



The Anchor

Free access to ideas and full freedom of expression.

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Few informed of plans to renew President Nazarian's contract

by Daniel Aznavorian
 NEWS EDITOR
 &
 Linda E. Curtin
 EXECUTIVE EDITOR

On Thursday, December 17, the Rhode Island Board of Governors will hold a public meeting at 5:00 p.m. in Whipple Hall, room 102, to approve the renewal of President Nazarian's contract. The Agenda for Thursday's meeting calls for the vote to take place under item 10 as part of New Business.

The BOG sent letters, requesting input on Dr. Nazarian's job performance as President, to those considered to be key people on or about November 23. Chris Williamson, President of SCG, was one of those who received a letter.

"They only asked for my personal views, not for my views as the President of SCG," stated Williamson when referring to the letter and the type of action he has taken on it.

Williamson did consult the Executive Board of Parliament on the issue, asking them for their opinions. The members of Parliament, however, was not informed of the letter, nor were they asked for their opinions.

"We did not feel that the rest of the Parliament members were acquainted with Nazarian's administration to make the decision," stated Bill Ebeling, Vice President of SCG. "Because Parliament dealt with Nazarian primarily in the Athletic Fee controversy, they would have a jaundiced view of his administration."

When notified about the decision by the Executive Board to poll only those who had worked with Nazarian personally, some members of Parliament were highly disappointed that the above statement was even made. Those members felt that since their job is to represent the student voice on campus, they should have been informed and thereby given the opportunity to voice their concerns.

Peggy Sandoval, former SCG Secretary said, "It was disappointing that the Executive Board (of SCG) did not bring this contract renewal to our attention. We would have liked an opportunity to express our opinion. I was on the Executive Board, and I am still active in Parliament,

and I do have an opinion, and I have worked with Nazarian before."

When asked how she felt about the fact that an assumption was made that unless someone has worked with the President directly, they do not have a valid perspective from which to judge his work, Ms. Sandoval said, "First of all, whether or not I've worked with him directly is not the point. As a student, I am effected by his decisions and I would want to have a say."

On Friday, December 11, Chris Williamson stated, "The deadline to respond in writing was last Friday (December 4), and I am going to call Frank Caprio (BOG member) now." It was unclear at that point whether or not his verbal recommendations were going to be allowed into record, as no written response was ever actually submitted by the Executive Board.

Anchor staff members discussed the contract renewal with several faculty members as well, none of those questioned had been informed about the issue. When an attempt was made to ask Dr. Jason Blank, President of the Faculty Union and Assistant Professor of Sociology, whether or not he had shared this information with his constituents, he responded abruptly with, "My letter to the BOG was done in full confidence, and I will not break that confidence."

Brian Allen, President of RIC Staff Association and Director of the Campus Center, stated that he did share his letter with the 18 members of the RICSA Executive Board, and that he thought the decision to do so was left to the individual who received the letter. Regarding their discussions, and his written response to the Board of Governors, he stated, "My people look to John (Nazarian) to use his expertise to effect a smooth transition for the new millennium."

He referred to previous RIC President, Dr. Carol J. Guardo, and her philosophy that 5 or 6 years in the maximum anyone should be, in charge of an institution when he said, "As great a job as he (Dr. Nazarian) has done, maybe it's time for a change."

When reached on Friday for his plans for the contract renewal, President Nazarian said he felt it both inappropriate for him to discuss the issue and any plans he may have for the remainder of his term.

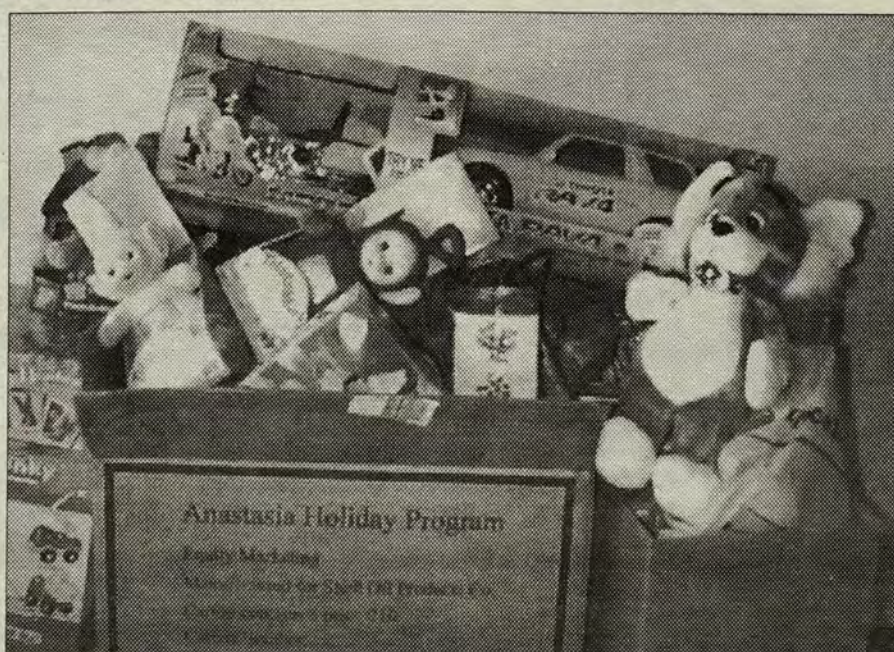
Chaplains' Office works to spread joy this holiday season

by Linda E. Curtin
 EXECUTIVE EDITOR

"Reach for the sky!" Perhaps this phrase, which is spoken by the Woody doll (from *Toy Story*), sums this story up best. (No, I wasn't playing with that doll ... I

never touched it ... I swear!) The doll was only one of the toys donated to the toy, food, and clothing drive for the needy sponsored by the

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Chaplains ...



Teletubbies, and Patti's motorcycle and Rav 4 were donated to The Giving Tree.

An Irish experience

by Joy Fox
 ANCHOR CONTRIBUTOR

(Editor's note: This story is the continuation of the story in the December 8 edition of *The Anchor*.)

My first few weeks in Galway City was filled with many moments of anxiety. I was beginning to think my decision to stay for an entire year was a crazy one. The anxiety ranged from the small and insignificant, such as how to cross a street filled with traffic going the wrong way, to the bigger challenges, such as how to work the tines, which regulated the heat and hot water system.

I guess the officials of study abroad programs would term my first few weeks - heck - month, as culture shock, and boy what a shock it was.

I assumed, incorrectly, that Ireland would be just like good ol' America because they spoke English. I soon realized that assimilation to this crazy country would be my only cure. After all, if I wanted my experience to be "American," shouldn't I have just stayed home?

My first area to assimilate was at the University College. This was surprisingly the easiest to do because I actually liked their system much better than RIC. For example, instead of registering two months before the next semester and then wondering what the workload would be like and having almost a month to add and drop, Galway sets aside the first two weeks of the semester to pick and choose. When I registered for my courses at UCG, I was given a course bulletin and told to attend all the courses I was interested in, get their syllabi, and weigh their course loads and teaching styles. After one and a half weeks of this, I registered knowing full well what I was up against and what I could handle.

I took primarily history courses my entire time in Galway. Each course consisted of a large lecture (200 to 300 students) and a seminar-like tutorial with 15 to 20 students. Each course required only a mid-term essay and a final exam from both American and Irish students. I agree with this style again as it allows the students independence from the "busy work" usually assigned in U.S. institutions. I understood the Galway philosophy to be that the professors will help you but in the end you are the only one who is responsible.

To Galway's discredit, however, their resources were extremely poor. I could never find a seat in the library or computer labs; and course texts could mostly be checked out of the library. One book for 100 students is not a good ratio. Generally, UCG was too small for the amount of students it tried to cater to.

These were, however, minor problems in the larger spectrum of my experience. It was the first time in a long time I was learning something completely new, which was Irish history. Both my instructors and Irish friends were always willing to answer my questions and discuss comparisons with my own country.

Don't get the wrong impression, though, going to school was not the only thing that Galway had to offer; to explore the more socio/cultural aspects of Irish life I did not even need to leave campus. A brand new recreation/athletic center was just opened, complete with a college bar. There was nothing like playing a little racquet ball and heading next door for a pint.

The social life in Galway, and all of Europe for that matter, is brilliant. An average night out started early in comparison to American college standards - usually between 7 and 7:30 p.m. The first stop was always a pub, and Galway had about fifty to choose from - everything from the traditional to the more modern "American" look-alikes. After last call at 11 p.m., it was then off to dancing. Discos are far more popular in Europe than here. The discos closed around 2 a.m. and after a stop for chips (frenchfries), everyone walks home. All this, and it is only Monday. Days of the week are irrelevant to any of this activity.

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Irish ...

See you on January 26, 1999
Happy Holidays

and

Happy
New
Year



From the
Anchor staff



The Anchor

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full freedom of expression.*

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Mind the gap

by Rita M. D. Lancellotta
STAFF WRITER

I was seven years old when I first experienced the traveling scenario. At Logan Airport in Boston, with a knapsack on my back, I held my passport and boarding pass. The Italian flight attendant laughed as she checked me in. With two braids in my hair, I was so excited. I ran down the corridor.

Little did my parents know that they had started the beginning of an international passion that dwells within me and is somewhat of a drug to which I am severely addicted. Having been to Italy numerous times, I decided, as I grew older, to venture out and see other countries as well. So far, I have been to Canada, France and England. At the end of this month, I will be going to Cuenavaca, Mexico with Dr. Olga Juzyn, Department Chair of Modern Languages. It is a one-month adventure that I am extremely looking forward to.



Judy, Rita, Maria Lancellotta shown with grandparents in their vineyard. Fornelli, Olsernia, 1983

Unfortunately, traveling is expensive and sadly, the history, beauty and good times that a particular country has to offer is often overlooked. "Between the examinations and the loans, many students sometimes forget the good times," said a close friend of mine. One of these "good times" occurred over the summer when a good dozen Rhode Island College students decided to sign up

the summer session London Course, which allows them to study abroad at Southbank University in the United Kingdom. Many obstacles, most financial, had to be overcome. Despite this, none of us lost hope.

It is two Rhode Island College professors to which we owe our respect, admiration and gratitude: Dr. Richard Weiner, Professor of Political Science and Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Mark Motte, Director of The London Course and Assistant Professor of Geography. They rank their students' concern as superior, even as busy as they are. Without them, the experience would not have been so memorable, or possible.

They have given us a wonderful opportunity to see England and the British culture. I learned a lot from The London Course, from history to politics; it broadened my horizons, contributing to my understanding of a different way of life.

Everyday was different. We walked out of the dormitory, headed for the double-decker bus, got off at Sloane Square, passed our travel passes through the meter, ran down the steps and hopped on the tube, our main form of transportation system which ran under ground. I was then told by the conductor to, "Mind the gap." What gap? Mind the gap means watch your step. Destination England! Here we go!

Each day that passed became more exciting than the next. I can not begin to express the feeling I had when I saw Westminster Abbey. Nor can I start to explain the extra beat in my heart that occurred when I saw the sunset from my window in my dorm room at Lightfoot Hall, located within Chelsea, a director of London that is very up-scale. When I saw Stonehenge, one of the oldest, most mysterious monuments in the world, the feeling was and still is indescribable. This is only the beginning of what The London Course has to offer...

I am so happy that I took advantage of it. Salisbury, Winchester, Cambridge - these quaint towns are unbelievable. The cobblestone streets, the medieval cathedrals, were all within walking distance and created such a tranquil atmosphere. The House of Lords and the House of Commons are remarkable, and the way political issues are debated within them are astonishing.

Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square were fun to walk through with lovely statues erected for beauty as well as historic purposes. Covent Garden is a lovely shopping district, and of



The London course, 1998. (Back row, L to R) Todd, Bozena, Hiedi, Katie, Kelli, Rita. (Front Row, L to R) Michelle, Shannon, Ryan, Chris, Lavonne, Angela, Brent

course, we had to stop at the famous Camdentown, which was full of unique, fashionable surprises. All of this motivated me to shop, so I found myself purchasing every thing in sight. From United Colors of Benneton clothing, to Doc Martins shoes, the list was endless. The prices? Not even close to what they would have cost me back in the states.

From paintings to portraits, artwork to advertisements, gargoyles to gothic stone mirrors, I somehow believed that it was fate for me to purchase all these items. There was not one available spot in my suitcase.

My shopping came to a pause one weekend when some colleagues went to Ireland and Amsterdam. I decided to stay in London and watch the World Cup in a local pub. I arrived in time for Happy Hour, so while eating, I was watching France play against Brazil. All pubs were closed down because they were filled to capacity. I managed to climb upon a barstool, hold my Carlsberg beer in my hand and watched all two hundred people chant the Brazilian anthem. After the tournament ended, the French received an opportunity to express their civil pride through glorify-

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Mind ...

Jamaica: An Island in the Sea of Heaven

by Daniel Aznavorian
NEWS EDITOR

Believe it or not, it's almost time for spring break. I know that sounds rather crazy considering it isn't even Christmas yet, but it's true. March 15 marks the beginning of the much anticipated vacation and, believe me, it will be here before you know it. For those of you not sure what to do and where to go, I have a story to tell you that may help you make up your mind.

Imagine a land of beauty, a land of rolling hills seemingly made from emeralds, a land where there is no fear, hatred, nor even

ing more than a back road. I was fascinated to see this, however, perhaps because it was the first time I had ever been to a foreign country, but I had the feeling that no matter where I went, no matter how rural the area, I would find anything I could possibly need. It was almost as though God took a city, put it in a great divine salt shaker and salted the island with miscellaneous buildings; there seemed to be no rhyme or reason to it all.

There were cities, though, this was perhaps the most American part of the whole island. Although Jamaica has mostly their own restaurants and clubs, I found it strangely odd and comforting when I noticed a Burger King, McDonald's and Kentucky Fried Chicken all on the same street. Unlike American cities, however, there were no high-rise hotels on the beach or five-story resorts either. In fact, their buildings rarely exceeded three stories.

The various hotels and clubs we visited fascinated me. Each hotel had its own style and theme. For example, there was the Doctor's Cave Beach Hotel in the resort city of Montego Bay. Built on the sight of a spring known for its healing qualities, this hotel came complete with a pool, bar, coffeehouse, and restaurant all arranged to make it look more like a garden and less like a hotel. Not to mention that this hotel was just minutes from both the airport and beach, and was right across the street

from Margueritaville, one of the hottest clubs in Jamaica, with a Friday night crowd between 2,000 and 3,000 people.

It seemed no matter where I went in Jamaica, I could see the Caribbean, a sight so beautiful I could never truly give it justice with mere words, but I'll do my best here. Coming from the ocean state, I was obviously no stranger to large bodies of water. The Caribbean, however, had, by far, the nicest water I think I had ever seen. With an odd but beautiful mixture of blue and turquoise, it seemed to have a glow all its own. One day, I stood on a cliff overlooking the water and could actually see the white sand at the bottom; it looked as though the water was merely a few feet deep although I was told that it was, in fact, 30 to 40 feet deep.

Perhaps the most enjoyable quality Jamaica had to offer was its limitless activities. I had been staying in the town of Negril in the Coral Seas Inn, which was right on the beach. Each night of our stay, the Jamaican night life was just a five minute walk down the beach. The place was filled with restaurants, bars and clubs, and, like Jamaica's hotels, each one had its own unique style. My personal favorite restaurant was Kuyaba's, it had a great atmosphere with a live band (Bob Marley fans: You will die and go to heaven in this place). One unique feature I noticed about this place was the bar. Kuyaba's did not have any barstools at their bar, they had sky chairs hanging from the ceiling, making for an

unusual drinking experience.

Risky Business was just a short walk from Kuyaba's and was one of Negril's hottest sports bars. This was perhaps the most "American" of all our stops, however, complete with Monday night football and a menu that included hot dogs. Nevertheless, even this place had its own Jamaican feel, such as Red Stripe beer, brewed exclusively in Jamaica, and Jerked chicken, a hot spicy dish that could make the Devil's eyes water (trust me, I had some).

Because they were all along the beach, all of the restaurants and bars were open to whomever was walking along the beach. In fact, I don't think any one of those buildings actually had four walls; half of each restaurant, it seemed, spilled out onto the beach.

Shopping in Jamaica is an experience unto itself; unlike the U.S., haggling over the price of a product is not only accepted, but is practically expected. Despite this, I found that I sometimes just forgot about it and paid full price anyway. I guess it was just something I wasn't used to. The prices were comparable to the U.S. in most cases, so buying goods there didn't yield any major surprises. Something that did surprise me, however, was the actual goods themselves. Negril is essentially a tourist community, so many of its inhabitants take it upon themselves to show their skills of craftsmanship to the community. As a result, everywhere I walked, be it along the beach or along the road, I found stands upon stands of homemade goods. Beautiful wood carvings, shirts and paintings decorated Negril's various nooks and crannies - sometimes making me think I was in a large flea market. Something else I noticed about shopping there was the friendliness of the salesmen. It got to the point of being annoying at times; I could barely browse before being followed by someone proudly showing me everything they were selling. It was fun, though, to talk with the people there because Negril had some of the most easygoing people I had ever encountered.

There was more to Jamaica than just restaurants, bars and friendly salesmen. Take a trip to YS Falls and you're taking a trip to heaven. Located on the southern coast of Jamaica, this natural waterfall has been made into a small park nestled in the woods of a large farm. The owner keeps it from becoming too commercial to preserve its comfortable size and integrity. We spent part of an afternoon there and it was a beautiful experience. With its crystal clear waterfalls, bright flowers and low hanging vines from trees taller than most buildings on campus, it was like combining the brightness of Christmas and the warmth of Summer into one nearly perfect location.

Unfortunately, this article could only do partial justice to the wonders of what is one of the hottest vacation spots around as Jamaica also offers hiking, biking, water-skiing, dancing, parasailing, swimming or just plain relaxing. Chances are that if it is fun and enjoyable in any way, Jamaica has it.

My press trip was sponsored by the Jamaican Tourist Board, one of the leading tour package providers. They are by far the best source for information on the deals and discounts on trips to the island. Since I know that after reading this story you will all

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Jamaica ...



anger. This is a place of eternal happiness and youth, it is a place where the water is as crystal clear as the hearts of its people and, with just enough courage, you can fly any day of the week.

Welcome to Jamaica, my friends; and, although it was a bit of an exaggeration, there are some considerable grains of truth to the above statements. In early October, I had the opportunity to visit this magical land on a press trip with other college newspaper editors from around the country, all sponsored by the Jamaica Tourist Board.

Despite its large tourist industry, Jamaica is hardly Americanized; much of the country maintains a style and look all its own. Interestingly enough, though, Jamaica is a land of vast variety. As I looked out onto the streets of such towns as Montego Bay and Negril I noticed, not only were the people driving on the opposite side of the road suggesting some European influences, but many of the cars had steering wheels on the opposite side as well. Even this wasn't completely the norm, though, in that some of the cars were American.

Jamaica was a country of contradictions, at least by our standards. There were few large cities that we saw, so much of the area was rural. Having grown up in Burrillville, the epitome of rural areas, I was surprised when I saw a beauty salon, restaurant, and cattle farm all next to each other on what appeared to be noth-



Rita in London, England.

... Mind continued from page 3 ...

ing their victory of the World Cup. They paraded through every street with streamers, ribbons and flags.

Another one of these memorable experiences occurred a few days later. One night we headed for The Hippodrome, which is the largest, most fashionable dance club known for its spectacular light show located in Leicester Square.

I must say, however, that the most memorable part of this adventure occurred when we went to France. We were on a sight-seeing mission. Like in England, we did much walking.

Dr. Weiner instructed all of us to wear comfortable shoes, which we did. What he failed to tell us though, was those shoes would play a major role in the Napoleon Bonaparte-march we were about to undertake.

Early in the morning, after being served a lovely breakfast, we waited outside the Le Jardin de Paris Hotel in Jules Joffrin for Dr. Weiner. When he walked out the door, we followed him. Raising his right hand in the air, he held a tiny red book that was about the size of a pocket dictionary. This became his signature...

The "march" officially began. We proceeded in an upward manner, climbing the numerous steps of concrete. We marched up,

keep walking," he responded and raised his right hand up, stretching it as high up as it could possibly reach, aiming that tiny, red book at the sky. With knapsacks on our backs, we marched all around the Sacre Coeur premises.

Then I realized that this marching was not going to stop. Through the streets of Paris we went, past every clothing boutique, and antique shop, and we marched.

"Dr. Weiner, can we rest for a while?" I asked very nicely. "No. We must keep walking," he responded and once again, he raised his right arm up, pointing that tiny, red book towards the sky.

In front of every cafe, pastry shop and restaurant, we marched. "Dr. Weiner, can we..."

"No. We must keep walking," he answered before I could even finish. Once again, that tiny red book was raised up abruptly. I was beginning to hate that thing!

Over every bridge, and in near the Seine River, we marched. In front of the Eiffel Tower, we marched. Though the temple-white monuments, we marched.

Crepes, which are custom-made small omelets, were our lunch. They were chosen because they were inexpensive and fast; we could not sit down to eat them because we had to march! After an entire day of sightseeing, Dr. Weiner decided to head back to the hotel. My feet ached terribly. Limping behind, every step towards

and up, and up. Even with all these steps, it did not seem like we were making any progress to the top. Being only 4-foot, 10-inches, I do not have long legs, and therefore, I do not walk fast. What normal people do in two steps, I must do in four.

"Wait, guys!" I shouted. I was always the last one, limping behind. My feet were already starting to ache, and it was only around ten in the morning. We finally made it up top. So concerned with resting my feet, I placed viewing the most beautiful cathedral, Sacre Coeur, as a second priority. By the time I had finished noticing how beautiful it was, I realized I did not see any of the people in my group. After noticing them in the distance, I managed to catch up with them. In fact, I raced up to the front where Dr. Weiner was conducting "the march."

"Dr. Weiner, can we rest for a while?" I asked. "No. We must



The Eiffel Tower, France.

the Le Jardin de Paris hotel seemed impossible to make.

My first day in Paris was quite memorable. The rest of the of the trip to Paris included visiting many other sites, such as The Louvre, which is the largest museum in the world containing many original painting like the *Mona Lisa*. A wonderful day was spent at Versailles, the most enchanting place that I have ever been.

Despite, the achy feet and the chuck-full suitcase, I must say that I had the time of my life. I do not think this adventure would have been this much fun and so memorable if I did not participate in The London Course.

... Jamaica continued from page 3 ...

want to get there as soon as Spring Break begins, you may call them at (203) 322-4700.

Jamaica Tourist Board's Top Ten Ways to Save on Spring Break Vacation Anywhere

10. Partying on an empty stomach is not a good idea. For its ease, value and quantity, select the tour operator's optional meal plan. However, for what it's worth, be aware that it may resemble the menu at your college cafeteria.

9. Select a reputable tour operator that offers the most free parties and activities that you want to do.

8. Try some local food. Ask your hotel staff where they go to eat. Many regional specialties, such as jerk chicken or rice and beans, can be very tasty and inexpensive grub.

7. In order to compete during spring break, many local hot spots offer specials requiring student IDs - "Don't leave home

without it." Period.

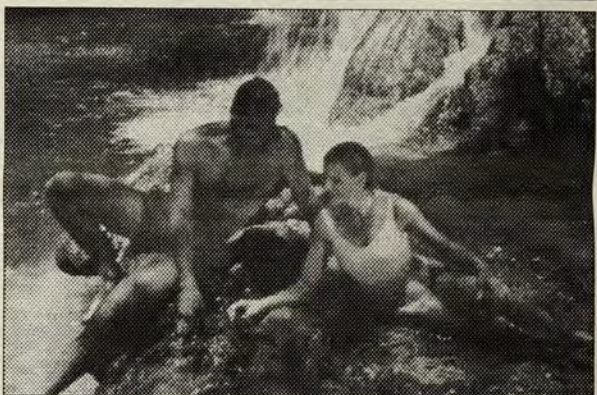
6. Figure out where you can get the most bang for your college buck and plan ahead for your entertainment. Most local tourist authorities or tour operators have a list of special college promotional nights at local bars.

5. Select accommodations with a kitchenette and stock-up on local groceries for breakfasts or sandwich lunches. While not original, "mac & cheese," ramen noodles, and cereal can be found at every spring break destination and are still perfect for late night snacks.

4. You won't be able to beat a tour operator's accommodations and air packages - unless you own a hotel and airline. If you do insist on doing it alone, make sure that your hotel is recommended by the local tourist authority. This will save you headaches, not money.

3. If going abroad, be aware of any foreign departure taxes that might apply.

2. Some hotels offer non-air-conditioned rooms at a lower rate - most spring breakers spend as little as time in the room during the day and most destinations are cool enough at night not to re-



quire it. For the same reason, ask your tour operator if they offer quint occupancy accommodations.

1. Book early. Book early. Book early - you'll get freebies!

Minority Scholars awarded Fellowships

One hundred and eleven outstanding minority scholars have been awarded fellowships in the 1998 Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs. The programs, administered by the National Research Council, seek to increase the presence of underrepresented minority groups on the nation's college and university faculties.

Overall, the programs made awards to 50 beginning graduate students, 33 students writing their dissertations, and 28 recent Ph.D. recipients who participated in national competitions held last spring. More than 170 renowned scholars in the sciences and humanities selected the award winners from about 1,000 applicants, based on merit and promise of future achievement. The evaluation panels are composed of faculty members from the nation's institutions of higher education as well as from industry and private research institutions.

This competition marks the fourth year that additional awards at the dissertation level have been made possible by the fund-raising efforts of previous Ford Foundation awardees, supplemented this year with donations from Hitachi and IBM Corp.

This year's fellowship pool includes 54 African Americans, 29 Mexican Americans, 14 Puerto Ricans, nine Native American Indians, four Native Pacific Islanders, and one Native Alaskan. Thirty of the awardees are working in the social sciences; 14 are conducting research in the physical sciences, math or engineering; 36 study the humanities; 17 are working in the life sciences; 12 are studying in the behavioral sciences; and two are conducting postdoctoral research in education.

Information on the next competition can be obtained by contacting the Fellowship Office of the National Research Council via e-mail at <infofell@nas.edu>, or at <http://fellowships.nas.edu> on the World Wide Web. Contributions to the Ford Fellows' Fund can be mailed to the attention of Ron Millar at the National Research Council. The National Research Council is the principal operating arm of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. It is a private, non-profit institution that provides independent advice on science and technology issues under a congressional charter.

Industrial Hygiene Graduate Fellowship Announced

Looking for the opportunity to become a professional in a rewarding profession? If so, the Industrial Hygiene Graduate Fellowship Program is for you. Industrial hygienists anticipate, recognize, evaluate, and control those environmental factors or stressors arising in or from the workplace that may cause sickness, impaired health, significant discomfort, or inefficiency among workers.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Worker Safety and Health, the Fellowship Program is accepting applications for the 1999-2000 academic year. The deadline for receipt of applications is January 25, 1999.

The primary goal of the Fellowship Program is to increase the number of industrial hygienists at the master's degree level to help ensure healthful working conditions for employees of DOE research and development facilities throughout the United States. Other program goals include increasing the visibility of industrial hygiene as a career option, strengthening the industrial hygiene profession, and strengthening ties between DOE and the academic community.

Administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), appointments in the Industrial Hygiene Gradu-

ate Fellowship Program are for 21 months. Fellows are required, however, to submit a renewal application at the end of the first 12 months. The programs pay an annual stipend of \$15,600 in 12 monthly payments of \$1300 and full tuition and fees.

Participation in a three-month practicum, a practical, hands-on work experience, at a DOE-designated facility is required. Transportation expenses to and from the practicum site are reimbursed and a dislocation allowance of \$400 per month is paid. The program requires that fellows agree to a service obligation of one year for each academic year in the Fellowship Program.

The program is open to U.S. citizens who hold the baccalaureate degree and who have not completed more than one academic year of graduate studies by the effective date of the fellowship appointment. For application materials or additional information on policies, procedures, and guidelines under which the program operates, please contact: Mary Kinney, Industrial Hygiene Graduate Fellowship Program, Science and Engineering Education, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, P.O. Box 117, MS 36, Oak Ridge, TN, 37831-00117; telephone (423) 576-9655; e-mail (kinneym@orau.gov). More information is also available on the Internet (www.orau.gov/orise/edu/uggrad/ihl.htm).

... Chaplains continued from page 1...

Chaplains' Office, the American Marketing Association, Student Community Government, and the RIC men's basketball team.

Surrounded by packages of all kinds, Joan Barden, secretary for the office, (tormented me as she) sorted through the mounds of great toys (without letting me play with any of them!). She organized everything according to families in preparation for the pick-up by the Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

The list on the desk read like Santa's: Brian, Lori, Susan, Robert, Elizabeth ... and on it went. It included 55 families and 126 children. Of the 205 gifts expected to be dropped off to the office by the deadline date of December 11, only 27 were missing first thing Friday morning. Six more were brought in at that time, and because many people had purchased more than they originally committed to, Joan smiled as she pointed out that they were going to be able to fulfill every wish.

While we were speaking, a woman came in and dropped off two more bags of goodies. "That's why I'm here today," said Joan. "It's a special day."

All members of the Chaplains' Office participated in one way or another. Protestant Chaplain Larry Nichols, Catholic Chaplain Joseph Pescatello, and Joan Barden all took turns spreading the word to those they met, and manning "The Giving Tree" in Donovan Dining Center.

The tree was covered with paper ornaments and had the name, age, and gender (sorry Dr. Chafetz) of a child on it. The person who took the tag from the tree was asked to buy the present specified on it, if possible, and return it the office. If someone was unable to buy a particular gift, there were other suggestions made for possible gift ideas.

President Nazarian participated in the spirit of giving too. When he approached the table in DDC, Angela Rourke explained to him how the ornament process worked. Pointing out that he wasn't sure if he would have time to shop for a present, he made a cash donation to the cause instead.

Some people were only able to donate one canned-good, while some community members adopted whole families. (One particular family even pitched in and bought a bike.)

All in all, from the non-perishable food goods to the Blues Clues, and from the sweat suits to the Skydancers (very cool!), the drive was a success as all who participated, and donated their time, "reached for the sky," behaved as stars, and brightened the holidays for those in need!

... Irish continued from page 1 ...

Academics and the social scene were obviously big parts of an average week and I needed to do some adjusting to it initially, as I did the average tasks of daily living. One of these adjustments was not having a car; my entire year was spent walking or riding a bike, regardless of the weather. Other adjustments included doing laundry in a country where dryers are not popular items, shopping on Sundays and any weekday between 1 and 2:30 when everything is closed, and having conversations with Irish people and left wondering if English was their first language.

I could go on about the "shock" of culture shock, but it is different for everyone. The best thing about this illness is, given one month and an open mind, it usually goes away. Besides *studying* as part of the "Study Abroad," it is important not to forget the "abroad" part. This word alone suggests another whole opportunity I took part in while I was living in Galway - travel.

Practically every weekend in my entire 8 months abroad was spent on a plane, train, or bus. Weekend holiday excursions are much more popular in Europe than in the U.S., as well as much more affordable. Just about everyone along my endless journeys offered the much sought after student discount.

Before leaving the U.S. I signed up for an I.S.I. card (International Student ID card) which, for a processing fee of \$20, is recognized in all countries that participate in the European union. This card, along with an Irish Travel Save Stamp, saved me 30 to 50-percent every time I used the Irish bus or rail system.

Traveling within Ireland, for me, was easy and safe. Ireland is approximately the size of Maine, and I traveled from coast to coast (Galway to Dublin) dozens of times. The bus/rail system was almost always late and its service, depending on the day, was usually sporadic.

An example of this is a trip a friend and I took to Donegal. The place (Slieve League) we wanted to visit had bus service to it everyday, but from it only Monday through Friday. This was not a good schedule for two people who had class on Monday. This did not stop us, however, for we decided to see how well our thumbs would work for getting us home. Except for the one mistake of walking our longest journey on Sunday morning when everyone was on their way to church, it worked just fine.

My other trips within Ireland included Connemara, the Burren (Cliffs of Moher), Athlone (Clonmannon), Dingle, Greenore, Col-louth, Dublin, and in Northern Ireland - Belfast City, Giant's Causeway, and Newcastle.

I also made it to "the continent," or rather, out of Ireland a few times. These trips included England (London, Bath, Stratford-upon-Avon), Scotland (Edinburgh and Inverness), Belgium, Paris, and Italy (Rome, Florence, Pisa, Bologna and Milan). My favorite of all these stops was Florence. Don't misunderstand me, all of the places I went were wonderful, but there was just something about Florence.

My trip to Italy was the longest, totaling about eight days. With most of the other trips being 3 to 4 days only. The reason the trip to Italy was so long was because UCG had a month long Easter break. Most of my friends purchased Eur-rail passes for the entire time, but I returned to Eire to visit friends and meet my family in Galway for Easter.

Every trip I took, I had no idea where I was going to end up. For both Italy and Ireland, I had my trusty "Let's Go" guide everywhere I went. This is a great guide for low budget travelers (a.k.a. students). It suggests hostels, restaurants, and attractions, as well as important phone numbers, bus/rail information, and directions.

Hostels were my main accommodations while traveling. These generally cost between \$8 and \$12 per night and are well worth the price for the interesting conversations alone. Let's see... I meet a very friendly Somali, two crazy French guys, and no matter what, there was always an Australian. These are just a few of the dozens of people I had the luck of rooming with during my travels. When I say rooming, I mean one big room with anywhere from five to ten bunk-beds, with who-knows-what sleeping in them. The hostel experience alone is worth traveling for. Hostels also allow you to meet other people "going your way," so, whereas you left Galway with only two people, you ended up with a group of four or five people. When funds were low, or we needed a quiet weekend at home, I still spent Sundays out and about. I joined the Mountaineering Club on campus. This group met every Sunday regardless of weather and went out to the mountains of Connemara to "walk." The shortest "walk" I was ever on was eight miles, four of which were straight uphill. Naturally, I cursed myself all the way up, but I always forgot about it for the absolutely gorgeous walk down. Understand that to have the experience I did, the only thing required was time. I was by no means a wealthy person, just smart enough to take full advantage of the discounts offered to students, as well as scholarship opportunities. The average price tag on my type of Study Abroad adventure is the same as taking classes and living at URI for one year. Not a bad deal; one which offers no comparison to living in South County.

Health Physics Research Awards available to faculty members

College and university faculty members with research interests in health physics-related technical areas may apply for the U.S. Department of Energy's 1999 Health Physics Faculty Research Award (HPFRA) Program.

Sponsored by DOE's Office of Environment, Safety and Health, Office of Worker Protection Programs, and Hazards Management, the program is open to all full-time faculty appointments at accredited colleges and universities in the United States.

The HPFRA program recognizes and supports the efforts of outstanding faculty members whose creative research in areas related to radiation protection is supportive of the DOE mission and has contributed to health physics education.

Program goals are to enhance the quality and status of health physics programs at academic institutions, encourage new and innovative ideas for health physics-related research, provide new opportunities for students interested in pursuing careers in health physics, and strengthen ties between academic institutions and DOE facilities.

Awards for the 1999-2000 academic year will be up to \$50,000. Awardees are eligible for two additional renewals for a total of three years. Travel funds may also be available on a limited basis for trips to and from a collaborating DOE facility, to technical conferences and meetings, and to an annual program workshop.

The HPFRA program supports research in applied health physics-related technical area that are supportive of the DOE mission. Particular emphasis is placed on radiation dosimetry (e.g., equipment, protocols, and internal, external, whole-body, and specific organs), risk assessment and ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) concepts, radiological emergency management, radiation protection standards and regulations, environmental monitoring and assessment, and air monitoring and sampling. Priority consideration will be given to applications focusing on the protection of workers and the public associated with DOE environmental cleanup activities.

Program participants must maintain their full-time faculty appointments status and must conduct their research at their home institutions. In addition, they must collaborate with a DOE contractor or approved facility and must submit annual and final reports.

The application deadline for the 1999 HPFRA Program is February 26, 1999. Awards will be announced in July/August 1999. For more information of for application materials, contact Leila Gosslee, Health Physics Faculty Research Award Program, Science and Engineering Education, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, MS 17, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-0117. The telephone is (423) 576-1078, and e-mail is gosslee@ora.gov.

MADD RI Inaugurates Holiday Mocktail Party

Thursday, December 17, is the RI chapter of MADD's first Mocktail Party. The event will be held in the State Room at the RI State House, with Governor Lincoln Almond as host. TeamSpirit and Youth in Action youth leaders will prepare and serve several non-alcoholic beverages, bearing names associated with MADD's mission, e.g., The .08 Bloodless Mary. Holiday jazz and light refreshments will round out the menu for this event which will run from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

The holiday awareness event will focus on the importance of planning designated drivers for adult celebrations, and planning non-alcoholic drinks for those who prefer them, all while demonstrating everyone can have a wonderful holiday glow without the inherent impaired driving dangers and hangovers that result from holiday excesses.

In addition to Governor Almond, many other state officials and legislators are expected to attend, including Attorney General Jeffrey Pine, and State Police Superintendent Colonel Edmund Culhane, Jr. Invitations have also been sent out to the media, students, community leaders, and law enforcement officials.

The first MADD Mocktail Party will be underwritten by The Governor's Office on Highway Safety, Edward Walsh, Administrator, and the RI Chapter of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters Society, represented by Steve DeWare. Their wish is that this inaugural MADD Mocktail party will help promote safe driving practices during this busy season.

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Commentary

Incorrect Thoughts

by John Geoghegan
Editorial Page Editor

"Are we going to hide behind this freedom-of-speech crap?"

"There has to be some kind of repercussion because it was an act of irresponsibility and insensitivity."

"It's time for a new newspaper."

Those are actual quotes, as published in *The Providence Journal*, from URI students angrily responding to an editorial cartoon published in the University of Rhode Island's student-run newspaper, *The Good Five-Cent Cigar*. The cartoon was intended to lampoon a University of Texas law professor's comments on blacks and Hispanics, and, despite the editors' subsequent clarifications, many students seem to believe it was published with racist intent. Their militant reactions, and those of the URI Student Senate, have resulted in attempts to intimidate the paper, shut it down, and force a conformity to their own ideas. In the face of such out-of-bounds comments and demands, the URI administration and Student Senate have refused to forcefully stand up for the principles of the First Amendment, and should be ashamed.

Freedom of the press is essential to a proper democracy. On a college campus, a student-run newspaper serves students by providing an outlet for their viewpoints. Note the plural: Student-run newspapers should be there to represent as many student voices as exist. If students do not feel their views are represented, they should not rely on others to provide them; they must speak for themselves while allowing others to voice any contrary opinions. Shutting a newspaper down, burning copies of an "offending" issue, or formally demanding an apology for published content are not proper responses. Writing letters to the editor, writing commentaries, and/or joining the newspaper to provide that other viewpoint are proper actions.

Even assuming the worst of racist intentions (and I don't), the *Good Five-Cent Cigar* should not be shut down over the cartoon's publication; if students oppose its editorial stances, they ought to join the paper and change its philosophy. URI needs to have a dialogue among its campus community to educate everyone on what is an acceptable level of protest and debate. Shutting newspapers down, burning copies of it and likening free-speech to "crap" does not approach that level. This is a sorry day for URI's brand of "higher education."

I have to say, in discussing with others the cartoon and the resulting protest, I was mystified

as to how, after hearing the cartoonist's and *Cigar* editors' clarifications, anyone could continue to think the cartoon is racist. It might have something to do with the deconstructionist perspective that is so pervasive. The author's intentions don't mean anything; rather, it's what the reader thinks that's important. Frankly, I've never understood that viewpoint. Why should an author bother writing, if the point he/she wants to get across is wholly dependent on the reader's interpretation? Why should a reader read, if they can ascribe to it whatever meaning they wish? I can understand an initial misinterpretation, but to continue to describe the cartoon as racist ignores the stated reasons for its creation and publication, which are valid.

Worse is how too many people were too quick to read insidious motives into others' actions. I took a trip to URI this past Thursday to try and get a flavor of the campus' mood amidst the ongoing uproar. I walked around, picking up fliers and several very recent copies of the *Cigar*. By looking at an exchange in the December 4 issue between a letter writer and the editors' response to him, I think we can gain an insight into why the "debate" took the tone that it did: It's called a **rush to judgment**.

From Scott L. Lewis, of Uhuru Sa Sa: "It is sad ... this type of blatant prejudice is printed in the newspaper that is supposed to represent the state university ... If our cry for justice is not taken seriously, we will seek further invasive actions." Part of the editor's response: "... it is relevant and timely that we printed the cartoon in response to the anti-affirmative action attitudes that have affected the campus. We feel that such attitudes of hate and racism should be eradicated from this university."

Both writers make dangerous assumptions. Lewis assumes the cartoon is meant to be prejudicial; in fact, I think it's clear the intentions behind its publication are in agreement with his position on race and gender preferences as manifested in affirmative action. On the other hand, the editor makes his case partly by assuming that those who oppose race and gender preferences are supporting hate and racism. Neither person is correct, and such rhetoric is not conducive to a civil airing of differences. People of good will can differ on issues related to race, and no "side" should label another's motives as insidious without clear and convincing proof. Individuals do not deserve automatic scorn and condemnation for holding principled views.

That exchange is a small example of what happened in the debate at URI, what is happening on campuses across the country, and what's going on across America. This is another shameful legacy of modern "higher education."

Prejudice – Ignorance or Arrogance?

by Adrian H. Kirton
STAFF WRITER

"Oh, what is that thing called light
Which I must ne'er enjoy?
What are the blessings of sight?
Oh, tell a poor blind boy!"

This is the first verse of a poem I had to commit to memory when I was about eight years old. The teacher said it was a classic poem, and I believed him.

20 years ago I came to Rhode Island College and changed that view. I met John, a blind student, who lived in Willard Hall. One morning, as I left Weber Hall, where I lived, I saw him with his walking cane. I called out to him, "Hey, John, how are you today?" "Fine," John replied. "Could I take you to Donovan?" I asked. "I do not want you to take me, but I would be happy if you would walk with me," he retorted.

A similar thing happened a second time. After that, I learned my lesson, and many mornings afterward John and I walked and talked as we went to breakfast.

I had learned a lot of prejudice in that poem. It is true that the blind cannot see with their eyes, but the author continued to describe the "blessings of sight." I assumed it must be a curse not to have sight. To add insult to injury, the author describes the person as a "poor" and "blind" boy. What a pitiable sight must have been the picture

I built in my mind. But, I learned that the type of help I offered and the manner in which I offered it was not what a blind person wanted. I needed to understand what empathy really was. John did not want pity or patronizing. He wanted love and respect as a human being who lacked sight. I needed to recognize that, accept his feelings, and behave appropriately.

Recent protests at URI over the publication of a cartoon in the student-run newspaper have caused me to reflect again on prejudice. It is difficult for persons in the mainstream to understand the feelings of others who are hurt by their actions and words.

Minorities face prejudice every day from faculty in schools and colleges, from staff where they work, from other students and from the community in general. They say there is a snobbish side to too many Americans who act as if minorities are stupid and unintelligent. They seem to feel that minorities come from retarded cultures, taking work and education opportunities from others in society's mainstream. They are told they are unwanted and can be easily replaced. The URI event represents the proverbial straw that has broken the camel's back.

I feel from a distance that this matter has been poorly handled at all stages. The minority com-

... continued on page 7 as
Prejudice ...

Sorry, you're no Monica Lewinsky

by Ron Grieco
STAFF WRITER

Just when you thought this ugly chapter of American history was nearing a close, one more nauseating head sprouts from the chaotic hydra we now recognize as Modern American culture. Monica Lewinsky has recently been reported to have signed a book deal for \$1.6 million. This is the tip of the iceberg of the millions of dollars that will be showered in her direction for tell-all accounts of her "life story." Yes, in less than a year, propped up right next to the cash register at your local Barnes and Noble will be Monica Lewinsky's book, marked down to \$30 from \$39. What a deal. For a society that has adamantly maintained it is so sick and tired of hearing of this issue it is willing to excuse a sitting president of committing perjury with an unprecedented level of arrogance and disrespect for his family, our system of government, and the American people, here's a question: Why will this book fly out of the bookstores and land on countless coffee tables across America?

The worst aspect is the underlying message it sends, with an acidic quality that slowly brings one more stage of decay to a society unknowing of its desperate need for a cleaning. What do we have to say for ourselves? How will future history teachers explain to their students what went wrong in 20th-century America? Maybe they will point out that, while profound books such as *Plato's Republic* and Rousseau's *Social Contract* lay unopened in libraries across the nation, the life stories of O.J. Simpson, Michael Jordan and Monica Lewinsky were selling out at bookstores that are more about a polished style than the pursuit of knowledge. Maybe they will point out that while some people spent their lives trying to get published by attaining an education and working hard, others were paid millions for the stories of their involvement in affairs, murders and playing sports. At any rate, we certainly are tripping over ourselves to supply those future historians with enough material to make careers out of explaining just what went wrong in the latter half of 20th-century America.

One thing is for sure – the message for everybody attending English courses over there in Craig-Lee is this: Worry less about what courses will be the most helpful to become a writer, and instead pay unrelenting attention to the "important" people you may meet in life. In the public's eye, those encounters far outweigh years of work to become an accomplished writer. It is sad that the "network society" has gone so far as to taint the process of writing.

One of the greatest traditions that humanity has harnessed since the dawn of time has become yet another game of who-you-know. So, for all of you students crafting your art-form, with the dream of seeing your work in print and recognized, who have been writing for years and will make it your life's work, what does our culture say to you?: Sorry, you're no Monica Lewinsky.

Submission Policy for Letters to the Editor and Commentaries

1. Letters to the Editor and commentaries from RIC students and faculty, and from sources outside the RIC community, are welcome and strongly urged. However, submissions will be printed at the discretion of *The Anchor*.
 2. Issues of *The Anchor* are printed on Tuesdays during the semester. Deadline for submission of letters and commentaries is 12:00 p.m. Saturday for the next scheduled Tuesday issue. Letters received after that time will run in a later issue.
 3. Submissions are subject to editing at the discretion of *The Anchor*; however, care will be taken to edit as little as considered necessary.
 4. Letters must be signed and accompanied by a telephone number and a social security number (which will be used only to verify student status).
- Anonymous letters and commentaries will be published only at *The Anchor's* discretion (and it will be limited).

Happy Holidays

from



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The rules on smoking are for everyone

by Amanda Casiano
STAFF WRITER

When I moved into Browne Hall last year, I was pleased with the fact I would be living in a smoke-free environment. Aside from the obvious reasons, such as smoking stinks and causes cancer, I was happy I'd be safe from smoke-filled air. You see, I've had serious asthma since I was 11, and cigarette smoke causes my lungs to clamp up faster than inhaling a breath of cold air. Naturally, I'm pleased that smoking in public buildings is illegal, as it is in Browne Hall (except for one suite on the sixth floor). I felt confident that the security officers would enforce this rule should anyone try to break it. Imagine my surprise when I saw certain security officers smoking in the building. The first time it was an officer smoking in Browne's lobby. My friend went up to him and asked, "Isn't that illegal?" The security guard looked at him and said, "The smoke goes outside." Then he exhaled at the

closed doors, one of which, ironically enough, had a "Thank You For Not Smoking" sign on it.

For two weeks after that, I kept a journal of the times and days I saw officers smoking in the building. Every day I saw something. Sometimes they smoked in the lobby and other times in their office which, by the way, is right next to Health Services. Meanwhile, the girls in the dorm who smoke have to go outside.

Ok, maybe this isn't a major crime, but the security officers are wrong. They are breaking rules they are supposed to enforce, and blatantly. The rules are there for a reason - to protect the health of people like me, people who choose not to pollute their lungs. I understand that smoking is an addiction, and I can sympathize, but when their addiction threatens other people's health, they lose my sympathy. I'm not saying that the security officers are bad people; in fact, they're usually very nice. But the rules apply to everyone, and it's time they learned that being an officer does not put you above the law.

December

by Adrian H. Kirton
STAFF WRITER

December is a wonderful month. There is an air of expectancy. Plans are made. Lists are put together. All of this sets the climate in the home, on the streets and in the stores. It happens each year, yet we look forward to it anew whenever the month comes around.

The goal of this time of year's preparation is to celebrate hope for the human race, which we all do in different ways. Families and communities get together in this period; there are exchanges of tangible items; there are oral and written expressions of goodwill; there is social togetherness. Whether we are celebrating Christmas, Kwanzaa or Hanukkah, whatever our symbols or depiction, December is the season of harmony.

December offers us an opportunity for reflection. We all have (or should have) a dream of a better world, a dream that some portions of the spirit of December will filter into actions each day of the year. But what do we do to make it happen? If we do not reflect each year, the season will come and then pass, and nothing will ever change.

How can we make this 1998 season better than the seasons before? What special things can we put in place to enrich the life of others? If we would just reflect this way for 1998 and 1999, by 2000 this college community could make a significant difference in the lives of all in our other communities.

Ask: What are some of the things I would like to influence? Do I feel in harmony with other persons and with nature? What steps can I take this year to promote harmony at home, at school, at work, and at play? What part can *The Anchor* play in this adventure?

A great part of the preparation during December is personal. Each one of us makes a decision as to what we want to do and carries it through. Each person moves with a sense of purpose. And, even though it is the purpose of that one individual, every

other person has that single purpose too. This season does not depend on powerful people like politicians - it belongs to us. We can feel the united power of our single-minded effort wherever we go.

We are losing faith in politicians. They all have great agendas, but we have become accustomed to agendas changing based on how the wind is blowing and what support is coming. Even so, we are willing to celebrate hope for them, too.

Another aspect of December is its innocence. Love and peace reigns supreme. Hate, envy and prejudice seem to take a back seat. Other persons are important, and we go out of our way to demonstrate that by the cards and gifts we buy and by taking time to be in touch. We feel that in giving we also receive.

On Sunday, as I walked across the campus, I came across a group of parents who were braving the weather. They were there with friends, and their goal was to install a couple of new pieces of equipment in the playground. However, it was for not only their children, but for the community. Each individual was doing something, and I am sure they were not being paid for it. I am also sure that they contributed financially to the project.

This month of December has a way of helping us all to sow seeds of love, caring and sharing. In each event, from preparation to celebration, we experience a level of peace, of honesty, of trust. Maya Angelou, in one of her poems, indicated that one could not sow potatoes and expect to reap onions. Yet, she said, many people sow seeds of discord and expect to reap good fruit.

December is a wonderful month. Let's do our best to live each future day with some of the passion for doing good that we model in December. Let's examine what we are doing to stunt the growth of the dream of peace and harmony, and walk away from it. Let's turn things around.

If we have the will and the courage to take this step, we would all feel better about ourselves and the world we live in. Like Jesse Jackson, I say, "Keep hope alive."

ion, the question has not been answered, and if the administration had answered it, all of this argument and protest might not have occurred.

The way the administration acted really disappointed me as a student and it should disappoint all of you as well. The fact is, the majority of RIC's students opposed this fee but the administration still pressed on with it. Does this mean the student body's voice does not matter? What do we have to do, get our parents involved? The administration disappointed me not because the fee was approved but because they are not here for us. It is exactly what Jen Courtney said - "Students were being heard but not listened to" - and if this is happening on RIC's campus, then it does not make me so proud to be a leader here.

Let me be blunt: The Administration is here thanks to students who attend this institution and pay its fees. Hello, administration, you are making people like myself think you don't care about the students. Why couldn't the administration and Don Tencher have waited for a better time or for the majority of the students to agree? Short of this, Don Tencher could have given a clearer explanation of where the money would be spent. Thanks to this shameful administration, the majority of us are disappointed. If this is what the administration wanted, it has succeeded.

Peggy Sandoval
Former SCG Secretary/current member of SCG/Athletic Committee member/member of the Council of Rhode Island College Committee on Athletics, Intramural and Recreational Policy

The tiles are falling

by Amanda K. Vetelino
ANCHOR EDITOR

Recently, as I was leaving one of my classes in Craig-Lee, a tile nearly came crashing down. All I could think was, "What would have happened if it had fallen on my head?" More than likely, I would be in a hospital with a concussion. Still, why are there tiles falling down on our heads?

For over 100 years, this college has built itself a fine reputation. Working as a tour guide, I have the opportunity to speak with many students who are looking at RIC as a possible college choice. When I ask them why, the most popular response I receive is, "Because the academic programs are what I've been looking for in a college." That was my thought when I decided to come to this institution. As a Secondary Education/English major, I was told that RIC had the best education program in the state, and I have found that to be true.

The programs the college offers deserve the most attention at this point in time. To help ensure they are the best, the buildings must be kept up-to-date and the failing infrastructure must be repaired. Thankfully, no student I have given tours to has yet complained about the condition of the buildings.

I think students need to realize that the Athletic Fee is a done deal. What we must now focus on is getting our academic buildings repaired and the library updated. The question I have for the administration is, "Why haven't the questions about buildings being fixed been answered? Why hasn't a member of the administration written a letter to *The Anchor* expressing his/her views?" All the students want are honest answers from the people in charge.

... Prejudice

continued from page 6 ...

munity deserves at least an apology accompanied by an explanation. If the editors choose to publish material for a purpose, but if it does not serve the purpose, then those editors should accept that they have made incorrect assumptions. Editors will take credit when they are right, and must take responsibility when things turn out wrong.

It is going to be difficult to relieve the tensions that prejudice in America creates. There are many opposing groups who hold strong positions and are free to express their views. A mainstream press, intentionally and unintentionally, advocates mainstream positions, so expressions of justice can be interpreted only in terms of traditional values of the majority.

The problem in uprooting prejudice is that it is practiced out of either ignorance or pure arrogance. Ignorance can be changed through education, patience and goodwill.

On the other hand, where prejudice arises out of arrogance, it will be very difficult to change attitudes and behaviors. We must learn to forgive those who practice prejudice in ignorance, but must stand firm against those who are arrogant.

There are good Americans in the mainstream of society who are fair and unselfish. It is time that they show courage and take efforts to heal this nation, including joining the Rainbow Coalition and Jane Elliot's Experimentation in Sensitivity, and participating in the writing and rewriting of history. They must join the effort to show others that thing called light; only then can we hope to heal our society, and build a strong multicultural nation.

Dear Editor,

I am in fifth-grade at Hart-Ransom School in Modesto, California. I have adopted your state as a class project. I will be doing a report and making displays about your state. In May, my class

Letter to the Editor

will be having a "States Fair." I will display and show everything I have learned about your state.

It would be helpful to me if you could send postcards of your state, maps, brochures and other information about wildlife, industry, neat places to visit, statistics, sports teams and any other information and items your readers feel would be helpful.

I hope your readers can help me with my project. I'm looking forward to hearing from people in your state.
Thank you from California.

Lerr LaBass
Hart-Ransom School
3930 Shoemaker Avenue
Modesto, California 95358

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THREE \$1,500 FELLOWSHIPS

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities is seeking applicants for its Spring 1998 semester Fellowships. A stipend of \$1,500 is awarded to three students enrolled in R.I. colleges or universities. The "fellows" will be responsible for assisting in: (1) scheduling mediation of disability discrimination complaints; (2) tracking legislation that impacts on the lives of people with disabilities and editing a weekly legislative newsletter during the General Assembly Session; or (3) updating the website. Contact the Commission for information about applying. Completed applications must be post marked or delivered to the Commission by January 8, 1999.

Governor's Commission on Disabilities
555 Valley Street, Building 51, Providence, RI 02908-5686
(401) 222-5704 (v); 222-2833 (fax/tty); disabilities@gcd.state.ri.us (e-mail)

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Athletics & Recreation

RIC women's basketball gearing up for season

The women's basketball team opened the 1998/99 season on the road at the College of New Jersey Tournament in Trenton, NJ. Head Coach Mike Kelley's team won in the opening round, defeating Ursinus College 66-59. The Anchormen lost in the championship to host TCNJ 70-59 to post a 1-1 overall record.

Senior forward Nicole Taylor picked up where she left off last season, leading the team in scoring and rebounding. In two games at the TCNJ tourney, Taylor averaged 17.0 points, 8.5 rebounds, 2.5 assists, 5.5 steals, and 0.5 blocks. She led the team in scoring, pumping in 20 points in the win over Ursinus. For her efforts, Taylor was named to the Little East Conference's Weekly Honor Roll.

Junior forward Jen Cook is second on the team in scoring and rebounding, averaging 14.5 points and 7.5 boards per contest. Cook scored a season-high 18 points in the loss to TCNJ. Cook is also averaging 2.5 steals and 1.5 assists per game.

Senior shooting guard MeLeah Hall is third on the squad in scoring, averaging 10.5 points per game. Hall is also averaging 6.5 rebounds, a team-high 6.0 assists, and 4.5 steals per game.

Junior forward Christine Martin is averaging 7.0 points and 7.0 rebounds per game. Martin grabbed a season-high 11 boards and scored six points in the loss to TCNJ.

Sophomore point guard Beth Iacoi is averaging 5.0 points, 2.0 rebounds, 1.5 steals, and 1.0 assists per game. Kelly had four points and three boards in the win over Ursinus.

Senior guard Sarah Kelly is averaging 5.0 points, 2.0 rebounds, 1.5 steals, and 1.0 assists per game. Kelly had four points and three boards in the win over Ursinus.

Junior guard Meaghan Davis is averaging 2.5 points and 3.0 rebounds per game. Davis had three points, three boards, and two steals in the win over Ursinus.

Junior guard Kristen Follows is averaging 0.5 rebounds, 0.5 assists, and 0.5 steals per game.

RIC men's basketball off to a good start

The Rhode Island College men's basketball team is currently 3-3 overall and has 0-1 in the Little East Conference. Head Coach James Adams' team began the season at the Cougar Classic hosted by Kean University (NJ) on November 21 and 22.

The Anchormen lost the opening game to host Kean 88-67. The team played better in the consolation game, but still fell to Worcester State 88-80 to close out the tournament. RIC returned home and routed Johnson and Wales 97-73 for its first win of the season on November 24.

Junior forward Will Robinson leads the team in scoring, averaging 20.5 points per game. He is also averaging 5.0 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game. Robinson torched JWU for 27 points and grabbed seven rebounds in the win. For his efforts, Robinson was named to the Little East Conference's Weekly Honor Roll.

Junior forward and co-captain Brian Renaud is second on the team in scoring, averaging 13.7 points per game. Renaud sank five of six from three-point land, keying a first half comeback in the win over JWU. He is also averaging 3.7 rebounds, 1.0 assists, and 1.0 steals per game.

Freshman point guard Ken Jernigan has done well leading the team. Jernigan scored a career-high 16 points in the loss to Worcester State. The Hartford Public High School grad is third on the team in scoring, average 4.3 rebounds, 1.0 assists, and 1.0 steals per game.

Sophomore guard Ken Payette is fourth on the squad in scoring, averaging an even 10.0 ppg. Payette is second on the team in assists, dishing out 4.0 per game. He is also averaging 2.3 re-

bounds and a team-high 2.5 steals per game. Payette led the team in scoring with 15 points in the loss to Kean.

Senior forward Steve Clarke has been a force on the glass so far this year. He leads the team with a 7.7 rebound-per-game average. Clarke grabbed a career-high 13 boards, including nine offensive, in the win over JWU. He is currently averaging 8.3 points and 2.3 assists per game.

Senior shooting guard and co-captain Andy Tourangeau is averaging 6.8 points and 3.2 rebounds per game. He is also averaging 2.5 assists per game. Tourangeau scored a season-high eight points in the win over JWU.

Senior forward Ross Callen had a solid game against Worcester State. Callen had 14 points, two assists, one rebound, one block and one steal in 15 minutes of action. He is currently averaging 8.5 points and 2.5 rebounds per game.

Freshman forward Andrew Thornton is averaging 6.3 points and 3.3 rebounds per game off the bench. "Beef" had 11 points, five rebounds, one assist, and one steal in the loss to Kean.

Freshman guard Juan Carter is averaging 4.5 points per game. Carter had five points in the loss to Kean.

Sophomore guard Tim Charleston is averaging 3.0 points, 2.0 rebounds, and 1.0 assists game.

Senior forward Mike Bedrossian is averaging 2.7 points, and 3.3 rebounds per game. "Rock" had five points, five boards, and two assists in the loss to Kean.

Freshman forward Lou Turchetta is averaging 2.0 points and 1.0 rebound per game.

Wrestling team opens season

The RIC wrestling team opened the season with two tough qualifying tournaments. The Anchormen competed at the Roger Williams Invitational on November 14. Head Coach Tim Clouse's team also took part in the Doug Parker Invitational hosted by Springfield College on November 21.

The Anchormen are 0-0 in dual action and has yet to face a Pilgrim Wrestling League opponent.

Sophomore A.J. Aulson owns the club's top record, posting a 5-4 mark at 141 pounds. Aulson has 14 takedowns, five rehearsals, and ten escapes on the year. Three of his victories were at the Roger Williams Invitational. Aulson has one win by fall this season.

Junior Jay Giroux is second on the team in wins, posting a 4-3 record in seven matches. Giroux has competed at 149 and 157 pounds. He picked up three wins at the Roger Williams Invitational. He has five takedowns, four reversals, and seven escapes on the year.

Sophomore Troy Lambert is 1-2 on the year at 157 pounds. He picked up his lone win at the Roger Williams Invitational.

Senior Keith Lazarski is 0-2 on the year at 184 pounds. Lazarski's two matches were at the Roger Williams Invitational.

Freshman Joe Manzello is 3-4 in seven matches at 165 pounds. All three of Manzello's victories were at the Doug Parker Invitational. Manzello has seven takedowns, six reversals, and four escapes on the year.

Senior Pierre Ridore is 0-2 in two matches at 174 pounds.

Senior Dan Saccoccio is 1-2 on the year at 165 pounds. Saccoccio's lone win came at the Roger Williams Invitational.

Freshman Jeremy Sousa is 3-4 in seven matches at 125 pounds. Sousa leads the team with two falls. He has eight takedowns, four reversals, and six escapes on the year.

Sophomore Jeremy Von Flatern is 0-2 in two matches at 197 pounds.

Aquatic Programs and Special Events

Another SCUBA session will be held on Tuesday, February 2, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This is a great way to decide if you really want to take the full NAUI certification course, which will be offered on Tuesdays, from 6 to 9:00 p.m., starting February 9. If you're already convinced, start saving your money now, or maybe drop hints to holiday gift givers. The fee will be \$225.00 for students and recreation center members, \$265.00 for non-members. It may be a lot of money, but you won't find a cheaper price and/or

a better instructor anywhere. Don't forget that the Recreation Center is open all during the break. A schedule of hours of operation is available at the Front Desk. With fewer obligations and a little more free time, you can start that fitness program that you promised yourself you would do last fall. It's the perfect time to get into the exercise habit. If you need help getting started, or have questions about anything related to aquatics, call Alan Salemi at 456-8227 or Janice Fifer at 456-8238.

Winter Break Athletics Schedule

Gymnastics

Jan.	20	@ Brown University	07:00 p.m.
	23	@ Ursinus College	01:00 p.m.
	30	SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT	01:00 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Dec.	30	@ Warner Southern (Florida)	07:00 p.m.
Jan.	04	@ Webber College (Florida)	03:00 p.m.
	09	EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE	01:00 p.m.
	12	SOUTHERN MAINE	05:30 p.m.
	14	SALVE REGINA	05:30 p.m.
	16	UMASS-BOSTON	05:30 p.m.
	19	@ Western Connecticut State	05:30 p.m.
	24	@ Keene State	03:00 p.m.
	26	@ UMASS - Dartmouth	06:00 p.m.
	30	@ Plymouth State	01:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Jan.	03	Baruch College (Neutral Site)	12:00 noon
	05	@ St. Thomas University	07:30 p.m.
	09	EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE	03:00 p.m.
	12	SOUTHERN MAINE	07:30 p.m.
	14	BRIDGEWATER STATE	07:30 p.m.
	16	UMASS - BOSTON	07:30 p.m.
	19	@ Western Connecticut State	07:30 p.m.
	24	@ Keene State	05:00 p.m.
	26	@ UMASS - Dartmouth	08:00 p.m.
	30	@ Plymouth State	03:00 p.m.

Wrestling

Jan.	13	@ Bridgewater State	06:00 p.m.
	16	ONEOTA, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	10:30 a.m.
	20	MIT	07:00 p.m.
	23	@ Plymouth State Individual	TBA
	27	@ Western New England	07:30 p.m.
	30	SOUTHERN MAINE	01:00 p.m.

Tourangeau and Renaud lead men's basketball into '98/99 season

by Scott Gibbons
ANCHOR CONTRIBUTOR

The Rhode Island College men's basketball team is off to a 3-3 start and 0-1 in the Little East Conference. A lot of the familiar faces who played in the Athletic Building over the past few years have recently graduated, leaving Head Coach James Adams' team to find its own identity in the rough and tumble world of collegiate basketball.

Only six players from the last year's team return to court this season. The Anchormen will be without the services of First Team All-LEC All-Star Kenny Bliss, who led the conference in scoring and assists as a senior last year. The team also lost three other senior starters, including James Thomas, the conference leader in rebounding and blocked shots.

Coach Adams says, "We're going to be a young team this season. There's a lot of new faces. In addition to our returnees, we've added some talented recruits and transfers to the program. There's going to be an adjustment period, but they'll get better as the season wears on."

The task of guiding the team on the floor falls on co-captains Andy Tourangeau and Brian Renaud. "Our role as captains is to keep everyone together. It's our job to help out the younger guys on and off the floor," Tourangeau adds. "As a team, we haven't really played together that much prior to this year. I think we're going to improve with each game." Renaud, a 6-foot, 2-inch, 190 pound junior forward from Johnston, is playing a new position this year. After spending his first two years at shooting guard, he will

try his luck at small forward. So far, things are working out. He has started all six games, and is second on the team in scoring, averaging 13.7 points per game. His rebounding productivity has also increased to 3.7 boards per game.

As a key factor in the team's 75-72 overtime win against Eastern Nazarene College on December 1, Renaud pumped in a team-high 19 points, grabbed six rebounds, and made three steals in the win. "Playing forward is a challenge for me night in and night out," he says. "I'm guarding a lot bigger people than I have in the past."

Tourangeau, a 5-foot, 11-inch, 170 pound senior guard from West Warwick, is also adjusting to a new role this season. After coming off the bench for three years, he earned himself a spot in the starting lineup with hard work and dedication. "I'm really happy to start this season," Tourangeau says. "We have had a lot of talented players here over the past four years and this is my chance to contribute."

Tourangeau has started each of the squad's six games at shooting guard. He is averaging 6.8 points, 3.2 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game, which are all career-highs. Tourangeau helped the team squeak by Roger Williams 80-77 on December 3, hitting two crucial free throws with 11 seconds left in the game to give RIC the win. Tourangeau had eight points, six boards, and four assists in the team's 97-73 win over Johnson and Wales on November 24.

The Little East Conference figures to be tougher than ever this season. Keene State, Plymouth State, and UMASS-Dartmouth are the preseason favorites to win the conference title.

NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships available

The National Collegiate Athletic Association has announced the availability of the Women's and Ethnic Minority Enhancement Programs' Postgraduate Scholarships.

Individuals who meet the qualifications listed on each application are encouraged to apply. All information required for submission of the application is listed within each folder. Each application, with supporting documents, must be mailed to the NCAA national office, postmarked no later than February 12, 1999.

The Association's opportunity-enhancement programs will award:

- Twelve annual grants of \$6,000 each to women enrolled in graduate programs in sports administration or a related field

- Twelve annual grants of \$6,000 each to ethnic minorities enrolled in graduate programs in sports administration or a related field.

In addition, a memorandum regarding availability of these applications was forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, faculty athletics representative, and student-athlete support services at RIC.

If additional applications are needed, please contact the Athletic Department at 456-8007.

Entertainment

Saint Joan uses modern humor for traditional wisdom

by Amanda Casiano
STAFF WRITER

Now playing at Trinity is the famous old tale of Joan of Arc. You may have heard of her. She's the girl who, inspired by God, lead the French troops against England in the days of old (when knights were bold...), then was captured and burned at the stake. Finally, four centuries later, was made a Saint. That's the basic storyline, but because this show is at Trinity, you can expect it to be very new and experimental. This is not your Grandma's *Saint Joan*.

The stage is sparsely set, the costumes simple and, for the most part, unimportant. The play is performed by six actors from Trinity (over half of whom work here at RIC) who take on several personas during it's course. The dialogue is quick and witty, and the entire show resembles a fight or a boxing match. For example, a bell is rung between each scene, and Joan herself (wonderfully portrayed by Jennifer Mudge Tucker) holds up score cards, shouting "Scene 4! Joan vs..." whoever. The lines are delivered back and forth like blows that land every time. Joan is spirited and irrepressible, and we first see her in a Catholic school-girl uniform, chewing gum. She abandons this quickly for army fatigues and dog-tags. She fills everyone she meets with spirit and hope.

This show is very funny. There's some slap-stick, sight gags and jokes, but mostly what makes this play funny and makes it interesting is it's truth. These characters are portrayed truthfully, like ordinary people. Joan is as down-to-earth and as unsaintly as any young country lass. She's funny, exciting, and a little naive. *Saint Joan* transforms her life and death from a tired church story to a dazzling picture of the effect one girl can have on the world.

Saint Joan runs through January 17 in the downstairs theater at Trinity Rep's downtown Providence location, 201 Washington Street. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Sundays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays and select Saturdays and Wednesdays.

Ticket prices range from \$24 to \$34, with group, student, senior, and disabled discounts available. Tickets are available now at the Trinity Rep Box Office. Call 351-4242 for more information.

Call on the Blues

by Mikala Cash
ANCHOR CONTRIBUTOR

The evening of Saturday, November 21, brought me to a pretty neat club with a great band. The Call on Elbow Street in Providence isn't the everyday club. The first time venturing to The Call brought a few surprises. For one thing, unlike most clubs in Providence, when they say it's over-21 night, they mean it. I had previously talked to Jeff, the manager, and told him I was 19, and wanted to come to his club for this assignment. He was a really great guy and excited to have me. He said it'd be no problem for me to get in and just to mention I had talked to him. When entering The Call, I was met with some resistance. Even though I was there with my parents who liked the band, and I was insisting Jeff said it was fine, it took a minute to convince them. I was let in, but not without being watched the rest of the night.

The Call held a pleasant and appealing atmosphere. It was clean, nicely furnished, and was definitely a step up from the clubs I'm used to. The club held two bars, a pool table, tables looking towards a good sized stage, and a dance floor.

The band rolled onto the stage later in the evening, but before this I had an opportunity to talk to some band members. Warren, the drummer, sat next to me as we talked a bit about the band and its history. He was completely friendly and open. While playing, I noticed him smiling widely the whole time. You can tell he loves playing music and totally gets into it. His wide grin easily rubbed off on those who noticed, and I believe he should take on the nickname Smilie. A little later I talked with Mike, the singer and guitar player. I also talked with the keyboard player, Jake. I thought it interesting that both were my age, 19. I asked Mike

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A Christmas Carol at Trinity has a Rhode Island touch

by Ryan D. Theroux
STAFF WRITER

One may wonder how a production of Charles Dickens' traditional story *A Christmas Carol* can still be appealing and entertaining to audiences year after year. Some people live for Christmas and are simply fascinated with anything that revolves around the holiday, including a play. But what about the people who seek a twist to this tale?

Neal Barron, the director of the play, provided this "twist" ingredient in Trinity Rep's 22nd annual presentation of *A Christmas Carol* by using the Ocean State as a prominent reference. Local trademark signs such as the New York Weiner and Providence YMCA signs find their way onto the stage in a setting that takes place in Rhode Island. From the beginning of the play, the audience could sense the genuine roles of the actors.

Bob Cratchit (Fred Sullivan Jr.) causes a feeling of sympathy for his hard work, little pay, and his ill son Tiny Tim. Perhaps the authenticity of Cratchit's character is shown by his fear of his boss — the heartless Ebenezer Scrooge (Timothy Crowe). Cratchit looks over his shoulder while rubbing his hands together in the freezing work area of the offices of Marley and Scrooge to make sure his boss is not observing him taking a break for three seconds.

Crowe exemplifies the spitefulness of Scrooge to a tee. Not only does he raise his voice at Cratchit, but he mocks gifts, soup kitchens, and the children who "charge" into his work area to wish him a "Merry Christmas." A humorous moment occurs when a little child screams in a high pitched voice, "So Mr. Scrooge, what are you giving to the soup kitchens?" Scrooge mimics the child in an equally annoying voice with "Nothing."

Although the acting is spectacular, the choreography and singing in the play keep the audience entertained at all times. Perhaps the climatic humorous moment of the play occurs when the people of the town sing "Jingle Bell Rock" and the famous Providence Traffic Officer dances while blowing his whistle. He is directing pedestrians across the street when suddenly a group of human cars (children and adults come wearing miniature cardboard cars) stumble across the stage as they make their way to their destinations.

The quick change between acts was phenomenal — there were no intermissions to

bore the audience. With the blink of an eye, Scrooge's bed pops up and he suddenly hears a voice on the radio saying 1-95 and 1-195 are under construction and that Foster-Glocester "...is just closed." The Ghost of Christmas Past (Phyllis Kay) terrifies him, both with her steel chain and by taking him to see his past. The audience is moved by watching the actors play out Scrooge's childhood and the mistakes in his love life. Crowe's facial expressions are extremely believable — his look of sadness and regret as he helplessly looks on earns him sympathy from the audience.

Another entertaining moment of the play occurs when The Ghost of Christmas Present (Donald King) comes flying in (on wires) from the ceiling. King adds humor to his character by poking fun at Scrooge — his one-liners begin to damage Scrooge's pride. Although Scrooge appeared to be emotionally moved by seeing his past, he gets cocky when he sees his present life. His cockiness lasts until he asks the ghost if Tiny Tim will survive. When the ghost says that Tim may not be alive in the future, Scrooge is clearly distraught.

One of the more dramatic moments of the play comes with the loud and intense music directly before the last ghost appears. This is yet another example of how the music keeps

the audience entertained — it sets the tone for this stone-cold scene in which tomb stones pop out with the biggest one reading "SCROOGE." Although the ghost does not speak, the pointing of his finger, and the costume mask, are chilling. Scrooge seems to be living in a nightmare in this scene, but realizes this will be reality if he does not change.

If there is a criticism of this play, it may be the hasty ending in which Scrooge begins wishing "Merry Christmas" to everyone in the street. Although the audience has seen his attitude about life and Christmas change throughout the play, it seems he is suddenly giving Cratchit a raise without acknowledging how poorly he treated him. Perhaps more dialogue between Scrooge and Cratchit, or his family, would make the redemption of Scrooge more powerful.

A humorous moment does exist toward the end of the play, however, when Scrooge orders two children to buy a "big" turkey and bring it to Cratchit's family. Scrooge reflects on this order and says aloud, "I wonder if the turkey is too heavy for them to bring it to Pawtucket."

Overall, and once again, the crew of *A Christmas Carol* put on a spectacular performance of this holiday classic tale. Not only do the music, acting, choreography, and singing delight the audience, the tale hits home for many. Work and school seem to be the main priorities in many people's lives right now, but what about families and friends? Maybe the character of Scrooge should remind us of what we could become if we do not value life and all that it is worth.

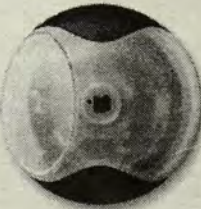


how it was that when most kids our age are into rock n' roll, grunge, or hard-core, he hapt upon Blues. He said listening to his father's Albert King records helped and it gave him an outlet.

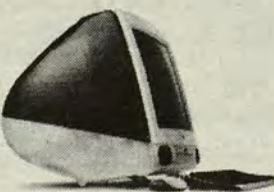
Mike and his band presently go by the name The Mike Welch Band. It has gone through its members, but right now it's Mike, Warren, Jake, and bassist Brad. The group is just as entertaining to watch as to listen to. Watching Jake, you'll sometimes find him playing with a look of stress upon his face. His left hand will just drop to his side while his other hand will continue, then his left is up again. Warren has great energy and a vibrant smile. Brad, who stood alongside Mike, kept a serious composure while Mike danced around the stage.

Some may worry about the two young ones being in school. But the fact that this is no garage-band can bring reassurance. They've been blessed with playing in numerous states, along with five trips to Europe. Mike had previously spent a couple of months in California at the University of California at Berkeley. He found school was just not for him. Jake came home after a year at NYU when Mike called asking him to join the band. For now, Mike's happy and content with the band and says he'll see where the future brings him. Jake hopes to pursue acting one day. Just like regular teens, Jake discussed his appreciation of reggae and they joked about where to find girls. Overall, it was a great evening in a good atmosphere with a real down-to-earth talented Blues band.

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Gus Van Sant is no psycho

by Heather Forand
STAFF WRITER

"Ree, ree, ree. Rah, rah, rah."

You've heard it before. You've probably used it in sarcastic conversations, but the question is... Have you actually seen the scene? Everyone knows about the famous shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*. The piercing music that comes right before the piercing knife. It was the movie that started it all. The motherload of horror movies. A classic if you will. So why in the world would someone want to even touch it with a 40-foot pole, never mind remake the film? The answer to that, in Gus Van Sant's case, is because no one had done it before.

Trying something new is all well and good, but there are two extremes that are bound to occur when you cross the boundaries



Norman Bates (Vince Vaughn) is the proprietor of The Bates Motel.

that Gus Van Sant decided to cross in "reproducing" (as he calls it) Hitchcock's *Psycho*; you're either going to create a brilliant piece of art, or more likely, you're going to fall flat on your face into a pool of self-pity and loathing for ruining a virtual masterpiece.

All the teenyboppers and commoners know him for his work on *Good Will Hunting*, which won him an Academy Award Nomination. However, real movie buffs bow in admiration at the feet of the creator of such indie classics as *Drugstore Cowboy*, *My Own Private Idaho*, and most recently, *To Die For*, starring Nicole Kidman. So, even though I cringed like the rest of them upon hearing *Psycho* was going to be remade, I relaxed a little after hearing Van Sant had taken up the project. I figured if anyone has the gall and talent to pull this one off, it would be Gus Van Sant.

Without a sarcastic bone in my body, I will say that Van Sant not only pulled it off, but awakened the pulse of the horror movie of all horror movies. Van Sant took a chance that could have easily cost him his career and, in my opinion, it was well worth it. Don't expect to see a hard hitting, hip-hop, 90's techno version of the film like the shocking, yet at times creative remake of *Romeo and Juliet* a couple years back. The new *Psycho* stays relatively true to the script (minor changes were made in an attempt to modernize, such as "aspic" being changed to "jello"), and even more true to the original Bernard Herrmann score, though it was overseen by Danny Elfman for this version. The most apparent change compared to the first was the color. What's left is a brilliant, shot for painstaking shot, recreation of Hitchcock's original.

Okay, this is info that everyone who has read any of the hoo-ha in the local papers and media knows. The real question is how does the film stand on it's own? Pretty damn steady is the answer.

With the exception of a few nit-picky things, the new *Psycho* stays in harmony with Hitchcock's brainchild.

The actors for the most part surpass the performances of the original cast, the exception of course being Vince Vaughn who plays Norman Bates, the "psycho." Anthony Perkins is Norman Bates. He's a pop culture icon. That's hard to compete with, or even live up to. Vaughn does not try to mimic Perkins' performance, which is definitely a point in his favor. However, at times Vaughn seems almost loopy instead of scary, replacing Perkins' signature stutter with constant giggling and nibbling on jelly beans. Respect should be given to the fact that Vaughn introduces a whole new Norman, but to a fan of the original, it's kind of hard to swallow.

Anne Heche is Marion Crane, hands down. After viewing both films, one after the other, I'm sorry, but Janet Leigh is boring as hell. In fact, all the characters in the original exemplify the film's death motif, by appearing to be, for lack of a better adjective, stiff. Heche, Vaughn, and Julianne Moore, who plays Marion sister Lila (much less two dimensional in the second version), all express an acting trait that has been successful for centuries - namely emotion. When you're sitting in a small room with a strange man who seems to be flipping out, you're going to react. Heche does this, while Leigh sat as statuesque as the surrounding stuffed birds. Another great example, is Moore's facial expression and body language upon hearing of her sister's death. Why was Moore's reaction so much more convincing? I would have to say plainly because she had one!

So, the score was still phenomenal, the actors were superb, now what? Ah, the dreaded question of the death scenes, namely the shower. Would the scene that made 1960s' audiences fear the comfort of their bathrooms for years to come be massacred (excuse the pun) by Van Sant? Could he actually improve the scene? Would he leave it out completely? Well the scene is definitely in the new *Psycho*, and I'm ashamed to say as a film major who's supposed to, by that unwritten law, worship Hitchcock, that I enjoyed the shower scene in the second more. The composition of the shots in both films are quite similar, but while the original fit well with its audience and even crossed boundaries dealing with nudity and violence, I believe that if placed in the new *Psycho*, exactly as is, it would not have been successful. We can turn on cable during the day and see more porn on soap operas and more violence on cop shows then you would ever see at a theater in the '60s. We're immune to murder scenes, as sad as it sounds. The limited blood gushing would have seemed trite to your average '90s audience member.

Van Sant realized this and made up for it in one stylistic word: Montage. Edited into the much more bloody scene this time around were frightening, eerie images such as a steer in the middle of a road about to get hit, a barely clothed woman in bondage, and a thunderstorm (very clever, considering the torrential rain was what forced Marion off the main road and into her predicament in the first place). It's a little quirky, and maybe too strange for less sophisticated audiences, but I'll go as far to say borderline genius for fans of true film.

You can hate Gus Van Sant's "recreation," for the fact that it even exists. You can claim you couldn't follow the film because of its untraditional plot structure. However you can't say anything until you've went out and rented the original. I like the new *Psycho* better than the original, but I understand that it is not *better* than the original. Hitchcock created *Psycho* the way it was supposed to be. Gus Van Sant respected that, but was successful at posing an interesting, fun way to open a classic to a modern audience. Check the box office charts. Gus Van Sant is no psycho.

New Psycho - hate it now, love it in twenty years

Joseph Theroux
ANCHOR CONTRIBUTOR

"Have some respect!"

A few weeks ago I caught the brand-spankin' new "Alfred Van Sant" *Psycho*, and a fellow moviegoer shouted this in the theatre in regards to someone who was shining an ever-popular laser pointer at the screen. However, pointer or no, I wouldn't have been surprised hearing this protest. Critics nationwide have been screaming it since long before filming began.

Having respect in regards to Alfred Hitchcock carries in itself a lot of irony; the man himself was such a disrespectful wreck. He admittedly hated actors, even going so far as to coach some of his characters (most notably Midge in *Vertigo*) not to act. Much of his notoriety while he was still alive came not from his film-making genius, but from the fact that he wouldn't have respect. The first man to show a flushing toilet in a major film was also the man who killed off his major star within a half an hour.

Respect or not, Gus Van Sant, director of such underground films as *Drugstore Cowboy*, *My Own Private Idaho*, and *To Die For*, used his mainstream pull gained from the smash *Good Will Hunting* to do something he wanted to do for over a decade: Remake, shot for shot, *Psycho*. Is it an intelligent idea? Is it worthwhile? Most critics, both eloquent and ignorant, say no. Personally, I loved it. Phenomenal stuff, really.

Vince Vaughn has gained himself a band new legion of protesters for his portrayal of Norman Bates. I, however, commend Vaughn for playing a new Norman Bates, rather than a reheated Anthony Perkins. His Bates was much more physically imposing than Perkins', a fact that has been a major source of negative reviews in every major publication. However, there is something horrifying about such a large man who, so meek and childish, is equally convincing being brow-beaten by a sick old mother as he is guiltily masturbating to a woman he had taken in just moments previously like a sister. One of Bates most pivotal scenes, in which he had to clean up "Mother's" bloody mess, was done masterfully and, in my opinion, superior to the original. Where as Perkins' Norman merely did a dutiful role covering for his mother, Vaughn's Bates was absolutely horrified, choking back nausea and disgust the entire time. He, like the audience, is shocked and, well ... grossed out by terrible death. It makes him more human and sympathetic.

My major bone of contention with Vaughn, and one that nobody else seems to harp about, is the scene in which his Norman/Mother is subdued in the basement. Hitchcock's original was the climax of the film, one in which we completely understood what a traumatic, self-realizing moment could do to Bates, namely "kill" Norman. However, Van Sant's was a quick brawl, complete with breakaway props and the final kick in the face supplied by Julianne Moore's Lila. A pat "girl power" ending to what could have, should have been, a pivotal scene.

Where Hitchcock failed, however, Van Sant was able to improve. Certain scenes in the original were utterly devoid of emotion, like when the Psychiatrist explains the nature of Bates' psychosis. While the actual monologue in the remake didn't measure up to the original, the reaction shots of Moore reminded us that somebody's sister had been murdered savagely. By this point Hitchcock had turned Crane into a mere plot device, with her death taking a back seat to Bates' madness.

Whether or not Van Sant remade the classic as a homage or as an act of an egomaniac remains to be seen. Whatever the case may be, we should all keep in mind that the original *Psycho* wasn't very popular when it first debuted. Though my opinion isn't very popular right now, you'll agree with me in twenty years.

Holiday Rumblings

by Todd Couchon
ANCHOR EDITOR

Okay, so this ain't one of my witty movie reviews that you have come to expect, but read it anyway... Anyone over the age of 6 who goes to see *Jack Frost* should be forced to drink three tall glasses of Benadryl cough syrup each day until the flu season is officially over... On the subject of bad movies, *You've Got Mail*, starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan, opens soon. First the telephone, now the Internet, with every new technological invention comes a cheesy Hanks-Ryan romantic comedy. The Amish folks are looking pretty good right about now, wouldn't you say?

Bottom line, the best Christmas movie of all time is not *It's a Wonderful Life*, but *A Christmas Story*, a period classic about a kid who wants a Red Rider B.B. gun for Christmas, and a mother who will stop at nothing to prevent him from getting his wish... Back to *Jack Frost*, there was a horror film that came out last year by the same name. Quite possibly the stupidest film of all time, at least it doesn't insult by trying to be something significant...

There is a lot of pressure on James Cameron's new picture *Titanic*, to succeed at the box office when it opens this December 19, wait a second, this web page hasn't been updated since December 12 1997! Forget that one...

So *Psycho* tanked, does that mean we can stop ripping off Alfred Hitchcock now? *Mighty Joe Young* looks incredibly dumb, but the image of Ashley Judd in the jungle wearing shorts is enticing... If you are ticked off at Disney because of all the sucky films they are making, the best thing you can do is go see *The Prince of Egypt*, produced by rival animators Dreamworks, the only catch is you have to sit through a soundtrack which features both Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston...

I was thinking about possible Oscar candidates, since all the qualifiers are pretty much accounted for, and the only definite is *Saving Private Ryan*. Other possible films could be *The Truman Show*, *The Horse Whisperer*, *Pleasantville*, and *Godzilla* (just seeing if you were paying attention). I would love to see *There's Something About Mary* grab the award, but there's no justice... Is there a more annoying actress than Jennifer Love Hewitt? ... is there a better young actress than Claire Danes? I don't know about you, but my favorite holiday moments are of my family and me sitting around the Christmas tree, exchanging gifts, and watching the annual Mickey Rourke and Michael Madsen *Christmas is a Special Time* television spectacular...



Zoologist Gregg O'Hara, played by Bill Paxton and Jill, played by Charlize Theron, a 21-year-old orphan who raised an enormous gorilla named Joe in *Mighty Joe Young*.

RIC Film Society announces spring semester movies

This semester the RIC Film Society brought the following movies to Rhode Island College for your viewing pleasure: *L. A. Confidential*, *Chinatown*, *Mallrats*, *Clerks*, *City of Lost Children*, *Roman Holiday*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, and *Dazed and Confused*.

The schedule for next semester is as follows: *Before Sunrise* and *Gattaca*, February 10; *Usual Suspects* and *Fear & Loathing in Las Vegas*, February 24; *La Femme Nikita* and *The Professional*, March 10; *Swimming with Sharks* and *The Big Lebowski*, March 24; *Sea of Love* with scriptwriter Richard Pryce, April 14; *Shawshank Redemption*, April 28.

The movies are screened Wednesday evenings in Horace Mann, room 193, and the cost is usually \$1 with a RIC ID. Free food and refreshments are provided.



Start Steppin'

by Heartless Jim Braboy
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

"When the occasion arises, the proverb arrives." — West Africa

Tuesday December 15

Shh, quiet, you're making way too much noise. Now put down the chain saw and jackhammer and observe quiet hours or I'll give you a warning! Greetings of the season and all of that other stuff. Let the gates be opened and allow the beasts to escape; for now we begin the last journey of the semester otherwise known as Start Steppin'.

Today take pleasure in the fact that you don't use parking lot A. See last weeks column for the details.

This evening get off campus and mellow out before exams begin. Start things off with some music. AS220 (115 Empire Street; 831-9327) is doing that Tuesday night jazz thang. At 7 p.m. the **Brock De Christopher Trio** featuring Eric Platz takes the stage and plays the music that will make you feel alright, or so we hope, unless you're one of those manic, not-feeling-alright-at-all type of persons. Or, you could be one of those persons who may be caused to forcibly discharge bodily fluids and solids from the mouth once you hear anything remotely resembling a jazz standard. But I digress. After the sounds of the Brock De Christopher Trio, you, yes you, will be able to get some more. It's the **Hal Crook Trio** who are up next and they have a special guest with them tonight. (So I guess they ain't a trio then.) **John Medeski** of Medeski, Martin and Wood joins the crew tonight to add his special blend to the mix. Sounds like fun. \$10 is what you must pay to experience that treat.

Need to get into the holiday spirit? Not full of that x-mas cheer quite yet? Are you in need of a strong dose of music of the season? Then jingle your ass right on over to The Providence Civic Center (1 LaSalle Square; 273-5000). Step up to the box office and dump some cash out, and get a ticket to an **Evening**

This evening take a walk through the nearby neighborhoods and see who has the best seasonal display. Make sure you bring your camera and at least 10 of your friends. You should also have the following materials with you beside the camera: A bunch of poster boards with different rankings (kind of like the score cards) that the judges used to hold up at athletic events. When you find a good display gather your friends together, have one ring the doorbell, and then when the occupants come out show them your scores, do a cheer, and then take a picture and walk away.

At The Met Cafe this evening, there will be two bands and who knows, maybe even you. If you don't mind walking. The bands of interest are **Seeing Stars** and **Slugworth**. It is another low priced show, so you need not have deep pockets, only \$3 to get up in there. Make sure you wave in the direction of city hall. At this point I would make a reference to a staff member or an Editor, but I am really past deadline — way past deadline — and their names seem to have disappeared from the shout-out log. Oh well, maybe they'll return once I get on to another event. Up the street from The Met Cafe you can sway to the **Bookshelf Riddim** inside of Club OZ (70 Snow Street) as a night by the name of Foundation continues to provide the sounds of reggae and hip-hop for the masses. On the turntables at different times, selector **Paul Michael** spinning the dancehall and maybe some roots, and **DJ Infinite** doing the hip-hop and r&b. Go ahead, you might actually see me up in there nodding my dread covered head to the beat. Word!

Up northward in bean town check out some music. This time head to The Paradise Rock Club (967 Commonwealth Avenue; (617) 562-8804) and see **Buffalo Tom** and **Friends Acoustic**. Call the club for ticket prices and the best way to impress Mayor Menino (yeah right).

Thursday December 17

"Faster, faster until we..." That's part of a line from a Hunter S. Thompson book, novel, or ramble. I think it occurred in **Fear and Loathing at Rhode Island College**. The story of a maniacal micro-manager

who went on a binge of booze and drugs and attempted to ... oops can't go there.

Well today, if you are struggling through those exams take note in the fact if it was snowing at 2 inches an hour for at least ten hours, you would be struggling through a lot of snow on the campus. What? Cancel classes? You got to be Shtn' me! But I digress.

This evening take in a gallery talk at the RISD Museum (224 Benefit Street; 454-6342) as Sol's Gallery's painters speak. Join Painters **Tony Aristy**, **Raphael Diaz**, and **Francisco Hernandez** as the talk about... Sol Gallery is a recently established exhibition space devoted to promoting Latino Art in Rhode Island. It starts at about 6:30 p.m. and it is free with museum admission. After that lively talk and discussion, wander around the gallery and do the usual stare and contemplate the piece thing that one usually does in a gallery. Or even better yet, do some performance-art and wait until RISD Police attempts to remove you. When they grab you say the phrase that pays, "It's performance-art stupid — let go of me." (Now if I said something about **Peter F.** and **Pumpkins...**) That was a reference to a column some time ago.

At the clubs as in live performance style... Bring your geetar, skins, or something else and head on over to The Century Lounge (150 Chestnut Street; 751-CALL) for inside of that particular venue they have a **Blues Jam**. It is an 18-plus night and get this, there is no cover. Go ahead, sit in with the house blues band and have a smokin' time. Sunglasses are optional. Inside of the Living Room you can check out the poles, the walls, ceilings, and oh yeah, some bands on stage doing the thing that those bands usually do with instruments. Check out **Mumbo Scumby**, **Fuzzy Logic**, and **Damaged Goods**. Call those fine people at The Living Room for details in regards to the **Frosty the Snowman** contest; you're on your own unless you've been hanging out in *The Anchor*, but that's another story. At AS220 get involved with their celebration of Gallery Night. Grab some cheese and crackers and wander around the facility. Here is what you will find inside. The upstairs gallery will contain works from **Katy Klein** and **Greg Stones**; the cafe will have works from **Diane Gay** and **Mike Houlihan**; in the open window will be something from **Jil Collinan**; on the brick wall will be a work or some works from **Will Schaff**, and **Beth Clarke** and **Stephen Klevas** make use of the rental wall for their works. After all of that, hang around for Improv Jones. It is a improv troupe and it is only \$3. For a dollar more you can stroll down the street and see **Pappy Chullo**, **Snow Monkey Plum**, and **Esta Book** all inside of the Met Cafe.

For those of you who enjoy traveling for your music shows, you should make Mamma Kin Music Hall (36 Lansdowne Street; (617) 536-2100) your destination. Tonight's line-up features **Sevendust**, **Kid Rock**, **Soak**, and **One Minute Silence**. It is day three



Brent Spiner as Lieutenant Commander Data, Patrick Stewart as Captain Picard and Jonathan Frakes as Commander William Riker in *Star Trek: Insurrection*.

of WAAF's 3 day holiday rage. And no, that is not a reference to the days approaching Christmas at the local package delivery facility.

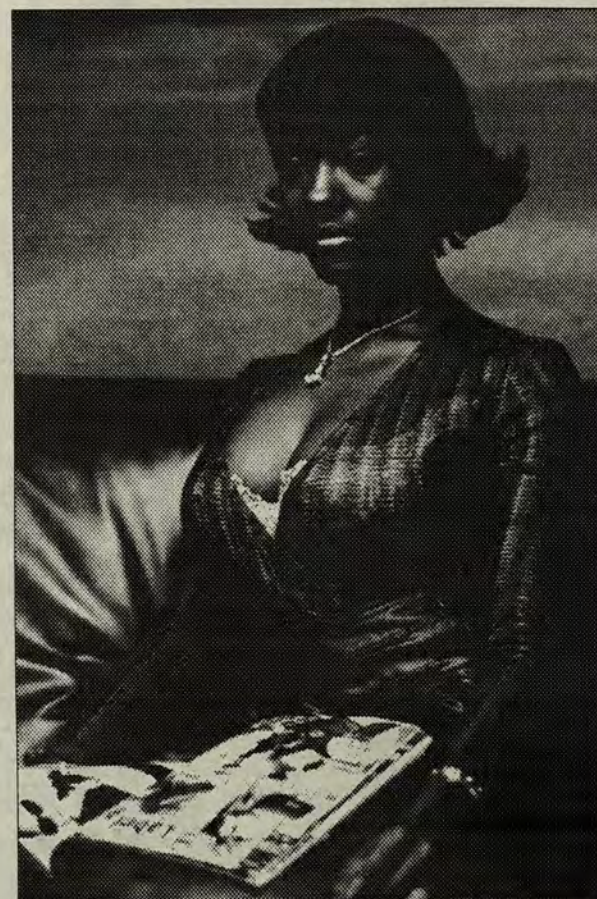
Friday December 18

Wow the end of the week is here. Are you finished with your exams yet? Good. No, you cannot throw your books at the instructor. Try selling them back first.

Tonight head down city and see if you can find anything interesting going on, ok? Um, well, let me at least point you in the right direction. First head to Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel (239 Westminster Street; 272-5876) and skank around to the sounds of **The Agents** with special guest **Nonions**. \$7 will gain you admittance to this all-ages show. Around the corner inside of the Met Cafe is **Sam Black Church**, **Sick Sense**, and **Moonrage**. And check it out — this show is \$7 too. Go figure. Want to go to another all-ages show? Then your destination may be The Century Lounge. The performers for the evening: **Jetpack**, **Lynx**, **The Wicked Farleys**, **V For Vendetta**, and **Plain as Day**. \$6 is what they want from you. AS220 will be the spot for a bunch of local bands' CD release events. In the house will be the following bands: **Eli**, **Bi-Janus**, **Missing Joe**, and **Lunch Meat Circus**. Showtime is at about 10 p.m. and admission is \$5. Not for nothin' but I thought that the Planters Peanut thing was gonna be here. Inside of the Providence Performing Arts Center (220 Weybosset Street; 421-ARTS) you can clap your hands as the **Festival Ballet** does *The Nutcracker*. Woohoo! Another one of those holiday traditions that we can't seem to get enough of. Oh Joy to the world. Yada, yada, yada. Down the street, a bit inside of Club OZ, join a special guest DJ as he spins dome hip-hop, r&b, and other stuff to make you work up a sweat. Call the club for more details and get there early to avoid the lines. Hockey fans will be crowding into the Providence Civic Center for the **Providence Bruins vs Hamilton** at 7:05 p.m. Damn, talk about precision timing and all of that.

On the big screen, a bunch of movies that I haven't seen yet: *Insurrection*, *Jack Frost*, *Enemy of the State*, *The Siege*, *Blade*,

... continued on page 14 as
Start steppin' ...



Tara from the movie *Belly*.



Will Smith playing Robert Clayton Dean in *Enemy of the State*.

With The Boston Pops. That's right, the **Boston Pops Esplanades Orchestra**, under the direction of **Keith Lockhart**, will be in the house, playing all the Christmas Jams that you know. Well not exactly, but hey it's the pops people so they do the traditional ones. And who knows, maybe the fat guy will join him on stage (no, not that one — we're talkin' about Santa I think). Wow, the Providence Civic Center... be there at 7:30 p.m., that is when the concert begins. So the Boston pops ain't your cup of tea? Then head on over to The Met Cafe (130 Union Street; 861-2142) for a low priced show. Three bands for three bucks. On stage doing what they wanna do will be some performers. They'll have some musical instruments and who knows, you may actually be there to see it for yourself. The bands are **Spogga**, **Mike Ladd**, and **Casey Holford**. Have a good time and don't forget to stop by that Ice-skating rink thingee ok? If you need to increase the tempo a bit, your destination for the evening should be The Living Room (23 Rathbone Street; 521-5200). **Energy** is the name of the event, night, happening. And techno and house is what you are going to hear. Join the masses or pseudo masses as they dance and bounce to the beats and bass provided by the Volume Production DJs. There'll be special guest DJs there too. Check the volume info-line for more details at 621-1547. Doors open at 9 p.m. and if you get there before 10 p.m. it will only cost you \$3, after that \$5 is what you must pay.

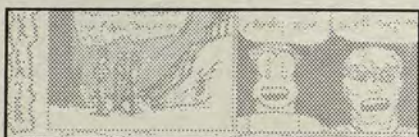
Wednesday December 16

Well it being the first day of exams you may actually be able to find a good parking spot. If you're hungry and it's lunch time, stop by the offices of *The Anchor*, Student Union room 308 and have some food. I don't know what it is but it may be good. Hey I'm not a cook or a food critic, so you must decide for yourself; just choose wisely ok, and make sure you say hello to the writer of this column because he'll be there waiting to hear from you (yeah right). After breaking bread and partaking of the feast of all feasts inside of *The Anchor* office, walk it all off around the campus. Climb the stairs outside of Adams Library about four or five times then do it again. (Editor's note: Hey... it isn't going to be that fattening!)

For those of you who would like to hear some seasonal stories, if you are a child or a child at heart, then your destination should be the Chateau-sur-Mer (Bellevue Avenue; 847-1000). Inside you can take part or just listen to Christmas Stories. It is called **Christmas Story Reading for Children** and it begins at 4 p.m. Sit and listen as Marjorie Foster reads a bunch of timeless tales for the holiday. If you plan on attending, get there early because seating is limited.



Anchor Comics: A Leader in Comic Excellence!! and humble too!



which one of the above panels does not appear in this week's anchor comic section?

The illustration to the right, by Neil Bennett is dedicated to our friend Alex who died in his sleep early Friday morning. I ask you to keep him in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season. Perhaps this will help you to appreciate the fact that you still have your life and the life of your loved ones this Christmas.

thank you,
peter forsstrom
graphics editor



So Breeze, why do you want to go to Canson village? Is that where you're from?

No. It's kind of a long story.

A Few months back, I received a letter for help from Canson village. Whoever wrote it left no name, and didn't tell me how to get there.

Wow. Weird.

Oh. I'm sorry.

Well, I've lived in that house since I can remember. But about 2 or 3 years ago my master, Kaiko, died.

Hey guys, it's starting to get dark out. Maybe we should stop and rest for the night. I mean we've been walking for hours.

Good idea Squidge. Let's camp in the woods here.

THE ODDBALLS by Web

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

Ink do want me to find you a stump or a rock to sit on?

No thanks. I'll just turn into one. Anyway as I was saying...

I've lived in that house with Kaiko my whole life. Life was good. He treated me like I was a son. When he died I felt so lonely. So, I figured I'd live someone in with the dinner I made and hope someone would come. And look! I found you guys. Thanks for letting me tag along.

Well Ink, we're glad to have another friend to join us on our journey.

Yeah. And who knows? Maybe we'll meet up with some more people who join our adventure.

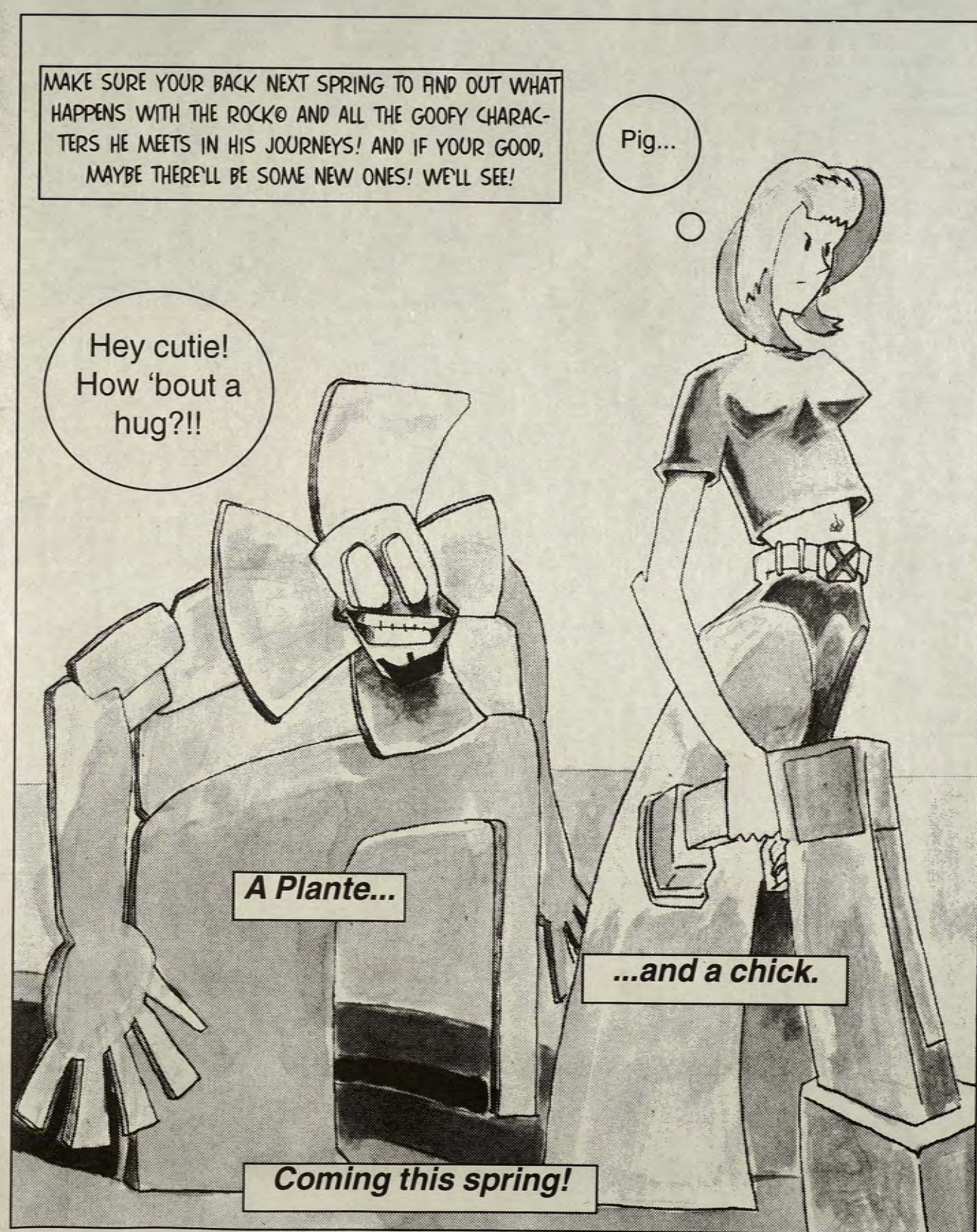
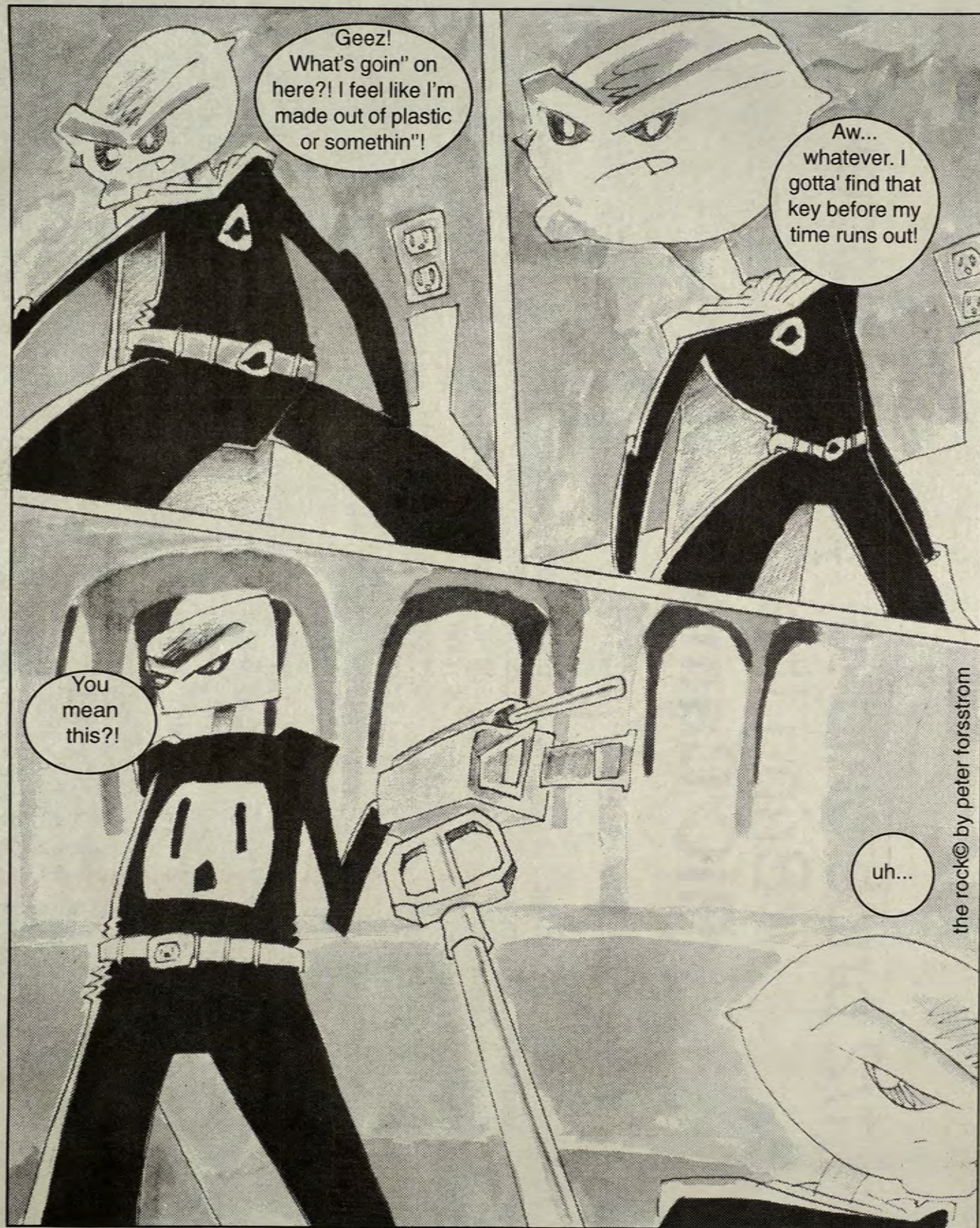
We'll just wait and see. Well, Goodnight.

Goodnight

Goodnight

Well, this is it. The last issue of The ODDBALLS, but don't worry, they'll be back next spring. Until then, do well on all your finals and enjoy your well earned vacation. Oh, and look for another hero next semester. He answers to the name KAOS.

-Thanks for reading, Web :)



Newest Zelda becomes its own legend

by Michael Galloway
Michigan Daily
University of Michigan

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, MI – When “The Legend of Zelda” first came out, people of all ages were transfixed in front of their television

Video Game Review

screens, playing the game for days. They could have been told their house was on fire, and they would merely have responded, “Just a minute. I’m about to beat this dungeon.” Well, it’s that time again, because Link returns in “The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time.”

Once again, you play Link in the game. Princess Zelda needs your help. Gannon, or Gan-nondorf rather, is once more the evil guy causing all the trouble. Everyone, including Link’s friends and allies, seems to have a secret or riddle that has to be solved. Finally, the key to all of this again is the Tri-force.

Familiarity, however, does not mean conventionality. Hyrule, in this latest Zelda adventure, is a complete 3-

D interactive world (well, maybe small country). Traveling around in it is like going to see *Star Wars* for the first time; the player is placed into a new universe of fantasy, sight, and sound. Yes, sound. There are 12 songs (that I know of) that Link learns throughout the game which can bring the sun up or down, summon rain or clear skies, or perform more specific functions. Those who have a Rumble Pak also have their sense of touch indulged. If you find the Stone of Agony, your controller will rumble (if you have this accessory) when you are near treasure chests or hidden items.

Familiarity can be a joy as well though. While Zelda 64 offers much more in originality than the *Star Wars* re-releases did, something of the same enjoyment was there when seeing upgraded special effects. All the old enemies from the first Zelda have been remade, as well as many of the boards from the dungeons, but going from 2-D to 3-D has literally opened up a whole new dimension. What you see in Zelda 64 is what we all had to imagine happening in the first and second Zelda.

Of course, anyone who has kept up with video games is familiar with the incredible graphics they now offer, and they’re probably sick of hearing about how great the remakes of all the old classics are – or they soon will be with the new “Asteroids,” “Centipede,” and “Castlevania” coming out. The real question is what is

Zelda 64’s playability, it’s fun-factor if you will. Well, forget about it. Besides the fun of fighting and exploring, some of the other actions you’ll have to do to beat the game are incredibly entertaining. You can take a high dive off a water fall, ride a horse across Hyrule (once you have shown you can ride it well enough), hide from guards as you sneak into a castle, or even simply enjoy fishing.

Because of how much Link is asked to do, it is difficult, somewhat, to familiarize yourself with the player controls. The first part of the adventure is really just an instructional course on how to move, look around, and attack. The third person camera shot from which the player usually views Link takes a little getting used to, and using the Z button on the controller to bring the camera back directly behind will become a habit. This difficulty is not a real flaw in the game, but

it is a frustrating obstacle for those who first pick it up. Also, there should be a way to speed up how fast the text appears on screen when the other characters speak to you, as well as some way of keeping your fairy friend Navi from repeating the same thing over and over again. She can be ignored, at least.

Otherwise, the game lives up to all the hype, and none of those rumors that it’s outdated or a “Mario 64 clone.” “The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time” is not a giant step in game evolution either, as many video game magazines have said. But the lifelike controls, the sheer fluidity in graphics, the detail and thought put into every setting and, frankly, the amount of time that was put into the game itself, makes Zelda 64 a new standard for emulation. As with all great works, it’s a creative height worthy of aspiration. Go buy it.



Festival Ballet presents A New Nutcracker

Festival Ballet of Rhode Island, under the Artistic Direction of Mihailo (Misha) Djuric, will perform a newly choreographed production of its annual holiday favorite, *The Nutcracker*, from December 18 through the 20th at the Providence Performing Arts Center. *The Nutcracker* performances, which are sponsored by Bank Boston and Leach & Garner, are scheduled for Friday, December 18 at 8 p.m., Saturday, December 19 at 2:30 and 8 p.m., and Sunday, December 20 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

This well-loved ballet spins a magical holiday tale of a young girl named Clara, who enters a fantasy world where toys come to life. All set on a stage designed to dazzle, the audience is invited to join Clara as she enters the enchanted land of dancing snowflakes, toy soldiers, candy canes, and a Christmas tree that grows to 30-feet tall before your eyes.

The Festival Ballet orchestra will perform Tchaikovsky’s famous score under the direction of Richard VanStone, Assistant Conductor of the Portland Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets to *The Nutcracker* range from \$10.00 to \$30.00, and are available through the Providence Performing Arts Center box office, 220 Weybosset Street, Providence, or by calling (401) 421-ARTS. Discounts are available for children, seniors, and groups.



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Wed., Thurs. Dec. 16, 17 9 am - 6 pm
Friday Dec. 18 9 am - 3 pm
Mon., Tues., Dec. 21, 22 9 am - 6 pm

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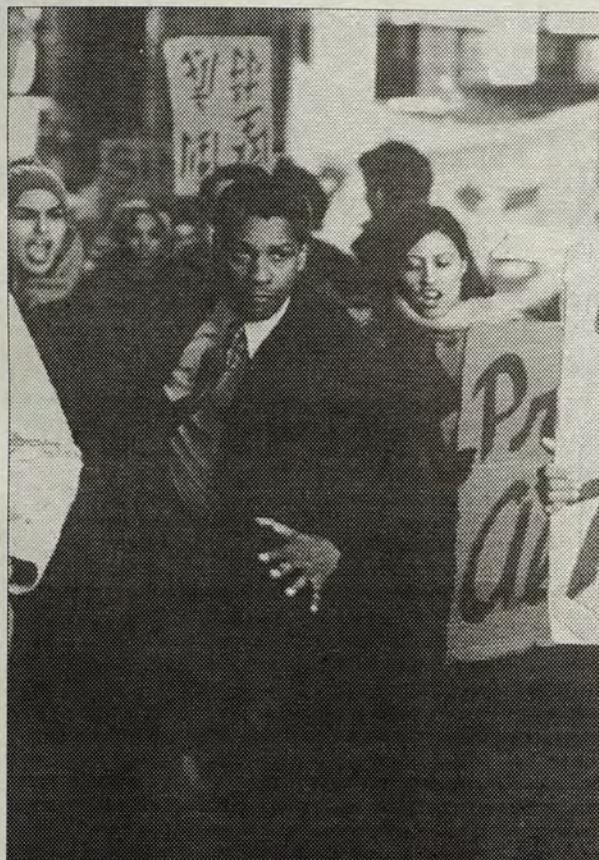
CASH! CASH! CASH!

... Start Steppin' continued from page 11 ...

and *Belly*. Check the other paper for where exactly you can see these movies or you can call movie phone... Hello, welcome to movie phone (Seinfeld).

Saturday December 19

Hey, it is Saturday and you should have all of the decorations up by now. Make sure you use plenty of extension cords and don't water the tree; we need some more seasonal fires... Oops, um, just forget about that. Don't wanna start any trouble. Got to stay the course. Head to Newport this evening for the *Swanhurst Chorus Christmas Carol and Messiah Sing*. At 7 p.m., crowd into



Denzel Washinton as Anthony "Hub" Hubbard in *The Siege*.

the Emanuel Church (Spring Street & Deaborn Street; 849-6545) for this fourth annual Christmas sing-a-long. I think they might get a bit upset if you started to sing old sea chanteys instead of Christmas carols though, so make sure you pay attention. Back on campus watch as a vehicle approaches, a passenger gets out, and picks up a copy of this very newspaper called *The Anchor*.

Run to the Century Lounge and experience *Punk O Rama*. Mosh it up, try stage diving, as these bands get your juices flowing: *The Priss Teens*, *Luv's*, *Hammel on Trial*, and *Hosehead* are on the bill. \$6 for this 18-plus show.

Try something a bit different; make a cake and throw it at a friend... hmmm. Or you can take in some theater this evening. At the Trinity Repertory Company (201 Washington Street; 351-4242) *A Christmas Carol* can be seen. And hey they're running it with two different casts. Read the review in this issue, I hope. (Sorry about last week Ryan T., that was my fault. It should be straightened out this week.) Also being presented at Trinity is *Saint Joan*, and yeah there is a review of that to in this issue. At the Sandra Feinstein Gamm Theatre (31 Elbow Street; 831-2919) you and whomever decides to attend with you will be able to see *A Child's Christmas In Wales*.

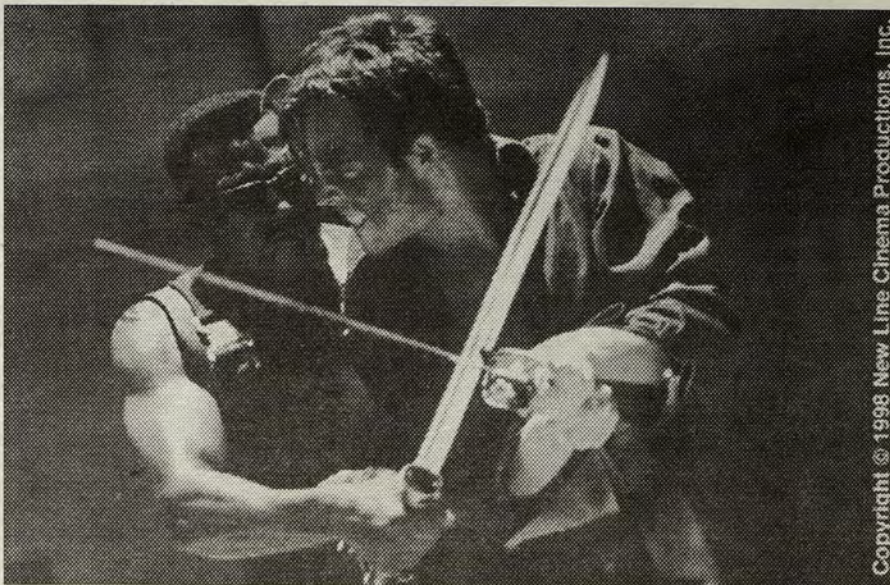
Late night movie buffs can peep the Midnight Show at The Avon Repertory Cinema (260 Thayer Street; 421-3315). On the screen is a piece entitled *I Married a Strange Person*. It was produced and animated by George Plympton. Even though it is an animated film it contains very, very, very, strong adult themes, so make sure you leave the kids at home.

Sunday December 20

So with a few more days of this Yule Tide (Tic reference) flowing through the world, have you finished all of your shopping yet? Hm, ok. Jump in your vehicle of choice and travel northward to Bangor, Maine, to see if you can find the home of Stephen King. Check out what kind of decorations, if any, are hanging up outside of his house. Take some notes, do some sketches, and collect your observations for an oral presentation.

Number one, engage. Well since there are so many things going on today... um hey, wait a minute, their ain't too much going on so I am going to read a book while you read this passage from Roland James.

"He climbed down slowly and silently, placing the charges



Westly Snipes as Blade, a half-human / half-vampire, sword fighting Stephen Dorff as Deacon Frost, a full vampire.

upon the wall of the cliff. He checked his watch and saw that he had an hour before sunrise. He didn't care because there would be a new sun rising today once his task was completed."

Oh, I see you have finished. Yeah well I have a few more chapters to read. Roland James writes fiction; see his latest item in *ALAS*.

Mad Not Crazy, *Dementia Praecox*, and *MDM* are the bands that can be found inside of the Met Cafe. \$3 for entry.

Have you ever wondered what would happen to Andy Rooney if he ever stopped wondering. This and Morley Schaefer in *Drag*, on the next *60 Minutes*... Well maybe not.

Monday December 21

Oh man it is Monday. Did you have a great and fulfilling weekend? I know a bunch of *Anchor Editors* did because for once they were *not* in the office getting this thing we call a student newspaper laid-out. Boy oh boy, can't wait for next year (yeah right). Ok relax a bit people and sit down. Grab a few twigs and some strands of grass and toss them in the air. Let the wind take them on a journey and focus on that point when they reach the horizon then disappear. Now you are ready.

Take a few deep breaths and finish packing things up and continue that journey that was begun a long time ago.

Happy Holidays to all, and remember to do it them before they do it to us. Yeah I know, I used it before - big deal have an *Anchor Mug* and shut up. I'll see ya when I see ya.

Buh-bye.

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College Horoscope

by Linda C. Black
COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

The sun is in Sagittarius all week, and so are Pluto and Mercury. Pluto represents surprise, and Mercury represents communication. So this ought to be interesting. Sagittarius is the sign of the truth, so new facts could surface, revealing what really happened. Neptune and Uranus are in Aquarius, and that position suggests these revelations will be factual rather than speculative. So we'll find out the real stories behind the current events, and we may also see a couple of scientific breakthroughs. Secret negotiations will have a chance of staying private on Monday and Tuesday, while the moon is in Scorpio, but from Wednesday through Friday, it'll be hard to keep anything private. The sun and moon will both be in Sagittarius then, the sign of full disclosure. It's the sign of justice, too, so don't worry about it. Sagittarius is also the sign of gifts and abundance, so this week ought to be lots of fun. Postpone being practical until this weekend, when the moon will be in Capricorn. That's a hard working combination, but also great conditions for comedians.

Aries (March 21-April 19). Your mood should be good all week, but your energy level is really intense on Monday and Tuesday. The

moon in Scorpio empowers you, but in a rather irritating way. It generally feels like you have to do something because of the competition, or because somebody else is pushing you to increase your performance. This can be a stimulating sensation, and energizing, if you don't let yourself get rattled. This week, you may feel like making a run for it, to avoid the situation all together. That Sagittarius sun brings out your independent streak and wanderlust. If you can wrap up business Monday and Tuesday, your best days for traveling are actually Wednesday through Friday. This week is great for visiting controlling authority figures. Everybody from traffic cops to your own parents should be in generous moods.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Looks like you could have some pretty interesting conversations with your mate

on Monday and Tuesday. Those are both good days for making decisions, or at least as good as you're going to get this week. From Wednesday through Friday, you'll be shopping. That's almost a given, since the sun and moon are both in Sagittarius, the sign of your jointly held finances. Those are the days you'll also be figuring out how to borrow more money, if you decide you need it. That's why it's important to do the planning ahead of time. Travel looks good for you this weekend. With the moon in Capricorn, it's a perfect time to follow through with your family traditions. With Venus in Capricorn, too, they will go beautifully.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Monday and Tuesday could be kind of tough. Looks like you want to play with a very interesting person, someone who is not only attractive, but also intelligent, charming, inventive, creative and downright good looking. But there's work to be done. More work is coming in every minute. From Wednesday through Friday, the chances of getting into some sort of partnership situation increase dramatically. It could be a date, a conversation or even something along the lines of an argument — you and this other person exchanging ideas, exciting each other with your brilliant insights, all that sort of thing. It should be a lot of fun. Over the weekend, go shopping. You'll be in a very practical frame of mind then.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). Save as much time as you can Monday and Tuesday for love. You'll be in the mood for it then, and so will the person you'd most like to spend that time with. If you don't have a person in your life right now whom you'd like to be in love with, guess what? Monday and Tuesday are your best days this week for finding him or her. You get to play the first couple days of this week, but Wednesday through Friday, it's nothing but work, work, work. There's no time for romance,

so don't even schedule a date until Saturday or Sunday. Those are good days for forming partnerships, by the way, if you've gotten to that phase by then. If you haven't, maybe you will. Looks like the urge to merge is going to be pretty strong.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Stick close to home on Monday and Tuesday. Looks like you'll have plenty to keep you busy there. You've got projects you're involved with, of course, but romance is also demanding a lot of attention right now, and quite a lot of work, too. You sure don't want to do it later in the week. Wednesday and Thursday are excellent for romance, and Friday is just about as good, in some ways better. Your workload increases again over the weekend, so plan your time accordingly.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your house is the center of activity for the whole week, which can get kind of frazzling. Might as well admit it, you wouldn't have it any other way. That'll make Monday and Tuesday much easier. From Wednesday through Friday, it looks like there's something amazing going on in your home. It could be a complete transformation. Are you moving right in the middle of the holiday season or what? Looks like that could be the case. If you're not moving, at least you're changing things all around. Maybe there's some decorating going on, or family coming to visit. Whatever it is, it's bordering on chaos. Better relax or you won't enjoy it. Saturday and Sunday look great, though. By then, you will have abandoned all resistance, so just go ahead and wallow in the love that's around you. By then you'll be too tired to do anything else.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Monday and Tuesday are about money — finding it, getting rid of it, sorting it, putting it into rows, figuring out your budget, paying your bills, balancing your checkbook, all that

kind of thing. Get it out of the way early in the week so you won't have to deal with it later. Besides that, it's always important to know how much money you have in the bank before you start spending it, and you'll have plenty to spend it on, that's for sure. From Wednesday through Friday, you'll learn very easily, so you'll also be very inventive then. Put yourself in a creative space. Magical things could happen. Saturday and Sunday are good for entertaining at your house. That's your excuse for spending money on decorations earlier in the week.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Monday and Tuesday are excellent for figuring out money matters — where you're going to get it and how you're going to spend it. There are a couple of creative ideas bubbling around in this cauldron, and with any luck at all, you'll be able to fish them out. One of them is a way to get more money from an older person, possibly your boss. From Wednesday through Friday, you could really feel the crunch. That's when you're going to be spending the most. Don't give up on the idea of making more, either. If you can take on a second job, that would be your busiest phase. Saturday and Sunday are good for working with a partner and learning new skills. You may be doing both of those, in fact, without even noticing, and it looks good on you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know what needs to be done on Monday and Tuesday, so don't put it off any longer. Here's the good news: Once you get this done, you're going to be really, really pleased with yourself. Here's the bad news: If you don't get it done quickly, you could be in trouble. Well, not real trouble, perhaps, but you'll feel guilty. As every Sagittarian knows, a little bit of guilt goes a long way. Minimize it by simply doing what you already know you have to do, and stop complaining about it, even to yourself. From Wednesday through Friday you are awesome. The sun and moon are both in your sign and everything you touch turns

to gold. Make the most of those three days, then take care of practical matters over the weekend. Saturday and Sunday are the best days for any sort of commerce you may have.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Home and family are important on Monday and Tuesday, but something even bigger is going on. Looks like you're bonding with your whole community again. This has happened before, of course, but it's always a comforting feeling. You don't get to spend the whole day playing, though. There's work to be done. Set goals on Monday and Tuesday, but follow through on them Wednesday through Friday. That's the tough part. All the reasons you don't want to do them will come right out. That's for sure. Just write them down and put them in a safe place so you won't be surprised when you see them again, and you won't be afraid of them either. Celebrate over the weekend by doing something you like a lot. You'll have fulfilled enough obligations by then to take some time off for yourself.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Watch your P's and Q's Monday and Tuesday. You might as well. Looks like somebody else sure is, and that person may have a promotion in mind. If you've been doing too much work for not enough money, could be a change is about to take place. Put on a good showing now, while you're getting this attention. From Wednesday through Friday, meetings and group activities go very well. Just about whatever you decide to do will work, so take on something that looks impossible. Anything less would be boring. Old love is best, especially this weekend. Meet with someone you haven't seen in years, and finally tell him or her how you really feel. It'll make you both stronger.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). Something you learn on Monday and Tuesday could benefit your career. The trouble is, at first it looks like you're wasting time, or even headed in the wrong different direction. Not to worry. If you're fol-

lowing your intuition, you're on the right track. You can follow your heart on this one, too, and a friend's advice. Put those all together and you'll find yourself involved in something you love. Once you've made up your mind what that is, the rest of the career stuff will come naturally. From Wednesday through Friday, there will be tests, not just one, but several. If you are looking for a new job, that's perfect. You're being forced to reconsider. Is this really what you should be doing or not? If not, make the change now. On Saturday and Sunday, relax with friends. Win or lose, they're eager to give you support and the respect you've earned by being true to yourself, as well as true to your word.

If You're Having a Birthday This Week ...

Dec. 14: This year is about completion, big time. You need to finish up everything you've ever started and left half done.

Dec. 15: You're always a kid at heart, but this year you'll be growing up in certain ways.

Dec. 16: Your powers are enormous this year. Just about whatever you say will come true, so be careful what you say.

Dec. 17: This is a year of transformation, starting now. You won't be the same person when the year is over.

Dec. 18: You're brilliant this year. Your wise advice helps everyone who comes near you. Reach as many people as possible.

Dec. 19: You are lucky this year in sports and money. Not a bad combination.

Dec. 20: Something you learn this year could benefit your whole community, and yourself as well. Don't worry about the money. If you do what you love, it'll follow.

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ACROSS

1 Orchard fruit

6 Potential plant

10 Lyme-disease carrier

14 General Powell

15 Jai follower?

16 Horse color

17 Sincere warmth

19 Keen on

20 Sicily's peak

21 Religious factions

22 Ancient Scot

23 Sail support

24 Time periods

26 Kitchen lure

30 Followed

32 Poison ivy and poison oak

34 Choir member

35 Municipal vehicle

38 Letter-writers

40 Indulgent

42 Star Wars letters

43 No lazybones

45 Make wider

46 Got a circuit ahead

48 Rocker John

49 Leave a bivouac

52 Belgravia bars

54 Date in March

55 "___ Never Walk Alone"

57 Worn out

61 Pointed tools

62 Easter candy

64 Green shade

65 Seine tributary

66 "Fear of Flying" author Jong

67 ___ Slaughter

68 Zeno of ___

69 More fit

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

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12/15/98

10 Camera holder

11 Column type

12 Hidden drawback

13 Glove hitch and sheepshank

18 O.T. book

23 Paving material

25 Showy flowers

26 Small snakes

27 Felt regret

28 Former Atlanta arena

29 Atlas page

31 Each and every one

33 Ground-beef sandwich

35 Kerouac's generation

36 "Do ___ others as ___"

49 Ladd or Lane

50 "The Mystery of ___ Drood"

51 Violin's kin

53 Old-time journalist Nellie

56 Trompe-l'

57 Belgrade citizen

58 Frozen drops?

59 Second word of a limerick

60 Russian despot

63 Arthur of "Maude"

Answers

found

elsewhere

in this

issue...

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Happy Holidays

and

All That

Jazz

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☐ Roommates

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☐ Miscellaneous

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For verification purposes only.

Classified ads will be unacceptable if this form is not filled out completely.

Classified ads may be placed, with payment, at The Anchor, Student Union room 308.



A . E . A . S .

anchor literary arts section

Illustration by Pete Forsstrom

Happy Holidays

The car pulled up slow and the drunken passengers screamed out, "Merry Christmas and a happy fuckin' New Year" at the pedestrian. Then they got closer and looked at the walking individual and screamed, "Get back to you're own neighborhood." "We don't want you here," yelled another. This continued for about two city blocks. Them continually taunting the pedestrian who seemed almost oblivious to their taunts. Finally they became frustrated that they were being ignored; they finally told the walker to come to the car. He paused, then approached the car. They noticed that he had headphones on and they could still hear the music as it was at a very loud level. They got nervous and sobered up real quickly. By the time he approached the car the only thing they could think of was why is he smiling? The music got softer as I walked to the car. I reached into one pocket to turn off the walkman. From my other pocket I pulled out a silver 9 mm pistol. I shot the driver first so there would be no easy escape for the others. I then shot the girl on the passenger side in the mouth. Her blood and brains sprayed her friends who were screaming and crying in the back seat. I stood there for a minute, said "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night," then threw two hand grenades into the back seat and walked away.

by Roland James

Leo (for Mike)

His face — the lion's mane,
Strong, sure, proud.

Venturing out into jungle depths
He finds prey for his pride.

Ever vigilant this hunter —
Always prowling for more plunder.

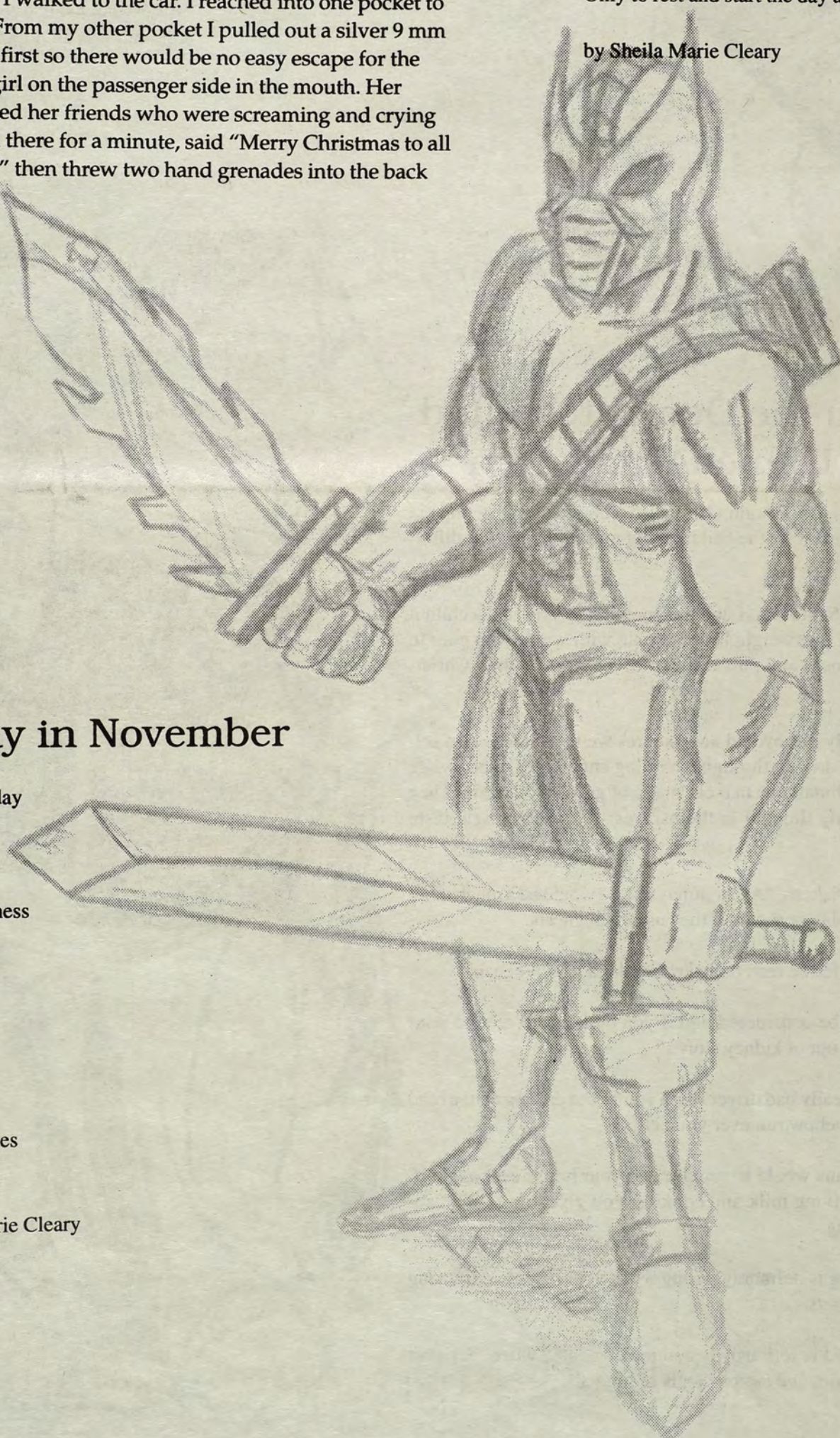
Victorious, glorious, savage,
Yet gentle and protective.
He returns to his den
Only to rest and start the day again.

by Sheila Marie Cleary

Coldest Day in November

The remnants of our wintry day
Are slowly melting away.
The blithering cold
Of piles of snow
Are returning to their autumnness
Of
Cool brisk air
And mud puddles.
Colors in the leaves
Seem drawn out
Weary from the cold,
Stripped of their brilliance.
Yet they cling to their branches
Ignoring winter's clutches.

by Sheila Marie Cleary



A Kiss is Just a Kiss

Like thoughts lost in a mist,
You never thought you were missed.

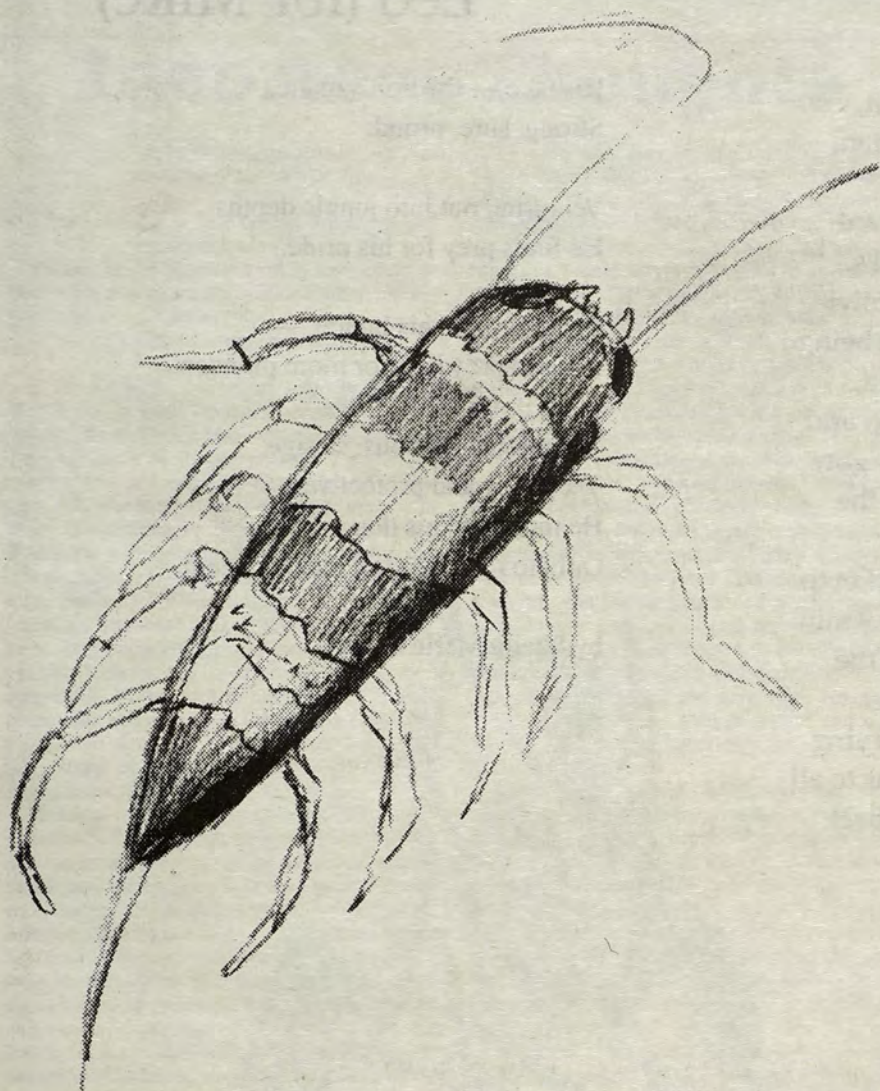
But you were never there
to sever our affair.

You thought I lied,
I swallowed my pride ~

There was never anyone else
but you
Regardless of the way things looked.

You were the one for me
One call was all it took.

by Sheila Marie Cleary



From the Demented Mind of Daniel Aznavorian

1) Christmas just wouldn't be the same if, instead of giving out presents, Santa took the children and moved them all to different houses.

2) I think if Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy ever had a child it would be an overweight bearded man with wings who goes to people's houses and puts ripped-out teeth under their Christmas trees.

3) I've finally discovered how smores were invented. Two scientists were driving through a burning chocolate factory while eating marshmallows in a car made of graham crackers. They then suddenly thought to themselves: "Hey, this might taste pretty good."

4) Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" would be a much more interesting play or movie if they used real ghosts.

5) It takes a fertile man to make the Mona Lisa pregnant.

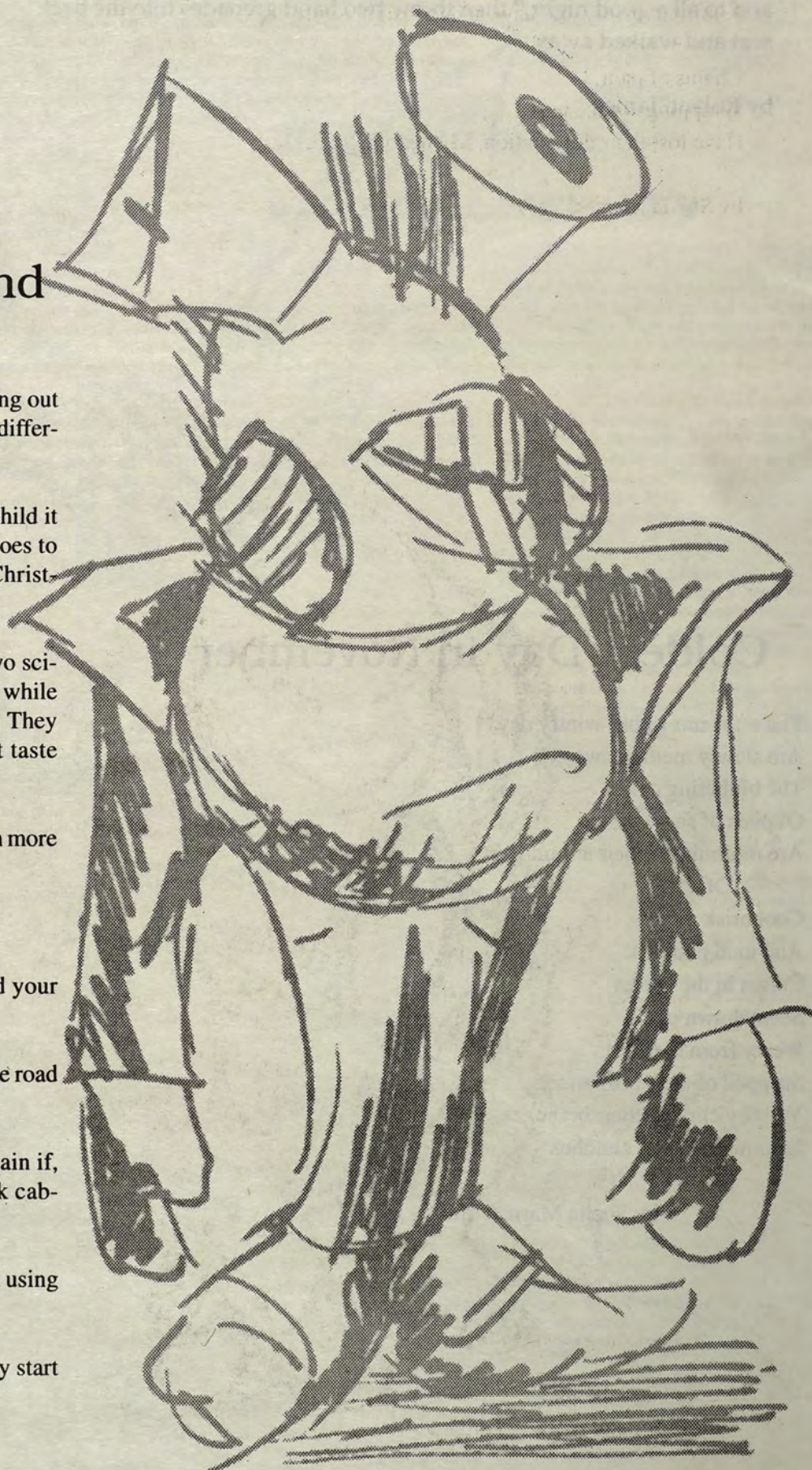
6) Would it be considered odd if you built a wall around your house made out of kidney stones?

7) You're a really bad driver when you're out driving on the road and you somehow run over yourself.

8) Santa Claus would never come to your house ever again if, instead of giving milk and cookies, you give him skunk cabbage and tang.

9) Something is definitely wrong when your parents start using road-kill as pets.

10) The world is seriously becoming demented when they start selling popcorn and cotton candy at funerals.



The Transfiguration Trial By Fire

I am a wizened poet
Because my heart has now been purged.
It was set to fire upon a funeral dirge.

The flames of consecration
Purified my soul. The heat of conflagration
Procured this transformation.

Burning furiously —
The old unwanted ways.
I suffered madly, but have added insight to my days.

Chains of pain,
Wrappings of the past
Have lost their domination, My heart is free at last!

by Sheila Marie Cleary

Mary, Queen of Hearts

I Am the Whore of Babylon,
I Am the Quintessential Saint.

I Am all things
of the Goddess,
For I myself
Am One too.

I Am a Fantasy Queen
I Am a Fallen Angel.

And again, I Am
All these things
and none.

by Sheila Marie Cleary

Changing Colors

As I watch the sun go down,
A crescent moon appears in the
Southwestern sky. I notice a stray
Ray of light streak across the sky.

The ray makes a thin line.
It looks as if the blue sky has
Just been scratched and a trace of
Orange was left behind as mark.

The sky's many colors fill my head
With memories. The sky is as pink as
Coral, as red as a drop of blood and
As blue as a bright sapphire.

As I watch the sun set, I am
Taken to another time. I remember
Watching the sun set over the
Rough, wild ocean just before a storm.

Gone are the bright colors of day.
The black of night takes over.
The dark sky has only the pure, white
Stars to act as guides for travelers.

by Amanda K. Vetelino



BOOK REVIEW:
"The Last Thing He Wanted"
 fits our wants

by Jeff Druchniak
 Michigan Daily
 University of Michigan

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, MI – The title of Joan Didion's most recent novel, "The Last Thing He Wanted," would be strikingly incongruous in reference to the book itself. At least, not many would share the implied perspective. The book has already become a national bestseller, and even before a single copy had been opened by a reader, it was far from the last thing a great number of readers wanted.

The novel is Didion's first in more than a decade, and while the dust jacket is just a trifle over-the-top in referring to her as a "legendary author," she is one of the few serious American novelists who can be said to have a fan base. While her devotees did have Didion's memoir "After Henry" to bridge that gap between novels, it is clear she is not exactly the Punxutawney groundhog in terms of regularity.

So hurrah for the momentous event of this book's publication, but what is the book anyhow? Well, it is a thriller. That is, it is a tale of international political intrigue and espionage, and it centers on the moral crises of its protagonist, who is a character unexpectedly enmeshed in a unprincipled and unfamiliar world full of danger and mystery.

I think it's fair to say that other people have written that novel before.

But only Didion has written this novel, which admittedly is all those hackneyed-sounding things, but combines them into something much weirder, and much more impressive, than anything the latest Robert Ludlum wannabe could comprehend creating.

For one thing, Didion does not simply narrate this tale, but blurs the very borders of fiction with her narrator, whose voice dizzyingly impersonates Didion's own, say in one of her nonfiction works. Didion seems to be trying to fool the reader into treating the narrator as Didion herself when she recounts the process of researching and putting together the story she is in the midst of telling, and why she decided to tell it the way she does. As she says in the first chapter, "The best story I ever told was a reef dream. This is something different."

Different is what it definitely is, warping through space, time, perspective, and hallucination in such a matter-of-fact way that the narrative has the illusion of being linear. The central kernel of the story is reporter Elena McMahon's decision to quit her job covering the 1984 presidential campaign for *The Washington Post*. McMahon didn't need the income and obtained the job primarily through the influence of her tycoon ex-husband.

The reason she leaves her job, though, is to do a favor for her shady father. He is a character who does not exactly have Big Time Operator written all over him, but in fact sucks Elena into a morass of epic proportions that seems inspired by the Nicaraguan contra scandal, with enough details changed to protect the guilty.

In the midst of secret agents, massive arms dealing, and state-sponsored terrorism, Elena becomes the co-conspirator and lover of Treat Morrison. In a way, Treat is Elena's double. To his covert world, his insider role is of the same breed as her outsider, or for that matter, the insider she was in the world she came from.

Even when this pair crosses significant moral boundaries, they maintain a blank canvas, the remote surface identity of those acted on by forces beyond their

control. Over the course of the novel, Didion questions whether they cease to have any identity at all, or are simply consumed, even in the midst of life, by the labyrinth of history.

"They were the same person," Didion writes at one point. The terrifying subtext is that that person is no person.

cerebral retrieval

We impose an emotional epidemic on those we love most, because they possess significance in our lives. In addition, we want those same individuals protected from hardship or cruelty.

Why are the laws of nature logical in this sense?

byOve the Magnate

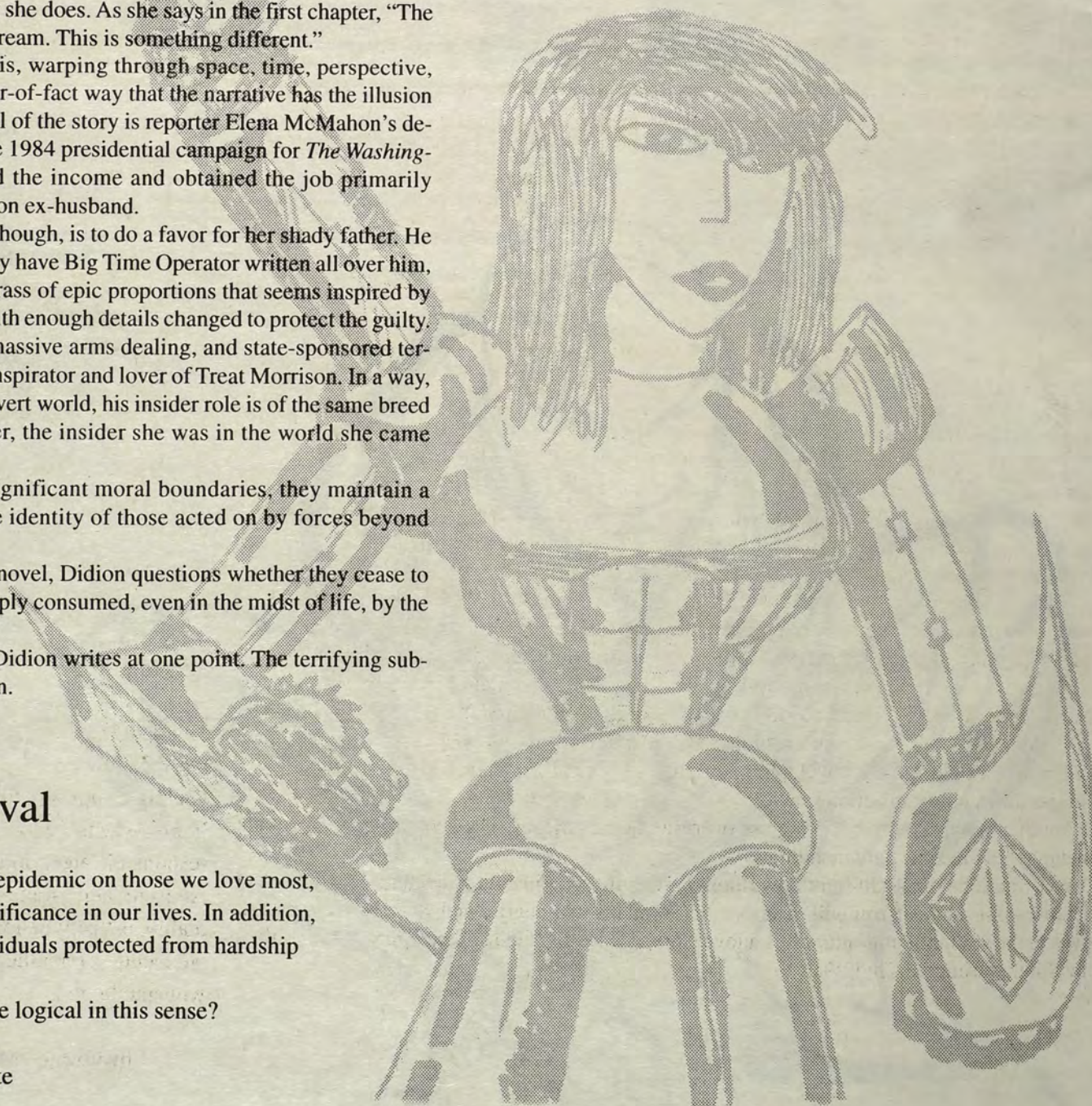
Stellar Losses

Starlight,
 Star-kissed memories
 Take on flight.

O Love, O Light
 What brand of happiness
 Is this?

To be loved
 And left lonely
 With only a memory in a mist.

by Sheila Marie Cleary



BOOK REVIEW: "Cold Mountain" is gripping tale of Civil War survival

by Todd Hamm
Indiana Daily Student
Indiana University

(U-WIRE) BLOOMINGTON, IN – Cold Mountain itself is an indistinct member of the Blue Ridge portion of the Appalachian Mountains. Like any human dwelling throughout history, it can only be appreciated and loved by its inhabitants who know its history and features, and have every bit of its expanse committed to memory.

The story that takes place there and in other places of the South is more or less a family history or legend – one that had never been written down until our time. It has been subject to the downside of oral tradition.

The version in the book by the same name is entirely fiction. Charles Frazier creates a vivid world for his readers. His retelling of his forefathers' lives places us in their world and accurately captures the brutality of the Civil War and life in the 1860s. It describes opinions that living persons of the South were likely to have had. Their views on slavery and their disillusionment with the war are clearly described.

The plot of the novel is really two stories. It is the story of a man named Inman, a Confederate soldier, and Ada, the woman he loves. Inman's story begins with him lying in a hospital with a bullet wound in his neck. While a convalescent, he contemplates his military service. These remembrances reveal the man he has become. He has very little penitence for the masses he has killed and can no longer remember why he consented to fight. At one point he relives a full day he spent simply killing Federal soldiers. He grew somber with their willingness to line up in front of him and walk his way. He went on killing them, as many as would come, while his generals stood back congratulating themselves on their fortunate position.

Inman is sick of the fighting, and the neck wound is almost a blessing. It has created an interruption in his monotonous life as a soldier and allowed him time for introspection. He has taken up the idea of returning home to Cold Mountain and to Ada, if she will still have him. Inman fears that she will not, but that she will be appalled by him.

During his journey, he has many adventures. The people he meets represent those who stayed at home instead of fighting in the war. He is hunted by horsemen patrolling for deserters, who think little of killing any they find. He meets gypsies and other eccentric people – such as a woman who lives high in the mountains in a tiny caravan. Her only companions are her goats. After she invites Inman to eat with her, she cuddles with one of the goats, stroking its head while she slices its throat.

Inman meets another woman during his travels who has a newborn baby and whose husband is dead. The baby is all that she has for companionship. Her meager existence is supported by what food she can grow in a small garden. A one-room cabin is left to her along with a large sow, but she doesn't have the means to kill it. Inman sees that without his help, death is imminent for the woman and her infant.

For a few nights he takes the place of her husband – washing where he washed, sleeping where he slept, sitting silent next to her in front of the fire. In the end, Inman does about the only thing he can for her by slaughtering her pig. He then leaves the woman alone with her child.

The story of Ada begins with her slowly starving. Her father left her a decent house and farm on Cold Mountain, but without the knowledge or help to work it, the fields returned to their natural state, and Ada goes hungry.

Then a young woman named Ruby comes into her life. She has fended for herself since she was a small child and knows the workings of a farm. Ruby teaches Ada the way of the land and this changes much about her. Her father did his best to keep her as much a child as he could. She grows into a woman by hard work of the land and reaping its benefits.

Inman finally reaches Cold Mountain, and by then he is a shadow of the man he was when he went off fighting. He is dirty and starved and nearly unrecognizable to Ada when they eventually reunite.

Frazier's writing is a fine example of truthfulness. His novel makes no attempt at glorifying the historical events of this time. A great battle becomes a valley filled with the stench of dead men's partially digested breakfasts, spilled about from their mangled bodies. Great generals and war heroes on either side are portrayed as distant men who did little in the way of their fame. Slavery itself is portrayed stoically and is written about minimally.

"Cold Mountain" is not without flaws. I almost quit reading it because of the continuous action scenes. During his travels, Inman fights off several pursuers. Reading these scenes is similar to watching an action movie.

Another downside is Frazier's gross overuse of comparisons. The abundance of simile and metaphor is tiresome and unending.

You would be well-advised to overlook these faults and give the novel the time it needs to capture your interest. You will discover that it retains its integrity and surpasses all its negatives in the strength of its story. It is a love story, a war story, and a veritable account of life in the South during the Civil War.



Shouts of recognition to Ones

This is intended to reach all those who care.
The ones who dare to dare themselves to challenges.
The ones who fight to illuminate light, that in effect leave a bright, wide opening of ideas that others can discern, take upon and learn, a new approach to life.
To the ones who put importance to the ideology of unity.
To the ones who reach out far beyond their communities.
For the ones who organize and utilize communication, leading us through the depths of information.
For ones who realize that life can be short, and act responsible accordingly.
And suddenly, some ones realize that ultimately, the reality, is that you know that life is precious, and so you act to serve others, because love is of use to you and them...

by Ove the Magnate



*Are you
ready for a
new Anchor?
A new look for a new year.*