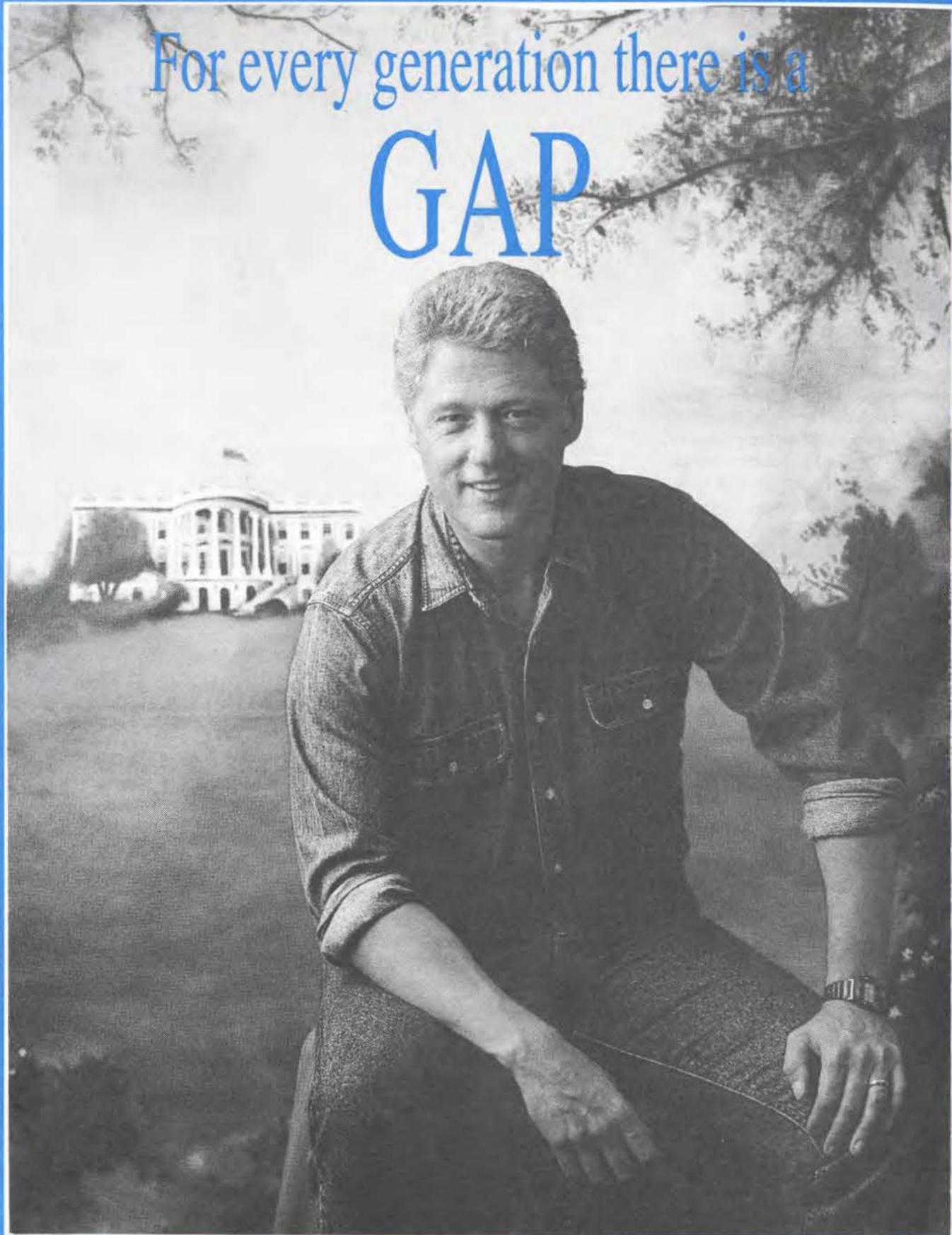


For every generation there is a
GAP



SEPTEMBER 30, 1992

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 1

The Other Side



CITIZEN WACHTEL, FALL FASHION PREVIEW,
STU'S BOOK, BASHING BILLY, AND MORE...

Editor's Desk

As editors of a college paper, we're guaranteed to have a full mailbox at the beginning of each year. Not with letters from loyal and avid readers, but from syndication firms who want to sell us articles, comics, etc. And we're not so hip on the latest trends in Modernism. We're not all that interested. What do these two seemingly unrelated topics have in common, you ask? We are interested in what's going on here at Pitzer. Whether the writing in the magazine would substantially improve, whether the design ideas would blow our current standards away, it's a Pitzer magazine, and what it's about is giving Pitzer students the opportunity to write about issues, or submit creative work, that represent us. Whether Pitzer is or is not a community, it still isn't easy to keep up with all the current issues on campus, and to actually get all the angles on these issues requires more leg work than most of us are prepared to do on our own. *The Other Side* hopes to fill this need.

Over the past few years, *The Other Side* has undergone a transformation which has seen it rise to its position as the best paper on the five campuses. The level of aesthetic and literary quality is unmatched among the Claremont papers. This is due in great part to the journalistic freedom extended to the devoted writers, editors, and faculty contributors. *The Other Side* is unique in that its articles are not simply short, fill in the blank updates of a standard format. While the new editorial staff of the paper hopes to maintain this standard of quality, or at least try and catch up in future issues, we understand that it would be impossible to duplicate the format the paper has adopted under its previous leadership. We can't be them as well as they can, so we're not going to try.

Instead we will attempt to move to a format that will foster investigative journalism on issues affecting the "Pitzer Community," allow for greater freedom to contribute creatively, and will hopefully encourage more involvement from the students and faculty. When Pitzer can boast many of the best Claremont athletes, bands, and culturally diverse students and faculty, there is no shame in admitting that we are more interested in seeing some of these issues covered in *The Other Side*. What it comes down to is that *The Other Side* is a Pitzer paper, so we're going to cover what's going on here.

Lastly, as we say good-bye to the Old Side, we want to say good-bye to some of the people who are leaving as well. While I've already acknowledged the contributions they've made to the paper, we just want to say that they've been good friends along the way. They've influenced the people here at *The Other Side* as well. They worked hell hard on this paper, how hard we didn't know until just recently, and they made it fun. They will be missed here and in many areas of Pitzer College, we wish them the best of luck always.

David Stolber *Seth Winnick*

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After reading *The Other Side*, please recycle

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editorial staff, or even in some cases the writers.

GLORIOUS CONTENTMENT THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC, 1865-1900



Interview

by
Andrew Starbin

Stuart McConnell, assistant professor of history, has just published: Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865-1900. If this subject is unfamiliar to you, you are probably not alone. Professor McConnell wants to see more interest in History here at Pitzer, and we met with him to discuss the book, the department, and History's role in the college's future.

Was this your first book, and how long did it take to complete?

It was my dissertation for all practical purposes, although a couple of chapters were re-written. If you figure I started on it in 1983, I guess it amounts to nine years from the time I first set out to do the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) until the time that the physical product appeared on the market. That exaggerates because the first years were mainly research at the Library of Congress; Philadelphia; Brocton, Massachusetts; the Boston state house; and Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Did you feel any pressures during the experience?

It was a dissertation to start with, so most of the pressure involved with it was there. Get your degree, get done with it...that kind of thing. The book was a pretty natural process—usually dissertations have to be really heavily revised in order to turn them into books. They practically have to be thrown out and started over again. That wasn't the case with this.

Why did you focus on this period?

The subject matter and why it interests me; as I say in the introduction of the book, I came to it sort of through the back door. I started out being interested in questions of community history and local history, and who had local power. I thought, originally, that this would be a good window on that: you would find some sort of hidden conspiracy theory in which members of the Grand Army ruled local politics and dictated the pecking order of the local business establishments. A quasi-Masonic secret society that was the real power; these are the sort of ideas you have when you are twenty-two years old. The more you get into the organization, the more you find out that's not what it is really about at all. It is really about nationalism. It's about visions of the nation and memories of the war, taking care of the wounded, questions about what society owes to the poor and the distressed...

Do you talk about the conception of war being changed, moving into the era of "modern" warfare, and the effects it has on a society?

I have never believed in that "first modern war stuff" about the Civil War. It may be true on some level, but it doesn't interest me very much. That is not to say that the attitudes that these guys have toward the Civil War aren't significantly different from what came before or what came afterward. But I'm not sure that "modern" is the right way to describe it. What I say in the book is that they have a "Millennial Republican View" of the war. They think of what they did as a one time only crusade. They are not really comparable with warriors from other wars. If you want an example of how this plays out in real life, you take the veterans of the Revolutionary War, which is probably the most significant predecessor. Their veterans organization, the Society of the Cincinnati (they founded the city), is a hereditary organization. It's still around because it is passed down from fathers to sons. Now you can do that if you conceive of the war that you're fighting as being something that is an "inheritance" to your children. The other counter example would be the modern organizations like the American Legion or the V.F.W (Veterans of Foreign Wars); organizations that basically came out of World War I. They're still around because they admitted veterans of later wars: World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam. They didn't

view their own war as being somehow unique; it was one war among many foreign wars. What you have with the GAR is something different. It is an organization that's time-bound. It dies when the last member dies. That was very deliberate, and they intended it that way because they thought of their war as being unique: "a one time only war of national salvation". It wasn't for their sons; it wasn't for veterans of other wars—it was just theirs. An apocalyptic event that could only have happened one time, and in one way.

Was the GAR open to anyone who had served? Were minorities allowed to join? Did one have to be a "freeman" in order to join?

You had to be a veteran. They had black members which, in the context of the late nineteenth century, is unusual. Most fraternal orders were often designed to exclude minorities. Other orders had blacks, too, and what usually happened is what happened in the GAR: they were segregated into black parts and white parts. So, in the context of the late 19th century they were relatively advanced. However, if you look at them in retrospect, they are as segregated as any other fraternal order and racial attitudes aren't particularly enlightened.

Your story ends in 1900. Is there more that you would like to say about the GAR in another volume?

I've pretty much said what I have to say about the GAR, although one reviewer thought

it was a shame that I ended where I did—the last member died in 1954. They were the lobbyists for the original veterans pension system. There were pensions before the Civil War, but nothing like what you see afterward. By 1893 the federal government was spending one of every three dollars it took in on Civil War pensions. The members were politically active, and worked to get veterans homes built. Our concept of the social welfare system was non-existent in the 19th century, except for the pensions going to veterans, widows, children, and the sick. It becomes a huge amount of money. GAR agitation brought about the pledge of allegiance and the flag in the school house. They dealt with questions of how the war is remembered; they in-

vented Memorial Day. And, most of the early history of the war was written by or under the guise of the GAR.

What does the reader take away? What conclusions should be drawn after reading the work?

I don't know if the reader is supposed to take away anything—it's sort of an open-ended book. What I hope they will do is think more about what nations are. These guys really thought that they had saved the nation. That's what the organization was about, but they find themselves

for most of the career of this organization in arguments over what the nation actually is, what kind of a nation is it that they saved, should it change, should it not change, and so on. Is it for all white people or not, capitalist or not. These are very basic questions of not only personal identity, but national identity. And, it's not only about veterans. I don't know that I have the answer to the question: "What is the American nation?". If I did, I would probably go and run for office someplace.

As a professor at Pitzer, what are your "duties" or obligations? Is there any pressure to be published or involved in field work?

Well, you need to be published to get tenured. This is, in effect, a tenure book. Beyond that, there aren't those kind of pressures. I usually go to two or three conferences a year. The school pays you for that. I have articles that I'm working on, and you are always working on your classes.

You must read new books for that, re-write lectures, and even design new courses. Of course there's teaching and advising, and committee work. I am on the Executive Committee of the college this year, which is sort of the "Politburo" of Pitzer College. So, it's a combination.

Talk about the History department at Pitzer,...

It's too small.

Well, what changes need to be made? Pieter Jusdson will be leaving, so there is a search now for a replacement. Is there enough interest in History here?

That's a touchy subject at the moment. The first thing you have to say, and I have told this to the Curriculum Committee and everyone else, is there are only three people.



That's not big enough. You can't do a serious coverage of the world with only three people. We only have three slots: one Americanist—me, one Europeanist—whoever we hire, and Alan Greenberger—who does Asia, Ireland, Italy, the Jews, and is now doing a course on the Japanese Internment camps.

So, you would like to see more slots?

Well, I think the college has to decide whether it is serious about doing History or not. Historically, the History field group here has been a service discipline. That is, we have tended to view ourselves as simply offering courses as services to the other field groups, who have got most of the majors. The social-science disciplines (Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology) is really where it's at here. That's always been the case. Those people don't take upper-level History courses. Maybe some surveys or special interests which cross over: pop-culture, like the bomb, or political movements like Fascism. They're not really interested in period courses. They want to study what is happening now and not "History". Most of our courses, up until five years ago, tended to be broad overviews and we never made much pretension to offer a History major. We had specialized courses and seminars, but students really had to rely on the other colleges.

How many majors are there now?

It's actually grown quite a bit. I was hired five years ago, Pieter was hired four years ago—and now the department's attitude toward it has been a little different. We want to build something in History where we have lots of upper-level courses, more majors,...that kind of thing. But for that, you need more faculty. I think now we have between thirty and thirty-five majors; the last two years have been high numbers. But we haven't increased our faculty slots at all, and the move in the curriculum seems to be away from History, generally. It seems that way to me. They are not adding new positions, and our courses don't address the new requirements of the college: one in math, one in science, one in social responsibility, multi-culturalism,

the clusters, and so on. Students will gravitate to other courses to fill those requirements, and a result is: History 55 is six students rather than twenty or thirty. Euro 10 and 11 has only nine or ten. These courses used to serve that function; now they must get the requirements out of the way, and History doesn't cross their minds.

So, the new requirements are hampering the History department?

They are not doing it intentionally, but I think they are

having that effect on our enrollments. We'll see, it could be a one year fluke. We have had people on leave and a lot of other things. But it is clear in the talking that went on about where the college was going, like who we should hire and what we should require of our students, that History is not the "Queen of the Social Sciences" and that every educated person ought to have it (as Werner Warmbrum says). Because, they don't think it is. They think it is about dead people. However, there are exceptions. People like Dan Segal for example, who is basically teaching History courses in the Anthropology field department. Still, it seems to me that there is a difference between someone who is trained as a historian to teach History and someone who is coming into it from another discipline and picking it up.

The search for the replacement of Pieter Jusdson should take well into December. McConnell

would like to see a woman get the position because "it's a hot area and lots of issues are going there". Pitzer has never had anyone specifically designated for Women's History. In any event, the position must cover European History in a colonial context. The focus should not simply be on Western Civilization, but rather Europe and its relation with the rest of the world.



□ 1992 STUDENT (NON) ELECTIONS □ UNOPPOSED

A Review and Short History of Pitzer's Political Organizations by Justin Rood

Fall has swept the landscape of America, spreading the mud-slinging, spring-action, double-barreled, madras-wearing, cutthroat spirit of politics to even the tiniest hamlets of America. Every one, that is, but Pitzer College. Fall has borne us witness once again to the happy absurdity of campus politics.

The student elections were held last week for fourteen positions in the Student Senate, Judicial Council, Student Life Committee and Student Appointments Committee. Of those fourteen positions, only three were contested; ten candidates ran unopposed, and no one even bothered running for Senior Representative.

Twenty-nine percent of the campus - 221 students - voted in this semester's elections. If we include the number of candidates (18), it pushes the percentage of politically active students on campus to 32 percent, which still leaves a whopping 68 percent completely uninvolved in campus politics.

What do these numbers mean? I asked senior Political Studies major Rob Welbourn, whose political acumen I have grown to respect in my studies with him. Nobody cares, he told me. "It doesn't matter who we elect...I don't think that these councils do anything - I've never heard of what they do. I've heard stories of previous classes that have done a lot of things, used a lot of councils that we've voted for. But I don't think they work now."

Ramzi Abed, a political col-

umnist for the *Collage*, echoed Welbourn's sentiments: "Obviously nobody cares, at all, because nobody's running, people are running unopposed...And if nobody cares about it, nothing's going to happen, and it's just useless. We should terminate the Senate. And if we terminate the Senate, then I don't care about it, either."

The Student Senate was begun in 1990 as a "modification of the governance system," according to the *1990-91 Insider's Guide to Pitzer Governance and Organizations*, "to increase student participation." The Senate was to replace the former Community Relations committee and the Student College Council, whose members were appointed. If students were given the power to choose their representatives and participate in a wider range of policy-making, the theory went, it would invigorate the presently apathetic student body into swift, strong political action.

Two years later, less than a third of the student body is concerned with the political process. Seats remain unfilled; most of the positions went to whoever asked for them. The two most contested positions were for the Academic Computing Representative and Freshman Representative seats. Of those two contests, the most invigorating position paper was for a Freshman Rep candidate who vowed to "promote Sagehen pride."

In 1990, the Race for the Senate

included information sessions to educate the voting populace of the Senate's purpose, and those of the other committees. There was a forum, "at which the candidates for...Senate will partake in a limited debate...[T]he candidates will be asked questions by the Pitzer community," according to *Student Senate: A Structural Revolution*, a flyer handed out at the beginning of the fall '90 semester.

In 1992, there was no information session; there was no forum. Indeed there was no need for either, since 10 of the 14 positions had only one candidate.

The *1990-91 Insider's Guide* notes that the Senate proposal "will be evaluated annually. If it is determined to be successful after three years, the College By-Laws will be amended...to make the Student Senate a permanent feature..." Year two has seen voter apathy rise to nearly 70 percent: will year three be any different?

I asked Abed if there was a viable alternative to the Student Senate, should it fail. "Well, we could get a really really powerful person to come in and take over everything and make everybody do whatever that person wants them to do, and I think that we should have thirty or forty more rules, and I think that it should be really strict and we should live in cages."

Viable? No. Happy Absurdity? *Sans doute*.

A Global Conscience: Justification for Higher Education

by Alfie Alschuler

A group of five people from the Claremont School of Theology went to the Global forum this summer, in Rio de Janeiro. This was a summit held by over 600 NGO's (non-governmental organizations), which ran concurrently with the United Nations Earth Summit. The Global Forum was a separate conference from the Earth Summit. In this conference the NGOs made their own treaties and personal commitments to serve the environment and global ecology.

Grace Newkirk, from the School of Theology, came back with some general attitudes and specific projects that she believes will have a positive impact on the earth's future. This forum allowed her to develop a true global conscience. "Maybe before I believed in a global conscience, but the forum allowed me to develop a network of people to put this conscience into effect."

She is currently working on a project to provide the Incan women of Raquipa, Peru, with floor looms. This project is an effort to raise the earning capacity of women, thereby empowering them and giving these women the ability to raise themselves out of poverty. Currently, these women sell their wool for 50 cents a pound. If they had floor looms they could weave the wool and raise the value of the product that they sell. Grace is trying to raise money to buy and ship a loom to these women.

Frank Rogers, a professor at the School of Theology, also attended the Global Forum. He is interested in the role that religion can play in the global environmental movement. "In the past, religious attitudes have reinforced the notion that the world is here to serve us and thus religion has become part of the ecological problem." Prof. Rogers also talked about an internal soul searching that needs to take place. "We need to retrieve the prophetic tradition that says creation suffers when humankind suffers. We need to recover a 'shalom' where both humans and the earth are restored to their fullness."

Rogers believes that the religious community should examine it's interaction with the environment on a local

level. The prophetic role of religion can be met by serving as a role model. Religious communities should sponsor recycling programs and habitat restoration, as well as address environmental issues in their religious services. Prof. Rogers is working on those sorts of issues in Claremont and at the School of Theology.

Both Rogers and Newkirk were disappointed with the progress made by our political leaders at the UN Earth Summit. Newkirk said that all the people involved in the Global Forum who attended the UN Summit were dismayed by the lack of progress and felt their own gathering was much more productive. President Bush's performance was predictably atrocious.

Rogers said in reference to President Bush, "It would be difficult to overestimate the depth of anger and dismay the world as a whole felt toward Bush and the USA he represents. His watering down of one treaty and his refusal to sign another was seen as his reluctance to take part in an international effort to heal a world-wide crisis. While Bush perceives himself as a barometer of the American public's wishes, the main problem with the Bush Administration is the mistaken assumption that being pro-ecology is being anti-job." This kind of black and white thinking seems typical of the Bush administration. His attempt to simplify the issue in order to gain political support was unproductive and hindered the progress on the Earth's environmental problems.

As Pitzer students, we may be upset with our leaders and their performance at the Earth Summit. How-

(continued on page 37)



Sagehens' Soccer Triumphs In Overtime

by
Jason Aufdemberg
and
Mark Taylor



Sagehen men's soccer has had its ups and downs in the early going. Pomona-Pitzer opened the season with a heart-breaking loss to Division I foe Loyola Marymount. The Lions upset the Hens in the last seconds of overtime, 2-1. Next, the Hens faced Division II opponent Cal State San Bernardino, who are ranked in the top 5. The Hens were not up for the challenge (they lost 6-0).

The Hens next opponent was long time rival and defending national champions, UC San Diego. In the past the Hens have been unsuccessful in the games against San Diego. However, the Hens were ready for the battle, and fought to a 1-1 overtime tie.

Friday the 19th, the Hens notched their first victory against St. Thomas of Minnesota. The frustrations of previous games and the hot weather may have been the reasons

why tempers flared in the latter stages of the game. As the game became more physical, cheap shots became numerous. Two players were issued red cards and given early exits from the game, while still more players were issued yellow cards.

At first, it did not look all that promising for the Hens. The Hens fell behind, 1-0, late in the second half. However, a rally cry was heard from Coach Schwartz on the sidelines. "Don't just up and give it to them!!," Schwartz screamed. This seemed to change the whole momentum of the game. The Hens continued to press and hustle for every loose ball. It finally paid off as Andrew Dillworth, finessed the ball off a defender and past the outstretched St. Thomas goalie in the final minutes of the game. This sent the game into overtime.

Now, the stage was set for a



hero to emerge and out of the Claremont smog appeared Joel Harper. Joel "Prime Time" Harper's speed and agility allowed him to take the ball deep into the heart of the defense. In the early minutes of overtime, Harper put the Hens on top for good, as he scored the decisive goal. Final Score: Hens 2 - St. Thomas 1.



Last Saturday, the Hens outplayed local La Verne team for a 1-0 victory, in the first league game. Unfortunately, the score did not reflect the outstanding and aggressive play by our team. They had numerous shots on the goal in both halves, but could only capitalize on one shot made in the first half.

If the tie against the defending national champions and the win against St. Thomas and LaVerne are precursors of things to come, men's soccer should have a promising season. If the Hens continue their strong play they should be on their way to a SCIAC title.

Land of the Lost

1. Rob "No Look" Wood. No Rob, the no look has nothing to do with your tennis game. It relates to the minor three car fender bender that resulted from an unsafe, reckless lane change at the Division III national tennis tournament.

2. Los Angeles Dodgers. With a pitching staff that contains Orel Hershiser, and Ramon Martínez, and an outfield that has Darryl Strawberry and Eric Davis, who would have imagined that the Dodgers would have one of the worst records in baseball. Mitch Webster is second on the team in homers with 6; enough said.

3. Boston Red Sox. With another Cy Young year by Roger Clemens it is still doubtful that the Sox will emerge from the basement of the A.L. East.

4. Los Angeles Raiders. After disappointing losses to both the Broncos and the Bengals, the Raiders opted to replace Jay Schroeder with Todd Marijuanavich. Although Schroeder is not the best QB in the league, he should have been replaced after the Bronco game and not the Bengal game.

I'm Freaking Out!

Tale of a Senior on the Brink
by
Tim Ahern

I'm freakin' out!!! I'm afraid that the dudes in the white jackets are going to come into my room in Mead and drag me out like a wild and savage beast, kicking and drooling while I dreadfully clutch my beloved computer.

"I think he's just totally gone absolutely and completely mad," cries the worried suitemate. "He's running around stark naked in the suite, hair disheveled, eyes bulging out, banging his head violently, but in a rather jovial and melodic way, against the walls while screaming fanatically. 'I don't know what I'm going to do with my life.' ARRRRGR!!!"

"Don't worry kid," says the voice reassuringly on the other end of the line. "Keep him away from the toilet water and don't let him near any heroin. We are on our way!"

"Well Charlie, it looks as if we've got another one of these lost seniors who after four years of deep and intellectual thought has just burst like an overused condom. Don't forget the straight jacket and Thorazine like you did last time when that guy started spitting like a Llama."

When they arrive, there I am, in my birthday suit, in the exact manner described. The entire dorm has fiendishly come to witness this gruesome display of insanity. The men in white jackets swiftly pounce up the stairs with the grace and strength of a Cheetah, tackle, straight jacket and drug me in the blink of an eye. The stunned and ragged students, who have gathered in little clusters, all gawk at the strange scene unfolding before their glazed and sunken eyes. They frantically whisper to each other, and

look anxiously with nervous excitement around the room to see who could be next.

This is my fear, this is my nightmare!!

I have been walking in a daze around campus, enshrouded in a mental fog, since my lifeless return to Pitzer campus. The uncertainty of my future permeates my being, my consciousness, my soul. Sleep has been very little, homework uninteresting, life a mess, and chaos a constant. I see happy, but confused freshmen, lightly jaunting around campus, sucking up their new found freedom from mommy and daddy, drinking to contentment, full of excitement and hope, in total enjoyment and expectation of what the life of academia will bring. "Suckers," I whisper under my breath as I walk past the fools. They are unaware that in four years they will be a jumbled mess of confused and bewildering facts which torment their soul.

I have actually bumped into the odd one or two Seniors who know exactly what they want to do after graduation and frankly speaking, I want to split their head wide open with one fell swoop of an ax and gleefully watch their brains ooze majestically between my toes. Ahh! If life could only be so good. Really, I'm not the violent type, but I'm a tormented soul. I just want a life, a good life. Who give's a shit about the white picket fuckin' fence. I just want to go out on my own. Be an individual, a real person. The great question gnawing at my innards is, "what the fuck should I do?"

I have come up with many good and well thought out ideas. I

could conceivably go on a bombing campaign against the CIA, FBI and DEA, leaving a path of destruction in my wake, in a valiant one man attempt to emancipate our country of the evil doers. Ridding Washington of scum. Yes, I would be branded an outlaw. They would brainwash Americans everywhere about my evil intentions. But I would be on a moral crusade, single handedly bringing a crushing blow to the industrialists, imperialists and capitalist jerks disrupting the world and its development. Their term of wrath would be ended. I would be the savior of democracy and freedom. Yes, just think about the possibilities. A modern rebel, lashing out against society in a forceful and destructive swoop, transforming our country into a respectable and livable place.

I am a little pensive though about this sort of career move considering the present state of things. "Yes!" I grit my teeth and exclaim when I silently ponder the idea of being such an outlaw. But the fact of the matter is, I just do not think I am fit for the life of an outlaw. The constant hiding and restraint on my daily routine would be just awful. Yes, I would thoroughly miss some of my bourgeois pleasures like a good cup of cappuccino, or an afternoon of brain-rotting in front of the TV. So, I must contemplate other back up ideas, as well.

One of my friends has the idea that we can go to the Caribbean and be Scuba diving instructors. I could just see my dad's face when I tell him this one.

"Well dad, after you have just spend about \$90,000 so I can think critically, I have carefully waded through the options placed before me and, well, I think that I'm going to the Caribbean and teach dumb tourists Scuba diving."

"You little twit. You get your ass in line and make something of yourself." Typical words from an old dog

that grew up in the fifties. But what can be expected?

Even though these are two brilliant plans, I have actually thought about going back to school for more education. Can you actually believe that? Now, after four rigorous and grueling years of higher education I would actually consider more of this. But this mania does not seem to be afflicting only myself. Yes, I have spoken with

"...it looks as if we've got another one of these lost seniors who after four years of deep and intellectual thought has just burst like an overused condom."

others, who, can you actually believe, want to go onto to Graduate School as well. What has happened to us? Have they spiked our food at McConnell with some sort of mind altering and thought controlling drug? Is this some huge plot against our lives whose magnitude is completely unfathomable? I suspect that Marriot, which serves so many colleges in this country, is the cover for a joint Scholastic - FBI operation, to keep the money flowing to the Universities and keeping the information greedy professors with an ample supply of students for slaves, while in turn keeping the intelligent people out of society and the main stream so that all the stupid ones continue to go to Washington, work for the CIA, be a congressman, and/or become Presi-

dent 'n shit. Just think about that, huh!

I don't know. Maybe I could even get a job. That is if I could find one seeing the mess that the jerks before us have left, but that's another essay in itself. Lately, I have been carefully examining and critiquing what exactly I have done for these last four years, charting my growth, assessing my assets and coming to grips with my faults. I have come to the conclusion that I can now think! I can read a very boring book written by some archaically inclined professor who needs to keep his job and then I can write an absolutely pointless and boring paper for another professor to read while he or she is in the process of writing another one of these torturous books that will be forced upon some unaware and innocent students. I can type. I have learned to make a damn tasty burrito at McConnell. My guitar playing has improved. I can read a newspaper that doesn't even have comics. (I still haven't learned to clean up my room, but please don't tell my mother.)

My conclusion has been - BFD!! How's all this going to get me away from suckling the parents' money. I have no idea. Am I employable with such a vast wealth of talent, knowledge and skills? Which just leads me back into that cycle, which I cannot get out of. I keep going round and round. This has lead me to my insanity. The constant churning of thoughts and ideas and thoughts and more ideas., AHH!!!

I have actually made an appointment to see my advisor and talk to him about some of my chaos. I have even thought about making up a resume, and even going to the Career Planning Office to check 'em out and see what they can do for me. But I haven't taken such drastic action yet. I guess I'll sit around the entire year, tormenting myself. Why be productive when you can worry!

The Poetic and Religious Quest of Cesar Vallejo

by N'Tongela Masilela

March 16 was the centennial of the birth of Cesar Vallejo, who was born in Santiago de Chuco, northern Peru, in 1892. He died in Paris on April 15, 1938. He wrote four books of poems: *Los Heraldos Negros* (1918), *Trilce* (1922), *Espana, aparta de mi este caliz* (1938), *Poemas Humanos* (1940). All these anthologies have been translated into English. Cesar Vallejo is, simply, one of the greatest, if not the greatest, poet of our century. He was a literary phenomenon from the Third World. Thomas Merton, the religious philosopher, has said of him: "Cesar Vallejo is the greatest catholic poet since Dante - by catholic I mean universal." *Cesar Vallejo: The Dialectic of Poetry and Silence* by Jean Franco is one the best studies of this Latin American poet. In celebration of the centennial, N'tongela Masilela interviewed Bob Mezey. Robert Mezey, the translator of Cesar Vallejo's *El Tungsteno*, is Professor of English and Poet-in-Residence at Pomona College.

Masilela: Professor Mezey, you have translated Cesar Vallejo's work of fiction, *Tungsten*. Could you describe the circumstances of your first encounter with this great Peruvian poet?

Mezey: As I explained in the *Translator's Preface* to *El Tungsteno*, it was almost accidental. I was in Barcelona and studying Spanish. My friend, Hardie St. Martin, the famous translator, suggested that I translate *El Tungsteno*, as a way of improving my Spanish. When I read the book, my heart sank because the latter part of the novel was not nearly as good as the early part. Although there are wonderful passages, it is very programmatic and full of exaggeration, with all the worst faults of socialist realist fiction. As I say, I was taken up with the problem of translation, which is always interesting, regardless of the quality of the work one is translating. For all its exaggerations, excesses, and prejudices, the book is honest, because he tells of his experiences among the Indians in the sierras of Peru and workers on the plantations. It is an important document.

Masilela: As you were translating *Tungsten*, did it bother you that the quality of Cesar Vallejo's poetry is of such a high order, whereas this novel is of a different qualitative order? How would you account for the difference?

Mezey: Yes, it bothered me (laughing).....

Masilela: *Tungsten* is a proletarian novel.....

Mezey: Poetry and prose are very different arts. There are good poets who sometimes do not write good prose. I have not read enough of Vallejo's other prose to be able to say definitively that the man was not a good prose writer. But it is not a good novel, and there are several reasons for that: first, he had locked himself into a form [i.e. socialist realism] which is almost guaranteed to produce bad fiction. An absurd theory of art. It is a

worse form than the Victorian serial, in which Thomas Hardy had to write some of his novels. Vallejo was taking on an almost impossible task. Secondly, Cesar Vallejo's life in Paris in most of those years was one of extreme poverty. Probably this novel was written in haste to support himself. He wrote a lot of journalistic pieces to keep body and soul together.

Masilela: I would like to pursue this question a little bit further. Not necessarily that there is an easy answer to it. It is interesting, as you say, that when writing *Tungsten*, Cesar Vallejo locked himself in a socialist realist mode, which was fatally constricting in many ways, whereas he did not employ this literary style when he wrote his outstanding poetry. Vallejo's *Spain, Take This Cup From Me*, was written very quickly as a political response in poetic form to the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939, a book of poetry propelled by high moral seriousness intertwining Marxist philosophy (dialectics) and poetic form. The book was written in haste in response to a historical crisis, yet it is a text of great poetry. *Spain, Take This Cup From Me* would seem to confirm the existence of a remarkable qualitative difference between the prose and poetry of this always astonishing writer. I do not know whether this is a question at all.

Mezey: No, this is an excellent question. It exposes many complexities in his writing. It is true as you say, that *Espana, Aparta de mi este Caliz* is of high quality, even though it lapses now and then into Marxist rhetoric. It was written in passion, late in his career, after many, many years of not writing poetry at all. The simplest answer is that he was a born poet. Writing prose, Cesar Vallejo was writing in a form that was not so natural to him. He wrote fiction for money. The only book of his that ever made any money is *Rusia en 1931*, his reflections on his travels in the Soviet Union. No one

would take this book seriously today. His Marxism, which in his novel is very schematic, very simple-minded, and very disappointing, does not seem to mar his poetry. The Marxism in his poetry is complicated by an enormous intelligence and an awareness of the complexities of human existence, that one does not encounter in his novel. I do not know the reason for this. When he wrote verse, he wrote with his total intelligence, whereas when he wrote the novel, he wrote with only a part of his mind, as a doctrinaire Marxist.

Masilela: In the *Translator's Preface* to *Tungsten*, you hold Cesar Vallejo's poetry in high estimation. You call him a great writer. I concur with your evaluation and judgment. How would you characterize the extraordinary achievement of Vallejo within modernism?

Mezey: Modernism is a term I'm less and less comfortable with as the years go by. It is a slippery word and it is hard to say what it means because it takes in so much. By no means is it coherent or consistent. In fact, it takes in many things which are in fact opposed to each other. But there is no question that Vallejo was a modernist, a modernist poet. In some ways he is hard to account for. Even though as a young man he seems to have written poetry derivative of Quevedo and the great Spanish classics, for the most part, he does not come out of Spain nor show much interest in the Spanish tradition. He does not seem to have read a great deal of the French Surrealists and had no serious contact with them. They were too cerebral for him. But independently, and in isolation from the French Surrealists, he is one of the inventors of surrealism for Latin America. In this inventiveness, he is similar to Ruben Dario. But his voice is something totally new in Spanish poetry; it had not been heard before.

Where the French Surrealists are cerebral, Vallejo is absolutely visceral.

Masilela: I agree with you concerning the cerebralism of the French Surrealists. In his essay, "Autopsy on Surrealism", Vallejo violently attacks Andre Breton for refusing to align Surrealism with Marxism. Vallejo was sympathetic to Louis Aragon and Paul Eluard because they were moving towards and seeking a point of synthesis



between Marxism and Surrealism. But I want to come back to something you just mentioned: you say that Cesar Vallejo is not easily traceable and locatable within the lineages of Spanish poetry. Could it be that Vallejo's originality comes from the fact that he was partly, if not wholly, a Latin American Indian: perhaps the absolute greatness of his poetry is the direct product of the clash between the Quechua language and the Spanish language embodied in his poetic genius. This is evident in his book of poetry, *Trilce*. I think the new-

ness in his poetry partly comes from this historical experience.

Mezey: I think that had a lot to do with it. Both his mother and his father were cholos, half Spanish and half Indian. Compared to other great Latin America poets, for instance Vicente Huidobro or Pablo Neruda, Vallejo is closest to his Indian origins and ancestry. I do not think much scholarship has been done yet to determine how deeply knowledgeable Vallejo was of Indian art, cosmology, poetry and song. This would be a very interesting study. In his early poetry Cesar Vallejo uses some Indian words and ideas.....I respect a writer like Vallejo because he lived out what he believed in: he lived in poverty. He saw himself as a follower of Jesus, and the very title, *Espana, Aparta de mi este Caliz*, is what Jesus Christ said, without the *Espana*. There are many poems in which Vallejo seems to portray himself as a Christ figure. He embodies in his life that kind of suffering and self-abnegation. This is very closely tied in with his Communism, a very primitive kind of communism. For me the Communism of Cesar Vallejo is different from that of Pablo Neruda. There is something suspect in Neruda's Communism. This is true also of Bertolt Brecht, who had the best of everything. They both lived in great comfort. Whatever one may say about Cesar Vallejo's beliefs, he lived out his politics and was absolutely committed. He died very young [46 years old] and very untimely, partly because of the way he chose to live.

Masilela: You mentioned a tremendous amount of religiosity in Vallejo's poetry. As early as 1928, Cesar Vallejo's Marxist compatriot, Jose Carlos Mariategui, in his book, *Seven Interpretive Essays on Peruvian Reality*,

(continued on page 38)

Bashing Billy Boy

Slick Willy and the Dentyne- white Smile

by
Jenny Murphy

They're back... and no, I'm not talking about the little people in your TV, but something more, like flying broccoli. It's politics time! Once again, the American public has been subjected to ten long drawn out months of frivolous campaigning and, come November, which way shall the arrow point? Will it be 'ol George (a.k.a. George Bush) or Slick Willie (a.k.a. Bill Clinton)?

It has not been the issues at hand, but the ways in which they have been dealt with that has been making the public deem this whole scheme as a tedious war with no purpose. First of all, people are bombarded by the media and tacky, tasteless advertising. Dentyne-white smiles plaster the front pages with Mr. Candidate and his family, Mr. Candidate and the children of the future, Mr. Candidate conversing with the poor rural folk, Mr. Candidate hugging the lepers, and (sorry to say) the list goes on. But most exciting of all, is that you, the voter, get to look forward to the flood of junk mail at your door, advocates swinging upon your door knocker, and fliers swamping your windshield. As darkness shadows the day, families all across the nation turn to the tube only to be faced with cheap and irrelevant debates because the nature of these petty little arguments are filled with childish insults and personal attacks. Have you seen one eye-opening debate with solutions to the nations problems presented smoothly? No. Instead, it has

been a circle of famished carnivores fighting over that one plumb dead cuckoo—the naive voter. These are not rationally supported and educated arguments, but rather, a game of monopoly. Put your opponent in jail so you can pass go and collect your winnings.

But the candidate in this year's primaries that has proven to be the true master of this game is none other than Slick Willie, otherwise known (and feared) as Bill Clinton. Here is our Democratic nominee for the presidential race, the flaky Kennedy of the 90's: appealing, beguiling, yet deceiving.

First of all, one should take note of the "wonderful" campaign tactics Bill has taken up. It seems as though he has turned every debate into a bitter personal attack, while slipping in lurid rumors here and there. Sadly enough, he knows no other strategy, as he first proved to us in his dealings with Tsongas. Remember how Tsongas offered to pull his negative campaign adds bashing Clinton if 'ol Billy would do the same in return? In his tendency to evade straightforward answers, Bill didn't take the offer but replied by referring to one of the negative campaigning tactics Tsongas had used against him in the past and continued to whine about the way Tsongas was characterizing him. Strike number one.

Well, that's one admirable man. Honest as Iago. What's so questionable is the fact that this is one of the ugliest, nastiest, finger-pointing cam-

paings ever and Billy Boy is still in the lead. And the horrifying reality... his campaign tactics are target practice in comparison to what he'll do to this country, if elected. He's already waged a hard-ball campaign against Bush in hopes of deflecting Republican attacks on his own character. This election has already emerged as a generational contest of unusual intensity in the longest time anyone can remember. There's no



chance of compromise here. The choice is between two men of two very different eras.

Getting back to the Abbie Hoffman generation, let's take a look at Bill's latest attempts. Like a perfect molded ball of Play-doh made possible by the greasy touch, Bill also has turned himself into the well rounded candidate through the slippery touch of his enterprising schemes. When asked about his economic policies and how he would deal with urban poverty and crime, 'ol Bill couldn't answer. Yet, he didn't hesitate to blame Republican economic policies for inner-city despair. In another speech, he declares he's tired of all the blaming that's going on in these campaigns and wants change. In fact, "change" is the

key word in this boy's vocabulary and, quite obviously, "sensible" isn't. For example, he has made up his mind that he wants a more expensive government as well as \$150 billion in new taxes over the next four years to be imposed on upper-income earners, American corporations that invest abroad, and foreign corporations doing business here. Drum roll please for the total on the increased spending bill... \$266 billion dollars despite the fact that everyone is in an economic slump and we have a minor debt about the size of a 50,000 pound piranha.

It gets better. We have an all-of-the-sudden-environmentalist who wants those cute, little environmentally fit cars for everyone. But did your little inquiring minds know that back in Arkansas (home sweet home), he is letting a hazardous waste incinerator sit around despite the public's constant complaints and replying only when confronted with, "we'll look into it." Bill looks. Bill sees. Bill does, nothing, nada, nil. Also on the homefront, where the majority of the country's chicken population is located, problems have arisen with the small and feathery folk. Awhile back, our clucking friends turned up infected with disease and contaminated Bill's state. He dealt with this situation by ignoring it until the pressure got to him. Bet you can't guess what he did next. That's right, had someone "look into it," meaning, "cover it up and don't let the press get to it." For all of this and much more, I do proudly crown him the Prince of Sleaze.

With all this in mind, why shouldn't his character be questioned!? The more 'ol Billy Boy moves up in the polls, the larger the question mark looming over his candidacy. We've seen this guy argue about sex on Donahue (of all talk shows), heard his Elvis imitation on the radio, watched him attempt to be hip with kids on MTV and frankly, I'm getting scared.

This guy, who played golf at an all white country club and then apologized for getting caught just might be the next leader of this country!? May Zeus strike us dead now.

On the other hand, let me ask you a question. Just who exactly is running to be the Democratic president, him or that lovely wife of his, Hillary? You know, not the bimbo he played musical beds with, but Cookie

*"The mother-
of-all
campaigns is
here, with the
Prince of
Sleaze still in
the lead."*

Monster, the careerist-mother who mocks other stay-at-home cookie baking mothers and shouts out at every election appearance, "If you elect Bill, you get me!" Well I feel privileged, how about you? Come on, the poor dear is still caught in her 60's activist days and spends her spare time firing cheap shots at Bush's marital fidelity in Vanity Fair magazine articles.

So, as you can see, the mother-of-all campaigns is here with the Prince of Sleaze still in the lead. Nobody ever said politics was a polite affair and Slick Willie has just lived up to that statement with all his slickness and scandals. It is time for those nervous nellys who run the Democratic platform to wise up and face reality. This is not a game of monopoly.

That's Progressive?

An Editorial
by John Bracken

"Spy" Magazine recently listed 1,000 reasons why not to vote for George Bush, just in case you didn't have any of your own. But what about Bill Clinton?

'I don't belong to any organized political party. I'm a Democrat,' Will Rogers once said. Today, millions of Americans are similarly dissatisfied with what is the least conservative of the U.S.'s two major parties. Today these "progressive" voters refuse to continue the Reagan-Bush era, and yet are repelled by a Democratic ticket that is crafted to appeal to conservative, white voters. The 1992 Democratic convention was more conservative than any other since the inclusion of African-Americans in the party process in 1964. The work of the Rainbow Coalition in the last 8 years was either ignored or, slightly altered, adopted as rhetoric; while the national ticket is composed of two conservative white males. And yet despite this move to the right, many progressives appear ready to bite the bullet and vote for a candidate who does not challenge the status quo in any meaningful manner. The only way to vote for Clinton would be to ignore numerous incidents in his campaign, many of which have been forgotten by the media and voters.

The most pressing reason not to vote for Clinton is

his fickle stand on racism. In March, while taking a break from the campaign, Clinton played a round of golf at the Country Club of Little Rock, a club with 500 members, none of whom are African-American. In response to criticism of this insensitivity, he responded that, "It was the only place we had time to play." It was later disclosed that Clinton has been playing at this all-white club for seven years. Coming from a candidate who professes to support civil rights (although his state has no civil rights bill) his actions and excuses were pitiful.

Clinton's next offense cannot be written off as an innocent oversight. His now infamous diatribe against Sister Souljah as an invited guest at a Operation PUSH convention was clearly orchestrated by his campaign staff in an attempt to appeal to white 'Reagan-democrats' who resent the Reverend Jesse Jackson-led movement for racial equality. The attack was clearly an attempt by Clinton to follow in the footsteps of the Reagan and Bush, who have played upon white racism in their victorious campaigns. The fact that Clinton's racist tactic came so soon following the spring uprising in Los Angeles only underscores his intention of capitalizing on white fears. (Clinton is not the first Democrat to blatantly target these voters with racist actions. In 1988, Michael Dukakis—in a fall campaign that was similar in Clinton's in that it avoided any contact with Rev. Jackson—appeared in Neshoba, Mississippi without referring to the Civil Rights movement or the murder of three civil rights workers that occurred there.) The Clinton campaign quoted her out of context from a Washington Post interview published over a month before Clinton's attack. (The interview was published on May 13, Clinton made his remarks on June 15.) Souljah had appeared as part of a PUSH Youth Summit that dealt with issues of empowerment and voter registration—she was hardly a featured participant, and her comments on the panel were never addressed by Clinton.

In the aftermath to the Senate's shameful performance in the Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings, 1992 has been declared "the year of the woman." Yet, a look at Clinton's record hardly shows a feminist agenda. In light of polls showing up to 80% of voters supporting the right to reproductive freedom, Clinton has advertised his pro-choice stance. Yet, both he and Al Gore have carefully altered their views on abortions to appeal to as many voters as possible. Both have supported parental notification laws for young women, and both have opposed Medicaid funding of abortions for women that cannot afford them. In fact, *The New York Times* quoted letters to constituent voters (sent as recently as 1989) in which both Clinton and Gore stated categorically that they opposed abortion.

Clinton has received much praise from the press

for his choice for Al Gore as a running mate. Yet Gore (whose father, like Bush's father, was a Senator for many years and has spent virtually his whole life in Washington) is evidence of Clinton's failure to be "an agent of change" (his campaign's apparent theme). Whereas Bush added a running mate who was measurably less talented than himself, Clinton added a candidate with whom he is virtually identical: both are young, conservative, white, Southern males. The fact that there were no women and only one person of color on the 'short list' for vice-president (Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson was admittedly there just to make things look better) should deeply disturb voters on the Left. One must ask, would things be any different in a Clinton administration? If Clinton is serious about women's issues, if the Thomas hearings truly affected his campaign, why did he not choose (or even consider) people such as Texas Governor Ann Richards or Washington D.C. Congressional Del-

¹ The Los Angeles Times reports in its September 26 edition that Clinton had a draft notice cancelled through his use of political influence, specifically 'after a lobbying effort directed at the Republican head of the state draft agency.' Clinton has stated that his not being drafted was 'just a pure fluke' and that he had used 'no leverage' to avoid induction in the Army in 1969. The Times quotes the former secretary of Clinton's town draft board as saying she was verbally accosted by Clinton in July of '69 when she told him that she could not rescind his draft notice. She says he told her he'd 'pull every string he could think of to avoid serving. Among the powerful people who functioned as 'leverage' for Clinton were Arkansas Senator J. William Fulbright and Raymond Clinton (Bill's uncle who was a politically influential Arkansas car dealer). The fact is that Clinton was drafted, had it rescinded, and then failed to serve in either the Army or the ROTC (in which he was inducted in order to avoid the Army).

egate Eleanor Holmes Norton?

The Clinton campaign possesses a win at all costs attitude evident in its manipulative use of Hillary Clinton. Last winter, he was only too happy to trot her out to prove that he did indeed have family values. Later, when pollsters discovered that Hillary Clinton's image as a strong and independent woman didn't play in Peoria, her hairstyle was changed and she entered a cookie baking contest with Barbara Bush. When push came to shove, Clinton was only too willing to alter his wife's image to serve his campaign, rather than stand by her as a capable



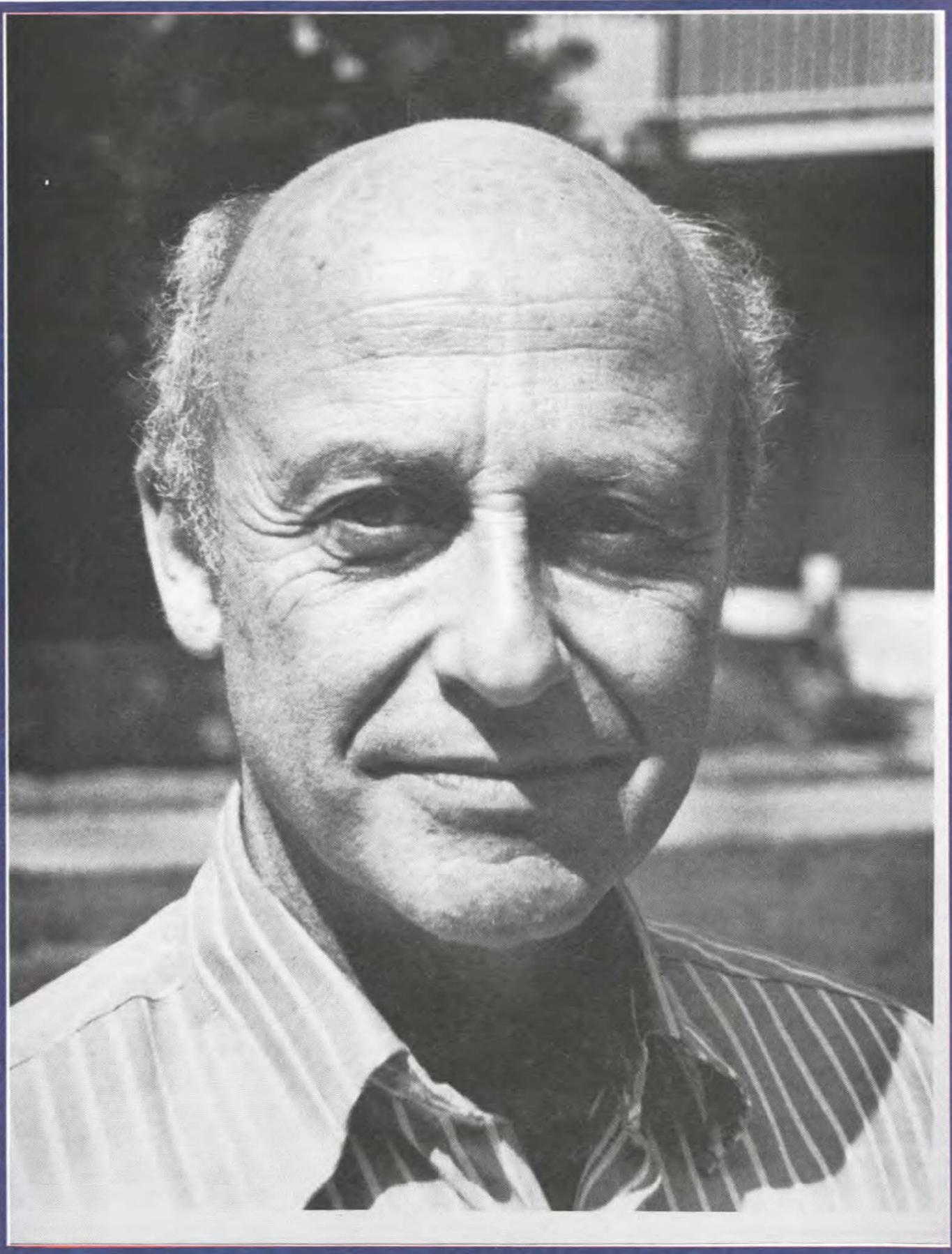
woman in her own right.

Clinton's hypocrisy and duplicity on the issue of his draft record has been well documented. Recent disclosures make it increasingly apparent that Clinton indeed used political influence to avoid serving in Vietnam.¹ Previous to these disclosures, the Clinton campaign made incomplete, misleading, and false reports to the media. Clinton was not an objector to an immoral, colonial war waged against a Third World people, but rather was concerned with his already forming public image. The irony is that he adopted a hawkish, chest-beat-

ing image in the midst of the radical pro-military fervor which followed the Persian Gulf War. Clinton wants voters to know that (as in the case with Sister Souljah) he is like George Bush in the important respects. He will stand up to special interests like unions and Jesse Jackson and will not allow unruly Third World subjects such as Saddam Hussein, to get out of control.

There are alternatives to Clinton (other than Ross Perot). The Green Party, the Socialist Party, Peace and Freedom, and the New Alliance Party are all running candidates that support progressive politics. However, voting for the President and other higher offices can and should be questioned as a priority. If one is interested in voting, local and statewide initiatives deserve more attention. For instance, in California, Proposition 167—the "tax the rich initiative"—is on the ballot. It would reverse drastic budget cuts that have been eating away at the state's infrastructure since the end of Edmund Brown's tenure as Governor. Proposition 165, supported by Governor Wilson and other conservatives, would cut welfare benefits by 25% to mothers with more than two children.

It is issues such as these, as well as local ballot measures and school board issues, that our attention should be focused; not so much on the circus of the national race. Bill Clinton will not deserve the support of progressive voters until he clearly demonstrates a commitment to the issues that matter: racial and gender rights, lesbian and gay freedom, universal healthcare, military cuts, progressive taxation, improved access to education for all, etc. Until then, the Left cannot compromise itself by voting for Bill Clinton.



C i t i z e n W a c h t e l

When I was asked to interview Al Wachtel, a Pitzer professor who is running as the Democratic Candidate in the 28th Congressional District (which includes Claremont), I was uncertain how to convey a proper image of him. I have always associated Al with Shakespeare and James Joyce, but recently he reminds me more of another great writer, Czechoslovakia's former President, Vaclav Havel.

Vaclav Havel proclaimed the importance of an intellectual theory—the link between totalitarian rule and lies and, consequently, between democracy and truth—Havel provided a dramatic illustration of the powerful role ideas played in toppling the communist regimes throughout Eastern Europe. What once looked to outsiders like abstract and highly idealistic theorizing of intellectuals, became immensely practical blueprints for the subversion of a system based on intellectual pretense and falsehood. In much the same manner, Al Wachtel is an outsider with a blueprint for restoring integrity and prosperity to a country whose leaders have become corrupt and self-serving; an individual who hopes to throw the stone that will break the clay feet of the monstrous marble statue that is the Washington establishment.

Al's success depends largely on whether the electorate holds elected officials responsible for the catastrophic state of the economy, and are willing to send a clear message to the political establishment that the American people don't find the current state of partisan politics acceptable, with its divisive and disastrous effects. If Al Wachtel is typical of the candidates likely to win this November, then there is reason to believe that the American political system may still hold some resilience. If not, the current crisis is unlikely to be resolved.

NOTE: The following interview was conducted in Al Wachtel's office in Scott Hall, Pitzer College, on Friday, September 17th.

TRAVIS: Why did you decide to run for office?

AL: I've been teaching for most of my life and I consider the profession of college teacher as my life's work. But in recent years I've found that the economy and the moral state of our government has grown unacceptable. Finally, I found that I couldn't go on teaching and imbuing in my students sets of values that they will see contradicted when they step out into the world and try to function there. That being the case, it was necessary for me to try to correct the situation to insure that the values people learn in their homes, classrooms, and places of prayer have

An
interview with
Congressional
Candidate
Al Wachtel.

By
Travis Wright

significance in the marketplace.

TRAVIS: Do you think you have a chance to win?

AL: Strangely (he laughs), I have a wonderful chance to win. First, our country is in a disastrous state, economically. If we are not in depression, we are at the lip of depression. People recognize that, and they can point to the sources. The incumbent I'm running against served for ten years on the committee that deregulated the S&L's (Savings and Loans). That resulted in a spate of failures which have saddled the tax payer, you and me, with a half trillion dollar debt. A half trillion dollars — that's over five hundred billion dollars! And by the way, that five hundred plus billion dollar debt is not counted as part of the national debt. So when we say we owe 4 trillion on our national debt, we really have to add another half trillion. To make the official debt look like a little lower than it is, the government keeps the half trillion separate.

And by the way, the banking scandal is not over. There are a series of banks that are going to be declared failures as soon as this election is over. The incumbents are trying to hold that fact back until the votes are in.

Okay, so item number one that's going to help me in this election is the disastrous state of the economy and the recognition in the American public that the incumbents are to blame. I can go on, but perhaps you have a follow-up.

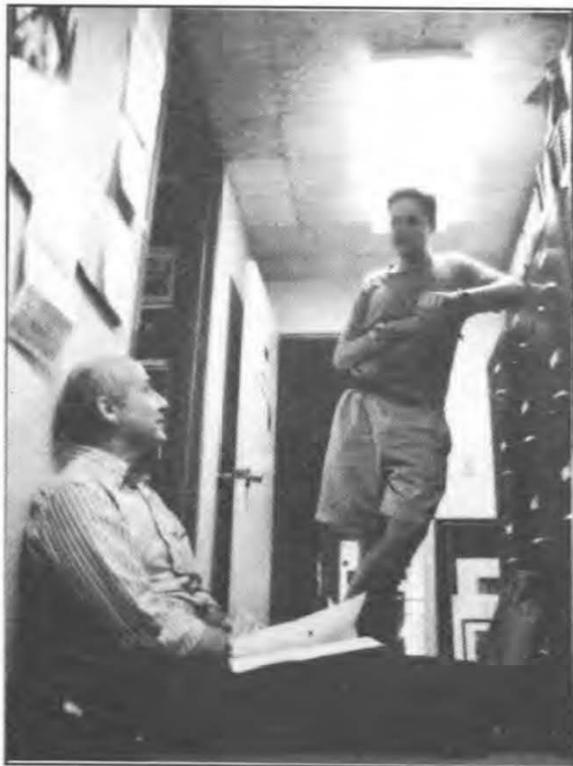
TRAVIS: What, um... (I stammered, not accustomed to my Shakespeare professor possessing such, how shall I put it, political acumen)

AL: There are other items if you'd like me to talk about them.

TRAVIS: Sure, what are your suggestions for improving the current

situation?

AL: Well, for one thing we have to take an honest view of the situation. The incumbent in our district comes up with outlandish statements and outlandish proposals which he thinks will please the electorate. I was sent a recent letter of his to a beer drinkers



magazine in which he says that he's very concerned about beer drinkers having to pay tax on their beer. It's clear as can be that that's an unabashed attempt (on his part) to get the votes of one interest group. That's not the way to approach the problems of our country. We must approach problems honestly, recognizing that one of the things that's caused our national debt to develop is a huge expenditure on military build-up. It brought the Soviet Union more rapidly to bankruptcy than it would have collapsed otherwise because the Soviets tried to match the U.S. militarily as we were building up and, consequently, their system col-

lapsed.

What the strategists who developed that plan didn't recognize is that it also brought us to the brink of failure. Now we are trying to cut back expenditures, but again in an absolutely irresponsible way. We cut back on our military spending without providing re-direction for the firms and the workers who used to be employed in the military realm. Whether those firms and workers were in the military itself or working for defense contractors, they should have been provided for. We should have recognized that there had to be a cooperative venture among business, government, and labor to re-direct the economy into peace-time activities. There's lots that could have been done, and lots that should be done, and will be done if and when I'm elected.

TRAVIS: What do you think of the Congressman Snyder, who I believe is from Oklahoma, who has attacked Big Business as being responsible for a lot of the problems in the American system of government. Now the "big business" PACs (Political Action Committees) have ganged up against Snyder. The NRA has even started their own ad campaign, unconnected to his opponent, attacking him. What's more, his opponent has received hundreds of thousands of dollars from other major PACs. It looks like he won't be re-elected because they've overwhelmed his capacity to compete financially. How do you feel about that?

AL: One of the things we have to stop is the control of PACs and the money they give to the people in Congress. The incumbent in my district has the second largest income from S&L's of anyone in Congress. Is that related to the fact that he served for ten years on the S&L de-regulating com-

mittee? Interestingly enough, his war chest got rich while the S&Ls failed. The S&Ls didn't know what was in their best interest, he didn't know what was in their best interest, and in trying to serve their demands he caused them to fail, and compromised himself.

TRAVIS: So you agree that "big business" is to blame?

AL: One of the most important things to do at this critical time is to understand rather than cast blame, Travis. Instead, we have to change the situation. PACs should not have the kind of force that they now have in Congress, and, by the way, in the White House as well. PACs should be restrained, expenditures on campaigns should have caps, and there should be less of an ability on the part of incumbents to take advantage of their incumbency: to get free mailings back to their districts, for example. Taxpayers pay for these abuses while incumbents run around saying they're conservative, which, of course, they aren't. They're self-serving. There is a huge difference between those two words, conservative and self-serving.

TRAVIS: Now, I know you're running on a bi-partisan ticket, can you tell us a little bit about that?

AL: Yes, obviously I'm a college professor, not a politician. When I decided to run, I decided to run as a Democratic, but I wasn't part of the Party machine. Even in the primary I was an outsider. There was a person who had the county committee's endorsement to run.

TRAVIS: And that's who you beat in the primary?

AL: Yes, I beat him and one other outsider who decided to run based on recognitions similar to my own. In fact, that other person, who finished second (the party's choice finished

third) has become an integral part of my campaign. That's Tommy Randall, and he's now the day to day manager of my campaign. But that itself is an indication of our ability to win. We won against the county Democratic machine, and now we're going to win against the Republican machine in this



district, which, by the way, is following a course of self-service, trying to garner special interest votes, breaking up the nation into little interest groups that dislike each other. Those aren't Republican principles. I mean, a good, conservative Republican seeing what those people are doing, must be horrified; and I am horrified. As I have been horrified by some of the unacceptable things that some of the conventional Democrats have done. So, in that sense I'm running bi-partisan, but I'd like to say I'm running non-partisan because I don't just want to divide the country into two groups, and say I'm running for both of those groups. I am running

as an American. And I hope that Americans interested in coming together and helping me, and the country, fight a war against oppression, which is what we are in, will vote for me. I'm hoping to go to Congress and speak to the hundred plus new Congresspersons and say to them that this is a dangerous situation in which party politics will be detrimental. Let us not be the new kids on the block. Let us be an interest group of non-partisan Congresspersons who will fight for the transformation of this country, a transformation of the laws and procedures of this country, into a form that will help us defeat oppression and regain ascendancy and excellence in the peace time world that now lies before us, potentially.

TRAVIS: Can you be more specific about what your political philosophy means in concrete terms?

AL: For example, we have to recognize that the so-called "peace dividend" hasn't ever come home. That, in fact, what we face are little partisan wars, not so little by the way, in various regions of the world that still have to be confronted and stopped. Serbians slaughtering Croatsians,

Bosnians, and so on, wars in Somalia that cause millions to die of starvation. We have lots to do in the world, and in our own country. And at this juncture in American history we must place our primary attention to what's going on in this country. Because if we don't straighten our economy out and get our people working and productive, and if we don't regain our ascendancy in the machine producing world (which we can re-gain), we are going to be in large economic trouble.

TRAVIS: We already are.
AL: Yes, and if the United States ends up in large economic trouble, the world is going to end up in even larger



"I found that I couldn't go on teaching and imbuing in my students sets of values that they will see contradicted when they step out into the world and try to function there."

economic trouble.

TRAVIS: Do you think most people realize the sensitive juncture we are at in world history? I mean, the collapse of the Soviet Union, as well as Eastern Europe, which preceded it—that's as big as W.W.I and W.W.II put together.

AL: It's huge.

TRAVIS (over-lapping): And we're doing nothing about it.

AL: It's huge. The whole world is transformed. There's no longer a

confrontation between powers, or power blocks.

TRAVIS: And we don't know what to do.

AL: That's right, because a great deal of our manufacturing and creative effort has been devoted to killing, developing a war machine, and now we don't need most of that war machine. Suddenly, we're confronted with the possibility of peace-time creation. It ought to be a blessing. Instead, because our government didn't pay attention to the consequences of the transformation economically, it's become an economic catastrophe, resulting in a disastrous downturn in all aspects of our economy. But our economy can be turned around. There are things for our country to do, investments that have to be made cooperatively among, and between, industry, government, and labor, that can turn our economy around.

TRAVIS: For example?

AL: For example, all of us can work to become more productive. Labor can begin to put its efforts into being as productive as possible, instead of being in a state of conflict with management. Management, and industry in general, can place its attention into being supportive of the labor force, and the nation, instead of looking after its own narrow interests by trying to make top dollar for the small group of the company owners. Because you can only make top dollar for the small group of owners in the short term by decimating your company in the long term - and that's what they've been doing.

TRAVIS: That's the 1980s.

AL: That's right, that's the nature of the 1980s. That has to be stopped.

TRAVIS: Well, in that sense Bush is implicated, but, oh, we won't get into Presidential politics? Unless you'd like to.

AL: Politics is politics.

TRAVIS: Okay then, who do

you support in the campaign?

AL: Well, at this point I support Mr. Clinton. He has a plan, he has something in mind to do. The truth is that Mr. Bush doesn't have much in mind. Bush, like the incumbent in my district, is running around trying to give goodies to special interest groups and trying to divide groups into hate factions. That's not going to help the country. That's what we've had for the last 4 years plus and *that* has placed us in a disastrous position.

TRAVIS: But don't you think that it's going to take more than the next four years. I mean, no matter who is elected we're going to be paying for the sins of the Eighties for a long time.

AL: The truth is that you're right. We are in bad economic shape, and we have to do something about the national debt. This is going to require years of hard work. But I would like us to look at that hard work as a great opportunity. You know, as my life as a professor I've done lots of hard work: writing papers, books, stories and articles—that's hard work, but I loved it. And I think we can love the hard work of bringing this country back. Let's say that the difficulties we confront give us a wonderful opportunity to become a unified country again, citizens of a nation who want to support and help each other. It's a tremendous opportunity.

If we take the money from two B-2 Stealth Bombers, which don't work anyway, and re-direct that money into the Head Start Program, which does work to save at-risk children from going into lives of crime, we can fund the program 100% without raising any money from taxes beyond what we've already done. This is one example of the wonderful opportunities we have to re-direct our energies and re-direct our funds in positive, redemptive directions that can help reduce crime in this country by increasing the number of citizens who see their lives as hope-

ful, that can reduce drug dependency by increasing the number of citizens who see themselves as potentially successful. The great majority of the drug-dependent people in this country are drug-dependent because they have no prospects. They see themselves as lost, hopeless. And if we can make them see that there's another possibility, their lives can become positive contributions to the success of the country, instead of a drain on its economy.

TRAVIS: Is there anything else you'd like to address?

AL: Well, I'm perfectly happy with what we've spoken about, but if you like I could talk about some of the programs I have in mind a little more extensively.

TRAVIS: Okay, what do you have in mind for this district?

AL: For this district I have in mind a major investment in infrastructure and environmental problems. Again, not with government pouring in money, but with a cooperative venture among government, industry and labor, in which there are tax benefits given to industries that re-direct their attention to these issues, in which there's a re-training of laid off workers and the unemployed. For example, if we could build a bullet train of sufficient quality to induce workers to cease to use their cars to go into L.A. every morning, a bullet train that runs from San Bernadino into the city in three quarters of an hour, instead of three hours on the freeway, think of what that will save in way of environmental damage and lost potentially productive time. We could have a more productive work force simply by virtue of a more pleasant way of getting to and from work; and in producing that way, we could be re-employing the unemployed, the laid off; re-tooling and re-directing the energies of those great engineering firms which produced weapons of destruction towards producing better items of civilizing and

civilization; re-energizing this district as one of the great places to live and to work. A billion dollars invested in such activities would create 52,000 jobs in this district by way of spin-off work: concrete workers, steel workers and so on. So I see that as a tremendous opportunity.

TRAVIS: What else?

AL: I spoke a lot about the bullet train, but we also need a new sewage system, one that will save us from pouring raw sewage into the ocean every time it rains; we need a safe water supply; we need to do something about our smog problem in this district. Therefore, we have to develop more efficient gasoline engines and try to develop alternative engines like battery driven cars, all of which are means of re-energizing the manufacturing base in this country. We have to work on alternative energy sources, geo-thermal energy, bio-mass energy, wind energy-

TRAVIS: But isn't one of the major problems that big automatic corporations buy the patents to new advancements in alternative forms of energy?

AL: Yes, the point being that it has to be made profitable for the car industry to re-direct itself into those activities.

TRAVIS: How?

AL: Again, a cooperative venture between industry and government. We have to persuade these companies to see the advantages in pursuing new technologies, instead of blindly sticking with what they have and killing off every new possibility. There has to be incentives for them to investigate these alternative energy sources and utilize these new technologies. Again, if the people who run these corporations cease to try to make top dollar right now and start thinking in terms of making top dollar for everyone in the next ten to twenty years, we will regain our ascendancy as the

manufacturing center of the world, instead of letting it go off to our sister nations of the world, which, by gosh, we do have the resources to beat, economically. We were the best, we gave it away, and now we should take it back. We can, with this kind of re-tooling, re-directioning of intelligence, cooperative ventures, and dedication; not only to R&D (research and development), but also M&P (marketing and production). We developed the VCR. We researched and developed it, but we didn't work on the production and marketing well enough, and as a result we lost out to other nations of the world. Now, part of this is that their employees are paid less than our employees and so forth. But we have to work to adjust these sorts of problems to create a level playing field in the world

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"We were the best, we gave it away, and now we should take it back."



Family Values— At What Cost?

The Historical Development and Present- day Affects of "Traditional" Family Values

by
Pieter Judson
Assistant Professor
of History

"Family values" are privileged values—moral habits with which one can't argue. They are presented as universal, as if they apply to all humans everywhere. Even those who oppose the Bush Administration's current use of the term rarely question the term itself. Single parents, lesbians and gays, minority communities, all claim to practice their own equally valid form of family values.

But I want to make a different argument. I want to point out that "family values," as we think of them, are not traditional, but are in fact, a relatively recent invention of industrial capitalist societies. These "values" fulfill the crucial function of helping us, ideologically at least, cope with the painful contradictions inherent in our system of organizing production and social life.

The very term "family values" suggests both its historical roots and contingent qualities. The fact that they are called "family" values suggest that there might be other kinds of values such as "workplace values" or "marketplace values." Why should we privilege the values which apply to one type of social situation (the family)? Does this mean that we don't wish to have values in all social situations?

Proponents of "family values" explain the term in this way: the only legitimate values are taught

in the family which they claim always precedes social life. That's why there's something special about them and why we refer to them as "family values." Yet historically, we know the nuclear family is a recent phenomenon, one

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which emerged from the trauma of the industrial revolution in 18th and 19th-century Europe.

In pre-industrial societies in Europe, for example, very little separated family life from work life. "Work" and "family" took place at the same location, and those two categories would not have been understood as separate in pre-industrial communities. Children labored alongside their parents, grandparents, cousins, neighbors, and the

rest of an extended community, to insure their subsistence. Most Europeans didn't experience a shift to an industrial economy until as recently as the 19th century. When it hit them, it tore apart the world as they had known it. People no longer worked at home for subsistence. Now they worked in factories for a wage.

Middle-class people experienced some similar changes, since their places of business became separated from their homes. Middle-class women no longer helped in the family shop or supervised the journeymen and apprentices. Instead, they moved away from the site of production to new suburbs, where they raised their children. New middle-class ideologies conceived of the home now as a place of rest, relaxation and recuperation for the tired husband and father, worn out from his travails in a cutthroat world of business. It became the wife's role to create that restorative world, although she did not receive a wage for this work, since middle-class ideology imagined housework to flow from her nurturing tendencies, and not from hard work.

When middle-class ideologists noticed the misery of the new working-class slums, they imagined the workers and their wives to be morally wanting. Those workers' wives should have been providing their husbands with a clean home in which to recuperate, and their children with healthy surroundings. Of course, what these ideologists took to be "normal" (husband works, wife creates home, kids are "raised") rarely applied to working-class reality. Working-class women toiled in factories alongside their husbands and often

with children. Their children had no time for childhood, since they worked from an early age. And although their home and workplace were now separate places for working-class people as well, their homes rarely offered them recuperation, rest, or relaxation.

*"Family values
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Having crudely outlined the recent historical origins of this form of family and its values, I want crudely to suggest some functions that those values may have taken on in industrial society. In a capitalist industrial society, "family values" can't apply to public, social intercourse. The realm of labor, business, and politics requires a different set of attitudes to function. Capitalism couldn't reproduce itself without competition and profit taking, neither of which is compatible with the nurturing values of the family realm. Privileging family values leads us to imagine that the suffering which we encounter in the public realm of work is not an inevitable part of the system, but rather the result of some individual or group's moral failing. Family values allow people to imag-

ine that at some level they can retain their humanity, even in a system based on the commodification of human labor. As long as we continue to see family and work as two different places, requiring different standards of behavior or values, we will continue—however uncomfortably—to believe that family values don't apply to the realm of work while blaming social problems in that realm on a lack of family values.

Treating the family as a protected site where special values are taught and practiced allows us to deny the increasing evidence that instead of providing nurture and support, the family is often a site of exploitation and cruelty. This week a Florida court is hearing the case of Gregory K., a child who seeks a legal separation from his natural parents. Gregory, who has accused his parents of neglect and abuse, wants to be adopted by his foster parents. Gregory's biological mother, her lawyer, several news commentators, as well as religious and political figures complain that a decision in Gregory's favor will strike a blow against the American family. They would protect the family at the expense of their children's health and safety. If we continue to privilege the family, how can we end the physical, emotional, and sexual abuse practiced behind its protective facade? And if we continue to make the family the exclusive realm for the teaching and practice of fundamental values, how can we hope to affect change in the larger community of production and work?

Alumni Corner

An Interview
with
David Straus
by
Jenny Spitz

For Pitzer alumnus David Straus ('90), returning to Pitzer as a featured speaker for the Atherton Society, marked not only an opportunity to see old faces and chow down on a McConnell tofu burger. It was a chance to address the Pitzer Community, once again, about an issue he feels strongly about.

The Atherton Society's dinner on September 16, was Straus's chance to make what he calls, "a full circle". Straus was referring to the first time he spoke to a group in the McConnell Founders' Room during his freshman year. He asked Pitzer to help the group he had founded, "Students Concerned for Soviet Jewry", a group that worked to help Jewish "refuseniks" leave the former Soviet Union. Because of his work, he received the opportunity to fly to Boston and meet with Kitty Dukakis and Sen. Edward Kennedy during the 1988 presidential race. However, this time around, Straus came to Pitzer to speak on the topic "Elections 1992" from his viewpoint as a member of Governor Clinton's National Advance Staff.

Straus, who also began the improvisational group "Without a Box", had joined the Diane Feinstein campaign staff during the 1990 California race for governor, following his graduation. He worked first as a field coordinator on college campuses and then moved on to her advance staff. After his work on the Feinstein campaign, Straus worked on several campaigns for private groups, mainly as a press consultant.

Following a year of campaign work, Straus left for Hungary on a Fulbright Grant to study and make a video documentary about political changes on the Jewish identity. During his year in Hungary he also published an article in the Hungarian press.

Returning to the United States in June, 1992, he went to the Los Angeles Clinton campaign headquarters,

and was taken on as a member of the Clinton National Advance staff. Straus's job consists of going to the site of a slated campaign stop and researching pertinent community issues for the Governor to speak about, as well as, "helping empower the local community to organize this event." Straus is very eager for people to realize that Clinton campaign workers come from a very diverse working background and that, "anyone can work on a Presidential campaign."

When asked what experience

"It's most important to get involved in the grassroots level."

has meant the most to him while working on the Clinton campaign, Straus replies, "watching the crowds get energized seeing Governor Clinton speak." As for the worst thing he's seen during the campaign, he recalls Pat Buchanan's speech during the Republican convention, and says that it's a sick society that would give Buchanan a voice.

Straus is about to leave the Clinton staff to begin study at UCLA film school. His future plans are to "affect public policy through film making, although not necessarily through making documentaries." As for advice that Straus would give Pitzer students interested in working in politics, he says that it's "most important to get active in the grass-roots level," and that students should get involved in the campaign at its start, not right before the election.

"Singles" Singles

by Matt Nathanson

When Seth asked me to review a new album for this paper I was really pumped on it, until I realized that there have been no good albums released since the middle of the summer. I ended up choosing the soundtrack for the film *Singles*. The album was released in mid July, but the film has just been released, so I decided that I could get away with reviewing it now. Well enough explanation...

Alice In Chains opens the album with a scorching track called "Would?" The song, built around a tribal drumbeat and a thundering bass line truly showcases Layne Staley's unbelievable vocal talent. His voice is thick and terrifying, he is a truly underrated singer, in a truly underrated band. The Alice In Chains track is one of the best on the album.

Pearl Jam donates two tracks to the record, "Breath" and "State of Love and Trust." The latter is definitely the better of the two. It opens with a typical, reckless Stone Gossard riff and then unravels with hard driving fury. I'm sure you have heard it a million times, but Eddie Vedder is brilliant and his voice shines on both songs. In "Breath," Jeff Ament's bass dominates the song, while the band's vocal harmonies, though sometimes borderline cheesy, add a richness to the song. Pearl Jam is one of the greatest bands around today. These songs are both welcome pieces to the album.

Chris Cornell's acoustic song, "Seasons," is another of the soundtracks highlights. I love

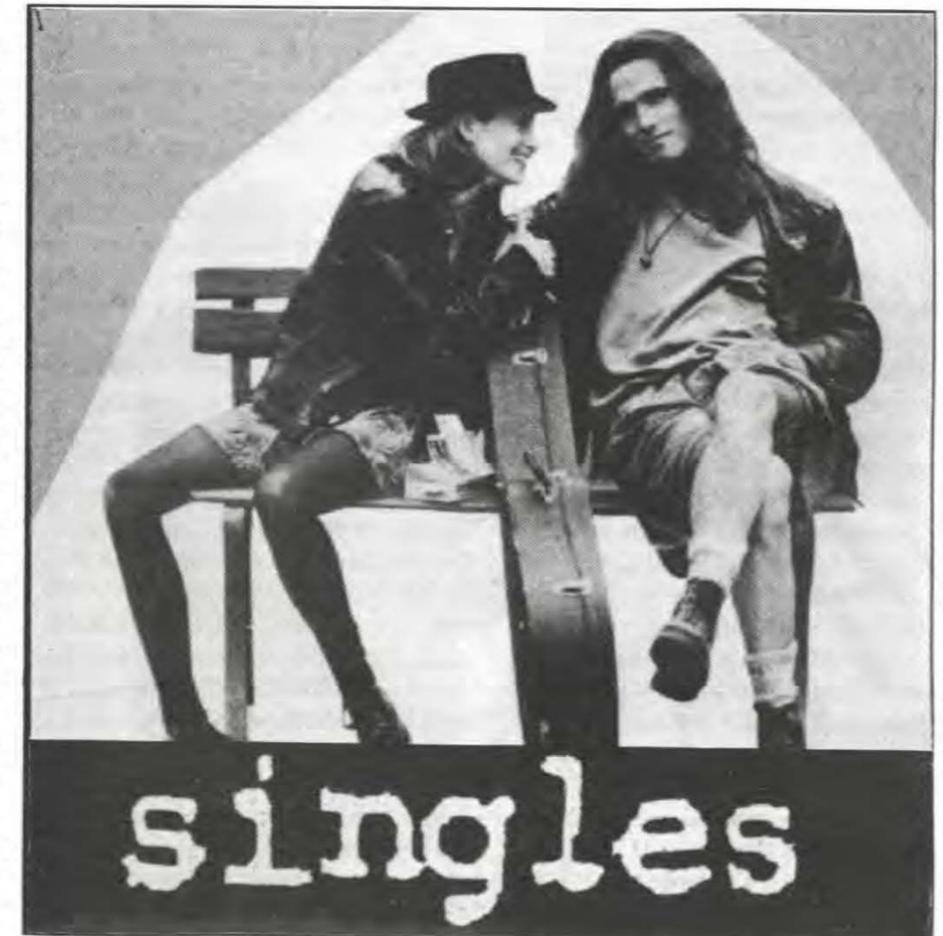
Soundgarden, but I don't always like their song writing. This tune lets Cornell pour it all out vocally, while the song itself is beautifully structured. As a musician and lyricist, Chris Cornell is beautiful and scary and this song helps restore my ever dwindling faith in rock music. It's too bad that I don't have the same positive things to say about Soundgarden's weak offering. "Birth Ritual" is an obnoxious song. Kim Thayil gets stuck in a guitar riff that he can't seem to escape from, while Cornell's high pitched whine truly grates on the ears. Moving on...

Next we arrive at "Dyslexic Heart", one of the two Paul Westerberg songs on this album. Both this song and "Waiting For Somebody" grow on you, and are good pop songs. But that is it— not a lot of substance. If and

when this ex- Replacement decides to release a solo album, I hope the new songs have a bit more soul than these two.

The Love Mongers, fronted by sisters Ann and Nancy Wilson, do justice to the Led Zeppelin song "Battle of Evermore." I waiver between really liking this song and really getting annoyed by it. It was recorded live and there is not a lot of low end to be found in the mix, which at times gets grating. Ann and Nancy Wilson are both in the band Heart and it is safe to say that although this song might get annoying, it is not half as annoying as Hearts mid-80's to early 90's career. Hopefully, this song signals a return for the sisters to the raw edge of Heart's ear-

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Rocking the Vote With Mary's Danish

By Rosemary Robinson and Juan Delara

We were late. The band was in the middle of their soundcheck. We were there to interview Mary's Danish, a band that got their start on KROQ with the song "Don't Crash the Car Tonight." The Los Angeles Harbor College auditorium was small, 600 occupant maximum, and "Rock the Vote" posters covered the walls. Tom Cornett, a Polygram representative, and the local college radio station, KHCR, put together the free show. Someone at KROQ, however, had gotten word of the gig and the expected attendance was growing way beyond capacity. Everyone dressed casual, but looked very stressed.

Tom, our connection, asked us to sit and wait until he could get the band to talk with us. We waited and waited. Finally, about an hour and a half before the performance was scheduled, we noticed Julie, the lead singer, was standing only a few feet away from us in front of a "register to vote" display. In fear of not getting the interview, we took the matter into our own hands and asked her if she would talk to us for a minute. She agreed coolly, yet happily.

First we asked Julie why Mary's Danish was involved in "Rock the Vote." Julie said that when a band reaches a certain level, it has a responsibility it can take or leave. Music is a vehicle to get personal views across, such as registering to vote. She added that many people these days complain about their country, but do little to

change what is going on. Although "Rock the Vote" is a non-partisan movement, Julie herself supports Clinton. She is also involved in the Bohemian Women's Political Alliance. The BWPA is a group of 40-60 female artists, photographers, actresses and singers in the Los Angeles area. This mobilization group is focused on issues like voter registration and free choice. Julie points out that the new album cover has a tofu burger dripping on an Uncle Sam hat. However, while Mary's Danish has definite political beliefs, their main priority is the music.

The band has explored many different styles and sounds. For the new album, *American Standard*, released last week, they have moved away from their funky side and have focused on a more rock oriented style. *American Standard* is more than just another album. It is an accomplishment that brought Mary's Danish together when they were on the verge of collapsing. The six member group combines much diversity and each member has different styles and tastes in music. On previous albums, there were some songs that Julie, or other band members, hated to perform. It had reached a point where they seriously considered breaking up. They were lured back into the studio because they couldn't give up music and they knew that the popularity of Mary's Danish was too good to lose. So they decided to stick it through and create an album

that they all liked.

Part of what makes the band's unique are the lead singers Gretchen and Julie. We asked the latter if being a female in the music field has created any problems. She explained that in the beginning, the band felt they had to earn respect in the male-dominated industry. She remembers a soundman once exclaiming, "Oh, You were good! I'm surprised!" However, they've come to view their gender as an attribute and they have clearly earned the respect of the industry and fans alike.

Julie met Gretchen while attending college at U.C. Berkeley. They used to joke about how if they ever had a band it would be funny to call it Mary's Danish. After returning to Los Angeles and working at a record store in The Valley, Julie decided she needed an escape. The band was formed as a way to have fun. The only goal they had was to get one gig. Obviously, the band's current success has gone beyond what they ever imagined; but it hasn't been easy. Making albums and touring the country has put a lot of strain on friends and family. Julie said that she tries to get involved with local groups and other projects, but she always has to leave in the middle for work with the band. She points out that even the worst bands work hard to get a record deal and they ought to get respect

"Sneakers"

Reviewing the Pitzer Film Benefit

by Deryck O'Brien

On Friday, Sept. 11th, Pitzer College held its 12th Annual Film Benefit at Universal Studios in Burbank. Approximately 325 people showed up to support Pitzer's fund raising efforts, and to watch the movie *Sneakers* on its opening night. According to the Alumni and Development Department, just under \$100,000 was raised, and that will be matched dollar for dollar by the Weingart Foundation. The total of about \$190,000 will go towards interest-free loans for Pitzer students. The event, which was the idea of Mrs. Bud Austin, has been held for twelve years, and has allowed guests to see such movies like *White Palace* and *Cape Fear* on their opening night.

The evening began with cocktails, where students, faculty, alums, and trustees mixed. The award for "Most L.A." goes to a man in a black leather jacket who spent most of his time trying to get his cell-phone to work. He was later seen resorting to the pay-phones like the rest of the masses.

Cocktails were followed by dinner at the Studio Restaurant. During the dinner, a raffle was held, and donated prizes, such as an autographed copy of the *Sneakers* script, were given away. Other prizes included: wine, David Furman pottery, and a Universal Studios V.I.P. tour. After dinner,

Pitzer President Massey made a speech thanking everyone for attending the benefit. Once the speeches were finished, people entered the Alfred Hitchcock Theatre to see a private screening of *Sneakers*.

"To sum it up quickly, it is Wargames meets Die Hard and the Ghostbusters."

The movie itself is disappointing. To sum it up quickly, it is *WarGames* meets *Die Hard* and the *Ghostbusters*. Overall, it is silly, and overcast. The stars of the movie include Robert Redford, Dan Aykroyd, Ben Kingsley, Sidney Poitier, and River Phoenix. Suffice it to say, an "actor" of River Phoenix's ability could have carried the whole movie, and it would have been better presented as an X-Men comic book rather than a movie. It almost seems like a Saturday morning cartoon, and will probably best appeal

to Nintendo playing 12 year olds. The general premise of the movie is a "mad, but brilliant scientist" makes a computer chip that can save or destroy the whole world depending on whose hands the chip falls into. Robert Redford, and his rag-tag "consulting firm" are given the task of spying on the same mad, but brilliant scientist. After some twists and turns, it is Redford et al. versus Ben Kingsley for control over the computer chip. Although it takes an hour to even hear of the chip, it is all predictable after that. Ben Kingsley, most famous for his starring role in the epic film *Gandhi*, is now reduced to uttering dramatic lines like "You MUST give the chip to me," and wearing Armani suits, and a pony tail. The quality of the movie falls after that point. The movie ends with a few P.C. mutterings about the control of computers over our lives, and then drops dead. At this point, some people in the audience had fallen asleep.

Overall, the night was enjoyable, and Pitzer College and the students benefitted. However, if *Sneakers* is still in the theaters when this is printed, avoid it.

BOB ROBERTS

VOTE FIRST. ASK QUESTIONS LATER.

By Billy Springer

Bob Roberts is a refreshing new movie that makes you think about American politics. In the style of *Spinal Tap*, it is a mock documentary about a fascist folk-singer running for U.S. Senate from the state of Pennsylvania. This political satire shows how one candidate manipulates the American people to vote for him. The whole movie, which is meant to be one big joke, is filled with serious overtones that are supposed to make one look at the current political situation from a different angle.

Bob Roberts, played by Tim Robbins, gains popularity by going on tour singing some very funny songs such as, "The Times Are A Changing Back." Don't worry, there is no soundtrack for this movie! We see Roberts on the campaign trail manipulating the media to create the image of an all-American white male born to serve the people. The real drama of the movie is highlighted by the conflict between a radical African-American reporter (who is devoted to exposing the evil truths about Bob Roberts) and Roberts' campaign managers who create a mafia-style scandal to combat the arguments of the reporter.

I enjoyed this movie because of its originality. It is not your usual love story or action adventure. This film forces you to think about the nature of politics and makes you wonder how much information is actually being withheld from the public.

Sadly, this movie is only playing

in L.A. The closest theatre to Pitzer is the AMC in Pasadena. If you like original and creative movies, then Bob Roberts is definitely worth the trip to go see it. On the Billy Springer scale of movies (Single, Double, Triple, Home Run), Bob Roberts is a stand up Triple.



HELLRAISER

III

BY
ADRIAN SHEPHERD

For those of you who felt that the second movie of this series deviated from the original, you'll be happy to know that in his latest movie, "Hell Raiser III, Hell On Earth," Clive Barker returns to the original story line. Just as in the other movies the effects are surreal. Pinhead is the main demon and some new demons are created. Also most of the questions you had from the first two movies are answered.

The plot is simple: the main character, Joey, is a reporter who is looking for a story and finds one that leads her to a place where everyone in the other stories have ended up—hell on earth. Pinhead, for those of you that haven't seen the second, was trapped in a monument at the end. At the beginning of the third movie, a bar owner buys the monument, and one night some blood is spilt on it. That's where the trouble begins. After the monument got blood on it, it had to have more in order to release its captive. After two people are brutally killed by the monument the real problems start and Pinhead is set loose. This leads to hell being set free on earth. The only way Pinhead can be sent back to hell is if he uses the window of Joey (her mind) and then is killed with the puzzle cube. Two new demons in this movie are "CD-man" and "Camera-man" (my nicknames for them), and they both help in making the deaths that much more impressive.

Even though the movie is easy to follow, it contains the information

How I Spent My Summer Vacation and A Movie Review of "Honeymoon in Vegas"

by Joanna Garfein

Girl Scouts. I spent my summer surrounded by them. Hundreds of little Beverly Hills 90210 followers who were entertained by dramatic Barbie trading card readings. These are the same little girls who can idolize both Luke Perry and a psycho camp mascot named Tajar at the same time. And yes, I chose to spend my summer this way. Just call me "Jovial," camp counselor at your service.

I knew you were all wondering how I spent my summer vacation, so now all of your curiosities have been answered. All of them except, "What does this have to do with a movie?" Well, the reason for my autobiographical excerpt was to point out that I was up sixty seven hundred feet in the mountains for three months with no remote access to civilization, let alone a decent movie theater. Okay, so in the local town (if that's what you call it) of Idyllwild, there is one tiny theater called The Rustic. However, when I did receive time off and went into "Idyllhell," the one movie being shown there always happened to be one which I had seen months previously. Let's just say that I also lacked the convenience of electricity, a television, and a VCR (not that video stores are plentiful in the wilderness, or that they would have anything besides "Bambie" or a How-To-Sell-Girl-Scout-Cookies-Successfully video guide).

On to the movie part of this article. One boring Sunday afternoon (don't they all seem to be that way

when the work is stacked up to your lovely asbestos ceiling and cleaning toe jam is more appealing?) I hopped into the new and improved JoMobile and took off for Rancho Cucamonga in search of an entertaining flick. During my twenty minute journey, I drifted off into la-la land, singing to myself and be-bopping alone in my car to the IndigoGirls latest brilliant installment.

The most amusing part of my afternoon occurred before the movie even started. Obviously I wasn't the only victim of the waste-an-afternoon-and-money-I-don't-have attitude. Sitting in the middle of the theater, towards the back section, I sat amongst a group of interesting movie-goers. Two pre-teen, New Kids On The Block type girls were giggling about the cute



boys in the first rows. Directly in front of where I was sitting, two college-aged men were discussing, in intentionally loud voices, the problems of modern day hairbrushes. A large muscular man with numerous female tattoos to my left was speaking to the blank screen, encouraging the movie to be on schedule with, "Come on, Mr. Movie, you know you want to start now." Finally, the lights dim, and we see the routine L.A. Times plug and a few previews for films with plots not even intellectually stimulating enough for Dan Quayle. Although, there is one promising movie coming out shortly which is called "Hero," starring Dustin Hoffman.

"Honeymoon in Vegas." The title sounded like something a newlywed couple would name their photo album. My roommate recommended this film, and I was curious to see how Sarah Jessica Parker has progressed since her first role in "Girls Just Want To Have Fun." To review this movie in a few words, I would say that it is predictable and dumb, but still entertaining. I'd recommend it for the acting alone, simply because all hopes for a good plot are shattered. Nicolas Cage delivers a wonderfully comic performance as the pathetic boyfriend afraid of marriage. The whole movie revolves around his hesitation to tie the knot. Cage plays his anxieties successfully through a mix of sarcasm and humor which is visible through his actions and body language. There was nothing really spectacular about Sarah Jessica Parker's portrayal of Cage's fiancée, but this is a step in the right direction for her career. I hadn't seen her in a film, except for a small part in "LA Story," since "Girls Just Want To Have Fun" (which happens to be a favorite movie from my pre-teen/adolescent years). James Caan's scheming character—the fiancée-stealing charmer—was quite convincing and

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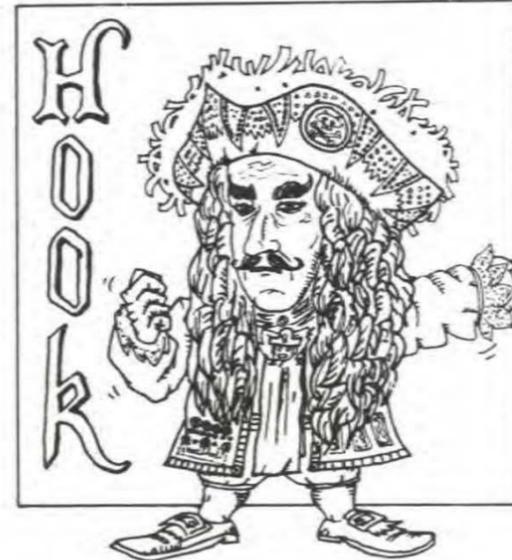
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GUYS with 'Gummy' HANDS



Poetry

A hotel of the mind
 Room for rent
 Come and you will find
 Escape goats and leeches
 Fluffy small creatures
 Actors and hermits
 Bus drivers and preachers
 All naked and muscled
 Searching for rhyme
 — Tim Sharp

Kind of strange
 The smell of the found
 Of dogs in heat
 Cutiing up to a completely suspecting mate
 Its structure means play thing
 Main thing
 Wanna thing
 Everybody here knows each other
 I know you
 You have the smell
 Of the found
 Kiss me— I'm expecting you
 — Tim Sharp

Set it free
 Let it breath the dirty air
 And hear the screams of the broken
 souls
 Set it free
 Upon a new request
 Let it wash the dreaded smell
 From its skin
 Let it swim the vision streams
 And great green trees
 Shake the shackles and
 Climb a tree— smile at the monster
 Weak trembling touch
 Fuck the monster with fright
 And fear— and violent jubilation
 — Tim Sharp

The Other Side

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Citizen Wachtel

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markets. But these are wonderful opportunities for us to work together. These areas are all areas for cooperative discussion, legislation, changes in manufacturing techniques, and so on. These are wonderful chances for us to work positively together, I see them as very hopeful.

TRAVIS: When we spoke earlier you said you weren't running a conventional campaign. What does that entail? Obviously, you aren't doing direct mailings or other modern techniques of the political campaigning.

AL: Right, we don't have the type of money the incumbent has, and we don't have the unfair advantage the incumbent has. The incumbent just sent a mailing to every household masking it as a questionnaire to find out what people think. Why does he have to find out what people think now? The Congressional legislation period is just about over, and by the time the questionnaires are completed and returned it will be too late to use them. It's clear that it was not sent out in order for him to get opinions on how to vote on legislation, so what was it sent out for? We can guess. One possibility is to get his name before the public. Well, fine— but that's campaign advertising. And if that's what it is, he should have paid for it out of his campaign fund, instead of using his franking privilege, which means the U.S. mail carried his self-advertisement back to this district for free; and, by the way, he spread it wider than the district because he doesn't give a damn how much he spends of our money. Ultimately, we, the tax payers, have to pay for such activities on the part of Congresspeople, and that has to stop. In any case, we can't afford to do that on our campaign. So what I'm doing is

going out and meeting the public: I'm meeting the people on the streets; I'm going door to door; I'm going to supermarkets; I'm going to small coffees and teas in people's homes; and whenever possible I'm speaking to larger groups, and in that way we're conducting this campaign on a grass-roots level.

TRAVIS: Is it working?

AL: It's working very well. And I need to tell you that Republicans, Democrats, supporters of Ross Perot, are all very interested in lending a hand on our campaign, and I'm thrilled, and gratified.

TRAVIS: I wish you luck.

AL: Thank you very much.

* * *

Honeymoon in Vegas

(continued from page 33)

authentically executed. As an actor, I like Caan because he successfully delivers lines characteristic of the roles he plays, as appropriately demonstrated in "Misery."

In short (too late), I would tell anyone interested in seeing this film that it is definitely rentable. It a great movie to watch with a large group of friends who desire pure entertainment and some good laughs. Oh, and I would really encourage any Elvis fans out there to run out right now and see this movie, and wear your most attractive King outfit.

Basically, I liked "Honeymoon in Vegas." I enjoyed my summer vacation, and until next time... Remember to drive fifty-five when passing through Pasadena on the 210 freeway, because Mr. Policeman loves to point his little radar gun in your direction. Especially, if you advertise Pitzer College on the back of your car.

* * *

Global Conscience

(continued from page 9)

ever, that should not excuse us from action. Each one of us is consuming an incredible amount of the earth's resources. 50% of the world population lives off an annual salary of less than 400 dollars. This is particularly disturbing to me if I compare it to how much money I consume every year to go to Pitzer college— approximately 24,000 dollars a year. That is the same amount of money that supports over 72 people in many countries. How does one go about reconciling this enormous drain on global resources? What are we giving back? Grace Newmark and Frank Rogers have developed a global conscience, an awareness of their connection to the planet and not just their country or state. In addition to this, they have made efforts to put this consciousness into action.

Few of us will have the opportunity to go to a Global forum or Earth Summit. This does not mean we are excused from action. Everyone should claim ownership of our devastating impact on the earth. An awareness of our global citizenship and responsibility is vital. The only way I can justify my own extravagant education, is by making the commitment to use this expensive education for a constructive purpose. We all should realize we are living during a world-wide crisis. Until we act and use the resources available to us, we are no better than President Bush.

* * *

"Singles" Singles

(continued from page 29)

lier records.

Since Andy Woods' death his band, Mother Love Bone, has long since been disbanded and disregarded by the listening public. If you are reading this and consider yourself musically "in touch," but don't own either "Shine" or "Apple" by Mother Love Bone, stop lying to yourself. If it wasn't for Andy Wood's influence on the alternative/metal scene, a band like Jane's Addiction would not exist. Mother Love Bone's track, "Chloe Dancer/Crown of Thorns" is a beautiful piece of music. It begins with a simple piano riff and builds into a hard driving, intense beast. It is incredible, there is no other word to describe it.

Mudhoney's cut "Overblown" is raw and invigorating. The song is just a distorted assault of power chords and sarcastic lyrics. What more could a music fan ask?

I've never been a big fan of Jimi Hendrix, but I do like his slower songs, and "May This Be Love" is one of those. This song is a classic. Beautiful melodies running smooth over a loose rhythm section. The highlight is Hendrix's solo, it is true emotion, true soul.

The Screaming Trees cut "Nearly Lost You" is another positive piece of this soundtrack. Although the chorus is a bit too agreeable, the song is really good. The only real problem with this track is that radio, if they have not already done so, is going to eat it up and turn it into an ugly staple in their pathetic, money-groping diet—kind of like the sad death of "Losing My Religion."

Well, I have to say the best track on this album is "Drown" by Smashing Pumpkins. Butch Vig, once again, does an unbelievable job of producing. He truly brings out the raw

edge of this band. The song begins with a lone guitar progression and builds to a feedback-ridden thump fest that leaves me awestruck. This song is beautiful and powerful, and this band is just so tight! The drumming is superb, the guitar playing is superb, the band is superb. Thank God for Smashing Pumpkins and Butch Vig, breathing new life into the dead carcass of rock-and-roll.

This soundtrack is really necessary. If you own it, good. If you don't, go buy it. You shouldn't have any trouble finding it. All these great bands should be next to Paula Abdul and Ugly Kid Joe in the Alternative section at your local record store.

* * *

Cesar Vallejo

(continued from page 15)

saw him as a great religious poet. Octavio Paz today embraces Vallejo as a great Catholic poet rather than a Communist poet. How are we to understand this enigma or dialectic of Communism and Catholicism in Vallejo's poetry?

Mezey: It's one of those strange oppositions in the world where the two opposite things at a certain point seem to be the same thing or to converge. Obviously, in our century and in the preceding century, the Catholic Church and Communism can be seen as two great antagonists. There are obvious reasons why that should be so. At the same time, Marxism, of all political philosophies or political economies, whatever you want to call

it, is by far the most eschatological and the most religiously rooted. After all, Karl Marx was a Jew. However much he hated Jews, Marx was steeped in Jewish thought and categories. Marxism has many Judeo-Christian notions running through it: for instance, the end of history and a sort of final judgment. So, it does not seem to me at all strange that a certain kind of Catholic sensibility would be deeply drawn to Marxism. Cesar Vallejo is not so strange: the person most precious and dearest to him from his first day to his last, his mother, was deeply Catholic. This insured that he would be deeply religious. In some of the poems there is a kind of rage and blasphemy against God for what he has done to men, a raging against God as in Job. It's always against a God who exists. There is no atheism whatsoever in Vallejo's poetry. Even in his late poetry, written on behalf of Spanish revolutionaries, much of his diction comes from the Bible and from the liturgy. The sensibility is absolutely Catholic. He would have had to repudiate his mother to deny that part of his personality. That is why I love him so much. I forgive him his politics, because his impulses were so pure. He never understood or saw the contradictions or the monstrosities of the Soviet Union that we see, of course with hindsight. He never saw the horrors of Stalinism. He met poets like Mayakovsky [Vallejo interviewed Mayakovsky on one of his several trips to Moscow from Paris], who were still enthusiastic supporters of the revolution. Had he lived to see some of the horrors of Communism, he would have changed profoundly, although I think he would have remained a Communist. I think it would have changed his writing. But this is a supposition.

* * *

Mary's Danish

(continued from page 30)

Our casual conversation came to an end at this point. Gretchen walked up and urged Julie backstage to get ready for the performance. So Julie took off, apologizing for the hasty retreat, but left us with the last words, "Tell your friends not just to register, but to vote!" The band is currently doing a "Rock the Vote" concert tour with other bands such as The Soup Dragons, The Wonder Stuff, and Tears for Fears. Watch for Mary's Danish later in the year as they go on their own tour. In the meantime, their new album *American Standard* is now available.

* * *

Top Ten Best Course Titles:

10. The Damned and the Divine
9. Playing Games
8. Eros and Anxiety in Fin de Siecle Europe: Politics and Culture, 1880-1914
7. The Museum
6. The Desert as a Place
5. Rushdie Judgement
4. The Lotus or the Robot
3. The Atomic Bomb in American Culture Since 1945
2. The Alien God and the Occult Philosophy
1. Three Friends in a Photo

Goals of Residential Life

The goals of the Residential Life Program are:

1. To provide and maintain, in cooperation with Campus Facilities and Maintenance, clean and functional living, study, and recreational spaces within the residence halls.
2. To provide residences that are conducive to a balance of study and social interaction, where civility and respect for others are the norms for community life.
3. To foster a greater understanding of the elements that compose a positive living community; to value elements of trust, fairness, and communication; to encourage the acceptance of responsibility for one's actions [sic] impact on others within the community.
4. To promote a greater awareness and acceptance of differences related to gender, race, cultural heritage, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic background; to encourage mutual understanding and an increased acceptance of diversity.
5. To facilitate self-understanding and discovery, such that students are encouraged to make self-directed decisions and choices as they mature intellectually, emotionally, and socially.

Fire Safety

In the Event of an Actual Fire:

1. Keep low to the floor if smoke is present.
2. Before opening the door:
 - a. Feel the door knob. If it is hot, do not open the door.
 - b. If the knob is not hot, brace yourself against the door and open it slightly. If heat or heavy smoke is present in the corridor, close the door and stay in the room.
3. If you cannot leave the room:
 - a. Open the windows.
 - b. Seal cracks around the door with towels or sheets to keep out smoke.
 - c. To attract attention if you are trapped, hang an object out the window, such as a sheet, jacket, or shirt. Yell for help.
4. If you can leave your room:
 - a. Close all windows behind you as you exit. This will retard the spread of smoke.
 - b. Go to the nearest exit or stairway.
 - c. If the nearest exit is blocked, go back to your room. Close the door, open the windows, and follow the procedure described above.

(from the 1992-93 Pitzer College Student Handbook)