine Al Gore in a Mexican wrestling mask! Colin Powell in a pull-away Hulk Hogan shirt! Alan Keyes squinting with Clint Eastwood-like authority, cracking his knuckles, growling softly....

I'll admit, Rush Limbaugh and Newt Gingrich — if they run — would be a tough tag-team combination. And I'm not even going to make any fat jokes. No sirree — no cheap shots in this magazine. But God help the poor Democratic challenger having to face the flab-lanche of voluminous white flesh cascading from *that* corner of the ring.

As the year goes on, many candidates will drop out due to sagging polls, lack of funding or hemorrhaging. America will be witness to a Darwinian struggle of epic proportions.

But when the victor emerges, bloodied and draped in the entrails of the vanquished, we shall surely have a New World Order. No one will dare mess with America, because our leader will be the meanest, scariest, ass-kickinest statesman ever to prowl the South Lawn.

Hail to the Victor! Hail to the Chief! USA is No. 1 again!



## Double Take

### Flotsam in the 'Net

The proliferation of useless online information continues. And we love it! Among the bands mentioned in an AOL Worst Band Names board, categorized by the astute *U. Magazine* staff:

**Spiritual:**  
Priesthole  
Smegma and the Nuns  
The Archbishop's Enema Fetish

**Anatomical:**  
Rectal Snowmen  
Black, Hairy Tongue  
Ovarian Trolley

**Themed:**  
Vomit Launch  
Constant Vomit  
The Projectile Vomiters

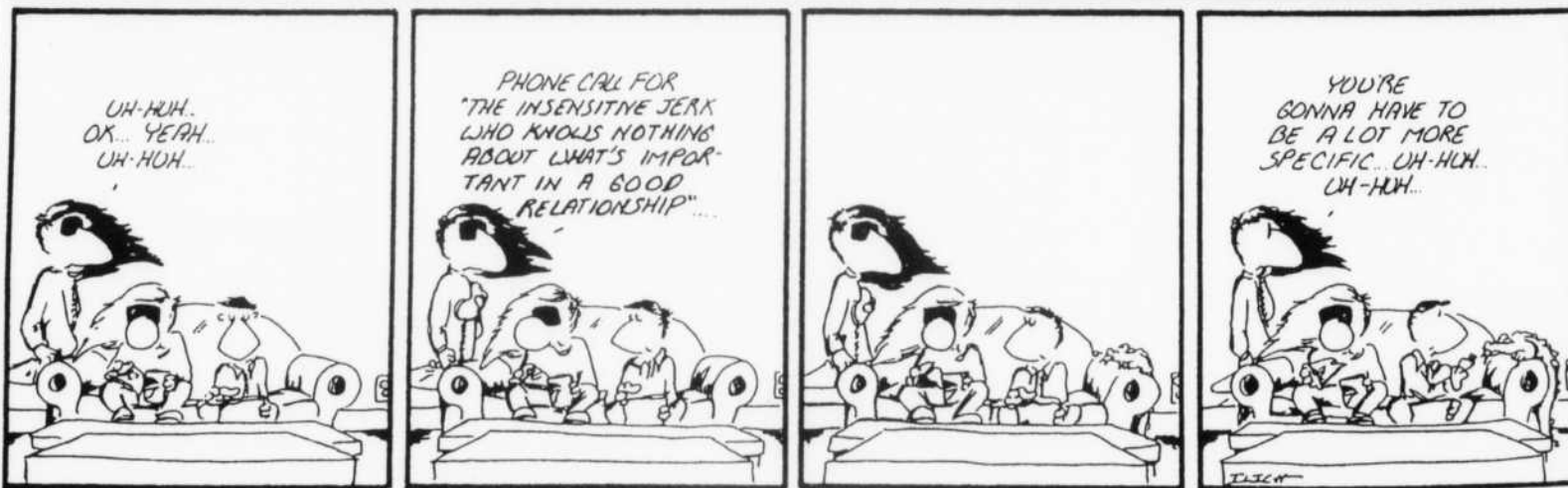
**Food-related:**  
Pork Soda  
Bad Egg Salad  
Daddy's Protein

**Just plain wrong:**  
Dead German Tourists

The information superhighway shall someday lead us all to a utopian world of cooperation and hope. Until then, offensive time-wasting banter for all!

## Doog and Blair Mark Illitch, Western Michigan U.

## Strip Tease





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