

Our yearly romp through the wide world of satire, *The Compost*, chronicles the people and events of Agony College in Mudville. This year's edition is in honor of April Fool's Day.

The games begin on page 5. Enjoy!

since 1876
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Thursday
March 30, 2000

The Campus

of Allegheny College

"Liberty not
exercised is
liberty lost."

—Gene Policinski

Blowdown Speeds Robertson Logging

By JOHN PAUL MARCANTONIO
Assistant News Editor

The most recent stage of the logging that has been taking place along the trails behind Robertson Field is now completed, causing the area to look much different these days. There are logging roads running all through the forest, and the tops of the logged trees are laying on the ground around the trails.

Under the Forest Management Program, which started in 1995, the college hired ecologically-based forester Mark Webb to take an inventory of the trees in the forest. From that inventory, Webb devised a schedule for the school to follow for the next 30 to 40 years.

Every 10 years an inventory of all trees in the forest is taken. From that inventory, one-third of all "marketable stems" are actually harvested and sold for profit. The logging operation that took place in 1995 generated 165,000 board feet of lumber worth \$103,000.

The next harvest was scheduled for sometime in 2004 or 2005, but on July 16, 1999, a severe windstorm occurred. It caused a large natural blowdown, uprooting many trees in the forest, especially along the cross-country trails, said

Controller Marty Ahl.

"Those trees that were knocked down were obstructing the trails," Ahl continued. He said that they would rot before the next scheduled harvest in 2005, causing the school to lose revenue.

"We implemented a two phase program that started shortly after the storm in July. Phase 1 took place completely over the summer and its main focus was clearing the trees from the cross-country trails. Also, 100 feet to each side of the trails were cleared," Ahl said.

Phase 1 was done by Shelter Lumber Co. The revenue that was gained from it was around \$5,000.

"Phase 2 began on January 1, and its aim was to clear out the trees that fell in the rest of the forest. The logging was done by Ken Nichols Lumber and Logging and the revenue that was generated was around \$40,000," Ahl said.

"Had we not logged those trees, we would have lost their value," said Ahl.

The College's Forest Management Program has since been revised due to the blowdown. The logging that was scheduled to occur in 2005 has been moved back to 2008-2009.

Associate Professor of Environmental Science Richard Bowden said he respects Webb's

judgment. "Mark Webb is very knowledgeable about sustainable forestry. He has been in the business for over 25 years and his main focus is the health of the forest," he said.

"He has received several awards, including Forester of the Year," said Bowden. "He has and will definitely help, not hurt, the school's woodlands."

One student who uses the cross-country trails expressed a different opinion on the matter.

"Even though the forester doing the planning is very good, I still wish that the logging wasn't going on," said sophomore Steve Haines.

"I really enjoy going up there for hiking, biking, and cross-country skiing. I think that the woods are more valuable as a relief for students to escape college stress than as a source of revenue for the college. "It is also a good selling point for the school—an area with hiking and biking trails that is within walking distance of campus," added Haines.

The once thick forest is now thinned out along the cross-country trails.

"There will be no physical replanting occurring in the forest," said Ahl. "Natural replanting will occur in due time."



TIMBER—Trees lay strewn across the area known as the "Badlands" due to logging operations that ended three weeks ago.

—photo by Tiffany Hrach

College Students Prone to Depression

By DANE FOSTER
Perspectives Editor

To raise awareness of depression as a serious disease, the Allegheny Counseling Center held a free screening for anxiety and depressive illnesses on Tuesday, March 28 in the Walker Room.

Despite their efforts, many cases go untreated or unreported. Depression is a disease from which many suffer, but the prevailing cul-

tural stigma often discourages adequate treatment.

Depression takes many forms—Unipolar, Bipolar, and Seasonal Affective Disorder, all of which can be treated if appropriately diagnosed. Some symptoms of depression include dramatic changes in mood, body sensation, loss of interest or motivation, lack of concentration, inability or loss of sleep, and changes in eating habits.

According to the Director of Medicine at the Rochester Psychiatric Hospital Dr. Anthony Labrum, people with depression fall into a certain method of thinking. "They tend to have a particular way of thinking about things, either negatively or pessimistically," he said.

This way of thinking often coerces the individual into feeling that they are losing control, experiencing feelings of intolerance, or

lacking interest or pleasure in everyday activities.

Depression is caused by an imbalance of the chemical serotonin in the brain. This can be caused by either a biological change in function or it can be passed down hereditarily. According to Labrum, approximately 50% of depressed individuals pass the trait genetically, but that does not necessarily mean that the offspring will exhibit depressive qualities.

Persons affected by depression often feel a personal sense of failure or rejection, feelings that could lead to isolation, denial, or even suicide. According to Labrum, these feelings can cause the affected person to have trouble interacting with other people. "They may have a perception of not being loved," he said, "and that can lead to difficulties with relationships, or

—see DEPRESSION, page 4—

The Campus asks...

compiled by Gail Giewont, Staff Photographer

Seen any good movies lately?



"I saw this thing called *Star Wars*. That was pretty hip."
—Steve Harding '01

"Yeah, but I don't remember what they were because I don't 'watch' the movies, if you know what I mean."

—Megan McClure '00



"*The Cider House Rules* was a really great movie."
—Beth Miller '01



"*Erin Brockovich*. She was sassy."

—Anne Rundle '02



CRIME BLOTTER

•An unattended wallet that contained \$150 was stolen from the Campus Center Activities Room on March 12. Security has no leads.

•Security was called to assist in the location of a missing juvenile on March 16. Security was able to locate he/she on campus.

•On March 17, \$145 was stolen from an unlocked locker during lunch time in the Wise Center. Security has no suspects.

•A theft occurred in the Wise Center locker room on March 6. A watch, valued at between \$40-\$50, was stolen while several credit cards and cash money were left untouched. Security has no suspects.

•A theft occurred in the Grounds For Change Coffee House after closing time on March 13. The person that was working the last shift did not wait for someone to come with a key and lock the door. \$38 was stolen. Security has no suspects.

•A student was cited for underage drinking in Schultz Hall on March 12.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

•The March Month of Service is sponsoring a carnival on Saturday, Apr. 1 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Campus Center lobby. This event is sponsored by the Office of Community Service. For more information, contact Brooke Martin at (814) 332-5318.

(Doane Chem C.117) or her office in Cochran Hall (118). Students who are completing their sophomore or junior years and meet the 2.5 minimum GPA requirement are eligible. The deadline for submitting applications is Saturday, Apr. 1. If you have questions, please contact Professor Lowmaster by phone 332-5352 or 332-4348 or by e-mail.

•The Meadville Community Theatre will present George Axelrod's *The Seven Year Itch*, one of theatre's biggest comedy hits at 8:15 p.m. on any of the following evenings: Friday, Mar. 31; Saturday, Apr. 1; Friday, Apr. 7 and Saturday, Apr. 8. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for students and senior citizens. For reservations or more information, contact the Theatre (located in the Oddfellows Building) at 333-1773.

•Applications for the Chatham Summer Program (through which Allegheny students can become eligible for Pennsylvania teacher certification) are now available. Lists of the courses required to meet the Pennsylvania standards in each of the certification areas offered at Chatham will also be available. The applications are available from Professor Nancy Lowmaster in either her office in the Advanced Chemistry building

•The Wayne Reynolds Merrick Fellowship in International Studies is intended to assist promising Allegheny upper-class students (preferably juniors) majoring in international studies to complete one semester abroad. Applications for the fellowship should be submitted by Friday, Apr. 7 to Jochen Richter, Box 30.

•The Doane Hall art galleries will present the annual Student Art Show, beginning Tuesday, Apr. 4. The show will feature the works of Allegheny students. A reception to celebrate opening of the exhibit will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The exhibit closes on Wednesday, Apr. 26. For more information, contact the art galleries at (814) 332-4365.

•ALLies is now accepting applications for membership for the upcoming year. Applications will be available at the Information Desk in the Campus Center. The members engage in selected service activities including, but not limited to, the Allegheny and Meadville community. Applications must be returned to Box 171 by the deadline on Friday, Mar. 31.

•The political science department will present a discussion by Dr. Manuel Orozco titled "Violence, Memory and History of Central America" on Monday, Apr. 3 at 4:30 p.m. in Seminar Room 123 in Quigley Hall. A reception will follow. A professor of political science at the Univ. of Akron and a researcher for the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute, Orozco primarily researches globalization, international relations theory, democracy, conflict in war-torn societies and minority politics. For more information, contact the political science department at 332-3360.

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To place an advertisement or classified ad, call 332-5386.

Reader Advocate Sandy Simon is available for consultation at <campus@journalist.com> with subject line "attn Sandy."

Hey you...

The Campus staff meets in the newsroom, room U-202 on the second floor of the Campus Center, every Tuesday at 7:30. Everyone is welcome. Stop by with article ideas, photo ops, advertising questions, etc. See you soon.

Baseball Opens 9-1

By LOU KLEIN
Sports Reporter

The Allegheny baseball team opened the 2000 season over Spring Break in the Gene Cusic Classic in Fort Myers, Florida. They began in an impressive fashion, going 9-1 in the tournament.

The Gators opened the tournament on March 19 by sweeping a doubleheader against St. John's of Minnesota with scores of 9-2 and 8-7. Senior pitcher Jeff Mountain picked up the victory for the Gators. In the second game, sophomore pitcher Nick Paolini collected his first win of the season.

The next day, the team was back in action against Calvin College. Allegheny picked up their third and fourth wins of the year with 6-1 and 21-9 victories behind the strong pitching of freshman Adam Oshnock and junior Scott Swinchock.

The Gators then played another doubleheader against Manchester College. The men rolled to another sweep, winning by scores of 2-0 and 18-7. Sophomore Bob Spithaler picked up the win for the Gators in the first game, and freshman pitcher Justin Welkner won his first game as a Gator in the nightcap.

The following day, the Gators raised their record to 7-0 in the first half of a double header against Southern Maine, with a hard-fought 5-4 win. Mountain pushed his record to 2-0 in the victory.

The Gators suffered their only setback in Florida in the second half of the twinbill, dropping a 16-13 decision in eight innings. The Gators were hampered by six errors in the contest.

Unphased by this loss, the team finished off the tournament with a doubleheader sweep of Upper Iowa. Oshnock led the Gators in the first game, a 11-5 victory, and Swinchock powered the Gators to a 6-5 win in the finale.

At the plate, the Gators were led by senior shortstop Brad Hensler, who hit a sizzling .600 in the tournament, going 18-for-30 with three home runs and 18 RBI's. Senior first baseman Kevin Davidson also had a strong showing, batting .429 with two homers and 15 RBI's.

The Gators will open the NCAC season with a doubleheader at Hiram this Saturday. The first pitch is at 1:00. The Gators will conclude the three-game series with a Sunday afternoon game at Hiram at 2:00.



Swimmer Ben Whittam

—photo by Tiffany Hrach

Hreha, Whittam Compete in Nationals

By CHUCK STEINFURTH
Sports Editor

Sophomore swimmer Ben Whittam and first-year diver John Hreha competed in the NCAA finals the week of March 18 before Spring break. The two were able to amass 33 total points for Allegheny, putting the team in 28th place out of 52 competing teams.

Hreha was named an All-American for his performance, and was the highest placing first-year diver in the competition. He placed third on the one meter dive with a score of 461.35. He also finished sixth on the three meter board with a total score of 406.45.

Whittam ended up placing 13th in the 200m breaststroke with a final

time of 2:07:61. Last year at finals, Whittam broke the school record in the race with a time of 2:08:99.

Whittam said he he performed about the same as the previous year, but he would have liked to break his own record.

"The meet was a lot more

exciting, it's a great atmosphere. I worked hard to get there, and it's hard not to swim fast," said Whittam. "Next year I would like to finish in the top eight in the 200m breaststroke and also qualify in the 400 or 200 IM," he added.

Track Shows Strength

By REBECCA RITTENHOUSE
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's and women's track teams traveled to Myrtle Beach over Spring Break and stopped in Virginia on the way down to participate in their first outdoor meet of the season at the Roanoke College Invitational in Salem.

The men's team had a good showing, having some of their athletes placing high against the competition.

Junior Brice Allen placed first in the 5000 meter run with a time of 15:42.99 and sophomore Dan Princic came in 2nd with a time of 15:59:50. First-year runner Devon Halley placed 1st in the 10,000 meter run in 34:30.60, first-year runner Dan Croft placed third in 35:22.0 and Aaron Cecala placed 5th in 36:31.30.

In the 1500m run, Princic placed 4th with a time of 4:11.57, junior Rob Shaw placed 5th running a 4:14.06.

Senior Jason Hunter placed 11th in the 200m dash in a time of 24.67. In the triple jump, sophomore Dan Burr placed 7th with a jump of 40'10.25". Senior Pat Madigan placed 4th in the javelin with a throw of 175'05".

The women continued on their quest for first place at conferences by placing high in many of the events:

Sophomore Erin Switzer placed 4th in the 100m dash running a 13.23 and 2nd in the 200m dash with a time of 27.58. In the 400m dash, sophomore Jen McGuire placed 1st with a time of 59.58, first-year runner Patricia Clark placed 2nd in a 1:03.42, and first-year athlete Rae Ann Paff placed 5th in a time of 1:06.39.

In the 800m run, first-year runner Lisa Weed placed 3rd in a 2:36.14 and in the 1500m run, sophomore Tara Trent placed 2nd with a time of 5:02.68 and junior Alyssa Mack placed third in a

5:12.25.

First-year runner Nicole Morandi placed 2nd in the 3000m run with a time of 11:05.33, Trent placed 3rd in a 11:08.18, and Mack was 4th running a 11:10.37. Sophomore Carolyn Sikora placed 1st in the 400m hurdles in a 1:07.83 and 2nd in the 100m hurdles in a 16.08.

In the pole vault, first-year athlete Jenn Surace placed 1st with a vault of 9'05.25." In triple jump, sophomore Donna Donnelly placed 4th with jump of 33'03.75" and in high jump, sophomore Megan Radkowski placed 2nd with a jump of 4'08.75."

At the end of the team's trip to Myrtle Beach, they again stopped in Virginia on their way home and participated in the Battleground Relays at Mary Washington College last weekend.

On the first day of competition, Morandi placed 1st in the 10,000m run in a time of 39:41.7. Also in the 10,000, Allen ran to a 3rd place finish in a time of 33:13.6.

In the triple jump, Donnelly placed 5th with a jump of 35'7", Switzer was 8th with a jump of 32'1.25", and Surace was 10th with 30'3.5."

On the second day of competition Madigan placed 2nd in the javelin with a throw of 187'3", which made him a provisional qualifier for nationals. Also a qualifier in the pole vault was Surace with a vault of 9'.

Sikora placed 1st in the 400 hurdles again with a time of 1:07.1 and was 4th in the 100m hurdles. In the 3000m run Trent placed 4th in 11:21.28.

The relays also did well with the women placing 3rd in the 4x100, 4th in the 4x200, and 2nd in the 4x400. The men ended up 10th in the 4x200 and 8th in the 4x400 against a tough field.

The team continues their season this weekend at Slippery Rock University.

And Then There Were Four...



By CHRISTINE PEOPLES
Sports Reporter

After last weekend, the only thing that I have to say is GO HEELS! As most of you may already know, the North Carolina Tarheels have advanced to the Final Four, making it their 15th appearance. Joining them are Wisconsin, Michigan State University, and Florida. I don't think anyone picked this final four in their bracket.

Peoples' Playbook

The only expected team along with the only Number 1 seed left is MSU. I am shocked! I never would have predicted these matchups and that is why I love college basketball. You just never know who will win! This coming Saturday, MSU plays Wisconsin in the first game and UNC plays Florida in the second game. The NCAA tournament champion will be decided next Monday night.

Two number eight seeds in the final four—Wisconsin and North Carolina. One number one seed and overall favorite—Michigan State. And finally the other Gators of Florida at a number five seed. As each game was played, the higher seeds began to loose, with many upsets serving to destroy any accurate predictions. Arizona fell to Wisconsin, St. John's fell to Gonzaga, and Purdue upset Oklahoma. And that is only in the West.

Skipping to the Midwest—Maryland lost to UCLA. That was the only major upset in that region because both MSU and Iowa State advanced to the elite eight, with Iowa State succumbing to MSU, 75-64. Jumping to the East, the Duke Blue Devils were upset by Florida, 87-78. Poor Duke! You know it seems like every year Duke has such a great season and then they lose come Big Dance time. What a shame!

Along with Duke, Temple fell to Seton Hall in a tough overtime game, 67-65. Finally, Oklahoma State was upset by Florida to send the Gators into their second final four appearance.

Saving the best for last, the South region part of the bracket. North Carolina defeated number-one seed Stanford. Cincinnati, after losing Kenyon Martin before the tourney, was beat by Tulsa, 80-71. North Carolina went on to upset the Vols of Tennessee (stick to football please) and finally Tulsa to advance to the final four.

For those who took their shots at Carolina blue, realize that this is the fourth Final Four in six years. That is not too shabby! Also, this is Bill Guthridge's second final four in three years. What a coach! Remember too that UNC was in the top five in the preseason polls at the beginning of the season. Even though it took them until the very end of the season to prove their talent, they still hung in there for the opportunity to succeed in the Big Dance.

As for my predictions for Saturday, here goes. I will comment on the MSU and Wisconsin game but I am not going to pick a winner in the second game. Call me superstitious, but I am just glad that the Heels made it this far and I just hope that they can keep up their game.

Although Wisconsin has had a dream season, I think that MSU will prevail to advance to the title game. In my heart, I would like to see the Badgers win but I think that MSU will overpower them with their speed and ball-handling ability. As for the second game, I am not sure so I am not going to say. I think that Florida is an excellent team but when I watch Mr. Joseph Forte sink those jumpers, I have to think North Carolina. Who knows! All I know is GO TARHEELS!

Clark's Promised Dispensers Finally Installed

By SHANNON HARBAUGH
Assistant News Editor

Residents of Crawford and South Highland Halls can now enjoy the newly installed soap and towel dispensers in their restrooms.

Physical Plant has started the installation of these dispensers and "hopes to have every dorm completed before students return in the Fall," said Allegheny

Student Government (ASG) President, Bernie Clark.

In his election platform, Clark promised the student body that he would push for paper towel and soap dispensers in every dormitory. "We had some main goals in our platform and this was one of them," he said.

"Next to Bernie, we are probably the second most excited about the dispensers being put

in," said Allan Blattner, director of residence life.

To get the ball rolling, ASG representatives attended a trustee meeting and presented their ideas. "The trustees do not always get to hear all of the students' concerns all the time," said Clark.

Once presented with the problem, the suggestion was well received by the trustees. "They realized it was an issue and it was

quickly followed up on," said Clark.

After the meeting, attention was given to the situation. In the fall of 1999, Physical Plant took bids from several vendors and selected DeSantis, a local supply firm. "We told people we were going to do this and did not realize it would take this long."

Prior to the dispensers' arrival on campus, Physical Plant was

working on a method of installation that would not absorb all of their time. Physical Plant will continue this process of installation into the summer.

Approximately 110 to 120 dispensers were ordered, to allow for some replacements needed in academic buildings and extras, according to Blattner.

DEPRESSION

from page 1

they might project their hate of themselves onto other people."

Feelings of this sort often manifest themselves in people between the ages of 18 and 24. Many people have difficulty leaving an environment that they are accustomed to, and having to start anew at a college or university. The pressures of trying to fit in, and the separation from family and friends may cause an individual to feel alone and isolated. This may precipitate a bout of depression.

According to Allegheny Counseling Center Director Jacquelyn Kondrot, depression plays a major role in college stu-

dents' lives. "Depression is one of the top pressing concerns we have here [at Allegheny]," she said. "It is one of the most frequent concerns of the people we see here at the counseling center."

There are two common ways of treating depression: prescription of anti-depressant drugs like Paxil, Prozac, or Zoloft, or psychotherapy. The anti-depressant drugs increase the release of serotonin in the brain until an appropriate level is reached. Psychotherapy treatment is an interactive approach where the patient and doctor attempt to trace through past events, allowing the patient to come to

terms and deal with his feelings.

Despite the prevalence of depression, according to Labrum, only 20-30% of the afflicted get any appropriate medical treatment. Many people prone to depression either fail to realize the symptoms of the illness, refuse to see a doctor, or prescribe to the myths surrounding anti-depressants and depression. According to Kondrot, untreated depression only causes more pain for the individual. "People end up suffering needlessly, with the ultimate risk being suicide," she said.

Despite rumors, anti-depressants do not increase the risk of

suicide, are not mind altering drugs, and are not addictive in nature like many other drugs. Labrum is quick to dispel the myth that anti-depressants can change who a person is. "Education is important," he said, "in that people need to hear that anti-depressants cannot change your personality, how you act or feel beyond restoring those qualities to their original levels." That is to say that each person has a biological potential, and anti-depressants help to achieve that potential.

While there is currently no cure for depression, it can be treated. If someone is concerned about an

individual that may be depressed, the best way to help out, according to Labrum, is to "help the person get a sensible perspective on the illness. Give them some time, but don't abandon them." Allegheny College also offers counseling services to those that are concerned about depression or would like to learn more about it, or visit www.AHCPR.gov. The Counseling Center offers literature and consultation, and is located in Reis Hall or can be reached at 332-4368.

Positions are opening on *The Campus* staff...

Reporter/Columnist

The Campus accepts one-time articles and columns from any student who wants to contribute. Becoming a staff reporter implies a larger commitment: attending the weekly staff meeting and contributing at least every other week.

Assistant Editor

An assistant editor has generally had at least one semester of experience writing for *The Campus* or has taken the news writing course. This is a plus, but is not required; all applicants will be considered. Assistant editors are responsible for writing as needed, attending the weekly staff meeting, helping the section editor develop story ideas and edit copy, and helping with layout.

Copy Editor

Copy Editors work with the editor-in-chief and managing editor to proofread copy. They look mainly for grammatical, spelling, or factual errors, and do fact-checking as needed. Copy editors will also be asked to contribute headline ideas, and may be asked to do a final proof of a section.

Reader Advocate

The reader advocate works with the newspaper staff and the College community to address problems with the newspaper's content. He or she must be fair-minded and must possess excellent interpersonal skills. He or she must also develop a working knowledge of staff procedures and standards.

Editorial Board Member

Editorial Board members take part in determining policy and content of the newspaper; the Editorial Board is *The Campus'* governing body, responsible for hiring decisions, writing the weekly editorial and shaping the newspaper's goals and policies.

Section Editor

Section editors are responsible for the content, style and layout of their sections. They schedule and lead section meetings, assign articles and photos, train reporters and assistant editors, and attend the weekly staff meeting. They plan and organize the layout of their sections. They read all rough copy and edit it for style, grammar and space. Interested applicants should have prior journalism experience and a knowledge of the newspaper.

Photography Editor

The Photography Editor works with the section editors to determine photography coverage. He or she makes assignments to staff photographers. Darkroom experience and knowledge of photography equipment is required.

Work-Study Positions

Advertising Manager: Solicit and accept ads, maintain organized records, hold regular office hours. Prior business experience desirable. Assistant Ad Manager positions are also available, with a smaller time commitment.

Business Manager: Pay bills, fill timecards, work with the ads staff and managing editor, check our progress against our financial goals.

Distribution Manager: Pick up *The Campus* from *The Meadville Tribune* early on Thurs. mornings and distribute it around campus. Position requires reliable transportation to and from the *Tribune*.

Applications due 5 p.m., April 7

Applications are available outside the newsroom, room U-202 on the second floor of the Campus Center. Please address questions to Editor-in-Chief Jennifer Midgley at <midglej>.

Celebrate Good Times



Members of the Indian Dance Troupe performed in traditional costumes on Tuesday, March 28 in the Campus Center lobby. The performance was the Opening Ceremony for Celebrate Asia Month, sponsored by A5.

—photo by Gail Giewort

Habitat Provides Service Opportunities

By KIMBERLY REHAK
Weekend Editor

Helping others to help yourself is the unwritten motto of Habitat for Humanity.

"The purpose of this organization is to help members of the community in regards to low-income housing and homelessness," said sophomore Heather Green, the group's Publicity Chair. "We are here to promote awareness, help with home and non-profit organization repairs, as well as to be involved in a community that is larger than our organization."

"Habitat is an organization that allows us to work within the community without it seeming like we are giving hand-outs or charity in socio-economic pity," Green added. "We work side-by-side, leveling any playing field that may be imagined. People of the community have many things that we don't, such as experiences."

Habitat's purpose is "to help others where we can," said sophomore Fundraising Chair Dan Walpole. "More specifically, we generally provide labor for people in need who can't afford the supplies or labor."

According to a recent press release, Habitat for Humanity is an in-

ternational non-profit organization that began in 1976 in an effort to "eliminate homelessness and sub-standard housing by building affordable housing for those in need." Allegheny's chapter of this organization is student-run and funded by ASG.

On most Saturday mornings, the members of Habitat for Humanity gather to make general repair work.

"Painting, roofing, replacing rotten boards, building ramps, insulating a trailer, yard clean-up, and fence repairs are some of the things that we've done in the past," said Green.

Green added that the group also goes to the Downtown Affiliate's meetings and assists them with their projects.

Habitat has also been fundraising since last year for the Neighbor-to-Neighbor project, in which the group needs to raise \$35,000-\$40,000 in order to build a Habitat house in Meadville. Fundraising events include the Hut-a-Thon that was held in October, a letter writing campaign, and the upcoming 5K race which will be held on April 15.

"The Home Run," the 5K walk and run fundraising activity for the Neighbor-to-Neighbor campaign begins at 9 a.m. and participants are

—continued on The Last Page—

Students Lip Sync for the Fight Against Multiple Sclerosis

By BRIANNA PIKE
Assistant Weekend Editor

Students were successful in the fight against Multiple Sclerosis Wednesday night, February 15. Overall the event raised over \$800, which was more than a \$200 increase from last year.

"I thought that SAM's was great this year, and it went really smoothly," said sophomore Leanne Bloor, one of the head organizers of the event.

"Originally we were hoping to get other organizations besides just Greek, and we were happy when Kendra and the Motown Mamas entered. Overall it went really well," said sophomore Jeff Miller the other head organizer.

Students in the audience and those participating agreed that SAM's was successful.

"I thought overall it was a blast. A good time for a good cause," said first-year Jenna Zonneveld.

"I thought all of the groups did really well, and I'm glad a lot of money was raised for MS," said first-year Tibor Solymosi.

MCs Trish Tchume and Josh Nolan kicked off the evening by

introducing Alpha Delta Pi's rendition of Bob Seger's classic hit "Old Time Rock 'N Roll." Performers rocked across the stage in boxers, long sleeved white dress shirts, and ties. They air guitared like pros, and had huge smiles all the way through.

Next were the boys of Sigma Alpha Epsilon getting their groove on to Jordan Knight's song "Give it to You." The Sigs strutted their stuff wearing kahakis and white dress shirts. They entertained the crowd with their smooth and inventive dance moves, and had a grand finale that included a clown, balloons, and confetti.

Third in the line up was Kappa Kappa Gamma performing to N Sync's hit "Bye Bye Bye." The girls sported white tank tops and blue workout pants. Smiles were huge and energy was high, as the girls kicked and punched their way through the routine.

Delta Tau Delta's act to 2gether's "Calculus" proved to be one of the biggest crowd pleasers of the night. The boys exhibited some slick dance moves, and props such as dried ice, balloons, and confetti added to the impact of the performance. Appropriately

enough, plenty of the women in the audience liked the act enough to help out by playing the role of screaming fans.

Breaking into some good old oldies were Kendra and the Motown Mamas from 1st Walker Annex, grooving to "ABC" by the Jackson 5. Their afro wigs and authentic seventies gear set the scene for a colorful performance which showcased sophomore Kendra Stanton, a true Motown Mama.

Phi Kappa Psi was up next with their interpretation of the song "Sex Machine" by James Brown. The performance was one of the less energetic of the evening, but still interesting. A performer tumbling down the stairs in lacrosse gear added to the visual scene.

Lollipops, candy necklaces, pigtailed, and pink tank tops, lead the way as Alpha Chi Omega performed to Mandy Moore's bubblegum hit "Candy." The girls danced to a well-choreographed routine and threw candy to an enthusiastic audience.

Theta Chi got back to classic rock 'n roll with Billy Joel's "Uptown Girl." The guys donned white t-shirts and jeans and tried to impress their "uptown girl", who was

actually a brave guy dressed in a sparkly pink dress and long black haired wig. Their performance got many smiles and laughs as the boys chased their "girl" around stage.

Rounding out the evening were the girls of Kappa Alpha Theta introducing a little Latin flavor with Lou Bega's "Mambo #5." The girls twirled black feather boas and smiled big smiles as they shook to the rhythm of the song.

The audience watched all of the performances decided which one they liked best and donated money to that group. All the money donated went to help fight MS.

Now the judges were left to decide who would win in the various categories. Participants could win Best Overall Performance, Most Money Raised, Best Costumes, Best Original Choreography, and Best Performance by an Individual.

Performers were judged on creativity, costumes, choreography, lip sync, and overall performance. Judges were Pam Masi, Liaison from NWPA MS Society, Tara Hill, senior class president, and Joe

Di Christina, Associate Dean of Students/ Director of ACCEL.

After much deliberation, the judges had their results. The winner of Most Money Raised was Phi Kappa Psi, with \$200. The winners of Best Costume was Alpha Chi Omega. Best Original Choreography was given to Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Best Performance by an Individual was awarded to Kendra Stanton of the Motown Mamas. The most anticipated award of the evening, Best Overall Performance was given to Delta Tau Delta.

Inside Weekend:

- We cover Catpower's new record
- "The Ninth Gate" and other portals
- The new Heimy strip (Don't forget to enter the contest!)

"The Ninth Gate" Opens Few Doors

By BOB BRITTEN
Managing Editor

If a genre doesn't exist for your new genre movie, no problem. Just make one up. This seems to be director Roman Polanski's attitude in "The Ninth Gate," a movie that would be incredibly form-driven if any previous form existed for it to be driven by. The movie intrigues, yet feels predictable, in a way that makes its two hour length stretch (though not necessarily drag) by in a way that feels more like six.

Dean Corso, played by Johnny Depp, is a sort of "Book detective," as one of the characters describes him. His area of expertise is acquiring ancient and rare volumes for collectors who are prepared to pay handsomely for them. He is compensated well, tips well, and dresses nicely (and all in black, of course, as Depp's contract no doubt stipulates). He also lives in a not-quite-squalid apartment and eats microwave dinners out of the box, although whether this is an oversight or just a failed attempt at character development is anyone's guess.

Corso is hired by Boris Balkan (Frank Langella), a collector of books on the Devil, to track down the other two copies of *The Nine Gates* (Balkan has one), a book which Lucifer himself supposedly collaborated on. Corso's task is to find out whether or not two of the three books are actually fakes, and to obtain the legitimate copy if necessary.

Immediately upon taking the job, Corso finds his life becoming stranger. The wife of the original owner of Balkan's copy wants it back. His rare book dealer friend (James Russo, who, as a side note, also performed alongside Depp as Paulie in 1997's "Donnie Brasco") winds up dead, killed in a manner depicted in one of the book's engravings. And a strange woman begins popping up in the corner of Corso's vision, only to vanish upon closer inspection.

Corso, while avowing a complete skepticism towards all things occult, begins to find himself party to much unexplained weirdness. People are appearing and dying in his life in ways that he can't quite fathom. Some power is definitely involved

with the books, although Corso refuses to admit that he himself may be passing through the nine gates that he seeks.

In many ways, "The Ninth Gate" feels like one of the dusty books that the movie focuses on. The pace is literary, not cinematic, and this results in a movie that often seems

Hollow" with much more satisfying results. The point may be to convince us that Corso is like the ancient tomes that he deals in, but we don't need to see each of his pages.

If anything, "The Ninth Gate" is certainly a dark film. Muddled shadows and (intentionally) poor lighting are presented throughout, and viewers must often squint to discern details. This works, for the most part, and it gives the movie more of a detective feel than a horrific one. Polanski creates his own brand of occult *noir*, and uses it like an old and familiar form. It is worthy of note that the lighting was handled by one Darius Khondji, who also ran lighting for "Se7en"; you can easily see the connection.

On the subject of dropping names, this movie seems fairly pleased with who worked on it. The opening credit sequence, which shuttles us through (count 'em) nine

looming gates, is immense. Crew members such as line editors and other sundries are credited, which may be an attempted solution to filling the interim space between all nine gates. The computer-generated

gates are admittedly impressive looking, but the opening got to the point where I was expecting to start seeing the names of gaffers and best boys. A movie just doesn't need that in its opening credits, even if it is theatrical.

It's hard to watch "The Ninth Gate" without having mental flashbacks to last year's "Eyes Wide Shut" and "Stigmata," even though this film was actually released in France back in 1999.

For that matter, there also seems to be a dash of Indiana Jones in Corso's expert skepticism regarding the occult — he rarely allows himself to become incredulous. But unlike Dr. Jones, Corso is not dynamic, and neither is much of the plot. Even when buildings burn and cars whiz past, there is a detached, paced feeling to them. This doesn't hurt the movie so much as slow it down and limit its appeal; fans of Polanski and Depp will surely be the film's main audience. To be honest, though, it may not appeal to many others. It's just too bookish. "The Ninth Gate" will give you some pause to reflect after the film's end, but don't prepare to be amazed.

Film Review

to plod while Corso pores over text after text. But 'dull' is not really the word, because as a movie, "The Ninth Gate" is a pretty good book.

Depp himself is perhaps the best example of the somewhat academic taste of this movie. His character is a goateed, bespectacled, scholarly type with a taste for black turtle-necks and trenchcoats. Fans of the actor are used to seeing him in eccentric roles, but even so, Dean Corso's bookish quality can seem meticulously overdone at times. Perhaps Polanski is not as adept at molding the actor as, say, Tim Burton, who directed Depp in "Ed Wood" and the recent "Sleepy

Catpower's Latest Reinvents Old Favorites

By KIMBERLY REHAK
Weekend Editor

Chan Marshall, aka Catpower, has recently released "The Covers Record," a collection of cover songs, on Matador Records.

Catpower has slowly established herself as an indie rock goddess, and as this album demonstrates, she does not intend



acquaintance. The album has only one original Chan Marshall piece, entitled "In This Hole," but it is a beautiful peek into her own songwriting abilities. The song is a slow, piano driven piece—nice, slow, and not as loud as the songs from her previous released records that I have had the privilege of hearing. Those songs, mind you, are still the exact opposite of headbanger's loud.

I've found that this album, like any Catpower release, is perfect to fall asleep to and also a great accompaniment for reminiscing. In fact, I had only listened to the first three songs before the other night because I would always pass out before the close of it. So if you are in desperate need of a sleep inducer, pick up this album. But, more importantly, if you are in the need of an absolutely amazing new album, then pick up the new Catpower!

Call WARC's request line at (814) 332-5275 and ask a kind DJ there to play you a song from the new album or check out the available links at <http://www.matador.recs.com/matador/stores.html> to order this album.

Music Review

to stray from that standard.

In one word, this album is beautiful. In two words, it's very beautiful.

On "The Covers Record," Chan's simple chords and distinctively beautiful vocals radiate through every song, as always. She somehow manages to make every song seem very personal—as if listening is like peeking into the misty corners of her self—even the songs on this LP, which are not even her own.

Catpower covers a vast variety of songs in this collection, ranging

from pop icons such as The Rolling Stones ("I Can't Get No Satisfaction") and the Velvet Underground ("I Found a Reason") to folk heroes Bob Dylan ("Paths of Victory") and Michael Hurley ("Swee Dee Dee").

In every song, Chan accompanies herself on either piano or acoustic guitar, sometimes reconstructing the songs so that the original source is unrecognizable. It's apparent, though that her interpretations of the songs show how the originals must mean to her.

If you have never been introduced to Catpower before, this album may be a good first



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I Was Just Thinking...

A column by Gail Glewont

...will return
next week.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

EDITORIAL

Treat the Stigma

Even as a liberal arts college, Allegheny is not immune from social stigmas and stereotypes. Many issues are often clouded by these generalities, hindering the efforts to deal with the problem at hand. Depression is one such issue, and the ramifications of societal stereotypes can ultimately lead to many cases of depression going unreported and untreated.

Studies show that the college age group can be more apt to experience depression because of the stressful lifestyles that they live. While certain students may be prone to depression—either genetically or biologically—varying circumstances of college life may precipitate a first episode or a recurrence.

The stigma surrounding depression—which may ultimately become the mindset of the afflicted person—is that depression is something out of the ordinary, or that something is wrong with the person. On the contrary, depression has been shown to be common in both men and women, but often goes untreated because society has given it a negative connotation.

It is unfortunate that depression remains one of the only common conditions that the general population does not treat as an illness. One analogy is that depression is likened to diabetes. It is a lifelong disease that cannot be cured, but can be treated. Other than a biological or genetic difference, those that suffer from depression are no different from their peers.

While appropriate and helpful treatment does exist here at Allegheny, its potential is often left untapped. We would hope that students, faculty, and administration alike would rise above the prevailing myths and stereotypes to learn more about the symptoms, effects, and treatment of depression.

All editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial Board.

Options Abound for Interdisciplinary Minors



David Miller

Why Consider an Interdisciplinary Minor?

Since pre-registration is almost upon us, it's a good time to remind students and advisors of the various interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary minors available at Allegheny in the form of the Interdisciplinary Studies division.

You can check out these offerings on Allegheny's web-page in the section entitled *Academics*—listed just under majors.

Interdisciplinary minors include American Studies, Health Studies, Black Studies, Gay and Lesbian Studies, and Art and the Environment. Multidisciplinary minors include Caribbean and Latin American Studies, Media Studies and Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

Interdisciplinary minors are organized around a "synthesis" course, generally taken in the junior year, to help students think more rigorously and systematically about how to integrate courses from different disciplines. Such courses may attempt to build bridges between the sciences and the humanities by applying theory and methodology. They may offer connections with experiential learning, and they may place issues in an historical or environmentalist perspective.

Multidisciplinary courses simply offer students the opportunity to put together courses in similar topic areas in order to develop a broader basis for understanding. In either case, these "special" minors offer an important supplement to Allegheny's traditionally robust majors, the opportunity to place their areas of expertise within broader perspectives.

Though they have been around for several years now, the special minors still enroll relatively few students. Whether or not they are even aware of the existence of these "liberal arts" offerings, it is clear that many students at the College still have little sense of why they should be interested in pursuing them.

To put it quite simply, we now live in an increasingly interdisciplinary world. An article in

the academic journal *Liberal Education* (Summer 1998), recently sent to some faculty by Dean Michaels makes it clear that American higher education is in the midst of a full-fledged "paradigm shift": "For most of this century, the dominant trend in higher education was the growth of specialization and the proliferation of programs and courses. At present, we are in the midst of a historic reversal of this trend, and interdisciplinarity is at the heart of it."

Transcending the narrow focus of the various disciplines has always been one of the distinguishing goals of liberal arts institutions like Allegheny. But all too often the cliché of being "well-rounded" has offered itself as a substitute for hard-nosed exchange about what this really means and what its practical benefits actually are.

Recently, "synthesis" has become a buzz-word across a wide range of social and cultural contexts. Images of "coherence and connection, collaboration and community, clustering and linking, interrelation and integration" have begun to dominate course design and the curriculum at all kinds of institutions of higher learning.

Much of the pressure to do so has come from the increasingly global post-industrial market-place and from the intensifying demands of citizenship in a society faced with deepening environmental crisis and informational overload.

Expertise, the technocratic response to modernization, led at the end of the 19th century to the emergence of the modern university, with its distinct departmental boundaries. However, it is now seen by many employers and admissions boards of graduate and professional schools to fall far short of adequately preparing students to deal with the amazingly complex and multi-faceted issues that face society at the outset of the 21st century.

Medical schools for instance have begun favoring liberal arts graduates over those who have fulfilled science prerequisites to the detriment of perspectives in the humanities and social sciences.

After all, successful doctoring in today's world more than ever involves social skills, humanitarian concerns, the capacity to understand and work within an increasingly conflict-ridden system of health care, and the ability to negotiate the wilderness of information and competing approaches which make up the field. How one relates to one's

patients may play as much of a role in the success of treatment as proper diagnosis and prescription.

Without the power to see things in the broadest perspective, to join an expanding conversation among a wide array of disciplines, experts may be woefully out of touch with what is happening in their professions. The same is true in business—where CEOs are anxious to hire employees who are worldly, resourceful, and broad-minded—and many fields in graduate school.

In my own field, English, enterprising graduate students—the ones most likely to get jobs in academia—place literature in complicated theoretical, historical, and even anthropological contexts.

The rising interest in service and other forms of experiential learning is not just a fad but emerges from the realization that hands-on experience and practical know-how is simply the other side of the coin from interdisciplinarity. Finally, social critics have been upping the ante in recent years by challenging positivistic and technocratic thinking about "progress."

Efforts to imbue participatory democracy in America with new vitality go hand in hand with education that insists that students see their education as more than simply a detached academic exercise, as something that will prepare them not only for success in the system but give them the wherewithal to reshape the system to meet head-on the ecological and cultural crisis we currently face.

Obviously, interdisciplinarity is not for everyone. To do it right involves a fundamental reorientation of the learning process. What we learn cannot be thought of as so many beads on a string or neat packages or compartments. Rather it must be imagined more like a snowball rolling down a hill, where the new material takes its place in relation to everything that went before it.

In such a model, consciousness emerges as an intrinsic aspect of the object of study; what we examine cannot be isolated from who we are and how we see the world. If this sounds like your sort of thing, then I urge you to consider undertaking an interdisciplinary minor. It may indeed wind up transforming your education, your sense of purpose in the world and your ultimate potential not only to succeed in life, but to make a material difference to society.

David Miller is an Associate Professor of English.

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All questions concerning the above policy should be directed to the Reader Advocate.

The Last Page

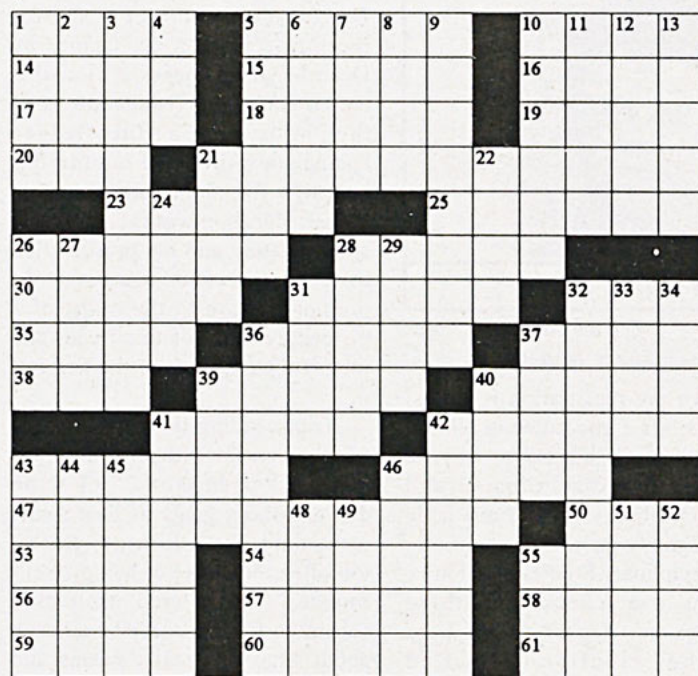
Crossword 101

"Jockeying For Position"

By Ed Canty

- ACROSS**
- 1 First, for one
 - 5 Lean Jack
 - 10 Morsels
 - 14 Sore
 - 15 Swap
 - 16 Use a blue pencil
 - 17 Natural soother
 - 18 Part of HRE
 - 19 Pond growth
 - 20 Take to court
 - 21 Shock jock
 - 23 Eight ___ a milking
 - 25 Slurred over
 - 26 Expire
 - 28 Earn
 - 30 George & Louise
 - 31 Sang like a crow
 - 32 Jelly container
 - 35 Dec. 24 & 31
 - 36 More scarce
 - 37 Veep
 - 38 Calendar abbr.
 - 39 More dry
 - 40 Italian city
 - 41 Acts
 - 42 Billowed
 - 43 Body organ
 - 46 Light wood
 - 47 Disc Jockey
 - 50 Calendar abbr.
 - 53 Jai ___
 - 54 Effect's cousin
 - 55 Ali ___
 - 56 News magazine
 - 57 Feature
 - 58 Particle
 - 59 Hang glide
 - 60 Puts together in time
 - 61 Shakespearean you

- DOWN**
- 1 Barnyard sounds
 - 2 First amendment grp.
 - 3 Jockey Eddie ___
 - 4 Needle part



- 5 Marched
- 6 Ski tips
- 7 Hindu deity
- 8 Shevat follower
- 9 Soror
- 10 1983 Michael Jackson hit
- 11 Stagnated
- 12 Buenos Aires suburb
- 13 Get up
- 21 Great the villain
- 22 Slithered
- 24 Copies
- 26 Gram. school
- 27 Molten rocks
- 28 Horse moms
- 29 Pitcher
- 31 Ace, for one
- 32 Jet Jock
- 33 Thomas ___, British composer
- 34 Study
- 36 Makes law again
- 37 Beefeater et al
- 39 Appear
- 40 Scientist Jonas
- 41 Opposer
- 42 Aspects
- 43 Scarec flies
- 44 40 down's conquest
- 45 Peruvian transport
- 46 Nuts-and-bolts
- 48 Without any
- 49 John, in Pamplona
- 51 Double-reed instrument
- 52 Title
- 55 Belfry resident



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personals and
candy bars to
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Classifieds

Personals

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Personals

Congratulations Sneffy. You're in the Army now, make us Americans proud.

Its my birthday!! Get excited.

Jenn would like to say just one thing, you forgetful bastards. Like she needs this.

I am WYNONNA. Hear me roar.

Melanie is a sexy bitch. Thanks for the the letter.

It is after 5 ;)

Role playing is fun! (riiight...)

not all at one, you know, individually.

happy birthday al!

remember that time i spilt the beer...? that was awesome.

DE-COMPED!!!

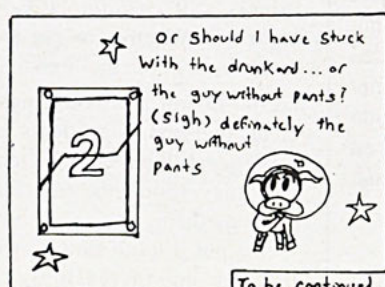
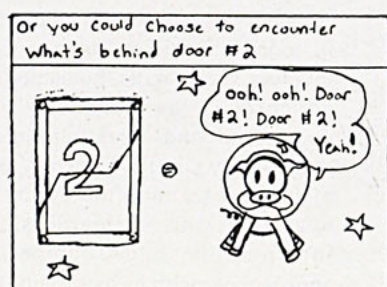
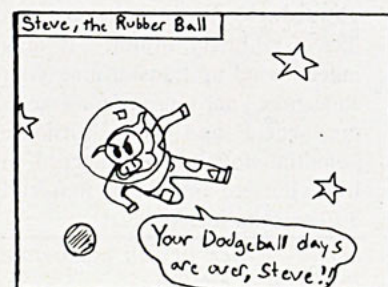
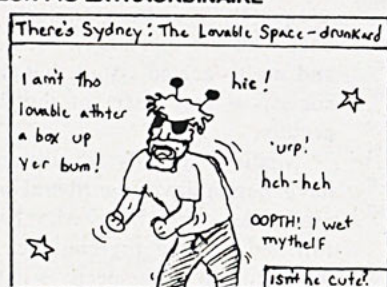
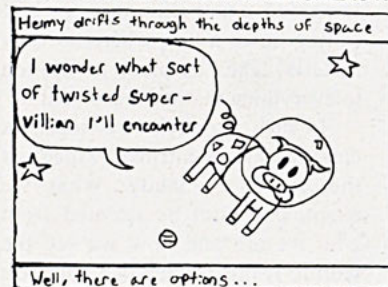
exxon has the greatest beverages! don't go to BP—british bullshit!

Can we just get to the Best Film of the year already? The Oscars are sooo long!

Cheers to Carly for new beginnings and happy times!

By GFR Associates E-Mail: EDC9432@aol.com
Mail: GFR, P.O. Box 461, Schenectady, NY 12301

HEIMY SCHMENDRICK: INTERGALACTIC NEON PIG EXTRAORDINAIRE



By Jeff Heller

HABITAT

from page 5

required to pay a \$10 registration fee by April 7. Registration forms and pledge sheets are available throughout Meadville.

According to Walpole, Habitat is quite far from reaching it's \$35,000-40,000 goal.

"If you had asked us at the beginning of last year, we would have told you that we can raise [the money] that we were looking for in two years," he said. "We haven't contacted alumni yet, but we're very far from \$17,000 right now."

Unfortunately, for the group, student participation around campus is fairly low.

"Our projects have been going well, when we've had them," said Walpole. "We started out with a great group of volunteers, but we're seeing that group dwindle. It may be that we lost some momentum after break, when we didn't have many projects that could be completed in the cold weather. Some people find it difficult to wake up on Saturday mornings too."

Anyone interested in joining Habitat for Humanity is invited to attend the group's weekly meeting held on Thursday nights at 7 in the Student Activities room.

"We also have an e-mail list that we use to notify our members of projects," said Walpole. "To get on our e-mail list, write to <habitat> or to our secretary, Krista Igou, <igouk>."

It's always tease, tease, tease. You're happy when I'm on my knees. One day it's fine, the next it's black...

**You want the TRUTH?
You can't HANDLE the TRUTH.**

Inside The Compost you will find delight after delight, my dear children. Tiptoe through the tulips...

since 1965
Vol.uminous, aren't we?

Happy April Fool's
Day!

The Compost of Agony College

"A bad newspaper is
a joy forever."
—Mark Twain

Agony Declares War On Canada

By ZEN MIDGET
Bahama Mama

Up on the hill at fair Agony, administration is chortling delightedly over a recent development. Agony has declared war on Canada, according to a mass e-mail sent to the student body from President N. Richard Bonaparte's office yesterday afternoon.

Bonaparte, whose administration stands behind him in what they term his "boldest gesture" yet, spoke with *The Compost* regarding this decision.

"Agony is quite prepared for this," he said. "We've been hiking up tuition and lowering the quality of services around here for years, in order to build up our nuclear weapons arsenal."

Stunned, this reporter could only shake her head. Looks like we missed a rather large story. We just figured they needed to pay the faculty more.

The faculty apparently thought so too. "I'm royally pissed," said Professor Mohatma Gandhi. "I thought I'd finally be able to stop living on macaroni and cheese."

The Compost pressed Bonaparte for further information, asking him where the arsenal is located. "Oh, in Caflisch," he replied. "Why in the world else would we not remodel that godawful place? It served us well; nobody really knows how to get around in there, so hiding our nuclear weapons was relatively simple."

Oliver Twist, a resident of Caflisch, said he wasn't overly surprised. "This place is a pit," he said. "I guess it makes sense that they're using it to house weapons of mass destruction."

Other students questioned expressed disgust. "Whatever," snorted sophomore Cher Horowitz. "I'm transferring to Slimy

Pebble anyway; this place sucks."

Dean of the College Number Two said he supports Bonaparte's decision to invade the frozen north. "What the hell else are we going to do with all the history majors?" he asked (see article, below right). "They'll be our scouts."

Two was enthusiastic about the College's preparedness for such a large venture. "Wait til you hear this, you idiot," he giggled to this reporter. "The Wise Center is a huge Transformer and when we need it, it'll stand up and walk to Canada and spray poisonous gas for a 500-mile radius."

Two continued, "Once we have Canada on its knees, we'll be able to build more pseudogyms and pseudo-dorms, and then we'll take over the United States. Muahaha."

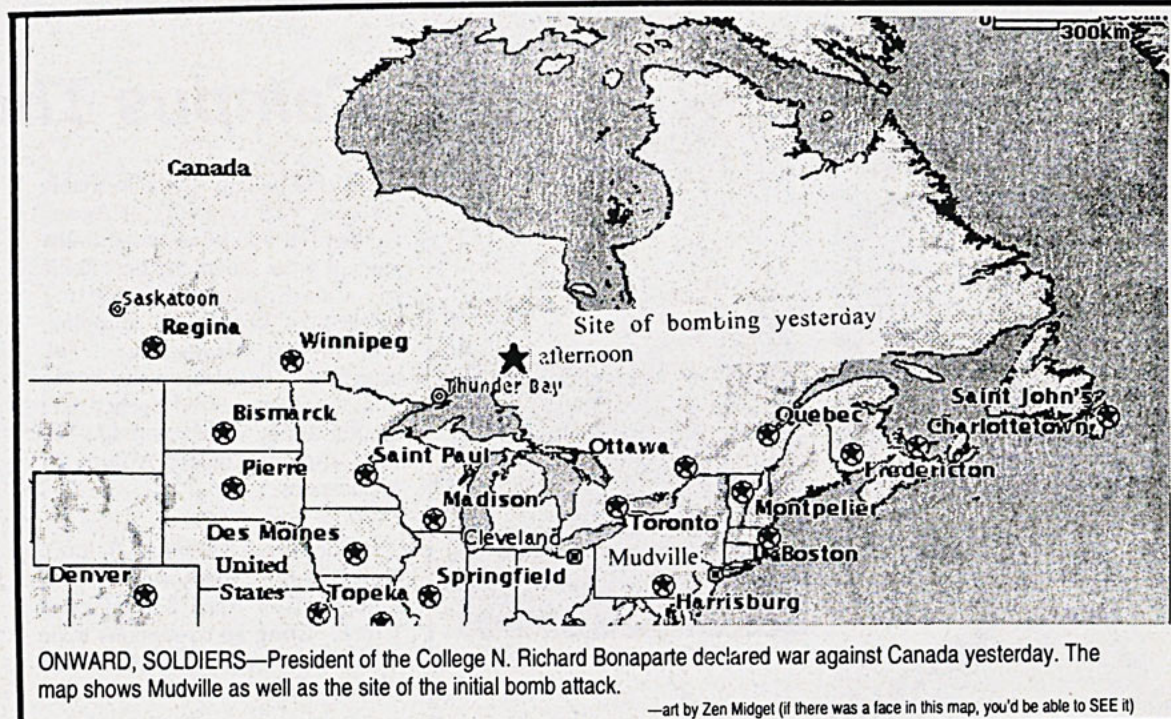
An official college bean-counter explained the rationale behind the upcoming Nuking of the North. "We'd really like some more money," he said. "Stuff's getting expensive, you know? This college is leaking money like a drippy enchilada leaks whatever the hell is in enchiladas. Anyway they have a lot of money in Canada."

Caflisch resident Ben Scrooge, when questioned about whether he ever suspected any doomsday plans on the part of the administration, told *The Compost* to bug off.

"You people are such dorks," he said. "I never read your stupid paper and neither do any of my friends."

We here at *The Compost* wish Scrooge and his friends the best of luck in the coming nuclear winter.

—seek and ye shall find—



United Kingdom Does Not Exist

By SLOB BITCHIN'
Soul Brothah #1

In a surprise announcement, Allegheny College's History department ended a long-standing hoax last Thursday, when they revealed the complete nonexistence of the United Kingdom.

"It's true, we basically made it all up," admitted professor Carlos Santana. "I don't know, I guess it just started off as a gag, but it got out of hand."

The revelation comes as a shock to many groups on campus, most directly those students pursuing degrees in "English" history.

According to Santana, the elaborate hoax began as a practical joke more than a decade ago.

"Me and some of the guys from the department...[history professors Lucky] Southern and [Roger] Ottoman were there, I think...were down at Otter's, tossing back a few. Well, we got to talking about the student body, and how it'd just

be a riot to put one over on them, and before anyone knew it, things had just developed into this massive creation."

Professor Southern is on sabbatical, and was unavailable for comment.

Ottoman refuted Santana's explanation, adding, "it took us something like a week to come up with all the stuff. I've got a brother in the publishing business who owed me a favor, so we sent him this big list of dates and [expletive deleted] and just told him to go nuts."

Unfortunately for the pranksters, the practical joke received a more positive reception than expected. Students rushed to sign up for the new "English" history course. Rather than end the facade, though, the professors decided to carry it farther.

"Well, students were reacting with such enthusiasm, we thought it might be fun to stick with it, just for a little while longer," said professor Patsy Drizzle. "But at the

moment, we were only teaching one of the joke classes, and it was just the history of "England". We decided that if we wanted this "country" to be believable, we'd need to integrate its history with that of the real world."

Because of this, professor Drizzle proceeded to fabricate what we now call "The American Revolution."

"It seemed so simple," Drizzle continued. "Why not integrate this 'England' into our own American history? All we had to do was say that our 'war' happened so far back in history that no one could really dispute the matter." The late 1700s were settled upon as a sufficiently distant period, and the ruse continued.

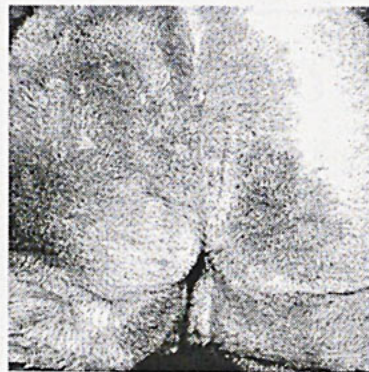
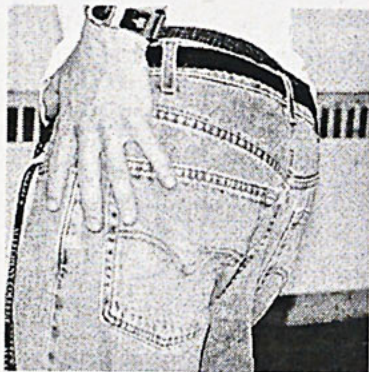
Other professors soon began to follow Drizzle's lead. "Patsy's idea of a fake war was right on the money," agreed Santana, "so I developed one of my own. My area of interest is French history, so I decided to concoct this 'long-standing rivalry' between

The Compost is a satirical supplement to *The Campus* published once yearly. Opinions expressed in *The Compost* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The Campus*. This stuff is not true; it's intended solely for chuckles. It's all in fun and we hope you enjoy it. —*The Campus* staff

The Compost Ass

compiled by Jail Peapod

Can you identify this Agony booty?



Shady Shit

•Your Mama was seen leaving my house at six a.m. this morning. Sources say Your Mama looked "messed UP, but satisfied." Your Mama could not be reached for comment.

•A suspicious individual was seen lurking in the trees outside Ravine Hall Tuesday evening. Security has no leads, but they think it was probably one of the fresh-meat students they thought had transferred after the first semester. "She probably just got lost trying to find that damn place," a Security officer commented.

•Pelletier Library was robbed yesterday in what was apparently some sort of twisted, warped prank. All of the library's books—35 total—were stolen between the hours of 3 and 5 a.m. Security has no leads, but they did say that they think it was probably a comping senior gone berserk.

•Security reported a minor conflagration in Brooks Hall Wednesday, stating, "the roof, the roof, the roof is on fire." Individuals sent to extinguish the blaze claimed no need for water to combat the alleged fire.

•A student living off-campus was shocked yesterday when he returned home from class to find his humble abode little more than a pile of dust. Bats circled overhead. Local authorities report that the house spontaneously combusted.

•That darn TV is still missing from Brooks Hall. Security has no leads but they're considering the possibility that the ghosts took it.

•A student asking to remain unidentified told *The Compost* that she indeed did "want scrubs," stating, "a scrub is a man who could likely get a more than moderate amount of love from me."

Campus Thongs

•A scholarship is now available for next year's seniors at Agony College. It will be awarded to the student who shows the best skills in video games, wrestling techniques, beer pong, shopping, and Instant Messaging. The money will be used toward books that should never be opened and quarter drafts while comping. See the Office of Student Affairs for applications.

•The Environmental Science Department is sponsoring a Toxic Dump-off on April 22 at French Creek. Bring all extraneous toxic waste and recyclables to be disposed of at the Creek.

•BitchFest 2000 is scheduled to be held on Friday, April 7 for all student interest group whiners. If you or your group would like to attend, please show no consideration for anyone else.

•ACCEL will be offering a "Get Yo' Own Damn Job" day Monday, April 10 at 3 a.m. Come to the office of Career Services, but no one will be there to assist you.

•A co-ed naked dance-off will be held this Saturday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Wise Center Dance Studio. Use of mirrors is mandatory, and acrobats are welcome. Proceeds go toward next year's Orgasm Dance Co. performance.

•The Caffeine Haven is now serving new beverages. They include the "Mochaholic," "Java Buzz" and "Kahlua Creamers." Must be consumed while playing such games as "Shoulders," "Asshole," "Crazy Eights," and "I Never." Agony ID required.

•Mariott Dining Services will be offering six new tasty treats in April. Entrees will include Mouse Spleen Suckotash, Toenail Clipping Quiche, Belly Button Lint Bullion, Chicken Gizzard Nuggets, Monkey Meatballs, Greasy Pork Sandwiches Served in a Dirty Ash Tray. Please come to Brooks, Schultz or McKinley's for the tasty entrees, and the Mariott Servers will be wearing nothing but hairnets and flip-flops.

•Professors from all departments announced a threat to go on strike if they have to read one more comp this semester. All students have been advised to discontinue comp writing until further notice. Negotiations are pending.

•New students Dave Matthews, Courtney Thorne Smith and Brittney Spears will matriculate next fall. The College plans to pay for luxury housing for the three by hiking tuition another 20 percent. Notices to all parents will be in the mail along with billing statements.

•Mindjo Bidness, an Ebonics Professor from Indahood Tech, will be speaking at Ford Chapel Wednesday, April 3 at 8:00 p.m. The title of his talk will be "D's Be My Jam," and will cover inner city music and fashion.

•The Compost will be getting laid every Wednesday night from now until the end of the year. All those sexy enough and interested in participating, please stop by the News room.

The Compost Dorks & How To Avoid Them

Bahama Mama: Zen Midget
Soul Brothah #1: Slob Bitchin

Propaganda Mismanager: MIA

News Spreaders: Earnest Earwig,
Klueless Hardsuck
Loser: Lame Fosterchild
Lost in Wisconsin: In Rehab
Sorpts Editor: Chuck Wagon
Pornography Editor: The Rock

No, we don't want your number.
No, we don't wanna give you ours.
No, we don't wanna meet you nowhere...
The Bahama Mama and Soul Brothah have
LIVES, and do not EVER hold office hours

Spleenless Gimp: Slammin' Hardballs
Purple Butterfly: Giovanni Paulo Macaroni
Cosmetic Consultant: Ketchup Stain
Ass Editors: Scabby Hooligan, Zadermeister, Turn Pike
Assistant Sorpts Editor: Brick House
Assistant Pornography Editor: many positions available
Capitalist Pig-Dog: Heidi And Seek
Flunky Manual Laborer: Lame Fosterchild

Speditorial Bored:

Ross, Rachel, Monica, Chandler, Joey, Phoebe, Linus,
Lucy, Charlie, Snoopy, Sally & The Little Red-Haired Girl

Amphetamine Delirium:

Rainbow Brite, Xena, Dr. Quinn: Medicine Woman, Papa
Smurf, The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, God, The
Devil & Bob

To place an advertisement or classified ad, call yo
mama. We don't wanna hear about it.

If you see any of these people around campus, promptly
spit on them. No one will blame you.

Hey you...

Lookin' good. No, really, baby. You're beautiful. You should really write for The Compost. There, you will find other dead sexy kids, and experience the freedom of getting laid together every Wednesday night.

SPEDITORIAL

We've Soiled Ourselves

A truly amazing event has transpired, and we here at *The Compost* are still shifting uncomfortably in our seats, because we've wet ourselves. What, you might ask, is so incredible?

You might guess it was the fact that Agony has declared war on Canada. That's certainly incredible, and we'd just like to say that we would really rather they remodeled some of the dorms or bought some new carpet or something. Or, hey, how about some books for the library? Or non-hockey-puck cookies?

But anyway. You might also guess that the incredible event is the discovery that history majors are in for some long, cold, hungry winters. That's pretty unbelievable too, although we kind of saw it coming.

And it's also not the fact that Agony is the proud owner of its very own Drunk Bus, although we think that's great. We wonder why our student leaders thought it was so necessary, though. Hmmm.

No, the incredible event is simply this: the editorial you are reading right now was typed on something called a "computer." We at *The Compost* are not used to such modern luxuries, and we're still quivering with excitement. We quivered for a day or two when we first got the "computers," and only recently were we able to remain calm enough to actually turn them on.

Although we're very good at turning things on. See Quasimodo's letter, right.

These "computers" will benefit you as well, loyal reader. How, you ask? Pages will no longer be stained with the blood of section editors who, while cutting with Exacto-knives, often slice off fingers and sometimes entire limbs.

It has been a long and bloody struggle, dear readers, but now at last we stand at the mountain's peak and gaze down triumphantly at the twisting trail of tribulations that we have traveled. And with us always, from now until eternity, are those beautiful machines you call "computers."

While you march on Canada, we think we're just going to hang out here and work on our monitor-tans. It truly is a wonderful world.

All speditorials represent a sudden urge to whine about something that really melts our butter.

The Compost welcomes nothing from you, peasant. We reserve the right to reject anything, because unbeknownst to you, but knownst to us, we are the hippest kids in town. We reserve the Jacuzzi suites at the Holiday Inn for Zen Midget's birthday. Opinions expressed in Letters to the Speditor are generally as trite and inane as the people who wrote them. The deadline for submission of letters is 4:13 am. Eeediots who fail to meet this deadline will have their limbs removed with an Exacto-knife and will be locked in one of our file cabinets until we get a little R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

All questions concerning the above policy will be shoved directly up your ass, making you pleasantly uncomfortable.

THE
COMPOST
CHEER
By
Howsur
Chapstick

RAH! RAH! REE!



KICK 'EM IN
THE KNEE!

RAH! RAH! RASS!



KICK 'EM IN THE
OTHER KNEE!

Whining to the Speditor

I'm Too Sexy for This Paper

I am writing to address an issue that has made me very sad. I was walking past *The Compost* newsroom the other day and I was lonely and looking for companionship. So I looked inside and I was utterly shocked.

My fellow Agonians, you would not believe how sexy those people are. It's like some kind of strange alternate universe where physical perfection is nothing unusual. I couldn't take my eyes off them. Taken by their beauty, I asked if I could become—someday, if I worked

hard and proved myself worthy—a member of the staff, and perhaps Zen Midget's personal love slave.

Miss Midget responded scornfully to my pleas, and I was chased from the room by a pack of newsies brandishing Exacto-knives. I was told that I am not nearly sexy enough to write for *The Compost*.

I ask you, is this fair? Where does the madness end?

And I would also like to say that I'm not a horrifically repulsive person. I mean, how sexy do

you have to be to write for *The Compost*? I realize that their current staff holds itself to extremely high standards of sexiness, and I must say I admire them for it. I just wish they would share their glory and splendor with the rest of us. Please, beautiful newsies, let me into your mystical inner circle.

QUASIMODO
Sophomore

Editor's Note:

Boo Hoo. Cry me a river. —ZM

Like, Sorority Life is Really Hard Work

I want this to be taken like really seriously. Okay, so here's what's up. We really, or maybe I should say like you all, really, should like really start to take something for real. Like, sororities are really important. Like without sororities, this campus would just about fall apart. Sorority girls are practically holding this place together. So you all should realize that the life of a sorority girl is really much harder than most.

Cause we have to be everywhere. Chapter meetings, formals, parties, rush, run-out, pin-nings. Um, hello? And they expect us to have like really high GPAs, so when the hell am I supposed to find time to make my hallway obstructions - oops! I mean Li'l Sis decorations AND study? The whole point system is in place to make sure the sisters are not like letting other things take precedence in their lives, so people should really realize that we have obligations.

Not to mention a reputation. It's really important to wear your sorority's paraphernalia so that your fellow peers can identify you as belonging. Like Gotta Drinka Lotta is my sorority, and that's basically who I am. It's like a distinction that people know you and what you're all about, just by wearing three let-

ters. It's like amazing!!! But there's more to it than that. Like we dress up, too, for formal chapter. And that's a distinction because we want people to know that we are like serious about appearing sophisticated. Like, we're more than just drinking and parties. We can balance our work and still look good. And looking the part gets you internships. And that's what we're going for.

But I'm not saying like other people on campus don't have priorities, too, just because they're not in a sorority. I know everybody has work and commitments but the thing is, though, there is a lot of added pressure on sorority girls to date frat boys, and that is like an added variable. Like you have to know who's who and the shadiness factor is constantly shifting from one frat to another, so my sisters have to be really careful so we don't date someone from the sketchball chapter that month. Do you know what I mean?

I guess that's what's sort of a problem for me right now, because I'm sort of like seeing a frat boy—I know what you're thinking, like are you dating him or what because I "see" a ton of people everyday—(okay, so I guess we're like sort of dating to

answer your question or whatever), but he's kind of not the boy you'd bring home to meet Mommy and Daddy. Like he drinks a lot. Like a lot. Like we're talking beer bong every other weekend. And he studies, but he cuts a lot of corners. But, whatever. Usually, though, when I go visit him at his frat house, he's too busy smoking up, wanking off, or watching pornos to notice that I'm there. And I'm not sure if he really knows my name, just that I'm a GDL girl and that I'm really really smart in Physics. But whenever he's stoned, he gets this really dreamy look like "what the hell is going on here," kind of like the far-off gaze of all the centerfolds in the Abercrombie and Fitch catalogues, and that just makes me melt. So, I guess we're still together.

So you can see that sororities are a lot more stress than most people think. Like do you believe I have to deal with all of this on a daily basis? But at least I have my sisters to support me. Who totally know what I'm going through and who will always be there for me. Just as long as I like pay my dues.

Ketchup Stain is Cosmetic Consultant for Pectpersives

Agony Students Get In Touch With Dead

By SLOB BITCHIN'
Soul Brothah #1

Due to difficulties in scheduling a live act to perform this semester, the ever-vigilant members of GAP have turned to a low-cost alternative: the dead.

"It's surprising that no past GAP administrations have thought of this before," said spokesperson Fran Drescher. "I mean, the dead are cheap, they're always

available, and they're plentiful. There are literally a million times more dead acts out there today than live ones."

Efforts have already begun to find dead performers that will appeal to the student body.

"Right now, we're considering Beethoven, Shakespeare, and that Bob Ross guy from PBS," said Drescher. "We'll also be sending out a student questionnaire over

email to find out which dead people students would like to see on campus."

This initiative marks a historic landmark in the college's policy of diversity. Over the past years, Agony College's enrollment rates of minority students have grown, a fact that some attribute to an expanded activities list during such events as "Celebrate Asia!" month, and to such organizations as Union Flatula.

With GAP's bold enlistment of dead performers, Agony now ends its decade-spanning prejudice against those persons of non-participational lifestyles, and extends the hand of acceptance to dead citizens worldwide.

Dean of Students Dean O'Stoodentz strongly supports bringing the dead to campus. "The majority of live students at Agony typically do not consider the tastes of their deceased classmates when bringing activities to the college," said O'Stoodentz. "Even worse, many do not attend the few pre-dead events that are scheduled."

As examples of this apparent

indifference, O'Stoodentz cited the poor turnout for last year's Coff-in to raise money for the Meadville cemetery, as well as the lack of interest in Crossroads' "Last Meals" theme day.

Student and faculty support has been largely positive. "In this world of the living, it's easy to forget our dead brothers and sisters," said Professor Jimmy "Fastball" Rodriguez of the Music Department. "I've been teaching the music of the dead for years, and all I have to say is, it's about time they get some recognition."

But GAP's plan is not without its setbacks. One performer originally set to visit Agony was comedian John Belushi (deceased). Belushi broke off his engagement, however, upon learning of Agony's reputation as an "Animal House."

A spokesperson for Belushi told reporters for The Campus, "If John had caught wind of that, he would have done a spit-take, possibly spraying cheap whiskey through his nose, and screaming and heaving bottles around. Mr. Belushi would not attend such a

depraved institution. Well, if he were alive."

Overall, though, the GAP program is meeting with positive results. Drescher says she speaks for GAP when expressing optimism for the venture. "All that remains to be done is to find some available dead acts and schedule them," she said.

Some word of the dead coming to Agony has already leaked out. Last week, an enthusiastic crowd bedecked in tie-dyes and sandals hosted a marathon hacky sack session in front of the campus center, in support of GAP's initiative in bringing the dead to campus.

The group was gently but firmly informed of the error in their understanding, at which point they dispersed.

Drescher cautioned the student body to stay realistic in its hopes for seeing favorite dead performers like Janis Joplin or Kurt Cobain, however. "We don't want to count our chickens before they're hatched," she said. "After all, these people are dead."

Drunk Bus Makes New Pitt Stops

SLAMMIN' HARDBALLS
The Spleenless Gimp

The Agony Student Government's (ASG) Drunk Bus directors have, in response to student demand, added two new convenient stops. Now, Drunk Bus drivers will allow passengers to take vomit and pee breaks during their journey.

Beginning this weekend, the new puke station is located on West College Street, the front lawn of Mr. Mean Eyebrow, the campus' angry man and president of Against Agony College (AA).

"This will just give Eyebrow something else to bring up at those pointless AA meetings," said ASG President, Dick Tator.

"I am very excited about the new heave stop," said senior Gin N. Tonic, avid bar goer. "Now not only can I puke and go back to the bars in one trip, but I can also piss off the Mean Eyebrow in the process!"

Passengers will also be able to take advantage of the pee station, which is right outside of the Twigs' fraternity house, where the bushes can conceal indecently exposed parts. The exact piece of grass that the Drunk Bus passengers wish to fertilize is up to the individual.

"Hopefully this will help us grow some flowers in the yard," said Twig president, Perfect Genital-man, "and this may encourage more to come to our lame-o dance parties."

The idea for more stops stems from a slew of past incidents of accidents on the Drunk Bus.

"Last Friday I had to drive around the whole night with the awful puke smell," said Drunk Bus driver, Meat Loaf. "The stench haunted me for days..."

His passengers included Tonic and his housemate, Jack-off Smirnoff, who was celebrating his 21st birthday last Friday. "After the first 18 shots, it was nothing," said Smirnoff. "I didn't even feel the last three, until the ride home, then everyone felt it."

The pee stop was advised by many students to include in the Drunk Bus's trips.

"Like thank goodness I had grabbed extra napkins at the bar to soak up the emergency I had on the bus," said junior Drippy Wetstockings.

"I'm really thrilled about the new stops," said President of Agony College, Eilean Wright. "Last time I rode the bus back from the bars, the damn thing wouldn't stop anywhere for a pee break. I had to sit with my legs crossed the whole time."

CANADA from some other place

"England" and France."

Added Santana, "after all, who really goes to France, anyway? How could they disprove it?" He then went on to snicker noisily, and asked to be excused.

And so the hoax continued. As the popularity of "England" grew, it began to spread to other colleges, along with the faculty-shared truth. "English" history courses were being taught across America, by educators with tongue firmly in cheek.

"It had become an enormous industry, and it was unstoppable," said professor Samuel Katz, who teaches several "English" history courses here at Allegheny. "This was like nothing before. I've been around for centuries, so I should know. This was even bigger than when they came up with 'Environmental Science.'"

Katz concluded by stating, "I am the Highlander. I am Immortal. There can be only one."

What impact does this revelation have on Allegheny students? Ottoman told reporters, "well, in the past, we would always take all

the History majors aside upon graduation and let them in on the truth." When asked if this policy had ever compromised the security of the scam, Ottoman replied, "Of course not. As you can guess, this is an industry that produces a great deal of money. It's relatively simple to accommodate these students in well-off, out-of-the-way areas, once we have confirmed their silence."

When questioned about those students whose confidence cannot be secured, Ottoman declined comment. He further refused statement

when questioned as to the validity of rumors regarding the origin of McKinley's new chicken tenders.

The scandal does not affect History students alone. Upon being faced with the truth professors in other departments admitted their own complicity.

"It seemed harmless enough," answered professor and former dean J. Z. Baldman. "I think the attitude was, 'why not have some fun with the students?'"

Baldman is known on campus for classes on the "English" playwright, William Shakespeare. In interview, he admitted that he got the name "William Shakespeare" from a low-budget 70s science-fiction film.

"I think I saw it on the late-night creature feature," said Baldman. "It was called 'Night of the Willie Shaker' or something. There were these frog-looking guys, and they wanted our women or something. Crazy-ness!"

Several "English" foreign exchange students have also acknowledged the falsity of their supposed country of origin, once presented with the truth.

"I knew it couldn't last" replied exchange student William Critchfield, whose real name is Francis LeRoux. LeRoux is in actuality a Canadian, and was approached by college officials about the matter. "This guy named Mike Lloyd called one day, and asked if I'd be interested. They were offering a lot of money, so I accepted it. I didn't know what a big operation it was, eh?"

As a Canadian, LeRoux was familiar with the "England" myth.

"Up until a couple years ago, we thought it was true too, but the government finally leveled with us. I think it was the socialized health care that broke 'em down."

Fellow "English" student Pip Carpenterson concurred with LeRoux' story. "They made us watch 'Trainspotting,' and all these 'Monty Python' reruns, until they thought we were ready."

"It turns out that Monty Python is actually Australian," said Carpenterson (in reality, Gustav Lederhosen). "Who knew?"

This cruel lie is sure to have severe consequences for the Allegheny student body. Said one student, "I just finished a comp on Queen Elizabeth II, and it turns out she doesn't even exist. How am I supposed to get a job now?" Other students express similar concerns about the so-called "knowledge" that they have paid tuition to acquire.

The revelation has caused many students to express concern about other possibly fictional departments on campus. "Dude, my roommate takes all these Comm Arts classes, but, like, I never see him actually do any work."

[Editor's note: the nonexistence of the Comm Arts department has actually been acknowledged by the department itself for some twenty years now.]

As concerns grow, blame for the situation returns to the department of history, and the hoax's founders.

"We never meant to hurt anyone," insists Santana. "We were just trying to have some fun."

WHO WANTS TO MAKE OUT?

The Compost wants to know if there are any hot guys or sexy chicks out there who want to make out. Come on, you know you want to make out with someone! Come to the newsroom every Wednesday between 8 and 11 p.m. with your own chapstick. Clothing and toys are not necessary.



Standing outside, our correspondent could no longer remember what color the van was, so he trekked to Loomis Street for a date with St. Paulie's Girl. The hosts were extremely hospitable, and continued to replenish our correspondent's frothy libations. In between refreshments, the residents offered our correspondent little cubes of Jell-O, which he graciously accepted despite their

PUMPS

from way, way, way, far away

BB: Of course you do. Everyone goes on and on about how it's all about politics. I say, "No way! It's all about pretty suits!"

TC: So what was your favorite room in the White House?

BB: My closet.

TC: It's full of pretty suits, I'm assuming.

BB: That's a silly question.

TC: Oh, I'm sorry. So do you always wear pretty suits? Do you have any, say, pretty sweatpants or pretty longjohns?

BB: Oh, of course not. I'm the Queen of Fashion, not some old housewife.

TC: Did you receive a reward when you won the Queen of Fashion title?

BB: Yes, it has my name on it.

TC: Wonderful. So what have you been doing in the last eight years, if you don't mind me asking?

BB: Well, constantly updating my

wardrobe, for one thing. And Georgey and I like to reminisce about the Gulf War on some Thursday evenings.

TC: Why not every Thursday evening?

BB: Oh, you know...

TC: So have you seen any of the recently released productions about the Gulf War?

BB: No, I prefer the theater.

TC: Why the theater?

BB: So I can wear my pretty suits.

TC: Oh, of course. Well, Mrs. B., I'm afraid that we're out of time. I only have one more question...

BB: Sure.

TC: These pearls, do you always wear them?

BB: Always.

TC: Even when you sleep and shower?

BB: You'll have to ask Georgey about that.

I Was Just, You Know...

A column by Jall Peapod (aka Mr. Garden Guy)

Ask Mr. Garden Guy

This here is my very first column. It's a question and answer column that's all about stuff that grows in the ground that us experts like to call plants. Specifically, I'm talking about plants that people plant themselves in gardens, as opposed to bad plants like the dandelion and the milkweed, which are abhorred in gardening circles around the world and even in Antarctica.

The plants that I'm going to discuss in my column are of many varieties, as long as they were placed into the soil by the hard-working hands of American farmers and gardeners. And maybe Canadians. Sometimes these plants are vegetables. Sometimes they are flowers. Sometimes they're tomatoes, which are actually fruit, believe it or not! I'll be providing all sorts of fun plant facts like that one.

Q: My question concerns cucumbers. My girlfriend buys them all the time, but I've never seen her eat one, even when she visits a salad bar. When I ask her about it, she just says it's a "female thing" and I wouldn't understand. It's causing real problems in our relationship. I don't feel like I can trust her if she can't be honest about these cucumbers. What's going on with that, and should I be concerned?

A: Mr. Garden Guy is no real expert on the mystery that is the female mind, although he does know a lot about keeping your average cucumber plant in prime producing condition. But did you ask about that? No. Truly my stunning garden expertise is going to be wasted on you poor saps. Anyway, regarding your girlfriend, I would say that as long as she's not buying zucchini, too, there's probably not a serious problem. At least, that's what my wife has always said when she's buying cucumbers herself, that it's zucchini that really signals trouble.

Q: Potatoes. Why do we cook them?

A: That's a good question. I have often wondered this

myself. All my homeys down at the farm know that raw potato is a peerless taste treat. Nothing beats that starchy deliciousness. Why someone would want to spoil that goodness by cooking a potato -- boiling, frying, what have you -- is really beyond my personal comprehension. Also, eating a medium-sized raw potato every day has been acknowledged as a reliable home remedy for syphilis.

Q: Syphilis?

A: Yessir! And motion sickness, in some instances, although it's sometimes necessary to increase the dosage to a potato and a half to achieve full effectiveness.

Q: Wow. So, what about headaches? Is there anything in the average garden that I can use?

A: Look here. This ain't no home remedy column. But I have heard it told that if you split a good-sized gourd -- preferably one that is slightly under-ripe -- and scoop out the seeds, if you wear that gourd around for a few hours on the top of your skull, your headache might just go away. It might also get worse. Hard to tell without trying it yourself, I suppose.

Q: Is there anything else that a gourd is used for?

A: Not especially, no. Gourd pie was once popular in Puritan circles, but never really caught on with the general public.

Q: Is it true that a cantaloupe was instrumental in the discovery of radium?

A: While that has been a prevalent rumor for some time among cantaloupe aficionados, trustworthy sources tell me that it was actually through experiments involving musk melon that radium was discovered.

Members of Agony's local chapter of the Occult regularly meet in an undisclosed location to practice "what they do." We here at *The Compost*, though, hear that they serve fondue after their weekly engagements. Look for further information concerning the Occult and "what they do" in next week's issue of *The Compost*.

STUMBLE

from that other page

strange aftertaste. The correspondent curiously noted that the more time he spent at the residence and the more Jell-O and drinks that he consumed, the more attracted he was to St. Paulie's Girl.

As difficult as it was to part from her presence, our correspondent knew that a job still needed to be done. He proceeded to a multicultural house, where he was met by a foreign exchange student named Jaromir Jagermeister. Although this host took a little getting used to—a sort of acquired taste, if you will—he quickly put our correspondent at ease. While he must have been tired, for he stumbled through the door and bumped into the kitchen table, our correspondent was intrigued by Jagermeister's uniqueness. In the living room, our correspondent was introduced to José Cuervo,

Jagermeister's roommate. José was strange in that he routinely consumed fermented worms, but our correspondent chalked that experience up to the cultural barrier.

As the night was peaking, and our correspondent vaguely remembers feeling unusually energetic and happy, he decided to visit his classmate Buddence Weiser, known to his friends as Bud. Bud was the stereotypical American, sporting his red and white colors in a rather patriotic fashion. With his smooth greeting, Bud quickly made friends with his guest. It must have been late, however, because another guest of Bud's later remarked at having seen our correspondent talking to a coat rack, and asking it to go home with him.

our correspondent spotted a pizza deliveryman just across the street. Despite his offer to swap one shoe and a pack of gum for the pizza, our correspondent was turned away, left in hunger. After this unsuccessful attempt, our correspondent must have stopped taking notes, for he cannot recall the remainder of his weekend expedition, but vows that he will continue his investigation next weekend.

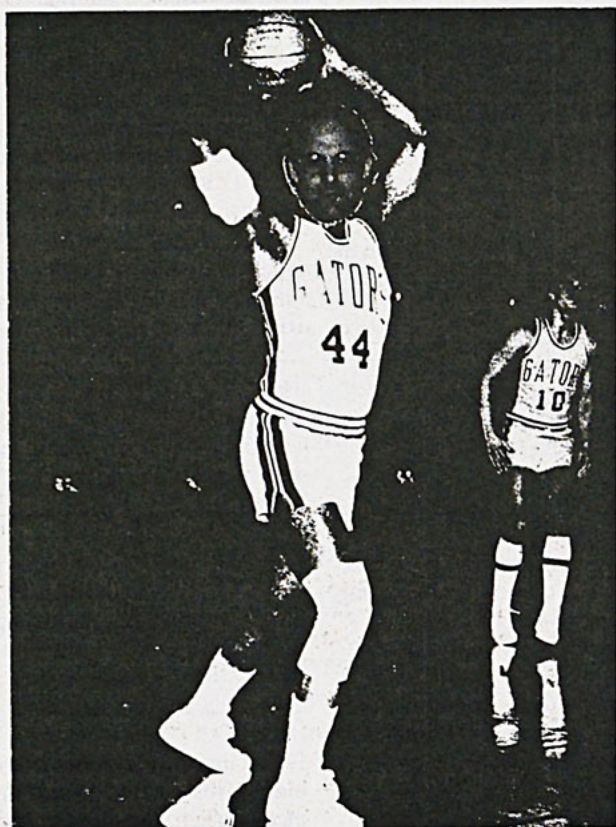
So, Agonians, the opportunities are plentiful, as our correspondent has dutifully discovered. We do offer one tidbit of advice—do not attempt to crush an unusually large can, in the shape of a barrel, on your forehead after consuming its contents. Although it may seem like a good idea at the time, our correspondent's medical records seem to indicate the contrary.



Tricky Dicky Look-a-Like Contest Fridays in the Campus Center



Students Hit the Showers: Majors Go Interdisciplinary



EC-ON THE COURT — Future Agony College Assistant Basketball Coach Tonto Whatsamatter displays his level of hoop-ness.

—photo by SomebodySpecial

By SLOB BITCHIN'
Soul Brothah #1 & Sorpts Dept. Patsy

In keeping with Agony College's new program of departmental integration, several departments on campus announced the inclusion of Physical Education classes within their curriculums.

The decision comes from the high number of faculty members who spend most if not all their time in Wiseguy Fickleness Center.

"It's a fairly common sense decision," said Dean of the College Number Two, who himself will be teaching a tennis class next fall. "Most of these guys are over there most of the time as it is, anyway. Heck, at any given time there's probably a higher faculty-student ratio on the racquetball courts than in, say, Alden Hall."

The Board of Crustees, who emerged from their burrow in the Mudville diamond last month long enough to sign some forms and forecast six more weeks of winter,

has approved the move, which mandates that a sport or physical education class will now be required for each major.

The list is tentative so far, but currently includes a 200-level Basketball course in the economics department, and a 400-level advanced frisbee course in environmental science.

The reasoning for the upper-level nature of the ES frisbee class is that most students in the department are already accomplished in the sport beyond the novice level.

Some students on campus have expressed disappointment with the change, which comes relatively soon after the elimination of the Physical Education requirement. Faculty members, however, are ecstatic.

"This is great!" exhorted Chemistry professor Marky Sparrow. "I've been trying to work on my racquetball game since winter break, but I keep having to hike all the way back to the bio building for this class or that. Now I can really

spend some quality time on my swing."

Professor of economics Tonto Whatsamatter expressed similar enthusiasm, and with good reason: Whatsamatter is being named an assistant coach of Agony College's basketball team next year.

"I guess they just figured, since I spend most of my time on the courts as it is, they may as well hire me," said Whatsamatter. "Cool."

As with any addition to the curriculum, cutbacks are planned for certain departments. Dean Two assured reporters for The Compost that careful consideration is being given to which classes will be cut, however.

"We don't want this sports addition to hurt anyone's liberal arts education," said Two. Administrators and Crustees have therefore decided to eliminate all Introductory classes, Comps in the English and Psychology departments, and Ruter Hall.

Dean Two admitted that the elimination of Ruter was "just for the hell of it."

Six N Sync Swimmers Went Bye, Bye, Bye

Tragedy struck in the Mellon Pool last weekend when the idea of unity was taken too far.

All six members of the synchronized swimming team drowned in a tragic accident. Sophomore Autumn Sandune came down with a cramp in her pinky toe, causing her to attend to the matter underwater.

As she went down, her loyal teammates blindly followed her

lead, and headed for the bottom of the pool. Tragedy ensued.

"They've been trained to follow every movement of the lead swimmer and stay synchronized," said Coach Mark Tyme. "What can I say? Shit happens."

According to Judge Judy, "The team scored a posthumous first place for their outstanding synchronization and long term breathing technique."

"They were under forever," Judy continued. "We didn't realize they had drowned until the bodies started floating."

Parents of the swimmers expressed their sorrow and pride. "I'm so proud of my baby. She was in perfect form when her body appeared. Her dead-man's float was dead on," said Vernal Sandune, Autumn's mother. "She died doing what she loved. She's

backstroking her way to heaven to swim with Jesus now."

In an effort to kill two birds with one stone, Agony College will be holding a combined funeral/awards ceremony to honor the victorious fallen swimmers.

Mourners are asked not to eat for at least an hour prior to the service.

—compiled by the entire Compost staff, with the exception of Chuck Wagon. Mr. Wagon will appear in next week's Obituary.

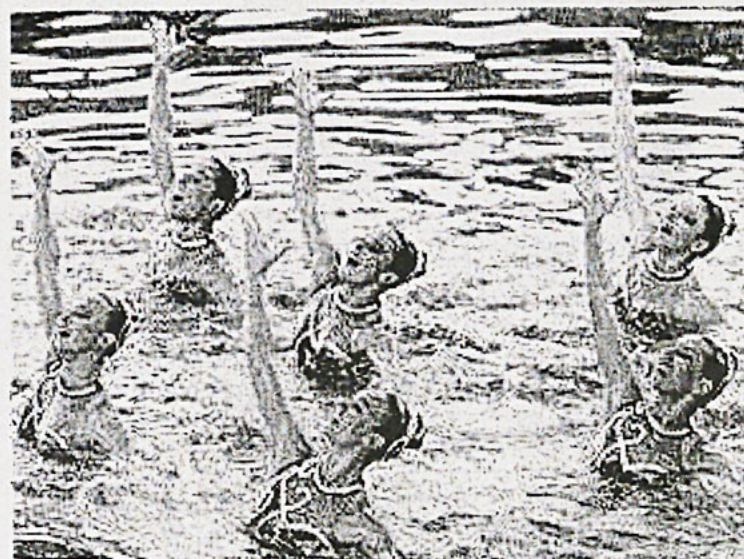
- Headaches?
- Dizziness?
- Cramps?
- Body Odor?
- Tuberculosis?

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THE LAST SWIM—This picture was taken moments before Autumn Sandune went down with her fatal pinky toe cramp, causing her five other teammates to follow her to a watery grave.

Hi Mom!

The Lust Page

Klueless Gives Social Clues

By KLUELESS HARDSUCK
News Spreader

Hi Kids! I'm Klueless, your official tour guide to the rules and regulations of social life here at Agony High.

OK. First things first. Shit spreads faster around here than a sorority girl's legs after formals. You must remember that this is a place of 1900 students. That means that everything you do is watched over and talked about by everyone, and all of your friends have a right to know everyone you kiss, hook up with, sleep with, talk to, say hi to, sit next to in class, and smile at on the streets. Don't even try to keep secrets, because your personal life is definitely everyone's business at AHS.

OK, moving on. If you are going to come here, you must learn all about the different groups on campus. Sorry, I'm not talking about those silly acronym groups, they don't really do anything anyway. I'm talking about the really cool kids who throw all the best parties—the Greeks and the athletes.

For starters, I have to say that you should always go through rush. Why? Um, let me remember what they always tell us to say: It's lots of fun, you can meet so many people, it's great to meet people, and it's lots of fun. Oh, and we do community service, too.

So here's the low-down. I am a Bringa Lotta Mola. You know, the ones who sing that song down on our knees, and everyone chuckles to themselves that we're good at being in that position. We are the snobs who like to shop and base everything on appearances. The Snappa Cracka Pops are the ones in the red and green all the time. Nobody's sure if they celebrate Christmas all year long or if they're all very proud to be Italian. They wear ribbons in their hair and are always the loudest (and some say most obnoxious) when all the Greeks get together and cheer. The Hadda Lotta Funna's are the cool girls, but you have to be able to drink more than a guy to be a Funna, and I hear they play that "Circle the Fat" game. Finally, the Beta Eta Pi's. I can't really say anything about them, because I don't know any of them.

The frats are alright. The Twigs are supposed to be the sweet, polite, gentleman's club. Yawn. The Deta Guy's are the

"Cheesers," if you get my drift. The Sly Guy's just drink a lot. Can you say "Wet Rush?" The Squeegie's are scary. Never date one. And the Iota Felta Lamb's are back, some say better than ever, with great grades and activities. They're super nice, but I miss the old ones; they were hotties.

Now that you know all there is to know about Greek life at Agony, let's talk about the athletes. They are perfect, and do no wrong on this campus. Just so you know, they have NEVER stolen anything from this campus, NEVER throw huge parties where people end up falling through floors, and certainly do not condone alcohol. Girls are always safe and should feel free to get wasted at these houses, because nobody will even think of taking advantage of you.

Oh, and no matter what you hear, there is always SO MUCH to do around here. The cops and security NEVER spoil our fun. There are lots of huge parties, and if there's no party to go to, there's always the option of drinking in your room. Don't listen to the RA's who tell you that you're not allowed. They just say that, but offer them a beer, and watch how fast they join you! It's great!

In terms of non-alcoholic options, of course there are lots, as everyone in Admissions and the goody-goody clubs will tell you. But, this is only if you can find someone to go with you. In that case, make sure you really like the person, because you'll be the only two there.

What about academics on campus? Well, the smartest people are Biology and Chemistry majors, and the sell-outs who get weeded out turn to Environmental Science or Psychology. Comm. Arts is for dumb jocks who can't cut it anywhere else. The Humanities are for the really "out-there" liberals who just like to talk about stuff but do nothing about it. Economics is mostly for boys, but if you're a girl and need to find a date, take an Econ class—there's sure to be some cutie baseball or football players in your class. That's why my friends and I are Econ majors. We really know nothing about Economics. Although, some say we are a lot smarter than we look. Right.

Finally, let's talk about the rules of dating here at Agony High. It's simple. If you date a Frat boy or athlete, you can never

date another brother or teammate. If you date a sorority girl, expect to be dragged to many formals where you have to wear a tie and listen to a bunch of stupid songs while you sneak drinks if you're underage. If you're an athlete, you must date another athlete.

Never, ever, call a hookup the day after. E-mail is the only form of communication allowed. If you hook-up with the person again, consider yourself officially "hooking-up" with that person. This means no expected phone calls or dates (dating does not exist here), but if/when you see your hook-up out at a party, you must talk to him/her, flirt, and sneak out together when you think no one is looking. Remember, however, that this is just in your mind, because rest assured, we are all looking and will definitely proceed to talk about you and tell everyone else at the party that you just left together.

Finally, you must remember to NEVER, EVER date someone else's man or girl. This means never hook up with, kiss, talk to, hang out with, smile at, or make eye-contact with the ex-boyfriend, girlfriend, hook-up, crush, or obsession of your friend, acquaintance, roommate, hallmate, housemate, lab partner, or the girl/guy who sits next to you in music class. This is important. You'll be hated and talked about by that person and all of his/her friends for your entire four years here.

As for gossip, did you hear that Agony is trying to be considered Ivy League? Wow, I wonder why we're only considered second tier then... Who really DID steal the big screen TV from Brooks? I heard it was the Squeegie's, but they get blamed for everything that the athletes do. Plus, Loomis Street doesn't have a Squeegie house... Remember the time the Drunk Bus got stolen? That was awesome... Did you hear that Brittney Spears is DEFINITELY coming here next year? Omygod! She should SO go through rush.

Well, that about wraps up your official explanation of gossip and social life here at Agony High. Enjoy the rest of your year, and remember, everything you hear around campus is definitely true, so never think for yourself, and always talk about your friends.

Crassifieds

WANTED: Someone to write my Economics Senior Comprehensive project. Will pay \$1000 for a B or \$2000 for an A. Ability to perform orally in front of observant economics professors a must.

Biology scales for sale! Just like the ones you've seen in Steffee Hall. For more info call 332-THIEF.

Also available: a big screen TV closely resembling the one in Brooks Hall. Again, call 332-THIEF.

If you can stand the heat, get out of the kitchen. Come on down for our **SPRING BREAK IN HELL SPECIAL OFFER**. Rates as low as the quality of your soul!!! All naughty bastards welcome. Call 1-800-GO2HELL or visit our website at www.gotohell.com.

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Call Chet's recipe exchange in Meadville, at 724-MEOW. We deal in exotics, domestics, and strays. Try our classic, "Mom's Own" Pan-Fritters. As seen on "Martha Stewart Living."

Crassifieds

The Spleenless Gimp, though lacking inside, offers enough voluptuousness outside for makin' sweet love or just doin' the nasty. I have a nice pair of leopard print thongs. Call x2600.

Lost: My white baseball hat. It's slightly browning and frayed at the rim. If found, please return.

House for rent. Students can move in immediately. Low rates. Missing a living room floor. Please have your people call our people.

Furniture Sale!!! High quality sofas, identical to the ones found in the CC Lobby. But not the same ones. Really. Don't miss out on this deal!!

Lost: Grey Kitten, about 3 months old. Loves to dress up and have her picture taken. Answers to Princess Meows-A-Lot. Please return my darling little girl! I know she misses mommy!

Positions available at the S&M clinic. Let us whip you into shape!



Lost: One cute lil' monkey. Answers to the name Lou. Does not like bananas but does enjoy an occasional Root Beer soda with a taco. Please Return to Box 1087. I miss spanking him.