

HARBINGER PRESS - Est. 2000 Vol. 1, No. 1 09.08.00-09.25.00

Online Journal

harper college



The Paper

9.18.2000. Volume 1, Issue 1.

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Note

We couldn't afford the full copyright (notice we are missing the cute little "c" with the circle around it), so, any unlawful reproduction of this material, as long as it happens during the week, is prohibited. Strictly, we think. As opposed to not strictly, which would mean that if we probably couldn't afford a seven day copyright, we probably couldn't afford legal action either. But we won't tell anyone that.

Armpit Karaoke

Copyright limitations do not extend to Jeff Lacdan, who appears, as himself, courtesy of Home Girl Publishers, since he already has full coverage for his book "The Zen of Armpit Karaoke," which sold twelve copies at the Our Lady on the Corner of Sixth and Harlem bake sale this past weekend. Copies of his book can be purchased at lacdan.com.

Fuzzy Animals

Any mishandling of small forest creatures during the filming of The Paper was done under the close supervision of OSHA. Any mishandling of small forest creatures by Jeff, was done on his own time, and

off of company property. Don't ask, don't tell.

Tom

Any references to minorities or majorities was done with the expressed written consent of Tom in Dubuque, Iowa.

Rotten Peaches

The producers of this film would like to throw shots out to the true heroes of this project, our families, whose years of defending our disorders as "fun for family get-togethers", and ignoring of our ticks even if they caused bodily harm to

bystanders, made it possible for us, the crew, save Jenny who seems the only ripe peach in the bushel, to prove once and for all that you should have committed us instead of enrolling us in college. The food is about the same, but here we don't have to use our fingers.

Is, Are, Was, Were

And finally, the makers of poor periodicals would like to thank Dann (that is not a typo, two n's) whose four forbidden words induced a week of expletive shouting on the set. A little warning next time, say you decide for journalistic sake to eliminate the letters A through G from our constitution. We kept track, and we're up to 342. Wait, that makes it 343, contractions count, too.

We hope they are not going to care if this is done in a way they were telling you was not appropriate. Oops, that is going to make it 347. I mean, 348. We're sorry, 349, that whole contraction thing again. This is tough, 350.

Waste of Space

This is just a reminder that The Paper is not responsible for time spent reading meaningless words that have been placed for filler, since something is better than nothing, or in this case, ironically, something is nothing, so if you were to think about it, nothing is nothing.

The Crew
A Craig Rot Film

A Jenny Geheb
Script

Rana Raeuchle
Cinematographer

Music by
Dan Kurash

Jeff Lacdan
Craft Service

Kevin Lorenc
Best Boy

Collin Souter
Key Grip

A
Dann Gire
Production

The Cast
Roshni Mudgal

Ken Geheb

Mike Cassacio

Tracey Fuller

Brian Samuelson

General Information

The Paper is supposed to be the student publication for the Harper College campus community, but is instead a secretly encrypted message coordinating the invasion of our solar system by the planet Zorg, tentatively scheduled for the third Sunday of next month, weather permitting. The Paper is distributed free to all students, faculty, and administration, except Dr. Breuder, who will not be allowed to have his own copy until he proves he can play well with others. The Paper's sole purpose is to provide as little information pertaining to anything relevant about the school, campus, or community.

Letters Policy

The Paper welcomes letters and emails to the editor as long as they meet certain criteria.

1. All must abide to MLA guidelines on proper punctuation and grammar. Books are available at the bookstore for the great everyday-low-price of \$79.99, or, there is a rumor circling about that someone is photocopying textbooks and charging half price, do they do stitch and trim?

2. All entries must refer to the staff as "All Mighty Lord of the Universe", and display a submissive tone that is appropriate for speaking to the future rulers of your world.

Any negative feedback will be met with harsh consequences.

3. All entries must be signed and include a DNA test that verifies your humanity. If one is not available, we will set up a screening with a doctor of our choosing.

4. We only accept cash, please do not send check or money orders. The system by which your economy is based will be destroyed the third Sunday of next month, weather permitting.

Advertising

Products and services advertised in The Paper are not necessarily endorsed by the rulers of Zorg,

unless said advertising incapacitates the reader and further insures the conquest of Earth.

The Paper

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Health Watch

By Char Padovani

Located in the Student and Administration Center, in room A362, Health and Psychological Services offers students free or low cost medical and psychological services. The health and psychological services team is committed to promoting the student's total health and well-being and assisting students with physical, social or emotional concerns that may effect their success in college.

Registered nurses and a nurse practitioner provide confidential medical services such as minor illness treatment, screenings, physical exams, immunizations, and women's health care such as gynecological exams and birth control.

Health educators and nurses

are also available to answer questions about health concerns or help students in making lifestyle changes. A variety of wellness programs are scheduled every semester. The staff psychologist and personal counselors assist students with brief therapy, evaluation and referrals. Psychological services are free of charge to students enrolled in six or more credit hours. For more information stop by our office or call 925-6268.

Time Management for Students

Come to "Managing Your Study Time" seminar on Tuesday, September 19, 12:15-1:30 p.m., A243 Student and Administration Center and learn how to sharpen study skills, organize assignments and plan

your time wisely. Strategies on reducing test anxiety will also be included.

Blood Drive

A+, A-, B+, aren't just winning exam grades. They are also blood types. Be a real winner-donate blood. Give blood at the Blood Drive on Wednesday, September 27, 9 am-3 p.m., Student and Administration Center, A243. Treats provided!

Cholesterol Month

September is National Cholesterol Education Month. In honor of the event Health and Psychological Services is offering cholesterol screening and information for students and staff. If you don't know what your cholesterol is or you are trying to lower it, take advantage of these

services:

Fasting Blood Cholesterol HDL, LDL, Screening (Available the whole month)

Call Health Service x6268 for an appointment. Fee is \$11.00

Cholesterol Awareness Education Table

Thursday, September 28, 11 am-1 p.m., Business and Social Science Lobby

Dietetic Technician students and Health Service staff will provide cholesterol literature, low-fat snacks and diet recommendations

Depression Seminar

On Wednesday, October 4, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Caryn Levington, Campus Psychologist, will present the program "Beating the Blues: Living With and Overcoming Depression", in A243, Student and Administration Building.

This seminar will assist you in understanding depression, help determine whether you or someone you know might be depressed and describe treatment options. A list of National Depression Screening sites will also be provided.

Therapeutic Chair Massage

Starting September 19, Harper College will be offering therapeutic chair massages on selected Tuesdays and Fridays. You can get either a 10-minute massage for \$10 or a 15-minute massage for \$15. To schedule an appointment stop in Health and Psychological Services, A362, Student and Administration Center or call 925-6268.

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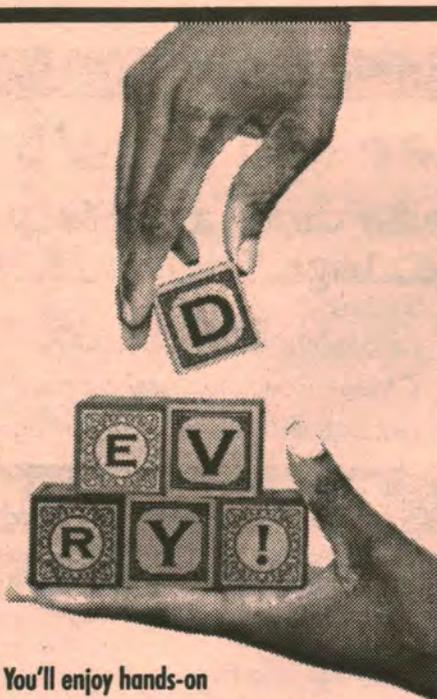
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Come and join the newest way of becoming more spiritually moved with your life to God. Everyone is welcomed; it's a fresh, new way of meeting people, getting involved, and, of course, having fun

We meet every Wednesday at 3 p.m. for Mass in Room A-243.

After Mass, we gather for a good time. For more info. call James Skyles or Marcos Lushpynskyj. Office Number (847) 925-6771

Volunteer Ops

A Doug Grier Column

Here is a listing of volunteer opportunities and upcoming special events in the NW suburbs for the September and October

HIVCO – HIV Coalition
HIVCO seeks to foster the health and well-being of the HIV-impacted population and raise the awareness of HIV/AIDS in the community. Services include a food pantry/delivery, education/prevention, testing, and a "buddy" program. Upcoming opportunities and events include:

Food Drive Helpers:
September 23 – Buffalo Grove Jewel

Fox Valley AIDS Walk
Saturday, Oct. 7 at Elgin Community College

Food Warehouse Workday
Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in Elk Grove. Sponsored by the Center for Service Learning at Harper.

Make a Difference Day
Saturday, October 28. Each year, volunteers from across the suburbs – and the country – gather on a Saturday in October to make a difference. Organizations need only to develop a project and sign-up. Local and national recognition for outstanding projects is possible from The Daily Herald and USA Weekend. The Center for

Service Learning can help your group or department develop a project.

Children's Advocacy Center

A healing place for abused children.

Upcoming events include:

Comedy Benefit
November

Little City
Provides services to children and adults with mental retardation and other developmental challenges.

SMILES Tag Days
October 5, 6, 7

Easter Seals
Volunteer opportunities include:

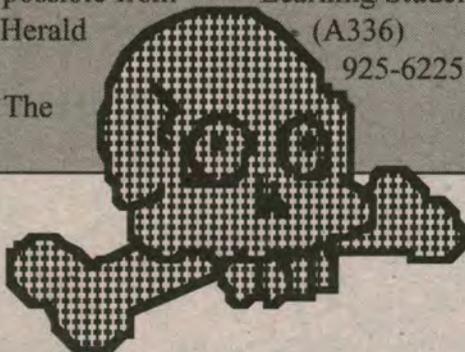
Aquatic therapy assistants
Gymnastics group assistants
Dance group assistants

Harper College

Blood Drive
September 27, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Student and Administration Center lobby

For more information concerning any of these volunteer opportunities or events contact Doug at the Center for Service Learning/Student Activities

(A336)
925-6225



Don't be a dead beat, just help out.

Ask The Doctor

A Char Padovani Column

Students can anonymously submit questions on wellness related topics by placing them in the marked box outside Health/Psychological Services Office in A362. Answers will appear in future issues of the Harbinger. All questions will be thoroughly researched and responses will be provided by health professionals and are not related to the Harbinger.

Q. I keep hearing all these scary stories on TV about meningitis. Can I get a shot for it?

A. Most of those news reports are about bacterial meningitis. Bacterial meningitis, though rare, is potentially a life threatening disease. Bacterial meningitis is an inflammation of the lin-

ing surrounding the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms of meningitis may include fever greater than 101 F, severe headache accompanied by mental changes, neck/back stiffness or rashes.

Anyone experiencing symptoms of bacterial meningitis needs immediate medical intervention. Early diagnosis and treatment is crucial. Bacterial meningitis kills about 300 people a year. Some preventive measures include staying away from crowded places when outbreaks of the disease are occurring, avoiding general close contact, not sharing utensils or eating/drinking from someone else's glass/food. Washing your hands frequently and keep-

ing your hands away from your nose and mouth can also help prevent you from getting infected.

Finally, you can get a vaccine for bacterial meningitis. Although it is not 100% effective in preventing the disease, this vaccine has shown to be 85% effective against four of the most common types of bacteria that cause the disease. The vaccine takes about two weeks to reach full protection. Anyone wanting more information about meningitis or the vaccine should stop by Health and Psychological Services, Student and Administration Center, A362 or call 925-6849.

Warehouse

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New senate hopes to remedy old problems

By Kevin Lorenc
Political Editor

Every year at Harper College the students elect the people they believe will represent them best. Every year a group of ambitious students from all different backgrounds goes out and tries to make a difference by running for these positions. In that respect nothing has changed, but as history will show, too much diversity and ambition makes for an ineffective senate. Take last year's student senate, which was the most diverse senate ever, mixing all backgrounds of race, sex, and social status.

Each person in last year's senate had their own agenda, each person was out to serve a select group of people, and in the end nothing was accomplished. With a President who was absent more than the rest of the senate combined, and even when present at the meetings was a weak leader who did nothing to contribute any direction, order, or semblance of responsibility, the

senate was a joke at best and in the end had accomplished none of the goals set.

While it's easy to lay all the blame on Desmond Lane, who was the previous president, the blame should be spread out to include each member of the senate including myself. While other college senates such as

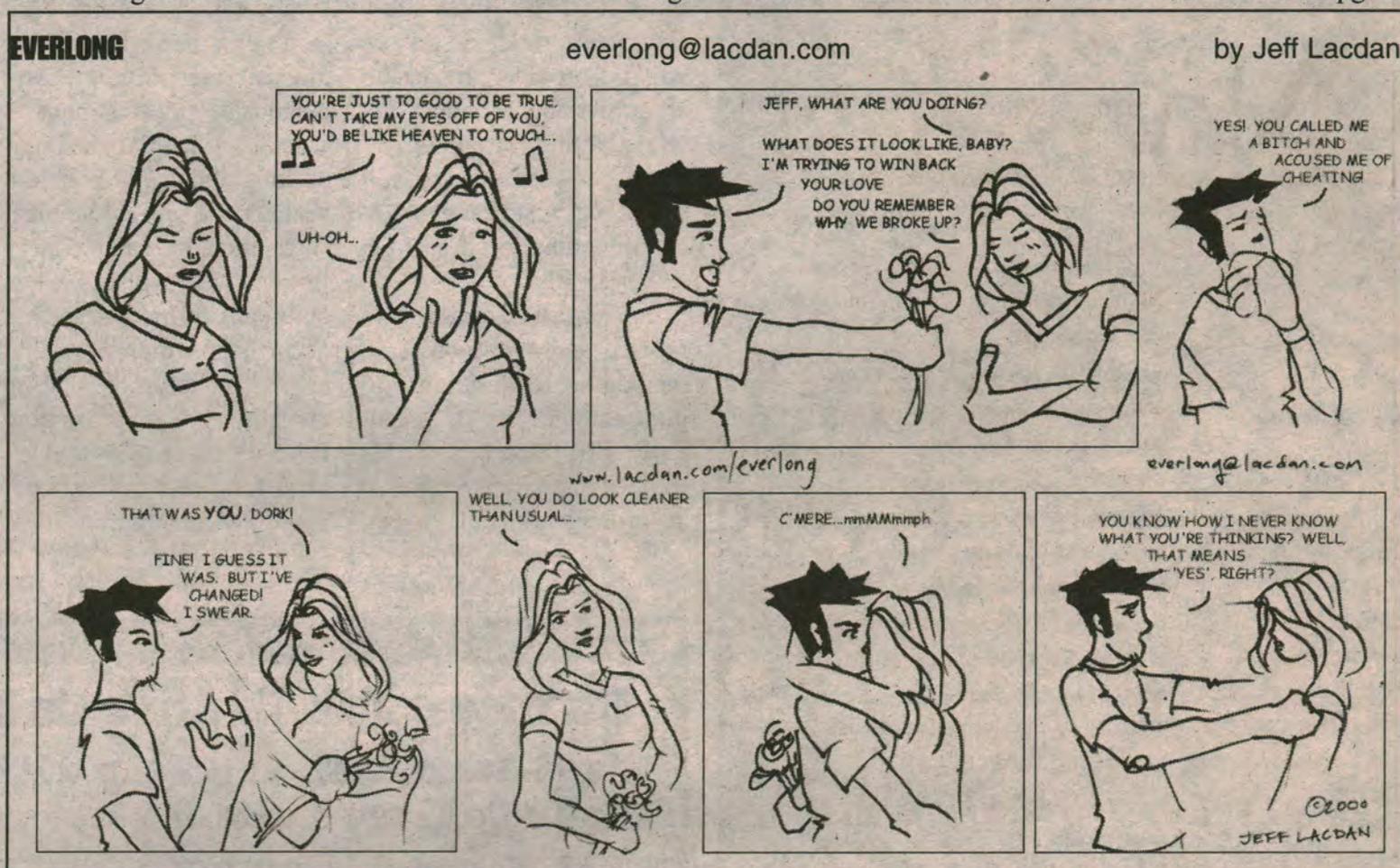
College of Dupage's senate was able to unite the student activities to assume the responsibility of distributing the over \$250,000 they have in student activity moneys, we at Harper played around with our \$10,000 dollar budget and did nothing to prove we could handle more.

Now while the average

student at Harper might not care about the senate, they would if they stopped and thought about it. The student activity fee is spent by the senate, that money is spent on the organizations that you the students participate in, and not to mention the elected leaders, the President and the Trustee,

have their tuition reimbursed at our expense for the work they do. Things such as picture id's, voter registration, more money for clubs and organization, and teacher evaluations for student use, all were part of last year's agenda, and not one of those was accomplished.

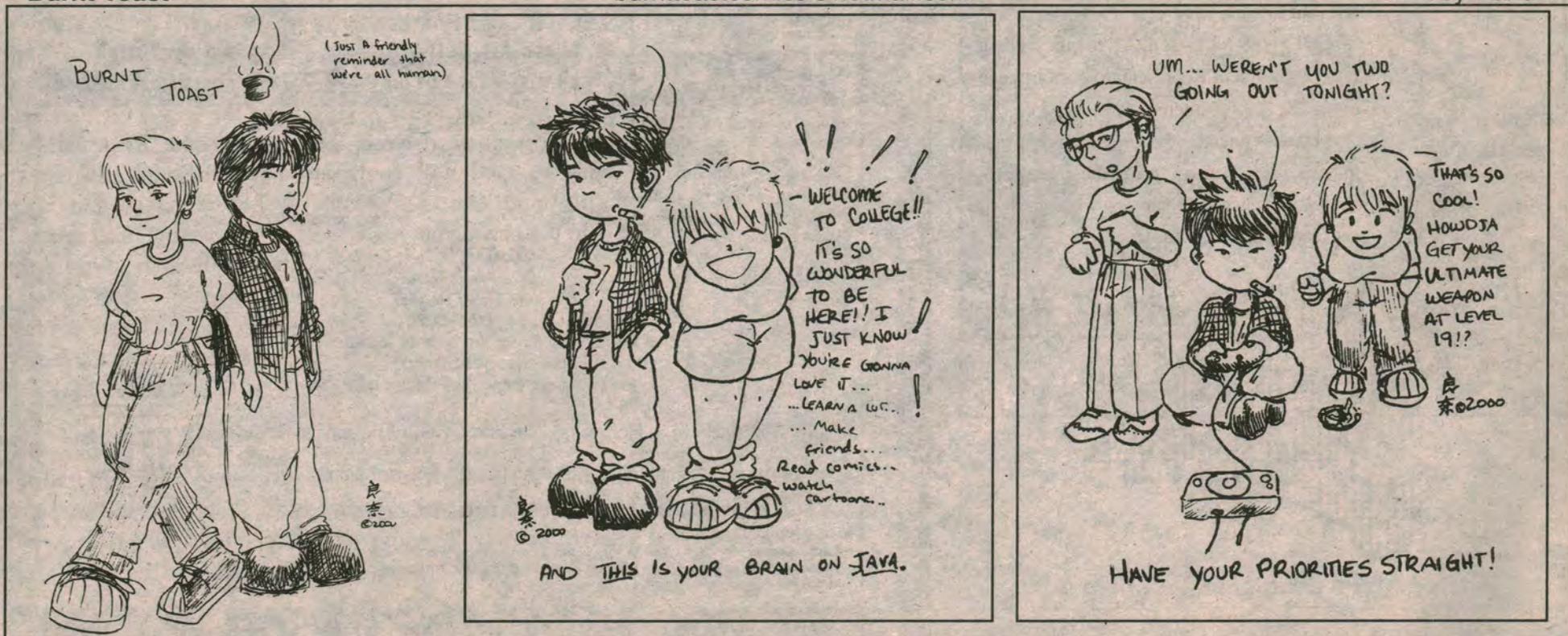
continued on pg. 13



Burnt Toast

burnttoastcomics@hotmail.com

by Rana



Where is music going?

By Dan Kurash
Music Editor

Music reveals a sense of unified cohesiveness to all listeners. People's musical

tastes belong to them; leaving no feeling of right, wrong, good or bad. What some may like, others may hate. Music has bold opinions on both ends of the

spectrum which seems as different as night from day. Presently, musical realms aim at infinite possibilities. It seems hard to pinpoint all the strengths and weakness-

es within each individual type of music.

I've always looked for music to directly connect to me in a way where I feel the music through me, referring to the emotional state a song can put on a person's feelings. It might sound a little stupid and absurd, but music serves no purpose other than making people feel good, or should I say; exemplifying the current state of one's emotions. I think there are many artists that are portrayed as money-greedy entertainers with no passion for their work.

This may not always be the case. Pop music today undeniably belongs to the teen idols. With such artists as Britney Spears, N'Sync, and Christina Aguilera, the public eye focuses not only on their music, but also on their dancing abilities, and their American youth sex appeal. Whether or not you enjoy their music, it will be around for some time to come.

Other artists like Eminem and Snoop Doggy Dogg have helped create a backbone for the rap and hip-hop scene. Their liberating brand of music promotes a sense of self-empowerment in the face of hopelessness and oppression. This style of music defined the nineties, and will continue affecting the music industry into the new century.

But the music industry works in circles. While one style remains on top, there always will be several others waiting to climb the mountain to the top and overthrow it. We saw this trend in the early eighties while Billy Idol and Michael Jackson were on top. It wasn't long before heavy metal was making a drastic breakthrough. Suddenly in the

mid- to- late eighties, poodle-haired musicians with a raw and edgy look quickly grabbed the media spotlight. Metallica and Van Halen received huge followings, only to see the wheel turn again, this time for grunge rock. Nirvana and The Red Hot Chili Peppers, to name a couple, were on the move. In addition, the Smashing Pumpkins, whom have survived the wheel of the corporate music business, altered rock in their own way using new musical ideas like the octave guitar tone to create a unique sound.

Currently, mainstream music, which gets large, national attention, seems less powerful than before. But, as performers, these teen role models like Spears and the Backstreet Boys work their asses off. New Kids on the Block, a pitiful point in music history, if you ask me, went through similar situations. These performers have many hidden pressures to deal with. At the very least, I think we should respect them for that, and not condemn them for not writing their own music. Celebrity stardom must be a giant mountain to climb. Musically though, I can't wait for the return of rock like the way it once existed. It will come. Rock will have a rebirth soon. Just remember, it will take some time.

The simple fact seems to be, as listeners, you either enjoy it or you don't. So, open your ears and let music take you away. I ask you-where is the musical industry going? Will it a) be geared for total profit, or b) continue in the rich tradition of emotional appeal? Let's hope for option b.

Continued on pg. 13

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What is college?

Roshni Mudgal, Journalism

Entering college after working for some time can be more challenging for students who come to the United States to study. I completed my high school and college degree in India. I received a scholarship to attend college in the United States and although some of my family members discouraged me, I made the decision to come anyway.

The first thing that I had to get used to was the language. Though the official medium of instruction is English, it is basically British English. I had to struggle to understand the American English as well as the accent.

It took me some time to adjust to the fact that I had to actually decide, with the help of a counselor, on what courses I had to take for a particular semester. This was difficult because in India, for every year in college there were courses listed to be taken and everyone in that year had to take them. Also, with the many different courses to choose from, I had a difficult time choosing what to take. But, I have come to realize that this type of system in the U.S. works as it allows students to study the subjects they most enjoy instead of thrusting them into subjects they do not like.

The American way of teaching is more informal than the method of instruction back home. The instructors are very helpful and approachable. I had to take time to get used to calling my professors by name. Even the way the exams are conducted and the grading

system are totally different. Thus, it is pretty overwhelming to adjust to every aspect of college life.

People say that education is more than the classroom. It is expanding one's horizons by experiencing a different region or by trying a different atmosphere. I totally agree with that. College is the only place where you can meet people from all different nations and races and learn about their respective cultures.

College is not and should not be insulated from the problems of the world. College encourages and trains people of all ages who are sensitive to the crucial problems and who have the kind of minds and the kind of inspirations to address them fearlessly and directly. This is the goal of college and the standard by which it should be judged.

Education is an effective tool for bringing together students with differing ideas, backgrounds, and cultures at a time in their lives when their minds are open and receptive. The system in the U.S. promotes international understanding and solidarity. Through study and community service, college focuses on varied issues of world concern from racial equity to rural social programs, adding academic structure to the culture of peace that the schools promote.

College also offers the opportunity to cultivate, in and out of college premises, cultural and recreational aptitudes and tastes that will provide continuing satisfaction in college and beyond.

Believing that a liberally educated person is one who fulfills social responsibilities, college in its curriculum and in its processes of governance raises explicitly and implicitly the basic issues of what constitutes constructive citizenship.

As an ardent, sincere and hardworking student, I shall endeavor and put in my best to make my study and

life more meaningful. I have the opportunity to study Journalism under the guidance of the highly qualified teaching staff of William Rainey Harper College. I am confident that college will not only help me achieve my goals, but also make me a responsible citizen and an understanding human being. I shall have beneficial interaction with

different women and men with varied cultures, traditions, religious backgrounds, faiths, habits, behaviors, economic situations, and political systems. All of this makes possible a belief that I believe will not only augment my study of Journalism in true perspective, also will give my inner self immense pleasure and satisfaction.

Ken Geheb, History

I am a returning student. The last time I attended Harper was in 1975. I graduated from Fremd High School in 1975. I came to Harper because my friends came here for their first two years of college. Back then, I didn't know what I wanted to do, but it became apparent rather quickly that I didn't belong in college. The thought of doing four years of college seemed like an eternity. I ended up joining the Marine Corps and staying for 20 years.

20 years of Marine Corps life can take a toll on your body. I am 44 with few skills for a job that don't require manual labor. For me, college symbolizes the beginning of a new journey, the start of a new dream, and the road to a new career. College gives me the unique opportunity to learn and experience many new things. Except this time, I know what I want to do. I am grateful for that fact alone because not knowing what career or educational goal to pursue can be its own nightmare.

My first class made an unforgettable imprint on my psyche. I have done some pretty heinous things during my time in the military, but that first class, let's just say I'm happy that I can call it a memory. I know that I am not alone in my sentiment about the first day.

What has helped me the most right from the beginning are the staff members and counselors here at Harper. They played an instrumental role in scheduling, advising, and helping me to select the best path for my education. I have also taken advantage of the Academic Enrichment Program that Harper has to offer. Being out of school for 26 years, my academic skills can definitely use some fine-tuning. At my age, I know my strengths and I work hard on my weaknesses.

In the Marine Corps, I attended my share of military schools, but I like Harper's hours better. I like the uniforms at Harper, too. The girls look great in them (I'm sorry to see summer go so soon).

I don't feel out of place with my age because most of the Marines I worked with joined the Corps fresh out of high school. For me, the transition has been natural. Now, I have the freedom to be whatever I want and do it any way I see fit. If I don't want to take a particular course, I don't have to. If I want to change this or that, I am given alternatives. It may seem like "no big deal" to someone else. For me, college has opened up a completely new world full of choices and possibilities.

I love being in charge of my own destiny and making the decisions that will determine my future.

Sometimes, I have flashbacks like I'm not really here. I have a sinking feeling this could be age related. So, if you see a fellow student walking in a straight line without a clarinet or tuba in his arms and a serious look on his face, it might just be one of us returning students drunk with the elixir of this thing called college.

We asked this question of various students around campus.
We found all different backgrounds and different views.

Michael Casaccio, WHCM

Every morning I wake up wondering what is going to happen next in my little world of higher education. Twenty-one might be considered a late start, but better than never, right? My first intention was to major in computer information systems. I tried out a class and didn't like it. The teacher didn't seem to care if anyone learned anything from the course and the class was catering to the corporate side of life. I sat down and thought about where I wanted to go from here.

Eventually, I ended up working full time and going to school full time. I joined WHCM, the radio station here at Harper. Just like my

heroes, Johnny B and Mancow (before he went to Q101), I started trouble in the radio station and got thrown out. I took more classes to fill my spare time.

In the fall of 1999, the funniest thing happened, I got a key role in the play, "An Italian Straw Hat". It was exciting, even though I was also carrying a fifteen hour credit load. I was also starting to develop "The Stoned Ranger", and learning, through my classes, how to produce a TV show.

Then WHCM asked me to come back. I have been

getting lots of exposure ever since and because of it, have been hooking up with more people in the broadcasting industry. The tricky thing for me was staying focused

on my classes. It was tough. I sometimes feel that Harper is a little

like high school and because of that, it's tough to concentrate on the important things. In the end, I prevailed and earned my associate's degree. Now, I am the music director of WHCM and working towards my bachelor's degree in broadcasting. Life is more hectic

than ever and, unlike three years

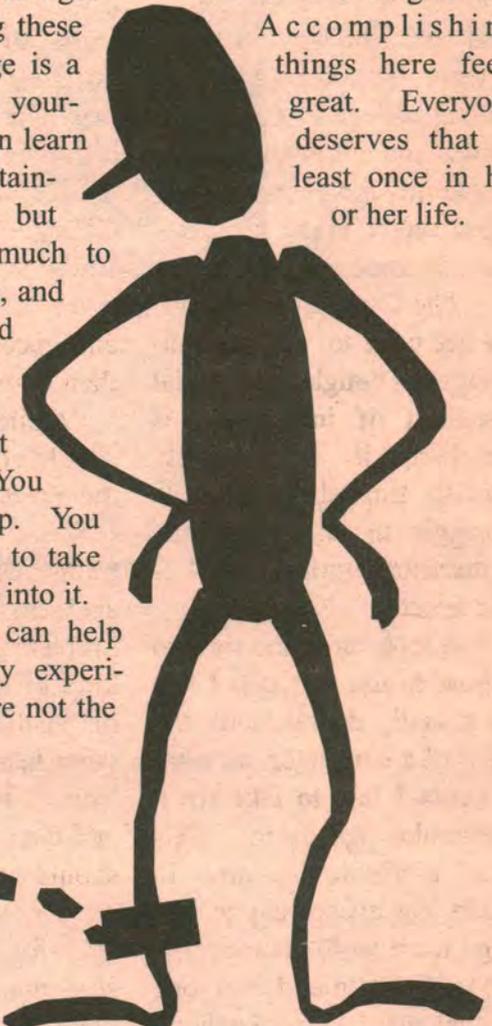
ago, I feel like I have a future. I would have to say college is a time to ask yourself how far you might be willing to go to so succeed. Or, how deep will you be willing to bury yourself with responsibilities that seem impossible? You get a rush overcoming these challenges. College is a chance to express yourself. Sure, you can learn lots of things pertaining to education, but there is just as much to learn about people, and how the real world works. You learn reality.

College isn't for everyone. You can't just show up. You have to be willing to take risks and put work into it. Knowing all this can help you succeed. My experiences in college are not the

same as others. However, the process might not be that much different. You have to go through hell to get to heaven. My trip through hell is not over yet. I am ready to keep pushing until I feel that I have reached the level of success that I want. Don't get discouraged.

Accomplishing things here feels great. Everyone deserves that at least once in his or her life.

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ago, I feel like I have a future.

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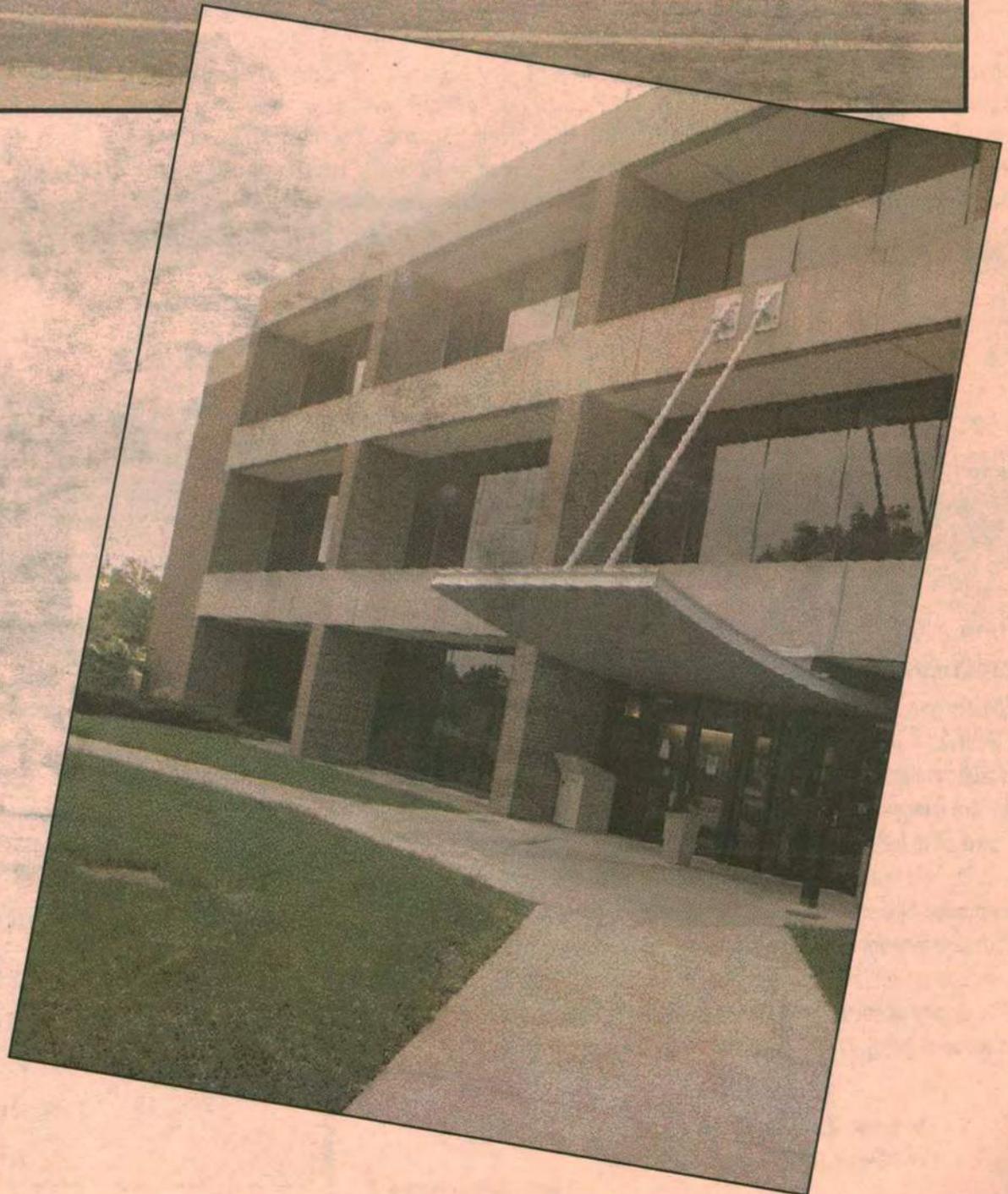
However, the process might not be that much different. You have to go through hell to get to heaven. My trip



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Blue Print

Craig Rot, Journalism

Remove the books, professors, and students from college and all you have is a campus. Separating the mechanisms of learning from the buildings it resides in, we need to see that college will never be more than what we offer, and never less than what we do not. Think of it as a vending machine of knowledge; for every coin you put into it, you get something out, except in this case, the currency is your time and effort.

Harper's campus dwellings have become a halfway house for humans in transition, also known as students, while they search for inner truth and outer potential. Providing walls for protection and roofs for shelter, these buildings have the same purpose as many other corporate and institutional campuses in the area, but just like the others, the buildings and grounds are unable to provide the tools or resources for learning.

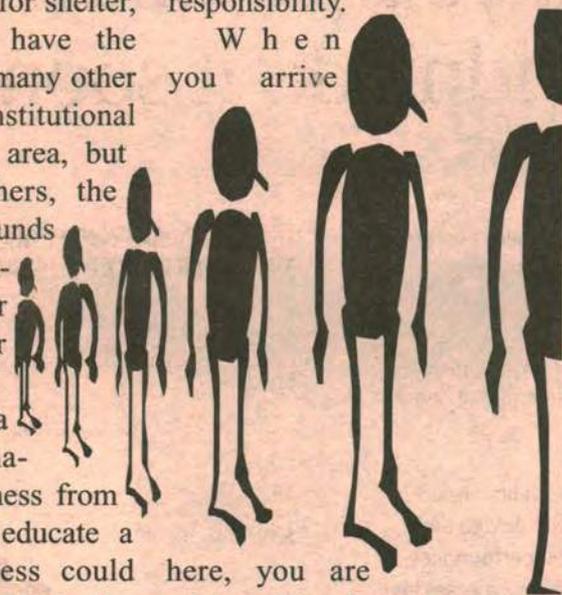
It takes a teacher, information, and willingness from the recipient to educate a mind. This process could happen on a blanket in the woods, or in the backseat of a car, just as well as it does here.

College today seems out of focus, it has become more of a degree factory than a time to expand understanding and promote awareness one student at a time. The design of Harper's campus, as well as others, only alludes to the conception of the assembly line, relegating fields of study or areas of interest to certain halls and buildings. The goal of learning no longer seems high,

just more precise, and a hell of a lot more anonymous. Understandably, students feel separated from the process, apart from their education.

Glimpsing back at the drawing boards of the campus, we can see a time when we were once part of the plan. The same drawings that sold the idea of Harper as a campus to the community, also showed students, drawn without faces or genders, and we should look to these to understand that we are a work in progress. As part of Harper from the beginning, each of us should claim one of these figures for our own, and realize that what ever we make of it will be our responsibility.

When you arrive



here, you are reborn. You have no age, race, gender, or orientation. No position in life, or stature. No beginning or end. You are a silhouette of what you could be, taken directly from the plans for college slightly resembling human form, or possibly a tree that fell victim to the Asian Long Horned Beetle.

You could be a student. An administrator. A secretary. A counselor. A coach. The pencil has been handed over to you to create. Draw wisely and draw well.

You have become Eve, or

Adam, come to be in a garden of possibilities without snakes or forbidden trees. Without boundaries, your only limitations are will and desire. The fruit is ripe, its tastes many. Enjoy this time, but don'twaste it.

For some, you will leave a little older, your silhouette no different than it was when

“the currency (to learn) is your time and effort”

you arrived. For others, the image on paper will change, but it won't resemble who you are. For both, college will come and go, one simply unwilling to realize, and the other, for whatever reasons, too afraid to accept.

Those of you that use this time to create your

image can see the potential for fulfillment, and are aware of the possibility of attaining it. Seeing the power of self-invention, you explore your horizons by whatever means you see fit. You live life, dream big, and never take a moment for granted.

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Student senate contd. from pg. 6

While at the same time they spent their budget to go to a leadership conference where more partying was done than learning.

So with all of this history, and the senate following the same formula this year with an incredibly diverse group of leaders, why should the Harper student show optimism that things will change. Well there are two reasons, although both unproven, they do show promise. The first reason to hope for more out of the senate this year is that we have a

new Student Trustee who has her act together, and knows how to get her job done. Tracy Fisher has so far lit a fire under the activities office. Harper College recently took part in a student exchange program through the Sister Cities Corporation, bringing in five students from southern France. Tracy put together a complete itinerary for two days, setting up special events and experiences that best fit each individuals interests, and even set up having all five students take

place in a football practice. Her plans for the future include the Harper Senate moderating a debate between state legislators. Tracy is the lead member of senate in trying to get Project Vote Smart going, which registers students so they can vote. She has been a voice in the Board of Trustee meetings, voicing

strong concerns in the master plans.

The second reason to have some hope is that James Skyles, the newly elected president, takes his job serious and has a real passion to improve Harper. Having been in the senate previously, he has experience and is a proven strong leader. He is a polished

speaker and an easy man to get along with.

With all of this in mind, the Senate is going to have to establish themselves to the school and demonstrate that they mean business. Its going to be a difficult process, but this year might prove to be one of the best ones for the Harper College Student Senate.

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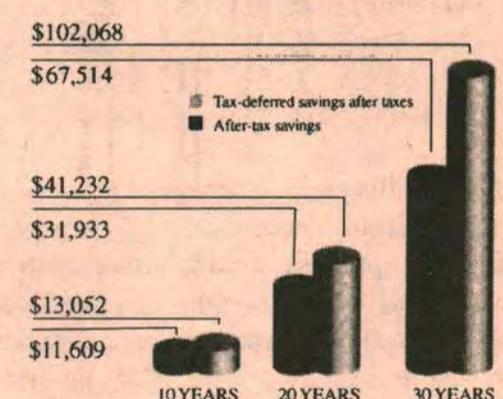
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Big money summer

By Collin Souter
A&E Editor

Bad movies have been making money for decades and it will never stop. Every summer, we get pummeled with media-hype polo mallets that leave severe indentations on our consciousness until we can't say no anymore. Okay, fine. I'll go see "Mission: Impossible 2," but you really didn't have to make one. Really, that's okay.

It seems as though Hollywood expects us all to see these movies and report the following Monday to our God-like water coolers and carry on a conversation about them. Those who don't go don't get to talk about it. Thus, they become outcasts, derelicts of society, Communists, the enemy. Okay, maybe not that dramatic, but have you ever heard someone say, "Boy they should really make a sequel to The Nutty Professor, and if they did, I would be first in line"?

Probably not. But we go anyway because Hollywood won't let us see anything else. Oh, sure, we could go the alternative route and check out the big Independent films of the summer, but then we wouldn't be cool, would we?

So, now that the Blockbuster summer season has finished, let's take a look at the films that, if you saw them opening weekend, made you part of the in-crowd.

1. MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 2: ELECTRIC BOOGALOO (\$213.8 MILLION) Didn't see it, which means that I have to turn in my Voter's Registration Card. I have also been summoned by the House of Un-

American Activities to defend and justify my actions (or lack thereof). John Woo directed this film, which means that every other shot has been filmed in slow motion. Tom Cruise takes an artistic step backwards after showing his best work ever in the films "Jerry Maguire," "Eyes Wide Shut" and "Magnolia." Let's hope he stays away from "Top Gun 2," "Cocktail 2," and "Losin' It 2."

2. GLADIATOR (\$183.6 MILLION) Again, I didn't see it, but I'm actually ashamed to admit that. I always love looking at a Ridley Scott film, even if the film itself leaves me disappointed ("White Squall," "Legend," and "Black Rain" to name a few). Russell Crowe has grabbed my full attention after his star-making performances in "The Insider" and "L.A. Confidential," so I am looking forward to seeing it, but I'll probably wait for the DVD, as they look and sound a thousand times better than anything at a dollar-house.

3. THE PERFECT STORM (\$177.8 MILLION) Okay, yes, I did see this film! Can I join your little club now? Sorry, but I can't believe we got suckered into watching yet another big-budget watershed about a boat that sinks at the end. Even though I found it hard to have sympathy for these characters who actually decide to row themselves into the center of a hurricane, and even though James Horner's score jumped out of the speakers and pulled at my heartstrings so hard until I had tears coming out of every orifice, I still found myself on the edge of my seat through

most of it. Yeah, the movie may be a bit corny, but it sure beats the heck out of anything by Jan DeBont, Roland Emmerlich or Michael Bay. (Okay, not as good as "The Rock," but certainly better than "Armageddon")

4. X-MEN (153.3 MILLION) I honestly thought this would end up being this year's "The Avengers," but I must admit I had a fun time watching this one. Yes, the dialogue has little punch and the story doesn't get very deep into its subject, but the action and comic book atmosphere keep the movie entertaining and, let's face it, do we really want a movie like this to get heavy-handed? After all, we know what happens when comic book movies take themselves too seriously (see "Batman" series).

5. SCARY MOVIE (\$149.3 MILLION) Why parody a parody? Yes, as strange as it may seem, many people, myself included, consider the "Scream" trilogy a parody. To me, this seemed like doing a parody of "Mars Attacks!" or "The Cable Guy," two movies that, like "Scream," satire a particular genre so that you can't take the next "serious" film in the given genre seriously. So, why parody a parody? I don't know, but everybody went anyway despite bad reviews. The sequel has been on the fast-track to production since this film hit the \$100 million-plus mark, so we can look forward to next year's smash hit "Scary Movie 2," no doubt a parody of "Scream 2." Can't wait.

6. WHAT LIES BENEATH (\$141.6 MILLION) A movie about a college professor who slept

with a co-ed. Now, the co-ed comes back from the dead to haunt Michelle Pfeiffer. Whoops! I gave away the ending! So did every poster, billboard and ad-banner across the country. No matter. The movie turned out to have more cliches than an English phrase book. Many thought of this as Robert Zemeckis' ode to Hitchcock, but it turned out to be an homage to DePalma and every "Fatal Attraction" wannabe. Oh my god, he's not really dead! Oh my god, he's in the truck! Oh, it was just the dog making that noise! Who cares? Scare me.

7. DINOSAUR (\$135.6 MILLION) Awesome visual splendor, a sweeping score, a sense of wonderment, the feeling of being transported to another world, dazzling effects and imagery and impeccable visual story-

telling of the highest order...for the first ten minutes anyway. Once the characters started talking, all the magic ceased as the writers and directors went the way of the cutes! We basically got the same plot as "The Land Before Time," but without the emotional lift or the tough life lessons of death and destruction. This should have been this year's "Toy Story" or "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?," a ground-breaker, but the dull storyline kept it from becoming a classic. Maybe next time.

8. BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE (\$116.2 MILLION) I'm trying to picture every screening of this film populated with kids under the age of 15. I can't think of any other reason this movie made that kind of money.

Continued on pg. 16

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Almost Famous, almost perfect

By Collin Souter
A&E Editor

A few minutes into Cameron Crowe's *Almost Famous*, a young boy in 1973 opens a gift from his sister, a collection of classic vinyl rock and roll albums. He thumbs through them and finds The Who's "Tommy," Led Zeppelin II, and "The Jimmi Hendrix Experience," must-haves for any serious music collector. His view of the world changes from that moment on, and it reminded me of when I first heard The Beatles' "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," way back in 1977. I can't recall a movie ever capturing

the magic of that moment the way this film did.

In fact, I can count the number of movies on my left hand that made me feel the way this film did throughout its entire 120 minutes. Nothing feels false or forced in Crowe's film. Every sentiment has been earned and every pay-off comes out of left field. I don't care if this sounds overly sentimental, but the movie filled my heart with the kind of joy I felt the first time I fell in love. How many movies can you say that about?

The story sounds like one of those too-good-to-be-true Hollywood fairy tales, but Crowe himself lived much of this film. It tells the

story of a child prodigy named William Miller, a rock music devotee who knows more about rock music at 14 than Greg Kot or Jim Derogotis knows right now. After winning the attention of the infamous rock critic Lester Bangs, young William embarks on an assignment from Bangs to do a story on Black Sabbath for *Creem* magazine. Instead, William ends up meeting the opening act, Stillwater—a cross between Led Zeppelin, Bad Company and Allman brothers Band—and ends up breaking the cardinal rule of rock journalism: Never become friends with the band.

William's article grabs the attention of *Rolling Stone* magazine. They recruit William after one phone call to cover the entire Stillwater tour. Now, most mistaken identity movies have that one unbelievable turning point in the first act where the writers and filmmakers try and force you to believe that the person being lied to believes the lie. It rarely works, but here, in one of the film's funniest scenes, it works, and so we believe everything else thereafter.

William's odyssey with the band takes him where most other coming of age movies go—first love, loss of virginity, the first questioning of one's values—but here every scene feels like an event, and every event feels truthful. No scene in this film exists as merely a transitional scene. Crowe doesn't cut until he has either made you laugh, cry, think or reminisce about your own coming of age, or what song moves you.

The movie also has a lot of heartbreak. William not only falls in love with being associated with an up-and-coming rock band, he also falls in love with one of its most prominent groupies (sorry, Band-aids), Penny Lane, played by Kate Hudson, a girl who may or may not be William's age. In one of the film's most bewitching moments, Penny moves her hands through William's hair, casts him under her spell for a few seconds, smiles deeply and says: "Now, you're mysterious!" What guy at that age wouldn't fall in love with that? If only she and the lead guitarist, Russell (Billy Crudup), didn't have a thing together.

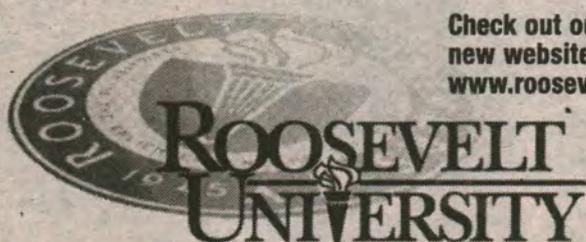
The cast couldn't be better. Billy Crudup, himself an up-and-comer, keeps us guessing about his character. We always think we know where Russell will end up, as we watch his ego get too big for his britches, his self-indulgent drug abuse and his fights with the band. Yet, we can tell he possesses the ability to redeem himself at any given moment, and we root for him to do so. Kate Hudson plays the troubled and beautiful Penny Lane so convincingly that we actually believe the improbable conclusion her character comes to at the end. Had Phillip Seymour Hoffman received more screen time as the all-knowing all-seeing Lester Bangs, he would be a sure bet for an Oscar nomination. On the other hand, Frances McDormand could garner another nomination for her portrayal as William's mother, the kind of mother we would love to have, but would also fear the most. She refuses to end a phone call with her son without saying, "I love you. Don't do drugs!" However, the award for Discovery of the Year should go to Patrick Fugit, who plays William. His performance puts him in the same league as Dustin Hoffman in *The Graduate* and Bud Cort in *Harold and Maude*. A little stoic, yet charming. Right in his element, yet in over his head.

I'm always picky about how filmmakers use music in their movies, especially nowadays where we have compilation rock soundtracks that have nothing to do with the movie itself. (Beware any CD that says "Music from or Inspired by...") But Crowe, like
Continued on pg. 16

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Music from pg. 15

Martin Scorsese and Paul Thomas Anderson, knows exactly how to do it. One beautiful moment occurs after Stillwater learns that their new manager will show them how to make more money and be better businessmen, rather than just better artists. The scene serves to illustrate when rock stopped being an art and started being a product

of big business. Crowe cuts from that scene to a shot of Penny Lane dancing by herself in a ballroom to Cat Stevens' "The Wind."

Last year turned out to be a great year for concert films (Radiohead's hypnotic Meeting People Is Easy, Jonathan Demme's Robyn Hitchcock opus Storefront Hitchcock, the re-release of Demme's Talking Heads

masterpiece Stop Making Sense and Wim Wenders' The Buena Vista Social Club), and this year turns out to be a great year for music enthusiasts. Almost Famous, oddly enough, came out the same week as the re-released mockumentary This Is Spinal Tap and the video release of the other valentine to vinyl, High Fidelity, starring John

Cusack. Go see Almost Famous, then rent High Fidelity. One could argue that had William never toured with Stillwater, he might have turned out like Cusack's lovesick character. Both films beautifully illustrate the important role music plays in our personal lives.

We all have a song we connect with. We all have a band we would love to meet.

And we all have a first love, or first crush, who opened us up to the greater possibilities of life. And for some of us, that first love turned out to be a record album...on vinyl.

Note: Cameron Crowe recently announced that a 2 hour 50 minute cut of "Almost Famous" will be available on the DVD edition.

Movies from pg. 14

Has Martin Lawrence ever been funny? Did our collective American consciousness feel a deep need for another undercover-cop comedy? An undercover-cop-in-drag comedy? Didn't Robin Williams and Eddie Murphy already cover this territory in "Mrs. Doubtfire" and "The Nutty Professor?" Am I missing something? I don't suppose this would be another parody of a parody, would it?

9. THE NUTTY PROFESSOR 2: THE KLUMPS (\$115.4 MILLION) After Martin Lawrence and Eddie Murphy teamed up together in last year's Best Make-up Oscar nominee "Life," both felt the need to go their separate ways and, coincidentally, don a few more layers of fatty tissue in order to be funny. Eddie Murphy takes the funniest scene from the first film and stretches it to a full-feature. I haven't seen this yet, so I'll try to go easy on it. I hear Eddie Murphy's performance surpasses that of Michael Keaton's similarly acted "Multiplicity," which I did enjoy. Sure, I give the guy credit for playing five characters throughout an entire movie, but from what I hear, it may as well have been one big fart joke stretched out to a full-feature.

10. THE PATRIOT (\$111.8 MILLION) Oh, I hate to get started on everything horribly wrong with this film. After his teenage son has been killed by the vaguely European baddie, Mel Gibson puts his two youngest kids on the front line by giving them guns and sending them into the forest to do battle while his two youngest daughters stand right next to their burning house and wait for them to come back. And it goes on like that for two and half hours. Oh, and how does Mel feel about his murdered son?

"I miss him."

Other great lines of dialogue include: "When this war is over, things will change."

"Be careful out there. Shoot twice"

"Before this war is over, I'm going to kill you."

And how can we take a movie seriously that uses that clichéd and often-parodied slow motion shot of the hero running and screaming "Nooooooooo?" I feel like doing that every time I see someone buying a ticket for this loser.

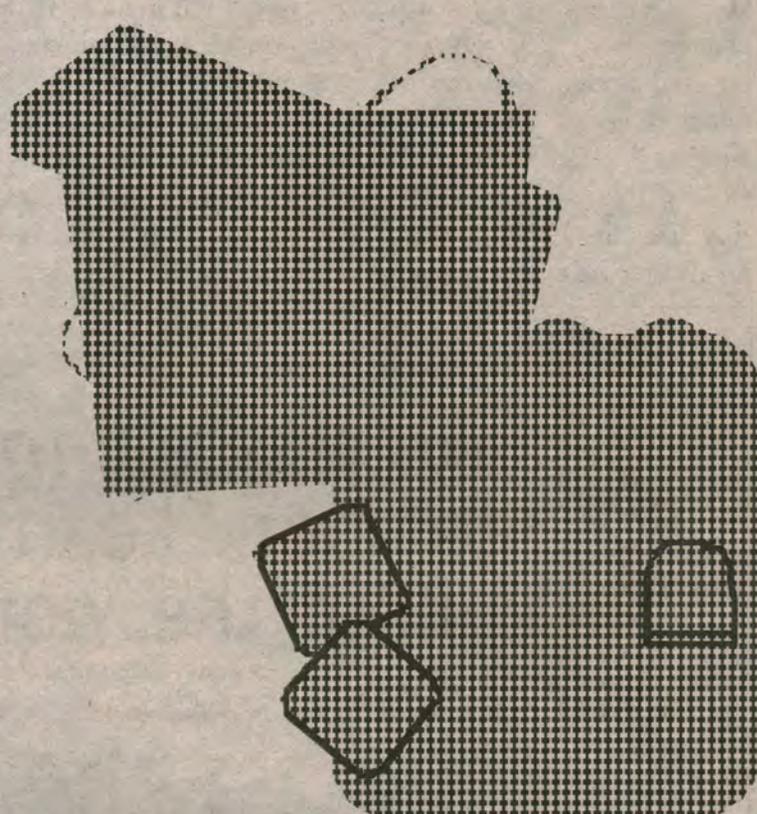
So, there you have it, the top 10 highest grossing movies of the summer, the talk of the town, the hype of

the Heights, the busters of blocks. Meanwhile, the saving grace of the summer, the best movie so far this year, "Chicken Run," comes in at number 11 with \$104.2 million. Almost as tragic, the best buddy comedy in a long time, "Shanghai Noon," didn't even make the top 20.

I suppose we should count our blessings that films such as "Coyote Ugly," "Bless the Child," "The Replacements," "Disney's The Kid," and "Hollow Man" did not sucker in that many innocent people.

However, I looked at the box office earnings for the weekend of 9/8 through 9/10 and couldn't help but notice we have now arrived in hell by way of a handbasket. Somehow, American audiences felt intrigued enough to put more money in Keanu Reeves' pockets so they could watch him be a serial killer. "The Watcher" opened with bad reviews, bad publicity (even Keanu doesn't like it) and, well, a bad product to show. Yet, they still went. This kind of thing makes me weep like an Apache Native American at a McDonald's drive-thru.

Yes, bad movies have been making money for decades, and, no, it will never stop.



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Joan Osbourne /Park West
High on Fire/Double Door
Barenaked Ladies, Guster/Uic
Pavillion
Vigilantes of Love, Barbara
Zulu Kono, Har Mar Superstar/Empty
Bottle
Omar Faruk Tekbilek, Chico
Cesar/Hothouse
The All Rectangle/Lyon's Den
Chris Lee, Rudy Day/Hideout

Sept. 25

Naftule's Dream with
Hedningarna/Empty Bottle
Wimme & Sivan Perwar/Hothouse
Jonatha Brooke/Schubas

Sept. 26

Lucy Kaplanasky, Josh Ritter /Schubas
The Gloria Record, The Frames/Metro
Sugarman Three/Empty Bottle
The Bangles/House of Blues
Adam Randolph's Moving Pictures,
Tony Vacca/Hothouse
Wendy Morgan's Local Vocal
Brew/Lyon's Den
Spread, Strange Friends/Elbo Room

Sept. 27

Jurassic 5, Dilated Peoples/Vic
Trans Am, Don Caballero/Metro
Bucky Dent, Oh My God/Schubas
Backyard Variety Show,
Bash, Trading Brains/Lyon's Den
Elastica/Park West
Tim McNara/Empty Bottle
Ras Kelly, Indika/Wild Hare
The Frames, Brendan Harvey/Hideout
Kick the Cat, Amazing Head
Gear/Elbo Room

Sept. 28

Richard Buckner/Schubas
Promise Ring, Burning Airlines/Metro
Mike Watt, Fireband Band/Double
Door
Tumbler, Throtterod /Empty Bottle
Dangerville/Betty's Blue Star Lounge
Lila Downs, Savina/Hothouse
Dave and Rae/Joe's
Sentidos Opuestos/House of Blues
Fourplay/Vic
Matapat, Mono Blanco/Hideout
Zelee, U&I/Wild Hare
Steepwater Band/Elbo Room

Sept. 29

Dar Williams/Vic
Hank Williams III/Martyr's
Carrie Newcomer Band/Schubas
Tortoise, Antietam/Metro
St. Etienne, Judybats/House of Blues
Patricia Barber/Park West
Amon Tobin, DJ Badawai/Metro
Los De Abajo, Conifo Double/Double
Door
El Vez, Iggy Yoakem/Empty Bottle
The Famous Brothers/Lyon's Den
Michelangelo/Joe's
Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire/Hideout
Old #8's, Cedar Case/Subterranean
Baaro, Melaku/Wild Hare
Pinch, Jennifer Peterson/Elbo Room

Sept. 30

Kiss, Skid Row/New World Music
Theater
The Sea and Cake, Isotope 217/Metro
Hank Williams III,
Jennyanykind/Schubas
Los Del Abajo, Sgt. Garcia/Double
Door
Trevor Watts/Empty bottle
Nass Marrakech, Trevor
Watts/Hothouse
Wofa, Comifo/Hothouse
Blue Lit Souls, Becky
Hemingway/Lyon's Den
Swinging Love Hammers/Joe's
La Ley/House of Blues
Taffetas/Rialto Square
Djambi/Wild Hare
Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire, Leroy
Bach/Hideout
Multi-Vitamins, URT/Elbo Room

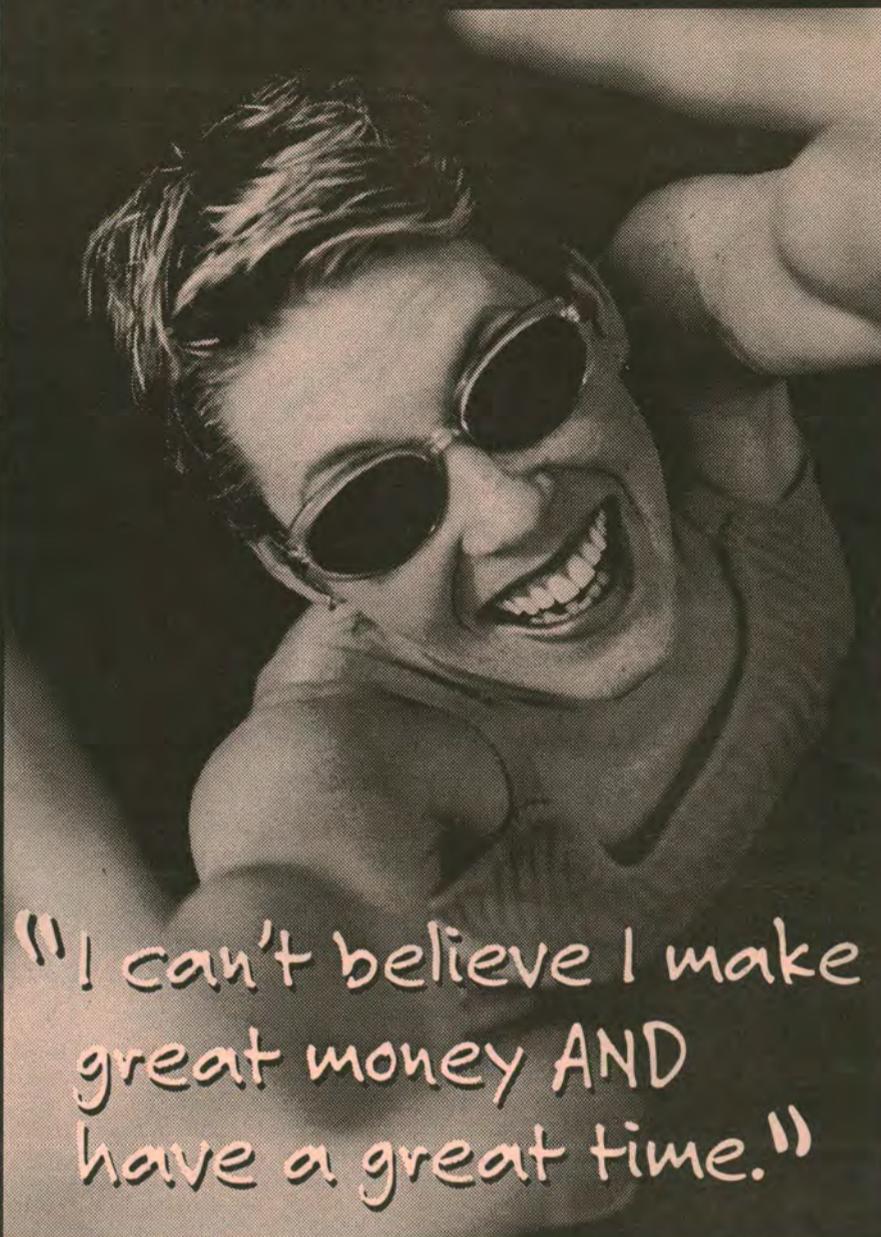
Oct. 01

Jets to Brazil, Joan of Arc/Metro
The Blacks/Hideout
The Grifters, The Blacks/Empty bottle
Kottonmouth Kings, Corporate
Avenger/House of Blues
Bobby Conn, Sgt. Garcia/Hothouse
Elvis: The Concer/Rosemont Theatre
Aashish Khan, Swapan Chaudhuri/Old
Town School of Folk Music

Oct. 02

Hanson/Chicago Theatre
Deadbolts, The Forty- Fives/Empty
Bottle
Fuel/House of Blues

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Concerts in the Quad: Ruben Fasthorse

By Jenny Geheb
News Editor

Native American performers Reuben and Ash Fast Horse will present Native American songs and traditional dances on the quad Wednesday. Their performance is free and open to the public. The duo will also share their knowledge of native culture and lifestyle.

Reuben, self-taught in music since the age of 22, is a native of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation,

which spans across areas of North and South Dakota. He began performing as a way to connect himself with his native heritage and to enrich his knowledge of his own culture.

"I kept waiting for the old shamanistic man to show up and teach me traditional ways," he said, "but he never showed up so I decided to learn on my own."

Reuben's wife, Ash, was born in Germany but raised in Australia, so she claims both German and Lakota roots.

Reuben said that he thinks of this as a wonderful example of multi-cultural awareness and understanding. He met his future wife while on tour with another prominent Native American performer, Kevin Locke.

Ash, already an accomplished dancer, and Reuben discovered they made a powerful team.

Reuben advocates the promotion of understanding through education.

"Six out of every ten Americans have a native heritage," Reuben said, and he thinks it is important for

people to become acquainted with native culture.

During their visit, Reuben and Ash will also address some of the stereotypes that people have about Native Americans.

"People often think that Native Americans have lots of money because of casinos when in actuality this isn't true at all," he said.

Reuben hopes to promote a sense of unity through the performance. He refers to the people who live on this continent as "New Native Americans" and thinks that one day, people will accept

responsibility to take care of the Earth and each other.

"We are all part of a tribe, that being the Homo Sapiens tribe," he said.

The couple will be performing at over thirty colleges and universities this year all across America. Reuben and Ash, although they have a home on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in South Dakota, spend much of the year travelling and performing at events like the one at Harper.

Preview Review

Ash and Reuben Fast Horse gave a stunning performance in the Student and Administration Center Wednesday, September 20th. The performance was originally scheduled to be in the Quad, but was moved indoors due to rainy weather.

Reuben and Ash shared their knowledge of native culture, dance, and language. Reuben and Ash wove their knowledge of traditional culture along with a strong sense of showmanship to deliver a strong performance that drew the audience in and made them feel part of the experience.

At one point in the performance, Reuben sang a Native American rendition of "Scooby Doo" to demonstrate how native singers use vocal sounds called vocables in their songs. The crowd loved it.

Reuben dressed in traditional Indian attire including buckskin leggings, beaded moccasins, and hair braided in the traditional fashion. Reuben performed traditional native dances including the Buffalo Dance and the Eagle Dance. In between the dances, he served in the role of educator by teaching the audience what the dances meant and what significance they had to Indian people.

Ash Fast Horse assisted her husband with costume changes as well as performing traditional Indian woman's dance. She presented herself in a stunning traditional buckskin dress with her long black hair wrapped in fur. She sang with her husband during the opening songs and she impressed the crowd early in the performance with her ability to do what is known as trilling.

Unlike the stereotypes

that many people have of Native Americans being unapproachable, Reuben and Ash were warm, interesting, funny at times, and extremely personable. The duo makes excellent spokespeople for Natives around the world. Their message of unity through education was well received at Harper.

Students and faculty alike attended the performance in number and seemed mesmerized by the couple. Reuben and Ash ended the performance with a Native American prayer in which Reuben spoke aloud in English and Ash translated into sign language for the crowd.

For those that attended, the show proved to be an enriching and fun experience that ended much too soon.



Where are they now?: Music Television

By Dan Kurash
Music Editor

What has happened to MTV? Have the executives become delusional? I'm

beginning to think so. I can't bear to watch that station anymore.

The simple definition of MTV should be thought of as "Music Television".

Viewers need dog ears, or a telescope to search for this "so called" music. The impact of the station has been diluted over and over again.

There once was a day when you looked forward to seeing the "top twenty countdown" or a set of videos that played for the exposure of the artist rather than filler time until the next talk show. Those days are gone. There are so many mind-numbing, amazingly moronic game shows and specials on MTV that I don't know what their angle can or should be. There are the always famous spring break specials that are the exact same every year. You know the situation: a DJ, same songs, dancers who can't dance, and commercials, commercials, commercials. The only difference from year to year appears to be which tropical destination has that year's show.

Monotone. Cue-card puppets that hold a microphone to an audience who act to look happy. Fakeness implies irony. Most of the audience, for let's say "TRL", seem happy to simply be on TV, even though watching Carson Daly reading from a screen bores them immensely. They need a new staff. People who wouldn't be afraid to bid farewell to shows like "Say What?" Karaoke, or "Loveline". Who are those two fellas on the couch, and how the hell does what they say relate to music television? Or what about "The Real World" and "Road Rules"? I won't even venture into the lunacy behind the reasons to put those shows on. Money? Real life people filmed in real life situations. Have you ever seen houses like that?

Matt Pinkfield, a true music connoisseur, does and should remain with the station. His enthusiasm for music gives me reason to even bother to watch. Pinkfield's trivial knowledge of all types of music and

bands amazes me. He should write a book, and in the meantime talk to the producers to take aim at sticking a giant band-aid on the content offered on MTV.

If they could go back to regular music video programs, then I think ratings would inflate. The reason teens and kids watch rests heavily on the notion that everyone watches. I know that as long as ratings are good, nothing will change. Conformity may be an excuse to watch, even if the anchors and shows are dry, but shouldn't be a good enough reason to allow these antics to continue. Some anchors do have talent, but no heart. They need more energy. Again, it must be a stressful job, catering to pre-teen hormones and juvenile angst, so I will try to respect them for that.

The next time MTV broadcasts, remember that MTV originally intended to unveil new and standing music videos. In fact, form a general census of the actual amount of music videos that are on. I bet the percentage seems extremely low. Too low to even keep a straight face. Then again, MTV equals an entertainment. And all in all, it serves the purpose to keep people tuned. At least, change the name or put MTV2 on the air more. Oh well, the Internet can provide anyone with ample information on most musical acts out there. Tune in or tune out. The choice will be yours.

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