



The Terrapin Times

“Informing, Not Conforming”

May 13, 2003 *Independent, Born and Raised* Volume 1, Issue 2



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Photographer Ansel Adams was the subject of a biography feature at the DC Environmental Film Festival. Story on page 8.

Numerous student organizations consistently violate university policy regarding advertising. Story on page 4.



Maryland sophomore Ben Parker appeared on *As The World Turns* and *The Early Show*. Story on page 6.



Liberal Crap creator Josh Eiserike sits down with The Terrapin Times. Story on page 6.



The Abortion Question: Is a fetus a human being? Debate on page 9.

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Special Features Available Online: www.theterrapintimes.com

Letters to the Editor

The following letters represent the views of their respective authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors of *The Terrapin Times*.

EXPANSION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS TO EMPLOYEES OF MARYLAND PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES INCREASE COLLEGE TUITION

During the 2001 legislative session, several Prince George's and Montgomery County Democrats sponsored legislation, which former Governor Glendening signed into law, to expand collective bargaining rights for state employees to include employees of the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, St. Mary's College, and Baltimore City Community College (HB300/SB207). Among the sponsors, was then-Senator Christopher Van Hollen.

Before the legislation was signed into law by former Governor Glendening, the Maryland Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in its fiscal impact report to the Maryland General Assembly, warned that the legislation could increase administrative costs due to the implementation of collective bargaining agreements, increased employee compensation, costs for outside attorneys, economists, labor institutions, and other items negotiated through collective bargaining agreements. The DLS also reported that 70% of the increased costs associated with the legislation would come from the Maryland general funds or require tuition increases. The DLS was right!

Why our elected officials would pass such fiscally irresponsible legislation that would increase college costs for those that are the least able to afford it, at a time when we are trying to make a college education affordable for all Maryland children, at a time when the economy was in a downturn and with the increased homeland security costs after September 11, is a mystery, but then again, organized labor played an important part in the 2002 elections.

This "cost to the wind," and "spend now, pay later" legislation is exactly what Governor Ehrlich was elected to change. Governor Ehrlich offered a plan to increase the general funds needed to fund education, unfortunately, the spend and tax Democrats refused to support the Governor's plan that would have raised outside revenue through slots, preferring instead to further tax our families, senior citizens and small

businesses, and raise the tuition costs for Maryland's college students.

Sharon Constantine
Montgomery County Republican
Central Committee - District 16
Alumni of the University System of Maryland

"Democrats refused to support the Governor's plan that would have raised outside revenue through slots, preferring instead to...raise the tuition costs for Maryland's college students."

- Sharon Constantine
District 16

I think you guys did a great job and I commend your efforts.

Although I don't necessarily share all of your views I think it is very important that your views are out there. I understand being in the minority as I was in the minority at Bloomsburg University where EVERYONE was a conservative Republican. Only a few of the professors (those from out of state) were Democrats.

I enjoyed the article by Katie Mucklow because I could relate to it on the opposite angle. You are absolutely right, it isn't fun to be on the "wrong" political side. Keep up the good work and I wish you much success.

Christina Hostetter
Graduate Student
History and Library Science

Dear *The Terrapin Times* Staff,

Congratulations on an excellent inaugural edition of *The Terrapin Times*; the content, layout, and web availability are outstanding.

"Inform not conform" is up there with "Fair and Balanced".

Matthew P. Galloway,
Ph.D. Professor,
Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences
Wayne State University

I saw the Terrapin Times on a bench while I was waiting for a bus. After reading it for a few minutes, I was shocked that there was actually someone else in UMD who shared any of my conservative beliefs. Much better than *The Diamondback!*

Michael McDermott

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The Fiscal Watchdog



Harrison Hunt
Managing Editor

25% Tuition Increase? Do The Math

Recently, a letter was circulated throughout the University by William A. Jones, Jr., the President-Elect of the Residence Halls Association. Within the letter, Jones states that Governor Ehrlich may cut "\$60 million more from the higher education budget this year". He continues: "With this cut, your tuition could go up as much as 25 percent."

According to the University System of Maryland's 2001-2002 Data Journal, the most recent edition of publication, there are 119,300 students enrolled in the University system. Of these, 73 percent are Maryland residents; 27 percent therefore are from out-of-state.

According to the same document, in-state students pay an average of \$4,618 in tuition, whereas out-of-state students pay \$10,655. These figures do not account for room and board, nor do they account for fees and other charges.

This means that the total amount of funds that the University System generated from student tuition was \$745,385,207. If tuition were raised 25 percent for every student, the total revenue generated would be \$927,309,356. This is a difference of \$181,924,149, which is well above the \$60 million higher education "cut" that William Jones believes that Gov. Ehrlich "may" make.

Furthermore, if the pessimistic Jones is correct, and \$60 million is cut, there will be around an 8 percent increase in tuition. This is a marked difference when compared to 25 percent. But, if tuition really is going up 25%, where is all that extra revenue going to? You do the math.

After all, it's your money.

If you see financial irresponsibility on campus, let The Fiscal Watchdog know by e-mailing editor@theterrapintimes.com

This Month In The American Revolution

David Needleman
Staff Writer



May 1775: Focus on Canada "Establishing Strategies, Controlling Passageways"

May 1775 was a lull in the Revolution. To leaders in London and everyone in the colonies, the battles of Lexington and Concord had driven home the point that an armed revolution had begun. Colonial leaders turned their attention away from the occupation of Boston and towards the next big strategic threat: Canada.

The water route between Canada and Albany, New York consists of Lake Champlain and Lake George as well as the St. Lawrence River. If Britain controlled this waterway, it would effectively split the wealthy, northern, industrial colonies from the food supplies of the south. New York could then be occupied and easily reinforced from two directions, limiting American freedom of movement. The key to control of the waterway lay at Fort Ticonderoga. In May, early planning began in order to make preparations to take the fort from Vermont.

The Green Mountain Boys, guerrillas from the Vermont section of New Hampshire, set out under the command of Samuel Parsons and Ethan Allen. They would later meet up with 200 men under the command of Benedict Arnold. The raiders were to capture boats at the Skenesboro and Pantou. Then they could transport their force across Lake Champlain to besiege Ticonderoga.

Ticonderoga had been neglected by the British after the French and Indian wars. Its commander, Cpt. William De la Place, had fifty men under his command. The rebels had no problem getting two barges and landing them within a mile of the fort. They took it by surprise, as there was only one sentry on duty (whose musket misfired). The men of the garrison were either not inclined to fight, or still asleep. De la Place was captured while getting dressed, literally, with his pants down. Ticonderoga and its 100 heavy cannons fell to the American Revolutionists.

Join the Staff of The Terrapin Times!!!

Tired of other campus newspapers? Want to make a difference? *The Terrapin Times* is looking for innovative staff members with a desire to give voice to the issues that go unnoticed on the College Park Campus. We are looking people who would like to:

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Please contact the staff at:
editor@theterrapintimes.com

Mission Statement

The expressed purpose of the *The Terrapin Times* shall be to inform the student body of the University of Maryland, College Park on relative issues concerning them. The day-to-day operations are run by UMCP students and are concerned with issues relating to the daily lives of the campus community. The periodical will also serve as an educational tool for the student body in terms of explaining conservative principles. *The Terrapin Times* will print news items only with thoroughly documented research and we will not tolerate social, political, or economic injustices upon our campus.

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“It’s Your Campus!”

Students Called to Keep Each Other Accountable

Nathan Burchfiel
Staff Writer

As *The Terrapin Times* reported in its April 2003 edition, groups acting in violation of university policy regarding advertising cost students and taxpayers approximately \$30,000 annually according to Harry Teabout, Director of Building and Landscape Services. Taping or pasting flyers and chalking on vertical surfaces, including brick walls and light posts, is prohibited by university regulations.

Students and Workers Unite (SAWU) and the Operation S.I.C.K (Stop Inciting Children to Kill) campaign are the latest student organizations to join in the policy breaking. “Op.S.I.C.K” has been using signs and masking tape through various methods to break the rules in their campaign to bring www.opsick.com’s message to campus. The Students and Workers Unite organization continues in the tradition of their sisters at the Peace Forum by using glue to attach flyers to light posts. Numerous other student organizations continuously violate regulations by taping flyers to sidewalks or other prohibited surfaces, and by chalking on surfaces other than sidewalks, many violating regulations unknowingly.

According to Teabout, Building and Landscape Services is continuing its efforts to stop the violations. He told *The Terrapin Times*, “[Building and Landscape Services] removes all flyers that are not on kiosks. We turn them in (one copy) to

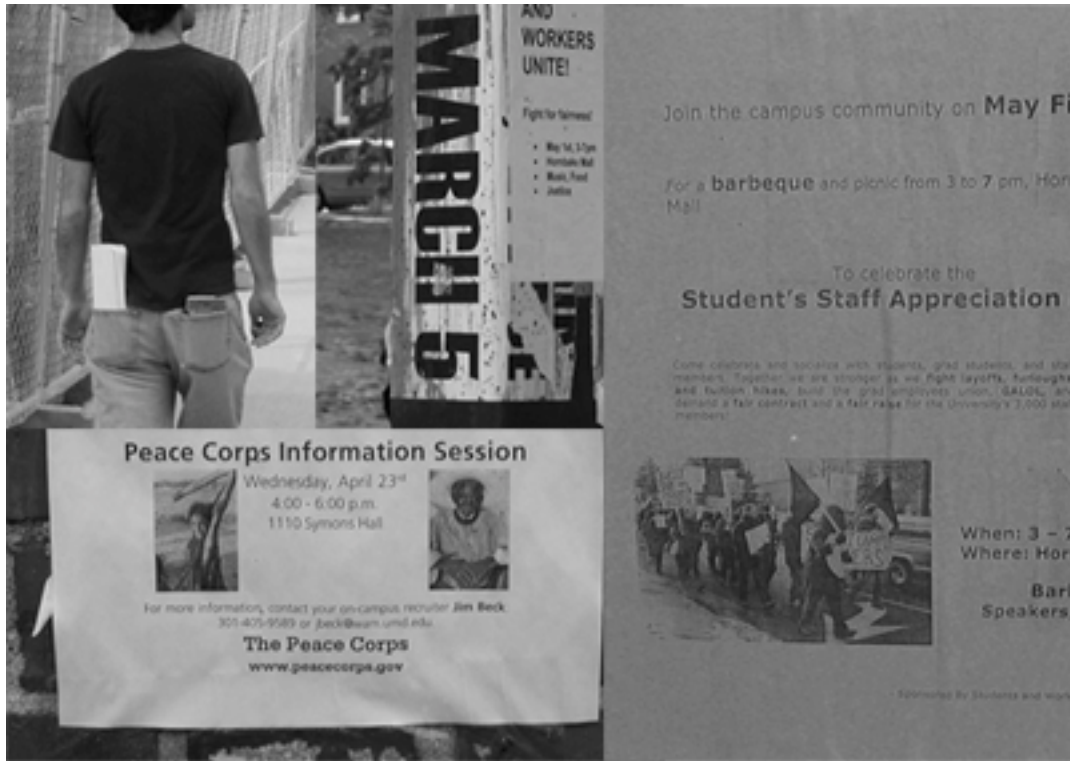
Kathy Broady of Campus Reservations who attempts to contact the group and change the behavior.” He reminded *The Times* that they, “seldom receive funding” from groups in violation. Ms. Broady, however, informed *The Terrapin Times* that Building and Landscape Services “hasn’t sent me flyers in years.”

According to Ms. Broady, the Office of Campus Reservations sends each organization’s president a letter outlining the policy regarding advertising in addition to the office’s handbook on the subject. Aside from the fact that no outside organizations are permitted to post information, the letter states that, “Approved locations for posting materials include kiosks, public bulletin boards, display and showcases, banners and print media bins. Posting of materials on buildings, walls, trees, sidewalks, utility poles, etc. is prohibited. Removal of materials from these locations may result in student organizations being billed by the Facilities Department and/or referred to the Office of Judicial Programs.”

The problem, according to Broady, is that, “[violators have] never been punished.” Obviously frustrated she added, “if someone would fine the

heck out of these groups...they might learn. If I [had the power], I’d be billing them.” She recognized that, “they won’t discontinue doing it until someone holds them accountable.” Other punishments Broady recommended include revoking organization status and assigning community service, “including taking down flyers and cleaning up chalk.”

Steve Adams, Assistant Director of Operations for the Office of Campus Reservations, called the flyering epidemic, “[as] big a problem as the campus has [right now.]” He concurred



Plastering Our Campus: A wide range of student groups have consistently violated University regulations regarding the posting of flyers. They will continue to do so until the regulations are enforced.

with Broady the fact that a main cause of continued violation is the lack of enforcement. He added that, “it’s always the blame game.” He told *The Terrapin Times* that a large problem in enforcing the regulations is finding out just who is responsible. His office gets frustrated by student groups denying involvement when accused of violating regulations. But he conceded that, “if we don’t know who did it,” and was too frustrated to finish his statement. What is even more frustrating to Adams is that he realizes that the president of each organization should be held responsible for their group’s actions, no matter the specific culprit, but again there is no one enforcing the policies.

Adams and Broady agreed that manpower is a big hassle when trying to clean up after groups who disregard policy. Current budget problems at the university find more and more workers being released, when more and more workers are needed to keep the campus presentable. Broady asks for students’ help in solving this problem: “It’s the students’ right and responsibility to remove policy breaking signs.” Adams added, “it’s their campus,” and it’s about time students get fed up with the garbage.

My Take:

If groups claim to be working to make this campus better, fight for workers’ rights, love the environment, or be supporters of any other cause, they should start by being responsible for themselves and following the university policies demanded of them. Follow the rules, post flyers on kiosks and bulletin board, chalk on the sidewalks; don’t create a mess that you don’t want to clean up. It’s not the administration’s job to

grass behind CSPAC above overall campus appearance. When presented with the idea that groups continue disrespectful behavior due to lack of university priority, Teabout responded, “This is probably true...” Mr. Teabout brings in a salary of \$93,801 annually (which places him in the top 10% of earners in the nation, according to IRS statistics from FY2000); Broady’s and Adam’s combined income tops Teabouts by \$14,299. Who is being paid to make this issue a priority?

The Terrapin Times is dedicated to pressing this issue until the administration starts enforcing its policies. In addition to posting the “Regulations for Advertising at the University of Maryland,” the “Policy on Chalking,” and the letter each group president receives on the newspaper website (www.theterrapintimes.com), *The Terrapin Times* will keep an up-to-date list available to its readers, including the administration, of groups currently in violation of campus policy. This list is not intended to pick out any specific groups or target certain causes; it will exist to present an unbiased, factual representation of campus organizations that ignore, knowingly or unknowingly, university policies that are meant to benefit the student body.

Currently, the following groups can be found in various forms of violations. Whether it be flyers taped to sidewalks or buildings, chalk on walls or stairs, or other illegal practices, the College Democrats, Dancin’ Divas, Delta Gamma Sorority, “DiamondCrap,” Erasable Inc., Faux Paz, International Socialist Organization, International Solidarity Movement (sponsored by Students for Justice in Palestine), Jewish Social Action Committee, Korean Campus Ministry, Operation S.I.C.K., Pandemonium, Peace Forum, Pre-Dental Society, Pre-Med Society, Senior Council, Sketchup, Skydive, Student Government Association, Students and Workers Unite, Terp Runners, UM Electronic Dance Music Club, Voices of Truth and WMUC are in violation of university policies regarding advertising on campus.

If you notice other groups in blatant violation of campus policy, please inform *The Terrapin Times* by e-mailing editor@theterrapintimes.com.

Know of a topic you’d like
The Terrapin Times
to investigate?
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clean up after you, but it should come down hard when you break its rules.

It may seem a little silly to only be allowed to post flyers on bulletin boards and kiosks. But look around and you’ll see why. Duct tape dried to the sidewalk, chalk stains left on building faces, months old flyers still on light posts, and quarter sheets littering the mall make the campus ugly, and it’s the fault of groups who just don’t care.

Ms. Broady informed *The Terrapin Times* that the idea of re-installing numerous kiosks has been brought up time and time again. Let your SGA legislators know your groups want more space for advertising. According to Adams, there are, “so many other way than flyers,” but groups don’t bother to find out. Websites through the InforM Network, the University Events Calendar and purchasing ads in *The Terrapin Times* are all legitimate ways of getting your message out.

From my discussion with Ms. Broady and Mr. Adams, it seems as though they are both incredibly upset by this problem, and do everything *in their power* to fight it. Building and Landscape Service’s Director Harry Teabout, on the other hand, seems to place the cutting of

Comptroller's Office Takes Bite Out Of Layoffs

Following up on a recent lead, *The Terrapin Times* inquired with Julie Phelps, Comptroller of the University of Maryland, about the occupational and budget status of her department. In these strenuous budget times, the entire campus community is affected by budget cuts, including the Office of the Comptroller, which employs approximately 130 workers.

According to Phelps, the office was forced by budget constraints to cut three senior level positions. She explained, "The three positions that were cut resulted from two resignations and one retirement." To compliment these cuts, lower level employees were promoted and given subsequent raises. Those promotions were accompanied by salary increases appropriate to the increased level and volume of work assumed," said Phelps. She further explained, "[I]n other words, fewer employees are doing more work."

Sophomore John Samscock felt differently. He expressed his opinion on

Bryan Shuy
Editor-In-Chief

the Phelps' commentary by asking, "- so does that mean our taxes were being wasted or at least not properly utilized before?"

After promoting the employees, the Office of the Comptroller treated them with special lunches to celebrate. Phelps explained further that the luncheons were simply thanking the newly promoted employees for taking on more work. Over four months, there were three of these luncheons totaling \$248.87, which covered 20 employees, 11 of which were recently promoted employees. She justified this action by explaining that it was "...to reward them for their hard work and for their willingness to take on more responsibility." This luncheon was on the operating budget according to Phelps. She explained her concern that as

"...rumors of lay-offs and furloughs are rampant, it is calming to an operation to make something good from something bad - i.e., jobs are eliminated, but for less expense other jobs can be upgraded."

Sophomore Samscock commented, "Well, common sense would imply that if you could do something for less expense, then you do so. You'd think the Office of the Comptroller would be especially familiar with this concept of operation."

Phelps noted that the Office of the Comptroller has been lucky. "So far, we have not had to lay-off any employees from my offices." During the past year, the Office of the Comptroller did successfully cope with a \$355,521 reduction to their budget. "However, it does not seem that we will be so fortunate in FY 2004," said Phelps.

Editors Note: *We'd like to thank Ms. Phelps for her prompt and forthright responses. The Office of Comptroller can be found online at, <http://fas.umd.edu/>*

TerPAC Launches Onto Campus

Erin Gahagan
Staff Writer

Who hasn't seen those "Terps for Israel" shirt around campus? Over 700 were distributed to the student body as part of TerPAC's most recent campaign. TerPAC, which stands for Terrapin Israel Public Affairs Committee, is the University of Maryland campus branch of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. This organization strives to highlight the benefits of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, to promote a pro-Israel agenda, and to create events for the campus-wide community.

Last semester, we saw the petition to support a strong US-Israel relationship that was signed by more than 1500 students, faculty and community members. Crossing political barriers, both the College Republicans and the

Operation S.I.C.K. Attacks Campus

Nathan Burchfiel
Staff Writer

Current world conditions have led to a recent surge in campus organizations focused on international affairs. The newest of these groups seeks to support the United States government in its efforts to put pressure on foreign nations that incite children to kill.

College Park's Operation S.I.C.K. (Stop Inciting Children to Kill), a chapter of the national organization with the same name, found its way onto campus this semester thanks to group president Jason Schoenbrun. Schoenbrun, a Sophomore computer engineering major, told *The Terrapin Times*, "People don't know about [the issue we're confronting]. People don't care about this. And something has to be said about it." In an effort to educate the student body, the organization's mass teaser campaign found the campus plastered with flyers, tape, and chalk, spelling out its web address, www.opsick.com.

The group, according to Schoenbrun, is, "Against the governments of any country inciting children [through a] state sponsored media or other means ... to hate or to

kill." Governments on S.I.C.K.'s "Hot Spots" list include the Palestinian Authority, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and the African nations of Ethiopia, Uganda, Sierra Leone, among others. The focused effort of its inaugural semester was to obtain student signatures on a petition to be sent to Senators and Representatives in the United States

them, then that would make the most of a difference."

OP S.I.C.K. was able to obtain more than 100 signatures while on display in front of Stamp Student Union on Wednesday, April 30. Schoenbrun reported very little opposition to the cause, citing the fact that, "This message is very apolitical. It's only about stopping

the incitement of children to kill...I would hope that no person on campus would disagree with the position because by disagreeing they'd be saying, 'I believe children should be incited to kill.'"

The group plans to continue its campus presence into the coming semesters,

and looks forward to continued support from over 40 student organizations.



Students from OP S.I.C.K. obtain signatures in their effort to end the incitement of children to kill

government. Rather than directly contact governments on the "Hot Spots" list, Schoenbrun suggests, "If we support America putting [financial] pressure on



The TerPAC logo

College Democrats endorsed the petition, as well the Maryland Federations of both Republicans and Democrats. The petition also garnered support from the Jewish Student Union, The Black Student Union, and multiple fraternities and sororities. Micha Weinblatt, President of TerPAC, lauded the petition as a huge success garnering broad support from the campus wide community.

Most recently, TerPAC sponsored the campus visit by the United States Ambassador to Israel, Daniel Ayalon. He called for an end to Palestinian terrorism, promising that Israel would be open to peaceful resolutions. Ayalon expressed hope that negotiations could be reached once the obstacle of violence is removed.

They also hosted a Basic Training event. The event included several hours of fun general military training, but also incorporated the moral and ethical principles that soldiers face in combat situations.

TerPAC was revamped and started anew last year and has already launched many successful campaigns here at the University of Maryland. Next year, TerPAC hopes to sponsor bringing additional speakers to campus, including members of Congress from both parties. TerPAC promises to continue sponsoring new and exciting events to promote a positive and constructive relationship between the United States and Israel.

Josh Eiserike: The Man, The Myth, The Legend

By Ryan Fisher

For the past two years, Maryland senior Josh Eiserike has been a mainstay of the University community with his daily comic strip *Liberal Crap*, which has been consistently run in *The Diamondback*, and *Really Liberal Crap*, which has appeared in the first two issues of *The Terrapin Times*.

As he prepares to graduate and move on to greener pastures, *The Terrapin Times* took a moment to take a closer look at Josh- his influences, interests and experience with "The Diamondcrap." Many people know the name behind the popular comic strips on campus, but who really knows the man, the myth, the legend? Here's our exclusive interview with Josh Eiserike.

The Terrapin Times: To start things off, how old are you and where are you originally from?

Josh Eiserike: I'm 21 and from Olney, Maryland.

TTT: What's your major, and how do you plan to use it once you graduate?

JE: I'm majoring in American Studies, with a citation in Comparative Literature. I probably won't do anything with it— I hope to get a job as an editorial cartoonist, and if that doesn't work, I am headed to either Northwestern or Missouri for a Masters in Journalism

TTT: How useful has your writing been so far in seeking either employment or admissions for graduate studies?

JE: It hasn't made a big difference in admissions, but I'm actively seeking employment as an editorial cartoonist and that really helps. Also, *Liberal Crap* just won third place in the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists' annual John Locher Memorial Award competition, which recognizes the most outstanding college editorial cartoonists in North America. It's pretty competitive, so that's going to help as well.

TTT: Congratulations. Since *Liberal Crap* has seen such success, think back to the beginning of it all- what inspired you to first write *Liberal Crap*?

JE: Originally, I was trying to do something apolitical, situational, in the vein of a Calvin & Hobbes, but then I became interested in politics with the 2000 election and the David Horowitz advertisement on reparations. Added to that, I took a class that had a really painful "sensitivity training" section, which was thinly disguised political indoctrination. I called it "Liberal Crap," and decided that a strip doesn't really have to be about anything— it should be about everything— from musical numbers to guest stars, a dating service, and a quasi-real political campaign, so long as it's entertaining. Keep in mind at this time I very much considered myself a campus liberal, so the title was tongue-in-cheek.

TTT: Oh, so it's the Seinfeld of comics?

JE: Actually, Mel Brooks is definitely my inspiration. I've always found Jerry Seinfeld slightly annoying.

TTT: Prior to beginning what was to be *Liberal Crap*, did you do any drawing or other artwork on a regular basis?

JE: Yeah, I've been doing graphics for the *Diamondback* since I was a freshman, as well as being involved with founding the Campus Cartoonist Coalition— we published one book called "Comic Strippers" which, thanks to an Andrew Kudlick cartoon called "Grandpa," was mad funny.

TTT: Recently, *The Diamondback* came under some criticism for allegedly offensive content, and some of your comic strips were singled out. What's your opinion of the matter, and when writing a comic strip, do you ever consider that some people may view certain sarcastic or satirical remarks to be offensive?

JE: People find anything offensive, and that's fine. It's perfectly legitimate to be



Self portrait of "The Man, k i d s — The Myth, The Legend," protesting *The Diamondback*, war, IMF and

even the thesaurus (as a friend of mine on the Women's Circle listserv told me)- tell other people what is or isn't offensive. For example, this "Diamondcrap" group, who is doing a great job of remaining anonymous, lists strips on their webpage that they find offensive, but they go beyond that. The problem here is, how in the world do they know what's offensive to Catholics and Christians, or any other particular group of people? Even if they are Catholics themselves, the only way to make this kind of claim is with solid evidence, which they clearly do not provide. There was no scientific survey or anything like that. Besides, that strip was just a reference to the movie "Election," which is a favorite of mine. Also, their whole agenda is to censor *The Diamondback*. One kid wrote a letter to the editor today (May 5th) suggesting *The Diamondback* needs to have sensitivity training. I suggest these kids need "first amendment" and "reality" training. Even I find a lot of my strips offensive, but there's a fine line, and humor sort of dances that line.

TTT: When writing a comic strip designed to be both political and humorous, do you give more effort to humor or to sending some sort of message?

JE: The main objective always is to be entertaining. However, there are definite political overtones, but the goal is still to be entertaining, and if I get someone to laugh, that's an added bonus.

TTT: Who are some of your main artistic influences?

JE: One is Jim Mahfood; he's to the left of Stalin, but funny as hell. There's a definite hip-hop style in his artwork, it's almost

graffiti-like in some cases. Another influence is Aaron McGruder. He writes "The Boondocks," and I have a tremendous amount of respect for him. Also, there's Chris Bachalo, a comic book artist, he's fantastic and does some really crazy things.

TTT: Your comics frequently reference Ben Folds, what's your favorite song of his?

JE: Depending on the day of the week, either "Where's Summer B?" maybe "Best Imitation of Myself" or "Hiro's Song." I also like listening to They Might Be Giants, Fountains of Wayne and The Flaming Lips.

TTT: How would you best characterize your experience at the University of Maryland, not only with *Liberal Crap*, but academically, socially and otherwise?

JE: I wish I could be a 21 year old senior forever, it's been a lot of fun and I'm really glad that I came to Maryland. There have been great experiences, great people, and I'm really going to miss it.

TTT: To conclude, what would your advice be for an aspiring comic strip artist?

JE: The first thing is to make friends with Photoshop fast. My first semester's strips [were] horrendous artistically, but with Photoshop I was gradually able to bring it together. Also, learn the structure of a comic strip; that took me a long time to figure out. I organized, over April Fool's Day, a giant cross-country comic swap and got to read a lot of college comic strips. I noticed how many writers don't understand how a strip works- the punch line and the basic structure. Also, learn to listen and take advice. I worked with Frank Cho, who wrote UNIVERSITY² for *The Diamondback* and now writes Liberty Meadows. When he first read *Liberal Crap*, he tore it apart, but he's a professional and his input definitely helped. When you get something going, don't be discouraged, *The Diamondback* is notorious for making it hard to get a strip, so stick with it. One more thing: do not be afraid of what other people think— good or bad. Don't be afraid to go out on a limb or on some crazy tangent that might "offend." The bottom line is that you're getting to draw comics, so have fun with it!

TTT: Thanks, Josh. We really appreciate your insight, and *The Terrapin Times* staff thanks you for your contributions and wishes you the best of luck in the future.

Editor's Note: More of Josh's creations can be found on the "Liberal Crap" website: www.liberalcraponline.com

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UM Actor's World Still Turning

Francisco Gonzalez
News Editor

Last November, the 47-year old daytime soap opera, *As The World Turns* landed its film crew on the College Park campus to look for students to appear in one of their episodes. *The Terrapin Times* recently caught up with Ben Parker, who was one of the five hundred students to audition. Parker, who landed the role of "Kevin" and appeared in four different scenes, all with speaking parts, recounted the experience. Like most other students, Parker had seen posters around campus advertising that the CBS soap opera was on a "college tour" and would be making a stop on the Maryland campus looking to fill the roles of "Kevin" and "Carol."

One of the subplots on *As The World Turns* last fall involved several youngsters, the "Oakdale three" who ran away as a result of a fire that they allegedly caused in their hometown. The trio hid-out on college campuses across the country. And, the storyline worked well, because CBS used the plot to court college age kids to tune into their show. Some college students could watch their friends and classmates on television, while others could simply relate to the characters because of the college-related plot.

After some convincing by one of his friends, Parker decided to make an appearance at the audition for the show's producers. After the long, three hour wait, each of the students who auditioned were only given about a minute to do a "cold reading" of a mock script. Parker said the cold reading was "unique" because the show's aim was not to fill a role for the series, but merely for a few scenes in one episode. Later that evening, Parker was called back and asked to fill the role of Kevin. He claims, "It was just pure luck."

According to Parker, three types of people showed up to the auditions among the crowd of five hundred students. One segment of the student population believed that they would be picked because they had the "soap opera look." Another group of students did it just for fun. And, a third group, of which Parker includes himself in, did it because they actually had acting experience and wanted to audition as they would for any other role. With the limited amount of time that the CBS producers had to fill the role, it is evident that they must have picked up on Ben Parker's acting skills and experiences.

Parker has been involved with acting since he was in the seventh grade. Upon arriving at the University of Maryland, he has starred in such plays as *Fashion* (Spring '02), *You Can't Take It With You* (Fall '02), and *Romeo and Juliet* (Spring '03). Even though he has enormous acting experience, Parker is majoring in Computer Science at UMD, but plans on

On March 10th, Roman Gelman, a Sophomore marketing major here at the University of Maryland, received a phone call. He was told he had a few days to take care of any personal matters and then ship out to help in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He reported to the military base in Aberdeen, Maryland for training and preparation.

The war in Iraq has had an impact on students at this campus and campuses nationwide in a variety of ways. Some voiced their opposition to the war, like on the fifth of March, when nearly five hundred students walked out of class to demonstrate their anti-war stance, while counter-demonstrators voiced their support. As some students paraded around the campus, chanting loudly against or for President Bush and the war, thousands of others around the country like Roman had to withdraw from class and end their daily routines to serve their country.

Born in Kiev, Ukraine, Roman came to the United States as a child. He grew up in New Freedom, Pennsylvania, where he successfully finished high school, participating in wrestling, football and many other athletic activities.

In May of 2000, Roman joined the U.S. Army. Now, at age 20, he has five years of military duty remaining. He joined the Army to experience something that only a few people have. He wanted to serve his country. He desires to contribute all that he can to preserve the American way of life, of which his family traveled to this nation to experience. In addition, he appreciates having the dignity, honor and pride of serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Roman was taking sixteen credits when he was ordered to withdraw from classes and mobilize for a possible deployment. Currently, he is just two credits shy of the University limit of credits that a student is allowed to retake. When he returns, Roman might not be able to withdraw from any other classes during his final two and a half years at Maryland due to reaching his limit. He has no knowledge if there will be any accommodations for his special

doggedness and dedication. When asked what he thought was the role of the U.S. military today, he answered that "it is to defend the God-given human rights of freedom, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The Armed Forces stationed in Iraq currently face extreme conditions. Although the major fighting has been declared over, real dangers persist for the American soldiers who remain there. Soldiers are getting hurt almost everyday

might play is in assisting the law enforcement agencies [in Iraq] to regain control, training them how to do it, and making sure that the new government functions and operates. And then to get out of there as soon as possible [in order to allow] the Iraqi people to govern themselves."

As of now it looks like there is a possibility Roman might not be deployed to Iraq after all, as many military personnel are already being recalled back home. His current location of assignment is Aberdeen Maryland, and it will continue to be there until further notice. But he can be sent to help support the peace-keeping process at any moment.

The communications that the military offers to help keep in touch with loved ones back home depend on the mission and the availability of postal services and email accessibility. Email is an option, but it is dependent on the mission, whether the soldiers are allowed to write home. Nonetheless, if the circumstances permit as they are now, Roman will be able to correspond with family and friends freely.

After his mobilization is over, Roman will be looking forward to going back to school. He says finishing school is his number one priority. He also looks forward to finishing up his obligations with the military and becoming an influential figure in tomorrow's society. His future goals include continuing to serve his country. He hopes that one day he can fulfill his desire to run for the U.S. Senate.

Semester Interrupted: Maryland Sophomore Mobilized For Operation Iraqi Freedom

Dima Vilensky
Staff Writer

circumstance. In spite of this complication, he receives many benefits to serving in the military as a college student. The Army Reserve and National Guard pay school tuition.

The training in the military is intense. After arriving at Aberdeen, Roman had to review everything he had already learned in basic and continue doing more concentrated individual training. But his hard work has paid off. He is now a Sergeant, and has collected a multitude of awards, including honors for his expertise as a rifleman, special assault weapon (SAW) gunner, and grenade throwing skills. The training is not limited to physical performances alone. It also involves a lot of overall education,

from either accidents or by those who refuse to let the United States rebuild Iraq.

Asked if he thinks his life is worth the cause of fighting this war right now, Roman responded, "I sign my life away by defending this country and by following the commands of the President when he decides on what the orders are. So basically, yes."

When asked what he feels is the role of the U.S. military in rebuilding Iraq and what part he may play in that, he said, "In my opinion the role of the U.S. military in rebuilding Iraq is to assist the Iraqi people to regain control of their country that was unjustifiably taken away from them many years ago. In saying that, some of the roles that the U.S. military

Professor Smead Delivers a Wake-Up Call to the Democratic Party

By Paul Rosendall

More than two years have passed since George Walker Bush was elected President of the United States. Since then, some have questioned the circumstances under which our Commander in Chief was elected. It is hard for them to forget how "money, propaganda and our pro-Republican media" were stacked against Presidential hopeful Albert Gore.

These were the words of Dr. Howard Smead, a professor of History and Honors here at the University of Maryland. On April 30 in the Armory, Dr. Smead lectured to a group of about fifty students on "The State of the Democratic Party." This event was sponsored by the College Democrats, and was effective in mapping out the evolution of a presently troubled political party. The discourse was designed to give Democrat faithful new directions in which their party could turn to improve their chances in the 2004 presidential race.

In the first part of his lecture, Dr. Smead revealed how the strength and unity of the Democratic Party has changed since the four-term Presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt. FDR was elected in 1932, during the darkest days of the American economy. Roosevelt's New Deal was an innovative program designed to give the federal government an increased role in the distribution of American wealth. The New Deal was credited by many for lifting the United

States from the depths of the Great Depression. Smead informed his audience that the Roosevelt Coalition, a racially and geographically diverse group of New Deal supporters, played a pivotal role in sustaining Democratic power for years after Roosevelt's death. Smead argued that as the Roosevelt Coalition has shifted from an American reality to a part of American history, so has the political power of Democrats.

Professor Smead went on to discuss how the current party platform has prohibited Democrats from getting elected. "Class-based liberalism has given way to rights-based liberalism," explained Smead. A party that once prided itself on protecting the lower and middle classes of America has become preoccupied with preserving the rights of various interest groups. Smead stressed the need for the Democratic Party to once again be viewed as representing all Americans, and not only special-interest groups which, alone, cannot provide enough votes to win elections. "The concept of civil rights is a noble one," clarified Smead, "but when this drowns out a sense of community, the entire point is lost."

The recent failures of the Democratic Party were held in contrast to Republican successes. "Because

Democrats are so hamstrung into talking about individual rights," said Dr. Smead, "Republicans, by default, get to talk about common goals and common dreams." Smead asserted that Republicans do not stand for these ideals at all, and rather that they are in fact tied to "extreme interest groups." Right-wing victories were summed up succinctly by Smead: "they're just good campaigners."

The second part of his lecture, and according to Dr. Smead the more important part, dealt with the problem of moral relativism in the Democratic Party. Moral relativism contends that our views on morality should be based on how people actually behave, and not on some unattainable standard for human behavior. The Democrats' fear of offending people has created an environment where no established set of values is promoted or trusted. Thus it is no surprise that 63% of churchgoers voted for George W. Bush in 2000 as opposed to the 27% that voted for Al Gore. Smead labeled the Democrats' disassociation from the churchgoing community as "political suicide."

Continuing with the theme of morality in the Democratic Party, Professor Smead also touched upon the topic of abortion. Smead, after declaring himself pro-choice, said that it is foolish

for Democrats not to acknowledge the moral issues surrounding abortion. To regard this issue simply as a matter of choice, as many Democrats have done, is not politically wise. "Even if Republicans have a wrong set of morals and values," admitted Smead, "at least they stand for some."

Throughout the lecture, Dr. Smead provided a candid assessment of the current Democratic presidential candidates, calling Al Gore "obnoxious," Al Sharpton "a buffoon," and the notion of "President Hillary Clinton" as "devastating to the party." Smead was more enthusiastic about Congressman Richard Gephardt, who has recently proposed that the federal government provide every American with quality healthcare coverage. Smead called this proposal "encouraging" and believes that the implementation of such a program might bring back the ideologies of Democrat icon Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Dr. Howard Smead's lecture could certainly be viewed as a wake-up call to the Democratic Party. While those in attendance may not have fully agreed with Smead's pointed analysis, they definitely understood his message: only when Democrats acknowledge the problems that have crippled them in recent elections will they be able to prevail in future contests.

Environment Film Festival Review: Ansel Adams: Capturing Nature

The 2003 DC Environmental Film Festival on March 13-23 screened well over a hundred films at museums, embassies and other venues around town. The festival included a number of serious environmental films highlighting the beauty of nature and efforts to keep people safe from the real dangers of a polluted environment.

However, the vast majority of the films fell in the category of fad activism, from exposing the dangers of vinyl siding to the growing scourge of "consumerism." The film *Ansel Adams*, a documentary about the famous photographer, follows his life and quest to capture on film his emotional response to the wild landscape of Yosemite and the High Sierra.



Photographer
Ansel Adams

Throughout his career, Ansel Adams was torn between San Francisco, where he grew up, and Yosemite, where he fell in love. As still an amateur photographer, Adams practiced to

become a classical pianist in San Francisco. Yet, he spent the summers in Yosemite exploring and trying to capture on film the emotion and mood of his surroundings. For him, the interplay of wind, sky and arrows of light evoked a transcendental experience. Once he was able to make a mountain "look how it feels - a huge monumental thing", he embraced photography as his career. Shortly after, Adams had a revelation about the meaning of photography, and focused his work toward a realistic portrayal of nature using a broad tonal range and "the simple dignity of the glossy print". As other artists during the Depression focused on suffering and social injustice, Adams continued to focus on what he considered a more profound and universal issue, finding truth and meaning in nature.

Ansel Adams pictures are probably some of the most easily recognizable in American art. From his early focus on the details of nature to his later expansive views of the mountains and brilliant skies, Ansel Adams was able to manipulate light to draw out the majesty of the West. Using light filters to expose the mountain from the sky or meticulously adjusting the print in the

darkroom, Adams created photographs that uniquely conveyed his view of nature. His stunning pictures have also captured the imaginations of many Americans and politicians, resulting in the establishment of national parks to guard these unique treasures. In the film, Adams conveys his hopes that Yosemite will return to true wilderness. And, Carl Pope of the Sierra Club laments the creation of the interstate highway system

Chris Weed
Staff Writer

that allowed the average American easy access to these beautiful places. One would expect the Sierra Club, the producers of the film, to openly welcome people's ability to come and enjoy nature; however, their message is one of exclusivity. From their view, average Americans are not able to respect the delicate balance in nature, leading to irreparable harm.

Adams' work brought the beauty of the American West into the homes of people who may have never ventured beyond the confines of their community, but it is likely his work produced the opposite effect of his wilderness preservation message. Upon seeing the breathtaking images of our national parks provided by Adams, average Americans naturally desired to venture to these

places and view them in a personal encounter.

Throughout his career, Adams was well respected in the art community; however, to live comfortably, he spent relentless hours photographing and developing pictures for companies, shows and books. It wasn't until later in life that he became a popular icon and his work was mass marketed, thus ensuring him financial security. He was then able to focus on environmental activism. Despite the fact that he wrote more than 5000 editorials on the subject, his photographs speak louder than words about the beauty in nature. Before his death in 1984, his work was featured in a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, he was featured on the cover of Time magazine, and he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor.

To learn more about the film and Ansel Adams, visit the PBS website on "Ansel Adams American Experience" at: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/ansel/>. The film, a part of the American Experience film series, was co-sponsored by the Sierra Club, and the writer and director Ric Burns (of the PBS civil war series fame) was on hand at the DC festival to discuss the film. The film can be seen on PBS, but was screened in high-definition for the film festival.

Continued from page 6

"keeping his options open" regarding the acting career, of which his aspirations are looking upbeat.

After appearing on the soap opera in November, Parker was one of five students from around the country to get called back once again. This time, it was for an opportunity to be guaranteed a week-long role on *As The World Turns* during the upcoming summer. Last November, Mary Clay Boland, one of the show's directors said she was "looking for different things at each college campus" and that she is "always looking for a new face for the show." Along with four other men and five other women, Parker was hoping at a chance to land a role on a series in which other now-famous young actors such as James VanDerBeek, Jason Biggs, and Lauryn Hill, first gained recognition.

To participate in this competition, Parker was flown to New York City by CBS to appear on *The Early Show* on April 22. This time his audition was more thorough. In fact, it was not a cold read,

but a live audition on national television. Each morning that week, one male and female performed on *The Early Show* in a mock soap scene. For Parker, he co-starred in a 90-second scene with current cast member Martha Byrne, who plays the twin characters of Lily and Rose. Parker



UMD Sophomore Ben Parker on the set of *As The World Turns*

admitted he was nervous. "There's something about being backstage watching a TV show you're about to be on."

He compared being on the show with all of his acting experience thus far. With plays, he has a lot more time to

rehearse the script and perfect it. Yet, he said he has always "felt comfortable on a stage." But, being a studio, "you have no idea what camera is looking at you."

Viewers voted online at the end of the week, but Parker didn't get the part. The experience, however, was rewarding.

Expecting the typical Hollywood hoopla, Parker said he was surprised all the actors and directors he met were "very nice and really friendly." He said the encouragement he received from others on the set allowed him to relax. "Having someone to tell you that you did a good job settled the nerves."

Asked what impact the experience had on him and his potential acting career, Parker said that it "enforced things I already believed." Referring to an actor's life, Parker said that "If you are able to get steady work, it's good work and pays well. But if you don't get steady work, then you are no longer an actor, but merely an auditioner."

Even though Parker is now a Computer Science major, he has taken and will continue to take theatrical classes at Maryland. "It's amazing how much classes can do for you. There is never a time to stop learning about acting." He pointed out that award-winning actors such as Helen Hunt and Robert DeNiro still go back to school and take classes to learn new theories and ideas about the art. And, at UMD, Parker has all the opportunity he wants to learn and succeed in this field. He cited the family atmosphere among the staff and students, and the flexibility that the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center adds to the entire experience.

While Parker realizes that making it as an actor is a tough living, he still has his dreams. As an actor, he loves the movies because it is "more of a finished product" than a television series and, like theatre, there is "more time to work on specific scenes." One of his favorite actors is Ed Norton because of the quality movies and variety of roles he plays. Yet, Parker owes his real inspiration to his family, friends and girlfriend. "Everyone is so supportive," but above all, "my mother is my most active supporter," said Parker. "She is always very concerned for me to have the best opportunity that I can." And, with Parker intent on keeping his options open, Maryland just may be that breeding ground of opportunity.

If you would like to view the live audition that Ben Parker performed for *The Early Show* you still can online at: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/04/22/earlyshow/series/main550545.shtml>.

Scientific Debate Over Abortion and the Right to Life

The New York Times (NYT) recently reported [Surprise, Mom: I'm Against Abortion, March 30, 2003] that a survey by researchers at UCLA shows that support for abortion rights among American

college freshmen has dropped from 67% to 54% over the last decade. Upon reading this I would hardly declare victory for the anti-abortion activists; however, it clearly shows that the "Pro-choice" message and delivery is not as effective as it once was. The same NYT article attributes the change in support for abortion rights to the emphasis by anti-abortionists on the rights of the fetus.

This should be a clear win for the abortion rights movement when it can be easily shown that a fetus has no rights. However, pro-choice groups have ineffectively concentrated on advancing a woman's right to choose as a key to the debate, even labeling anti-abortion groups as "anti-choice". It is not liberty of the three fundamental rights that is most important, but the foundational right, the right to life. The anti-abortion groups have recognized this and have co-opted "pro-life" as their moniker. However, they seek to extend the right to life to non-humans. In this article I show the glaring fault in the pro-life argument and address a possible objection.

The crux of the "pro-life" argument is the following: 1) All human beings have a right to life. 2) A fetus is a human being. 3) Therefore, a fetus has a right to life.

The argument centers on the justification of proposition two, and is where it ultimately fails. It is possible to show that a fetus is human but not a human being, a very important distinction. A fetus contains characteristics of human beings which anti-abortion activists can delineate ad infinitum. For example, evidence shows that at a microscopic scale a fetus contains cells with human DNA similar to grown humans, and at the macroscopic scale a fetus contains features similar to a grown human, particularly in the pregnancy's third trimester. (The second of these is often sensationalized with plenty of gruesome pictures showing a fetus' features). Even with all its similarities with you or me, a fetus is not an entity unto itself. It is not an individual which can perform self-sustaining and self-generating action. A fetus is completely subsumed by a female in her womb and is physically connected to and supported by the woman through its umbilical cord. It is a part of the mother and in essence is the mother.

After gestation the fetus can become a human being, but until then it is a potential human and not an actual human. The fetus only acquires

the right to life upon birth, at which point the baby is physically separated from the mother and is able to sustain its own life. As a potential human (no matter how viable), it as such can not have rights; while the female who is an

actual human being certainly does have rights. To restrict abortion would make the right of liberty of the female subordinate to a mass of tissue in her body. This is the "pro-choice" position which is only obvious as a consequence of establishing that a fetus has no rights.

A pro-life rebuttal to this argument will likely fall along the lines of claiming that a fetus is a human being that is dependent on the mother just as a child is dependent on its parents or a medical patient is dependent on a kidney dialysis machine. A fetus is not a human being with a physical dependency because this notion of dependency would contradict an important essence of a being, its individuality. An analogously contradictory statement would be to say "a square is a circle with four corners".

To make this more concrete the following explains how the two examples of a newborn and a patient can be addressed. In the first case, a newborn must rely on its parents to feed, clean, and teach it, but this dependence is literally superficial. A baby is a separate organism which breathes on its own, processes its food for nutrition, and learns the ways of the world through its five senses. A fetus is physically connected to the female through the umbilical cord which carries nutrients and waste in the blood just as a woman's arm is connected to her body.

In the case of a patient sustained by a machine, the life-support machine performs the task of a part of the human body. Together the machine and the patient form one entity, just as the female and fetus are one entity. These pairs function together as one. Therefore, as seen in these two examples, the characteristic of dependency cannot be harmonized with the separateness of an entity.

Abortion rights activists can effectively counter anti-abortion arguments about the "rights" of a fetus, thus leaving them clutching little more than their collection of bloody pictures. With only an emotional appeal that lacks a rational justification, I can only imagine what new gimmick they will pull from their bag of tricks.

In 1972 the U.S. Supreme Court heard testimony from a wide range of witnesses in order to make a ruling on the legality of abortion in the *Roe vs. Wade* case. Among these witnesses were several prominent

medical physicians and scientists asked to testify about when human life began, and all but one confirmed that human life began at conception, the one outlier saying there wasn't conclusive evidence either way. For the next 30 years the debate about the beginning of human life raged on. Abortion advocates would have you believe that human life begins the moment a fully-grown baby becomes completely detached from its mother, landing naked on the hospital bed. But wait! There's still an umbilical cord! Ok, so according to that rationale, that would mean that life doesn't begin the moment the baby is out of the birth canal, but rather a few minutes later when the doctor takes his surgical scissors and frees the mother of the "burden" of this new human being.

Instead of believing in a moment when a baby hits fresh air and magically becomes human, or is it magically transformed from a non-human to a human being with the snip of a scissors? Scientists have time and time again agreed that human life begins at conception. An official U.S. Senate report on Senate Bill 158 (97th congress) says, "Conception marks the beginning of life of a human being—a being that is alive and is a member of the human species. There is overwhelming agreement on this point in countless medical, biological and scientific writings." In spite of countless evidence and testimony by experts of all ideologies, pro-abortion supporters still relentlessly beat the drum that the fetus is not a human being and will not be one until that magical moment of detachment from the mother. I ask them this: how does something that is not human suddenly become human simply by growing older and bigger? Whatever is human must be human from the beginning.

The argument that the fetus is not human because it is physically inside of its mother is weak and flawed. Abortion advocates would say that because the baby is attached to the mother it is part of the mother, like a limb; therefore the property of the mother. If a person wanted to cut off her own ear, so be it, it belongs to her (just ask Van Gogh); therefore, if she wants to cut off the baby

growing inside of her, fine; its essentially part of her, merely an extension of her body, her own property, so go ahead. But wait! Van Gogh's ear had the same genetic make up as the rest of his body. The same

Vincent Van Gogh DNA that painted "Starry Night" ran through that ear. A hard fact that even the quickest pro-abortion advocate concedes is that the fetus in fact has a wholly separate and unique set of DNA. The baby's DNA is not the same as the mother's, signaling a new and separate person. The baby is in itself a new human being, not an extension of the human being that is the mother. Similarly, if a car is parked in a garage, it does not become part of the garage, or even an extension of it, but is its own individual entity.

Advances in modern day technology have time and time again supported the fact that an unborn baby is indeed a separate and living human being, not a "potential human." Still and moving pictures show parents evidence of their child moving on its own, sucking its thumb, and reacting to outside stimulus. The movie "Silent Scream" shows the actual process of an abortion from beginning to end. As the suction tube enters the uterus to suck out the baby, the viewer clearly sees the baby "jump" to the opposite side of the uterus in a natural survival instinct. One pro-choice couple, upon having an amniocentesis and witnessing their child grasp the needle changed their minds, realizing the individual nature of the human inside.

Furthermore, the founder of National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), Dr. Bernard Nathanson, came to a similar realization through modern technology after years of committing abortions in his lucrative private business. Dr. Nathanson said, "Modern technologies have convinced us that beyond question the unborn child is simply another human being, another member of the human community, indistinguishable in every way from any of us." He went on to regret his "certainty that I had in fact presided over 60,000 deaths" (*New England Journal of Medicine*).

In similar fashion to Dr. Nathanson's transformation from abortionist to pro-life activist upon witnessing the human life inside a woman's womb, Norma McCorvey, the "Jane Roe" of 1973's *Roe vs. Wade* has also become pro-life. After leaving a life of drugs, cult activity and suicidal depression, Ms. McCorvey has dedicated her life to the pro-life movement. In 2000 at the Oregon Right to Life annual conference "Jane Roe" declared, "I am now pro-life without exception, without compromise and without apology." It looks like Roe can finally agree with all those witnesses from 1972...human life begins at conception.

Pro-Choice
Chris Weed
Staff Writer

Pro-Life
Erin Galloway
Staff Writer



www.belowthefold.com

Editorials

Staff Editorial: Nathan Kennedy

Honoraria and the Diamondback

Last week, during a lame-duck session of the SGA, after hours of debating on various issues, the Legislature voted to remove Compensation For Duties Fulfilled (CFDF) for members of the SGA legislature. I was honestly surprised when I read this in *The Diamondback*. As it has been said, it was a year-long effort to get this passed. What I am wondering, is why did it take a year? The same legislators proposed a referendum to remove honoraria during last year's closing session. The issue was tabled. Again this past fall the SGA voted on a referendum, not a complete removal, but a referendum. The referendum failed and was killed. Then in November, the SGA tried to completely remove honoraria. It again failed and was killed. So why exactly did they magically approve the removal of it in the last meeting of the year? Let me tell you why.

If the majority of members are against a referendum, they most likely are for keeping CFDF, which they proved a month later when the majority voted to keep it. For those of you who are unaware, CFDF aka Honoraria, is the compensation that SGA members receive for their "duties fulfilled". Each member of the SGA is constitutionally required to attend a weekly meeting on Wednesday, many times lasting for many hours. In addition, they are required to work in the SGA office for two hours a week and they must reach out to their constituency by going to meetings such as hall councils or clubs directly related to their

constituency. For doing all of this, an SGA legislator gets a very small amount of money. It has been said that SGA legislators get paid approximately two dollars per hour, if that. The estimated amount of student activity fees was not the amount that was needed for CFDF, due to the fact that many SGA members do not do their work sometimes. SGA members do not get paid for doing nothing, so despite what the other newspaper says, the SGA does do a lot for this campus.

So why did SGA members vote down a referendum? A referendum would have let the students decide if they wanted their money to go towards the SGA; it would have helped the legislators to know how their constituency felt. To those who voted for the referendum: you had the right idea. Those who voted against it must be in favor of CFDF and were worried the students would want to remove it.

In November, they said let's just forget the referendum, let's just remove it. For the sake of the legislators, and thanks to pressure from *The Diamondback*, SGA members felt they needed to remove it. Instead of merely reporting facts to students, the other campus newspaper drives forth the agenda of its editor.

When spring rolled around, that meant SGA elections. With CFDF still not removed, *The Diamondback* jumped at the chance to smear Pat Wu and his entire campaign. On top of it all, *The Diamondback* found a poster-boy for their

agenda of removing CFDF, Aaron Kraus! First they smeared the current SGA, and then endorsed a candidate who knew nothing about the SGA besides removing CFDF. The students then elected a legislature and executive body with 90% of FLASH candidates winning. Good call *Diamondback*.

Now we have approximately three to four legislators who voted on the referendum and CFDF in the fall returning next year to SGA. For the sake of the SGA members again, after a whole year of being told they were useless by the other newspaper, and almost none of them returning, they voted to remove CFDF to feel like they had accomplished something. This could have negative effects on SGA, and some positive effects.

The other school newspaper finds it their job to criticize the SGA President-Elect Tim Daly and the FLASH party. They said that during the election, the FLASH party mentioned nothing about CFDF or removing it. As a newly elected legislator, representing South Hill and a member of the FLASH party, I can tell you this is not true. We had hoped to do a scientific study through OIT asking students their opinions of CFDF to determine how it should be dealt with. The OIT scientific survey was actually done this year by RHA members to determine if students would like HBO on campus next year. The survey was a success and as a result, HBO will be here in the fall. Daly's idea for a survey of students for the HBO plan was a success in capturing student opinion. *The Diamondback* claimed that Daly's FLASH Party never said anything about removing CFDF. Yet, his party was proactive in pushing this issue with the idea of a

similar survey to ask student opinion about whether or not to remove CFDF. Now that Daly is SGA President and the FLASH Party controls the majority of seats, *The Diamondback* has stated it will not cover the issues of the SGA. Can you say sore losers?

With the removal of CFDF, and without a proper opportunity to conduct a survey, we may never know how students truly feel. Instead, we know how *The Diamondback* thinks, or perhaps Jay Parsons, but regardless it is not how all students feel. Last week, I looked at *The Diamondback* and saw their annual "Salary Guide." I also remember constant criticism from them about the SGA receiving a salary. What I want to know is how much do Diamondback reporters get paid? How much does your editor get paid? Where do you get your money from? From student groups paying for ads? From the SGA? The only people on the staff of *The Diamondback* that deserve salaries are the sports writers who actually travel along with the teams. Those of us who work on *The Terrapin Times* do not get paid one cent. We write news stories, editorials and are involved with our paper because we want to get the word out to students on campus.

There is a new SGA now, and a new editor of *The Diamondback*. I believe and I hope that the new editor will be much better and I full-heartedly believe the new SGA will be just as good if not better than this year's. But do not fret, if you are sick of *The Diamondback's* hypocritical actions, we at *The Terrapin Times* will always be here to make you feel better.

Budget Cuts: Live Within Our Means

Seth Schraier
Guest Writer

Recently, there has been a huge movement by the SGA, RHA, and Diamondback to protest Governor Ehrlich and his budget cuts. There needs to be finger pointing, so the first person they point to is our Republican governor. I want to take a moment to defend Ehrlich and even his budget cuts to this university.

When Ehrlich took office, he was presented with an almost \$2 billion dollar deficit. He fully knew what he was getting into, and had several plans to help fix this budget. Not among these plans was taxing every single Maryland resident to make up for the irresponsible spending Glendening did during his administration. Otherwise, what would separate Ehrlich from every tax and spend liberal? One of the main parts of his plan was putting slot machines (note that this does not mean casinos) at four horse tracks across the state.

He figured that gambling was already prevalent in this state with both

lotto and Keno, and that the main reason people went to horse tracks was to bet. Not too many people come to just watch the horses run around a track. So why not stop all the money that currently leaves the state when people go to Delaware and West Virginia to use slot machines? I will admit that there was no definite amount that was estimated to be raised, but many accounts put it close to \$800 million. That's \$300 million more than the proposed "cuts" to this University.

Yet, the Democratic legislature, led by Speaker Busch, killed this proposal. They were much happier increasing everyone's taxes than simply making cuts and increasing other sources of revenue. Part of this tax plan is also centered on increased taxes towards businesses. Maryland has enough of a hard time attracting business here; do we really think that increasing taxes for them will help this?

So now that we don't have this other source of revenue, we essentially have two main choices: 1) Raise taxes, 2) cut services. We've all gotten used to this nice happy place with the increased

spending that's gone on in the University the past 8 years. So any idea of reducing some of this spending and cutting back seems ridiculous to many, which is why they have no problem increasing taxes for everyone in this state to make up for the proposed cuts.

Let me make something quite clear: higher education is not, nor should it ever be, the top priority of a state government. Believe it or not, there are many other programs which need money even more, and by cutting its funds, could create even more damage. What about primary education? Shouldn't the children of this state be given the same or additional funds to their education? And, what about public safety? Is higher education more important than ensuring there are enough police officers to protect you and your family across this state?

It is very understandable why the SGA, RHA, and the Diamondback have continually spoke as if the University should be the top priority; we're all college students here, so we see any damage to higher education as the greatest threat to our own livelihood. What has been lost though, is perspective, and understanding. Students need to understand that Glendening and Mote have had a very close partnership, and have been able to funnel money here for

the past eight years. And once you get to a certain level of spending, you never want to go down.

Look around this campus, and the administrative salaries, at the building ventures, and then try and tell me that the only way to save this university is a 25% tuition hike. You cut services and salaries first. Often, CEO's cut their own salaries before they ask for people to be fired. Why hasn't our own administration done it? Why isn't our SGA and RHA protesting this? Instead, they point the finger, to the man who isn't Glendening.

What the administration and students need to do is something that poor, unemployed people are asked to do day after day: live within our means. When someone is fired from a job, they will decrease their spending. So why is it so hard for our administration and student groups to understand this? Live within your means, and your means will be decreasing.

Editor's Note: Seth Schraier is the outgoing Chair of the Maryland Federation of College Republicans. He is graduating this semester with majors in Government and Politics, Economics, and Criminal Justice.

Staff Editorial: David Needleman

The Peace-Terrorism Movement

"In many regions, legitimate grievances prevent the emergence of a lasting peace. Such grievances deserve to be, and must be, addressed within a political process. But no cause justifies terror. The United States will make no concessions to terrorist demands and strike no deals with them. We make no distinction between terrorists and *those who knowingly harbor or provide aid to them.*"

- The National Security Strategy of the United States (emphasis added)

Two suicide bombers blew themselves up at Mikes Place Pub in Tel Aviv before David Shapiro's International Solidarity Movement came to campus. At the beginning of the meeting, Shapiro expressed condolences for the victims, labeling the bombing a tragedy, but quickly followed it up with a "but."

You've probably heard the "buts" before. Israel is a racist state like South Africa; Zionism is racism; the Palestinians are *the* true peace lovers who hug whales, Eat Vegan™ and would beat Jesus in a morality contest. I know I won't forget the pictures of them ululating and cheering the deaths of my countrymen on 9-11. Not in my lifetime.

You probably haven't heard that the bombers were British nationals. Scotland Yard said the murderers converted to Islam while living in London, finished school and then traveled the Middle East. They joined Al Muhajiroun, an extremist organization linked to Lebanon's Hezbollah. They then

reached their targets under the cover of an ISM protest.

Paraphrasing Shapiro, he said that Israel was entitled to defend itself, and by the same token, armed struggle by the Palestinians against Israel was legitimate. They reason the Israeli army won't shoot back if Americans or other internationals are in the crowd, and they can protect the Palestinians' legitimate right to protest the occupation from Israeli racism and aggression.

The ISM is not a peace movement - they condone the use of force - but a Peace-Terrorism movement that seeks to protect and legitimize Palestinian demonstrators by being white and western. They are the human shields that protect terrorists. Their demonstration *harbored and provided aid* to Omar Sharif, Sharif Hanif, and Asif Hanif. This is what happened in Tel Aviv. My message? Lend the ISM no support, not even a sympathetic ear.

News Editor: Francisco Gonzalez

The Terrapin Times: An Informed Full Disclosure

Over the past few weeks, since the first issue of *The Terrapin Times* hit the campus, our staff members have received a lot of attention. In fact, a recent *Washington Times* article (April 30) mentioned our presence on the UMD campus. We have had enormously positive feedback both on and off campus, as well as a few critics. However, we have had many questions from all. So, we'd like to do a little better job explaining ourselves.

First, we want to establish that we are an *independent* student newspaper. We do not receive any funds from the University, including the SGA. We are funded solely by advertisers and donors. We were the recipient of a Balance in Media grant by the Campus Leadership Institute (LI) in Arlington. We applied for this grant in February, after we first thought of the idea to form another campus paper. Basically, the purpose of the grant from LI is to help college students start up alternative publications to challenge the "liberal-dominated, official college campus newspapers." LI gives money to students only after we show them our progress and the layout of our first issue. The funds we received from them helped with about eighty percent of the costs for the first issue alone.

To survive as an independent paper, however, we need advertising, of which we are dependent on for the rest of our future funds. Of course, we appreciate any other donations anyone would like to give us. But, as of now, we are a non-profit paper. And, that means that all of

our staff is unpaid. Many of us on the staff have put in long hours to help put the paper together through editing and layout. And, others contribute articles and help procure advertising, as well as attend weekly meetings. The staff is very dedicated, and since our first issue, student interest in joining our staff is only growing. Because of the unpaid, yet growing staff, and the advertisers that support us, *The Terrapin Times* is making strides at a faster rate than we all expected.

For now, we plan to be a monthly publication, with quality articles, something that is difficult to do in a daily paper. Yet, our plans include possibly becoming bi-monthly, and with any success, a weekly could be within sight. For now, however, we don't want to pose a "challenge" to any of the other papers on campus. We seek only to be another voice. And, we want to raise awareness of all those other lost voices on campus. While many of us come from conservative to moderate backgrounds, there is room for other issues to be voiced within our paper, and we welcome them.

Some students that don't agree with the issues in our paper have told us they still like that we are here. It gives a voice to our side and stimulates more discussion among all sides. This is the purpose of our guest editorials, as well as the competing issues that we voice within our paper. We hope you all enjoy a good read in *The Terrapin Times*. And, we hope that you keep us in check if you feel we have misrepresented the facts. We seek to inform, not conform.

Guest Column: About Peace, and Peace Forum

Mark Avrum Gubrud

The peace movement is often characterized as a bunch of chicken littles foretelling the end of the world, but I think anyone who has seen films of the devastation brought by the two world wars, or the many wars that have taken place around the world before and since, must understand that modern war usually is the end of the world for the people and places it touches. We live in an age of technology that can be fantastically productive, or fantastically destructive, and we know that a major war fought with nuclear weapons would literally be the end of civilization. Yet we can't seem to kick the war habit.

I grew up during the Cold War, under the shadow of nuclear destruction that was never more than minutes away. In fact, it's still that close, except that somehow we've managed to forget it. When the German people tore down the Berlin Wall, I wondered why it was that we didn't all rush to tear down the weapons that had threatened us for decades. But the spirit of optimism said it was just a matter of time. The war over Kuwait was brutal and frightening, but George Bush Sr. played it as a triumph for the United Nations and the rule of international law. A "peace process" for Israel and Palestine was begun. People stopped being afraid.

Yet over the next decade, Bill Clinton frittered away the opportunity to strengthen treaties and international institutions and respect the authority of the UN, and build a safer world. Clinton was afraid to challenge Senator Helms and the far-right elements who wanted the US to always have the freedom to throw its weight around. And then, Bush Jr. came to power. A weak president with no electoral mandate, Bush's main agenda was to break treaties, restart the nuclear arms race and get weapons into space. 9/11 was a gift to Bush; it made him the most powerful president since FDR.

After the 9/11 memorial service on this campus, I painted a big sign that said "Discuss: Peace or War?" and put it up at the sundial on McKeldin Mall. The idea was to start a conversation within which all points of view would be welcome, at a time when the media was serving up nonstop war talk. The people who joined then sponsored a formal student debate on Afghanistan. Although we had two pro-war and two anti-war speakers, the audience was encouraged to participate heavily in a many-way discussion. It was amazing to see how many passionate, articulate and well-informed people, most of whom we had never seen before, spoke out that night, under a banner that read "Peace Forum ... speak your mind."

The war in Afghanistan was seen by most Americans as a necessary response to 9/11, since bin Laden was holed up there with the Taliban, itself one of the world's most tyrannical regimes. Our worst fears for what would happen in the war have not yet been realized, but I wonder how many people are aware that US bombing killed more innocent

civilians in Afghanistan than were killed on 9/11, as well as ten times that number of putative fighters? Afghans are little better off now than they were under the Taliban; they are ruled mainly by the corrupt warlords we bought off. Karzai has little support, and relies on American bodyguards to keep him alive. Americans are still dying in Afghanistan at a steady rate, as Russians once did. The CIA and FBI concluded that the war did not make us any safer from terrorism, and may actually have increased the danger.

Inevitably, the people who attended the Peace Forum meetings and did the work of the organization tended to be those opposed to war, and so Peace Forum became identified as an antiwar student group. With the unexpectedly quick collapse of the Taliban, interest waned. Yet many of us knew that the Bush gang was going to need another big war to remain so powerful. By February of 2002, it was clear that the next target was going to be Iraq.

If the Afghan war was debatable, the Iraq invasion was clearly an unprovoked aggression. US policy toward Iraq had become a stalemate under Clinton, who would not risk attack by the Republicans for easing relations with the evil Saddam. As a result, an estimated one million Iraqis died, half of them children, under the US-enforced sanctions which prevented Iraq from rebuilding the sanitation and other civilian infrastructure bombed in 1991. By 1996 the UN inspectors knew that Iraq's weapons of mass destruction programs were basically out of business. If Iraq tried to reconstitute those programs in the future, the inspectors would find out, because large industrial operations are needed to produce these weapons. But in 1998 the inspectors were withdrawn by the UN because the US was about to resume bombing. Iraq refused to allow the inspectors to return because the US still refused to say that cooperation would lead to lifting the sanctions.

Last fall, Bush went to the UN, and got a very tough resolution calling for renewed inspections. To everyone's surprise, Iraq complied. Documents were delivered, doors were opened, missiles were destroyed because it was found they could fly 170 kilometers instead of 150. One accusation after another leveled by the Bush gang was exposed as false. The peace movement mobilized worldwide, and the world resoundingly said "No" to invasion. Then, in March, when the invasion force was ready, Bush brushed aside the UN and launched his illegal war.

Today, our troops face angry mobs demanding they go home. Bush couldn't even declare victory in Iraq; instead he said "One victory in a war on terror," perhaps adding together Iraq and Afghanistan - although there is still no evidence of any connection between Iraq and 9/11.

Peace Forum will continue to deal with these issues and others. Our activities on this campus have been very visible and we've made a name. Above all, we're still trying to promote both dialogue and awareness. To all sides, we still say, "Speak your mind." But we are also clear in saying to everyone, "Peace."

Humor

Michael Moore to Mockument Weight Watchers

Nathan Burchfiel
Staff Writer

Michael Moore, outspoken liberal director of the Academy Award winning mockumentary *Bowling for Columbine*, has announced plans to aim his guns at "Fergies Fathouse." Moore plans to use similar tactics to those used in *Bowling*: errant facts, sensationalist demonstrations, over-edited interviews, etc., in his expose' of America's popular weight loss program.

"Twinky" Moore, as his crew has come to call him, experienced a traumatic childhood, being constantly mocked for his weight "problem." In true Moore fashion, *Begging for Cheesecake* will expose Weight Watchers as a capitalist pickpocket, robbing poor helpless fat people of food and money. Being overweight, *Begging* will claim, is society's fault, and programs like Weight Watchers serve no purpose other than to

mock overweight people who can do nothing about their condition.

Begging for Cheesecake will closely resemble Moore's previous work in that facts will be distorted and sensitivities exploited in order to trick the audience into hating Weight Watchers.

As *Bowling* accuses gun owners of being nothing more than fearful rednecks, *Begging* will accuse healthy people of making the unhealthy overweight. Rather than focusing on the problem of dedication and willpower, *Begging* will expose people like Monica Lewinsky and Sarah Ferguson as being members of a vast government conspiracy to trick citizens into believing in its pocket corporations.



Filmmaker Michael "Twinky" Moore

Set to hit theatres nationwide in late August, *Begging for Cheesecake* will include such features as interviews with Rosie O'Donnell, Tom Arnold and the late Chris Farley, as well as exercises in which Moore does not exercise, but rather eats...and eats...and eats.

One highlight of what Moore calls his "favorite documentary" is the demonstration organized by Moore and several of his fat friends; demonstrators will return bags full of spoons and buckets of Ben & Jerry's to 7-Eleven stores across the country, accusing the corporation of making its patrons fat.

Parts of *Begging* follow the recent lawsuit in New York in which an overweight youth and his family sued the McDonald's corporation for his weight problem. The child was found to have

eaten at McDonald's restaurants multiple times each week, consuming numerous Big Macs, french fries and milkshakes. The lawsuit accused the McDonald's corporation of not taking responsibility for its consumers' weight problems brought on by eating McDonald's food. The case was recently dismissed.

Moore expects *Begging for Cheesecake* to be an even bigger hit than *Bowling for Columbine* thanks to his recent media attention. Moore spent his Oscar acceptance speech berating President George W. Bush and Operation Iraqi Freedom, including references to the 2000 presidential elections. Moore considers four recounts all finding Bush the winner in Florida to be "a fiction."

Those suspicious of Moore's work characterize his newest film as another example of Moore's fanaticism. They say he is doing nothing more than fulfilling the old saying: "Blaming guns for killing people is like blaming spoons for Rosie O'Donnell being fat."

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REALLY LIBERAL CRAP

JOSH EISERIKE

HEY ALL. JOSH HERE. DID YOU KNOW THE ELECTION IS LESS THAN A YEAR AND A HALF A WAY? THE BIG QUESTION ON EVERYONE'S MIND IS WHO WILL BE THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE?

LIBERAL CRAP SIZES UP THE DEMOCRATIC CONTENDERS!!!

I HAD TICKETS TO SEE AL SHARPTON PLAY THE HOFF. BASTARD CANCELLED ON US. HE HAS NEVER HELD AN ELECTED OFFICE OR HAD A PROPER HAIRCUT.

JOHN EDWARDS RECENTLY GRADUATED MIDDLE SCHOOL. LADIES LOVE HIM. AMBULANCE CHASERS ADORE HIM.

RAN OUT OF SPACE TO DRAW DENNIS KUCINICH. HE WANTS TO CREATE A 'DEPARTMENT OF PEACE' WITH FREE WEED FOR ALL!!!

JOHN KERRY SERVED IN VIETNAM. SO DID FORREST GUMP AND THAT GUY FROM MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS. IF KERRY IS SO GREAT, WHY HAVEN'T THEY MADE A MOVIE ABOUT HIM?

HOWARD DEAN SAYS HE REPRESENTS THE "DEMOCRATIC" WING OF HIS PARTY. ROUGH TRANSLATION: "SOCIALIST"

JOE LIEBERMAN REMINDS ME OF MY GRANDPA. MATZA BALL SOUP AT STATE DINNERS WOULD RULE, BUT I'M NOT SURE ABOUT A WHITE HOUSE WINE CELLAR CONSISTING ENTIRELY OF MANISCHEWITZ.

CAROL BRAUN IS NOT RELATED TO WERNER VON BRAUN, THE NAZI SCIENTIST. PLUS SHE'S REALLY HOT.

DICK GEPHARDT PROBABLY HAS THE ENDORSEMENT OF ORGANIZED LABOR. HE PROBABLY ALSO HAS GENITAL WARTS.

SO, WHO SHOULD YOU VOTE FOR? SINCE RICKY GONZALEZ IS NOT ON THE TICKET, LIBERAL CRAP HAS NO CHOICE BUT TO ENDORSE BUSH! HE'S HANDSOME, HAS REALLY HOT DAUGHTERS, AND IS EASY TO DRAW!