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Ben Dower, *et al.*

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Modest proposal



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about ?



Behind the scenes

with

Cary Delmark



by Michael Seeligson

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As UTD continues to grow and expand, the people behind the scenes are easy to overlook. But they make the university function. They are the framework that takes a \$300 million project and turns it into a reality. This semester, AMP would like to highlight a few of these spectacular people who have given so much of their time and energy to the university.

We extend a hearty Texan thank you.

Cary Delmark shares his small, subdivided office with his team of four web developers, a lot of energy and a great deal of work left to do.

Mr. Delmark was chosen by Dr. Larry Terry in October 2003 to manage the newly created Web Services Department and assumed the daunting task of redesigning the university website to reflect the caliber of the institution and improve the online public presence.

Mr. Delmark graduated from UT Austin with a degree in Radio, Television and Film. Despite original aspirations to be a television producer, he developed a love of music and became a radio personality for five years at stations in Austin, Houston and Oklahoma City.

Shortly after the FCC passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which enabled stations to consolidate and facilitated the use of computers instead of DJ's, Mr. Delmark was fired. Near bankruptcy, he took a job as a front desk clerk in early 1998 in the UTD records office and after a few months, he was promoted to graduation officer.

Late in 1998, one of Mr. Delmark's favorite professors from UT Austin called him and, in exchange for helping to drive a car to Silicon Valley, would set him up with an interview at 2wire, a small start-up. Mr. Delmark joined the marketing side of the company and was placed in charge of the website, soon managing a large team.

When the high-tech bubble burst, Mr. Delmark survived one phase of layoffs, but was eventually fired. He returned to Dallas and while living with his mother sent off more than 300 applications for jobs, eventually accepting another job at UTD.

Dr. Charles Leonard, Director of the McDermott Scholars Program says with

admiration that Mr. Delmark "was not too proud to take a job as a secretary for the McDermott Scholars Program, and boy, were we glad he did."

Once at the University, Cary's dedication, work ethic, creativity, efficiency and good humor—not to mention his previous high-tech work experience—made it obvious he would not last long in the McDermott Program before a promotion, Dr. Leonard notes.

According to Mr. Delmark, the university currently has 460,000 websites and documents hosted on its servers. Though many of these documents are pdf files or syllabi, there is still a substantial number of websites which need a new look. By Mr. Delmark's estimation, a full-time web specialist can redesign one and a half thousand pages in a year. Mr. Delmark's staff of four can thus redesign about 2% of the website each year.

But the team has made substantial progress already. Mr. Delmark prioritized the initial web pages based upon surveys and gut feelings of where students needed web services the most and which pages received the most attention.

Mr. Delmark's team consists of Cassini, Haywood, Anne and Nika and he attributes the success of the department to the attitude and drive of his staff.



Cary Delmark, Web Services Manager

"Every one of these web specialists is high achieving and wants to do things better," Mr. Delmark said.

He encourages his team to get out and interact with students and the staff, emphasizing that attitude and communication are essential for a good website.

Cary and the Web Services department receive a well deserved THANK YOU from the staff at *A Modest Proposal*.

A Modest Proposal

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Getting down to business casual

Construction not only path to campus beautification



by Paul Ingram

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After much pushing and pulling, my editors have successfully convinced me that it is time I made my debut in *A Modest Proposal*.

I boldly proceed in writing an article on the basics of business casual dress even though it risks my renowned manly reputation. If this does not make me seem metro, nothing will. Note that appearances are deceiving, hence appearing metro is as far as that goes: ladies, this one's for you.

People often find a sad humor in business casual. I mean come on, imagine looking at a co-worker with a poorly chosen purple tie on a yellow velvet shirt wearing brown shoes, white socks and black pants and try to withhold a chuckle.

It's sad but it's true, appearance does count and it makes a statement about the person's pride in themselves.

Imagine looking at a co-worker with a poorly chosen purple tie on a yellow velvet shirt wearing brown shoes, white socks and black pants and try to withhold a chuckle.

It's impossible to deny that an employer would choose a well dressed candidate over a sloppily adorned but otherwise equally qualified applicant. With that in mind, I present a set of guidelines for those business casual occasions.

Business casual calls for crisp, neat attire, appropriate even for a chance meeting with someone of importance. Your clothing choice should not be so suited as to fit into an evening cocktail party but should be above the relaxed mood of a picnic.

Avoid tight or baggy clothing; business casual is classic rather than trendy, save the showing skin for promotions.

Khaki pants, neatly pressed, and a pressed, long-sleeved, buttoned and solid shirt are safe. Ironed Polo shirts are an appropriate choice if you know the environment will be quite casual: outdoors or in a very hot location.

This may not seem like terribly exciting garb, and that's because it's not: you are not trying to stand out for your cutting edge look, but for your good judgment in a business environment.

Having read this far, I am fairly certain you hold the notion that business casual is boring and stodgy. Good. That's the point: what can one expect from such conservatism?

However, boring and stodgy does not mean conformity. Show your individuality through cuff links or through your tie selection. Pick unique cuff links that make a statement about who you are. There are several types to choose from and hundreds of color combinations. The same holds true for ties.

Exert caution however when picking neck ware; choose appropriately for the event, wearing darker ties for more formal events and as always making sure the tie matches what you are wearing. The easiest way to do this is ask the sales representative where you buy your tie to choose one for you.

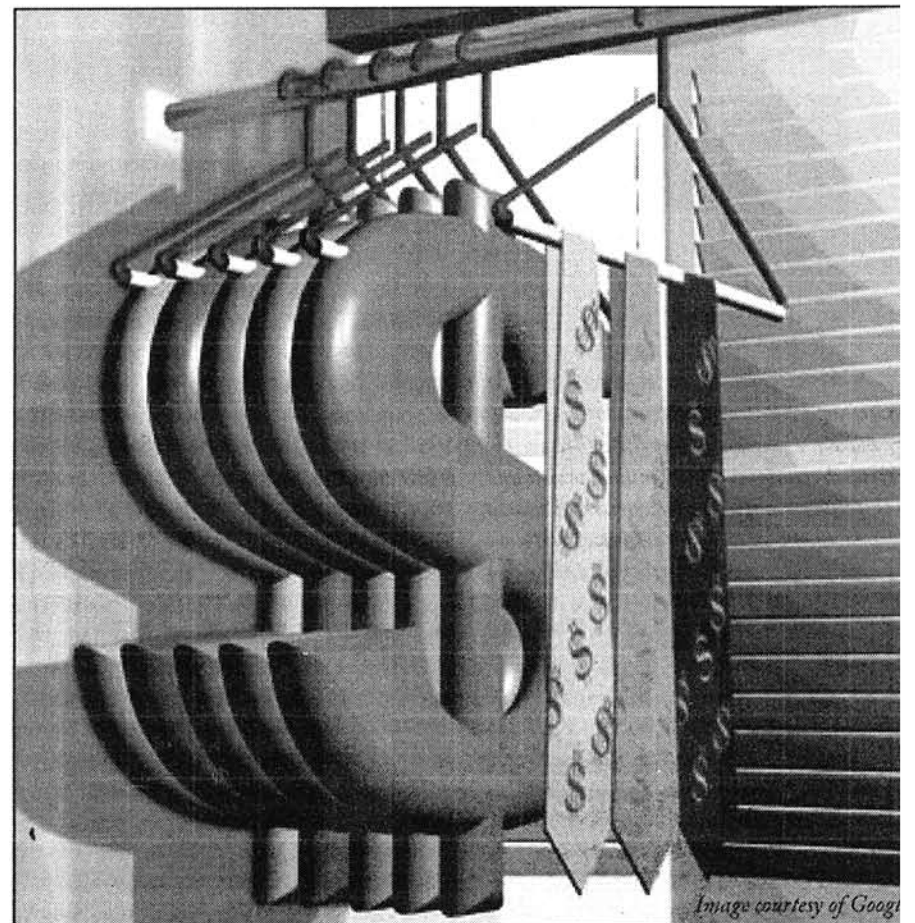


Image courtesy of Google

Next stop on the metro: Fashion Street

- Ties are generally not necessary for business casual, but if you are in doubt, wear one. It never hurts to overdress slightly; by dressing nicely, you pay a compliment to your host.
- Long-sleeved shirts are considered dressier than short-sleeved ones and are appropriate even in summer. Choosing white or light-blue solid or conservative stripes is safest.
- Polo shirts (tucked in, of course) are acceptable in more casual situations.
- Wear dark socks, mid-calf length so no skin is visible when you sit down.
- Leather shoes should be worn. No sandals, athletic shoes or hiking boots.
- Facial hair, if worn, should be well-groomed.
- A belt is mandatory whenever a shirt is tucked in and should always match the shoes, no brown belts with black shoes or vice-versa.
- Wear a conservative watch. If you choose to wear other jewelry, be conservative. Removing earrings is safest along with other rings that might be present on the trunk of your body.

What's the Skype Hype?



by **Liam Skoyles**

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Cell phones shape our lives, from the shrill irritating beep during a professor's lecture to the feeling of complete disconnectedness when the batteries fail. We are rarely more than a few yards away from a cell phone. However, much like cell phones were poised to take over the world as they transformed from unwieldy suitcase-size boxes to handy palm-sized wonders, a new communications technology is just reaching the fun part of the evolutionary process.

Internet voice communication has been around for years; ever since chat programs started supporting voice communication, techies have been playing around with using AIM or other chat programs instead of telephones. This form of voice communication always stayed on the computer stage, never venturing into the realm of landlines and cell phones. All that stands to change with Skype. Skype finally bridges that lava-filled ravine between the virtual world and the real, allowing calls to be made directly from a PC to a cell phone or vice versa.

Skype uses the same basic voice transfer technology that those old chat programs did with a bit of proprietary magic mixed in. The technology called Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) has a few drawbacks that are inherent to the system. Just as one would imagine, people with slower internet connections can have issues and some firewalls cause a slight lag in transfer time,



ranging at the worst from .5 to 3 seconds. With decent high speed internet, however, I have never had a problem.

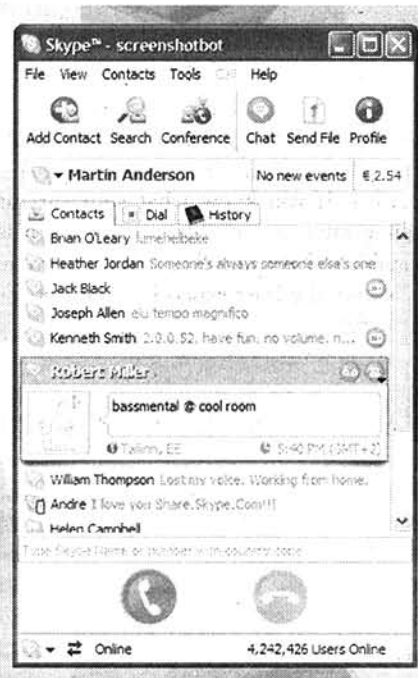
The beautiful thing about Skype is its ability to take web voice data to phones around the world. The program itself is a free download from www.skype.com, it's free to set up an online account, and it's free to make computer-to-computer calls. Beyond this Skype has two functionalities: SkypeOut and SkypeIn.

Once your account is created it is quick, easy and mind-numbingly cheap to make international calls using SkypeOut. Because Skype is an internet-based technology the distance between the computer and the phone it is trying to call is irrelevant to the cost of the call. Therefore Skype rates the costs of international calls on the freedom of communication and level of technology there. Needless to say this cost varies from really cheap to absurdly cheap. Calls to Europe, North America, China, Australia and plenty of other countries are just 1.7 euro cents a minute. Other country's rates vary but are still fairly inexpensive.

SkypeIn is the other innovation that puts Skype a few leaps and bounds above

other voice transfer programs. With Skype it's possible for someone with a phone anywhere in the world to call your computer. Each account has up to ten phone numbers attributed to it in different places around the world, so people in China, Finland and Austin can all discuss Vince Young's glory for the cost of a local call. Not to be forgotten, Skype also has a nice voice mail feature for when people leave their computer and go outside. Psssh "outside".

Skype is growing rapidly and has recently reached 3 million users online at once. Internet juggernaut eBay has recently acquired Skype for the whopping sum of \$2.6 billion so these guys mean business. Skype is also releasing its second version with video-calling capabilities but that has yet to be tested so take it with a grain of salt. It's quite strange when Skype users show up. From German researchers in Los Alamos to exchange students from Scotland, Skype is the new highway to make international calls economical and useful. If this service takes off the way cell phones did, then watch out world goodbye landlines, hello freedom.



Asterisk*

* The solution to Landline, Cellphone, VoIP, Fax... integration.



by Trey Perkins

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With the current prevalence of Skype, Vonage, and other peer-to-peer and Voice Over IP (VoIP) providers, it seems that everyone is talking to everyone else online. The major providers offer smooth user interfaces, easy setup, and an established support network. With providers like Skype, you are also immediately connected to an immense network of users you can speak to for free. For most users, this ease of adoption is exactly what they desire. However, for us hardcore geeks, the depth of features and ability to custom tailor our services are the desired traits. One tool that lets the consumer take total control of all their telecommunications systems is Asterisk.

If you are like me, you have a home phone that you never use. It sits there unattended while you carry your cellular phone to the ends of the world. Your home phone line connects to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) and may even have its own voicemail account you pay extra for. In addition to your home phone, you probably have a cell phone with its own voicemail and number and possibly an online phone number with a service such as Skype or Vonage. You might also have a fax machine connected to your line at home. How can you use all of these lines in a cohesive fashion? Asterisk is the answer.

Asterisk is an open source software package with the slogan "The Open Source PBX." Originally created by Digium founder Mark Spencer to host his

company's phone system, Asterisk has ballooned into the Swiss army knife of voice software. Its support for call routing and call planning makes it ideal for setting up home and office phone systems with extensions and intercom functionality. It can host voicemail, interactive menu systems, and more. It has a massive list of features that is too long to detail here. Today I am going to focus on using Asterisk to consolidate your voicemail, internet phone services, and general home phone usage. I am going to mainly focus on concepts and hardware needs rather than the actual technical details. Attempting to use Asterisk is not for the faint of heart and should be reserved for those with at least basic hardware skills and some programming experience.

The Asterisk server can be installed on any modern computer system, your old 600Mhz clunker, and even some internet routers. It currently installs on Linux, BSD derivatives, and even on Windows. It runs most efficiently on Linux and FreeBSD. For most home users, running Asterisk on an old machine with a free, open source operating system is the most cost effective and convenient option. After setting up your OS and installing the Asterisk server, you need to connect your phone systems to the box. Phone lines should be connected into the server via an external network adaptor or a card installed in the Asterisk server. Asterisk supports use of several major FXO and FXS cards to support connections to phone lines. As a quick guide, FXO connects to the phone jack in the wall and FXS attaches to a phone, fax, or modem. Phone-to-ethernet adaptors and FXO/FXS cards range from thirty dollars to several thousand dollars depending on features, support, and number of lines. Several basic 56K modems will also work. I would recommend buying the cloned X100P cards from an OEM provider such as Digit Networks. These adaptors can be had for anywhere from eight dollars to just

over fifty dollars and are proven cards that work reliably.

After you successfully install and configure your home phone line adaptor, you can start setting up your VoIP connections to utilize your existing internet phone service. Asterisk supports all the major VoIP standards such as SIP, SCCP, H.323, and more. Asterisk can immediately connect to most major providers via one of these protocols. Some research into which protocol your provider supports will be required. If you are using Skype it will be necessary to purchase a software package or hardware adaptor to convert the proprietary Skype protocol to one of the open standards. Most of these solutions range from thirty to seventy dollars.

Once your different inbound service providers are connected and configured you can begin connecting your hard devices such as phones and fax machines to any FXS ports or adaptors you have available. Each of these devices should then be configured as a client on the Asterisk server. This is relatively straightforward and open to much customization. You are now ready to begin creating your calling plans and custom services.

One of my favorite tricks after I have all of this set up is to create my own voicemail system. Asterisk has automatic support for voicemail and many extensions to its functionality. It can send voicemails as MP3 attachments to your email, send you a text message on your cell phone, and even automatically call any line you want and playback the message once you answer. One of the most convenient things to do is to unify your various voicemail services onto your one Asterisk server. First call your home phone provider and make sure they disable their voicemail service. Second, on your cellular phone, reconfigure the voicemail number to point to the Asterisk server at home. Then call the cellular provider and ask them to disable their voicemail if you are unable to

“ With Asterisk your options are nearly limitless, provided you have the time and perseverance to make it work. ”

do it yourself. Once you have done this, you can configure your Asterisk server to forward all incoming calls on all incoming connections (including your internet phone) to the voicemail box after a certain number of rings. Now you have a personalized, unified voicemail service with no monthly fee.

Asterisk can also be configured to automatically ring all your other phones when one of the lines has an incoming call, so you never miss another call again. To handle your faxes, Asterisk has a fax server module available. You can have faxes routed to your home fax from any phone number you possess. With the built in conference calling functionality, you can link your phone accounts together and talk to multiple people at the same time on different services. If you know what your various calling rates are on different services it is possible to have your Asterisk server route calls over the least expensive provider for each call. With Asterisk your options are nearly limitless, provided you have the time and perseverance to make it work. If you are interested in what Asterisk can do for you, there is an established user community and many great sources of detailed setup information. For more information, visit the Asterisk website at www.asterisk.org. A great public wiki with information on VoIP and Asterisk is located at www.voip-info.org. Happy talking!

MY TWO CENTS



by Richard Voit

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This column is going to save this newspaper. Think about it, without any sports news, *AMP* was being compared to backwater publications like the *London Financial Times* and perhaps worse, the *Wall Street Journal*. With the addition of this page, *AMP* is officially not in their league anymore. Whew, good thing, huh? You can thank me later, but for now let's cut to the chase.

The 2006 Winter Olympics haven't even started yet, but the scandals sure have. I'm not talking about

doping (illegal drugs) or dopes (French judges), but I'm talking about sex. Or more directly, harassment, but I figured the word 'sex' might draw your eye to this column as you scanned the page. See there, now I've gone and used it twice in this paragraph alone.

Still reading? Good.

But as I was saying, US skeleton coach Tim Nardiello has been suspended for alleged sexual harassment of female athletes.

Here's my question: what's worse, trying to hold their phalanges or checking out their femurs?

Yeah, so sorry about the anatomy joke. It's the last one, I promise.

Moving on, I guess you heard about erstwhile Virginia Tech QB Marcus Vick being arrested for brandishing a firearm. I almost feel sorry for the guy though. All of his life he's been compared to older brother and Atlanta Falcons' QB Michael, who runs like the cops are

I didn't hear the whole news conference, but I think when a reporter asked how he felt, the reliever said, "Relieved. I really feel like it's brought closure." Let's see, besides that news conference, I know there's something else I didn't watch.

Oh yeah, it's the NHL. But at least I'm not alone. In fact, according to the Nielsen ratings, only 0.2% of all cable viewers are watching America's fourth "major" sport at any one time. Here's the worst part. Although the Los Angeles Kings are playing some good hockey – they were 28-16-2 at press time, good enough for third place in the Western Conference – an average of 214 TV households in LA's 5.54 million household TV market tune in to games. That's 214, not million...not thousand...214.

Come on! More people watch soccer.

And more people certainly watch college football. By a show of hands, how many of you watched the Rose Bowl?

Let's see...one, two...carry the four...okay, about 21.7% of you. Crazy, that's exactly the national average. That means either UTD is a pretty good microcosm of the US population or every single American reads *AMP*. I bet it's the latter. I mean we do have a saying around the newsroom, "Either you read us, or you're with the terrorists."

But back to the Rose Bowl. Twenty-one point seven percent of you know that Texas came from behind to leg out a 41-38 victory over Southern Cal, ending USC's winning streak at 34 games. What you may not know is the NCAA is considering removing the label of "college national championship game" from the contest. Let's be honest, USC is pretty much a

From the 2006 Winter Olympics, to both people who watch the NHL, to hot upcoming films... cashing-in on my opinions

I haven't seen *Glory Road* yet, but I am a little bit perplexed why the producers called it *Glory Road* instead of by its alternate title, *Remember the Titans II*.

professional team. No fewer than seven Trojans are expected to be taken in April's NFL draft. Seven! Including four in the first round. And the Longhorns are even better. One thing is for sure; both teams could beat the Texans.

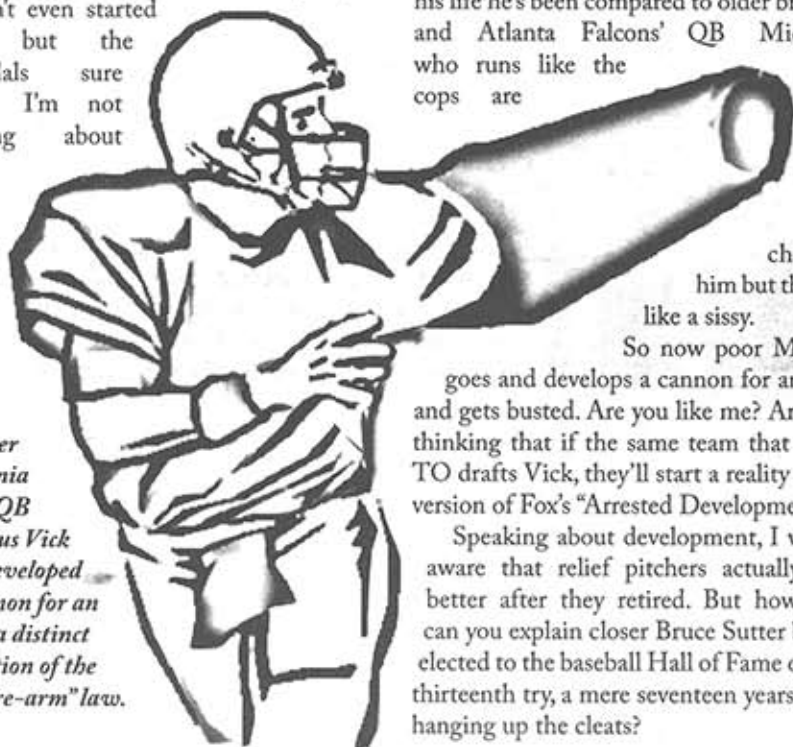
Texas athletics are so popular these days that even Hollywood is trying to get in on the action. Did you go see the newest sports feel-good movie *Glory Road*, the one about the Texas Western Miners who won the 1966 NCAA championship with an all-black starting lineup? I haven't seen it yet, but I am a little bit perplexed why the producers called it *Glory Road* instead of by its alternate title, *Remember the Titans II*.

Speaking of sequels, I heard Seattle's Sonics guard Ray Allen – who was recently involved in an in-game fight with Orlando Magic guard Keyon Dooling – is considering a return to the big screen in follow-up to his 1998 flick *He Got Game*. The title of the sequel: *He Got Spear tackled*.

You know what, I better stop. The more I write, the smaller the editors will make my font. So last thing, be sure to watch the Super Bowl. It'll be super. Just like the article there on the next page.

image by Paul Ingram

Former Virginia Tech QB Marcus Vick has developed a cannon for an arm; a distinct violation of the "no fire-arm" law.



chasing him but throws like a sissy.

So now poor Marcus

goes and develops a cannon for an arm and gets busted. Are you like me? Are you thinking that if the same team that signs TO drafts Vick, they'll start a reality show version of Fox's "Arrested Development"?

Speaking about development, I wasn't aware that relief pitchers actually got better after they retired. But how else can you explain closer Bruce Sutter being elected to the baseball Hall of Fame on his thirteenth try, a mere seventeen years after hanging up the cleats?

Ahmadinejad ostracizes powerbase

His name might be hard to say, but it is on everybody's lips



by Kimberley Allen

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As Iran's hard-line government is fighting to defend its nuclear program, Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is simultaneously wrecking what little credibility Iranian leadership holds in the international community. During a month-long demonstration in October against Israel called "World Without Zionism," Mr. Ahmadinejad repeated the words of the Ayatollah Khomeini demanding Israel be "wiped out from the map" and then claimed the Holocaust was a "myth".

International attention has been fixated on Iran for months now as the country proceeds with development of what it calls a "peaceful" nuclear program. Mr. Ahmadinejad's highly controversial remarks only reinforced fears that Iran would use the program to make nuclear weapons.

Mr. Ahmadinejad's latest statements express his delight in Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's illness and his hope that the news is "final." Ironically, Christian evangelist Pat Robertson agrees and says God smote Sharon for giving Israeli land to the Palestinians.

Iran's tightly controlled media broadcasted images of Iranian citizens protesting against Israel in support of Mr. Ahmadinejad's statements; most, however, do not support religious extremism of any form, even against Israel.

Iran's conservative government, by way of instituting oppressive religious reforms, has managed to alienate most citizens who supported them in the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The brutal practices of Iran's government are widely known and include everything from denying freedom of speech to committing mass murders. While Iran's leaders claim they are upholding pure Islam, the Iranian people know it is fanatical, a perversion of Islam's message and a means of controlling lives.

Because the Islamic Revolution has so isolated and censored the people of Iran, it is difficult to see a true representation of their thoughts and lives. Nasrin Alavi, author of *We Are Iran*, has managed to do so, however, by collecting the writings of Persian blogs. These blogs are illegal in Iran, but they are often anonymous and hard to trace.

“A young writer, Ibahram, says, ‘The problem is not with Islam but with a few of our radical fellow Muslims.’”

The younger generation of Iran, of which 70 percent of the population is comprised, expresses unimaginable frustration over the reality they cannot escape. They resent the strict religious education they are forced to receive; one blogger says it is the “best way to create agnostics in the modern world.”

Iranians are bombarded daily with Muslim extremism and propaganda. Although they loathe their religious shackles, bloggers are careful to distinguish between moderate Islam and that of the ayatollahs. A young writer, Ibahram, says, “The problem is not with Islam but with a few of our radical fellow Muslims.”

Another says, “They only hear the psychopaths among us. Don't they know that many like me believe in the maxims of Hussein [the grandson of the prophet Muhammad], who said, ‘If you are a non-believer, at least be a libertarian.’ He did not practice our faith like these tyrants.”

Fanatical Islamic militants seem to have overestimated their popularity among Muslims. Certainly that is true in Iran, where unrealistic laws and brutal practices have exhausted the support of the people. The government is standing on increasingly unstable ground as it seeks to intimidate a highly educated and infuriated population.

The newer generation of Iranians is no longer quick to embrace the words of the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the man who claims to be “God's representative on earth.” Neither are they disillusioned by the promise of peace and prosperity from a regime that violates basic human rights in the name of sacred religion. And President Ahmadinejad's paradoxical claims of peace and calls for the destruction of Israel are met with only sporadic acceptance by the vocal minority.

The future of Iran is hopeful and uncertain at best, although things are slowly improving. In speaking of the future of Islamic states, Nasrin Alavi says, “When militant Islam starts to show a ruthless streak and to threaten the rhythms of daily life and economic stability, the hitherto silent majority will turn against it.”

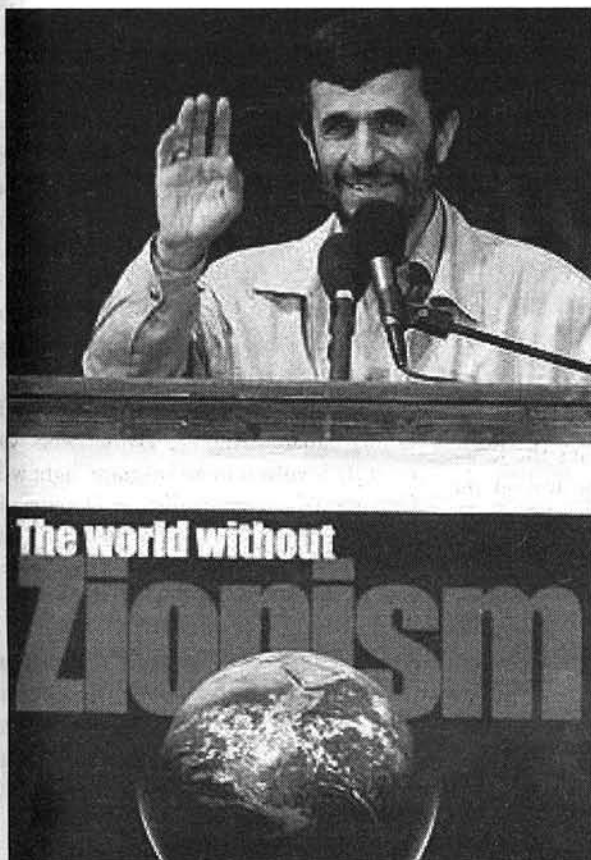


Photo image courtesy of Google



Image title art from *We Are Iran*

Sticky Wicket... when it comes to Cricket



by Liam Skoyles

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It's pretty hard to miss the fact that UTD has an impressively diverse campus and a large number of our exchange students come from India. Bowling to pressure from the student body UTD has finally put in a cricket pitch and, being the British Good Samaritan that I am, I thought it might be nice to clue the rest of the student body in on the rules of this classically misunderstood game.

First and foremost, cricket is not baseball—there is a ball, a bat, and the scoring is counted in runs. That is where the similarities end. Cricket is played with two teams of eleven players each. One team bats while the other team fields.

A cricket field is largely circular with a diameter of about 200 meters; in the middle is a hard flat piece of ground 18 meters by 4 meters called the pitch or the crease. At each end of the pitch are three sticks sticking out of the ground called the stumps with two pieces of wood connecting them at the top called bales. This whole construction is collectively known as the wicket.

The basic object of the game is for the bowler to throw the ball from one side of the pitch to the other, bouncing once, and knock the bales off the top of the wickets. Between the bowler and the wickets is the batter; his job is to defend the wicket be-

cause if the bowler knocks the bales off the wicket the batter is out. At any one time there are two batters on the field, one on either end of the pitch.

To score a run, the batter hits the ball that the bowler throws out into the field and tries to run up and down the pitch as many times as possible, with the other batter running the opposite direction effectively switching places. The fielding team tries to throw the ball back to the pitch as fast as possible. If the batters are in the middle of running across the pitch when they finally knock down the bales then they are out.

Other ways for batters to get out is hitting a ball into the air which is caught before it hits the ground. Also, if a batter uses his body, rather than his bat, to stop the ball from hitting the wickets he is out—this is called a “Leg Before Wicket” or “LBW”.

If the bowler throws a ball that barely nicks the stumps but doesn't quite knock off the bales then, hard luck, they have a sticky wicket!

Cricket is measured in overs which consist of the bowler throwing the ball six times. Each team gets to “hit” once, called an inning, which lasts until every batter for a team gets out or for 50 overs, whichever comes first. Cricket is a game of patience and control, often lasting an entire day or more.

The fielding team does not technically have positions but the game is full of tradition and has much more colourful names for the places fielders can stand. Cricket has been around for an extremely long time and has built up a reputation of being aristocratic and a diversion for the “upper crust”. It is entirely common to see an international competition between

England and Pakistan, for example, break for afternoon tea.

Cricket is mostly found in Southeast Asia and India as English colonialism spread across the region. International competition is heated in cricket and important games, such as a match between India and Pakistan, can easily draw more attention than the Super Bowl in America.

So there you have it. Next time you see a large group of men dressed in white slacks running around south of Phase II you'll know what they are doing.

Go join in if you dare – and maybe this classically British sport will catch on in America, forcing baseball to bow down to its older (and superior) cousin.

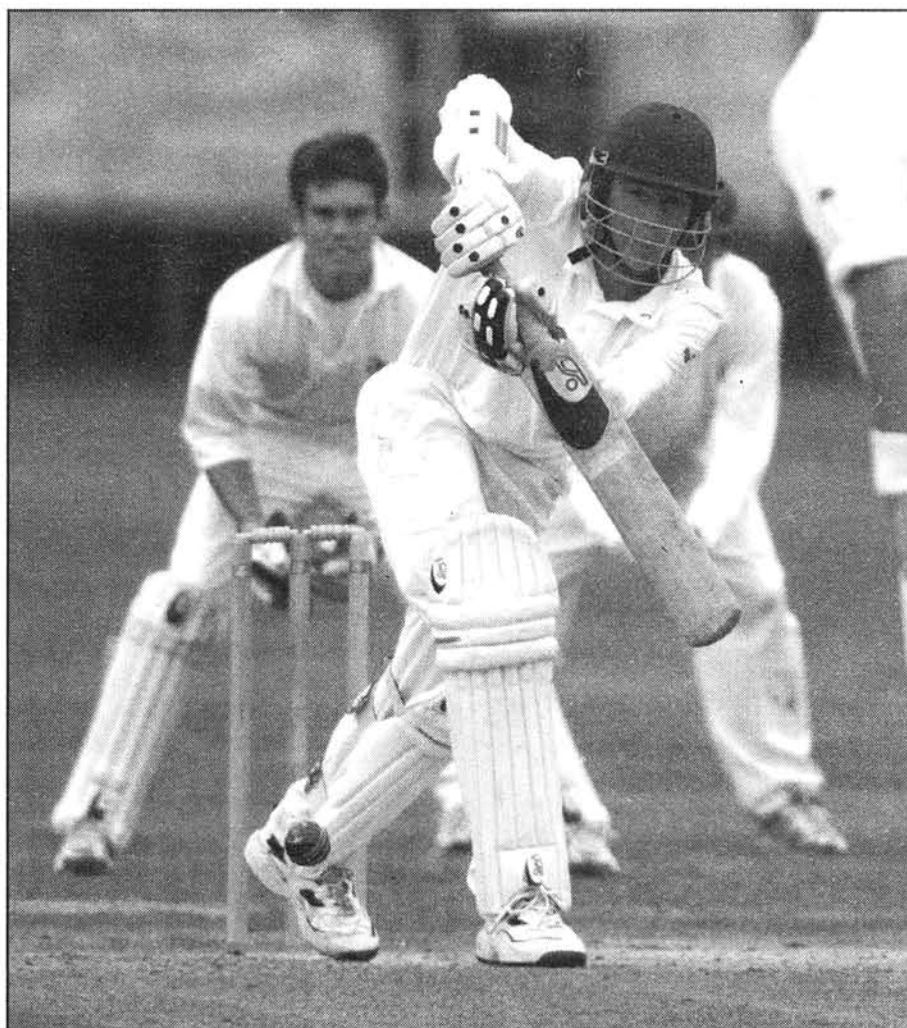
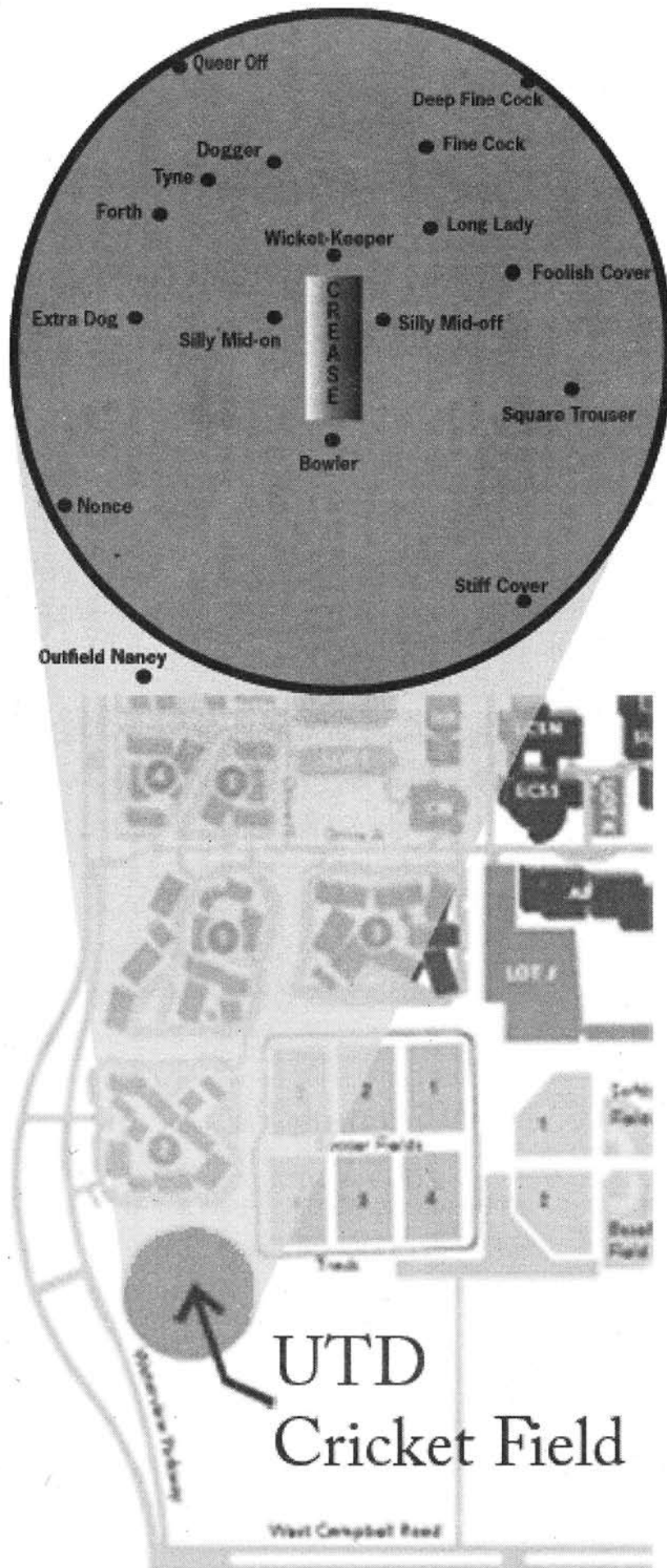


photo courtesy of Gisborne Boys' High School



modest opinions

What's your opinion of cricket?

I just don't like cricket at all. I think it's one of the most ridiculous sports ever played.

Lisa Davis
Sophomore
Psychology and
Criminology



It's as valid a sport as anything else, but I don't care about sports in general, so it's just another thing for me to not care about.

Danny Swan
Sophomore
Psychology



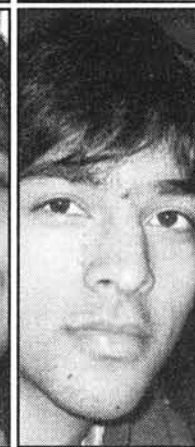
That's retarded. I love cricket... in India, but it's not an American sport. And why not just use the soccer field for it?

Hema Jasti
Sophomore
Chemistry



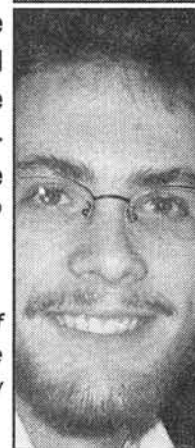
It's awesome, because there are a lot of Indians on campus and cricket is a great way to meet new people.

Siddharth Manjunath
Freshman
Engineering



It wouldn't be good or bad; it'd just be different. We don't have football, but we have cricket?

Nick Reif
Sophomore
Psychology



I think that's strange. I don't see it as a big revenue producer for the university, but maybe people will be curious and it will?

Andrea Moss
Senior
Business



Quotes compiled by Kimberley Allen

Paste Test

Our toothpaste experts sample the field and bring the results to you



by **Cheng Lee**

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AMP recognizes that one of the most important decisions you have to make at the supermarket is also one of the most difficult. Therefore, in order to help turn our readers into well-informed consumers, we have called in two local experts to bring you the hard-hitting reviews you need. Ringing in with all their toothpaste knowledge, Messrs. Lee and Janecka bring you the facts.

Two varieties of toothpaste were selected from each of the industry giants: Crest and Colgate, with a wildcard underdog from Aquafresh filling out the list. From the start Colgate took an early lead in presentation and credibility, offering the flip-cap option on every tube to access their toothpaste. Conversely, Crest earned early demerits by the absence of detailed ingredient lists on their paste tubes.

Impressions aside, the pastes sampled were as varied as any you'll find in Wal-Mart or CVS. We must stress that we employed the strictest safety standards in all of our testing, and urge you to remember that toothpaste is not intended to be swallowed. If more than used for brushing is accidentally swallowed, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away.



by **Bobby Janecka**

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Colgate Total Whitening Gel
2005 Vintage

This Colgate gel claims to confront all threats, whitening teeth while fighting tarter buildup and the triple threat of cavities, gingivitis, and plaque. Curiously, it advertised no particular flavor, and the confusion only increased under actual review. At first smell, this gel caresses the nose with a fresh minty scent - but just what kind of mint, we couldn't be sure. Something between spearmint and wintergreen, along with a kick of

pine, the aroma was robust and pleasant. Once out of the tube, the polychromatic turquoise color looked appealing, but the actual texture was over-watery and generally too gel-like in nature.

The taste, too, was something of a let-down after such a bold olfactory experience. The mint again was ambiguous but overstated in the aroma and underwhelming on the tongue.

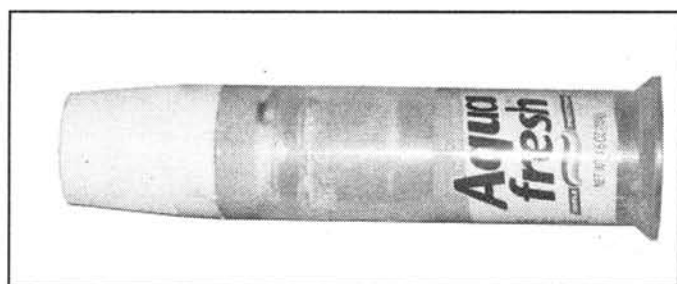


Crest Whitening Plus Scope
2005 Vintage

This whitening paste was an innovation in its time, using Scope to complement the standard cleaning power of the paste. Not for nothing does it promise to freshen breath. Perhaps it over-delivers in this regard, unfortunately. From scent to taste, the Scope overpowers the experience so soundly that we were left longing for the obscure mint of the Colgate Total Whitening

Gel. The assaulting smell of the Scope offended the nostrils and overpowered any minty taste with the cleansing burn of its anti-bacterial agents.

Serious Scope connoisseurs might enjoy this product, but it should be avoided by the faint of heart. Just the same, it does provide remarkable sinus-clearing potential, perhaps rivaled only by strong chili peppers.



Aquafresh Triple Protection

2001 Vintage

This underdog toothpaste stood out in more ways than just brand name or aged vintage. The old-school rigid tube package with push-button dispenser and triple-colored paste gave an impressive first impression of this unusual contender.

Unfortunately, beyond appearances this toothpaste left much to be desired. Perhaps it was over-aged as toothpastes go, but it resembled

something of plumber's caulk in terms of texture and flavor.

The aroma was at best a stale minty one, which, though mild, was still pleasing to the nose. The flavor was not as nicely pepperminted unfortunately, and leaves you wondering whether the tube belongs beside the sink or under it. Overall, the entire experience is lacking, at best.



Colgate Tartar Control Plus Whitening

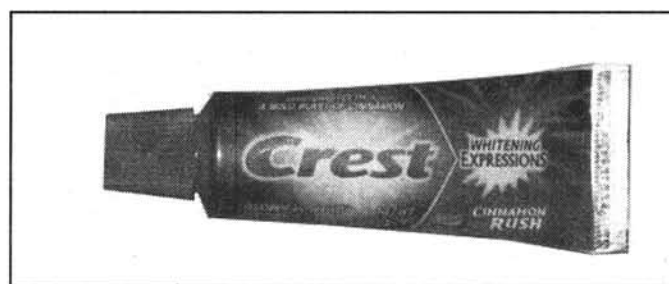
2003 Vintage

This toothpaste promises whitening "with a bold blast of cinnamon," and the package alone sets high expectations. Wordlessly it seems to say, "Taste me. Let me cleanse your teeth and caress your palate."

While it tasted and smelled strongly of cinnamon, it was remarkably mild for such a strong initial statement. Opening the cap, the cinnamon was

unexpectedly gentle, almost cuddling the nose with a warm, spicy aroma.

Surprisingly, the taste of the cinnamon was pleasantly light, unexpectedly nuanced and still very minty. If not for the visible cinnamon sparkles in the bright red paste that gave it an oddly grainy texture, this might have been the perfect alternative toothpaste to standard mint.



Crest Whitening Expressions: Cinnamon Rush

2003 Vintage

This toothpaste promises whitening "with a bold blast of cinnamon," and the package alone sets high expectations. Wordlessly it seems to say, "Taste me. Let me cleanse your teeth and caress your palate."

While it tasted and smelled strongly of cinnamon, it was remarkably mild for such a strong initial statement. Opening the cap, the cinnamon was

unexpectedly gentle, almost cuddling the nose with a warm, spicy aroma.

Surprisingly, the taste of the cinnamon was pleasantly light, unexpectedly nuanced and still very minty. If not for the visible cinnamon sparkles in the bright red paste that gave it an oddly grainy texture, this might have been the perfect alternative toothpaste to standard mint.

Editors Pick

The Crest Whitening Expressions was above and beyond the star contender in our sample. Crest has far to go towards Colgate's performance in modern packaging conventions, but they have taken bold strides in revolutionizing the toothpaste industry's mint-flavor alternatives.

In both taste selection and presentation, Crest takes the winning combination of fluoride and whitening agents and finds a winner. These toothpaste experts look forward to what Crest's Expressions team rolls out with in years to come.

Results:

1. Crest Whitening Expressions: Cinnamon Rush
2. Colgate Total Whitening Gel
3. Crest Whitening Plus Scope
4. Colgate Tartar Control Plus Whitening
5. Aquafresh Triple Protection



Venezuela

**where gas costs \$0.18 a gallon and
beers are opened with machetes;
truly, a glorious country**



by Aidan Skoyles

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I decided months ago that the week after finals I would leave leaf-less North Dallas to go exploring. Perhaps where they spoke another language. Certainly somewhere I could fly cheaply thanks to American Airline's net sAAver fare.

There were four options: Puerto Rico, Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta and Caracas. With only a small price differential, I decided to Google in on the security situation of our oily neighbors in Venezuela.

Hmm... Congressional elections the day before we arrived with some demonstrations reported already, but no US State Department travel warning. Eh, nothing too bad.

I checked out Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Lost World* from the library and lost myself in the tales of dinosaurs hidden in Venezuela's remote jungles. It was time to go exploring.

A bumpy four hour plane ride later, I landed in a country whose president, Hugo Chavez, has been called a "destabilizing force" by the Pentagon and who takes great thrills in pissing off Yankees.

My travel companion, Sophie Rutenbar, and I were met at the airport and driven to what I thought was a cheap bed-and-breakfast, but which turned out to be the most expensive and one of the worst places we stayed, at 55,000 Bolivars (\$25).

We rented a car, passing on insurance which would have doubled the price, and surprisingly were not charged for my being under 25 (cheers, Thrifty). We hit the gas and steered uphill towards downtown.

Caracas is a thriving city of ragged looking apartment towers, whisky billboards, and belching buses. We whizzed through the disappointing Caracas National University, a UNESCO World Heritage site and checked it off the list (Sophie's new goal in life to visit them all).

I somehow expected Caracas to be full of bespectacled colonial white-haired men with ivory canes drinking gin-and-tonics

the mighty Orinoco River at Ciudad Bolivar and south to Canaima National Park, home to the volcanic monoliths which Mr. Doyle supposed might be home to a forgotten ecosystem of pterodactyls and tyrannosaurs. Clearly Mr. Doyle had never tried to drive there from Caracas in two days – in fact he'd never been to Venezuela at all.

After about 40 miles of relatively well-maintained autopista, the highway fizzled out into two jungle-hugging lanes, congested with fuming 40-ton oil tankers, clunking 40-year old jalopies and gleaming 40-thousand dollar Ford Explorers

lazily splash the rocks. Under the palms, locals offer *almuerzo* of fried fish with bread cakes and more watery Polar beer, opened, of course, with a machete.

As if to portend of a changed future for these beautiful beaches, a taxi pulled up carrying an American and two Chinese men furiously puffing cigarettes. Were they eyeing the land for a condo block? Entertained for a day after a deal in Caracas? How much longer will beautiful places like these remain as they are? Should they even? Foreign investment will bring jobs, schools, and opportunity, along with booze, drugs, and crime. It's heaven to rest on the sand without hassle from hawkers selling massages or necklaces or T-shirts, but it's also a reminder of how cut-off Venezuela has become thanks to negative publicity on US television.

We left early in the morning for a day-trip to Henri Pittier National Park, home to 7% of the world's bird species according to the Lonely Planet Venezuela. We are disappointed to report that we saw nothing more than the common pigeon, seagull, pelican and a woodpecker. Named Woody. No, just kidding. His name was actually Wooduardo. He was Venezolano.

In retrospect, Venezuela is a country with huge potential. It's so close to the US, and yet so abandoned by it. Natural resources promise to provide funds for infrastructure development in education, health and other national programs – potentially the boost needed to sustain the socialist state favored by the Chavez regime.

But there are problems. Crime will continue to scare off Americans – tourists and investors. Only lucrative returns in the oil barrel, or damn nice stories of beaches in the jungle will lure them in. Here I can provide only the latter.

It was the first time I have...

- ~ been told I'll need a police escort to find a hotel.
- ~ had a beer opened with a machete.
- ~ been thoroughly checked by a passport control officer.
- ~ driven off the road in a rain storm (don't tell my mum).
- ~ seen a shot-gun casually carried in a gas station.
- ~ paid \$2 for a full tank of gas.
- ~ spent the night in a whore house (did not partake of available services, for the record).

on white-painted verandas with cocaine-laden DC-10's flying overhead. Though we did not find Colonel Sanders, we did spot one such DC-10 ... no word on its cargo.

The traffic was wearing on us, and we headed east around the hills and through tunnels under slums which toppled down the slopes in pastels of pink and orange.

Our initial plan took us 900 miles south through the Gran Sabana, across

(the car of choice, if you've got cash in Venezuela).

The pace slowed, and we re-evaluated, instead heading for the beaches and jungles of the northeast. The isolated Playa Medina was our favorite; a long strip of white sand curves around a bay lined with gangly palm trees with coconuts like pollen clinging to giant stamens. Steep jungle cliffs rise up behind and hug the beach out to frothy promontories where the waves

Diving into the **SEX** life of a jellyfish



by Jonathan Lane

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In my free time, when I'm not watching TV, actively ignoring my homework or otherwise saving the world, I find my interests turn toward the subject of jellyfish. So much so, in fact, that I have become somewhat of a renowned cnidarian biologist. I even know that a group of jellyfish is called a "smack."

Besides their constant mindless floating and their endless search for peanut-butterfish, perhaps the most intriguing aspect of jellyfish is their mating habits. Naturally, I have looked into this intensely.

The mating habits begin to appear as the jellyfish approach maturity. At this age, the females, who mature more rapidly, become frustrated with the males, who are content with pushing each other into seaweed and making fun of blowfish. To alleviate this frustration, the females fantasize about older, famous jellyfish, usually ones from movies or boy bands.

When the males finally do become interested in the females, a period of awkwardness occurs. This period is not much different than before except that now the males tell each other lies about their tentacular "exploits." Then they snap each other with rather pointless towels and haze the freshmen.

At some point, the males actually reveal their interest and begin to ask the females out on deep-sea dates, only to be systematically shot down because the female is holding out for that one cute jellyfish that doesn't know she exists. Usually it's the captain of the football team but sometimes it's the lead singer of a local emo band that plays at the nearby reef.

In the few cases that dating actually occurs at this stage, the relationships are cut short by silly arguments such as, "he forgot our 27 hour anniversary" or "she tried to feed me to a shark." Years later, the jellyfish look back on those days and laugh at how immature and polypial they were.

The next stage involves a decision of sorts for the jellyfish. They can either choose to look for that one mate to spend the rest of their one-year of existence with or they enjoy the single life and float from jellyfish to jellyfish for a little while. Scientists have argued for years about which is the wiser choice, but ultimately it depends on the jellyfish.

The jellyfish that choose the single life almost immediately run into problems. First, it is nearly impossible to meet new jellyfish, as pretty much everyone swims in the same circles. Attempts have been made to remedy this

Of course I don't think you're spineless, Larry. I just wish you would stop hanging out with your smack and be more honest about your feelings!

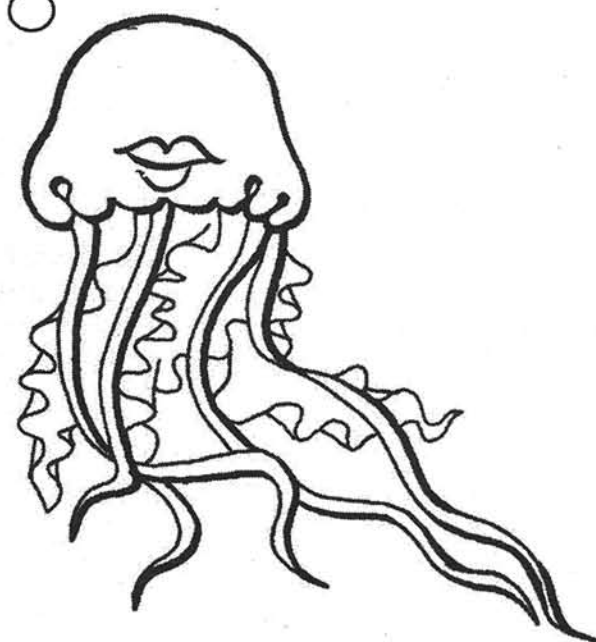
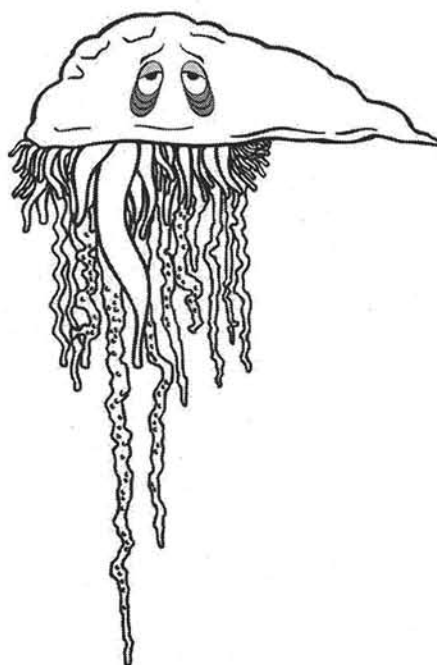


illustration by Ben Dower

problem, namely online dating services. That solution proved to be ineffective when it was discovered that not only do all jellyfish have the same basic interests but also that computers don't work underwater.

Another problem is how skeptical jellyfish have become of each other's motives. Females are afraid that the males only want to take advantage of them while the males are afraid that the females are only interested in their money and the potency of their sting.

Many relationships have ended prematurely based on these misunderstandings and there is no end in sight. Some scientists believe that if the males and females were able to sit down and have heart-to-heart discussions that these problems could be avoided. However, other scientists are skeptical about this solution due to the jellyfish's lack of hearts.

This isn't to say that the jellyfish that happened to find their soul mates have it easy. Divorce rates are at an all time high, partially due to the same silly arguments that

plagued relationships when they were younger but mostly because they tend to lose their spouse in large crowds.

After all of this, it may seem hard to imagine that any jellyfish have a life-long, happy relationship. However, recent studies show that these solid relationships are starting to become more and more common. I was initially confused by these studies, but after giving the issue much thought, I finally came up with two possible explanations for this: either deep down in their squishy centers, all jellyfish dream of finding that special scyphozoa to grow old with, relatively speaking, or there just really isn't much else to do in the ocean.

Either way, the current mating system of jellyfish ensure that strange blobs will be floating in the water for generations to come.

This article was the winner of the Sex Life of a Jellyfish Contest announced in the previous issue. Thank you to everyone that applied; it was a tough choice.



by Adrian Bounds

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Hanging precariously out the door of the Cessna, my legs flailed in obedience to the 80 mph wind. At 10,000 feet, there was really nowhere to look but down, and during the last moments of pre-jump prep, my mind speedily recalled the months which had led me to this place.

It started out as an attempt to prove my independence after a bad breakup. I had basically been wallowing in self-pity all summer, which was contrary to my usual strong, self-sufficient manner. When a friend whispered during Bible Study one August evening, "You wanna go skydiving with us?" I excitedly agreed.

Of course, this was also entirely out of character. Call me Miss Acrophobia. When I told my parents of my pending adventure, they wouldn't even let me finish before laughing. My friends thought that this phase would soon pass. But my ex-boyfriend had wanted us to go together. I wanted to go first.

When jump-day arrived, our small group drove to the site. We were trained in jump posture and procedures, and signed page after page of waivers. When my turn came, I put

on a façade of confidence and boarded the plane.

But what I remember most was sitting on the floor of the Cessna shouting to my jump-master, "I'm terrified of heights!" And his reply, "We're gonna take care of that for you right now!"

Looking back, I think that was the point at which I realized that I wasn't doing this to prove anything to anyone else. Somewhere along the way, it had ceased to be an act of vengeful pride, and become an opportunity for personal growth. "We're gonna take care of that for you..." For me.

Of course I love to tell people about my skydive. But what holds the real significance for me is the fact that with that jump, I regained control of my life. No one made me do it. I was no longer being driven by an intangible external force. As opposed to being hurled recklessly out into the unknown, I had weighed the pros and cons, made a decision, and was following through of my own free will.

I hope that each of us can do something to recharge ourselves. I needed something huge, like a jump out of an airplane. You may need something totally different. As British author

Katherine Mansfield said, "Risk anything! Do the hardest thing on earth for you!"

Avid jumpers often say "Only skydivers know why the birds sing." As I got into place outside the plane, I realized that I was having fun! Sure, I was scared out of my mind, but rather than feeling obligated to prove something, I had given myself permission to enjoy it.

My jump-master counted to three, and we leaped from the confining safety of the plane into the liberatingly unfamiliar air. As I sped toward earth, my problems could not reach me. I was in control. I was finally free.

Graphic designed by Juliann Peterson

Electronic sign now displays 'UTD' in six glorious colors

Recently, before welcoming UTD students back to campus from the break, while welcoming UTD students back to campus from the break, and after welcoming UTD students back to campus from the break, the electronic UTD sign on Drive A tested out its six glorious colors. Displaying the UTD logo in various combinations of colors, the new sign... welcomed students back to campus from the break?

Combining the mathematical talents of the university, we estimate the sign can show the UTD logo in approximately 27 combinations of colors, none of which are complimentary, in fact at least eight of them are downright insulting.

Administrators are considering a fee increase to purchase a seventh color for the sign... to welcome students back from the break.

'Firestarter' now banned in Texas dance clubs

"The Roof is on Fire," "Disco Inferno," and "Burning Down the House" also added to the list, sparking a heated debate about the legality of the decision. Emotions flared when one really hot girl was turned away from the bar until she had had enough to drink, properly saturating

Alaskan volcano erupts, reminding citizens of the existence of Alaska

The "forgotten state" exploded back into relevance yesterday after the eruption of the Augustine Volcano, 180 miles SW of Anchorage on the Augustine Island.

The eruption did not effect either resident in the 100 mile radius, but one did claim to have seen some "distant smoke."

Alaskan Representative Don Young immediately declared that state funds would be redirected to build a bridge to the island.

"This project will inevitably double the tourism to the island," Young noted. He has also proposed that because of the volcano, Alaska get another seat in Congress.

Vince Young given power to declare war

'Supreme Overlord of the Universe' also given power to make law, and kill without fear of punishment

by Austin Horn

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AUSTIN (AMP) – After Vince Young's stunning performance in the Rose Bowl, University of Texas at Austin students, staff, and alumni have used their considerable political and societal sway to give the star quarterback powers equal to and even exceeding the entire government of the United States.

"Executive branch? After watching the way Vince executed the Texas offensive plan the other night, I don't think there's any doubt that he's fully capable of doing a stellar job with such powers bestowed upon him," one Austin statesman noted.

When asked if he feared new competition, President Bush chuckled: "I'll just get to spend more time in Crawford."

But his powers wouldn't stop there. Fans and friends alike agree that Young would be able to tackle much greater responsibilities.

"The judiciary? I saw Vince lay out one heck of a sentence on USC – that of one year without a title," added one exuberant fan. "Just wait till he brings real justice to all the people. He'll be better than Judge Judy."

And as far as the legislative branch, Young will have complete authorship power as well as discretionary veto powers. "The only laws I'm afraid of Vince making or breaking are those of physics. Did you see him running the other night?" said a UT political science professor covered from head to foot in Vince Young memorabilia and orange paint.

Young also has a license to kill, which he may use at his discretion. If he uses it within a football game against the defense, his team will be assessed a 15-yard penalty and a loss of down. If the other team runs out of players, Young may choose to call a draft in the stands for potential worthy opponents. When asked



image by Paul Ingram

Texas Quarterback Vince Young takes his responsibility seriously, single-handedly rewriting Western Law.

about his newfound powers, Young replied, "We just got to keep our heads on straight, run the plan coach Brown gave us, and win the game."

Young's first official act, he's hinted, will be to make law that the Houston Texans win every game.

"I'd be ironic, and kinda funny. Plus, we Texans stick up for each other," he commented.

Apple's new iCar uses one pedal instead of two

"If it worked for the mouse, it works for a car," said Steve Jobs

SAN FRANCISCO (AMP) – At the recent Macworld convention, Apple president Steve Jobs unveiled the company's newest creation, the iCar – a sleek, fashionable alternative to general trends in the automotive world. In true Apple tradition, the iCar will use one pedal for the gas and brake; the concept of the clutch will not even be considered.

"When we were looking at the

possible ways for us to design this car, we wanted to retain some of the hallmarks of the Apple tradition.

How could we possibly help this car say to the consumer that it hailed from a tradition of difference? The first thing we noticed was this whole 'two-pedal' concept for braking and accelerating. We haven't needed a second button for our mouse; why a second pedal for our cars?" said Jobs in an interview.

The one-pedal car will rely on new Apple-designed voice recognition technology, with the driver say-

ing "Speed up" or "slow down" into a special iMicrophone headset.

On average, the user had to do this over 350 times on a normal transit. The car, which is steered by a giant version of the iPod click wheel, comes in a variety of translucent colors, along with a special U2-signed black edition selling for \$6000 more than the normal iCar. Stock analysts have high expectations, but say users may be waiting for iCar-compatible ports of software like "Speedometer XP" and "Fuel Tank 2006".

AMP readership hits double digits; surpasses *Mercury*

A recently conducted poll has found that there are now at least twelve people who consider themselves regular readers of *A Modest Proposal*. The majority of polled students confirmed that they mistakenly thought the paper to be a real Dallas publication, but read it anyway when class got so boring that fear of death arose.

"I mean, anything is better than the drone of the classroom - even if it is a series of horrible puns," one business pundit claimed.

"I thought the same thing," one history professor added, proudly showing off his reading progress through the November-December Issue to his class.

One Comet exuberantly exclaimed she had been reading the paper since its inception in August. When informed that the paper actually began last year, "Oh, well you know what I mean," was her only comment.

The survey indicated that 3/4ths of these readers comprised the listening section of Radio UTD.

Poll numbers refused to indicate whether the confirmed readers did or did not actually contribute to *A Modest Proposal* itself.

Staff members from *The Mercury* declined to comment.

February officially no longer recognized month

A new provision of No Child Left Behind act has labeled calendars as educational tools, forcing them to follow the strict educational guidelines.

When February failed to come close enough to the required average 30.417 days, President Bush declared it a "failing month" and allowed "highly qualified experts" to decide its fate.

February has been placed on probation until it can meet federal standards, upon which it will be reconsidered. As a result, May, June, July and August have all been given an extra week.

"Too much school makes the children complacent. I think this will be best for everyone," a Whitehouse spokesman commented.

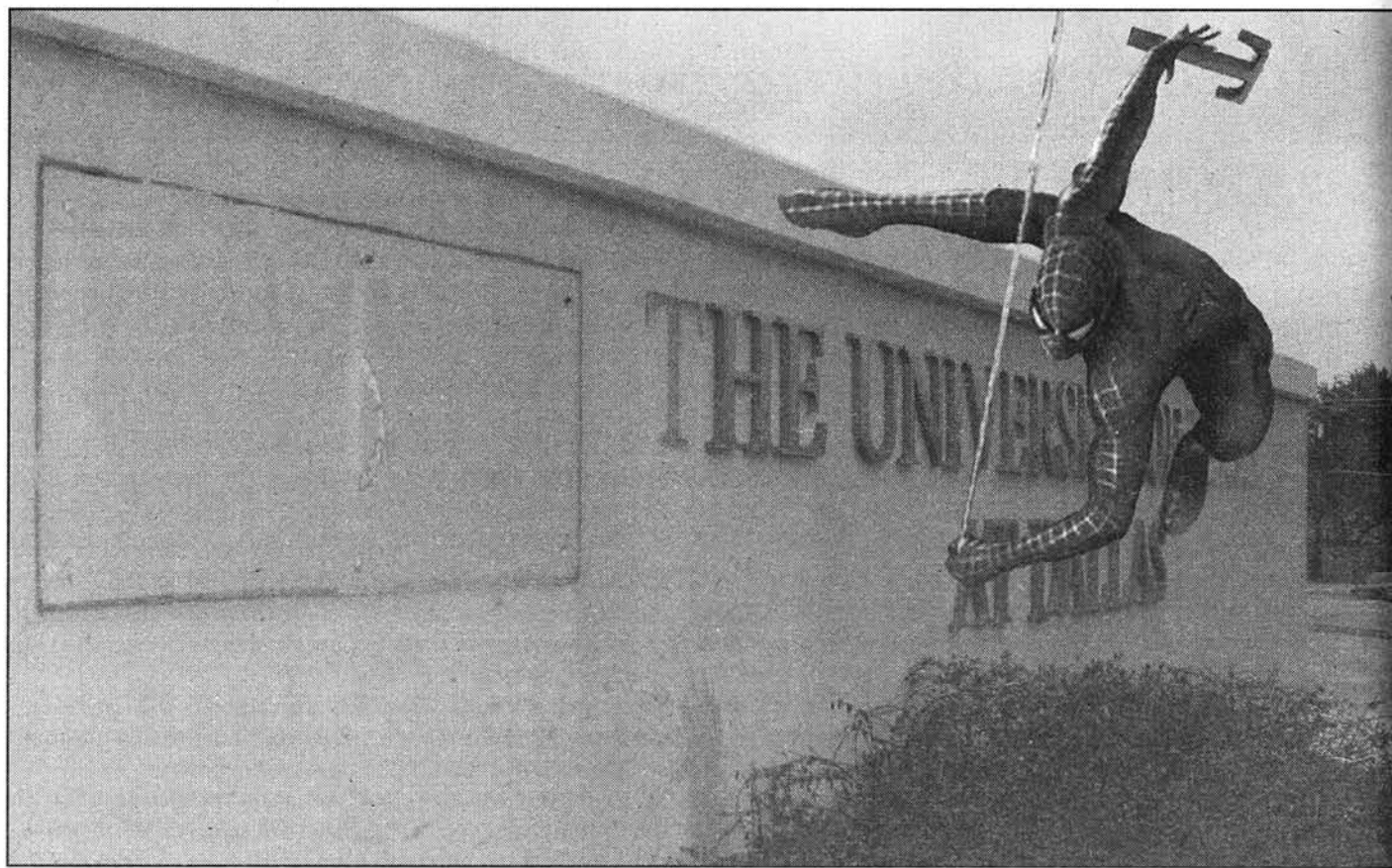


image by Michael Seeliger

Independent photographer captures thief

by Peter Parker

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RICHARDSON, TX - A senior literary arts major has turned in to the newspaper this photograph, capturing the true bandit behind the recent UTD sign theft.

The student wished to remain anonymous, but gladly accepted the financial reward. The police are slightly baffled as to what this "flying thingy" actually is, and find themselves even more perplexed as to where this spidery-person attached his webs on which to swing.

"We can be sure about one thing," a senior officer reported. "The sign is gone."

Arts professor J. Jonah Jameson declared that "this web-crawling menace will not rest until our entire campus has been covered with his web - his web of villainy." The art barn has been filled with such slogans as "ARACHNID EXTERMINATOR WANTED" and "STOMP OUT THIS PEST." Jameson, smoking a cigar, also declared he would pay for pictures

of the thief, but only grudgingly. He then proceeded to yell at every student in view before being abducted by an evildoer with powers not given to normal men.

The thief, who granted the Chronicle an exclusive interview, claimed he needed the sign to hurl at Dr. Magnifico, a former UTD liberal arts professor driven mad by lack of funding who wandered into the electrical engineering department and conducted dangerous tests upon himself. The epic battle, which has already gained popularity among local hobo songwriters, ended with the thief missing his date with a lovely red-headed girl named Mary Jane. However, his giggles at mentioning her name may suggest he was delayed from smoking hydroponic marijuana.

The UTD police department has taken decisive action after these events by increasing the number of students pulled over and given tickets. Extensive lobbying by the department for standard-issue rocket launchers and armored tanks has reached the board of trustees, who would like nothing more than to see Dr. Mag-

nifico destroyed, as their elimination of his budget drove him to madness.

The university plans on replacing the sign with a randomly selected student dressed as Temoc to notify the public of the school's existence, as well as the Pub's new lunch-for-two deal for only \$8.99.

There is no telling what evil deed this character could perpetrate next. UTD police are hoping it will be something less conspicuous, like stealing one of the walls from the art barn.

Meanwhile, the UTD police have set up a command center to better handle the crisis situation. For safety the command center has been set up in the abandoned fallout shelter under Founders.

AMP decided to solicit a comment from this command center but nobody, including officers on duty, appeared to know the location of the fallout shelter or could even validate its existence.

We at the Uranus would like to see this menace to society caught on more than just film, but as for the moment, he makes for some great artwork.

Unintelligent design group joins controversy

by Eve Adams

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Yesterday proponents of the newest origin-of-man theory made themselves known by staging a protest at the location where evolution was first discovered: the Galapagos Islands. This new sect opposes evolution and intelligent design alike, saying that if one looks for the evidence, it will decisively prove the existence of a higher power, and a sloppy one at that. "Human beings are basically walking fetuses," explains the leading expert on unintelligence, Debra Blonde. "We don't have any natural

defense systems and no advantages over lions and tigers and bears except the ability to form committees and discuss. There's no way something that ill prepared evolved by chance."

Unintelligent Design uses these obvious flaws as evidence against evolution, stating that our species would have been wiped out if not for divine intervention. However, the Unintelligent Design theory also looks at the obvious flaws in the Human race: the extra kidney, the uvula, the lack of laser vision and other such obvious oversights. They see these defects as clear evidence

against Intelligent Design

"The Bible says that God created the Earth and all life in six days and on the seventh day he rested," explains one protestor, "To me, that says He was in a big hurry to finish. Human beings were the last thing He made and by then He was more than ready for the break. Personally, I wish He had taken a breather on day four." The angry protestor then added, after a moment of reflection, "If you really want to see some Intelligent Design, go watch Spider Man 2 or X-Men 3. There's some Intelligent Design!"

UT System trades Los Alamos bid for BCS Championship

In a shrewd act of negotiation, the UT System agreed Jan. 4 to return control of Los Alamos National Laboratory to the UC System in exchange for the 2006 college football national championship trophy.

A high-ranking UT official, who was promised anonymity in exchange for his candor, said, "This will forever be a red letter day for UT. Think about it, we'll be national champs for a year, and what do they get? Control of our nuclear arsenal for the next seven years."

He went on to call his colleagues from the UC system "chumps" saying, "We totally pulled their pants down on this one."

A UC System official was tight-lipped about the agreement, saying, "I could answer that question, but then I'd have to kill you."

Los Alamos nuclear physicist Hang Wang "Jimmy" Zhang said, "It doesn't matter who pays the bills."

"We all know that the real control lies with the Chinese government," he continued while loading his hard drive and papers marked "Top Secret" into the back of his family sedan.

When asked what he thought about the deal, UT quarterback Vince Young reportedly said, "Los Alamos? Is that the place that catered our pre-game meal? They make some pretty good chimichangas, dog."

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY FLU JUST HILARIOUS

by Abu Blover

featheredfriend@utdallas.edu

Citizens at high risk of giggling, blushing, general tomfoolery

ATLANTA (AMP) - The Centers for Disease Control has issued a warning against a new type of avian flu, the blue-footed booby flu, which has been known to make citizens break out in a rash of guffaws, snickers, and assorted other symptoms of naughtiness.

"I must warn the American people that the effects of this disease can crop up at any time, at any place. Even the mere thought of it is enough to cause people to... oh crap, look at me. I can't even keep a straight face. I just keep looking at Sheryl's - your name

is Sheryl, right? - blouse and I just... boobs. Oh man, Dave, I can't continue this press conference... until I give you a high-five! Boobies for the win!" said Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the facilities.

The reporters within the room were immediately infected with giggling and pointing at other boobies in the room. Those with boobies showed strong immunity to the disease, but eventually succumbed to fits of laughter.

This comes after last month's battle with white-crested tit flu, which lead to devastating losses of seriousness in everything from business meetings to church services. The disease was eventually defeated by a vaccine entitled "Richard Nixon Syndrome," which causes the inoculated victim to be impervious to joy, humor, and human kindness.



The Booby's cough causes severe fits of laughter, giggles, and rashes of guffaws.

Don't like what we write? Like telling funny stories? All Student Submissions accepted but not considered.
Email: amodestproposal@gmail.com with story ideas

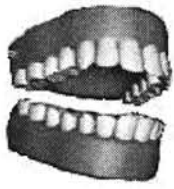
dictated but not read

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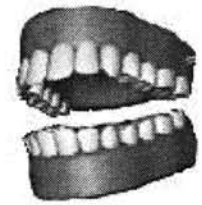
Benedict Voit
Jordan Youngblood
Jonathan Lane

Liam Skoyles
Ben Dower
Samuel Alito

Paul Ingram
Richard Voit
Michael Seeligson



Quote Board



Should the president have the authority to conduct warrant-less wiretaps??

"THERE ARE CHECKS AND BALANCES, AND HE'S FINDING A WAY TO GET PAST THAT."

- BOBBY ROSS, SOPHOMORE
ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

"I SWEAR THEY'VE ALREADY GOT A WIRETAP AT MY HOUSE."

- RAHUL SACHETI, SOPHOMORE
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

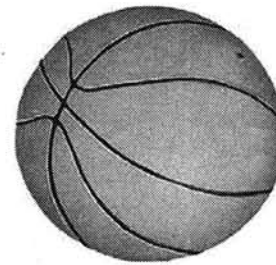
"It's not like he's doing it for his own benefit; it's to protect Americans."

- Mira Kim, Freshman
Computer Science

"Yes, but to a limit. He should have authority, but there needs to be oversight."

- Jason Wallace, Senior
Political Science/Chemistry

**S
A
Y**



Is a chance at \$5000 enough to get you to a UTD Basketball game?

"Oh, heck yeah!"

- Aashish Richard, Junior
Crime and Justice

**W
H**

"IT SHOULD BE OK. I THINK ITS FINE."

- BRASHANT, SENIOR
MICROELECTRONICS

**A
T
?**

"To just walk in, or to actually watch?"

- Michael O'Halloran, Graduate
Education

"I'd go even without the chance."

- Greg Armistead, Freshman
Psychology

What do you think of the campus beautification project?

"To be honest, UTD was modern for its time in the 1960s."

- Vidya Ayyr, Senior Business

"At least they're spending it on campus and not giving themselves raises."

- Clinton Brennan, freshman
Computer Science

"THE TILES ARE A LITTLE EXTREME, BUT THE WINDING PATH IS GOOD."

- ROSHAN EASO, SENIOR EE

Damage tour in New Orleans: wrong ideas **BUS**

Tours of wreckage bring new appreciation



by Aidan Skoyles

skoyles@student.utdallas.edu

(To the theme of Gilligan's Island)
Now this is a tale of 'Nawlins folks
They were almost washed away
Now you want to see their homes
On a bus you could see it today.

A three-hour tour is precisely what you could get, if you want, of the still-wrecked parts of New Orleans thanks to the Grey Line Bus Company. Critics, predictably, are up in arms at the insensitivity of the company, but I think it is a very worthy idea.

In early January, the company began offering a three-hour excursion, "Hurricane Katrina -- America's Worst Catastrophe," for \$35 around places like the Super Dome, the levies, Canal Street, the business district, the convention center and some of the neighborhoods that were so devastatingly affected in September's Hurricane Katrina. While gawking tourists does little to assuage the immense suffering of New Orleans' residents, it does provide a humbling respect for mother nature to all who see.

The mass exodus from Houston as Hurricane Rita approached after Katrina suggests that many Americans have a new-found respect for wind and water whipped up into a proper storm, and no doubt for those who still don't get it, a tour to witness first hand the damage wreaked would serve to further ingrain this sentiment.

Sure we all saw the footage on television and the Internet, but nothing will have the impact like seeing it with your own eyes.

Bus tour or not, many thrill-seekers will venture forth into the mold-infested and damage-strewn streets anyway, and that could create a dangerous situation. Having a well-regulated bus tour allows a safe avenue to satiate man's instinctive curiosity.

Critics' calls of obscene profit taking from the storm is also unfounded. It's not obscene and it's not of a gross scale in the first place.

Of the billions spent by the government in the clean up effort and undoubtedly the millions swindled by un-bid contracts, shady FEMA allocations and inevitable (and given the circumstances, not entirely unreasonable) disaster mis-management, I can't believe a few bus runs ranks significantly on the dollars-swindled-o-meter.

On the contrary, every person who takes the tour will be sure to tell their friends about it and set forth a ripple of respect and appreciation for the force and destruction that storms can create.

The economic impact of that may rank far greater. Will it make a developer think twice about throwing apartments up over a wetland? Will it make a city-dweller think twice about that seaside home built on ever-shrinking and storm-impact-absorbing dunes?

If it does, then I reckon it's more worth while and does more help than harm to the overall situation. And in saying so, I don't suggest we curtail economic development, but I do suggest we think about effective ways of doing it so we don't take two steps back for one forward when the next storm hits.

When I was in high-school a tornado ripped through a neighborhood near mine. Luckily ours was spared, but my parents insisted on driving my brother and I through the streets to see cars tossed through dining rooms like so many scattered MicroMachines, even houses picked up, twisted and set back down. You can bet the experience worked for me, and I reckon it will work for others on a bus, in New Orleans.



photos courtesy of news agencies



The Grey Line Bus Company began offering tours of some hurricane-damaged areas of New Orleans in January. Critics decry the move as insensitive and in poor taste, but those who take advantage of the trip will gain a new appreciation and respect for Mother Nature.

The wheels on the bus

What: tour of hurricane damage

Where: New Orleans downtown/neighborhoods

When: starting January

How much: \$35, kids \$28

Why: because first-hand appreciation for the storm is worth-while

Why're tapping policies receiving such negative press?



by Benedict Voit

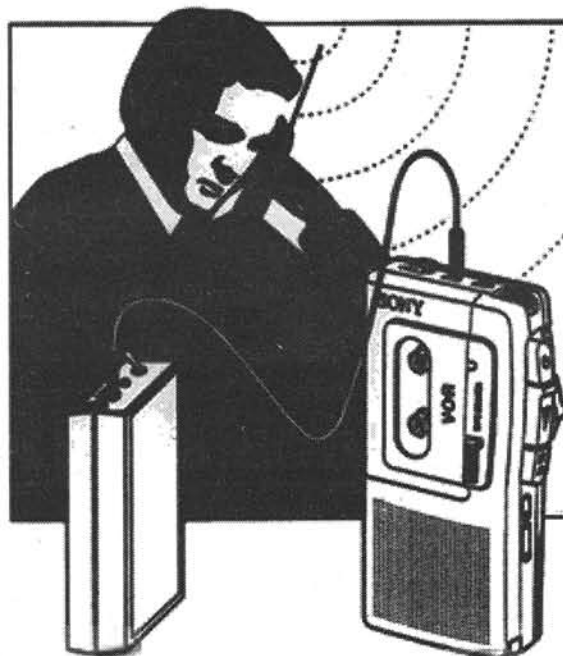
benedict.voit@student.utdallas.edu

Talk has been heating up that the midterm elections will be the time to shine for the Democrats. After a rise in Bush's popularity, it may be fading. The economy is good, but it can never be good enough. The whole world, plus some, hates us, and we have really gone too far this time. Oh no, wait. That was 2002. Election results four years ago weren't quite as expected for the Democrats, and it was a first time in decades that a President had gained majorities in the House and Senate in first mid-term elections.

Things were pretty solemn at that point. But by the time 2004 rolled around, the Democrats knew they had it. The American people would certainly not re-elect an illegitimate President who had taken us into the worst mangled foreign entanglement since Reagan's escapades. Back to the days of Clinton, they decried. Back to the days when foreign engagement meant proposing to a European lady, and commitment was the determination to keep the U.S. safe by committing to refuse numerous times the acceptance of Osama bin Laden from the Sudanese government.

Result: Bush won 51%. But that was then, this is now. 2006 has come, and the American people must be fed up with the current leadership. Unfortunately, the Democrats lost the definition of leadership a decade ago, meaning this fall will be like 2004 was to 2000: another great opportunity for the prominent Democrats to find another reason why the American people are so stupid as to vote in more power to the GOP.

The issue at hand this month as to why Dubya is living in a bubble: wiretaps. Information about this practice has been in the media for over a year now, but the New York Times waited many months (their hatred is patient) to run the story so that it coincided with the vote on renewing the Patriot Act.



The Patriot Act was initiated at the end of 2001/early 2002 with the express purpose of helping different agencies better coordinate their efforts in stopping terrorist efforts. Roving wiretaps are an especially noted example of its legislation. These taps allows the government to track a cell phone user rather than a cell phone number. Earlier, when terrorists found out they were being tracked, they could simply ditch their cell phone and acquire a new number. The change in phones required another warrant and months in the mess of bureaucratic paperwork.

The effectiveness of these taps is of course difficult to assess, as the agencies will not report on success – in order to build upon them – but the media will gleefully report on any failure, might-be failure, or a success they find fault with. And who can blame them? Their education wasn't good enough to show that 64% of Americans supporting the taps is a clear majority (recent Rasmussen Poll). But majority is another one of those words the left hasn't know for quite some time.

When a prominent figure triumphantly proclaimed "We killed the Patriot Act," Abu Musad al-Zarqawi came to mind. But no; Democratic Minority Leader Harry Reid made that claim. And who can't be proud that Reid and his followers view the collaboration of intelligence agencies as the destruction of hard earned freedoms that they won't even fight to support?

A final push has been to highlight the fact that wiretaps are occurring during the Bush administration. But connections to history (be it elections or wars) isn't the Democrats' strong suit. Their superiority faded when history showed that the debate over the wiretaps started as far back as 1972; even then, the Supreme Court allowed for the President to monitor foreign agents, and

lower appellate courts never questioned such authority of the President.

Congress attempted to limit such power with the passage of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) in 1978, requiring the President to obtain a warrant from a secret court before progressing. Regardless, each President since then (and that includes Bill Clinton) has used the inherent powers of the Presidency to continue doing what Clinton's deputy Attorney General Jamie Gorelick noted was something that "case law supports."

A current White House spokesman Trent Duffy reiterated Gorelick's remarks at the end of December: "The president believes that he has the authority - and he does - under the Constitution to do this limited program. The Congress has been briefed. It is fully in line with the Constitution and also protecting American civil liberties."

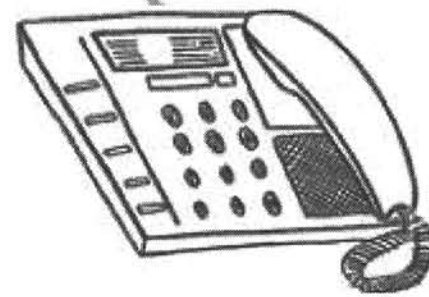
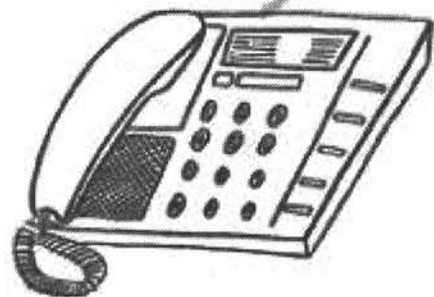
Mr. Duffy added that this "...is not about monitoring phone calls designed to arrange Little League practice or what to bring to a potluck dinner. These are designed to monitor calls from very bad people to very bad people who have a history of blowing up commuter trains, weddings and churches."

As a true conservative, I hate seeing the expansion of the federal government. Extra powers to the executive branch have proven time and again to be extremely dangerous. But I also trust and respect the office of the Presidency; although I may disagree with policies of the person in office, I trust that the President is doing what the President believes is best for the American people.

The most sacred responsibility of the job is to protect the American people. If that means giving up some liberties, even to an ever growing powerful branch of the federal government, than for my safety, nay, our safety, so be it.

The American people understand the intentions of this legislation. We all have probably even unknowingly been graced by its positive results. Why then, do certain representatives refuse to support what is helping their own country fight terrorism at home?

As long as the Democrats refuse to take a serious position on foreign policy and national security, they will continue to lose elections. Although the Democratic leadership usually is able to sway well in the changing winds of public opinion, this time they have been blown way off course.



WIRETAPING:

or how *George W.* took the 'L' out of lawful and beat around the *Bush* with the courts

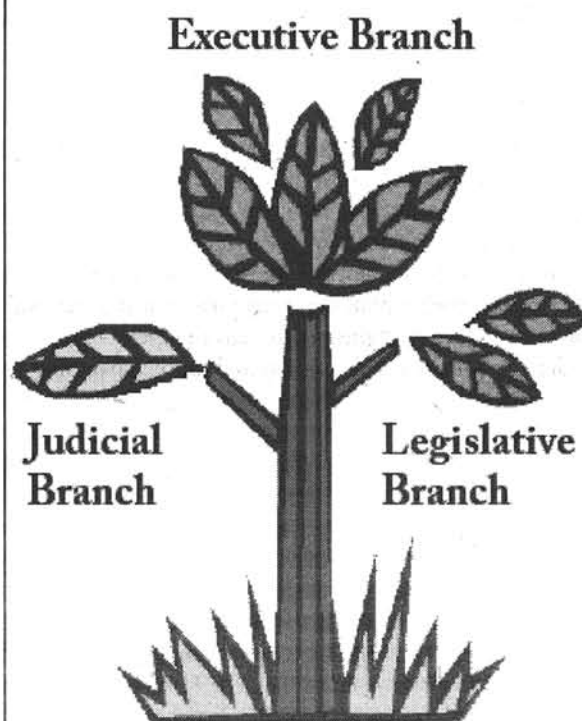


by Ben Dower

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In 1972, the United States Supreme Court ruled that warrantless wiretapping doesn't just violate the privacy of American citizens, it also violates the Fourth Amendment. However, because terrorism and other threats are real and steps need to be taken, some years later the Congress created the Foreign Intelligence Act of 1978. This act allowed the government to begin the

*The three branches of government
(as viewed by President Bush)*



wiretap and then apply for a warrant within 72 hours. (That's 72 hours after the wiretapping starts, not before it.) Since that time, the Justice Department has denied only four out of 19,000 applications, allowing the government to sacrifice a little personal liberty in the interests of national security.

I don't hate President Bush, although I don't agree with many of his decisions. And I think there are times where it is necessary to lose a little freedom to protect the freedom of the nation as a whole. However when the President, any President, thinks they are above the law, it's not time to let it slide. This isn't about partisan issues; it's about government's responsibility to the people.

The entire purpose of laws is that no one is too good or too powerful to follow them. Every individual must be accountable for his or her actions regardless of who they are or what position they hold. As soon as someone believes that certain laws do not apply to him or her because of their rank, wealth, or status, the entire system falls apart. In the War on Terror there will be many casualties. But one casualty that must not occur is that of American integrity.

If we lose our moral high ground, as many people claim we already have, we lose not only our standing in the international community, but the very thing we are fighting to protect. It's not about what France thinks of us, it's about what we do in the name of freedom. The President is supposed to embody our values, instead first Clinton and now Bush have made of mockery of them.

What angers me the most is that it would have been so easy for President Bush to receive permission for his illegal wiretaps. Did he just decide that it would be less time consuming to break federal laws than fill out a little paperwork? Was it a matter of convenience? At least Nixon broke the law for an understandable reason; he really wanted to win that election and protect his friends and political allies. Bush just didn't want to go to the effort to fill out some forms.

Vice President Cheney states that it is the, "obligation and responsibility [of the President and his cabinet]... to do everything in [their] power to defeat the terrorists." But see, Mr. Cheney, it wasn't in your power to do illegal wiretaps. That's part of the whole, it being illegal, thing.

That 64% of Americans support the use of wiretaps shows the widespread support for the legal measures



taken by the government in the interest of our security. Clearly many people stand by the principle that if you don't have anything to hide, you shouldn't be worried. But I have another statistic that might be of interest. Fifty-two. The percentage of Americans that want Congress to consider impeaching President Bush if he wiretapped American citizen without a judge's approval.

Personally, I doubt President Bush will be impeached. The Democrats have proven themselves too divided and out-of-touch with mainstream sentiment to take advantage at the numerous opportunities the Republicans have handed them over the last few years. As the GOP continues to establish itself as capable of riding out any scandal, so the apathetic public has failed to produce the outrage necessary to prevent future violations.

Maybe our standards have just gone downhill. Or maybe our hopes and expectations have been violated so many times, we no longer demand the kind of moral backbone that was once absolutely necessary for an electable candidate. This is to say, you need to appear moral when you run for office, but once in office you can do as you like, and we will politely look away and put up with it like good citizens should. Heck, we'll probably reelect you by a landslide as long as you can still look us in the eye unflinchingly.

Until our mainstream public decides they won't put up with this kind of gross violation of personal liberty — until the majority of the people, not just partisan left-wing bloggers acting in their own interests, decide that they will not stand by and allow their elected officials to lie, cheat, steal, and otherwise violate their own laws — our system will remain corrupt and unchangeable.

TOP ALBUMS OF TEN 2005

Demons and eggs and deceased royalty - oh my



by Jordan Youngblood

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We've come to the end of another year of album releases – filled with the usual menagerie of disappointments, overblown “masterpieces,” and just plain ol’ utter failures. However, despite all that, 2005 was actually a wonderful year for music if you knew where to look. Pairing this down to 10 albums was hard enough but these were the CDs that stood the test of time: the ones that, at the end of the year, either retained their original luster, continued to reveal new secrets, or – in one case – made a stand for being a timeless classic.

1. Sufjan Stevens – Illinois

So this isn't that much of a shock: the album has been selected as one of the top ten albums of 2005 in more than 25 music publications, Sufjan has gone from playing tiny clubs to gigs at Carnegie Hall and the Lincoln Center in a few weeks, and it stood week after week at the top of the playlists at our own Radio UTD. What's so good about it? Stevens has the gift of making the mundane epic, of infusing history and events with a sense of wide-eyed wonder and genuine awe. The fact he is a

gifted multi-instrumentalist, has a creative writing degree, and has a cherubic whisper of a voice doesn't hurt his case either. When it all comes down to it though, the songs have to stand up – and Illinois has 22 stunners, ranging from 6 seconds to 7 minutes, each carefully crafted and



formed. Sufjan can blow your mind with his arrangements (check “Chicago” and “Come On! Feel The Illinois!” for that) but it's the intimate, personal songs that leave the biggest impact. “John Wayne Gacy Jr.,” “The Predatory Wasp of the Palisades,” and especially “Casimir Pulaski Day” use the framework of a place or time to speak on the universally human themes of faith, death, and love. Illinois does what the greatest works of art are able to do: immediately evoke a specific place or time while existing outside of it, connecting to any number of listeners through the simple power of the human condition. It's a genuine masterpiece.

2. Spoon – Gimme Fiction

Britt Daniel is a sexy beast of a man; if you've even seen Spoon in concert, you know his hip-cocked sashay around the stage, purring his eternally-stuffed-up voice into the mic like he was seducing it. With “I Turn My Camera On,” the band has finally captured that sexiness on record: it might be the best single of the year, with Daniel doing his best Prince impersonation over a strutting guitar line and a lock-set rhythm section. The rest of the album is certainly no slouch either, with “Sister Jack,” “The Beast and Dragon Adored,” “My Mathematical Mind,” and



especially “I Summon You” shoving their way into any best-of-Spoon mix CD you'd ever want to make. It's the longest record they've ever written, and I'd argue it is their best. These guys are the best band out of Texas playing right now, without question.

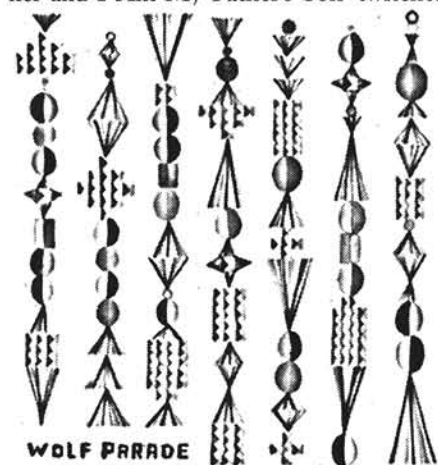


3. Andrew Bird – The Mysterious Production of Eggs

So the most gorgeous pop album of the year is written by the ex-violinist of the Squirrel Nut Zippers (you remember “Hell,” don't you?) who just happens to have a stunning voice? And he's an award-winning whistler (!) to boot, a talent he uses to great effect on multiple tracks? Say hello to the most pleasant surprise of the year, a lush, dreamy slice of songcraft that grows with each listen. “A Nervous Tic Motion of the Head to the Left” rides a plucked violin melody, Bird's whistling, and electronic drums to hypnotic effect; “Fake Palindromes” rhymes “formaldehyde” with “dewy-eyed Disney bride”; “The Naming of Things” builds to a beautiful climax with an army of overdubbed violins singing along with Bird. Really, if there's one CD you buy out of this list, make it this one; small artists like him desperately need the support.

4. Wolf Parade – Apologies to the Queen Mary

One of the most raw and passionate albums in a long time, lead vocalists Spencer Krug and Dan Boeckner yelp out their stories of love, doubt, confusion and dinner bells over distorted organs and fuzzed-out guitars while drummer Arlen Thompson thwacks away at his set. “You Are a Runner and I Am My Father’s Son” twitches



along with keyboard stabs and a stuttering beat, “Fancy Claps” barrels through its three minutes without taking a breath, “This Heart’s on Fire” sounds possessed by the spirit of Springsteen, and “Dear Sons and Daughters of Holy Ghosts” into “I’ll Believe In Anything” – particularly at 2:23 into the latter song where Krug’s voice nearly cracks into a thousand pieces while the band reawakens – should cut any ironist to his or her vintage-teed knees. Modest Mouse’s Isaac Brock may have produced the album, but it burns with a fire all its own.

5. Gorillaz – Demon Days

By far the best popular album of the year, Damon Albarn redeems himself a hundred times over for the unsteady mess that was *Think Tank* and makes a fairly strong argument that Blur may not even



need to exist anymore. Even with the level of saturation it received “Feel Good Inc” is still a damn good song, the collaborations are brilliant (especially MF Doom’s “November Has Come”), and DJ Danger Mouse’s production effortlessly colors in a surprisingly dark and cynical look at the world’s current situation. A band made up of cartoons? If they can hammer out albums like this, why not?

6. The Decemberists – Picaresque

While this album falls just short of their debut album and masterwork *Castaways and Cutouts*, Colin Meloy and his merry band of scalawags continue to hone their craft, expanding vocabularies and transporting audiences from elephant processions to the innards of a whale over the course of eleven songs. While the album starts to sag in the middle (“From My Own True Love (Lost At Sea)” is the dull-

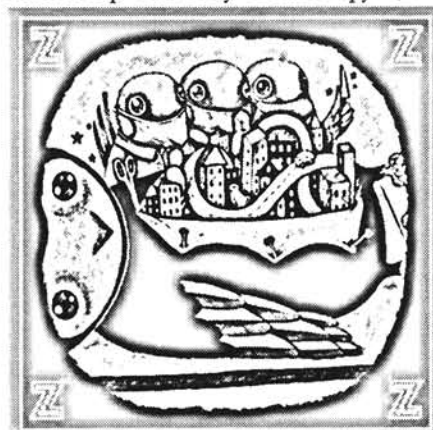


est song Meloy’s ever penned), the peaks are as good as the band’s ever reached: “The Infanta,” “The Sporting Life,” and especially the one-two-three punch of “The Engine Driver,” “On the Bus Mall,” “The Mariner’s Revenge Song” help to continue the band’s streak of stunning albums. Look for their major label (gasp!) debut on Capitol in the next year.

7. My Morning Jacket – Z

Jim James has the best voice in American music today, a drifting tenor that spirals to astonishing heights when he calls upon it. Up to this album, he’d wrapped himself in so much reverb that it was hard to determine what his voice was and what was the endless echo of the production. On *Z*, he unleashes it, going from howling screams on “Wordless Chorus” to a trembling whisper on “Dondante.” This isn’t the same band as on *It Still Moves* – they’re leaner, tighter, and more adventur-

ous. They’re absolute monsters in concert as well; their live show at the Gypsy Tea in November was the best of the year. Buy the album on iTunes, as the actual CD is mucked up with Sony-installed spyware.



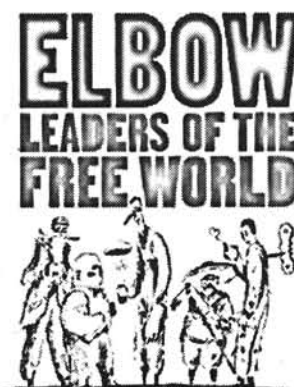
8. Clap Your Hands Say Yeah! – Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

So the opening track sucks. You’ll hear no argument in this corner about that. However, there is a magical button entitled “skip,” and once the tambourine shakes of “Let The Cool Goddess Rust Away” begin, you’ve got one of the best albums of the year. Alec Ounsworth’s voice is a love-or-hate proposition, but if you can adapt to it, the charms of “Details of the War,” “In This Home on Ice,” “The Skin of My Yellow Country Teeth,” and especially closer “Upon This Tidal Wave of Young Blood” affirm this as a hell of a debut. This is an instance where the hype was entirely justified.



9. Elbow – Leaders of the Free World

Guy Garvey knows how to start an album. Elbow’s albums always begin with a stunner: “Any Day Now,” “Ribcage,” and now “Station Approach,” in which Garvey demands “Be everything to me tonight” while his band sounds the most visceral they ever have on record. On this record,



they’re finally able to keep the power of the opening track across the whole of the album. Garvey remains the best lyricist working in British rock, and the songs are across-the-board strong, culminating in the best song of 2005, “Great Expectations.” This is the album *X&Y* wants to be if it had the guts.



10. LCD Soundsystem – LCD Sound-system

From the moment James Murphy starts with “UH OW OW!” on the cowbell-so-loing, hip-rattling opener “Daft Punk is Playing at My House,” the year’s most consistent dance record shimmies along with a confidence and ease that comes from being part of the most respected production crews in New York. Splitting off from the DFA for his solo gig, Murphy jumps from Beatlemania in stealing the bass line from “Dear Prudence” for “Never as Tired as When I’m Waking Up” to punk adrenaline rush for “Movement” to falsetto madness for “Disco Infiltrator.” That’s merely the first disc, too; LCD Soundsystem tack on a bonus extra disc of their early singles that would be worth the purchase simply for “Losing My Edge,” a self-deprecating rant against hipper-than-thou scenesters who essentially make up the band’s audience. A little irony never hurt anyone.

It's settled: *Siedler* rocks



by **Walter Voit**

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Die Siedler von Catan (The Settlers of Catan) is a German board game replete with strategy, luck, skill and finesse. It plays off the basic human urge to build, expand, grow settle, and control.

The board game is constructed from nineteen simple hexagons that form an island called *Catan*. As in life, it is often the simplest forms and patterns that lead to the greatest strategic complexities. As players compete for domination of the fictitious island of Catan, something more than a game emerges: a way of thinking about life; a way of solving problems; a philosophy for dealing with others.

Siedler has honed my prioritizing skills, my persuasion tactics, my ability to make quick decisions, my acceptance of decisions even if they turn out to be wrong, while enabling me to view luck and competition from an analytical perspective. The demands of the game have indelibly shaped my outlook on life.

Cost-benefit analysis occurs at every stage in *Siedler*. Much like in a game of chess, decisions must be made between material advantage and the strategic board position at every step. Since the hexagons nicely tessellate, a unique board configuration arises each time a new game starts.

Furthermore, *Siedler* has playing cards, each of which represents one of five essential resources, namely wood, clay, sheep, wheat or rock. Assessing the relative importance of different resources based on the island configuration is crucial: analyzing a freshly assembled *Siedler* board to arrive at suitable decision-making heuristics is already a skill difficult to master, and the game has not even begun!

This skill, to analyze a new and complex situation quickly, and predict my competitors' behavior, has served me well in many other endeavors.

At all milestones since high school, from my choice of college and major to

the handling of numerous everyday situations, I have found that being able to analyze complex situations in a rational manner has greatly helped guide my decision-making process.

Persuasion is crucial to achieving success in *Siedler*. Although *Siedler* is a game in which individuals compete against each other, resource trading makes short-term alliances paramount. Getting a bad reputation early in a game is disastrous, and playing with the same group of friends over multiple years tends to cause inter-game rivalries and memories of deceit that are hard to shake off.

From *Siedler* I have learned important skills about dealing with friends, noticing nuances, observing body language and calculating emotions. I am very rational, yet I have learned to formulate persuasive arguments, whether the goal is gaining dominion over Catan or building momentum at UTD for a multi-million dollar high-performance computing initiative on campus.

Siedler has helped me understand how other people think: how they process information, how they make decisions and what they will do next. This has been invaluable on the sports fields and gym courts. In intramural soccer, basketball, flag football and volleyball, I analyze people, their strengths and weaknesses, and am often able to predict accurately how they will react to changing scenarios. Thus, my experience in *Siedler* has carried into athletics where I have learned not so much to react to situations, but to mold them proactively to my advantage.

Siedler is a game of problem solving. A winning *Siedler* player will constantly look for new ways to maximize resources through trades and other mechanics, and will adapt the ever-changing situation to every roll of the dice.

Looking at a problem and quickly determining the best solution or a near-best solution has helped me in several ACM

programming competitions at UTD. Having the mental acuity to make decisions quickly without all of the facts has helped our College Bowl team for three successful seasons.

On press nights, for both on-campus publications, I have often been faced with many last-minute decisions on what stories to cut and how to lay out pages.

I have had to make snap decisions with incomplete information and stick with those decisions. Having done similar things in *Siedler* countless times made this process much easier.

Siedler is a game of creativity. Devising new tactics for colonizing, trading and expanding keep the game fresh and exciting. Seeing the consequences of my play decisions, I have learned how closely linked creativity is to problem solving. *Siedler* has taught me not only to tackle problems, but also to redefine and reshape them until workable solutions emerge.

There is no such thing as luck in this world. *Siedler* has taught me this. Luck is simply a term used when the accumulation of factors outside of our control overwhelms rational decision making processes. Even though *Siedler* is played with dice, I have learned to eliminate "luck" by replacing it with probabilistic mental models and a better understanding of complete game mechanics and strategy.

John von Neumann, the father of modern game theory, once said: "Anyone who considers arithmetical methods of producing random digits is, of course, in a state of sin."

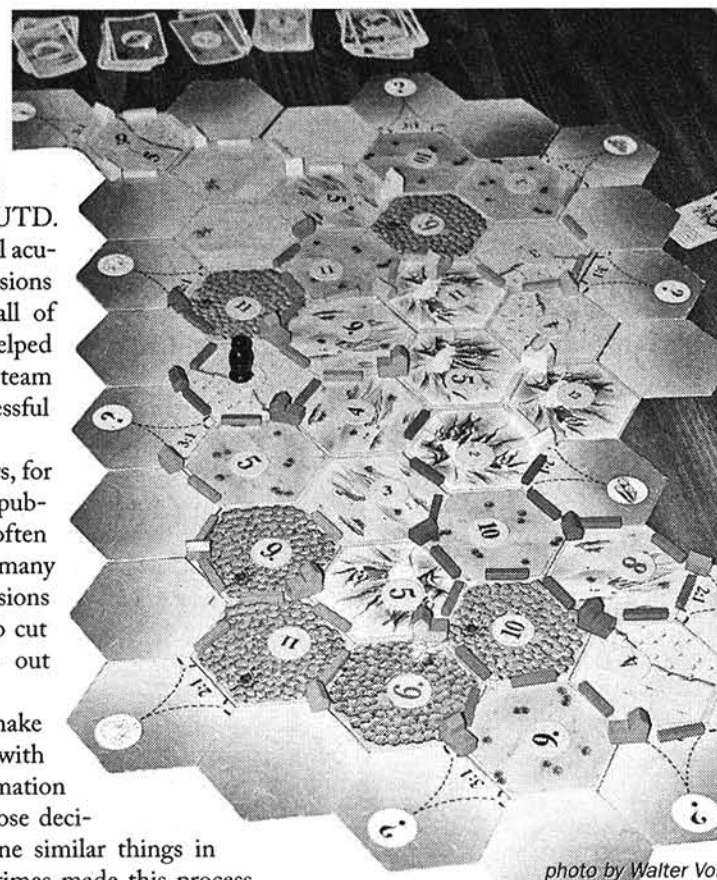


photo by Walter Voit

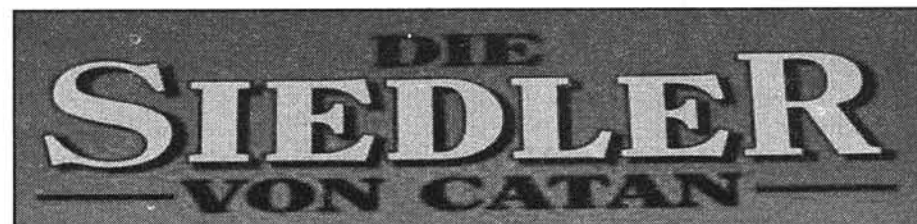
I suppose he meant that inside a computer and in other systems, where each bit is known or can be calculated, there are no such things as luck or randomness. I discovered this not in undergraduate computer science classrooms, but from *Siedler*.

Playing a game of *Siedler* is fun. Winning a game of *Siedler* takes patience, forethought, manipulation and good fortune. Many of the situations that arise in *Siedler* parallel real life. The ever-changing nature of the game forces on-your-feet thinking, quick decision making and cost-benefit analysis at every turn: these skills have also been crucial in navigating white-water rafts through treacherous rapids in New Mexico and North Carolina or deciding how to play defense against three fast-breaking basketball players.

When it comes to devising new strategies, and consistently winning, patience is the most necessary virtue. This outlook has served me well tutoring elementary school children, running leadership workshops and practicing the piano.

The lessons I have learned from *Siedler* have profoundly influenced the way I approach life, from solving problems to interacting with other people.

I'll trade you a rock and three sheep for some letters to the editor.





by Erica Neiser

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Last week, Las Vegas, Nevada hosted the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES). During the show, over 2000 exhibitors ranging from giants like Microsoft and Google to little-known startups displayed their products in 1.6 million square feet of exhibition space. As a high-profile event for the technology industry, the CES attracts not only the biggest companies but big names as well. For example, Bill Gates gave the introductory address in which he announced Micro-

They're technology motherboards, not techno mother-broads:

Never has Las Vegas

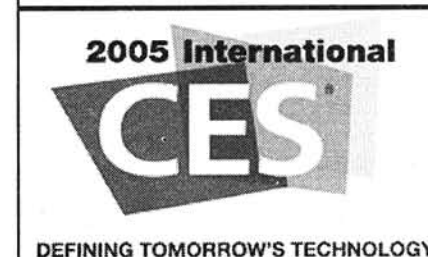
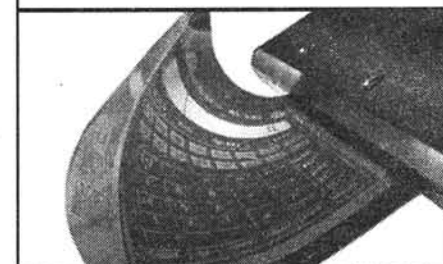
seen so much silicon(e)

soft's new operating system, Vista. Gates also announced a new Microsoft initiative to combat the growing popularity of Apple's iTunes: Urge, a partnership between Microsoft and MTV. Urge, like iTunes, will have over 2 million songs available for download but will also include features designed to make music buying a more personal experience such as the ability to view celebrities' playlists and thereby listen to the same music they enjoy.

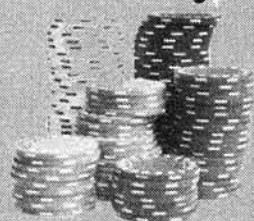
Software developments are not the only features of the CES. Many new gadgets debut there, such as Seiko's line of flexible-display watches and the Sky Scout, a handheld device that uses GPS to identify bright objects in the night sky.

One little-known but promising company that presented at the CES was E Ink, a company that develops electronic paper products. One interesting product they displayed at the CES was a memory

stick with a display indicating how full the memory stick is. As flash memory becomes more advanced, filling thumb drives is becoming more of a problem. A more pertinent development for most of us, however, is E Ink's electronic paper display technology. Using a minimal amount of power, E Ink's products are able to display black-and-white images such as text on a screen. Since the screen does not need to be backlit, a single device with only one battery could display as many as 7500 "pages" before the battery died. This technology has numerous applications for everyday use such as non-disposable newspapers and e-books. Since it is fairly inexpensive, small and portable, and requires little power, these devices could become widespread and common soon! Just think, in a few years, you might be reading AMP off an electronic paper display!



Lost all your money at the craps tables?



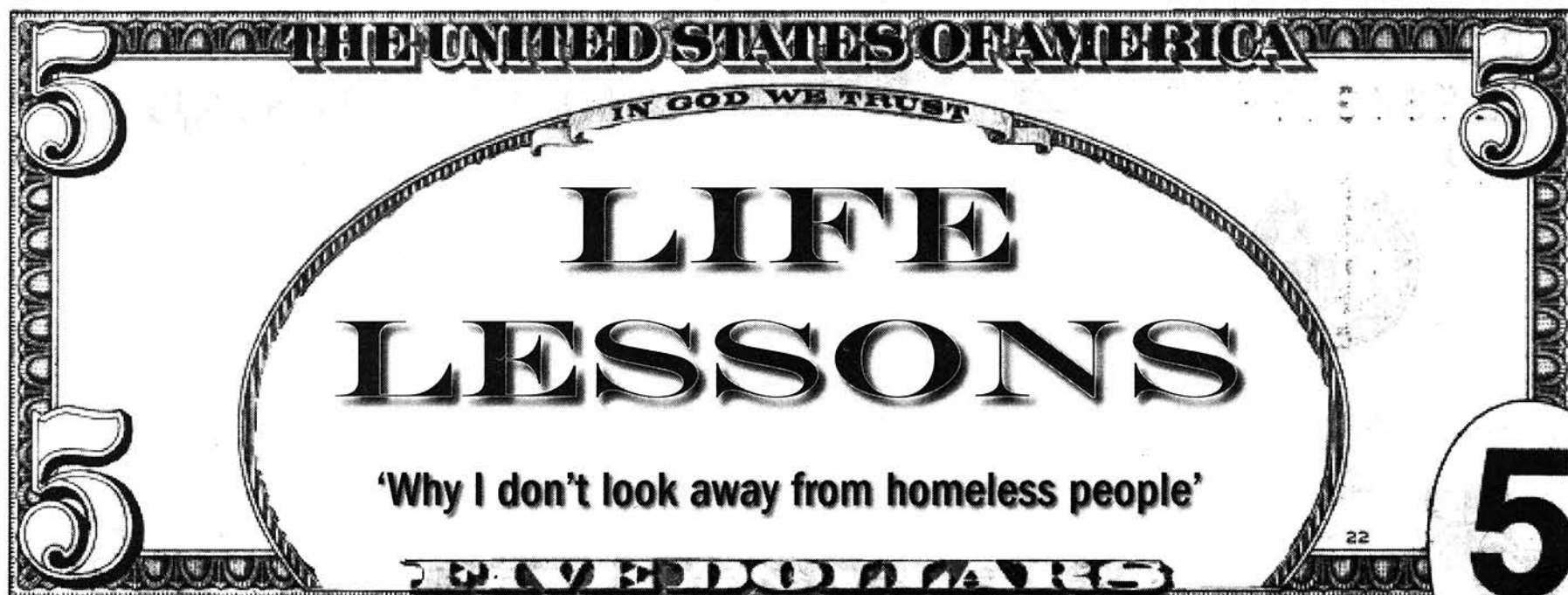
That's OK!



Money not required to join.

Have Opinions? Don't Hold-Em in! Print here.

AMP is betting big on YOU!



by Nicole Cabbad

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I've heard the mantra all my life; "Don't give money to a homeless person; they'll just spend it on alcohol or drugs." Usually this is said with much alacrity and with a slight hint of pretension. But what does this statement actually mean? Just because a man or woman has a chemical dependency that places them on the street, should they be left to die on that same corner? There are people with very severe dependencies who live in very nice houses. Likewise, I know there are dangerous criminals who live on the streets and peddle money that they then use to commit heinous acts against society. But this doesn't make it right to ignore every person standing the on side of the road with their hand outstretched.

I came to this conclusion back when I still lived in New York City. Not far from my house there was a man who often stood where the exit off the highway met the residential streets, holding out a cup. The first time I drove by I was with my mother and we rolled down the window. "Do you have a cigarette?" he asked me.

"Jesus Christ loves you!" was my response. I had just found my faith, and because I still didn't think it was right to give money I just shouted out my love...no bills included. His response was a stream of expletives and blasphemous remarking not worth repeating. "Well, never give money to homeless people," I thought.

But the next time we drove by, the window went down again. "Jesus Christ loves you!" I told him again but this time I added three dollars to punctuate the gesture. He

grumbled but took the money and stumbled away.

Whenever we saw this homeless man we would stop, give him a buck or two, tell him how much God loved him, and drive away. This continued until one night when we were stuck on the corner with a red light. "Jesus loves you," I said again, with the usual monetary punctuation.

This time the man turned to us, "You say Jesus loves me, but I want to know do you love me?" There was a slight pause in which I kept thinking to myself, "I definitely do not love this guy." I was still trying to formulate a good response when my mom, who was driving, quickly answered, "Yes I love you, and God loves you too!"

The man replied, "OK, I love you too, and I love Jesus!" What an incredible moment! Talk about a spiritual experience; I felt as though God Almighty was challenging me, "Is your talk cheap?" I was stunned by my mother's response. As we drove away, and I sunk down sheepishly into my seat, I had a realization: this world is about people, Jesus' message of love was about people, and if my message isn't about people — if I express an ideology of love but I myself don't love people — I've completely missed the point.

We kept seeing this homeless gentleman when we would come off the highway. We found out he wasn't just a "homeless man," he was Tom. We innocently asked Tom where he lived, and after giving us an incredulous look, he pointed to the side of the road and told us he lived under the overpass. All of these conversations happened during red lights after we exited the highway. He prayed with us and accepted the Jesus he had cursed the first time we met. We would give him the boxed leftovers from restaurant meals, and he took the food as enthusiastically as he did the money. Every time we stopped he said, "Hey I know you guys, thanks a lot you guys are really good to me, and I love Jesus."

I prayed for God to either get him off the streets or take him to heaven. One year before I came to Texas, Tom disappeared and I never saw him again. I hoped that ei-

ther he was in heaven out of his misery or cleaned up and off the streets. The first time I had talked to Tom I thought I was going to tell him about Christ's love. In fact, Christ used Tom to challenge me on my ideas about God's love.

This New Year's Eve I was driving to a restaurant for dinner and as I came off I-90 I saw a man peddling money on the street corner. I searched for change and since I only had a five-dollar bill, I passed it out the window and again got stuck on the corner with a red light.

"God bless you" I said, with sincerity. I looked at this man; his eyes were a bright sky blue but instead of healthy whites surrounding them, his eyes were completely blood-shot. He held out his hand, asking for mine. He gripped it tightly and said thank you. "Jesus loves you," I told him remembering Tom from NYC.

"Oh I know it, He is standing right there" he said as he pointed to where he had been standing at the side of the road, "I wouldn't have come this far without him."

"That's right," I said and I squeezed his hand back.

I went to dinner thinking about how faith can be found in unexpected places and I was reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 25: "for I was hungry and you gave Me food...inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these brethren, you did it to Me."

I give money to the homeless. What they do with it isn't my business; I can't just turn my head and ignore their outstretched palms. Just because they don't have homes doesn't mean they aren't people. Just because they made mistakes that landed them on the streets doesn't mean they don't deserve some change, criminals on death row get more than that through our tax dollars. I can't just ignore the plight of a fellow human being by saying they put themselves in that situation—because I just don't know every person's story. Had I followed the "turn and look away" theory of dealing with peddlers, I would have cheated myself out of a lesson—one that I will never forget for the rest of my life.

Texans' anger inflamed by WILDFIRES



by James Fickenscher

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Although many Texans have enjoyed the warm temperatures and "nice" weather that has continued throughout the holiday break, many can agree that the effects of overly dry weather have been anything but nice.

Since Christmas, grassfires in Texas alone have consumed over 250,000 acres of land, killed three residents, ravaged over 250 homes, and completely destroyed many communities across the state, including those of Cross Plains, Carbon, and Ringgold.

In Oklahoma over 411,000 acres have been scorched by fires, which have caused the loss of two lives and hundreds of homes as well.

Texas and Oklahoma are not the only states to have suffered due to these fires, but also the states of Colorado, New Mexico, and Arkansas.

Each of the individual blazes alone destroyed anywhere from 4,000 to 40,000 acres overnight, destroying the lives of

many Texans in the span of a few hours.

With dozens of such blazes, each up to five miles wide and many miles long, Texas governor Rick Perry declared a state disaster on December 30, 2005.

In New York and in California many were televised having a wonderful time on New Year's Eve, but many of the citizens of Texas spent the night in prayer, fear, and evacuation, worried that their homes, their communities, and their lives would be next on the fires' trail of devastation.

As horrible as the fires were, however, they still could have been much, much worse had it not been for immediate and effective action by firemen all over the state of Texas who took up arms against the horrific incendiary terrors.

And as tragic as it is to have lost three lives to the fires, due to prompt evacuations and quick action by the Texas Forest Service as well as local authorities, many lives were saved that could have been devoured by the flames.

Surely these fires were aided by drought, strong southeast winds, and heat, but could these fires have started themselves?

The answer, of course, is no. The grassfires that consumed much of Texas were started by carelessness and negligence. Who are the culprits then?

Over the holidays, especially New Year's, many people love to use fireworks, but when someone uses fireworks during a

drought with high heat and wind, things can turn from jubilant to deadly in an instant.

Is it any wonder why January 1, 2006 was one of the worst days of the fires?

On New Year's Eve illegal firework usage (illegal due to the fire ban) could have easily started some fires, as well as careless drivers who chose to litter by throwing their cigarette butts out the window instead of properly disposing of them.

The fire in Eastland county, which burned on New Year's Day, put the communities of Gorman, Desdemona, De Leon, Carbon (of what was still there) at risk, causing evacuation from Gorman and many other small communities across central Texas.

So although the weather indeed can be blamed for allowing these fires to spread and cause so much devastation, it cannot be said to have started them.

These fires were started due to human recklessness and inattention. This is a story of some minor littering and negligence to state requests gone horribly wrong.

Long before the fires ever started, government officials had enacted a fire ban throughout Texas to try and prevent such atrocities from occurring.

As always, human disobedience and heedlessness caused much pain and tragedy.

All in all, after hundreds of thousands

of acres are lost throughout Texas and many other states, hopefully we'll learn to pay attention a little better and be a little more careful.

Smoky the Bear is famous for his slogan "Only you can prevent forest fires", but this applies to all fires.

So the next time you choose to light up a cigarette or decide to have a little fun with fireworks, please do everyone a huge favor and do so responsibly.



patriotic image courtesy of Google

Think our opinions are a bit incendiary?

PREVENT THE MADNESS!

Submit your article to amodestproposal@gmail.com today!

Access is Power

A DC insider speaks out on congressional access



by Bobby Janecka

janecka@utdallas.edu

In Washington DC access is power. Landing your idea on the desk of a Senator or Congressman is exactly what every other person in the capital, let alone the country, is trying to do. The true question is how you, as a lowly constituent, can get a leg-up on everyone else. Of all the ways to contact your representative, by far the most overused and least effective is postal or electronic mail. While anything you stamp and mail to them will eventually get read by someone in their office, the sheer volume and low quality of the average constituent mail ensures that your message will at best get trivialized by the medium.

In order to respond to all of this mail, each member of congress employs a wide array of form letters providing their position on topics ranging from federal cancer research to the war on terror. Every letter or email is read by congressional staffers and given a completely personal response by selecting the appropriate form letter and sending it back to the constituent in question. Handwritten letters earn slightly more attention by staffers, but only because a remarkable number of special interest groups routinely barrage congressional offices with bulk mailings on specific bills or

concerns. If your letter is anything other than a stock postcard addressed "To Senator (blank line, filled in)" it will certainly stand out above the hundreds of others. Telephone calls run a close second to the efficacy of written correspondence. Unlike letters, however, constituents can phone in immediately to complain about the passage of a state bill or local ordinance rather than waiting for the Postal Service to deliver their grievances.

With each constituent that calls in, a staffer of the Senator or Congressman listens politely to what they have to say and promising to "share your comments with the Senator." This means they take a rough tally of what each comment pertains to, after a few days of which, the representative is given a list showing how many people called the office and for what reason.

Obviously, even the most articulate suggestion you might give your congressman is reduced to a mere checkmark when it's all said and done.

Reaching Congress by telephone or direct mail is obviously less effective when you consider that everyone else in the country has exactly the same idea, but these are certainly the most accessible venues open to the public.

Of course, if you really want to reach the ear of Congress, it takes considerably more work.

A slightly more time-consuming, albeit direct, approach is taking your opinions directly to your representatives in person. In fact, lobbyists cash in millions perfecting this approach, and it could certainly work for you. The only problem is, unless you live in Wyoming or Alaska, chances

are your Senator or Congressman doesn't give two ounces of crap about how you think they should do their job.

You can improve your chances at congressional face time by visiting Washington with a group of like-minded individuals. Several prominent businessman or a cub scout group are much more likely to at least get a picture or brief meeting with their Congressman than if you walk in alone with your camera and Birkenstocks.

Of course, that still doesn't mean your motives will get any more sway.

Most meetings with visitors to a Senatorial office consist of the staffer who is responsible for writing the form letters most closely related to the group fielding a few questions and, again, promising to "share your comments with the Senator." Your concerns will certainly get passed around in the office, but the meeting typically just aims to placate the visitors and accomplishes little else.

By far the most effective way to gain access and influence with your representatives in DC is through raw votes. The best way to a politician's heart is through his electorate, and the best way to hijack an electorate is still through good old-fashioned petition-making.

If you step into a politician's office with five wealthy friends, you represent great potential donor-power, but you still only translate into six eventual votes.

Special interest groups when most effective are made so by the sheer number of their members. By walking into someone's office with a list in hand of several hundred people who will vote for or against them depending on how they handle your

“ Reaching Congress by telephone or direct mail is obviously less effective when you consider that everyone else in the country has exactly the same idea. ”

pet issue, you can bet said issue will become a priority as election day nears.

This is by no means fool-proof. The voters must be local and critical to the politician's interests, and even then they might not choose to listen to reason. Organizations like the NRA, AARP, or NAACP hold iron sway over countless congressional districts precisely because their members dominate the percentage of the local electorate.

While this overview of political procedure may seem a little disheartening, things aren't as dismal as they seem. You find it near-impossible to easily influence your Congressman or Senator, but so does everyone else. Fortunately as long as your ideas aren't too crazy-far off the railroad tracks, chances are your elected officials will do most of what you want anyway, or than again they might not.

All you can really do then is vote them out of office in a few years...And that's what politics are really all about.

How intelligent is intelligent design?



by Ben Dower

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First we were confused by it. Then we made jokes about it, creating such popular icons as the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Eventually, we went to court over it and hoped that the whole ordeal was over. But now with Rick Perry voicing his support for its inclusion in Texas education, it is clear that the intelligent design controversy is here to stay.

Last semester I had the privilege of

attending a lecture given by Edward Larson, a Professor of American History at the University of Georgia and the author of the book *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*, winner of the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for History. In his talk, he discussed the complexity of the evolution debate from its early origins to present day. Although he failed to help me solidify my feelings on the subject, he did cast new light on the whole issue.

Dr. Larson asserted that the conflict between evolution and creationism is not scientific at all, but rather one of culture and religion. Traditionally, religion in America has restrained itself to answering the great unknowable questions: Why are we here? Where did we come from and where are we going?

On the same note, science primarily concerns itself with those questions that can be answered through empirical data. The problem occurs with evolution because it provides alternate answers to questions similar to those answered by religion: Where does life come from? How did the human race come to exist?

On the whole, people object to evolution for one of two reasons. First, they might object to Darwinism because it conflicts with their religion's literal account of man's creation. According to the Bible, God created Adam and Eve and the entire race spawned from those two individuals. Unless taken metaphorically, this story clearly contradicts the theory that man has evolved from other species over millions of years.

However there is another level of objection that receives far less attention. This is that Darwinian thought undercuts natural theology because it emphasizes random and cruel elements of the universe. Either life is loving and deliberate (such as in most Christian beliefs) or it is random and cruel (as Darwin indicated.) Thus, Darwinism attacks the most fundamental level of religion: that there is a purpose to the seemingly random events in life just as there is a purpose to human intelligence. The important thing isn't whether it took six days or thousands of years, it is whether it was deliberate or random.

Intelligent design is more concerned with this second level of objection. Darwin himself referred to the eye as "the antidote to atheism," admitting that he found it highly unlikely that such an intricate organ could have developed through random mutations. Some, although by no means all, intelligent design proponents such as Michael Behe, author of *Darwin's Black Box*, actually accept the common descent of species, including humans and other apes. Yet Behe still argues that life has "irreducible complexity" on a molecular level, and that this points to the deliberate actions of a higher power.

Unfortunately for the advocates of intelligent design, there is no scientific evidence to support their arguments. The definition of evidence means that it must extend beyond logical reasoning and personal opinions. Even major leaders of the movement such as George Gilder admit

The lowdown

Creationism: By a strict definition, any belief that holds that the universe, life, and human beings were all created through a Supreme Being's deliberate actions. However in conversational terms, it usually refers to the specific Christian belief in the literal Genesis account with God creating the Earth in six days and Adam and Eve as the first human beings.

Intelligent Design: More specific than Creationism, this belief holds that life is too complex to have evolved by chance. Advocates cite organs such as the eye as evidence of a higher power's deliberate action, asserting that such complex systems are too intricate and interdependent to have formed through random mutations. Rather than relying on scriptural support, this theory attempts to find logical evidence for divine intervention in the formation of life and origin of species.

Evolution: The idea first formulated by Charles Darwin states that new species are formed through random genetic mutations. These mutations, if beneficial, are passed onto subsequent generations resulting in an eventual change in the species or the formation of entirely new one. Applied to mankind, the theory states that human beings are descendents of apes.

that there is "no affirmative content in intelligent design." Sorry, Mr. Perry.

It is this writer's opinion, as well as the courts', that although it is beneficial to think critically about the issue and come at it from all sides, without anything specific to teach, intelligent design should stay out of the school system. I recognize his fear that the youth will lose their belief in God when confronted with theories that conflict with what they learn at church. But to the Governor, I have only one thing to say:

"Have a little faith."

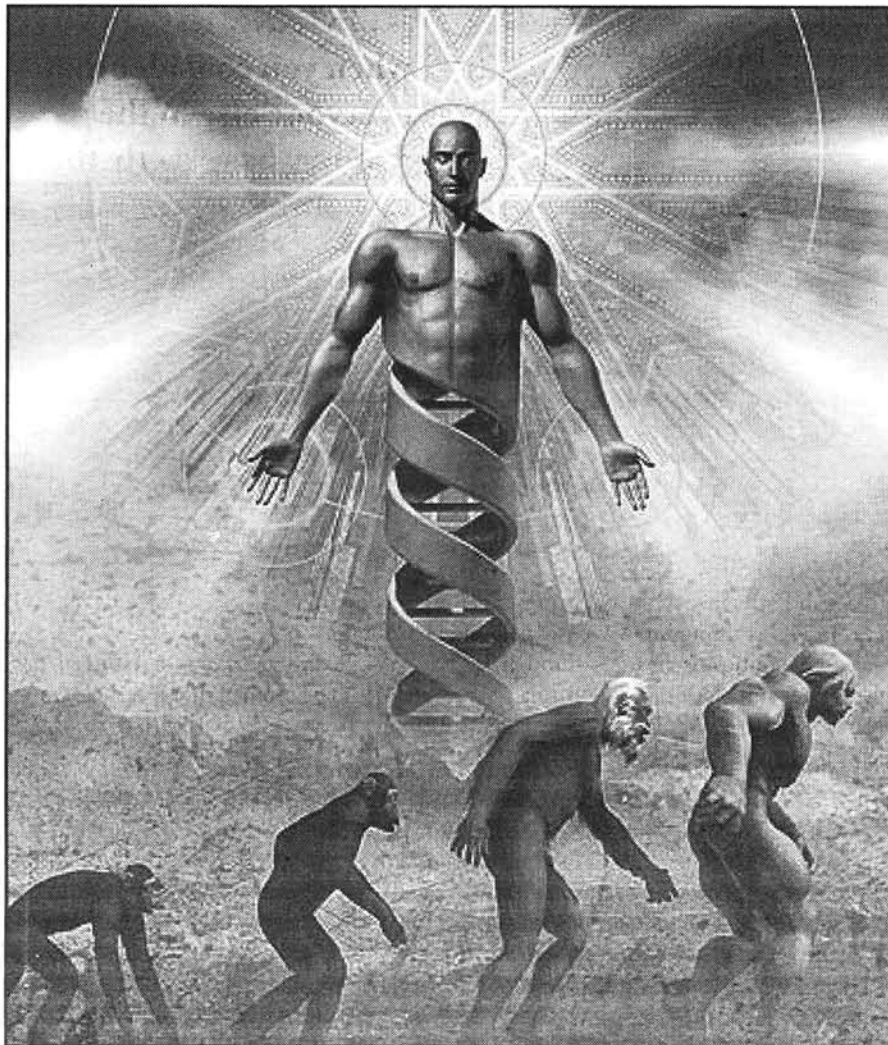


Illustration from *Of Pandas and People*, a textbook that espouses the theory of Intelligent Design

G O I N G P O S T A L A R O U N D A M E R I C A



by **Walter Voit**

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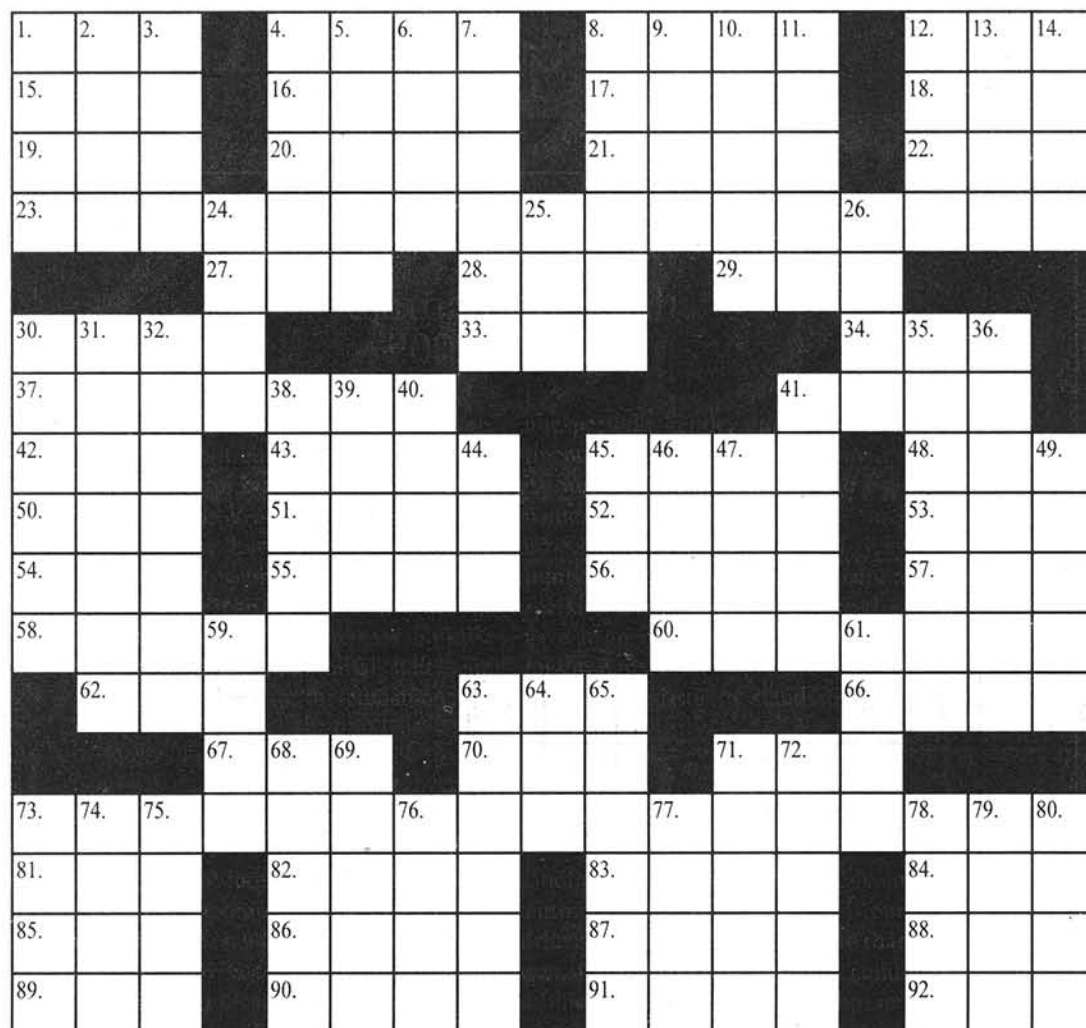
ACROSS

1. TIF or JPG post script alternative
4. Wail or cry softly
8. IHOP favorite in Seattle or Orlando
12. It is compact in Myrtle Beach
15. Decay
16. Derive pleasure from Trenton
17. Grid ____
18. Type of "51" near Tuscon
19. Drench in Juneau
20. Piece of jewelry worn around the collar or neck that is not Force times Distance
21. Gone with the Wind plantation
22. Auditory apparatus
23. Puzzle theme
27. ____ Lon milk: Ocarina of Time
28. VHF alternative
29. Mag-____ train
30. Cry the Beloved Country author, Alan ____ in Pittsburgh
33. Bog or Othello in Salem
34. They precede elses
37. Towed under a camper from Montpelier to the windy city
41. ____ vera
42. Kind of pole?
43. Nano or mini
45. Those from Tampa who play #17 across
48. Binary digit
50. Professional hoops org.
51. Immeasurable time period
52. "To me" in Nantes
53. Cell phone mssgs.
54. Manning or Whitney
55. Ten meter prefix
56. Placed fault in Lafayette and Bangor
57. Emacs newline char
58. Zellweger et. al
60. Muttering from Salt Lake to Raleigh
62. Frmr. Russian state
63. Dept. of War successor
66. One who says yes
67. ____ Flemming
70. Lemon refreshment

71. Movement suffix
73. Puzzle theme part 2
81. Parties from Atlanta to New Orleans
82. Indian princess
83. Little fish lined up in Indianapolis and Tempe?
84. Pertaining to a flaming wax-encased fiber strand in Madison and Louisville
85. ____ jet printer
86. Dodge surveillance in Indianapolis and Richmond
87. Retailer in Baltimore
88. Rest
89. Miniscule in Indianapolis
90. Storage facilities in Chicago
91. Super Nintendo (abbr.)
92. Luxurious automobile designation that is not GL or GLI

DOWN

1. ____-while: once
2. A Winnie
3. Venture or vampire killer in Anchorage
4. ____ resistance: took the easy path (2 wrds.)
5. Issue an injunction in Atlantic City
6. Beer before yeast is added or German word
7. Athenian gardens where Aristotle founded a school
8. Time (in Spokane) ____ no one (2 wrds.)
9. Campus Greek
10. Not faunal in Key West
11. Maternal
12. Challenges in Little Rock
13. Set missing "u" and sometimes "y"
14. Neck covering in Charleston
24. Forearm bone
25. Homerism after a concussion
26. Moral wrong
30. Companion or law firm associate in Harrisburg
31. Furniture pieces for dinner and a movie in Burlington
32. Confers holy orders on
35. Pedologist's B&W image in Waco
36. What precedes a period in Charlotte
38. Long narratives in Homeric tradition in Springfield
39. Fencing piece
40. Castle in chess
41. Step ____: "Move! Please."
44. Code of sorts
45. ____ el Mandeb: Red Sea straight
46. Two periods in German parts of Shreveport and Provo
47. UTD alum in Augusta
49. Organic compound related to an oxygen acid
59. Feminist Jong or AMP staffer Neiser in Oakland
61. Branching or projecting in Montgomery
63. Fops exhibiting elegance in Bismarck
64. Norse deity in South Bend
65. Removes rose-colored lipstick in Indianapolis?
68. Inactive fly boys (abbr.)
69. It's simply to ____ (2 wrds.): it doesn't work
71. Bad imitation of #43 across?
72. Proofreaders' marks
73. Way to walk in Athens (2 wrds.)
74. Skin pigments in Bangor, Monroe and Fort Wayne
75. Kind of business in Providence
76. Fix a mistake (Ctrl-Z)
77. Rower in Flagstaff and Frederick
78. Shrinking in fear in Denver and Milwaukee
79. Sticker in Dover
80. Internet telephony in Frankfurt





by Walter Voit

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1				5				9
				2	3			
4			7					3
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	9		2		4		6	7
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Sudoku

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3	2	8	7	1	5	6	9	4
5	4	1	9	6	8	2	7	3
9	6	7	4	3	2	1	8	5
7	5	9	6	2	1	3	4	8
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1	8	4	5	7	3	9	2	6

Last issue's answers

2	1	6	9	4	7	3	8	5
9	4	5	2	3	8	1	6	7
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8	6	2	3	7	1	4	5	9
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7	9	1	8	5	4	6	3	2
5	3	9	7	1	2	8	4	6
6	2	7	4	8	3	5	9	1
1	8	4	5	9	6	2	7	3



by Micheal Donaldson

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		7				5		8

Pictogrids

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example

[illegible]

Campus by Night



by Hannah Frank

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