

# Happy Valentine's Day



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THE UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA • TAMPA, FLORIDA

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## The Minaret



### Search for UT Dean of CLAS continues

By TERRI LEBRUN  
Staff Writer

Currently the University of Tampa is in the process of interviewing candidates for the position of dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Former Dean Jan Dargel took a position at a California college last fall.

According to an ad that was posted nationally in search of a new dean, special criteria had to be met by all applicants. The applicant had to have earned a doctorate or other recognized degree in a field of the College, and a minimum of five years of successful administrative leadership at the department or college level. They need to have produced recognized research, scholarship or creative work. Above all else, candidates must possess effective teaching skills among undergraduates. Duties that the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts has to fulfill are to provide leadership, develop and monitor the budget, supervise the development and delivery of courses, and to advise the president on all matters concerning academic affairs.

"There were around 89 applicants for the position of dean," explained Jack King, chair of the Faculty Selection Committee. "They were evaluated on a scale from 1-5. The number was narrowed down to 30 then to around 9, and finally four exceptional candidates stood out among the rest. A list of questions were asked to each candidate in the exact same sequence by phone. Then when the four became clear we conducted video conferences, and then they were flown in."

The four candidates are Thomas V. Boeke, James E. Harf, David J. Magidson and Wayne C. Miller.

Boeke is the assistant to the president for Special Projects at Cabrini College since Sept. 1998. From 1993 until that time, he was Provost/Academic Dean at Cabrini. He has also served the position of dean at two other colleges. Boeke has received both national fellowships and honorable distinctions at colleges he has served in the past.

Harf is a professor emeritus of political science at Ohio State Uni-

versity and was a senior faculty member at the Mershon Center. Currently, Harf is a visiting professor at the Honors College of Denison University, and has written 14 books.

Magidson is a professor of theatre and co-director for the Center for Arts and Public Policy at Wayne State University. Magidson has directed not only plays but works produced for screen as well. Like the other candidates, Magidson has also received a number of fellowships or grants for developing the arts.

The last candidate is Miller, who is the senior fellow of the American Council on Education in Washington D.C. Among Miller's duties at A.C.E., in his own words, is helping to develop a task force of CEOs from Fortune 500 companies, major universities and foundations in order to support a national effort to maintain and expand a well-educated diverse work force. From 1996-1998, Miller was the Chief Academic Officer at Southampton College of Long Island University. Before that time, he was also the Dean of the College of Arts

and Sciences at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

Each candidate has a set itinerary that they follow while on campus. They meet with President Vaughn, Dean of the College of Business Al Page, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Joseph Sclafani, Associate Dean of the College of Business Marcy Kittner, King and other members of the faculty selection committee, the department chairs of the College of Liberal Arts and a student advisory council.

The faculty and students had a chance to hear the candidates speak at an open-forum session. Questions that arose in the forum conducted with Harf addressed how he has put his leadership skills to the test in the past, possible changes he would make at the University of Tampa, how he would manage a small school compared to a larger university, how the limited budget could be spent more effectively, and if there would be a change in teachers' salaries. Harf also addressed problems that arose in the Student Advisory Council session that was conducted that morning. Questions

that arose when the council met with Boeke were the problem of biology and chemistry classes increasing in size, along with an increasing amount of adjunct instructors teaching students across every major. Both sessions had seriousness in the air, but both candidates prompted the nodding of heads and laughter from their evaluators.

"We are simply trying to find the best match for the job," said King. "I feel up to this point that we have done everything that we can possibly do. It is important to remember that the original 85 other candidates are not out of the picture. After reviewing these four and then reviewing the others, we might call someone else here for an interview. It is President Vaughn who makes the final decision, but it is with faculty recommendations in mind. The decision will not be made until later in the semester, so there is still plenty of time for discussion and evaluation."

A follow-up to this article will come when the final decision is made.

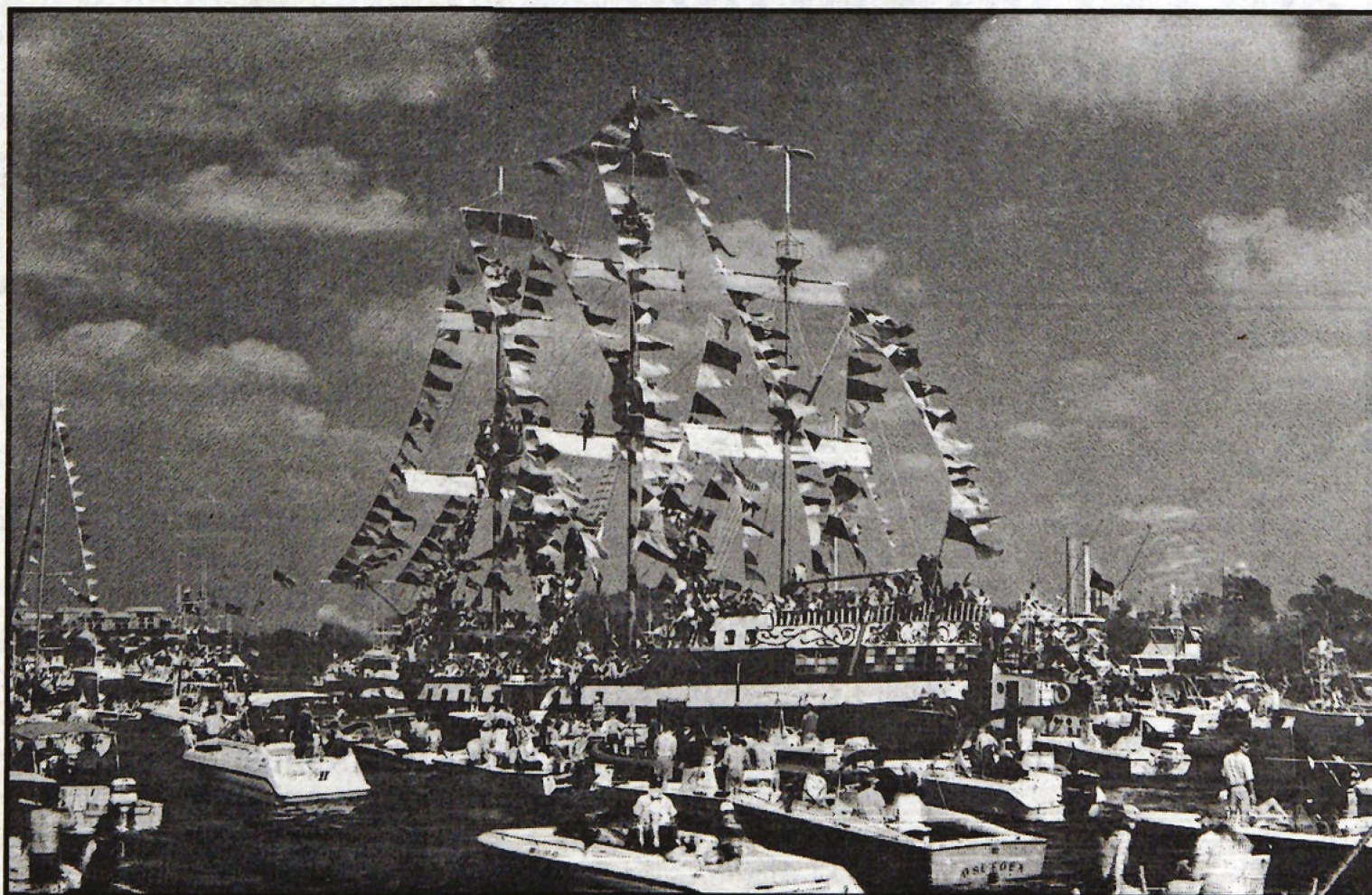
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Vince Sultenfuss--The Minaret

Boats of different sizes shown here at Gasparilla, which is a time when Tampa celebrates its Spanish heritage.



# What's so wrong with diversity?

EDITORIAL

February is a month to celebrate diversity. This is one of the biggest transitions we make as we pass through college. No matter where we are from - this sure isn't going to be like home. That is why we come to college, and that is why we move away from home. College is the opportunity to reach beyond yourself, or at least the self we are thus far.

UT extolls itself as an international university. Indeed it is. Look around. The entire globe is represented. College is also about finding out that the globe isn't as big as you once thought. This month is devoted to Black History. This issue has both current statistics, and one very big baseball story that most of us (myself included) never knew.

The passing away this week of Jordan's King Hussein, though long expected, brought together dignitaries from all over the world to show their respect for this remarkable leader. It was a unique outpouring. Even the most hostile countries who attended for a few moments held their peace. This was the first time Syria's President Hafez Assad ever attended an event where Israeli leaders were present. Israeli President Ezer Weizman made a positive gesture towards radical Palestinian guerrilla leader Nayef Hawatmeh, when he shook hands and spoke briefly with him. Other dignitaries attending included: four U.S. Presidents, President Boris Yeltsin, and 36 other countries sent numerous delegates.

King Hussein was a man of legendary stature, but most remember his courage and strength as a statesman and leader amidst a turbulent country and time. His efforts towards a peaceful coexistence are a powerful lesson for all of us. He didn't become such a renown figure without some work. A lot of work. While we are not in such extreme cross-fire, we still must reach out to learn about those around us.

That may not be so easy, but we also have a very special opportunity and responsibility to get to know persons from the entire globe, not just our backyard. Our international program has amazing opportunity just waiting for you to get involved in. You don't even have to leave campus. Take the opportunity to get involved in Black History month. Make every month a Diversity Month.

Make new friends. Find out about their culture. Enjoy their culture.

You don't have to become a part of their culture, but make the effort to understand it.

If you make the effort, you will be rewarded.

## Screaming from the street corners not helping? Write a letter to *The Minaret*.

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## KATHY'S KORNER

### The near death of a salesman

COLUMN

I'm too lazy to check, but what is the school's policy on solicitors? Shouldn't they be shot on sight or something? It seems like every day I am molested by



By  
KATHY  
PHILLIPS

some creepy guy who wants to sell me some magazines so he can go get drunk in another country. Maybe it's just my naturally unaltruistic nature (and it's a terrible thing to say during Kindness Week) but I don't want to help some random person go to Europe when I haven't been out of the state in years.

Apparently, they get points for every magazine subscription they sell, and this goes toward earning a trip to a far away land. But they say it's not about the magazines- you should want to buy a subscription, not because you need another piece of mail, but because you want to help this person out.

Help them out?! Out of every one of these magazine pimps, only one of them was nice to me, and I think it's largely because I complained about how rude his counterparts were. Sure, they're nice at first, friendly and personable, but once they know you aren't going to buy anything- watch out!

The first time I ever encountered one of these people, I was at home and my mother answered the door. The boy gave his spiel and when my mother politely

declined to buy anything, he actually threatened to attack her! Now, my mother is 4 foot 11 and he was much, much taller, so I guess he thought he could intimidate her, but this boy quickly learned you do not mess with my mom. After a serious ass-kicking, he limped away apologetically and we've never had another one of these kind of solicitors come to our house.

A few weeks ago, one of these people got into my dorm. My roommates and I sat through his fumbling attempt to win us over with flirting and charm, but when it became evident that we weren't going to buy anything, he quickly transformed into a rude and sullen beast. After insulting all of us for a while, he finally left and one of my roommates called security. However, I would have been more than happy to follow my mom's example.

I can't imagine why they feel they have to be so ill-mannered. Where do these people come from? Do they learn how to harass people? Is that part of what they have to do? That doesn't make any sense. It's not like I'm going to change my mind and say, "Well, I wasn't going to buy a subscription, but now that you're being an

**I wasn't going to buy a magazine, but now that you're being an evil bastard, I think I'll buy five.**

evil bastard, I think I'll buy five!" I've solicited before, for my high school literary magazine, and was very good at it. Sometimes I feel like giving these guys some pointers. But a lot of schmucks are already taken in by their act, so I hate to imagine how much more money they could make if they knew how to solicit well. Then again, it might behoove me to help them. At least then they'd win their trip and would stop harassing me on my way to class.

## Letters...

to the editor must be typed and double-spaced.

Please submit letters to *The Minaret* office (Student Union, Room 4), by email to "TheMinaret@aol.com" or to UT Box 2757 by 4 p.m. Monday to appear in Friday's issue.

Letters must be signed and include an address and telephone number where the writer may be contacted regarding editing.

Editors must check letters for libel and space considerations. Names will be withheld at the writer's request.



## Letter to the Editor

# Respect your parents, even if you don't agree

### COLUMN

To the Editor:

I take issue with the Dec. 4 column written by Michael Bowen entitled "Honor thy Parents, unless they're wrong." I take issue with the article on two points. Those points are parental respect and the subject of the article itself, school vouchers.

It is a shame that Bowen's parents do not consider him an "intellectual equal." I wonder if their opinion is based upon the fact that he is intolerant of differing opinions and refers to their conversations as "trying to teach a pig to sing." My father is 40 years older than myself and because of the generational differences we often disagree on political or religious subjects. However, disagreeing with a parent is a far cry from going to public press to libel ones' own parents using farm animal analogies. Age should be respected for the simple reason that people older than ourselves tend to have a greater range of life experiences. His mother's past experiences that he has thrown aside may be of real value if he would sit down and

take the time to consider them. Most of the foreign students at UT will tell you that, in their countries the elderly are valued for their wisdom and often live with the family so as to pass down that wisdom to the next generation. I guess Bowen will throw his parents in a nursing home when they turn 65

so that their racist views do not improperly influence his children. One day Bowen will regret the disrespectful relationship that he apparently has with his parents. That is a tragedy.

The opinion expressed in the article regarding school vouchers is misleading at best. To read Bowen's article you would think that school

vouchers were developed by the American Nazi Revival Movement as a move to gain final and complete control of all African American people. Bowen is like so many other liberals who use race to attack the voucher system but offer no solutions. This is not a race issue. My daughter attends a private, Christian school. The racial makeup of the school is very similar to that of the

community. The tuition is kept as low as possible to allow low income children to attend. Any shortfalls at the end of the year are made up by donations from those that can afford to do so. Everyone is welcome as long as they show a true desire to learn.

The public at large has given up on the public school system and is now trying to at least salvage the fate of their own children by sending them to private school. I live in Brandon, an area with above average public school systems. Even in this relatively sheltered middle class suburban town the schools are out of control. The teachers spend so much time on crowd control and discipline that very little education ever occurs. The tax dollars spent in public school are wasted. Even after the billions and billions of tax dollars spent we cannot even pay a teacher a living wage. Our country's ability to compete has been declining sharply over the past twenty years because our public high schools are turning out ignorant students who often cannot even make change at a

cash register. What a good value we are getting for our tax dollar!

I send my daughter to private school because I love her and want her to be in an atmosphere where education is the first priority. Bowen is right about one thing. It does not take a rocket scientist to figure out that

public and private schools are not equal—that's the whole point. I want superior schools for every race in America. Am I supposed to thank the government for letting me have a school voucher? Am I supposed to thank them for the privilege of giving me back a portion of the billions and billions of dollars that they waste on the public school system? I

think not! The government had their chance to do it right. Now it's my turn!

Sincerely,

Wes Stott,  
MBA Student

## A modest proposal

Without question, this university is in dire need of a proverbial "kick to the head."

By  
LUKE  
ROSA

In my two and a half years here, this school has managed to plunge into the depths of

mediocrity. In no particular order, here are five ways that the university can improve itself. (And yes, I know five is about 500 improvements shy of decency, but this is a small paper.)

1. Administer a short, mandatory general knowledge test to all students. All who score below 70 percent are expelled. Questions will be fairly simple: Who is Florida's governor? Who is currently Chief Justice of the Supreme Court? What year was the Constitution drafted? Why does the fraternity system symbolize all that is wrong with America? All who succeed in passing can stay (that is not a punishment). This will weed out all

those who genuinely do not deserve to be in college (my estimate is that those left after the test can each have their own dorm).

2. Don't put so much stock into the professor evaluations. As I said earlier, students here are dumb. Many hate to do any work at all and therefore despise the professors who work them hard. These are the best professors. At the end of the year, the slugs of UT give the professors



who worked them hard bad evaluations and praise the professors who let them slack through the semester.

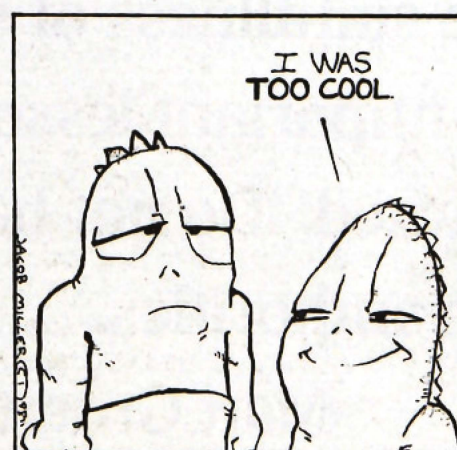
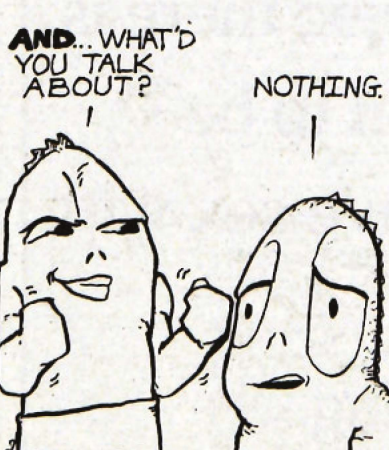
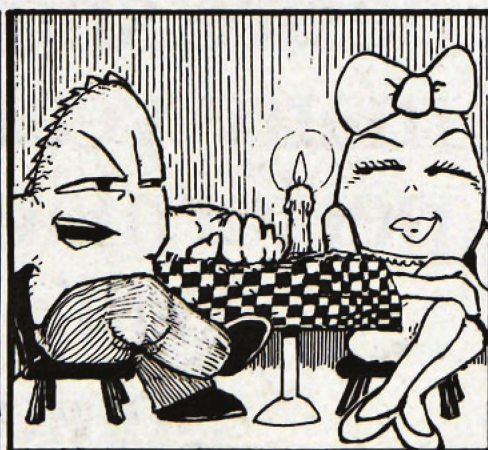
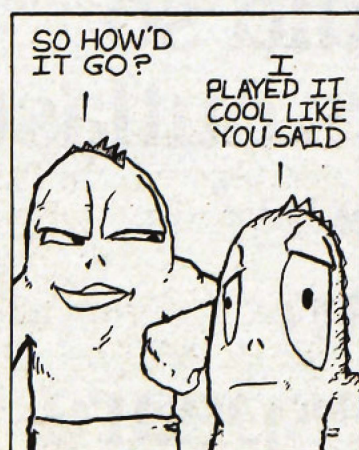
3. I hate to encourage more construction, seeing as how I feel like I'm living amongst Doozers as it is, but our roads are like something out of *Planet of the Apes*. Most are dangerous to walk on, let alone drive across. I know that the "quaint" look of brick roads appeal to many people, but this is ridiculous. There is a reason cities updated to paved roads and I suggest our university join the movement.

4. Require students to have two advisers: one in their field and one appointed to them who is outside of their major. Unfortunately, some students have been pushed into classes they don't need by professors trying to fill their classes. An unbiased professor advising a student will surely help to prevent this problem.

5. Build or open something on campus that is available late night and on the weekends for the on-campus student body. This campus looks like it's hosting a Lyle Alzado film festival most weekends. A restaurant or (I hate to say it) coffeehouse would provide something to do on campus. The Rat is not open late nights, or on the weekends at all and I for one, am grossly tired of the Ybor scene.

"I asked  
Troy  
Aikman  
who his  
God is, and  
he said:  
'TROY  
AIKMAN'"  
-Will Farell

BEANS



By Jake Miller



# Bookstore woes: Point and Counterpoint

COLUMN

By  
MICHAEL BOWEN  
& LUKE ROSA

Barnes and Noble took control of the campus bookstores at the University of Pennsylvania, Temple and Central Florida, just to name a few. As reported in last week's *Minaret*, B&N has now turned its Scrooge McDuckian eyes on the University of Tampa and will soon be opening a new bookstore.

What does this mean to UT? Will this be better than our current bookstore? Will there be a Starbucks, and, if so, will they have those tasty chocolate-covered coffee beans? Fear not, students of UT, Luke Rosa and Michael Bowen are here to discuss the pros and cons of a Barnes and Noble coup d'état and its repercussions on the student body of UT.

**Rosa:** Barnes and Noble will be an excellent addition to the university community. The current bookstore's selection couldn't satisfy Sylvester Stallone's literary needs, let alone those of a growing university. Barnes and Noble will give UT the adequate literary selection we need.

**Bowen:** Hello? Tell me what the average UT student wants out of a bookstore — all you want is to get your issue of *Sports Illustrated*, and you can get that rag up the street at Winn-Dixie. I don't classify what the typical B&N has in their stock as an adequate literary selection, unless your definition of adequate literary selection is the latest Dean Koontz and Anne Rice trash. (Alec Guinness voice-over:) Use the brains, Luke...

**Rosa:** Brains? You speak with all the coherence of a wounded dolphin. You're making the ridiculous notion that UT students need more than the newest Stephen King. B&N best serves the general population and that is what UT consists of. If you want Carver, Nietzsche or Faulkner go to Inkwood, but UT will be fine with textbooks; John Grisham, and Michael Crichton.

**Bowen:** Wounded dolphin? Hey, at least I have a conscience. Let's talk about the future, something a lot of UT students, yourself included, lack coherence on. B&N and Borders, the biggest megaliths in the pulp purveyor market, would like no better than

to see independent readers and independent bookstores be no more than an anachronism, a thing of the past. This is no fairy tale. When B & N opened up in Missoula, Mont., their goal was clearly spelled out by management and stated in an employee meeting — put an independent bookseller out of business. In the space of a year, they did. Someday, Luke, you're going to want to read *Beyond Good and Evil* and you're going to have to depend on the public library to loan it to you, because when B&N is the only game in town, not only will they not have Nietzsche, they won't know what category he would be in, much less how to spell or pronounce his name! I'm not only arguing for my freedom to read what I please but for yours, too — but

you still want to think like the herd, the "moral den herden," as Frederick would say...

**Rosa:** God, I've heard more relevant thought from the Dancing Baby. I happen to be familiar with Nietzsche as well as another prominent nineteenth century philosopher, Herbert Spencer. You may be familiar with his *Survival of the Fittest*. B&N has every right to squelch competition. If Mom and Pop Cobblers opened near a shoe outlet, they would be thinking the same way as those B&N head honchos up in Montana. Yet you would be rooting for Mom and Pop. Why? Because they're cute and remember your name and

blers opened near a shoe outlet, they would be thinking the same way as those B&N head honchos up in Montana. Yet you would be rooting for Mom and Pop. Why? Because they're cute and remember your name and

bake you cookies at Christmas time. Well I care more about price and selection than if I can get a few pecan pralines during the holidays.

**Bowen:** Strong statements coming from a guy who misspells relevance. I guess you never had to deal with that concept, eh? Spencerian thought aside, big guy, I have nothing against competitive interest. That's what keeps prices low so that all consumers can enjoy inexpensive

books, regardless of their taste (or lack thereof) in reading. B&N, Luke, is a Microsoft wanna-be. They would like nothing better than to be the ONLY bookseller, because then they can not only control what you read but also what you pay for it. No pecan pralines for you! And if B&N had their way, they would make you pay for those, too...

**Rosa:** You watched a lot of *Gilligan's Island* as a kid didn't you? You say you're for competition, yet that is all B&N is providing. A little competition to all these little bookstores that can't serve the masses. Of course B&N would like to be the only bookseller. Everyone wants to be the only one able to provide a service. I, for one, would love to be the only fertile male in the U.S. I don't see anything wrong with having a dream and striving to fulfill it.

**Bowen:** Okay, little buddy... I can see where you are heading with this. Speaking

of propagation and the act of, what do you think about B&N's attitude toward their worker? They underpay their employees and are fiercely anti-union. Sounds like a case of double standard to me — they want choice and fair play only when it suits their own personal, selfish interests. What do you have to say about a company that earned \$51 million in profit in 1997? Whose CEO earned \$1.4 million in salary outside of his control of nearly 8.5 MILLION shares of stock? That's 330 million dollars — check your stock ticker (BKS), monkey-boy — how much is he earning off the backs of the underpaid and oppressed schmoes who couldn't pronounce "pedagogy" if their next paycheck depended on it?

**Rosa:** God, speaking to you gives me all the pleasure of gargling vomit. Why should B&N be punished for having success? I know you're resentful of anyone remotely prosperous because your life has been such a dismal failure, but I see no need to take out your frustrations on those who have the intelligence and sagacity to make it in this world. It's callow people like you, blathering your muddled, incoherent thoughts about any random topic that pops into your pea-sized brains that so frustrate me, the intelligencia. Aren't you missing *Monday Night Raw*?

**Bowen:** I see I'm not getting through to you. Okay, Luke, do what you have to, but while you are at that brand spanking new B&N, sipping on your Starbucks, remember that you are adding to the profits of a few men who want to control what you read, what you think and where you spend the hard-earned fruits of your sagacious labor. I hear the first cappuccino is on you, no? I'll buy my tomes elsewhere and support free enterprise. If there's no Starbucks, it's not worth the trouble...

**Rosa:** Sure, first cappuccino is on me, Mike. I know you couldn't afford one after paying \$29.95 for the latest Danielle Steele paperback at your friendly, neighborhood bookshop. Maybe we could discuss Nietzsche some more and his edict, "God is

dead." Of course, when he said God, I believe he meant "any coherent thoughts from you."

## Point/Counterpoint



When authorities warn you of the sinfulness of sex, there is an important lesson to be learned. Do not have sex with the authorities.

-Matt Groening

Is it not strange that desire should so many years outlast performance?

-William Shakespeare



Feb. 1, a student reported that on Sunday, Jan. 31 she had parked her car in the Krusen lot at approximately 9 a.m. and departed from campus at about 5 p.m. Upon arriving home at about 6 p.m., the owner went to place an item into the vehicle and noticed a long scratch on the passenger's side of the vehicle. The scratch began at the top of the right front fender and continued down to the side of the passenger side door and onto the right rear quarter panel. The damage was shallow at some spots and deeper at others. The damage was consistent with being "keyed." The owner didn't notice the damage before she left campus because it was located on the passenger's side.



By  
JENNIFER  
MILLER

Feb. 1, at about 2:30 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Plant Hall on a report of a criminal mischief incident. Upon arrival, the officer met with a University of Tampa staff member who stated that she noticed that the front hood of her vehicle had a long scratch running from the right side of the vehicle to the left side. The damage to the vehicle is consistent with damage caused by a key. The scratch was approximately three feet in length. Value of the damage is unknown at this time but will require bodywork. The vehicle was parked and unoccupied within the Krusen Lot. It's noted that two other vehicles were also keyed within this lot on the said date. There are no known suspects to this incident nor were any witnesses located as of this writing. The victim was advised to report this incident to the Tampa Police Department for insurance purposes.

Feb. 2, at 10 a.m., a vehicle was impounded for the second time. It had been cited 12 times for not being registered on campus. On Feb. 1, a final notice indicated that the vehicle was still subject to impound. The notice also informed the owner that the vehicle would be impounded each time it was located on campus after Feb. 1. On Feb. 2, the vehicle was parked on North B Street. The owner responded to the area after the vehicle was already on the wrecker. He became very agitated with the wrecker driver. The officer had to get between the owner and the wrecker driver as the owner attempted several times to get to the wrecker driver as he sat in the truck cab. The Tampa Police Department was contacted to provide the owner with a trespass warning; however, the owner had departed the campus prior to the arrival of the police.

On Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 6 p.m., an officer received a memo instructing him to try to locate where on the University of Tampa property an ex-student was residing. At 7:30 p.m., the officer located the individual walking in the courtyard of ResCom. The officer requested that the student come with him to the security office and was issued a certified copy of the Tampa Police Department trespass warning. He was then advised to leave the University of Tampa property and was told that if he returned, he would be subject to arrest for trespassing. He stated that he would leave but he would contact the

Dean of Students on Wednesday, Feb. 3. The officer later learned that the suspect had been living in Res Com with other students.

Feb. 2, at 2 p.m., an officer responded to the Plant Hall lobby for a report of an injured student. Upon arrival, the officer met with a student who stated that she had stepped on a stair and twisted her right ankle. The accident occurred on the south lobby stairway about four steps up from the first floor landing. A check of the stairs revealed no defect that would have caused the accident. There were witnesses to the accident, however, they were not available to be interviewed or identified. The victim saw a doctor who believes that the ankle is only sprained.

Feb. 2, an officer was dispatched to the New Hall laundry room concerning a reported fight in progress. Upon arrival, the officer found no active fight taking place. He then met with an RA who stated that a verbal fight had just taken place within the laundry room between two female residents of the New Hall. Both women had already separated and gone their own ways. The RA and another student had been walking on the first floor of the New Hall to a meeting when they were told that a fight was taking place in the laundry room. They immediately went to the scene and observed a verbal confrontation taking place between two female students. Both were unidentified at the time. As they were attempting to break up the verbal fight, someone was pushed from behind by one of the females involved. The student who was pushed was not injured. The RA on the scene stated that she would file judicial referrals. The assigned officer located both students involved in this incident in their respective rooms. The first student stated that she was in the laundry room doing her laundry when the second student came in and began the verbal fight. The first student said that the second threatened her by saying, "I'll knock you out" and calling her a whore and bitch. The first student stated that the second was taunting her, attempting to start a physical fight. No physical altercation took place, but the first student said that she did feel threatened. She stated that the name calling and threats started back in October of 1998. Upon the arrival of the RAs, the first student said that she walked away and went to her room. She stated that she does want to press judicial charges. The assigned officer then met with the second student who was in her room. She stated that the problems with the first student started last October. She stated that sometime during that month, the first student threatened her and the threats continued until the present. She stated that she entered the laundry room and the first student began looking at her while laughing. She wants to file charges against the first student. Both students were warned to stay away from each other. The assigned officer believes that mediation between both students would be in order and would rectify the problem.

Feb. 3, at approximately 6 a.m., security received a call from Securlink Ameritech Security in-

dicating that an audible alarm at the HB Plant Museum had been activated. When the officer reached the scene, they immediately began checking the exterior of the museum, starting at the loading dock on the west side of Plant Hall. As they walked around the building, it was observed that the fifth window to the left of the main museum entrance on the east veranda was open approximately eighteen inches. One officer was dispatched to the inside Plant Hall to check the Plant Hall entrance to the museum and the second floor door to the museum. The other officer notified the Tampa Police Department that there was a security breach with the open window and suspected that someone was inside the museum without authorization. At approximately 6:12 a.m., the officer that was waiting outside for the Tampa Police heard the sound of breaking glass on the south end of the building towards Kennedy Boulevard. As the officer approached the area of the south fire escape, he observed a broken window on the southwest corner of the building and a white male, approximately 5'6" tall, 145 lbs. with dark hair and wearing dark pants

ered five navy blue t-shirts valued at approximately \$17 each. They had been removed from inside the museum gift shop from a table shelf adjacent to the window's interior. Pry marks and debris from the broken window frame, as well as sand were observed on the table shelf at the point of entry. The subject was placed under arrest for breaking and entering and transported to jail. The museum was declared secure at 6:35 a.m. with no additional damage or individuals discovered inside. The alarm was reset, and facilities was notified of the broken windows.

Feb. 3, at approximately 11 a.m., an officer responded to the New Hall and met with someone who had confronted another student that he had suspected of possessing marijuana. A physical confrontation was followed by verbal confrontation. The officer went into the room of the suspect, who was sleeping when the officer entered the room. When he awoke, the student was informed that he was suspected of possessing and using marijuana and that a search would be conducted. The suspect denied the allegations. The officer searched the desk that the suspect

stated was his. As the officer opened the second drawer down on the right hand side, the suspect stated, "I do have some pot." At that point the officer observed a small clear Ziploc baggie (approximately one and a half inches by two inches) half filled with a green leafy substance suspected to be marijuana. The suspect stated that he didn't know about that marijuana but went on to say "It is in the Altoids tin." The drawer also contained an Altoids Mints tin, and

within the tin was a green leafy substance, also believed to be marijuana. There were what appeared to be the tops of two stalks and some seeds. Also removed from the drawer was a package of rolling papers. The suspect cooperated and provided his student ID. He was informed that the matter would be referred to the judicial board. The suspected marijuana was turned over to a Tampa Police officer who individually tested the contents of the baggie and the Altoids tin. The contents of both containers tested positive for THC, the active ingredient in marijuana.

Feb. 4, at 3:15 p.m., a student reported the theft and subsequent recovery of his wallet from his car. The student related that at about 6 p.m. on Feb. 2, he gave someone a ride to baseball practice at the Sam Bailey Field. He said that he put his wallet in the console of his vehicle in the presence of the passenger when practice was over at about 9 p.m. After giving someone a ride back to the New Hall, he went to his room to retrieve videos that he wanted to return. At this

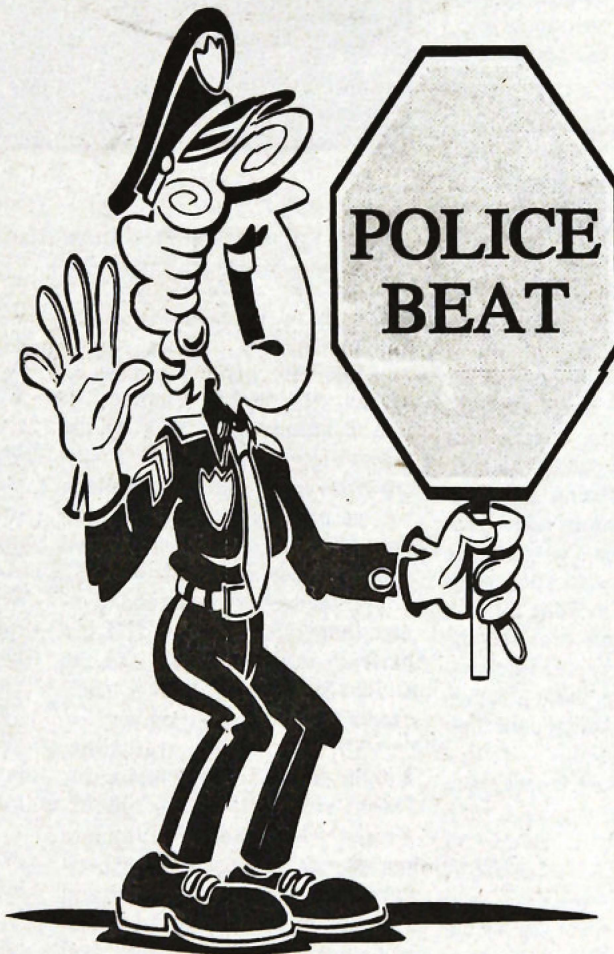
time, he could not locate his wallet. When he checked his vehicle and could not find his wallet, he proceeded to return the videos and then returned to campus. At about 10:30 p.m., he went to confront the student to whom he had given the ride to practice about the missing wallet. He found that this individual wasn't in the room although another person was present. The victim said that he wanted to see about his missing wallet when the other person in the room told him that there was a wallet present. Upon checking the wallet, the victim found that it was his but that \$50 was missing from it. At 11 p.m., the victim confronted the person to whom he had given the first ride. He denied taking the wallet and then ran from the room. The victim stated that at about 10 a.m. on Feb. 3, he found a note on the floor under his door. The note was a folded piece of paper with \$40 inside. The note read "Here's your loot. Sorry bro!"

Feb. 4, a UT student stated that between 3 a.m. and 9 p.m. on the same date, person(s) unknown, damaged the driver's side of his car from the front wheel to rear wheel of his vehicle, which was parked in the campus store parking lot. He stated he had leant his car to a resident of the New Hall. The owner stated that when he went to his car at 9 p.m., he observed the damage to the vehicle. The damage runs from the driver's side front fender over the front wheel to the rear quarter panel. The damage ranged from scrapes and rub marks, which were white in color, to a dent on the driver's door and rear panel. Estimated repair costs are unknown at this time. The student to whom the owner had leant the car denies causing the damage.

Feb. 5, at 11:26 a.m., a vehicle was towed from University of Tampa property (University East parking lot) for failure to register the vehicle. The owner had four citations for no registration and had been give a first and final warning that if he parked his vehicle on university property again, it would be towed from the property at his expense. The vehicle was removed on a flatbed type wrecker. The owner called the security office and was given information to retrieve his vehicle.

Feb. 5, at 11:15 a.m., an officer met with a student who stated that she had parked her vehicle on Feb. 4 at approximately 11:15 a.m. on North B Street. When she returned to her vehicle at approximately 4 p.m., she noticed that someone had hit her vehicle. Damage was to the left front side from approximately the top of the wheel well forward to the headlight area. The area was depressed approximately three inches. The damage appeared to have been from a vehicle backing up from the other side of the street. There are no known witnesses or suspects. The owner of the vehicle was given the number to the Tampa Police Department to report the incident.

Feb. 7, at 7:30 a.m., an officer observed that person or persons unknown had pulled seven small evergreen shrubs from the ground at the corner of North B Street and South Brevard Street. There are no known witnesses or suspects to this incident, which appeared to have occurred during the night.





## Ybor: Safety Tip

By VINCE SULTENFUSS  
Contributing Writer

Ybor City's historic district along 7th Avenue has a the new SafeZone logo on the doors of participating merchants, who are Chamber members.

The SafeZone is a public-private partnership between local Ybor businesses, the Tampa Police Department and the Hillsborough County Crisis Center. It is designed to help people keep safe.

Any establishment, displaying the blue and yellow graphic, is a place where someone in trouble can go for assistance. The SafeZone is a place anyone can seek sanctuary. If you feel you are being followed/stalked, feel you are in danger, or you think you are having a medical problem, or if you just

need someone to call a cab for you, the Safe Zones are there to help. The Ybor Chamber members will have the necessary phone numbers to call in an emergency.

A poster with safety tips will be displayed in bathrooms, high-lighting SafeZone logo and message.

"Ybor City is a safe place and we care about the people who come here," says Sara Romeo, Ybor Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board.

Ybor City is a National Landmark District and once the "Cigar Capitol of the World." Ybor City has former cigar factories and eclectic shops, restaurants and a micro brewery, along with the popular club scene. Wrought iron balconies, globe streetlights and unique brick buildings define the image of Ybor then and now.



## No Hassle Job Searches

BY SAIRA ZIMMERMAN  
Staff Writer

If you have ever made an exorbitant and time consuming attempt at searching for internships on the internet, you are aware that this painstaking process can lead to the lack of any ambition and a feeling of failure. Thanks to a new technology, this no longer needs to be a necessary task. Network Newswire is a free archive on the internet that regards job searches in any particular field of study. This free service will be activated in the near future. Based in New York, Network Newswire was produced in conjunction with College Central Network.

College Central Network Incorporated (CCN) is an interactive technology company, which operates as well as manages a leading college recruitment web site, enabling students to search for free. Through its partnership with Network Newswire, the CCN site provides college news and links to college newspapers, such as *The Minaret*, throughout the United States.

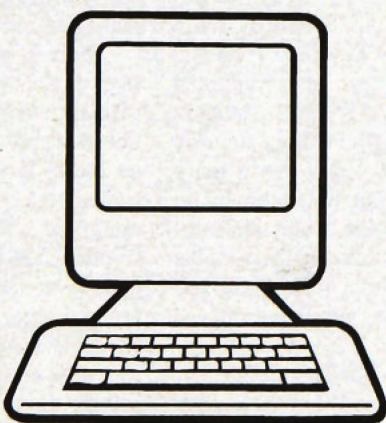
Since CCN's development in 1996, it has been rated as the "Best of the Best" and is labeled the "Top 50 Recruitment sites on the Web" for two years in a row. Career XRoads, a leading guide to online recruitment was responsible for the evaluation of CCN.

The site, located at [www.collegecentral.com](http://www.collegecentral.com), will be

offering job-related services for college students and alumni. These services range from online job searching and career matches to assistance in writing and posting resumes on various related career sites. There is also a chance to email questions to successful business persons in your field of study. This not only provides the questioner with useful information, but also gives them answers that are more personalized for their needs.

The site allows job seekers to search over 35 employment search sites freely. This is a major cut down on time and confusion that one might experience if they were to independently search several sights. The site also offers Careerwire, a free subscription-based, bi-monthly email newsletter, which is also located on the site, and offers detailed career advice to college students and alumni, especially in the area of internships.

So, for individuals looking for jobs/internships in the near future, or those who are graduating, you should consider checking out this site. When activated, this site promises to be quick and user friendly, while still adequately providing the most updated job related information on the web.



## TET Offensive: 30 Yrs. Later

By KATIE NGUYEN  
News Editor

On Feb. 4, *The TET Offensive: 30 Years Later* was discussed by a panel of guest speakers invited by Project E.A.G.L.E. through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Speakers included Dr. Richard Piper, professor of political science; Colonel John Farnham, retired Air Force veteran of three wars; Hoang Van Bui, UT alumnus recently returned from Vietnam; and Lt. Col. Jerry Knight,

from all angles against enemy forces at the same time was a struggle. He feared that he wouldn't live past nightfall, describing distinctly, one of his most unforgettable nights in Vietnam.

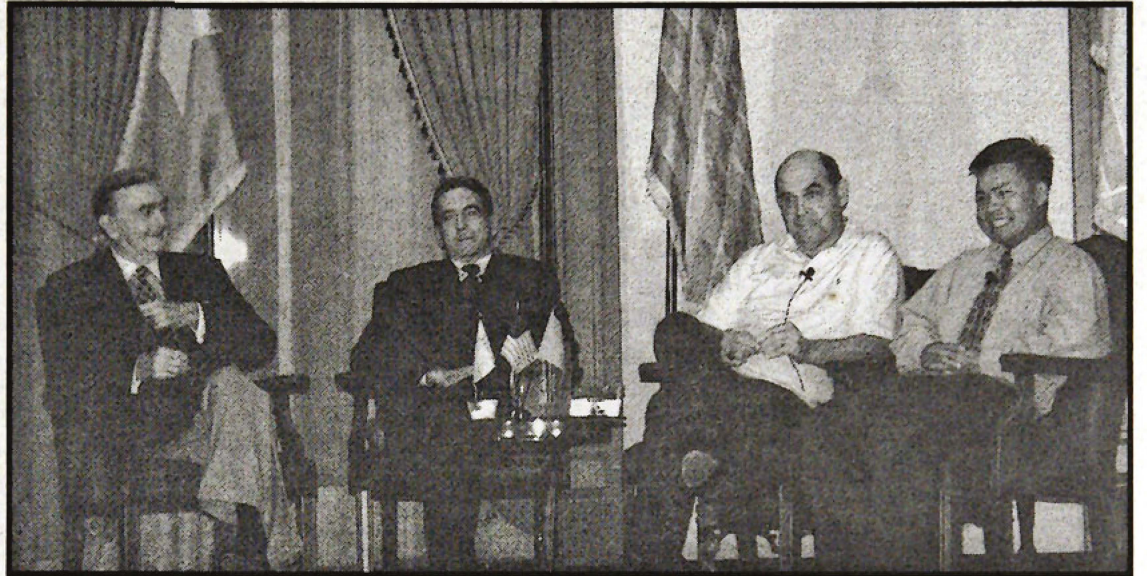
This went on for years and years for some soldiers fighting in triple canopy jungles. Knight was an infantryman. Knight believes, "We could have made a better decision on how to be involved, though we never lost a major battle."

Farnham, as Airforce veteran, spoke of how the U.S. attempted

tion and his decision to de-escalate military efforts was the last indirect outcome.

"Our whole involvement in Vietnam was unwise, but certainly there are many perspectives," said Piper.

Hoang Van Bui, a native Vietnamese and reknown artist, spoke of his trip back to Vietnam after escaping his homeland 23 years ago. Bui remembers seeing soldiers, even at the early age of one. His main purpose of returning back was an invitation to create a sculpture at Hue University. There



Katie Nguyen—The Minaret

Guest speakers seated here discussing the affects of The TET Offensive on the U.S. and Vietnam 30 years later.

former infantryman at Hue during the Tet offensive.

The TET offensive occurred on Jan. 31, 1969 in Vietnam. It was a nationwide attack by the North Vietnamese of major southern cities in the south. This attack was an attempt to bring Johnson onto the bargaining table. All panel speakers spoke of how TET affects the United States and Vietnam today. In Vietnam, TET is a national holiday, much like the United States' New Year's, a celebration of the upcoming year.

Vietnam was a war zone, Knight recalled, but it had a different side. It was gorgeous. Knight's reflections of Vietnam see sawed. On one side he experienced the devastation of war, and the other he saw nature at its most tropically lush. Knight described Vietnam's countryside as a beautiful sight. He encouraged those who haven't been to Vietnam to give it a chance.

Knight's duty was the establishment of base camp. In his jeans and white t-shirt, he described a typical day in Vietnam. The temperature would range from 100 degrees to 128 degrees. Surviving the heat and defending themselves

to defend the free will of Vietnam. This defense mechanism began back with the Truman Doctrine, which focused on containment of the spread of communism. In the beginning, the U.S. deployed 16,000 advisors. In the end, 260,000 troops were added onto the enlistment.

Piper, director of the Honors Program, spoke of direct and indirect outcomes of the Vietnam War. During, 1968, he was a campus organizer for Sen. Robert Kennedy. The direct outcome of the Vietnam War was a psychological defeat, but the U.S. achieved military victories along the way.

There were three main aspects of indirect outcomes. Public opinion swayed against then-President Lyndon Johnson. His approval ratings slid from 48 percent to 36 percent during the war years. Secondly, it wasn't just American public opinion that was disenchanted with Johnson's efforts in Vietnam, his elite wisemen changed their position also. Ten of his once, 14 supporters reversed their position.

Involvement in Vietnam was clearly unpopular. Johnson's withdrawal from candidacy for re-election

were 16 countries involved in creating a sculpture garden for the university. Bui was one of two artists who represented the U.S.

He gave to the panel discussion a personal perspective describing what his experiences were like from his visit. Sometimes faced with hatred for leaving his own homeland, Bui was forced out of a particular restaurant. Having walked and spoken to the people, Bui, stated that some are still hurt by the war that ripped their nation apart. Whether the pain is physical or emotional, it is visible in their eyes.

In 1993, Bui visited Washington D.C. There he witnessed the Vietnam Memorial. This wall stretched almost endlessly, but then he saw hope. Standing against this black wall was a group of school children, aged between 5-8, dressed in orange uniforms. The orange against black symbolized the past and future and the deceased and living.

We can't change the past, but Bui hopes to educate the children about how things to change the future.

## TAN free of charge

By DESIREE TORRES  
Ad Manager

According to the Tampa AIDS Network, there are nearly 7,000 children and individuals affected by HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area. In an effort to provide relief to members of the community, TAN is sponsoring various support groups. These support groups are open to the public Monday through Thursday every week. TAN's current support groups are:

•Monday nights: A clinical

support group facilitated by a TAN therapist for HIV positive heterosexual men and women.

•Tuesday mornings: A TAN therapist and a DACCO Substance Abuse Counselor facilitate this group for HIV positive men and women with a history of substance abuse.

•Tuesday nights: TAN's Department of Mental Health Services sponsors short-term psychoeducational groups for children and adolescents who are infected/affected by HIV/AIDS.

•Wednesday nights: A clinical

cal support group for HIV positive, gay men. This group is sponsored by TAN's Department of Mental Health Services.

•Thursday mornings: A support group sponsored by TAN's Department of Mental Health Services and facilitated by a TAN therapist with direct experience as a vocational rehabilitation counselor. It focuses on helping HIV positive men and women who are considering returning to work.



# October Sky. A true story to inspire all ages

By SARAH ROTHWELL  
Staff Writer

Television amazes. Elvis shocks. Sock hops reign. Soviets frighten and Americans laugh at NASA. Meanwhile, a seventeen year old boy confined in a 1950's coal mining town spends his days attempting to dream his way out of town and into college, an institution he regards as his way out of the local mines. When the Soviet Union launches Sputnik into orbit in 1957, millions of Americans, including this young dreamer, stand out on their front lawns at night to watch it soar amidst the distant stars; questioning both its presence and their own changing lives.

While others eye the satellite in disgust, Sputnik inspires the young man, after years of less than anxiously awaiting his journey down into the mines of Coalwood West Virginia, to challenge the rules of his home town and become a part of the developing space program at Florida's Cape Canaveral. He sits at his diner table and says, in all seriousness, "I want to build a rocket." *October Sky*, a Universal Film release, tells the true story of Homer Hickman and his fight to build the rocket that would lead him not only down the road less traveled by his local heroes but ultimately to the stars.

In a word: inspirational. Anyone looking for a film that centers around a solid story line rather than special effects needs to see this movie. The film, directed by Joe Johnston (*The Rocketeer*), unlike many others in cinemas today, leaves the viewer feeling positive about life and all its possibilities by presenting the omnipresent American dream through the eyes of a teenager. Jake Gyllenhaal's (*City Slickers*) performance as Homer, the son of mine superintendent John Hickman, leads one to believe that no matter where an individual comes from he/she can achieve dreams beyond even their own expectations. Yet, the film re-

frains from making success look like an accident that only happens in the movies.

Johnston's latest effort maintains focus on the hard work and dedication self made heroes put into their chosen efforts. Homer does not sit in class scribbling cartoon space craft on his math homework that suddenly transform into actual rockets. He cracks open books, spends his free nights working down in the basement, and actually sets fire to inanimate objects in the process.

The message: rockets don't build themselves. The film, being a true story, does not ignore the plain fact that success most often follows failure. I say this, not to give away the plot, but to keep people from thinking that the film's teenage hero wakes up one morning with a knowledge of rocket science. I doubt anyone ever wakes up with the ability to solve advanced trigonometry problems and it does not occur in this movie. The two minute promotion trailer sums it up with the phrase, "A dream that wouldn't die," letting possible audience members know that they're in for a story of true courage.

Gyllenhaal, a relative newcomer to the film world, portrays Hickman beautifully. His performance deserves notice, despite the unknown name attached to it, and stands out amongst the other young actors. I applaud Johnston's casting of relatively unknowns to make the story more believable and recognize the box office risk he took in choosing actors rather than names. Gyllenhaal made it much easier to believe in Homer Hickman than say, Matt Damon.

Gyllenhaal's Homer Hickman does not look to his father's past for answers but to an unseen future; his eyes full of both strength and child like wonderment. He is determined to find a way out of Coalwood and chooses the most extraordinary career of his time, feeling proud when a local paper pins him as more than a football player. He rejects everything com-

mon for a fantasy light years ahead.

Ordinarily, this story line might sound common; leaving the audience to question if a real life boy in Homer's situation might have the courage to abandon his world for another. Yet, Johnston forces the audiences to believe in the possibilities as soon as the words "based on a true story" appear on the screen. The director's ability to capture the essence of real life individuals gives moviegoers no choice but to believe. In Gyllenhaal's eyes viewers see the spirit of Homer Hickman and for two hours, we forget he has another face.

Another element that makes Hickman's real life account unbelievable is its emphasis on the bond of friendship. Homer's courage to take chances affects many, especially his three best friends. Quentin (Chris Owen), Roy Lee (William Lee Scott) and Odell (Chad Lindberg) await the same predestined fate as coal miners and when presented with the opportunity; they also take the chance to build a new life for themselves through, funny enough, rocket science.

Their chemistry and physics teacher, Miss Riley, portrayed by Laura Dern (*Rambling Rose* and *Jurassic Park*), inspires the boys to take the rocket project further, by offering them a chance at college scholarships through the local and national science fairs. In terms of the quest, Miss Riley acts as the boy's guide. Dern delivers the film's most unforgettable line, "As

long as you're alive in this world, you have a choice."

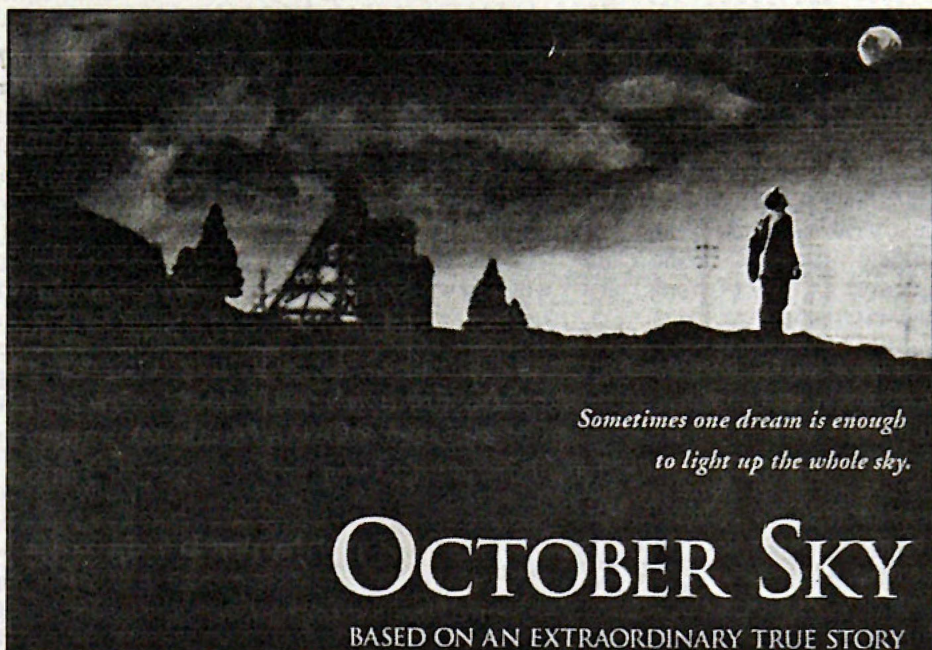
The film's secondary plot centers around the near silent relationship of a father and son in 1950s society. Chris Cooper (*Lone Star*), portrays Homer's father who rescues the town and its inhabitants on a daily basis, yet fails to acknowledge his sons intelligence and abilities. Cooper delivers a brilliant performance as a 1950s All-American-Dad set on leading his son down the same path he chose years earlier. Cooper manages to convey a love for his on-screen son in silence, speaking more with his actions and emotions than actual dialogue.

Other highlights of the film include Chris Owen's clever performance as Quentin, the school outcast whose intellectual abilities take him to heights beyond the well known class jocks. Owen's performance proves that "wierdos" usually come out ahead in the end. In a sense, that's what the story gives to the audience, a belief that being different is more a blessing than a curse.

Every aspect of *October Sky*, including the screen play written by Lewis Colick (*Ghosts of Mis-*

issippi), helps to convey the message of hope. The story does not involve scenes of murder, sex or nudity. The PG rating may defer some older viewers, but the film actually manages to be adult without excluding children in the process. It deals with common issues in a realistic manner. People of all ages should see this film and wait a week before they scurry into theaters for a bloody action flick. Mel Gibson's *Payback* might entertain but I highly doubt it will inspire audiences to change their own lives much less the world.

The truth: a young man trapped in a world where other people made his decisions for him managed to work as a NASA science engineer and lived to see his story told on the silver screen. Homer Hickman the man chose to fight with his brain and leave the coal shoveling to the grounded fellows of West Virginia. As a boy he once said, "I've come to believe that I've got in me to be somebody in this world." Congratulations Homer and congratulations Universal films.



Based on a true story, *October Sky* has a lot of heart.

**Tartuffe** - a tale of seduction and chicanery - spins Moliere's words and adds cool music to attract new audiences.

Directed by Mark Ax, the 1664 classic story gets a refreshing update with modern language and contemporary alternative music.

**Tartuffe** comes to the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center's Playhouse Tuesday, Feb. 16. Tickets are \$14.50, \$18.50 and \$24.50. Box Office Phone: 229-STAR



Courtesy of TPBAC



# Coffeehouse weekend gets rolling on Thursday

KATHY PHILLIPS  
Staff Writer

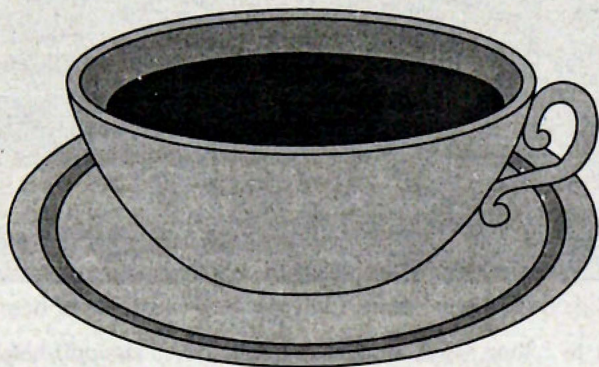
Need a study break that won't completely kill all of your brain cells—or one that might even lend you a few? You'll have the chance next weekend. Every year, UT's student literary magazine *Quilt* sponsors an orgy of words, java and interesting people called Coffeehouse Weekend. The weekend kicks off with a reading by a prominent author, who is invited to campus to share his or her works and to lead a workshop of student writing, and it ends with an open mic night in the Rat.

This year's guest is Ann Beattie, the highly acclaimed author of six novels, including *Chilly Scenes of Winter*, *My Life: Starring Dara Falcon*, as well as six short story collections including *Distortions*, *Where You'll Find Me* and *Park City*. Often praised for her insight and beautiful prose, Beattie is considered one of the most influential fiction writers of

the past 25 years.

Everyone is invited to attend Beattie's reading at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 18. Refreshments will be served (the obligatory availability of coffee) and the reading will be held in the Scarfone Gallery.

On Saturday the 20th, there will be a writing workshop led by



Beattie at 10 a.m. in the Trustee's Conference Room and should last approximately two hours. Anyone who is interested in improving his or her writing is strongly encouraged to attend. After that, Beattie will be working closely with several students who submitted pieces earlier in the month, but this is available only to the people whose pieces she will be critiquing.

Providing a rousing end to the Coffeehouse Weekend will be an open mic reading in the Rat on Saturday. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and the reading will start at 8. If you have anything you want to read, bring it to the Rat and step up to the microphone. However, if you want to remain in the shadows, you will not be flogged for keeping your writing to yourself. Admission is free for all Coffeehouse Weekend events.

Terry Lacy, *Quilt's* editor-in-chief, said, "Coffeehouse Weekend gives us the chance to be exposed to some of the finest writers currently working, and it brings out the best in us." He adds, with great irony, "Be there or be square."



Jimm Roberts — Knopf

Ann Beattie is coming for the 1999 Quilt Coffeehouse Weekend.

## Land O' Florida



Courtesy of TBPAC

Doug Cooney lives large.

By TIFFANY WHILES  
Assistant Editor-in-Chief

What can be crazier than visiting the old tourist attractions that made Florida so popular?

I'd say a night spent touring weird Florida attractions at the Off Center.

This is no ordinary night, and it's sure no ordinary play. It's a performance work that will give you an idea of just how Florida got to be Florida. If you want adventure - or at least want to laugh for a couple of hours - watch out for 'gators and dancing mermaids because they are sure to float your way.

Giant postcards - the really ugly ones that line every store from Cocoa Beach to Gulf Boulevard, a real film projector and Esther Williams water skiing are part of this roller-coaster montage.

It's more than entertaining. It's, well... Oh yeah - and did I mention the pet alligator you might get to touch?

It's a show about sideshows. There are freaky people and supernatural mysteries. Twisted cypress wood that looks like famous people - A Hoax? You can see it for a buck just up Highway 19.

Cooney spent a year researching these places, digging them up from the dusty past to bring them life for a few more laughs. Since he grew up in West Palm, he grew up with a good idea of the Floridian motif. The places he chose to talk about were, "all the places I could never get my dad to stop at."

He loves driving the backroads of Florida, and that is where most of his material - including the personalities he mentions comes from. Sometimes he went back to these places a couple times so he could really get to

know their personality.

So who is Doug Cooney? A larger than life character himself, Cooney started out as a lawyer. He is an inactive member of the bar in three states. His work has a power of its own. His other achievements include *The Beloved Dearly*, which is currently being developed into a motion picture by Nickelodeon Films as well as a novel to be published by Simon & Schuster.

Not to be given the reputation of a children's writer though, he is currently working on an adult audience project called *Astronauts*. It's a "sex farce about good looking people in underwear saying funny things." More specifically, it's about women in the late 1960s who moved to Coca Beach to have sex with the astronauts.

## Before Jackie Robinson

By DAVE MACE  
Staff Writer

Before Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier in 1948 with the Brooklyn Dodgers, there was one man who had accomplished this feat nearly sixty years earlier. In 1884, Moses Fleetwood Walker shattered Major League baseball's color barrier by signing with the Toledo Blue Stockings of the American Association (rival of the National League).

Fleet Walker played in forty-two games and batted .263. His amazing ability came, however, as a great defensive catcher who caught bare-handed. The team's star pitcher Tony Mullane was quoted as saying "Walker was the best catcher I ever worked with, but I disliked a Negro and whenever I had to pitch to him I used to pitch anything I wanted without looking at his signals." Coinciden-

tally, Walker was released the next year.

In 1887, Walker resurfaced in the Major Leagues with Newark of the International League. Along with George Washington Stovey, Walker formed the first all Negro battery in the Major Leagues. On July 14, it all came to an end as league president Cap Anson (currently enshrined in baseball's Hall of Fame) threatened Newark officials to release the two black players saying "Get that nigger off the field, there's a law against that!" This resulted in the release of Stovey and Walker, and gave Anson the nickname the "Father of Apartheid Baseball."

In 1888, Fleet Walker was picked up by a Minor League team in Syracuse, NY, where he only batted .216, but provided enough defense to help his team win a league championship. He remained at Syracuse until the end

of the 1890 season, and retired at the age of 33.

Walker was an educated man. He attended Oberlin College and the University of Michigan, but did not receive a degree. He did manage to publish a book entitled *Our Home Colony*, in which he wrote his views on America's racial inequalities. He then went on to publish a newspaper in Steubenville, Ohio. He also owned and operated an opera theater in Cadiz, Ohio, in which he was awarded several patents for his motion picture ingenuity.

In 1922, Walker retired, and returned to his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio. He died there in 1924 at the age of 67.



## Grant Deadline March 15

**March 15** is the application deadline for the Arts Council of Hillsborough County's Emerging Artist Grants. These grants are designed to help fund projects that will advance the professional careers of emerging artists or the work of emerging arts organizations. Maximum amount available is \$2,000 per applicant, however few will be given the maximum. All applicants must be legal residents of Hillsborough County for two years prior to the application deadline.

Applicants will be reviewed by a panel of citizens and arts professionals. Completed applications must be in the Arts Council offices at 725 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 401, no later than 5 p.m. on March 15, 1999. For a copy of the application and guidelines, call the Arts Council at 276-8250 or stop by the office at 725 E. Kennedy Boulevard, at the corner of Jefferson and Kennedy in Tampa.



# Sex on Campus

a special Valentine's Day pullout section concerning issues of a sexual nature

## Editor's note

Over the course of my years at UT, it has come to my attention that students have questions and comments about sexual relationships, the consequences and the joys. In an effort to serve and educate the UT populace we have compiled a special section for this issue. While some articles may seem lighthearted, they are all intended as a forum for students to discuss personal issues. Inside this section you will find articles on STDs, adoption, pornography, sexual activity, reasons for remaining abstinent and ways to relieve sexual frustration without danger, i.e. masturbation. Due to the personal nature of the issues, some articles may be printed with a pen name to protect the writers and their partners.

This special section is an experiment for us, and we hope you will enjoy it. We believe that knowledge of sexual issues is the only way to protect yourself. Please direct any feedback on this issue to The Minaret at UT box 2757 or email us at [TheMinaret@aol.com](mailto:TheMinaret@aol.com).

Susan Wheeler Hudmon  
Editor-in-Chief

## Dangers of Silence

By SUSAN W. HUDMON  
Editor-in-Chief

On Valentine's Day, 1999, the American Social Health Association will sponsor the ninth annual "National Condom Day." The message is simple: love responsibly by protecting your health and the health of the one on the receiving end of your affections. Use a condom. If either partner has unprotected sex at any time, ASHA recommends that both be tested for STDs. Partners should use latex condoms for every sex act in order to protect against transmitting infection.

Recent studies by ASHA have concluded that 15.3 million new cases of STDs occurred in the United States in 1996, a 25 percent increase over the 12 million previously estimated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1988. This update is the first to apply rigorous methodology to calculate the annual STD incidence overall.

The 25 percent increase in national incidence, or new cases diagnosed, is indicative of better detection methods that provide a more accurate count. Techniques have made it possible to identify asymptomatic, or "silent", infections that remained uncoun- ted in the past. These "silent" infections can only be diagnosed through testing, and routine screening programs are not yet readily available.

Despite advances in detection and improvements in treatment and prevention, STD rates in the United States remain the highest of any country in the industrialized world. Most at risk are teenagers, who are statistically more likely to have multiple partners and otherwise engage in risky behavior, women, due to physiological and social disadvantage, infants and ethnic minorities who are poor and lack access to proper medical care. ASHA estimated in 1998 that two-thirds of all STDs occur in people under the age of 25 and one-fourth in those under 20.

Numbers for the human papilloma virus (HPV) and trichomoniasis showed dramatically increased numbers as compared with other STDs. According to ASHA more than two-thirds of the 15.3 million STDs occurring in 1996 were due to elevated numbers in the estimates of these two STDs.

Linda L. Alexander, ASHA president and CEO writes that the "social stigma and lack of public awareness concerning STDs often inhibit frank discussion between sexual partners and between patients and health care providers about STD risk and the need for testing."

Although most STDs, excluding the HIV virus, are not usually life-threatening, many STDs are linked to HIV. Because STD infection greatly increases the chances of catching and spreading

HIV, improved protection and screening are important for preventing the spread of HIV. If left untreated, some STDs can lead to infertility, pregnancy complications and cervical cancer. The Institute of Medicine (IOM) reported in December that their 1997 statistics detailed the impact of STDs on women, infants and adolescents and the relationship between STDs and pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), infertility and cancer.

Alexander confirms that "to make significant inroads in the quest to eliminate STDs, we as a nation must break the silence, dispel the ignorance and destigmatize the topics."

The only definite protection against sexually transmitted diseases, including herpes, chlamydia, gonorrhea, trichomoniasis, bacterial vaginosis, syphilis, HPV, hepatitis B, and HIV, is abstinence. But for those who are having sex, condoms are essential unless both partners are 100 percent sure that they are free from infection (i.e. they have been tested).

The National ASHA STD Action Plan will work to enhance public awareness, patient education and public policy. ASHA was founded in 1914 and is a nonprofit organization dedicated solely to the prevention and control of all sexually transmitted diseases. The mission is to stop STDs and their harmful consequences to individuals, families and the community.

The general public and health care providers are encouraged to call the National STD Hotline at 1-800-227-8922 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday and the 24-hour National AIDS Hotline at 1-800-342-2437 for more information about STDs, support groups and medical care. The ASHA website address is <http://www.ashastd.org>.

## You May Not Know This

By JENNIFER MILLER  
Staff Writer

I'm no fool when it comes to sex on this campus. It's everywhere, from lunchtime conversations to dorm rooms and perhaps a sports field or two. But here's an interesting tidbit you might want to know: everyone on this campus who is having sex (unless married), is breaking the law.

No joke. There is a law in Florida stating that sex or cohabitation between unmarried people is illegal. This isn't saying the Tampa Police Department is going to sweep through the dorms and arrest every known non-virgin. That would be silly. The jails wouldn't have enough room to hold all the campus sex offenders.

This isn't the only way that the government has tried to infringe upon our moral rights. In Cape May, a New Jersey shore town, it's illegal for women to wear bikinis. Heck, it's even illegal for women to wear one-piece suits because, in the opinion of old lawmakers, they showed too much skin. Who thinks up these things? I can tell you that this law isn't enforced, either. Last time I was in Cape May, no one was worried about the bikini police. What they need is a law against the overweight French-Canadian men who choose to parade around in skimpy Speedos that prominently show off fully developed beer bellies, which are enough to spoil my vacation.

But anyway, I wonder how old those two official laws are. I'm guessing that they were written back when the church had much more influence on what went down

in the law books or by some senator who was scared little Johnny was using his little Johnny.

The fact that government could even pass such a law shows how much power they have over our lives. They made rules against our moral code, which is something that we should decide for



ourselves. This isn't an archaic issue that we can just laugh off. Just look at what's happening in the Senate. I know that Kenneth Starr says that this is a trial about perjury and obstruction of justice, but what's really on trial are President Clinton's morals.

By the way, Clinton also broke another law, the one that makes oral sex illegal in Washington, D.C., but no one tell that to the independent council or this trial may never end.

Should the government even try to place laws on our morals? I say no when it comes to private sexual relations. But when those people try to do the same things in public, I highly support the

government's laws. For example, if a couple wants to have oral sex in the comfort of their room, it's not my place to say if that's right or wrong. But when they decide to do the same thing on Bayshore Boulevard during Gasparilla, which actually happened last Saturday, then I think something needs to be done. This is why we have public lewdness laws.

I agree with such laws because a couple having sex in public is infringing on my rights. Also, this isn't something we want our children witnessing at such young ages. Gasparilla drew a lot of families and young children. That one couple who decided to relieve their horniness on the street was out of line, and I think that the government's laws need to be enforced on such an occasion.

Still, bedroom and bikini laws aren't necessary. Even though listening to what the government tried to make illegal is amusing, it's not a topic we can ignore because a good chunk of our tax money is being poured into an ethics trial. What the government needs to do is keep closed doors closed. In the meantime, I'll be working on that anti-fat-guys-in-Speedo law.

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## SEX

## Getting it on: excitement for the whole family

By JENNIFER MILLER  
Staff Writer

Have you ever been befuddled in the ways of sex? Ever have a question that made you blush even thinking about it? Or do you want to just be a superhero lover? If you answered yes to any of these questions, pick up a copy of the Goofy Foot Press *The Guide to Getting it On!*, an all inclusive answer book on almost every possible aspect of sex that your sick mind can conjure up from the fundamentals of kissing, oral sex techniques, bestiality and sex for the disabled. This book might seem like a bit of heavy reading to read straight through, but I would recommend it more as a reference than your average beach reading. To find information on a certain topic, you could be traditional and turn to the index or table of contents. Or, if you want to have some fun, just flip through and look at the very detailed and sometimes graphic pictures until you find what you're looking for. Don't be intimidated by the size of the book, though. It's not a doctor's manual in the "insert Tab A into Slot B" fashion like so many other sex books I've seen. It's written with high doses of humor included because, as stated in a chapter entitled "Talking about Sex," "It's amazing how a bit of humor helps any discussion that

might otherwise be filled with a bit of anxiety." This helps to make the material interesting and takes the edge off sometimes very serious and frustrating subjects.

Perhaps one of the most interesting chapters in the book is entitled "Sex Laws." Most of these laws are probably ancient and are definitely not enforced, but it's still interesting to see what is illegal in some states, no matter how outrageous they may be. For instance, "in Florida, it is illegal for an unmarried man and woman to 'lewdly and lasciviously associate and cohabit together.'" This makes just about everyone on campus a lawbreaker.

Oral sex is illegal in Maryland, which could serve as a good ex-

against fornication with animals, Wyoming has two laws against

bestiality. Even though most of the laws aren't enforced or applicable except for age of consent, it's still an interesting chapter to read through.

As much as I enjoyed and was educated by *The Guide to Getting it On!*, this reference does seem to have its flaws. While reading the chapter "Birth Control and Gnarly Sex Germs," I was surprised by the stance the editors took on AIDS and the use of condoms in the heterosexual community. "[AIDS] has not made the highly anticipated crossover into heterosexual populations... [and] many of the AIDS cases that do

exist among heterosexuals can be explained by transfusion or IV drug usage." The book continues to say that if you are a homosexual engaging in anal sex, you better use a condom; however, if you're straight, it's a good idea but you don't really need to. My idea is that ALL sexually active persons in non-monogamous relationships should take precaution against the spread of AIDS and other sexual transmitted diseases, which is why this particular chapter of the book is unsettling. There are many heterosexual men and women that have contracted HIV. Tampa AIDS Network even has a support group specifically for them. All other information contained in the manual seems legitimate and factual to me, but this one section makes me question some of what is said.

Overall, though, I do recommend the *Guide to Getting it On!* to anyone who has sex questions or just wants a good laugh. It's a great way to become educated in not only what you are doing now sexually, but also in what you could encounter in the future. Chapters like "Sex When You're Horny and Disabled" may seem unimportant to you, but their are things that may come up, whether or not you expect it.



Graphic Courtesy of Goofy Foot Press

Learn a new sexual technique for every day of the year.

cuse for fed-up partners up north. While most states have laws

erosexual populations... [and] many of the AIDS cases that do

## Pettin' the Kitty and other ways to amuse yourself

By ROSIE VERGARA  
Staff Writer

Remember the number one cause of adolescent blindness and hairy palms? If not, ask your parents about it. For those of you still confused, I am referring to masturbation, and even now, people still chuckle at the mere mention of the word.

Masturbation is the deliberate stimulation of one's own genitals to achieve sexual pleasure. In a recent study, 95 percent of men and 89 percent of women reported having masturbated. Children even find the occasional stimulation of their genitals sensually pleasing but don't associate the act as being sexual until their later years.

Why is it that the term still conjures negative images today? That negativity can be traced to the word's Latin origins, masturbare. It comes from manus (hand) and stuprare (defile). Thus, it means 'to defile the hand'.

The act has historically been viewed as taboo, even though societies are growing more accepting. Some religions refer to masturbating as an 'unnatural act' because it had no reproductive goal. While the Bible has no clear-cut prohibitions against this activity, both traditional Judaism + Christianity generally regard masturbation as sinful. In the Vatican Paper, *Declaration of Sexual Ethics*, published in 1975, the Catholic Church noted masturbation as an "intrinsically and seriously disordered act." It was also described as "self-abuse," "defilement of the flesh," and "self pollution."

Masturbating is the safest way to achieve sexual gratification. Medical authors have even stated that the act causes no physical or mental harm. Even now, it is still regarded with guilt and anxiety partly due to centuries of religions

teaching that it is sinful. Many of us might have even been caught by a parent and were punished, therefore receiving negative messages.

As most people have already figured, masturbation does not cause blindness, give you the flu, drive you crazy or give you hairy palms. It is a perfectly natural and harmless expression of one's sexuality. Gilbert Godfried once said, "If masturbating were a crime, I'd be on Death Row." I'm sure that's the case for most of us. We must overcome society's negative stereotypes and feelings on masturbation. Doing so will allow men and women to explore their own sexuality in private.

This is where a black and white line can grow a little gray. While I'm sitting here preaching masturbation, please remember to do it in the privacy of your own room. Looking back, I'm sure Pee-

W e e Herman and G e o r g e M i c h a e l would have appreciated that warning. We live in a sexually charged society where S T D s , among other diseases, rule our way of life. Masturbation is a safe and natural act. The more comfortable someone is with their body, the more comfortable

they'll be when it's time to put on a condom.

Again, the quickest and safest way to gratify the self is by masturbating. Magazines were even created to send the hormones flowing. Hugh Hefner's *Playboy* and *Playgirl* are just two of them. Even he understands that men and women can't have sex all the time. Instead, they just leaf through the pages and fantasize that they are.

Doctor's recommend it, and sexual educators praise it. So what's the problem? I'm willing to campaign for a national masturbation day, if not for practicing, to at least educate the less knowledgeable. So, the next time you feel like slapping the salami or going fishing, go right ahead. You're supposed to.

Source: Lovingsex.com



Graphic Courtesy of Goofy Foot Press

Dancing with yourself.

## Traci takes off

By JENNIFER MILLER  
Staff Writer

I'm no stranger to the peculiar genre of film called the pornographic film. I was introduced for my first porn within my first weeks at UT, and I find them particularly amusing between the cheesy dialogue and outrageous situations that characterize the films that you find in the back room of the video store. And who can forget the thumping synthesizer music? So when I was given *Traci, I Love You* to review for this very special sex section of *The Minaret*, I figured that I would get a good chuckle out of the whole project.

Initially, I wasn't disappointed. When some of my fellow floormates, males in particular, found out about this particular assignment, they figured that I could use a little assistance in my assessment of the film. By the time that we had worked through the opening credits, I was in a room packed with eight guys who all decided that they wanted to write for the newspaper. The situation I found myself in that evening might have been entertaining, the video itself was not. Compared to the pornos I've seen before, this one wasn't very good. Even the guys will collaborate on that view. About five minutes into the movie, they were insisting that I watch one of the their "real" pornos. I couldn't follow the plot of this movie even though I know that's not supposed to be the attractive force of these types of movies. It involves a male in sunglasses who has an obsession with an exhibitionist who has traveled to Europe to escape the constraints of the United States. This buxom blond is played by Traci Lourdes, who, when she was only fifteen years old, forged her

birth certificates and posed in *Penthouse*.

The opening shots show her roaming through some European city in a rather snug electric pink mini skirt. Then we are treated to seeing Lourdes surrounded by photographs snapping her image while she strips from her bikini on the beach, a scene which is accompanied by a ridiculous narrative by the sunglasses man telling of his obsession with her. Then suddenly we're watching Lourdes getting, um, interviewed in an office. From what I gathered, she felt dirty about the act yet excited. Then we see her working in a strip club under the eyes of her stalker who continues to wear his trademark sunglasses even though he's inside a dark and dingy club. Afterwards, as Lourdes parades topless around her dressing room, the flimsy plot adds an ounce of weight. She receives gifts from the sunglass man, the first being a gold chain with a heart shaped charm engraved with her name. Then she receives the ultimate gift: trips to some odd pleasure place where couples come to perform and watch various sex acts. I was subjected to about twenty minutes of Traci using this bizarre gift. From there on, I couldn't follow a thing as the screen was filled with various shots of the human reproductive systems.

My overall assessment is that this porn stinks. Not only was the plot outrageous and the "love" scenes much too long and boring, but even the music stunk. Other than my initial amusement of watching a porn in a room with eight guys, *Traci, I Love You* severely disappointed my amusement expectations.



# SEX

## Good Vibrations . . . more than just a song

By ROSIE VERGARA  
Staff Writer

Vibrators. They buzz loud, can irritate your skin, and *The Minaret* is publishing an article about them. Hey, this is the Sex Issue, and such articles should be expected.

Sex Toys are devices used to enhance sexual activity. They are used mostly on the genitals and the area around them.

The list of sex aides is a long one, and they are sold in erotica shops and through mail order catalogues around the country and some parts of the world.

Vibrators are the most common item sold, according to the night

shift clerk at Hott Flixx, a pornography shop off of Dale Mabry.

"We sell about 10 vibrators on a good day," said RJ the clerk, "They go even more on the weekends."

He also stated that people of all ages purchase the toys regularly. Vibrators are bought by men and women who range in ages from 18 to senior citizen.

For definition purposes, vibrators are electrical machines powered by batteries or electrical outlets.

Vibrators come in all shapes, sizes, textures and colors. They range from the three and a half-inch Pocket Rocket to the ten-inch Buzz.

Looking for a little variety? There

are an assortment of colors - red, green, hot pink, silver, and the traditional white and black.

Vibrators aren't the typical smooth, plastic cylindrical appendages most are used to. Some are lifelike in their texture, and others are ribbed. Some are even made with a beaded jelly substance, which apparently offers more pleasure.

There is even

a speed control on several vibrator models. Such a function personalizes the intensity of the stimulation.

The most popular kinds of vibrators are battery operated and sometimes come with attachments for different parts of the body.

"One that's really popular here is the egg shaped vibrator," said RJ, referring to the two and a half-inch mold of a plastic egg. "Most men and women just place it in their vagina or anus until they achieve orgasm."

The sexual sensations produced by a vibrator can be both intense and rapidly felt. It is recommended that they are used gently on soft body tissue. Using a water-based lubricant can also make the vibrator more comfortable and stimulating. Vibrators, especially those powered by outlets, should never be used with or near water to avoid the chance of getting electrocuted. Battery powered models may also overheat if used for extended periods of time.

Many people consider the use of vibrators and other sex toys vulgar. While many people agreed to speak on the topic, they refused to have their name revealed, especially after admitting to owning a vibrator.

Some might even consider this article a waste of space, but the truth is, vibrators are going to be around whether we like them or not.

Some also tend to forget that by using vibrators, people are straying from irresponsible sexual activity. While using vibrators in the privacy of one's own home, people are gratifying themselves sexually in one of the safest manners.



The Minaret—Rosie

Find a toy to satisfy your needs.

If anyone is interested in purchasing a sex toy, they should not rule out attending an erotica shop. There are several in the downtown Tampa area alone.

Next week, on Feb. 19, the New Hall will be holding a Sex Toy Party Professionals from Passion Play, on Kennedy Blvd., will be coming in and giving an educational presentation regarding sexual gratification. They will also have many toys on hand which will

be offered for sale following the program.

Many people frown upon erotica shops, but they shouldn't according to RJ.

"People think that places like these shouldn't exist," said RJ of Hott Flixx. "The way I see it, if we didn't have places like these, there'd probably be a lot more rapists and child molesters on the streets."



The Minaret—Rosie

Variety is the spice of life.

## True freedom is flappin' in the wind

By RYAN VAN WINKLE  
Campus Correspondent - Syracuse University  
College Press Exchange

I can remember only one piece of advice before everything falls into madness: "Look into the eyes; maintain eye contact."

I am stark naked and nervous when Joel screams, "Let's go! Naked guys, naked guys running at you!"

We're heading fast down the street, pounding the pavement in a fleshy madness.

"Don't look away," I think. "No fear. No fear."

It's Halloween, and, despite the cold, grain alcohol and adrenaline are warming parts of me that have never seen the sun. We're huffing fast down the street - past people dressed as President Clinton, Monica Lewinsky, flappers and pirates. Joel's thin, graceful frame is directly in front of me. His arms are flailing and his bare feet thundering across the ground as the crowd cheers.

Some gasp, others laugh. Some move out of the way quickly. Some are frozen in place, prompting Joel to shout at them, "Naked guy touching you!"

Men scream from a dark porch, "Put some clothes on. Freaks! We don't want to see you."

Such criticism - not to mention the risk of arrest, social rejection and catching cold - has never stopped Joel before. Not as he ran naked through restaurants, not as he ran the length of an 8-mile-long

golf course, and certainly not as he ran in the buff by a group of speechless first-year students watching a movie outdoors during orientation weekend.

"Because it was freshmen, they're insecure and aren't going to boo," he said. "It's the upper-classman, getting ready to go into the capitalist, greedy society that can't deal."

Joel's reveling in this moment, too. He bounces on the balls of his feet, yelling "Freedom!" at gawkers.

While shrinks could debate his motivation, latent desires and personality traits for months, even years, it's now easy to see why Joel Colombero, a senior at Syracuse University, streaks: the adrenaline rush and the raw logic of this lunacy are so appealing.

Though he has seen streaking since high school, Joel said he doesn't try to compete with those who run onstage naked during the Emmys or creepy guys who have a thing for gray overcoats.

"Most of the guys who have done stuff like that are really fucked in the head," Joel said. "I'm just a really normal guy. I don't smoke, I don't drink, and I don't do drugs."

While his claim to normalcy is dubious, many may find Joel's rationale for baring his bod in public impeccable and refreshingly honest. This is not, after all, a guy who hides his head while running naked down the street.

"Hell yes," he replied in-

stantly when asked if he wanted his real name published. "I wouldn't talk to you if you didn't!" He wants us to know him, and he doesn't mind if we wander through the pale, white underbelly of his psyche for a while - a mind that only cops and counselors usually get to explore.

"It's an idealist thing," Joel said of his love for streaking. "Life is so monotonous. Sometimes you don't feel alive, and I want to make my life extraordinary. I've got to do something crazy sometimes, or I feel I'll become one of them."

"Them" being people whom Joel considers anal and prissy. He said he's found quite a few in Syracuse, a far more uptight place than his home of San Jose, Calif. Everybody at school, he said, is worried about passing the social grade and saying and doing the right things. So they do nothing - at least nothing exciting that is.

"Do something, do anything," Joel says again and again.

He has done a lot. He's double majoring in philosophy and television, radio and film. He's on the university's wrestling team and participates in several campus groups. And he's streaked dozens and dozens of times.

Joel got his start streaking during a California statewide swim meet when he was still in high school. Somebody joked before the meet that it would be funny if a swimmer's suit came off during a race. Joel thought so, too, so he practiced diving repeatedly with

his suit untied to make sure it would fall off at just the right moment. He convinced the team to let him swim the last leg of a 50-meter relay.

He dove into the water, and his ploy worked.

"I almost drowned I was laughing so hard, swallowing water, the suit down to my knees like a parachute," he said. "But it really bothered me not knowing if anyone saw me."

Plenty of folks among the crowd of 2,000 that gathered for the event guaranteed they had. Joel's team lost - many of his fellow swimmers walked away without saying a word, and his coach shed a tear - but a streak addict was born.

"I didn't want to hurt anybody," Joel said. "We had two squads at this meet. We really weren't supposed to be there at all. We had no chance of winning."

These days his biggest ambition - as far as running around in the buff goes - is to streak through the Carrier Dome during a football game. That hasn't already happened because Joel said he's afraid of the response he'd get - which, of course, could mean the revocation of his diploma.

"It's all about the reaction," he said. "If I saw someone doing something crazy, I'd love it. It transcends our fears. Let's us know that life isn't dismal. I don't do this because I want people to say, 'Oh I'm scared!' and then call the cops."

Joel said cops seem to have the worst trouble breaking away from the norm - especially when they're busy upholding laws against public indecency. Joel has encountered the police twice. Once after running naked through a Denny's restaurant in California, and once while zooming down the streets of Syracuse while wearing in-line-skates. That story, Joel says, is "the most legendary."

He used a rope to tie himself to a car, donned a ski mask, lit a cigar and stuck about a half dozen roman candles in this belt. The car took off, with Joel trailing behind, sparks from the candles flying into the air.

"I heard cheers," he said, smiling. "It was like a whole bunch of people doing a wave up and down the street."

And then there was that stop sign. Joel, not wanting to crash into the back of the car, let go of the rope and skated right into the path of a police officer.

"I'm naked and he's like, 'What the hell are you doing?'" Joel said. "All I could say was, 'Officer, do you want me to put pants on now?'"

Joel wasn't arrested that night. Funny how that happens, he added. Typically, cops get over their initial shock and anger and think his stunts are pretty funny. They know he's not out to hurt anyone, he said, and they usually smile knowingly when he explains, "I wanted to live a bit."



## Adoption through the classifieds

COLUMN

I'm stunned. I am hurt by our typographical world circumstance. I came across "We want to buy your baby" ads in the newspaper while

By  
KAREN  
BAKER

searching through the classifieds. They were wide with stars and hearts; all capital letters—ADOPTION.

At first glance, I was invited and thought it a blessing that "loving couples" that live on cul-de-sacs and use Martha Stewart's \$45 cookie cutters could fulfill their childbearingless lives with small wonders who hap into the world in joyous error. I know of families built like this and far be it from me to shadow the light thrown from their happiness, but there is a great cost, and not just in greens and stubs.

I read the ads further and discovered that their nature basically sought "unwanted" or "unsure" pregnancies; propaganda to "please give up your baby."

My reasoning understands that adoption is most often a convenient arrangement for both the adoptive and biological parents of a child, where "convenient" is held captive by timing and

other uncommandable situations.

People unable to conceive have a chance to be parents, and that is worthy, but something seems to be wrong with the system when there are three ADOPTION ads nestled betwixt "Found, YORKIE mix, small male, in USF area: off 46th Street" and "Notice: Airline tickets, Cruise tickets and Event tickets for sale or to purchase..."

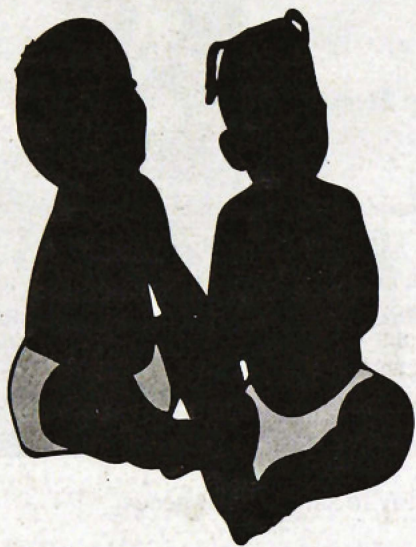
These are babies, people! The kind who grow and nourish inside another life and come out screaming with ten toes and little noses that reflect those who bore them.

How is it that fate of mother and child, begun together by birthing cords and uterine meat, be decided come business in the dingy classifieds?

Do you know that there are women who jump from slumber, mid-night, to find only dark rooms, thin sheets and an emptiness labeled, "What if?" These are women who wanted the best for their bundles, so they suffered a torn, bloody body and let loose its only healing, the comfort of theirs in folded hospital arms. A sleep of heartache can last a life's eternity.

I am left anguished, shaken and hopeless in empathy for these women who I know by story only, and wish soul's peace upon.

It saddens me deeply to see the cold, cold marketing on page two.



## Panty of the month, one brother's gift

COLUMN

For some ungodly reason, my 16-year-old brother wanted a leopard print g-string for Christmas. He may have been joking, but you don't joke around in my family. We're all pranksters at heart, and that's why, over the winter break, I found myself in a porn shop with my mom.



By  
KATHY  
PHILLIPS

This may surprise you, but not a lot of places sell leopard print g-strings for guys. Women can find underwear of any kind almost anywhere they go: the mall, the grocery store, the car repair shop, church, Burger King, etc. They practically come in dispensers, like Kleenex, and when you need a pair, you can just grab one and go. For men, it's more difficult to find exotic underthings.

So, after my mother had been to several stores in vain, she decided to take drastic measures. In Cocoa Beach, which is near our town, there is a store called Fairvilla. A giant sign in front of it states that it is the world's biggest adult store. She figured, if they didn't have kinky underwear for men, then it must not exist. But she couldn't go alone. Safety in numbers and all that crap. She asked me to go with her, but I think it's actually because she wanted me there as a shield: if anyone she knew saw her going in that store, she could always say that I was the one who wanted to go.

This too may surprise you: this was not the first time my mother and I had been to an adult store. In junior high, I wanted to do a report about pornography for my gifted class. (Digression: Whenever I gave a report in this class, my teacher spent most of the time with her face in her hands, mumbling, "I'm going to get fired, I'm going to get fired.") Once I caused a boy to throw up in class because my description of vasc-

tomies and castration was so graphic. Hee hee. I miss that class.) However, not being old enough to visit naughty places alone, I convinced my mother to take me to a local adult video store. Of course, I spent the entire visit with my mother's hand over my eyes, but I got a pleasant interview with the owner and a coupon for a free rental when I was "old enough".

But this trip to Fairvilla was different. I was now officially "old enough", and even if my mother wanted to cover my eyes, she couldn't, because I am a lot taller than she is.

You haven't lived until you've looked at porn with your mom. I wanted to deny that my mom even knew about porn. I never learned anything from my parents about sex—they left it up to the school to tell me what I needed to know. So I was happy to assume that, although I knew that other people had sex, my parents had never done that sort of thing, and had created me in a lab, a genetic experiment gone awry.

However, there we were, me and my mom, surrounded by rows and rows of videos, toys and goopy substances. The most horrifying thing to ever come out of my mother's mouth was what she said to me as I pointed to a large, oddly shaped device. I couldn't figure out what the hell it was used for and my mother exclaimed girlishly, "Wow! I haven't seen one of those in years."

Okay. Eew?

Sensing my imminent panic attack, my mom quickly located the men's clothing section and picked out a pair of racy undies for my brother. When he opened the package on Christmas, my brother was definitely surprised. Even more surprising was my mother's insistence on seeing him wear it. "I paid for that thing, I want to see if it fits."

The moral of the story: porn brings families closer together. (A tongue in cheek moral—although whose tongue in whose cheek, we may never know.)

## A virgin speaks: Not everyone is doing it

COLUMN

I'll admit it: I'm a virgin. No, I'm not riddled with some hideous hormone deficiency disease or planning on becoming a nun. I've made the con-

By  
LIZZIE  
SUMMIT

scious choice not to engage in sexual relations until a wedding ring is on my finger as a symbol of everlasting love.

This choice didn't seem to be such an oddity in high school. Most of my friends were virgins right along with me. We saw sex as something special to be shared by two people who were very much in love. Those around us who were having intercourse didn't seem to share strong bonds as couples, so their image was tainted in our eyes. For example, I knew of one couple who was constantly breaking up and getting back together. Then the

weekend of prom, they were found having sex in the back of his pick up truck. I was horrified. How could they be having sex if they weren't even a real couple?

When I came to college, I learned that a virgin is seen as an anomaly. Sex seems to have lost its special meaning. I'll hear about so-and-so who's had sex with four girls already or pledges that, "I'll get laid tonight. I don't care with who, but I'm getting laid." Such attitudes make me

take a mental step back. Isn't sex supposed to be something incredibly special shared by two people, not just a physical release? I've heard of so many sex-only relationships that I wonder if the act has meaning to most people anymore. How can a girl stay in a guy's room one night then bed hop to another room the next night? Does she even care what happens to her body? The guys

apparently don't care because they continue to have sex with almost anyone who's willing to participate.

ing to participate.

Even though this gimme, gimme, gimme attitude about sex seems to be the prevailing attitude in college, I will not capitulate to common views. I'm still waiting for marriage. As nice as some of the guys are that I've met here, I still feel that many of them have the attitude that it's natural for a girl to have sex with him after only three casual dates. Sorry, guys. We're not all like that. You may see college as a time to experiment sexually, but not all of us will be test cases.

I'm not going to change my views no matter what other people do. I plan to hold onto my virginity until my wedding night. I don't care how many people will join me in my pledge, but I know that it's the best decision for me.



"Sex without love is a meaningless experience, but as meaningless experiences go, it's pretty damn good."

-Woody Allen

"I like my sex the way I like basketball, one on one, and with as little dribbling as possible"

-Lt Frank Drevin



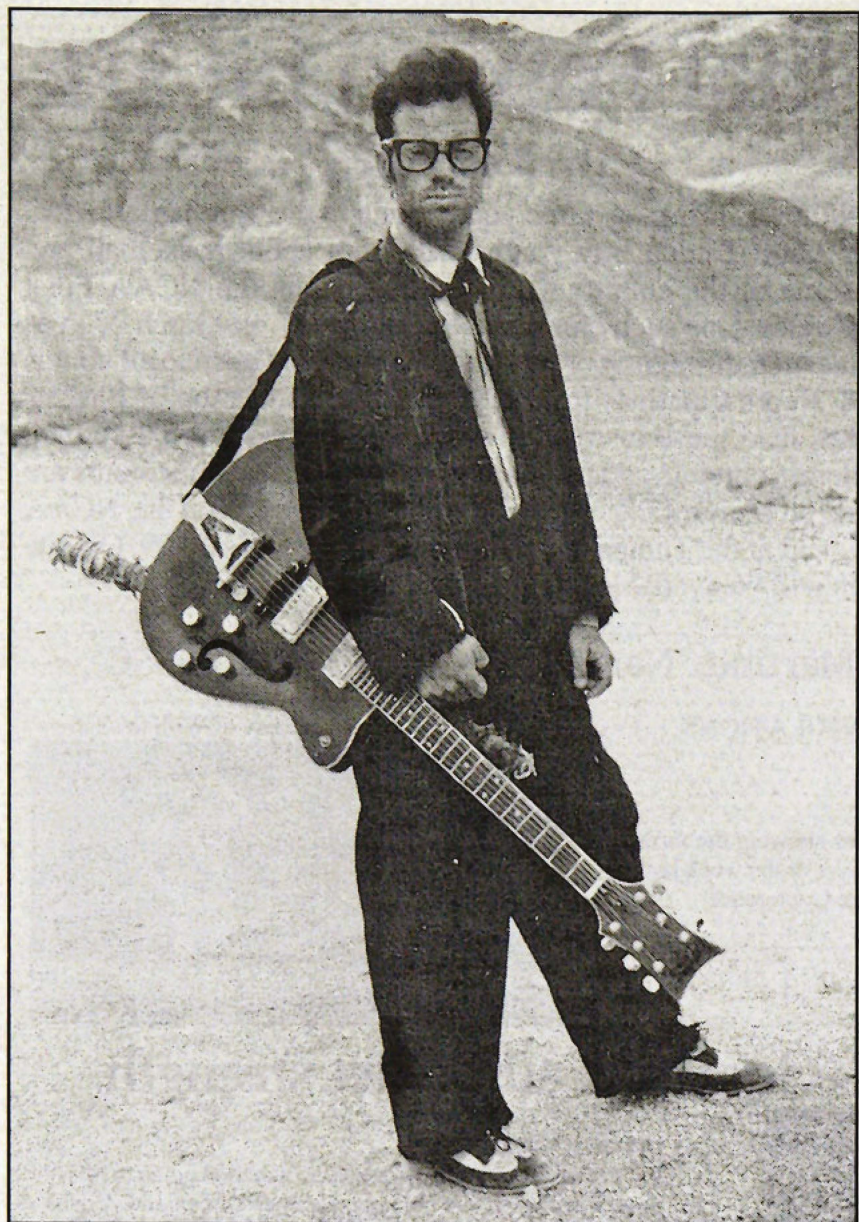


Photo Courtesy of Palm Pictures

# After the Apocalypse and Elvis is still King

By JOE LAWLER  
Staff Writer

There are some movies that just aren't made to be seen by many people. Sam Raimi's *Evil Dead* trilogy, or musicals about cannibalism, such as *Big Meat Eater* come to mind. That's why they're called cult films. A small number of fanatics watch them hundreds of times, while the majority of people wouldn't sit through them once. Some movies evolve this status over the years, gaining it's following gradually. Some are simply born cult films.

Such is the case with *Six String Samurai*.

As with so many other cult films, *Six String Samurai* is set in a post-apocalyptic world. You see, in the late 50s, the evil Russian empire dropped the bomb on us. America

was pretty much decimated. What was left of the democracy relocated to Lost Vegas and Elvis became king.

Forty years later, Elvis has died and every sword slinging guitar player is making their way to Vegas to claim the title of "King of Rock and Roll."

Enter Buddy, looking suspiciously like Buddy Holly, dressed in his best Tarantino formal wear. He's making his way across the desert, fighting his way through hoards of gangs and wannabe kings, the whole time trying to avoid the Heavy Metal garbed visage of death. Along the way he saves a mute orphan, who against Buddy's wishes, tags along for the remainder of the quest.

It can't be stressed enough that, as if you couldn't tell from the summary, this is not a film for most, or even normal people. But if more unusual fare is what you seek, the movie is definitely worth checking out. It's just as visually interesting and original as the *Mad Max* movies. With its Jackie Chan caliber martial arts and its John Woo style fast cuts, it has the feel of an Asian action movie. At the same time it manages to capture the feel of a western, many of which, ironically, drew their inspi-

ration from the samurai films of the 50s.

Jeffrey Falcon, who plays Buddy, is one of the world's top martial arts stars. A title like that means very little here in America, where only Jackie Chan has been able to find any inkling of success. Falcon studied Wu Shu under the same instructor as Jet Li, who appeared as the villain in this summer's *Lethal Weapon 4*. Falcon is not as gifted as Li in his martial arts abilities, nor is he as kinetic as Chan. He uses that to his advantage here, playing Buddy as laid back and stoic.

The movie draws heavily from other sources, but manages to make each its own. The film's basis is lifted from Stephen King's *Dark Tower* series. The finale is a rock and roll update of *The Devil Went Down to Georgia*, and the city of Lost Vegas is something you'd see in *OZ*, complete with emerald towers.

If you missed the film in theaters, and chances are you did (it only played for two days in the Tampa area) it's soon to be released on video. Don't expect to see a million copies of it at Blockbuster, but search, and you may find it. If you'll like it, well, that's a whole other story.

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14 Atop  
15 Mr. Kovacs  
16 Time  
17 Flavoring plant  
18 Delayer's motto  
19 Gaelic  
20 Unequaled  
22 Hut  
24 For one  
25 Derisive sound  
26 "I — tell a lie"  
29 Daylight  
33 Guinness and Baldwin  
34 Jack in a rhyme  
35 Part of Eur.  
36 Sorrowful sound  
37 Christmas song  
38 Grime  
39 Holiday time  
40 — Heights  
41 Wood  
42 Seriousness  
44 Straw hat  
45 Like some old walls  
46 Gust  
47 Short race  
50 Foretells  
54 King of comedy  
55 Mythical hunter  
57 Mr. Webster  
58 Secular  
59 Dish of greens  
60 Adhesive  
61 A British queen  
62 Molts  
63 Smart and jet end

DOWN

1 Discard  
2 "Baked in —"  
3 District  
4 Establish firmly  
5 Pick out  
6 Kind of landing  
7 Emmets  
8 Palter  
9 Private  
10 Case for a knife  
11 Ripped  
12 Eject  
13 Victim  
21 Place in Asia  
23 Party giver  
25 Western Indian  
26 Instances  
27 — and kicking  
28 Desert region in Israel  
29 Atomize  
30 Dunce  
31 Effrontery  
32 Stage direction  
34 Like brine  
37 Heads-or-tails event  
38 Sketches  
40 Smile  
41 Well-behaved  
43 Show clearly  
44 Mixes  
46 Covering a wide scope  
47 Room in a casa  
48 Blueprint  
49 Weather forecast  
50 Stack  
51 Porter of music  
52 Not slack  
53 Female ones  
56 Stadium sound

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## I still love this game

The National Basketball Association is back and not hurting for fans. The season finally started last weekend after a tortuous six month lockout. I have heard many people say that they did not care if the season was disrupted, personally I was hurting for a dose of Penny and the rest of the league. I love college basketball but I sorely missed the pros. The early ratings returns for the NBA are proving that alot of people missed the game...I now see who is supposed to replace Micheal Jordan. The first weekend of this shortened season featured the LA Lakers in three of the first four televised games. The league will market (force) Kobe down our throats. I am already about to gag...Who in the Pacific Division has a legitimate shot at the NBA throne that Micheal has abidicated? Which is the only way it seems that anybody could win it. The Lakers have to mature as a team and fully commit to defense. Kobe Bryant can be explosive off the dribble and he has some ability from long range, but his decision making in crucial minutes is questionable. Shaq is solid, given he does not have to shoot too many free throws. The Lakers need too many balls on offense, they have a surplus of good offensive players. In my infinite wisdom, I believe that the Lakers have the talent to win the title. I do not believe that the Lakers have the fundamentals and defensive intensity necessary to win.

Tune in next week for more Pacific Division predictions

## UT ATHLETIC EVENTS

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

\*Mon., Feb. 15 vs Barry 5:30 p.m.  
at Martinez Center

### OUR NATIONAL CHAMPS UT BASEBALL

\*Sat., Feb. 13 vs Georgia College 5 p.m.  
home @ Sam Bailey Field

\*Sun., Feb. 14 vs Georgia College 1 p.m.  
home @ Sam Bailey Field

### CREW

Sat., Feb., 13 Gasparilla Distance Classic  
Team Event  
Tampa, Fla.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

\*Mon., Feb. 15 vs Barry 7:30 p.m.  
Martinez Center

### SOFTBALL

Sun., Feb. 14 vs Armstrong Atlantic 2 p.m.  
Tampa

\* Sunshine State Conference Games

Kelly McKendree getting  
ready for the season opener.

## Swimmers prepare for Southern Independence

By Sabrina Demsky

The UT men's and women's swim teams are in final preparations for the Southern Independence Meet in North Carolina February 18-20. Before the teams can go and fight for NCAA qualifying times, they have to fight the flu bug which is keeping many swimmers out of the water.

When healthy the men's team will be led by its six All-Americans: Preston Bokos, Jim Kiner, Timothy Slamkowski, Kevin Peterson, William Fry and Scott McLearn. The women are looking to its All-American Jennifer McLeod for leadership.

The men are currently ranked 19th in the country and the women are unranked, but both will move up in rankings with a good showing at the Meet. Going into last years Southern Independence the teams were in similar rankings and both left the meet with a higher ranking. The men are looking for a top 5 ranking and the women are expecting a top 15 ranking after the meet.

Another exciting aspect of the Meet is that the women will field a relay team, which would be the first in many years. Coach Brennen is hoping that Agnes Kakasi, Kimberly Nerko, Michele Rice and Jennifer McLeod will make the time necessary to qualify for the NCAA'S.

## Final Four to hit UT

(Well sort of)

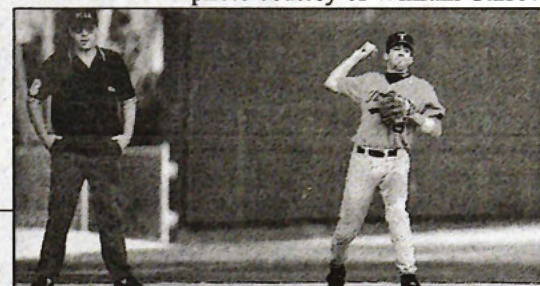
The NCAA is bringing a free youth clinic to the Tampa Bay Area. More than 2,500 Tampa Bay youths will learn about basketball and life from some of the country's greatest coaches at the NCAA Final Four Yes Clinics. One such clinic will be held at UT on March 27. Yes (Youth Education through Sports) Clinics are free and open to all youths ages 10-18. Representatives from the National Association of Basketball Coaches lead these instructional sessions not only in basketball, but in academic pursuits and personal enrichment. The Clinic hours are 9 a.m.- noon on March 27. Yes Clinics will also be offered at the NCAA Hoop City held at the Tampa Convention Center March 25-29. On-site registration will be available at Hoop City.

## Louis Martinez Named Player Of Week in SSC

CONGRATULATIONS

photo coutesy of William Garrow

Louis Martinez showing the form that  
made him player of the week in the  
Sunshine State Conference



## LeVan, Livingstone add quiet strength



courtesy sports information

Heather LeVan has  
stood tall for the  
first-place Lady  
Spartans all season.

By Tom Kolbe

With the majority of defensive attention going to Missy Mack and her offensive pursuits, Heather LeVan and Ayisha Livingstone have quietly contributed to the teams success this season. LeVan the six-foot Jr. from King, North Carolina came to Tampa from the University of South Florida in the middle of last season. Although she only played in 18 games, LeVan started 12. In those few starts she averaged 10.7 points and 5.9 rebounds, earning her SSC All-Conference Honors. This season LeVan is averaging 10.9 points and 7.3 rpg but is not getting the same recognition because she is on a first-place squad featuring Missy, and the do-it-all combo of Africa Gaston and Trysta Morenz. Then throw in Chervara Smith and Christy Eich grabbing rebounds and patrolling the post.

No wonder this team is number 1 in the Sunshine State Conference. Contributing off the bench is Sr. Ayisha Livingstone. Known as the team's defensive stopper, Livingstone played a season-high 26 minutes against Lynn. Though she scored 4 points, Livingstone played tremendous defense, she is often used to stop the opposing teams top offensive threat. According to Coach Tom Mosca, "Ayisha has gotten her chance to play more due to her strong defensive play." LeVan summed up the team's hopes for the season when she said "hopefully we can continue winning and accomplish our goals of a conference championship and an NCAA bid."

## Ready set swing

By Frank LaPorte

In a strong statement that she hopes will characterize the season, fifth-year softball coach Leslie Kanter said that "this will be our strongest season since I've been here". Kanter made her declaration as her squad was busy getting ready for their season opener Sunday against Armstrong Atlantic.

Last year the Spartans softball team finished 22-20, which effectively ended a four-year losing skid. This team seems to be the best UT team since the glory days of 91-93 when the Spartans ranked third and second twice in the SSC.

This team is anchored by five returning starters including three All-Conference players. Although they lost All-SSC first-baseman Missy Agnitch, shortstop Kelly McKendree, catcher Dawn Wallace and second baseman Melissa Tapia are returning.

McKendree returns to anchor the infield at SS. She hit .313 with 17 RBI last season. Wallace is back at catcher where she hit .333, scored 20 runs and led the team in steals with 7. Tapia will move to third this year after hitting .327 and 20 RBI last season.

The infield will also feature Kristin Publicover at 1b, who is considered a good defensive player. Gerri Greenwell, a transfer from Kentucky Wesleyan will handle the duties at second base.

Kanter in explaining why her team is so promising this season added "defensively, our infield is the best we have had, our outfield has always been pretty good and we have four good pitchers as well." She also added that "we have some good new players who will step in and help right away, Greenwell adds speed and gives us a real leadoff batter, while Dena Glover is a quality freshman recruit who can pitch, hit and play defense."

## SUPPORT SPARTAN ATHLETICS



photo by Frank LaPorte



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### Advertising Rates

\$6 per column inch

1/8 page: \$40 1/4 page: \$75

1/2 page: \$140 Full page: \$270

Classifieds: \$6 for 15 words or any part thereof  
\$15 for business cards

### Office Phone

Contact Desiree Torres (Ad manager)

813-253-3333 ext. 3636

(fax) 813-258-7254

email - TheMinaret@aol.com

### Spring 1999 Publications

(subject to change)

2/19 3/26 4/16

2/26 4/2 4/23

3/5 4/9

**Design/Composition Fee:** \$15 per ad, camera ready ads that include halftones also will be charged a \$10 fee.

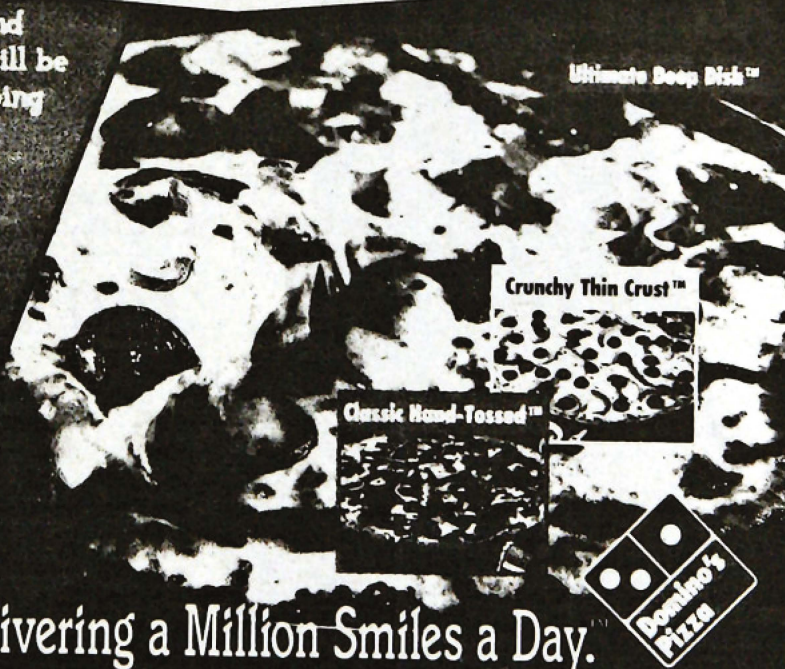
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Classifieds must be submitted in writing and prepaid.

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FEB. 17	SOFTWARE ARCHITECTS
FEB. 22	FIRST CONSULTING GROUP
FEB. 23	AM SOUTH BANK
MARCH 3	WALGREENS
MARCH 23	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
MARCH 30	UNIVERSAL STUDIOS (SUMMER JOBS)
APRIL 6	THE SHERWIN WILLIAMS COMPANY

THE SCHEDULE IS UPDATED FREQUENTLY; PLEASE COME TO THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES FOR INFORMATION.

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Spring 1999 hours

Mon. 11 - 7 p.m.  
Tues. 9 - 10:30 a.m.  
& 12:30 - 4 p.m.  
Wed. 9 - 2:30 p.m.  
& 5 - 7 p.m.  
Thurs. 9 - 5 p.m.  
Fri. 11 - 4 p.m.





Thanks for spreading the Kindness Revolution!!



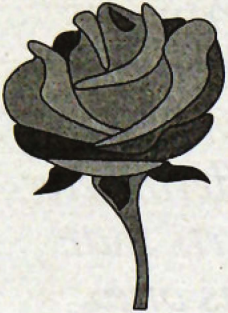
The following kindness acts took place during Random Acts of Kindness Week:

Student Activities	buttons, ribbons, smile and hug coupons, bookmarks, pencils, postcards, and lollipops given out in Plant Hall
Your Logo	discounted t-shirts for sale for \$5, proceeds go to the Red Cross
Residence Life	raffle for Area Directors and Head Residents parking spots, proceeds go to the Children's Miracle Network
PEACE	baking cookies for facilities
Encore Florist	carnations to be passed out
Security	suspend parking fines for a day
ACE	pizza for pennies for students that use the Ace Center
President Vaughn	raffle for parking space, proceeds to the Red Cross
Kappa Delta Pi	giving sweet gifts to the education department
Sigma Delta Tau	giving out cookies in Plant Hall
Student Government	Feb 10 from 10-3 SG had refreshments in Plant Hall
Alpha Chi Omega	making cookies for the bio department, stuffing the bio departments mailboxes with thank you cards, and making a banner and putting it up in the Science Wing
Phi Beta Sigma	providing snacks to the computer center
Dance Expression of the Nineties	Feb 11th Dance Expressions visited crossover community church in Tampa, Florida to promote a sense of community with the crossover youths and will eventually be auditioning them for the Spring Dance Happening
Diplomats	passing out hugs and kisses (chocolate of course)
SP	giving tickets to facilities for the Florida State Fair
RHA	supporting the housekeeping by baking them cookies and giving them thank you cards
Minaret	providing advertising space
Zet Phi Beta	baking cookies, conducting a clothes/food drive, and giving bags of candy to staff members
Delo Hall Council GAMMA	having a party for their RA's to thank them for all of their hard work breakfast for staff in health center
Food Services	smiley face cookies and cupcakes for desert in the cafeteria


In addition to these acts of kindness:

CDT baked cookies for the Financial Aid office, the Library suspended fines for the week and Delta Zeta baked cookies.







To a  
princess  
so fair,  
this rose  
cannot compare.




To my APO  
brothers and sisters,  
The best  
dysfunctional family a girl could  
wish for. I love you guys!  
Susan



To my  
beloved  
smokers' table,  
I love your butts.  
Love,  
Ali's Patio



Jodie,  
We've been  
through so  
much, and for  
you I would do  
it all again.  
Love, Mark



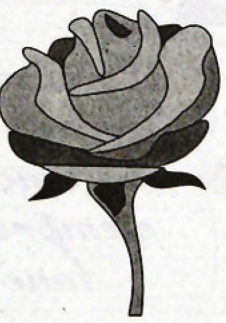
Melissa,  
you have been  
my strength,  
motivation,  
my cloud with  
a silver lining.  
Thank you.  
Happy Valentine's  
Day.  
Mimi

To my buddy  
Jess,  
Happy  
Valentine's  
Day.  
Love,  
Des

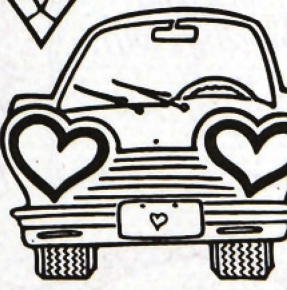
To A103  
Happy  
Valentine's  
Day.  
Sam

One last  
kiss, girl.  
Thanks for  
being my  
angel.  
Love,  
Jordan

Kathy,  
Give me all  
your origami  
or the bunny  
dies



To Jen  
and the  
Valeries-  
Esther  
loves you!



To the  
"Bon-  
fire  
Group."  
Thanks  
for putting up with  
my motor mouth.  
I just can't seem  
to shut up!  
Kathy



