



23
May
1990

Vol. I
No. 26

*MSU's alternative
and truly
independent voice*



What's shakin' :

We've got more
columns than Rome!

Quit fiddlin' and read.. p. 6+

- Get caught Op: with issues... p. 4
- Our readers are always write... p. 5
- Check out (of) The Clydesdale... p. 9
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- Our Reviews are always right on... p. 11
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STUDENTS LEARN ABCs, FAIL STD QUIZ

BY SHANNON DRAYSON
uR-I ISSUES CORRESPONDENT

What MSU students don't know about sexually transmitted diseases might hurt them, according to a recent uR-I survey.

In an effort to promote awareness and education on the topic of STD's throughout campus, the uR-I last week conducted a random, non-scientific survey polling 100 MSU students on their sexual behavior and STD's. The sample was comprised of students ages 18-23 living in Wonders, Hubbard, Williams and Emmons halls and Cedar Village.

According to the two-part survey — a six-question STD quiz and personal questionnaire — most MSU students do not have their facts straight about STD's. (see related chart)

More than half of the students surveyed answered incorrectly to four of the six questions on the STD quiz. These questions were:

•The most prevalent sexually transmitted disease in the United States is: a) syphilis; b) Herpes Simplex; c) chlamydia; d) gonorrhea. The correct answer is chlamydia, which was missed by more than 2/3 of students surveyed.

•Several precautions can be taken to reduce the risks of contracting an STD. Some of these are: a) use of a condom; b) limit ;your partner); c) washing with soap & water immediately after contact; d) a & b only; e) all of the above. The correct answer is e, which was missed by about two-thirds of the respondents.

•STD's involve different complications, including death. Which of the following STD's can lead to death? a) syphilis; b) gonorrhea; c) AIDS; d) only b & c; e) only a & c; f) all of the above. The correct answer is d, syphilis and AIDS, which was answered incorrectly by more than half.

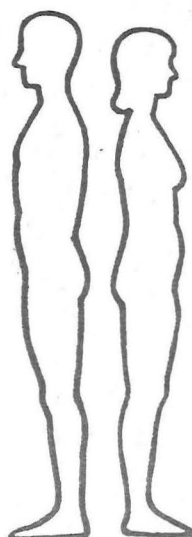
•Necking & Petting can lead into the contraction of an STD. True or False? The correct answer is true, which also was missed by more than half.

The one question answered correctly by slightly more than one-half of the respondents was "Which of the following STD's are not curable?"

MSU Students' Sexual Behavior

source: uR-I survey

Have had sexual intercourse: 80%
Virgins: 20%
First time having sex, ave. age: 17
Had sex before entering college: 62%
Lost virginity at MSU: 36%
Average number of sexual partners: 5.12
Sex with stranger: 26%, on average of 2.7 times
Average number of sexual partners in past 12 months:
0 — 2.5%
1-4 — 85%
5-10 — 10%
10+ — 2.5%
Protection: 56% report male using condom during intercourse.
51% report using birth control pill
note: some reported using pill, condoms, withdrawal, foams and jellies alternately



Have had sexual intercourse: 90%
virgins: 10%
First time having sex, average age: 17
Had sex before entering college: 80%
Lost virginity at MSU: 20%
Average number of sexual partners: 5.6
Sex with stranger: 30%, on average of 2.78 times.
Average number of sexual partners in past 12 months:
0 — 5%
1-4 — 82%
5-10 — 9%
10+ — 2%
Protection: 74% report wearing condoms during intercourse.
note: some reported using condoms, pill, sponge, foams, jellies, and withdrawal methods alternately.

a) AIDS; b) herpes; c) chlamydia; d) a & b only; e) a & c only; f) none of the STD's listed above are curable." The correct answer is "d."

The only question that nearly all students answered correctly was "A person infected with an STD may have no outward signs of infection. True or false?" The correct answer is true.

The quiz questions above were derived from

information provided in a Common Sexually Transmitted Diseases brochure published by the American Council for Healthful Living.

With the outbreak of AIDS — the almost-always fatal STD that wipes out the body's immune system — much attention has been given to STD prevention and awareness. Chlamydia, genital warts and herpes have reportedly increased to epidemic levels.

According to a 1988 American Social Health Association report, "an estimated four million Americans get chlamydial infections each year, making it more than twice as common as gonorrhea and forty times more common than syphilis."

So why are MSU students unaware of this?

Because students are guided by the misconception that contracting an STD can happen, but not to them, says Carolyn Fox, nursing administrator at Olin Health Center.

"Some people think because they are in college, or because this isn't New York City or San Francisco, (safe sex) messages don't pertain to them," Fox said. "That isn't true."

"Nice people get STD's, too."

Fox said that college students sometimes have low self-esteem and feel obligated to "go along with the crowd." The consumption of alcohol and drugs also initiates irresponsible and unprotected sex, she noted.

"Most can't recall what they did or who they were with," Fox said.

The responsibility of having sex, Fox believes, lies with the individual. Furthermore, she says one needs to continue to educate themselves and be aware of the consequences of practicing unsafe sex.

Her message to students?

"You're responsible for yours (body and life) " Fox said. "You're an adult. Be informed."

Students concerned about being infected with an STD can be tested for free at the Ingham County Health Department STD clinic.

Olin Health Center charges \$16.50 for a pap

See STDs, p. 2

ALL current staff members — and those interested in working next year — meet at the uR-I Sat. at 2:30 p.m.

FROM STDs, p. 1

smear and gonorrhea and chlamydia tests. It costs \$8.50 for the STD tests without the pap smear.

Planned Parenthood, 1400 E. Michigan Ave., charges between \$0-

\$30 for an STD infection check, depending on the patient's weekly family income.

Womancare, 201 1/2 E. Grand River Ave., charges \$30 for an office visit. The lab usually bills the patient directly for the test cost.

— UR-I CORRESPONDENTS TIM LEPHEW, BRIAN MARSHALL AND AMY KURAS CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT.

WATCH for the UR-I LITERARY SUPPLEMENT in next week's issue

For Sale:

Fender Mustang Guitar, w/ hard shell case: \$190

Boss Super Chorus pedal, like new: \$85

call 351-4899.

Ask for Joe.

Hair A Mess?

Let Us Help You Out-Come To

GARY'S CAMPUS HAIR SALON

\$9.00 Uni-sex Hair Styling

"A Cut Above Yet Priced Below"

351-6511 • 549 E. Grand River

(next to Confection Connection)

M-F 8am-7pm • Sat 9am-2pm

TOUR DE CAFE

TRAVEL THE GLOBE

The world's coffee growing region circles the equator and the diversity of customs and cultures. When you step into the cafe you will experience coffee the way it is prepared in the old and new world. The old world coffeehouse has not changed much in the last 200 years.

You still find the conversation, the politics, the flamboyant behavior that comes with coffee, and a staff that takes their coffee very seriously. Step into the cafe and take a

TOUR OF COFFEE'S TRADITION

ESPRESSO
ROYALE
CAFE

MOVING SALE:

ONKYO 23 watt receiver good condition...\$75

TECHNICS cassette recorder/ player...dbx noise reduction...\$70

TECHNICS compact disc player... fresh tune-up...w/remote...\$110

BOSE 201 direct/reflecting speakers ... still under warranty...\$130

\$325 TAKES ALL!

Assorted rock & roll compact discs...\$10/disc

Assorted rock & roll cassettes...\$3 per tape

K2 5500 skis w/ SALOMON 747 bindings...TOP NOTCH...\$275

(2) 14K gold chains, both 18", (1)herringbone, (1) rope... \$125 for both

HONDO electric guitar...with case...\$100

No Reasonable Offer Refused!

Call Steve at 351-4626 leave message

ARE YOU PLANNING A PARTY?

WHY NOT HAVE

CROSSROADS

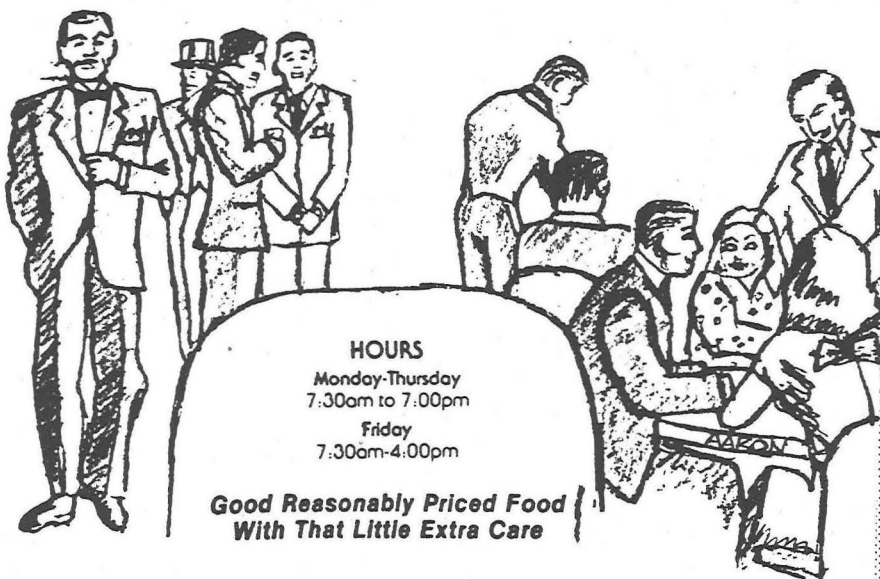


cafeteria

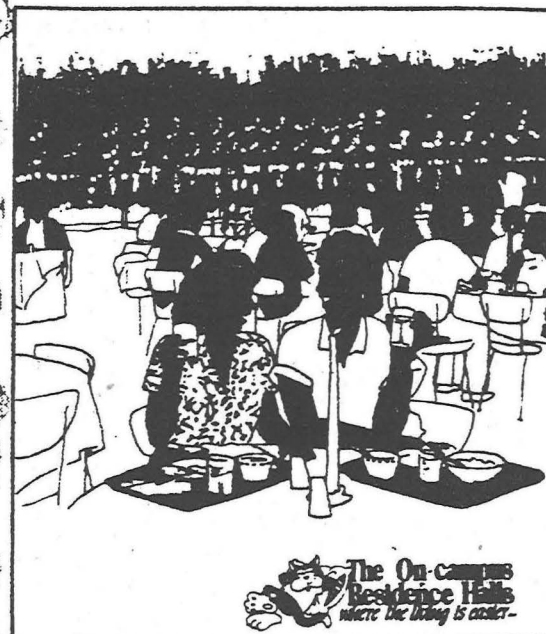
at the international center

CATER IT?

For more information call Larry Lillis, 355-4550



84 out of 100 students find the on-campus Residence Halls the place to make friends



The On-campus Residence Halls where the living is better.



Page Three

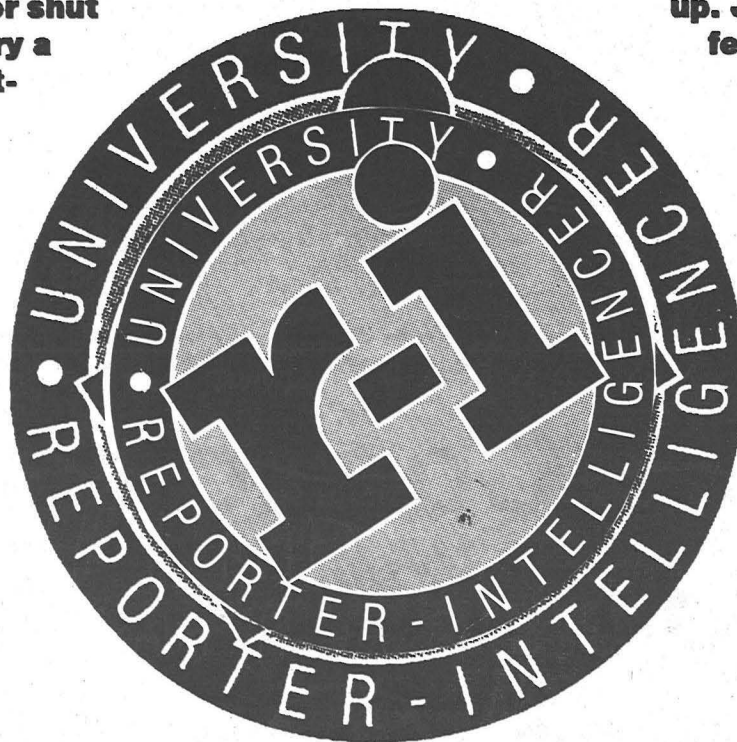
THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

Got some spare time on the crapper? Fill this out...

First an(nu)al reader survey

This is your paper! So take this opportunity to probe our minds with this first uR-I reader survey. Your responses should be sent or dropped off at 142 Gunson St. They will be used to define next year's paper. So put up, or shut up. Just tell us if you dig or if we should bury a feature by circling the appropriate, heart-

felt response.



uR-I Fun Facts....

Did you know that:

- the uR-I reaches more than 10,000 readers weekly
- we are completely independent and rely solely on advertising revenue
- the uR-I is available at more than 60 campus locations and 2 dozen East Lansing and Lansing businesses
- our staff works for free
- about 2 dozen people work on each issue
- our staff has more professional experience than the entire *State News*
- we are non-profit; every dollar earned goes into the paper

Rancid Raves

Lots of columnists...

Dig! or Bury?

Geek of the Week...

Dig! or Bury?

Dr. Sex...

Dig! or Bury?

the Provoc...

Dig! or Bury?

The Clydesdale..

Dig! or Bury?

Dog Boy...

Dig! or Bury?

Out & About...

Dig! or Bury?

Fun Page...

Dig! or Bury?

Op...

Dig! or Bury?

Reader

Response Card..

Dig! or Bury?

THE uR-I LITERARY SUPPLEMENT...

Dig! or Bury?

Reviews...

Dig! or Bury?

Viewer Mail...

Dig! or Bury?

Suggestions...

UR-I SURVEY FINDINGScompiled by **TRESA BALDAS**

Of 100 MSU students surveyed,
12% SAY THEY HAVE HAD AN STD

Breakdown:

CHLAMYDIA: 7 REPORTS**GENITAL WARTS: 3 REPORTS****GONORRHEA: 1 REPORT****HERPES SIMPLEX: 1 REPORT****REDUCE THE RISKS****LIMIT PARTNERS**

Having contact with one person who is limiting contact to you only reduces your chance of becoming infected. If your partner is having contact with others who may be infected, the infection could be passed on to you without your knowing it.

OBSERVATION

Don't be afraid to look before you have contact. If you see any suspicious sores, rash discharge or detect a strong odor, discuss it with your partner. What you see may be highly infectious.

SOAP & WATER

Washing before and immediately after contact can wash away the germs. However, these germs may penetrate the skin before you have a chance to wash.

USE OF A CONDOM

The condom is one of the best preventive measures against these diseases. When put on before any contact and properly removed, it provides good protection.

URINATION

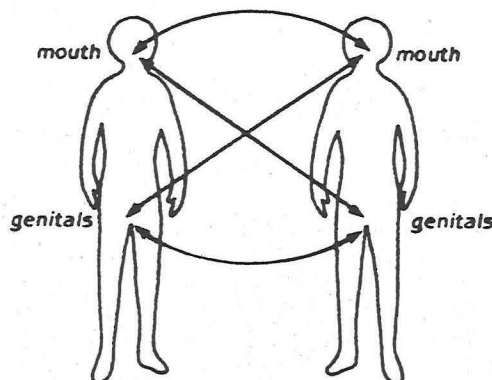
Urinating immediately after contact can flush out some germs (especially for the male).

REGULAR STD/VD CHECKUP

Based on your sexual activity, you should have periodic STD/VD checkups. Ask your doctor for the specific tests for syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia since these tests may not be part of routine examination.

SIMULTANEOUS TREATMENT

It is essential to notify your partner when you are infected. Both people should be treated at the same time to avoid reinfecting each other.

It's as simple as this...

The virus is passed from the site of infection to the site of contact.

Source: American Social Health Association

The Condom: *Don't leave home without it!*

It's not a matter of how much money you have.

It doesn't matter which school you go to or how high your grades are.

It doesn't matter if you wear designer clothes, live in a nice neighborhood and drive a classy car.

IF YOU HAVE SEX WITHOUT USING PROTECTION, YOU MAY CONTRACT A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE.

It cannot be stressed enough that people need to become responsible when having sex. They need to continue to educate themselves on the topic of STD's and take the advice of medical professionals seriously.

This means wearing a condom, limiting your partners, avoiding direct contact with infected persons, looking before you have contact and getting regular checkups.

For those of you out there having unprotected sex and getting lucky, WAKE UP! Your

luck someday may run out. And instead of coming home from a party with a smile on your face from a one-night stand with the partner who "seemed like a nice person," you may wind up in office of a doctor who looks you straight in the eye and says, "I'm sorry, you have AIDS."

Some one-night stand, eh? Well, was it worth it?

While it is no persons right to tell another person how to live their life, it is everybody's right to urge people to use protection when having sex. So whether you're having sex with 10 different people a week or one partner a year, please, be responsible.

It's no secret how STD's are transmitted — DIRECT CONTACT WITH INFECTED AREAS. But these diseases can be prevented if people just think.

Condoms cost as cheap as 50 cents — that's one-third the price you pay for a bottle of beer at the bar.

the university
Reporter-Intelligencer

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*the UR-I is published weekly
and distributed — free of
charge — throughout MSU
and its environs.
So there.*

Viewer Mail:

uR-I is crappy, too

Dear uR-I:

Well, well, uR-I, I guess I was wrong about you guys. I was all set to send you a heartfelt letter about how crappy the State News was, but it appears that you guys are just as bad. The State News is biased, as everyone knows. They are racist in nature, and have by-passed the FACT that the Spartan Football team uses steroids. (Incidentally, I've known Jeff Case for the past two years, and he's not lying!)

I figured that I could voice my views on the abortion issue to you guys but it appears that you monkey-faces are just as Pro-Child-Killing as the State News, if not more. They, however, have an excuse, whereas you don't. At least they get advertising funding from Pro-Murder agencies like Womancare (alias "Womankill" or "We Don't Care"). To quote you, "Abortion is a woman's choice, no dispute over that."

Ask an unborn child, "Do you mind if I kill you?" Don't say they'd say "yes" if they could talk. The fact of the matter is that they can't talk, which is why us "Anti-Choicers" are stepping forward to speak for them. Abortion is legalized child killing, no dispute over that. So why don't you Pro-Abortionists fact up to that fact.

As for your arguments in favor of abortion, I've heard 'em all. Abortion is called Freedom of Choice." Freedom of choice to do what? To decide to kill an unborn because you don't want that child alive anymore. I've also heard it said, "if you think abortion is wrong, then don't have an abortion." Sure, same logic applies to stealing. I don't think stealing is wrong, so I'll just break into your house and rob you blind. It was my freedom of choice. The weak arguments for abortion rage on. Nobody wants to fact up to the reality of abortion, because most people would rather be able to conveniently do away with unwanted life, and with a clear conscience.

What angers me most is the total lack of honesty. You mask the issue with terms like "rights," "choice," and so forth. Why the HELL don't you just admit it. an unborn is a human life, whether complete or not, and YOU DON'T GIVE A SHIT because it is so convenient to assume it's not. Admit that it is a life, as it is, and just say that you don't care, and you want abortion legal anyway. Quit arguing that it's not human and crap like that to justify yourself. You'll go a lot further if you say, "It's a life, but fuck it. If I wanna kill it, let me kill it. It's my freedom of choice to kill if I want to, isn't it?" Actually, it's kind of easy to say that once you've already been born and you're in the clear. So own up to the fact that you don't care about human life. do away with unwanted life, like the German's did with Jews, like the Romans did with the Christians, like the Americans are doing with the unborn.

So think what you want to. If you're honest about it, I won't stand in your way. If you want a society that doesn't care

about life, then you can have it. but don't cry to me when you look around yourself and see rape higher than it's ever been before, or that the divorce rate is skyrocketing, or that you have about eight different parents, or that you someday find yourself worried because your own budding teenager kids are screwing everything that's warm and moves. This is the kind of society you wanted. You got it.

So, you guys at the uR-I haven't won any points with me. Nor have you won any points with unborn children. I will give you credit for one, thing, though, is that I know this little piece will get into print. Even with a little raunchy license on my part. The State News, on the other hand, has a tendency to suppress freedom of speech.

By the way, tell the Provoc to go fuck himself too. He's no philosopher, only a few minutes of needless entertainment for babies.

With all my love,

Phil Abramoff
Mathematics and Statistics
SFL Vice-President
Senior Graduate Teacher
1989-90

although the uR-I has advocated a woman's right to control her body, that does not mean we would not print opposing views, and to that end invite Mr. Abramoff to submit any column — with photo — he would like. We do NOT prevent opposing views from appearing here, as any regular reader knows.

— ed.

"Eat me, hard guy!"

— the Provoc

Boyd's a Noid

Dear uR-I editors,

I am a regular reader of your publication and can usually enjoy your articles regardless of my personal point of view on the subject because your writers are competent and state things in a meaningful and understandable way. While reading Mr. Boyd's article on the shanties behind Wells Hall in your May 16th issue, I couldn't help wonder what happened. Where did you find this guy and what were you thinking when you chose to display his talent, or definite lack thereof, in your paper.

Within the first two paragraphs, Mr. Boyd changes tense enough times to leave any reader feeling as if he has just entered some sort of a time warp and his use of pronouns as water out of a tap is enough to leave any half-brained person confused. Yet after reading the entire article I realized that it was all a clever ploy to take the reader's mind away from the fact that in reality Mr. Boyd's article has absolutely no point at all.

In four short paragraphs Mr. Boyd manages to introduce four completely different points, none of which have anything to do with the other and tell us nothing we don't already know. Beginning in the shadow of the *State News* he tells us who the groups that have built the shanties are and goes on to say that they were built, "to educate and more importantly remind students of events and problems which they don't know affect

them," which again echoes the *State News*. It is from here one expects Mr. Boyd to go on and to finish his train of thought, as he must have brought these things up to make some sort of point, when suddenly he tells that some people think that the shanties are ugly. He says it with horror going on to say, with mind shattering conviction, "This is the American mind at work." Well, of course it's the American mind at work, as it is probably the English, German, ?Russian, and maybe even the El Salvadorian mind at work too. The shanties are ugly. The point is that they are supposed to be ugly, and more importantly, it really shouldn't matter what they look like at all since they are meant to educate not become part of an art exhibit, but does Mr. Boyd devote one word to these ideas? Of course not! He trudges onward to the freedom of speech thing and the Administration's "conservativeness." He talks about freedom of speech, when it is really freedom of expression that is the issue and thinks that we are going to be able to make some sort of rational connection between his calling the administration conservative and the quote from the petition. Maybe it is better that Mr. Boyd didn't enlighten us with his original train of thought. Guessing at this one seems much more intellectually fulfilling. The paramount of Mr. Boyd's entire article comes when he shares some sort of vague prophecy of disaster if we fail to realize what the shanties stand for and mean, which Mr. Boyd himself has done a wonderful job of not telling us. Last week a reader told Mr. McWilliams to take a ride on the clue bus. This week I think it's Mr. Boyd's turn to hop aboard

Steven Matthews

Greeks are good

Dear uR-I:

M.L. Elrick's article on May 9, 1990 was extremely unfair to the Greek system. Contrary to his unfounded opinions, fraternities and sororities engage in philanthropic activities throughout the entire year. They raise thousands of dollars and help hundreds of people. Greek Week happens to be a fun way to celebrate their enthusiasm for helping people and having a good time. The tabloid he wrote of us a way for the participants to remember Greek Week (like a year book or a photo album). M.L. Elrick obviously has serious prejudices against the Greek system. But, he should base his accusations on facts, not clichés stereotypes. His article was in poor taste and reflects inept journalistic skills.

My suggestion is that Elrick take a beginning journalism class where he will learn about research, facts, and maybe having an open mind.

Sincerely,
Emily Sala
(a non-Greek MSU student)

It is interesting to note that NONE of the greeks who talked to uR-I staff members took advantage of an offer to have a column run contradicting Elrick's diatribe. They were told their column would run in the same spot as Elrick's, same length, with same size headline and no editing by our staff. Oh well...

— ed.

Get laid, too, Lynn?

Dear uR-I:

In response to Lynn Kloosterman's oh-so-intelligent letter in last week's paper:

You're right, Lynn, blacks have no right to whine about racism, women are victims of nothing but PMS, and the government is not corrupt.

The world is just perfect the way it is.

You're being oppressed too, Lynn; you're just too stupid to realize it. I'm glad to see that you're only a freshman. Maybe you'll learn something while you're here.

Sincerely,
Tina Caputo

Reader: White=right

Dear uR-I,

It's about time!!! The forming of a White Caucus. Finally, a chance for white Americans to take pride in themselves. Just like the Afro-American population is composed of various heritages, so too is the white population. White people need to have a sense of identity and individuality. They can't be seen as just a plain majority or a large nondescript mass. Why not learn about individual histories of our immigrant forefathers who are lumped together into this category of whiteness. Everyone, not just the minorities, deserves a chance to take pride in her or his ancestry.

Chris D.

normally we would not print such a letter without a full signature, but we feel it is important to let students know that these screwed-up bastards are out there.

If the letter writer is offended by this psychological assessment, he/she is welcome to come forth with a full name and an apology will be printed.

— ed.

Two reminders to our dear readers from your loyal editors:

•there are only two more issues this term, so get those letters going!

•Watch next week for another edition of the uR-I's stunning LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

Anyone remember Earth Day?



**John
Jakary**

All in all, I thought it a rather impressive start to the end of the world.

Who would have believed the northern United States having a week of 50-degree-plus weather in mid January, then freezing temperatures in mid-May?

Tonight, it was a thunderstorm, complete with laser light snow and acid rain. Sure, I had hoped for real fire and brimstone stuff, you know, whole towns being laid off, the ground opening up and swallowing dogs and small children. But I was satisfied. Besides, I had always wanted to be a blonde, and the rain seemed to be doing a great bleach job.

I returned home soaked, hoping my jacket, now smoking at the seams, wouldn't unravel in the heat

of my apartment. A sense of child-like glee was growing in my heart at the wonder I felt knowing this to be a cleansing rain. Benzene, toluene, mercury, carbon, CFC's (Chloro-Fluoro-Carbons), PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyls), and a host of another 175 toxic chemicals, all being washed back to Earth. That is as nature intends: the Earth absorbs these chemicals, breaks them down with a number of biological processes, and sends the byproducts, toxic or otherwise, deeper into the water table. A good, safe resting place.

This, of course, only accounts for what is burned and pushed into the air (Approximately 116 million pounds of toxic chemicals are released into the air EVERY YEAR by industry in the state of Michigan alone!!) and later, finds its way back down. What about the shit that's being dumped right next to our homes, our water supplies, our businesses?

People are finding pools of unknown sludge seeping through their lawns. I have seen the looks of real terror on workers' faces when the Feds, showing up to close down the shop, arrive in radiation-type

suits and oxygen masks. They wonder about their hands. Wiping their noses, caressing their children, lifting 75 pound drums of "Chemical X" on the dock. And this kind of shit has been dumped down the throats of North and South Americans, Soviets, Africans, Europeans ... EVERYBODY, from the First to the Third World.

But we're all too dumb to fight back; we keep going blindly on, and let M. Nature do all the back-breaking work. We keep pumping it out, taking everything we can use, and putting back the garbage we can't, with hardly a thought to conservation, at least not on the necessary "grand scale."

Hell, we won't even control our own population, and you cannot conserve without a stable population.

This is all just the tip of my beef, which I call Western Technological Civilization. The point I'm making is this:

In the United States, we have the freedom to express ourselves. And as citizens, we have an obligation to use it.

Get educated and write to your favorite senator, representative, or

corporate VIP. Get involved and join a political, social or volunteer organization. There is power in numbers. As the wealthiest nation on the planet, we have got the power to change things, even if it's by spending our hard-earned cash on stamps, ink and envelopes.

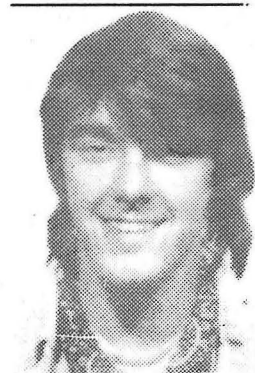
Speak loudly, America!

Here are two leads:

•Amnesty International, the leading human rights organization in the world. They are responsible for freeing hundreds of political, religious, and innocent prisoners through intensive letter-writing campaigns. Write to A.I. USA, 53 West Jackson, Room 1162, Chicago, IL 60604.

•Sen. Vernon Ehlers, chair of the Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee. This committee is debating the fate of Senate Bill 375, a piece of legislation designed to make polluters pay for the cost of cleaning up their toxic waste sites, instead of the taxpayers footing the bill. It would also give the DNR more authority to prosecute those who refuse to do the right thing. Write to the good senator and company at Room 806 Farnum Building, Lansing, MI 48909.

Our McWilliams answers his mail



**Tom
McWilliams**

Hey, Hey, I got some response! Let me first point out that I don't work for the URI. I am not a reporter, nor do I receive a paycheck. This would be called an opinion column, though most of what I put in here are judgments:

Jeff Hanert: I realize that I'm expressing the libertarian party's basic platform, but I feel I should only push my own views, rather than using this medium just to support a political party. You're right though, anyone

who thinks political parties can help should look into it. After all, getting some new ideologies in power can only help.

Liberals want to limit economic freedom, in the name of "Public Welfare," and conservatives want to limit personal freedom in the name of "Public Morals." What you don't hear is that both parties assume that protection of your rights requires limiting them (this is doublethink at it's most blatant.)

Lynn Kloosterman: Are you lost or what? As a matter of fact, I am oppressed, as are you. Try smoking a joint in public sometime if you don't believe me. Also, no one gave me the right to bitch. I just have it, same as you. Your notion assumes that governments exist to grant rights, rather than to protect them. That you chose to bitch while complaining about bitching shows that you are either a hypocrite, or just plain stupid. If you want to learn, now that you're at

college, here's some advice: Reach Machiavelli or Nietzsche for discourses on statesmen and the role of power in human affairs. Also, take Hal Walsh, in Philosophy, Walter Martin, in Humanities, or Run Puhek, in Social Science for a better understanding of reason and freedom, something you seem to be lacking.

Kay Steele: Thanks! I hope I can keep myself above the dreck.

Peter Zeiler: I am doing something. I'm trying to find people who care, people who recognize that this is an issue of power, and people who believe there is an alternative to standing by as our overspending "leaders" bring down the whole house of cards.

What can you do? You can start by not contradicting yourself. "Sure, Government sucks, but..." is a sign that you've bought their bullshit. It would miss the point to say that each government function that you deem bad is probably what someone else

thinks more of, like that your money should be spent on drug-free zones around all the schools, including MSU. And it's not relevant that most government services, most of which you don't need and none of which you receive voluntarily, but all of which you pay for, suck (either because it's inefficient, too expensive, or just plain doesn't work.) What is relevant is that our Government is violating everyone's "inalienable" rights by doing most of the things that people now just assume the government is supposed to do. When our government uses force to make you do something that you don't want to do, or stops you from doing something that you have every right to do, it's gone too far. Get your head straight. You can't "subvert the dominant paradigm" if you use their logic. Call me up, too. You sound like you care.

If anyone wants to help, call 336-9591.

From BRAT, p. 8

Lansing!

Seems the city council has decided to raise parking rates, ostensibly to limit student parking.

Kind of makes you want to register to vote and dump those student-hating clowns, now doesn't it?

Oh, and remember that blind pig that got busted last week? Two and-

a-half barrels of evil.

But I've heard there was a frat party that 60 kegs?

Gosh, money talks, don't it?

Why are there so many question marks in this week's abbreviated offering? There's been so much screwed-up crap going on in this town that my five-year old mind can't handle it! Where's my pacifier, dammit...

FIRST AMENDMENT PARTY:

FRIDAY, 25 MAY

142 GUNSON ST.

BRING YOUR CONSTITUTION



**Mark
Ludwig**

Have you ever felt like a bastard at a family reunion?

I got such a feeling last Friday at the annual *State News* Awards Banquet. At least I wasn't alone. The table I was at was filled with people who have annoyed the divas at the top of our campus daily. Due to my short attention span, and the fact that the only

SN banquet nurtures tasty thoughts

really interesting thing to watch was Elrick pounding amazing quantities of rum and coke, I began to daydream. I started composing what I would have liked to say, had I a moment at the podium. It would have sounded something like this...

Good evening and thank you for a chance to congratulate *The State News* Board of Trustees on selecting John Secor as this year's editor. He was truly the right choice to continue the tradition of an increasingly poor *State News*. Not only has he shown a tolerance for error and shallow coverage, but more importantly, his ability to alienate the minority staff members through his callous attitude helped maintain the *S'news's* tradition of an adversarial relationship with these

groups on campus. Of course his instructions on how to properly slant stories on minority leaders like Louis Farrakhan truly ensured disgust from intelligent readers. But let's not dwell on such things. After all, if *The State News* had faced the problems illustrated by hostile comments from minority student leaders and its own staff, Secor wouldn't have been able to shed those extra pounds by lying his ass off to cover his negligence. Let's instead look forward to the next year when a new editor and more dough will arrest the *S'news's* slide into mediocrity. Let's look forward to the coming year when we'll see columnists with bite instead of gas masks, stories with balance instead of bias, and candor instead of lies. Peg, as next year's editor, you have nothing

especially great to live up to. But let me tell you that there are people, like myself, who read that rag cover to cover each day. We compare what happened at events with what is written about them. We expect a little toe stepping and butt kicking to try to break the campus apathy. We expect a little mental provocation. We want a reason to be loyal readers. We want our \$2.75 worth of writing. Impress us! Please!

— *Ludwig, former president of RHA, has had his share of run-ins with The State News.*

For accuracy's sake, we should point out Elrick was drinking WHISKEY, not rum.

— ed.



**Marty
West**

Me and a beer buddy were standing around the keg just laughing and drooling and having a good time when he went serious on me.

"You know," he said. "We've got nuclear bombs, homelessness, global pollution, species extinction, strong arm drug cartels and a whole list of worries, but that's not what our government is afraid of."

I gave a knowing burp. "Yup," I replied. "They're afraid of not getting re-elected."

"Elections are only secondary fears," he slurred. "The ones who are really in control don't have to worry about re-elections because they were never voted in in the first place. I never voted for the big wigs who made a

E.L. fat cats shun Too Much Fun

killing off the HUD projects, I never voted for the timber industry to make a mint from 500 year old Sequoia particle board bought cheap from the Forestry service. I never ever ever voted for the best interest of the oil companies yet there's the Exxon Valdez. See, all the big decisions are made off the ballot."

"So if it's not re-elections, what is the government afraid of then? And here, have another beer, better make sure you get your three dollars worth."

"Ah, another beer, that's to the point. The thing that the men in power - that is, the one's with the fattest wallets, are afraid of is Too Much Fun. See, if we're having too much fun, we're forgetting about all of the things that we're supposed to hate, like Russians and poor people, and we forget to listen to the Fatwallets tell us how our hatred can be best directed. If we're not paying them any attention, they lose their grip, their bank accounts shrink and they get very upset."

"Come on," I said. "You mean to tell me that our government doesn't want us to have fun so that it can channel our anger and keep us unified in hatred? That's pretty ugly. Okay, if what you say is true, how come Cedar Point isn't illegal? That's a heckuva lot

of fun." I sucked down my beer and filled up again at the tap.

"Cedar Point is institutionalized, and somebody's making a lot of money off it, so that's different. You go there, stand in line, have your allotted amount of fun and then go stand in another line. If you get too deviant, they toss you out into the parking lot. But think about the rollercoasters. The tracks are the way in which we are channeled, up, down and around the curves, it's all very nice and safe. But consider this, after the cars shoot down the big hill, the race up another. As they're going up, they remember that rollercoasters hate going up and coast down again on the other side. But in that moment before they go down again, there's that instant of free fall, where you don't know if you're going to keep going up or what. It's that instant that makes the Fatwallets nervous. That's why they don't like parties - they're just a little out of control and therefore potentially dangerous. People may relate their dissatisfied subversive thoughts with a few too many beers in 'em."

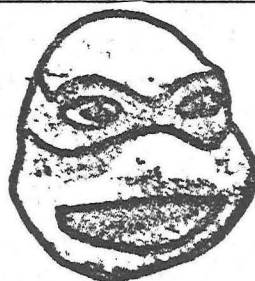
"Pshaw!" I spit beer. "You're kidding me, right? Now you're telling me that Uncle Sam and all his cohorts are against freedom of expression, that

they really don't want me here listening to your opinions of the Fatwallets, er, I mean policy makers? Excuse me, but this-" I hoisted my plastic cup - "is my pursuit of happiness, and listening to you is my freedom of speech. We as Americans are promised these things, and that is what America is all about. Furthermore, if you'll have me believe that this country is run by a bunch of stony-faced despots and storm troopers then I'll say goodnight right now and go deal on that girl over there before she passes out."

I turned to go but it was too late. The moment I had a good line in my foggy head, 12 commandos in blue busted up the party and arrested the keg. I hid under a table in case suppressive gun fire erupted and woke there the next morning.

On the walk home I thought of what my beer buddy had said, and decided that I probably had been having too much fun for the sake of my country. After all, we really can't afford to have dissidents forming new parties whenever we choose, can we?

— *West, who was unable to scrounge a photograph, really DOES look like this!*



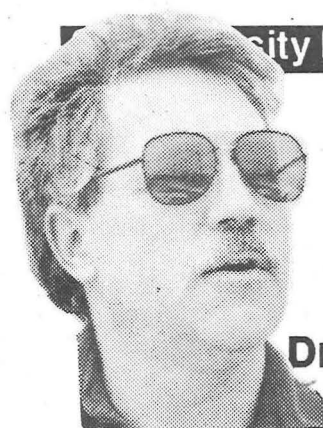
Geek(s) of the Week

So just who *did* let you geeks out of the sewer anyway?

Yep, Donatello, Michaelangelo, Leonardo, and Raphael, you are tough shells to crack, but not so tough that we wouldn't like to make turtle soup out of your annoying asses. A little salt, a little pepper, and an invitation to Shredder and we'd have a grand time indeed.

Then again, you might not be such tasty morsels, since just all the hype surrounding your movie, video games, posters, clothing, and so on, makes us sick.

Still, you're good Americans and anyone who can hang out in New York in just their underwear has to be a hard guy — that's a shell joke, son. Get it?



Dr. Andrew Barclay

Doc proves there's more than one guy in the White House who's full of shit

My brain went on vacation this week because the weather has been such shit. Luckily for my readers, brain activity is definitely no excuse for a column, if you get my drift, but the letters lying here require a certain degree of cerebration, albeit minimal, that I am not putting out these days. On cold, rainy days, the old squash is like a 50-watt radio station, just won't get up to heat. I tried glow plugs, but they don't seem to work. So:

Do you ever worry about what happens to people who are severely repressed? It was like the time I was invited to the Reagan White House for dinner. Everything went just fine until I had to answer the call of Nature, as it were.

I sort of slipped away from the crowd of bejeweled people standing around Ronnie, laughing at his stupid jokes (like pretending he couldn't remember his own name) to approach one of those splendid Marine guards you see in the commercials. He was standing at rigid attention, buzz-cut, sword at his side, staring straight

ahead. I slid up to one of these few good men and, out of the corner of my mouth asked: "Hey, Captain, where's the powder room?" He pretended he hadn't heard me although his dress blues straightened a little more or maybe he just stiffened.

I was having a problem so I had no choice but to insist: "Hey, Lance, where's the biffy? You know, the can, the porcelain convenience, the little ladies room? I have to shake the dew off my lilly. Wash my hands. Pinch a loaf. You know, pass some gas. Jesus Christ, man the crapper, I have to take a shit. OK? Do you get my drift? The fucking crapper, Lance, where?"

A man with a little plastic doobie in his ear led me away. I was jumping up and down, frustrated with my obvious inability to communicate with this dude. The MWTLPIHE gently explained to me that when the Regans took over the White House, Nancy had Ronald pass an Executive Order that prohibited bathroom s in the White House. I couldn't believe it. I said, "What do they do when they have to shit?" He said: "These people are so fucking white, they didn't even have to shit! Nancy says 'No,' and that is that."

It is easy for the rich. They can hire people to come in and give them enemas once a week. I couldn't believe it. They threw me out of the reception because they said you couldn't be there with a spoiled tuxedo. (What I love about Barbara Bush is that she doesn't care if your tuxedo is full of shit, all she wants to know is are you a nice person? If you love children, Barbara thinks you're OK.)

Where is all the shit going to go? I hope there isn't anyone who thinks if you hold it long enough, it will just "go away." I had a cousin like that. His attitude was: You never see the guy shit in a cowboy movie. He was trying to live up to his rolemodels, what a funny person. I believe his record is still in Guinness for the longest held on land. There were two guys in a lifeboat, you'll never believe this, who held it for 41 days because THEY DIDN'T WANT TO MESS UP THE

OCEAN. Can you imagine? I hear you can almost walk the North Atlantic these days from St. John's to Lizard Light or Fastnet. The Southern route from Bermuda to the Azores isn't much better.

The problem is that shit begins to back up on them. No one wants to admit that THEIR shit is backing up on them, now do they? So they rush around pointing at other people and, to distract them, yelling: "Look! I see shit on you." That's why it is always "other people's shit," that is their problem, its never their own. I suppose that's why people kept seeing those moats in Jesus' eyes but these days, it exists as the use of alcohol regulatory law to control people's lifestyles. (Remember what I say solves the problem: Make 18 the drinking age and Declare the MSU campus (patrolled by Ingham County Deputies) a Free Zone where people can live a lot like they please without hurting anyone or hurting themselves.)

Do you know what would happen if the Board of Trustees passed a set of resolutions like that? Every DAMN mother, sister, former drug abuser, etc. would come out screaming and yelling about alcohol abuse and drunk driving in adolescents, and if one child has to die it's one too many. Meanwhile, Washington would threaten (a lot like Gorbys and the Baltic Republics, eh?) to cut off our highway funds if we went against the National Drinking Age and promoted Blatant Poly-Drug Abuse in Teens.

You give one lousy party and the next thing you know, it's the NKVD. Miami Vice-type guys making "buys" of "illegal drugs" with marked money. Then yelling, "Freeze, IT'S EAST LANSING VICE! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST FOR FREQUENT-ING A BAWDY HOUSE." People are walking around going, "Say, what? Frequenting a bawdy house?" A whore-house, people, you're being busted for running a whore-house. Hence the name Blind Pig. It's a one-year felony rap.

I'd plea-bargain down to minor in possession, if I were you, unless you through the party, of course, or if you are not a minor, then you have a bit

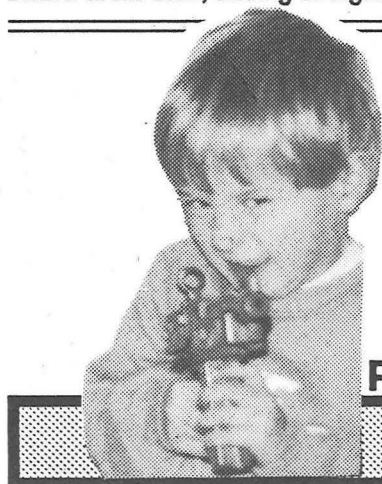
more of a problem. Nothing that can't be overcome, of course, but you are going to be on probation, your party days are over. The idea of obtaining a Circuit Court injunction to stop a party is so are out to me, that I have a hard time comprehending that it is actually happening. Or the idea that you are going to be placed on probation to keep you from partying.

Now understand that the Old Doc only dreams of partying like he used to. There comes a point where a physical being can only take so much and the doctor says, "You have to slow down, man, or you're going to die." I figured we're all going to die, you know what I mean, but he said, "No, man, like next week, you know what that means!"

Death is nature's way of telling us to slow down. I wasn't getting any younger either, so I kicked back and watched the lilies of the field, you might say. The zen of it is to become the thin you really are, so I became a lily for a while. Didn't do much but I was really beautiful. Sat around, long-stemmed, in a lovely cut glass vase. You can tell they didn't understand me very well but they were willing to pay a lot for lilies then.

(I though it was because I was so intelligent; seems they thought I had to be dumb because I was so beautiful. What do you when you thought you were getting by on talent when it was more because you were sleeping with the producer kind of thing? I kept saying "If you have to be a whore, at least charge a lot for your services." That way, you only have to do a few tricks to get by.)

It's the shit backing up that causes people no end of trouble in their life. What I dislike about these times is that when the white culture catches someone who is trying to actually deal with some shit, they act like it is the victim's fault. That the addict is somehow weak which explains why they are doing what they do. If the white culture wasn't cutting off people's natural outlets, they wouldn't be having to deal with shit. My advice? Go outside an shit in the bushes, but watch out for the results of the last cabinet meeting.



the Provocateur

The year is waning and I'm still whining, but there are somethings you never outgrow. . . Like MSU, right you five-year seniors dragging ass through these hallowed halls!

Get out of here and leave some room for my

Provoc proves there's more than one columnist in E.L. who's full of...

generation, willya, you mucus-loving, blister-licking, pinko running dogs!

Regardless, it's great to be back here in the uR-I, America's longest-named paper that's guaranteed to bring a choke and a smile.

So, as the hair-ball wheezing cat (sans smile) might say, HARAGGRAMAPHAMAFET...

Ivana and I had a good laugh this week (she babysits me to make extra money, and I'm a lot easier to manage than The DONALD — and cuter) when we read about her ex's trouble with a billionaire gambler from Jap-One-Day-We'll-Own-You-All-an.

Seems a billionaire who wagered \$14 million an

hour for six days at the Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino, Aiko Kashiwagi (kasundheit!) split before a \$6 million check cleared.

Calling Trump "unhonorable" for failing to extend his credit, Kashiwagi said he would burn his autographed copy of Trump's best-selling tome, *The Art of the Deal* (which, in later printings, was re-named, *How to Get Fabulous Babes Without Being Rich, But Only Having a Groovy Personality, Really*).

Gosh, wonder if he'll put a stop payment on that check?

Good news if you plan on parking in East
See BRAT, p. 6

▶ OUT and ABOUT

▲ East Lansing

Breslin Center

25-28 May: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus

B*Zar

23 May: Enemy Squad with Fortunate Sons
30: Gone Dog with Day Glo Orange

Fairchild Theatre

23 May: Faculty recital

Festival Stage

30 May: Jazz Band II

Green Door

23-27 May: Uptown Band
28: Blue Avenue Delegates
29: Capitol City Band
30-3 June: Uptown Band

Kresge Art Center

now-3 June: the Undergraduate Exhibition

Landshark

25-26 May: Knaves

Lightfantastic Gallery

now-25 May: photographs by Stephen Strom

McDonnell Hall

24 May: The Last Laugh, Panic Button, and False Addiction

Masonic Temple

23 & 26 May: Romeo et Juliet

MSU Union

24 May: Dance Against Bigotry
25: Noontimes: School of Music Jazz Muse Combo

Rick's

23 May: Radio Caroline
24: The Sun Messengers
25: The Juntunes
29: Skor
30: The Civilians

Riverwalk Theatre

now-3 June: The Fantasticks

Silver Dollar Saloon

now-27 May: Dr. Strangelove
29-3 June: Syndicate

Small Planet

24 May: Electric Rain

Wharton Center

23 May: MSU Wind Symphony
24: Concert & Campus Bands
25: State Police Recruit Graduation
30: Glee Clubs/Collegiate & Chamber Choirs

musicians welcome)

28: Bird of Paradise Orchestra
29: Keller & Kocher Quartet
30-31: The Ron Brooks Trio

Club Heidelberg

23 May: Souled American with Vegas Fist
24: Viv Akauldren with the Unsane
25: Urge Overkill Surgery
26: Babes in Toyland with Skin Flower
30: Just Say No, Scruffy Tearaways, and Forced Anger

Rick's

23 May: The Urbations
24: The Knaves 25: George Bedard & the King Pins
26: Juice
28: Goon Squad
29: Iodine Raincoats

26: The Pettibone Blues Project

Paychecks

25 May: Liars, Cheats & Thieves
26: Dogbunny Review with Hippodrome

Pullum's Place

25 May: Universal Spectrum with Image Sound
26: Ako-ben with Multi-national Sound

The Ritz

23 May: Love Hate
24: The London Quire Boys

River Rock Cafe

24 May:(bop) Harvey
25: Mitch Ryder with Mark Pazman & the Motor City Blues Project
26: Rhythm Corps with Beer on the Penguin
27: Martha Reeves with Jeff Scott & the Big Picture

▲ Detroit

Baker's Keyboard Lounge

25-26 May: Hot Club

LMI's 21

25 May: Phineas Gage with Missionary Stew

The Majestic

26 May: Hip Hop Jam
Anthony Wayne
D.O.A.
Shake Rattle and Roll

Moby Dick's

25 May: Jeff Mylin & the Blues Invasion

Soup Kitchen

25 May: Steve Nardella
26: Code Blue

St. Andrews

25 May: Terminator X & Flavor Flav
26: Happy Deathmen with Funhog
27: Del Amitri with Goober & the Peas
1 June: House of Love

Sully's

24 May: James Harman with The Dangerous Gentlemen
25: 3 Mustaphas 3
27-28: Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters

▲ Ann Arbor

The Ark

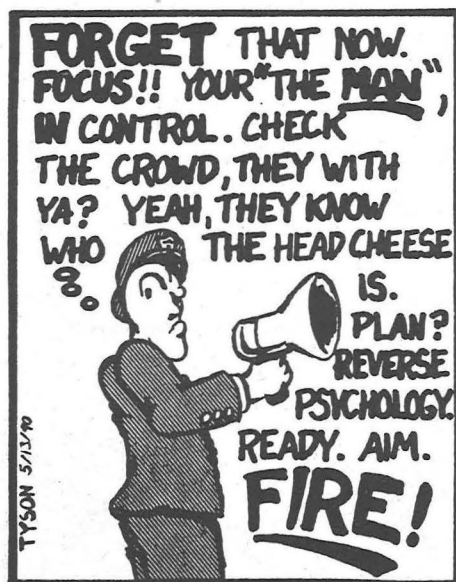
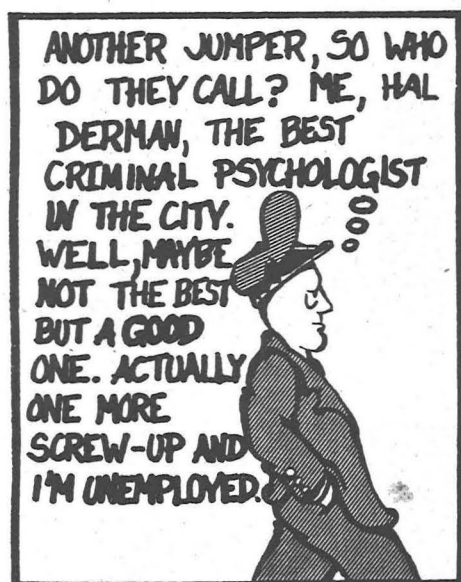
23 May: Open Stage
24: The Fabulous Limelinters
25: Dick Siegel
26: Christine Lavin
27: Vincent York and the New York Force
29: Bob Franke
30: open stage

Bird of Paradise

23-26 May: Ron Brooks Trio
27: Clark & Reed Jam Session (jazz

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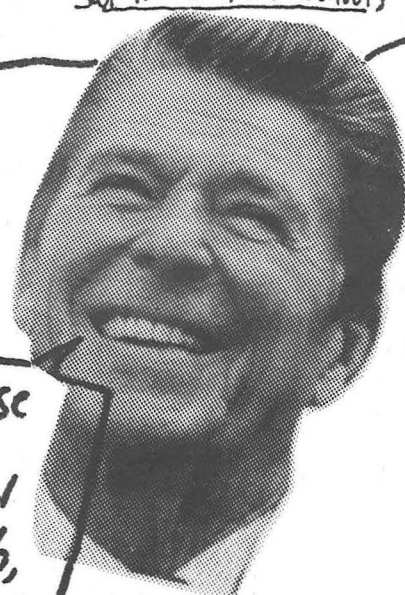
Get yer
Ya-Ya's
Out! sick & tired
of the State News' un-
funny page? You too?
Well, quit your whining,
wimp, and join us in
a little old fashioned,
American shooting spree.
The characters we're grown
to hate are all in
your sights, all you
gotta do is knock off
your personal favorites.

How to play:

1. Hold pencil/pen perpendicular to page with index finger at the gun nozzle.  
2. Take aim at the cranium of despised cartoon, push down & attempt to draw a shot!
 Just like in grade school



only six shots taster! □ □ □ □ □ □ Good Shootin



These
are
awful
tough,
Mommie

HEY KIDS!!!

Remember "Pin the Tail on the Donkey"?

Now it's time for...

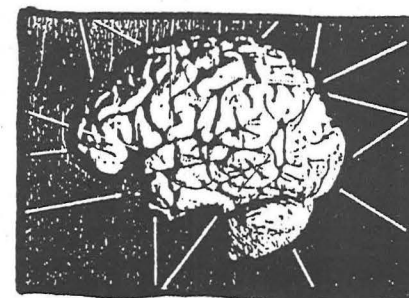
PIN the BRAIN on the GREEK

A philosophical challenge for Kids of all ages
Blindfold optional (but perhaps helpful)
Ains not included



ΣΧ

GREEK



BRAIN

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HI PEASANTS!
Welcome to
Fun Page IV
Vol. I



Reviews

The Cook is well-done

*The Cook, The Thief,
His Wife and Her Lover*

BY FARAN THOMASON
U-R-I CINEMA CORRESPONDENT

Who ever would have thought that a British black comedy called *The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover* would ever play the local AMC multi-plex.

And who ever would have thought that they would let it run unrated (it was branded an X by the MPAA).

But AMC theaters realized they could cash in on all the hype surrounding the recent slew of movies that have chosen to make use of their freedom of speech rights and dodge the chopping block of the movie censors — ratings board.

Other films like the shockingly horrific *Henry: Portrait of a Serial* and *Pedro Almodovar's* bondage epic *Tie Me Up Tie Me Down* have also opted to be released unrated.

However, the hype seems to be paying off, the theater packed more in for *The Cook*, than for big budget mainstream films like *Kevin Costner's* abysmal flick *Revenge*. But by now you're probably thinking "what's all the fuss about?"

Well, *The Cook* is definitely one of the most bizarre films of the year and definitely is one of the best. The twisted plot deals with a rude, piggish abusive thug (the thief played with twisted zeal by *Michael Gambon*) who fancies himself as a gourmet. He muscled in on *La Hollendaise*, one of the finest

restaurants in Britain, and forces the cook to prepare extravagant meals for him and his gang.

While the thief is busy harassing the restaurant's usual clientele, his wife (played by the seductive Shakespearean actress, *Helen Mirren*) is busy making eyes at a book dealer sitting a few tables away. As the film progresses so does their relationship.

Needless to say, the thief isn't happy when he finds out. And telling what happens would be spoiling a particularly gruesome twist in the plot.

While this plot seems like typical soap opera fare, writer/director *Peter Greenway* transforms this cliché plot idea into a disturbingly beautiful adult fable about lust and over-indulgence.

Greenway paints a stunning cinematic vision. His surrealist sets are lush with red velvet. His camera shots are stunning, even though most

of the film is shot in wide shots (it's almost like watching a play).

However, where Greenway succeeds the most is in creating an artsy film with crude elements that you would expect to see in *John Waters'* films.

The thief spouts out lines of violence that range from the morbidly funny to the excruciatingly painful to watch. And there's more skin on display than in your average T&A flick.

But if you are thinking about seeing this film, don't worry about breaking out your raincoat; *The Cook* is no *Debbie Does Dallas* — but it is a masterfully crafted, strange and very funny black comedy.

AMC theaters must be commended for supporting Greenway's unique artistic vision and not exiling it to an arthouse where viewership would be severely limited.



Bagel Frager® Deli

This Week's Question:

Before the U-R-I story on STDs, what did you think STDs were?

- a. A high-viscosity motor oil
- b. An abbreviation of "stud"
- c. A gift that keeps on giving
- d. a danger to all humankind

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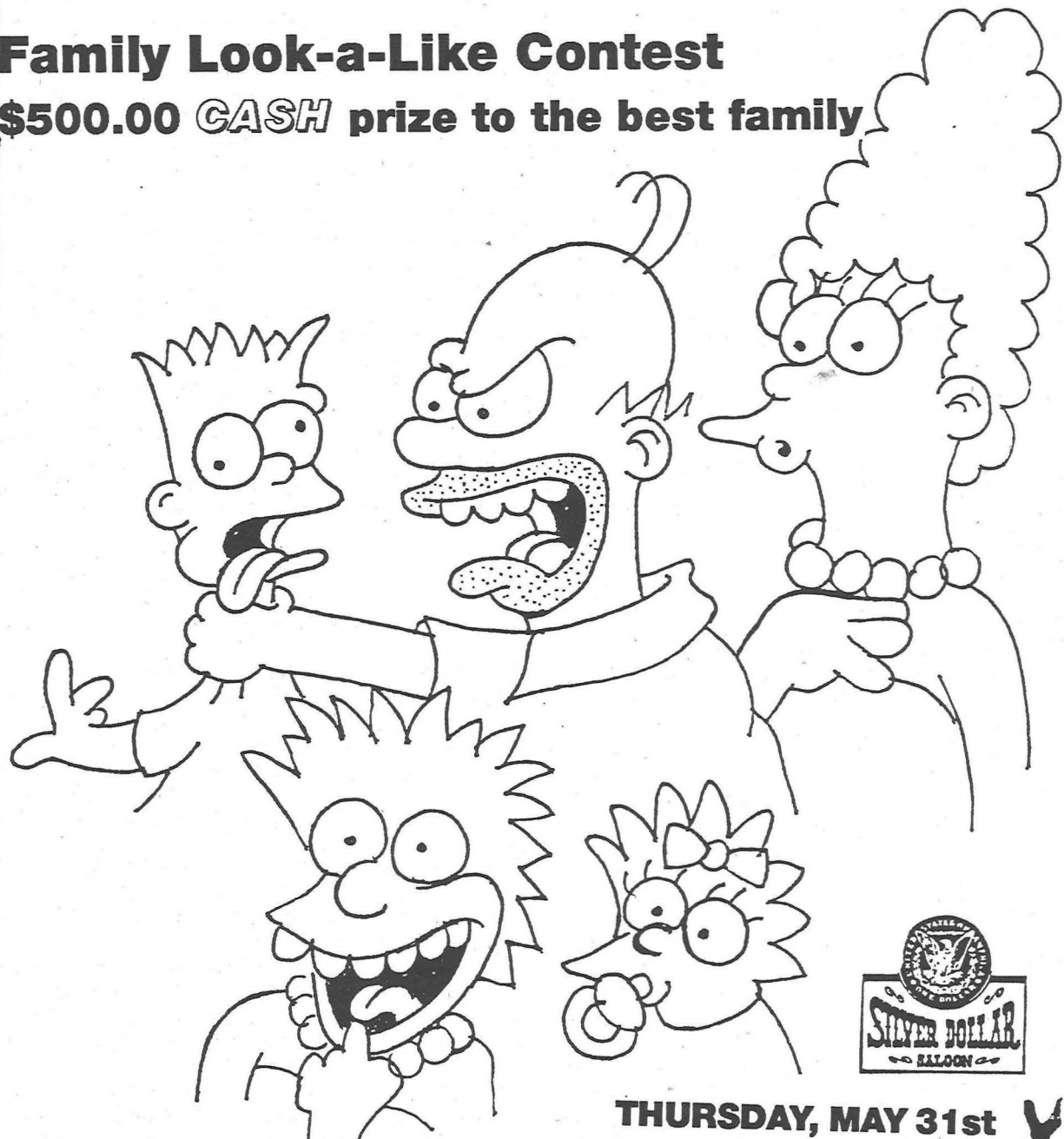
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THURSDAY, MAY 31st

**Proceeds of cover charge to benefit the:
MSU Water Ski Team**



Rougies smooth

What comes to mind when you hear **Orange Roughies**?

How about a Detroit band whose first album released was recently ranked in the top 100 most requested albums on college radio stations in America, according to the *College Music Journal*.

The album, *Knuckle Sandwich* produced with **Rob Tyner** of the **MC-5**, was released last January by Nocturnal Records of Detroit. By its fourth week of circulation, the album reached number 98 on the top 100 most requested albums on college radio stations nationwide.

The College Music Journal Poll is conducted every two weeks. It's a survey of between 400 to 500 college radio stations, designed to see which albums received the most requests, said **Jim Caliguri** the *College Music Journal*.

The Orange Roughies are **Dave Feeny**, guitar and backup vocals, **Drew Malburg**, drums, **Rosey**, vocals, and **Glynn Scanlon**, bass. Scanlon replaced **Keith Soucy**, who played all the bass tracks on the album.

The Roughies feel that the album's success is a step in the right direction but are not finished climbing.

Malburg said: "We have to pay our dues and keep plugging away."

Feeny said the album "just made us more serious and committed."

The Roughies play a progressive, pop, dance-oriented style music. They pride themselves on their originality and stray away from being stereotypical.

Our music is a left turn from radio rock," said Feeny. "Rock 'n' Roll is becoming an old tired medium, which it was not meant to be. How much can you do with the same rock 'n' roll?"

The band is open to fresh ideas and changes. They try to break away from the normal status quo of music. "We are liberal free thinkers," said Feeny. "Too many bands are formula-oriented or are all-star bands with interchangeable parts."

The name "Orange Roughies," was chosen for two reasons. Rosey said, the orange aspect of the name gives the band a little color.

Feeny added, "The roughies aspect describes the bands rougher edged melodic style."

The band's color shows in their live performances. The visual performance, orchestrated by the movements of Rosey, could be described as theatrical.

"It would be nice if we could produce a live album that could pick-up the foot steps to Rosey's dancing," said Feeny.

Each member of the Roughies began their roots as musicians during the English post-punk era of the early 1980's. They eventually met, started as a basement band, and have slowly worked their way up, with Feeny even making a name for himself as Best Musician three years running, selected by Detroit's *The Metro Times*.

Since playing local clubs and opening for national acts, The Roughies are in the midst of a three-month tour from Texas to the West Coast ending in the East.

Penguins aren't all wet

BY STEVE BYRNE
UR-I MUSIC CORRESPONDENT

Despite the misleading moniker, **Beer on the Penguin** is not a group of pudgy, short guys waddling around in ale-drenched tuxedos.

They are one of the more impressive bands to find their way to Rick's this year, as their strong performance there last Wednesday proved.

They played a set heavy with originals and spiced with a few well-received covers, ranging from **Led Zeppelin**'s "Rock and Roll" to a heavy acoustic version of **Bob Marley**'s "Redemption Song."

The originals, however, were what made the show go.

The quartet played a brand of self-described "progressive rock with a hard edge" that is not unknown in this area, and their own tunes sounded somewhat like a late-**Replacements**/**Midnight Oil** hybrid.

The Replacement side of the sound came from **Chuck Pope**'s grinding guitar playing, **Mark Haygren**'s quick and flicketty bass, and the pound and thump backing of **Benjamin R. Ridley Jr.**'s drums.

Patrick Akerley's clearly-enunciated vocals reached out and held the audience, and with his hair pulled back by a skullcap, the comparison to Oil-frontman, **Peter Garrett** was easy to make.

They pulled off several engaging numbers, including "Whiskey and Women," which went from soft blues to hard-nosed thrash, and "Bitterness," a narrative describing an Akerley run-in with the Detroit Police Department.

Detroit is the city the band works out of, though they prefer to call themselves suburban-based. They have been together in this line-up for a little over a year, but have been around since Akerley and Haygren started the band about five years ago.

They have opened gigs for the **Smithereens** and **Rhythm Corps**, and they can be caught fronting Rhythm Corps again at the outdoor **River Rock Cafe** in Detroit, on Saturday, May 26.

Sinead's diversity wows E.L.

BY STACY LAMMERS
UR-I MUSIC CORRESPONDENT

Mesmerizing!

That's the only adjective that comes to mind when thinking of the Wednesday night performance of **Sinead O'Connor** at the MSU Auditorium.

The opening act, **Hugh Harris**, with his back-up band, played tunes with a pop/reggae/progressive flavor. Harris sounded like **Terence Trent D'Arby**, with a little **Bob Marley** thrown in. However, his appearance was more along the lines of **Tracy Chapman**.

Harris's performance wasn't too bad, highlighted by a few good upbeat, reggae-type songs. The band, however, was a mismatch for Harris's international-sounding voice. They played more conventional, mainstream music and Harris sounded like he was made to sing reggae. Some advice for Harris: "Break away, Mon!"

O'Connor took the stage at around 8:40 p.m. The audience promptly gave a thunderous ovation to the Irish songstress as she and her back-up band took their positions on stage.

Her appearance was scruffy, and

often clashed with her moody, yet beautiful ballads. Clad in baggy jeans and an old T-shirt (her usual concert attire), she delivered her opening number, "When Doves Cry."

O'Connor steered from soft ballads to punchy dance numbers, then back again. This made for excellent contrast and added to the show's diversity, another trademark of the singer. Her performance was chock full of new tunes, but she evened it out with some of her earlier songs.

One memorable part of the show was O'Connor's unique version of her recent breakthrough hit, "Nothing Compares 2U." She did a longer, softer, more emotional rendition of the song. This was a pleasant change from the same old version heard repeatedly on the radio.

At one point during the concert, havoc was wreaked as a pack of crazed fans leapt upon the stage, grasping for the petite singer. Promptly, security swept the delirious youths off the stage. O'Connor appeared a bit ruffled by the incident.

"I know you people mean well by doing that, but I'm a human being, too and that really freaks me out," she told the sold-out crowd.

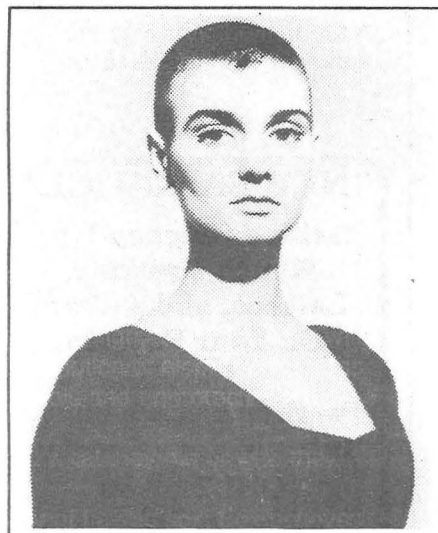
Another exceptional moment in the show was the encore. O'Connor came back out for the last number alone, without her guitar, and with a request for the audience.

"I'm gonna do a very quiet song now, so I'd appreciate it if you'd be real quiet. Thank you," she whispered.

Granting her wish, the obnoxious, but loyal, crowd obliged. In fact, it was so quiet at that point that you could hear a pin drop. Then she began the final number of the show, "I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got." Her ethereal voice echoed in the auditorium and made this the most beautiful, spiritual moment of the entire performance.

Most of O'Connor's show served up newer tunes like "When Doves Cry," "Nothing Compares 2U," and "I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got," the title track from her second effort.

However, O'Connor did throw out some faves from her debut, *The Lion and the Cobra*. Some of those included "Jerusalem," "Mandinka," and a rather steamy performance of "I Want Your (Hands on Me)." It was surprising (and disappointing) that "Troy" wasn't included in the line-up.



Sinead O'Connor

Although many people whined about the show's length (of about 70 minutes), it couldn't have been any better if it had been four hours long.

Nevertheless, O'Connor's performance was powerful and emotionally draining. Many gripes were raised about the concert being a rip-off because it wasn't even two hours long. However, for those who paid the 18 bucks to see an artist performing her art, rather than a "pop idol" (doing whatever it is cheesy pop idols do), it was more than worth it.