

The East Carolinian

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GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

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Grads give cool gift

The graduating class of Hood College in Maryland presented the university president with 278 ice cubes with dimes frozen inside during their recent commencement ceremony. The gag gift represented the graduates' approval of a tuition freeze for the 1992-93 academic school year and carried on the graduates' 7-year tradition of leaving a gag gift to the school.

Bombing cancels graduation

Graduation was canceled at the Savannah College of Art because of a bombing where the ceremonies were to be held. The graduation bombing was the second to have taken place in a month at the school, which has been plagued by violence in recent months.

Psychic service offered

Several students at Dartmouth College think they can help other students solve problems ranging from roommate problems to sexual harassment by opening a new mediation service. The Dartmouth Community Mediation Center opened in May and has 21 trained student arbitrators to run the center.

Students run for president

The presidential search committee at Miami University of Ohio recently received a surprise application from two students hoping to become co-presidents of the school. Ed Sweeney and Brian Richardson said they feel they are well-qualified for the job. "We've always thought the world, and Miami University in particular, would be a lot better place if Brian and I were running it," Sweeney said.

Compiled by Elizabeth Shimmel. Taken from CPS and other college newspapers.

Technology creates video experience

By Tracy Ford
Staff Writer

Technology is entering the classroom. With the use of FAX machines, interactive video and high-speed data transmission, classes may be taught at many North Carolina universities without a teacher physically present.

A classroom with microphones, video cameras and televisions is needed to participate in the video network, which is set up across the state. MCNC, the communications center for the network, operates CONCERT, a statewide program interconnecting 10 universities in North Carolina. The network offers "video proximity" which gives access to all the connected universities.

Classes can be taught through the network at ECU's video conferencing center in Joyner library or in the Brody building at the Medical school.

Thomas McQuaid, producer for the video conferencing center at ECU, said the video conferencing center is used two to three times per week during the summer and almost every day during the regular school year.

The center is used for conferences and seminars as well as the teleclasses.

"Say Carolina is offering a class that we're not, students can sign up here and come here to take the class and look at the teacher in the monitor," McQuaid said.

With the use of the microphones and video cameras, one class can be taught in "real time" in several different locations by one teacher.

The ability to tape and review classes, for exams or because of absence, is a definite advantage to students.

Instructors may have to adjust their teaching style to accommodate the teleclasses. Non-verbal communication is only effective when the camera is focused on the instructor, and students may be camera shy at the beginning of the semester and need more individual attention by the instructor.

Save your pennies...

Governor proposes tuition hike

By Tony Rogers
Staff Writer

Students and administrators at ECU may be hit with an extra financial hardship if Governor Jim Martin's proposed budget passes through the state legislature unmodified.

Governor Martin has proposed a 10 percent tuition increase at all state universities to begin in the fall of 1992. Along with this added burden to students is a proposed \$1.8 million in cuts from ECU's budget for the 1992-93 school year. These cuts are the most of any school in the state.

"This was a very difficult budgetary year," said Joanne Latham, deputy director of communications for Governor Martin. "The Governor had to find different ways to increase revenue for the state. In some cases, he was forced to do things he would rather not have done. One of these things was to increase universities' tuitions."

According to state Senator Ed Warren, the money brought in from these tuition increases will remain in the respective schools to be used as the administrators see fit.

Both Latham and Warren said that the state will see no increase in revenue from tuition increases.

Warren, chairman of the Education Oversight Committee, sees the increase in tuition as "unfair and inappropriate at this time."

"Our committee is dead against it," Warren said. "In fact, most of my associates in the Senate don't agree with it."

Warren said his concerns also

lie with a possible 20 percent tuition increase at community colleges across the state. If passed, the 1992-93 school year would mark the fourth consecutive year of tuition increases at community colleges and put tuition at these two-year schools just \$164.40 less than at the average four year school in the state.

Warren said ECU will be one of the universities most affected by a tuition increase at the community college level.

"ECU's development is influenced heavily by Pitt Community College," Warren said. "PCC is the second largest community

college in the state. It has become a stepping stone to ECU."

Warren said a tuition increase would hurt an improving image at ECU.

ECU will be one of the universities most affected by a tuition increase at the community college level.

the image of the state's entire university system.

"North Carolina ranks second to just Texas in tuition cost," Warren said. "We take pride in our accessible education."

According to Latham, a tuition increase will not hurt North

Carolina's reputation as having one of the lowest tuition rates in the nation.

"Our tuition will remain one of the lowest in the country," she said. "And all the money will go back into the university systems."

Latham did not know if the tuition increases were included to make up for the budget cuts at each university.

The \$1.8 million cut from ECU's budget is the highest in the state. UNC is second with \$1.4 million in cuts, while NCSU is third with \$950,000 in cut-backs.

Warren said he sees no reason for the state to cut ECU's budget more than anyone else's.

"We just want our fair share of the state's money," said Warren. "Just because we don't have as many students as UNC or NCSU does not mean that our needs aren't just as great."

X hats mark the spot; fad or philosophy?

Malcolm X now in fashion and in philosophy

By Robert S. Todd
Assistant Sports Editor

The X hats, started by director Spike Lee for promotion of his up-coming movie about the life of Malcolm X, are starting to freckle malls and college campuses across the country.

The enormity of a man born Malcolm Little is astonishing, especially considering most of the people wearing the hats and T-shirts emblazoned with his name and likeness were born long after the assassination of El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz.

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz is a hot item. So hot, his widow has been forced to take legal action against companies making money off the now famous X. You cannot have a legal right to a letter in the alphabet, but it is more than coincidence El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz's last name was once X.

X is, perhaps, the newest fad.

"My opinion, however, is that all the people wearing the Malcolm X caps are not wearing them for fashion purposes, but they are concerned about making a statement," said David Dennard, associate history professor at ECU. "I think they share some of the same views of Malcolm X."

What those views are is ambiguous. "There are at least three distinct Malcolms," Dennard said.

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Neb. In his early years, Malcolm was involved with drugs and crime. Eventually, he was sent to prison where he began to educate himself. After being released from prison, he joined the Nation of Islam under Elijah Muhammad and replaced his slave surname with X. Elijah Muhammad's followers in the Nation of Islam took the X in place of the African name they could never know. After a falling out and a separation from the Nation of Islam, Malcolm became an orthodox Muslim, distinctly different from the Nation of Islam, and took the name El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz.

"The Nation of Islam was an organization or religious cult founded in this country," Dennard said. "They adhere to some of the same teachings, they follow the Koran, but this Nation of Islam placed emphasis on race that orthodox Muslims did not. So this was like a black supremacist (organization) to some extent."

Fad or ambiguous political statement?

"It's a big fad, if you ask me," said an ECU sophomore wearing a Malcolm X T-shirt.

She said she just wore the shirt because she needed something white to match her outfit.

"There are people who have a whole Malcolm X wardrobe and don't know shit about what it means," she said. "I don't know much about Malcolm X, and I don't try to."

A member of an African-American fraternity, who wished to remain anonymous, said he does not wear the hats because he does not know much about Malcolm X. "I think it would be wrong to wear it and know nothing about him," he said.

Dennard said he does not agree with him. "I think that's going to happen with anything," Dennard said. "There are folks who carry around bibles and don't understand them, some people carry around other things. I think that's the first step to begin to understand."

"Because the same thing I see in some cases in the South with the Confederate flag on the vehicles, and all of that, people don't really understand the South and basically what the Confederate flag is all about."

The politics of Malcolm X are anything but clear, yet carry a gravity that should not be overlooked. The press had been accused of creating a false image of the man behind the podium. United Press International, the day after the assassination, described El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz as a "bearded Negro advocate of violence against whites."

In a January 1965 interview with *Playboy*, Martin Luther King Jr. talked about the politics of Malcolm X, who had already made his pilgrimage, or hajj, to Mecca.

"I totally disagree with many of his political and philosophical views - at least insofar as I understand where he now stands," King said. "I know that I have often wished he would talk less of violence because violence is not going to solve our problem. And in his litany of articulating the despair of the Negro without offering any positive, creative alternative, I feel that Malcolm has done himself and our people a great disservice. Fiery, demagogic oratory in the black ghettos, urging Negroes to arm themselves and prepare to

See Hats, page 2



Popularity result of need for black leadership

(CPS)—Some University of Minnesota students and faculty experts suggest that new interest in slain black leader Malcolm X and clothing — hats, buttons or T-shirts with the letter "X" or slogans — is connected with feelings of disenchantment with current black leadership.

"There is not anyone in a leadership role at this time, so there are people trying to find their own identity, trying to determine which direction they are headed," Elka Steven, a graduate student studying the social and cultural aspects of clothing, told *The Minnesota Daily*.

Some blacks say their leaders have sold out.

"Malcolm had a record of uncompromising leadership and very principled behavior," said August Nimtz, a political science professor. "And that's exactly what people are looking for."

James Scroggins, a sociology student, told the *Daily* that the civil rights movement has not fulfilled its promise to blacks.

"The civil rights movement has let a few blacks get through the cracks, but the majority of them are still living in downtrodden, ghetto-type environments," he said. "Racism has permeated back into this society. We are living in a more separate, unequal and hostile society."

Orientation visits, time to rub elbows again

Freshman orientation kicked off Sunday with more than 550 students attending.

There will be six orientation sessions this summer.

"It is estimated that over 3,000 freshman and 1,000 transfer students will attend the sessions," said Elizabeth Freeman, who works in the orientation office. Placement tests, movies, concerts, games, a pig pickin', registration and information sessions are all part of this year's orientation.

Parents can even participate in a parent orientation that includes tours, lectures from the chancellor and the

dean of students, and lectures about the financial and health issues of college students.

In the Mendenhall Great Room, student organizations put together booths to show students what their organizations are all about.

"This is a great opportunity for the new students to get a look at the university through the eyes of the students, which, in the long run, will be more beneficial to the campus organizations," said ECU student and recreational services representative Jamie Goins.

See Orientation, page 2



Photo by Dell Reed — The East Carolinian

X-hats

engage in violence, as he has done, can reap nothing but grief."

El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz may be greatly misunderstood.

"As he became a public figure, the thing that impressed me the most was how different the personal Malcolm was from the public Malcolm," Robert Little, El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz's youngest brother told the *Washington Post*.

"He was perceived as fiery, militant and hostile," Little said. "Privately he was a very thoughtful person, a contemplative person. He loved to tell jokes and be a part of other people telling jokes, and he could tell jokes about himself. I was glad to be in his presence because he was a warm, positive, encouraging person to me."

One day about five years ago, Charles Stephenson, one of the original organizers of the unofficial Malcolm X Day, was putting up posters and saw a child reading one.

Continued from page 1

"Who's Malcolm Ten?" the boy asked. "I was impressed with his knowledge of Roman numerals," Stephenson told the *Washington Post*, "but give me a break."

"Right now it is not important that kids know every bit and detail about Malcolm," said Stephenson. "They just need to know that he existed. The rest will take care of itself."

Orientation

The East Carolinian, WZMB, SGA, fraternities, sororities, the hospitality management association, recreational services and the Christian Association are some of the organizations participating in the student booths in the Mendenhall Great Room.

"This is so much information, and there's so much to do all at once, but I've had a really good time," one freshman said.

Continued from page 1

After receiving a handout from one fraternity, a new student with a grin on his face and wide eyes said,

"You'd never see this in my high school, this college business is great."

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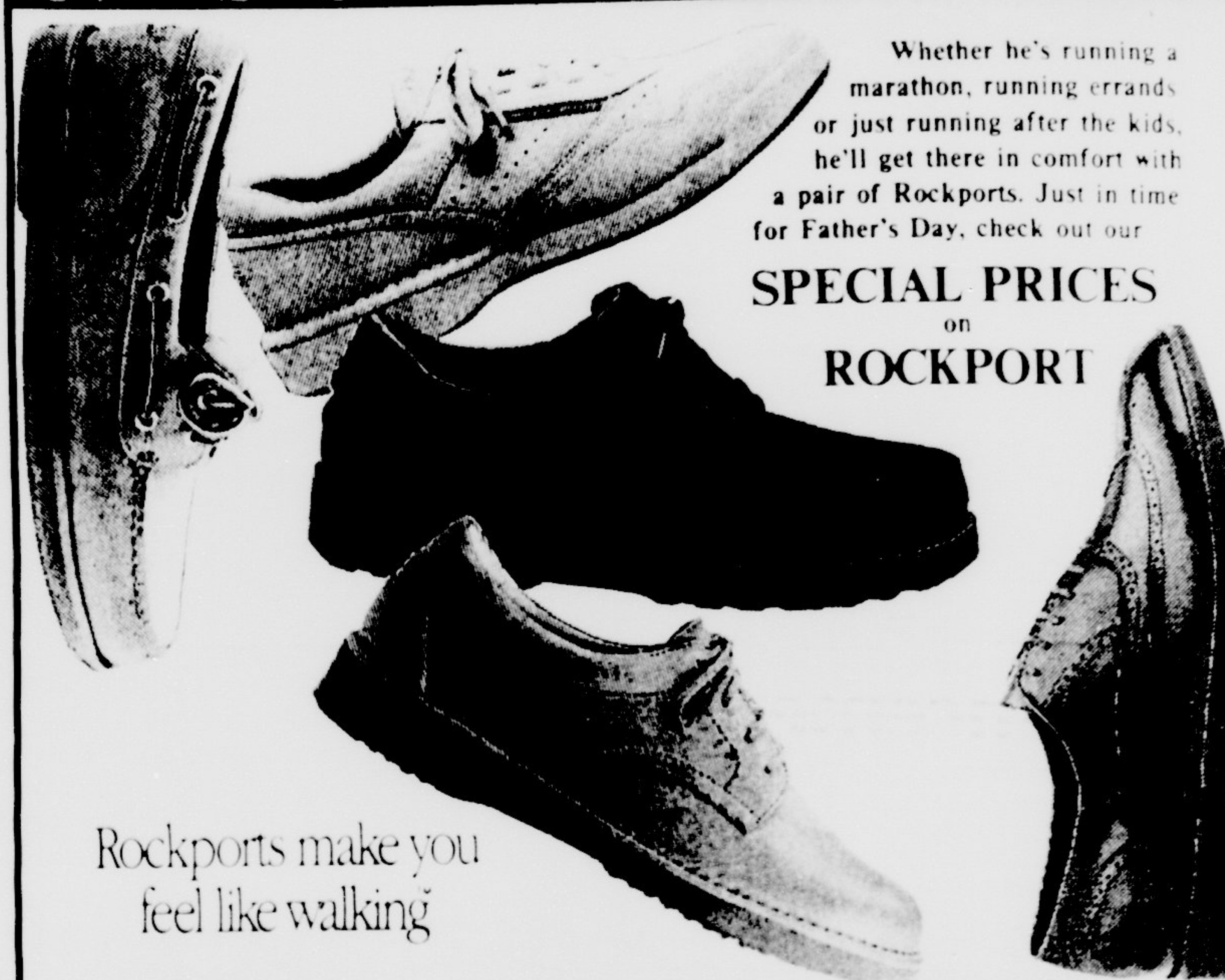
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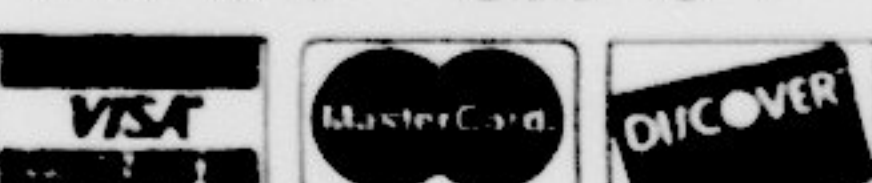
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There's Magic In The Air
She's a psychic who's turning
New Yorkers into lovers.
Obviously, she's from out of town.

The Butcher's Wife

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IN CONCERT

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9 pm-11 pm
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(WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM)

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"THE KING OF THE WAITING ROOM"
NO REMORSE
WISH HE'D HURRY UP
"LIVE AND LET LIVE" - BY HIS OWNERS
LIVES OFFERED WITH GILFRIEND

THE ABUSER
HEAVY LOOKS OF GUILT
CLAIMS "KID FELL ON THE IRON"
WORKING ON ALIBI
WOMAN CRANKY FROM OVER-REMORSE
O-MATIC

THE PE
WILL I
BE A RULE
NOT HAVE
THAT OK

SUNBURN

these stupid wars, glorious, very glorious mmm.

and I've yet to see one hero.

and this place, this whole place is going to hell, and it's so hot!

everyone else seems to be scattering off to other places, where d'ya think their going?

I'm not sure, can't be any better than this place, nope.

hey, looks like a marathon up the road

Rich's Nuthouse
MR. WECOTTY, I'VE NOTICED THAT BARON ACTS LIKE A K-9. DOES THAT EVER CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS?

ONLY WHEN SHE HOGS THE BATHROOM ALL DAY

GER-GER-GER

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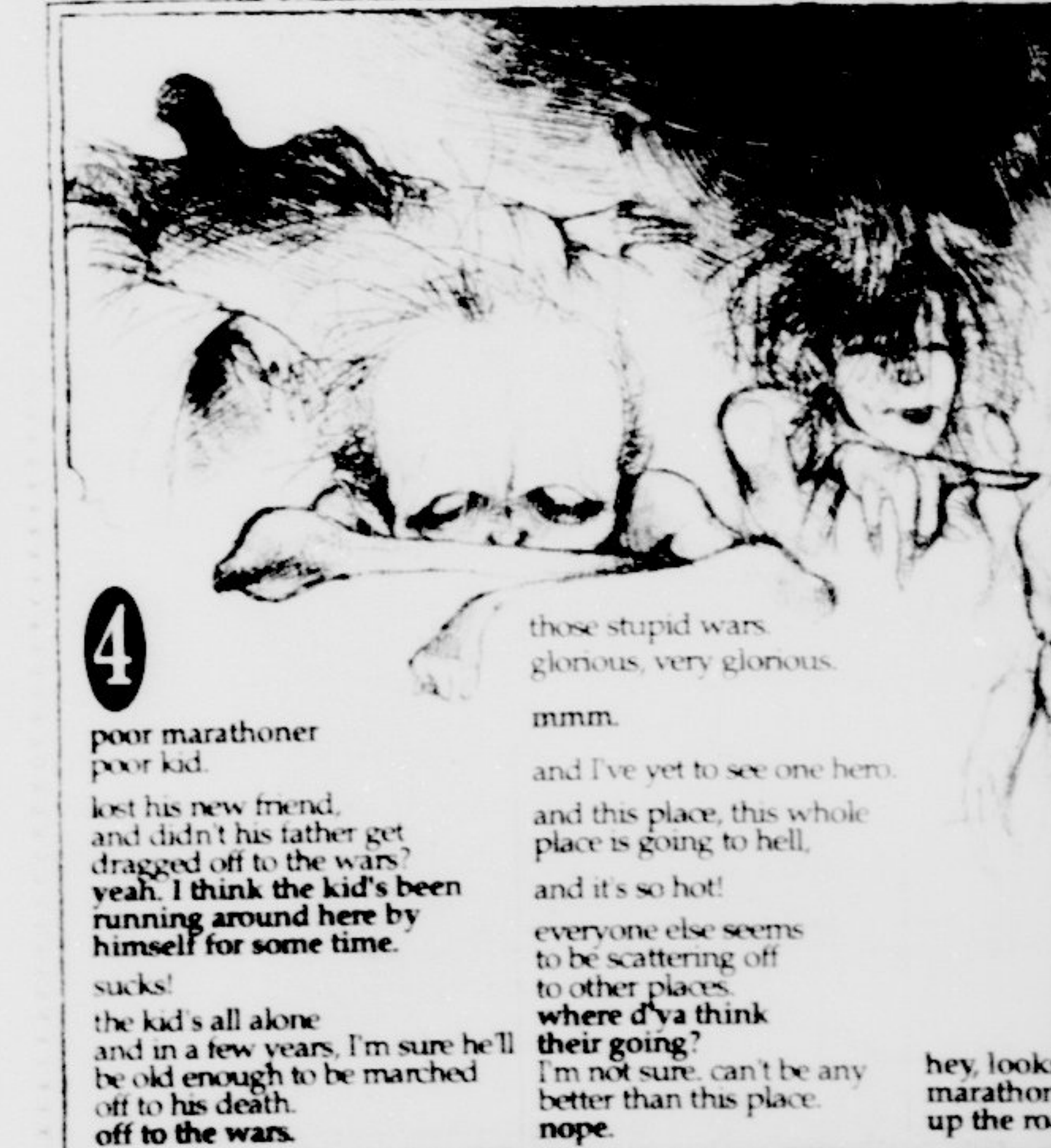
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WANTED 2 male roommates. Furnished bedroom with bathroom. ECU bus access. Available August for	LOOKING FOR TWO FEMALE nonsmokers (preferably) to share bedroom apt. beginning in August. \$121.67 rent plus 1/3 utilities. Call Julie ASAP!! 830-0984.	GRADUATE STUDENT or professional to share 4 bedroom house with hospital resident. Separate entrance, 3 bathrooms, fireplace, woodstove, dishwasher, washer/dryer, and more. 804-358-9457.	THREE FREE CONDOMS! Special introduction to our wide selection of high quality, name brand Condoms at low prices. Order today! KBA, Box 13001, RTP, NC 27709.	ALASKA SUMMER EMPLOYMENT: Fisheries. Earn \$5,000+/month. Free transportation! Room & board! Over 8,000 openings. No experience necessary. Male or Female. For employment program call Student Employment Services at 1-206-545-4155 ext. 1649.	ECU STUDENT STORES invites you to attend a reception on Wednesday, June 17 at 3:00pm for Dr. Gay Wilentz, in honor of her recent publication <i>Binding Cultures</i> . Dr. Wilentz will be signing copies of the book.
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	FEMALE ROOMMATE WANTED for apartment 1/2 block from campus, 2		FOR SALE: Microwave & stand, GE 20" TV & stand, Randor Travelor fold-up bike, Queen waterbed, 38 gallon tank & stand, 2 daybeds & sheets, Regina vacuum. Need to sell immediately, so don't hesitate. Call Renee 752-0095.	FREE TRAVEL: Air couriers and cruiseships. Students also needed Christmas, Spring, and Summer for amusement park employment. Call (800) 338-3388 ext. F-3464.	SERVICES OFFERED TYPING: Error-free, quick and dependable at reasonable cost. Excellent typing and proofreading skills (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) Call Pauline at 757-3693.

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GIRL CALLED LEIGH

THE SIX TYPES OF HOSPITAL WAITING-ROOM PEOPLE (WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM)

- THE SLEEPER OF THE DEADGUY:** NO SIGNS OF LIFE. DRESSED LIKE A RAIL ROAD CONDUCTOR. WALKS UP FOR THE PRK IN RIGHT. HESITATES ALONG THE WAY. PROTRUDING NOSE. 45-175. REQUEST WHY HE WAS THERE.
- THE EVALUATOR:** EASY TO ALL CONVERSATIONS. EASY TO OFFEND. AND ANDON FACIAL MUSCLES. CHANGING CREASES. IT THE COLD. (STARE A STARE).
- FRIENDS OF THE DRUNK CHICK:** HAS NO IDEA HOW THIS PERSON GOT SO DRUNK. COMES IN GROUPS OF 5. CRIES OF LAUGHTER EVERY 10 SECONDS. EVIDENT BY CRIES. ACTS AS SOBER. POSSIBLE JOKES. 10% UNDER A PIZZA.
- THE COOL GUY:** BEAT UP HIS OWN FRIEND. "THE KING OF THE WAITING ROOM." NO REMORSE. WISH HE'D HURRY UP. "AM I THE COolest? AM I THE COolest?" COMES COMPLETE WITH GIRLFRIEND.
- THE ABUSER:** HEAVY LOOKS OF GUILT. CLAIMS "KID FELL ON THE IRON." WORKING ON ALIBI. NIBBLES: MOUNTAIN DESSERT CHAIR SWING. REMORSE - O MATIC.
- THE PATIENT:** "Will I die... will I die?" AS A RULE: THE SICKER YOU ARE, THE LONGER YOU WAIT. NOT HARD TO SPOT. "THAT'S OK. I WANT IN A HURRY."
- THINGS TO DO DURING YOUR STAY:** FEIGN DEATH. MIMIC MIND A PINN TO STEN L. ALL THESE REINLY MEET SIMS. FARE RELATIVE TO GAIN ENTRY. PRANK CALL RECEPTIONIST FROM THE LOBBY PHONE. BOTHYER THE SICK PEOPLE. TURN THE TV UP WAY LOUD THEN HEE THE TV CONTROLS. WRITE STUPID CARTOONS ABOUT PEOPLE IN HOSPITALS.

SUNBURN

those stupid wars. glorious, very glorious. mmm. and I've yet to see one hero. and this place, this whole place is going to hell, and it's so hot! everyone else seems to be scattering off to other places, where they think their going? I'm not sure. can't be any better than this place. mmm.

hey, looks like another marathoner's coming up the road. that's no marathoner.

4 poor marathoner poor kid. lost his new friend, and didn't his father get dragged off to the wars? yeah. I think the kid's been running around here by himself for some time. sucks! the kid's all alone and in a few years, I'm sure he'll be old enough to be marched off to his death. off to the wars.

Rich's Nuthouse

MR. WEEPOTTY, I'VE NOTICED THAT SHARON ACTS LIKE A K-9. DOES THAT EVER CAUSE ANY PROBLEMS?

ONLY WHEN SHE HOPS THE BATHROOM ALL DAY.

GRRRR YOU KNOW YOU DO.

BIG MAMA KAYE

AT LASTWORD-BIG MAMA KAYE HAD ENTERED THE CITY SENSORS ACCUMULATED ONLY BY A LOCAL BELIGIOUS FIGURE...

YOU MIGHT GET HIT BOB. JUST STAY HERE AND MAKE ALL THE MESS YOU CAN.

OH, BIG MAMA, I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT. I KNOW I OWE YOU THE DRESSING AND ALL, BUT...

W-W-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

W-W-WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD.

Rich's Nuthouse

AR.

ARARARAR

OH, GET OVER IT, CHAP!

AR?

LION OF NARFORM

Dispatch to Unit Seven - Zero ... Please respond to a code blue at 110 Dupont Circle. Officers on the scene have witness and possible suspect.

Classifieds

The East Carolinian
JUNE 17, 1992

3

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FOR RENT

blocks from downtown and supermarket. Rent includes utilities, phone and cable bills. Call 758-6418. ACT NOW!

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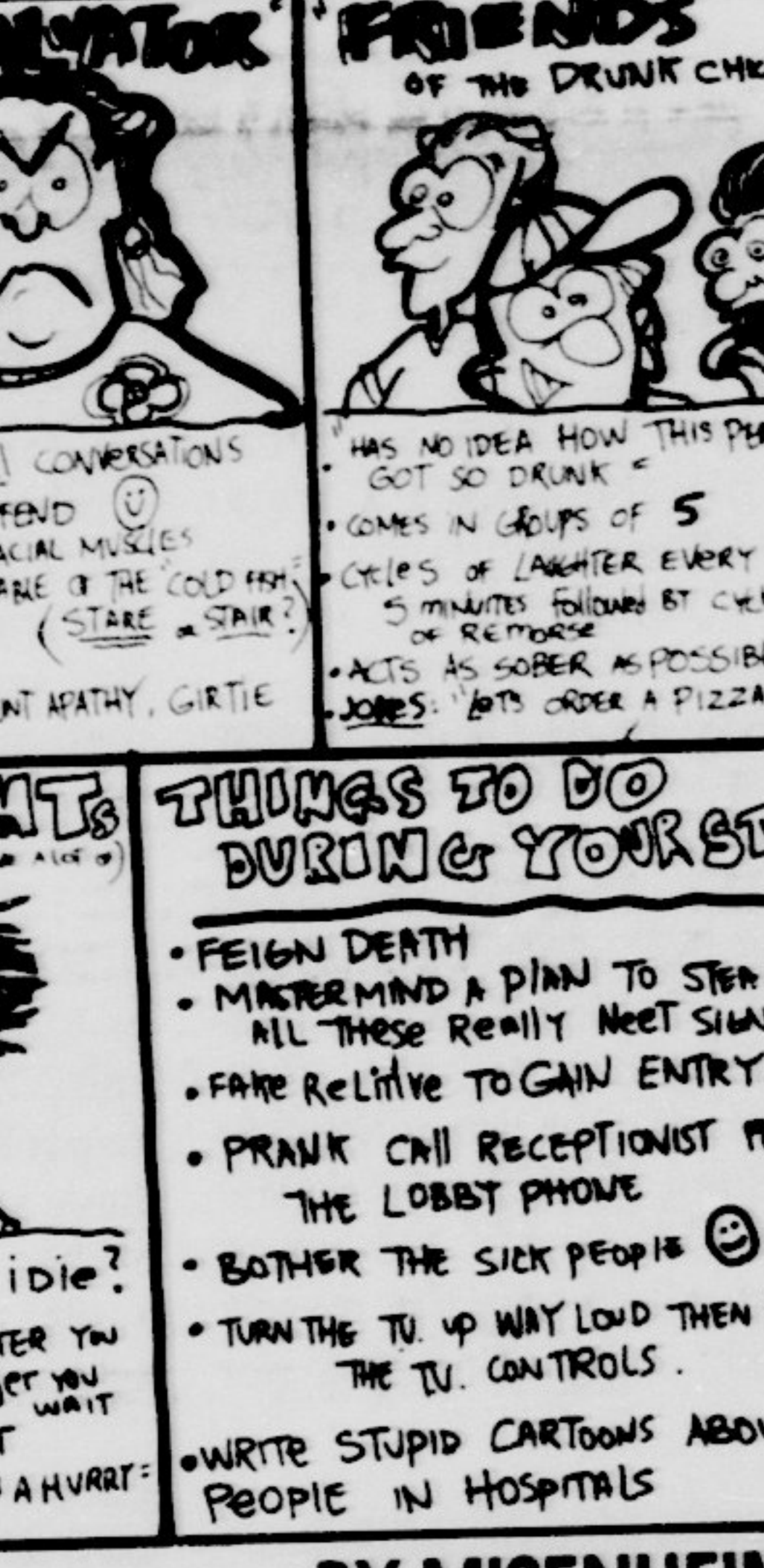
GIRL CALLED LEIGH



BIE ADAM



BIG MAMA KAYE



BY STEVE MASON



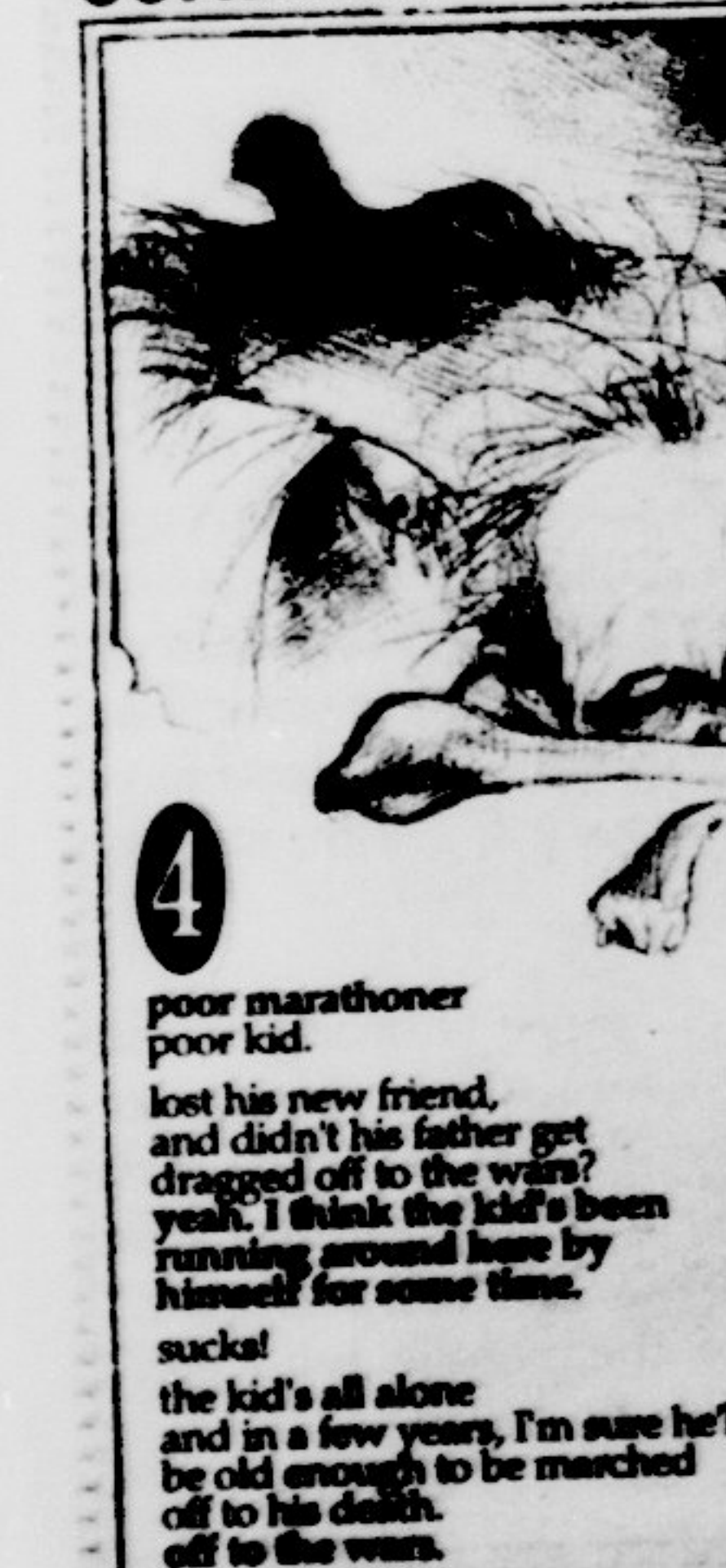
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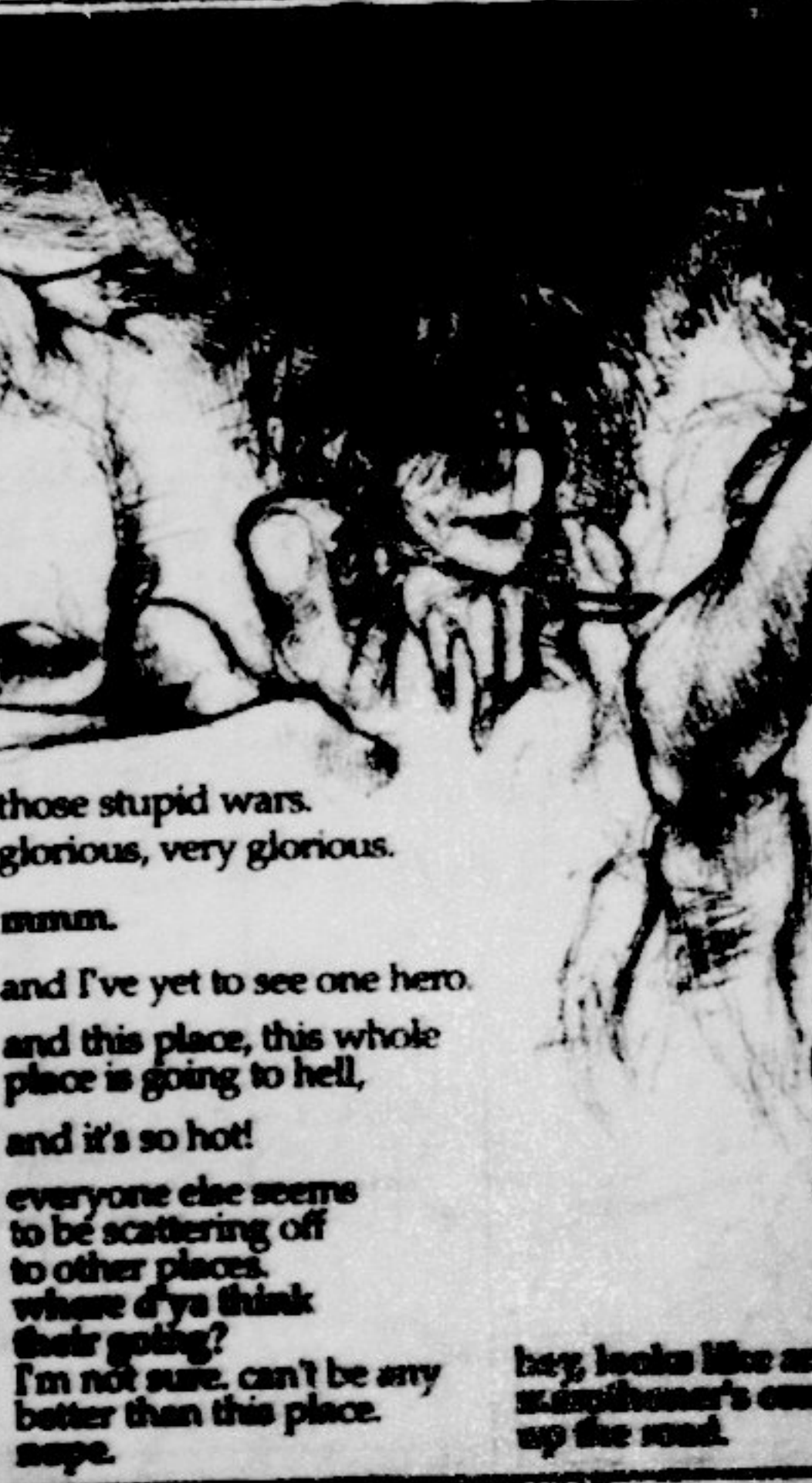
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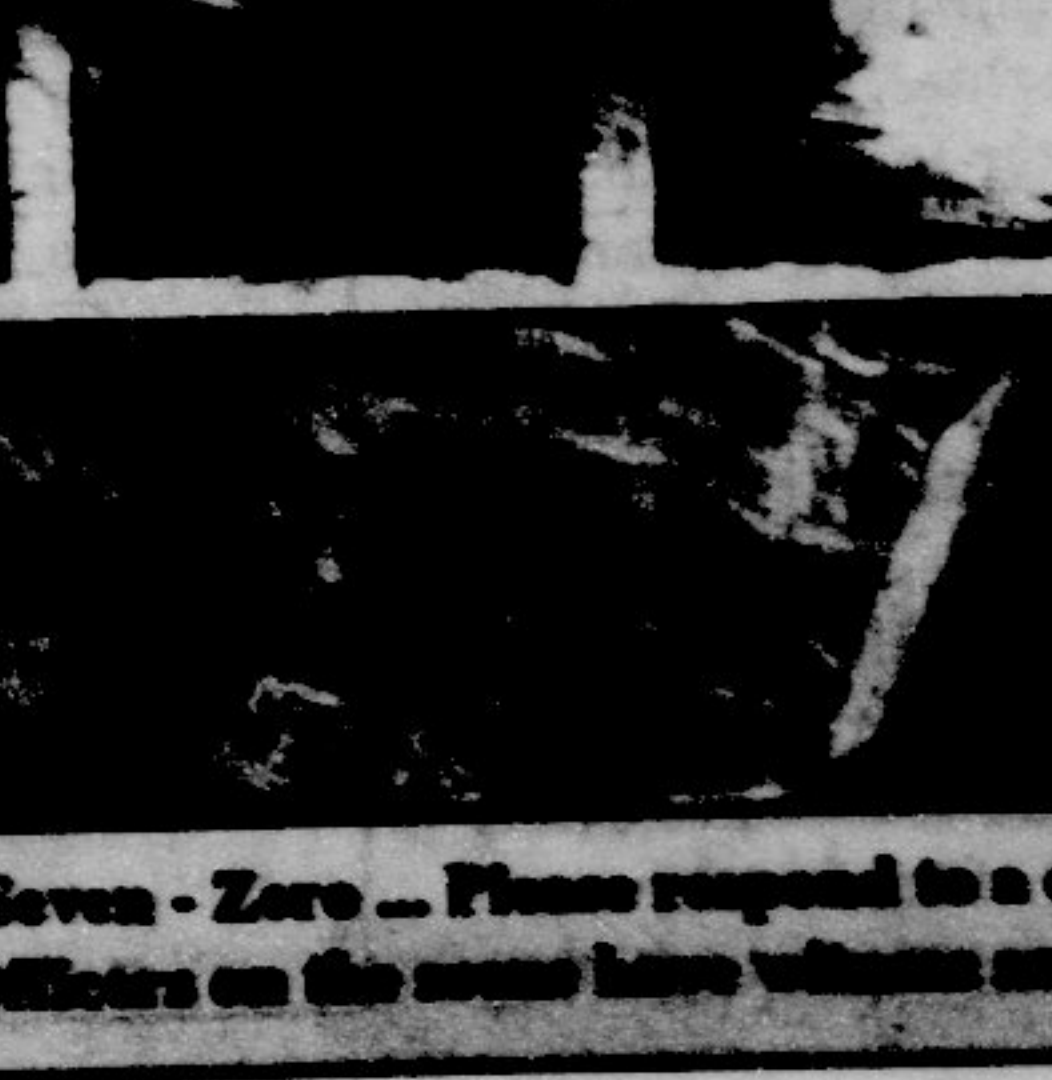
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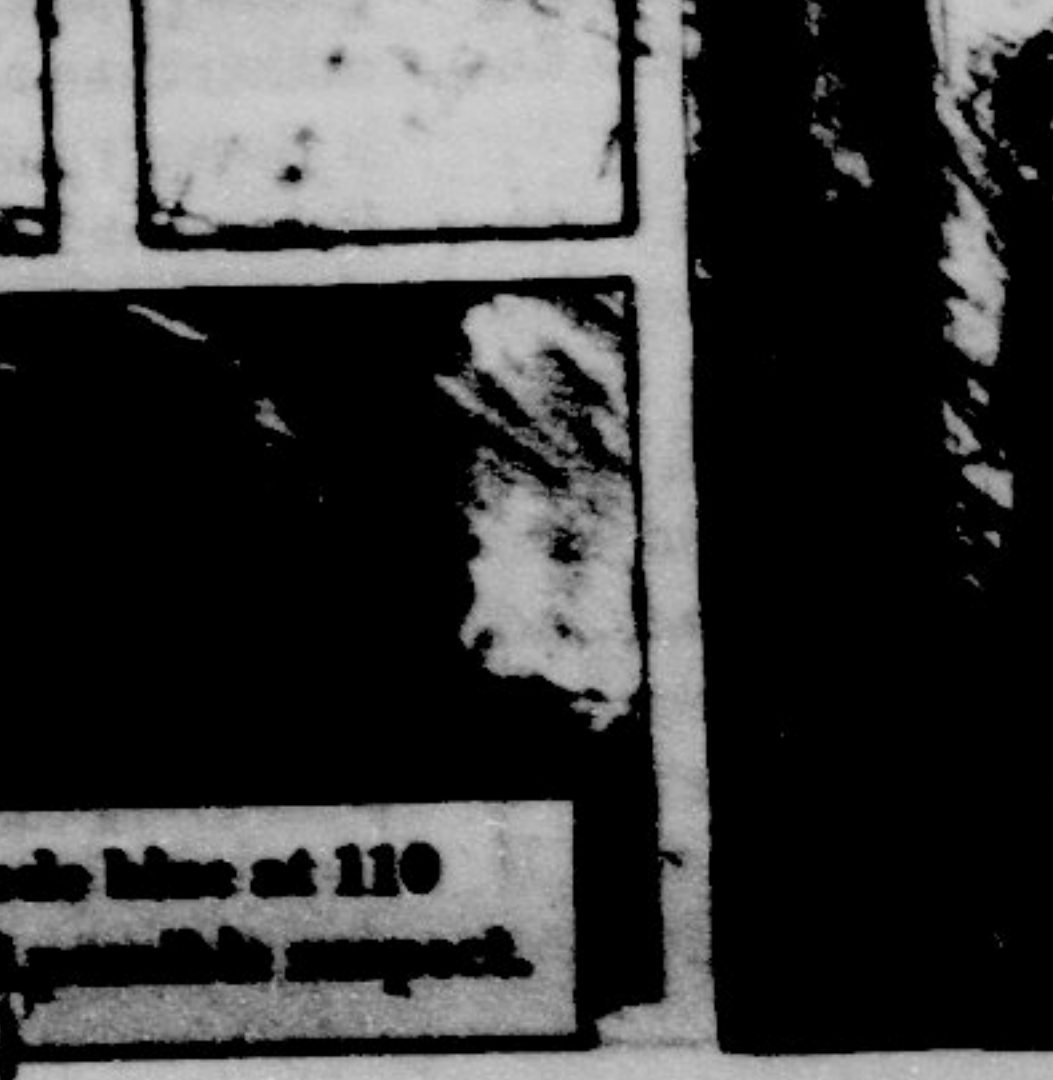
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The East Carolinian

Serving the East Carolina campus community since 1925

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The East Carolinian has served the East Carolina campus community since 1925, emphasizing information that affects ECU students. During summer sessions, The East Carolinian publishes once a week with a circulation of 5,000. The masthead editorial in each edition is the opinion of the Editorial Board. The East Carolinian welcomes letters expressing all points of view. Letters should be limited to 250 words or less. For purposes of decency and brevity, The East Carolinian reserves the right to edit or reject letters for publication. Letters should be addressed to The Editor, The East Carolinian, Publications Bldg., ECU, Greenville, N.C., 27858-4353. For more information, call (919) 757-6366.

OPINION

PAGE 4, JUNE 17, 1992

Media influences public opinion

Chances are, most people will not be voting for democratic presidential candidate Larry Agran. Despite being on the ballot in 35 states and holding an elected office for 12 years (but never a state-wide office), most of the nation has not even heard of him. The media is a gate keeper and has, more than anything else, the power to influence voters.

Ross Perot, still an unofficial candidate, was on the *Today Show* and Bill Clinton played his saxophone on the *Arsenio Hall Show*. The media seems to be deciding who should be president and who is not a viable or serious candidate.

Agran is a viable candidate who deserves exposure. He at least deserves the chance to let the public decide if he is a serious candidate. He was excluded from debates during the primaries by MacNeil/Lehrer, NBC and CNN.

Without media exposure presidential campaigns are wastes of money.

There is an immense danger in allowing the media to make decisions for the public. Too many people have been taught throughout their lives by parents and teachers to not question authority.

Pseudo news-events like *A Current Affair* and *Hard Copy* have taken advantage of accepting viewers by presenting their stories as real news rather than simple rhetoric. *It's on television, it must be true.*

Campaigns have been made and ruined by sound-bites. No real answers to the problems of this country can be summed up in 15 seconds. Exposure to the vast wasteland of television has created an image society rather than an information society. Discussing Perot's bad haircut should be a waste of time — but image matters.

Voting for the president of the United States should not be easy. Take the time to find out what seems to be the critical information about a candidate. The media cannot and should not be, even though they are, responsible for telling the public who to vote for and what to believe. Take the time to sift through information the media presents and distinguish between fact and the slant of a reporter.

Recognize the candidates for who they are, not just who the media says they are. Decide for yourself. Think. Vote.

Maxwell's Silver Hammer

Horatio reincarnated as H. Ross Perot

By Scott Maxwell
Editorial Columnist



According to the conventional wisdom, the Democratic and Republican bigwigs don't understand the nature of the threat posed by H. Ross Perot. Nor do they understand why he's so popular with the voters. And it's all because they're out of touch with the American people.

For once, the conventional wisdom is almost right. It's true that the party leaders don't understand Perot and his appeal, and it's true that their inability to understand Perot's appeal stems from a lack of understanding of the American people.

But what is it about the American people that the party leaders have failed to understand? Their desire for a government that actually functions? Their frustration with political infighting that comes at the expense of the general welfare? No, give them credit: the old guard understands all that just fine, though they haven't done much about it.

Perot's appeal runs deeper than that. Voters are attracted to Perot because he is a mythic figure. Not that he's a god or anything. But Perot unites two of the most powerful and enduring American myths: the Horatio Alger myth and the Reluctant Sheriff myth.

respect authority, and keep quiet, eventually some Dickensian coincidence will dump a fortune in your lap — or anyway, that's the myth.

Perot seems like a Horatio Alger story come to life. He isn't, quite; among other things, his family was rather less poor than he has claimed. But facts rarely interfere with myths, and such is true in Perot's case: in America's mind, he embodies the American Dream.

In any event, he does fit the myth pretty closely. Perot had humble enough beginnings; he's the son of a cowboy-turned-cotton broker, himself a self-made man. And it's well known that Perot parlayed a \$1,000 loan from his wife into a \$3.3 billion fortune. Whatever he may have lacked in rags, he has made up for in riches.

Having made his fortune, Perot now stands ready to embody another deep-rooted American myth. As George Will pointed out in the Jun. 1 issue of *Newsweek*, Perot is being looked to as The Outsider Who Will Come Into the Corrupt Town and Clean Things Up. "Maybe that is Perot's role," Will writes, "the Reluctant Sheriff who would rather ride into the sunset but first has to make the town safe for womenfolk and young'uns."

Perot plans to clean things up by "eliminating gridlock" (one of his favorite phrases), not by shooting the bad guys. And if that approach makes him more of a peace-maker than a fighter, well, so what? It doesn't matter to the myth. The Reluctant Sheriff myth demands a sheriff who takes charge and whips everybody else into line. That's just what Perot's supporters believe he'll do.

The Horatio Alger myth and the Reluctant Sheriff myth are part of our national consciousness; they are at the heart of many of the stories we tell ourselves about our-

selves. Horatio Alger stories abound, and not just in Horatio Alger's books; similarly, Reluctant Sheriff stories are played out in Westerns from *The Virginian* to *High Noon* and all points in between.

When such stories appear to cross over into the real world, they have an enormous psychological impact. I don't mean to suggest that all of Ross Perot's appeal is due to American popular mythology; much of it has to do with plain old politics. But his identification with the myths is one hell of a powerful asset.

The problem with the Democratic and Republican party leaders is not that they don't understand the American people. The problem is that they don't understand people, period. They don't understand the power of myth in the popular mind.

People are human before they are gay, lesbian, black, white, plaid, checkered or green. To say things are "unnatural" is depriving people of their humanity.

Before people start becoming homophobic, I am not gay. She is a beautiful woman — who happens to be African-American (whatever that means). I am Irish-Hungarian-French-Czechoslovakian-American.

Pigment does not determine social values, athleticism or the size of your Johnson™. Not many people actually know the reason behind skin color. God did not "color" us.

People with pale, milky colored skin and the black skins of central Africa are unique adaptations to the environment. Most people on Earth are neither.

The dominance of the earth with people who are a light brown with a yellow or olive tint (the people of Asia, the Middle East and northern Africa) make the black and white problems of this country almost trivial. Such a fuss

over so few? America and South Africa are the last bastions of white-black racism.

A substance called melanin gives skin its color. Its most important function is to ensure the upper levels of the skin will be protected from ultraviolet light, which can cause sunburn, rashes, infection, skin cancer and malignant melanoma (a dark tumor that is deadly). If everyone was covered with thick hair, there would be no need for skin color.

The more melanin, the darker the skin and the lower the risk of damage from the sun.

The sun is not all bad, though. Sunlight is integral in the conversion of a fatty substance in the skin into vitamin D. The darker the skin the longer it takes.

Vitamin D is a necessity and is found in very few foods. The intestines would not be effective in absorbing calcium without it. Misshaped birth canals, which can be fatal for mother and child, osteomalacia and rickets can result without the necessary calcium for the strengthening of bones.

Say Anything...

Blind from the facts of who you are

By Robert S. Todd
Editorial Columnist

The television cast shadows on both of us. Our silhouettes have stuck in my mind for a long time and only later did I realize what people would have said if they knew. Most people are disgusted with this kind of relationship. "It's just not right... it's not natural — if God wanted it that way he would have..." people like to say.

It didn't seem awkward to me. I had been in that position many times before. The feeling was very natural. Two consenting adults. It didn't hurt anybody and made, at least, two people very happy.

What I do behind my door is my business.

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The oils and livers of marine fish are primary sources of vitamin D. Skin must be dark enough to protect the person who does not have access to the ocean from harm so he or she can endure the ultraviolet radiation of the sun long enough to produce vitamin D.

Skin color is a trade-off. People with access to the ocean, in cold climates do not need to be dark skinned. The cold weather does not permit the exposure of their skin and they have vitamin D readily available.

Blacks and whites may have shared a common ancestor as early as 10,000 years ago. We are all brothers and sisters.

Believe it or not, all African-Americans can't dunk and dance.

In fact, there have been documented cases of white people who can almost touch the rim and move their feet to a rhythm. There are orientals who are tall and stupid. There are generous Jewish people. Well "endowed" men of all races exist (maybe more women should look into this matter).

Interracial couples tend to have beautiful children — no matter how ugly the parents are. Is this coincidence? No. It is a hint from a higher being. There is great beauty in having a child with someone of different ethnic origins.

See people for who they are, not their skin color.

"She looks good..." for a black girl, or "He's phat..." for a white boy, only magnify the differences the speaker sees between the races. A person is attractive — or they are not.

Consciously excluding an entire race from a person's possible mates is racism. Black or white. If you will not lay-up with whiteness or if you could fall in love with someone — if only they were white, join the crowd of bigots that stain our nation.

Interracial relationships should not draw, and do not deserve, the amount of attention they receive. If an African-American dates a Caucasian woman, he is seen as just using her as a status symbol. "I wouldn't marry a white girl, but I'd put it up in her." The woman is labeled a slut — white trash.

Seeing an African-American woman date a white man is not only more rare, but harder for both people to cope with — she's a sell-out and he's a wannabe wether or not they are trying to assimilate into another culture.

People are so blind. There is no question some of the accusations of status symbol and curiosity (a.k.a. Jungle Fever) are true, but it is the exception rather than the rule. Humanity and love have ways of shining through, for love is blind.

Black guys wanting to hit black girls for seeing white guys. White guys spitting on white girls who are "ruined" or impure after having been wasted on a "nigger." These are the people who don't want racism to end.

Children are taught racism and in them lies the only way to end racism. No one is born a bigot. Teach your children to break the chain of racism and ignorance. Fight racism and ignorance with intelligence and excellence.

"The black man must love the white man and the white man must love the black man because we are all tied together in a single garment of destiny," Martin Luther King, Jr. said. "We must learn to live together as brothers or we will perish together as fools."



Entertainment



Motorpsycho has released their new major label debut, class kids with a band and a recording contract. Maybe.

Motorpsycho

By Mark Brett
Staff Writer

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OPINION

PAGE 4, JUNE 17, 1992

Media influences public opinion

Chances are, most people will not be voting for democratic presidential candidate Larry Agran. Despite being on the ballot in 35 states and holding an elected office for 12 years (but never a state-wide office), most of the nation has not even heard of him. The media is a gate keeper and has, more than anything else, the power to influence voters.

Ross Perot, still an unofficial candidate, was on the *Today Show* and Bill Clinton played his saxophone on the *Arsenio Hall Show*. The media seems to be deciding who should be president and who is not a viable or serious candidate.

Agran is a viable candidate who deserves exposure. He at least deserves the chance to let the public decide if he is a serious candidate. He was excluded from debates during the primaries by MacNeil/Lehrer, NBC and CNN.

Without media exposure presidential campaigns are wastes of money.

There is an immense danger in allowing the media to make decisions for the public. Too many people have been taught throughout their lives by parents and teachers to not question authority.

Pseudo news-events like *A Current Affair* and *Hard Copy* have taken advantage of accepting viewers by presenting their stories as real news rather than simple rhetoric. *It's on television, it must be true.*

Campaigns have been made and ruined by sound-bites. No real answers to the problems of this country can be summed up in 15 seconds. Exposure to the vast wasteland of television has created an image society rather than an information society. Discussing Perot's bad haircut should be a waste of time — but image matters.

Voting for the president of the United States should not be easy. Take the time to find out what seems to be the critical information about a candidate. The media cannot and should not be, even though they are, responsible for telling the public who to vote for and what to believe. Take the time to sift through information the media presents and distinguish between fact and the slant of a reporter.

Recognize the candidates for who they are, not just who the media says they are. Decide for yourself. Think. Vote.

Maxwell's Silver Hammer

Horatio reincarnated as H. Ross Perot

By Scott Maxwell
Editorial Columnist



According to the conventional wisdom, the Democratic and Republican bigwigs don't understand the nature of the threat posed by H. Ross Perot. Nor do they understand why he's so popular with the voters. And it's all because they're out of touch with the American people.

For once, the conventional wisdom is almost right. It's true that the party leaders don't understand Perot and his appeal, and it's true that their inability to understand Perot's appeal stems from a lack of understanding of the American people.

But what is it about the American people that the party leaders have failed to understand? Their desire for a government that actually functions? Their frustration with political infighting that comes at the expense of the general welfare? No, give them credit: the old guard understands all that just fine, though they haven't done much about it.

Perot's appeal runs deeper than that. Voters are attracted to Perot because he is a mythic figure. Not that he's a god or anything. But Perot unites two of the most powerful and enduring American myths: the Horatio Alger myth and the Reluctant Sheriff myth.

Horatio Alger was a nineteenth-century American novelist who wrote practically the same novel about a zillion times. Such enthralling works as *Rufus and Rose*, *The fortunes of rough and ready* and *Slow and sure*, or, *From the street to the shop* typically traced a pitiable wail's arduous path from rags to riches. If you work hard, save your money,

respect authority, and keep quiet, eventually some Dickensian coincidence will dump a fortune in your lap — or anyway, that's the myth.

Perot seems like a Horatio Alger story come to life. He isn't, quite; among other things, his family was rather less poor than he has claimed. But facts rarely interfere with myths, and such is true in Perot's case: in America's mind, he embodies the American Dream.

In any event, he does fit the myth pretty closely. Perot had humble enough beginnings; he's the son of a cowboy-turned-cotton broker, himself a self-made man. And it's well known that Perot parlayed a \$1,000 loan from his wife into a \$3.3 billion fortune. Whatever he may have lacked in rags, he has made up for in riches.

Having made his fortune, Perot now stands ready to embody another deep-rooted American myth. As George Will pointed out in the Jun. 1 issue of *Newsweek*, Perot is being looked to as The Outsider Who Will Come Into the Corrupt Town and Clean Things Up. "Maybe that is Perot's role," Will writes, "the Reluctant Sheriff who would rather ride into the sunset but first has to make the town safe for womenfolk and young'uns."

Perot plans to clean things up by "eliminating gridlock" (one of his favorite phrases), not by shooting the bad guys. And if that approach makes him more of a peacemaker than a fighter, well, so what? It doesn't matter to the myth. The Reluctant Sheriff myth demands a sheriff who takes charge and whips everybody else into line. That's just what Perot's supporters believe he'll do.

The Horatio Alger myth and the Reluctant Sheriff myth are part of our national consciousness; they are at the heart of many of the stories we tell ourselves about our-

selves. Horatio Alger stories abound, and not just in Horatio Alger's books; similarly, Reluctant Sheriff stories are played out in Westerns from *The Virginian* to *High Noon* and all points in between.

When such stories appear to cross over into the real world, they have an enormous psychological impact. I don't mean to suggest that all of Ross Perot's appeal is due to American popular mythology; much of it has to do with plain old politics. But his identification with the myths is one hell of a powerful asset.

The problem with the Democratic and Republican party leaders is not that they don't understand the American people. The problem is that they don't understand people, period. They don't understand the power of myth in the popular mind.

People with pale, milky colored skin and the black skins of central Africa are unique adaptations to the environment. Most people on Earth are neither.

The dominance of the earth with people who are a light brown with a yellow or olive tint (the people of Asia, the Middle East and northern Africa) make the black and white problems of this country almost trivial. Such a fuss



Revised by Adam Roe
Original by Adam Roe



Say Anything...

Blind from the facts of who you are

By Robert S. Todd
Editorial Columnist

The television cast shadows on both of us. Our silhouettes have stuck in my mind for a long time and only later did I realize what people would have said if they knew. Most people are disgusted with this kind of relationship. "It's just not right... it's not natural — if God wanted it that way he would have..." people like to say.

It didn't seem awkward to me. I had been in that position many times before. The feeling was very natural. Two consenting adults. It didn't hurt anybody and made, at least, two people very happy.

What I do behind my door is my business.

People are human before they are gay, lesbian, black, white, plaid, checkered or green. To say things are "unnatural" is depriving people of their humanity.

Before people start becoming homophobic, I am not gay. She is a beautiful woman — who happens to be African-American (whatever that means). I am Irish-Hungarian-French-Czechoslovakian-American.

Pigment does not determine social values, athleticism or the size of your Johnson™. Not many people actually know the reason behind skin color. God did not "color" us.

People with pale, milky colored skin and the black skins of central Africa are unique adaptations to the environment. Most people on Earth are neither.

The dominance of the earth with people who are a light brown with a yellow or olive tint (the people of Asia, the Middle East and northern Africa) make the black and white problems of this country almost trivial. Such a fuss

over so few? America and South Africa are the last bastions of white-black racism.

A substance called melanin gives skin its color. Its most important function is to ensure the upper levels of the skin will be protected from ultraviolet light, which can cause sunburn, rashes, infection, skin cancer and malignant melanoma (a dark tumor that is deadly). If everyone was covered with thick hair, there would be no need for skin color.

The more melanin, the darker the skin and the lower the risk of damage from the sun.

The sun is not all bad, though. Sunlight is integral in the conversion of a fatty substance in the skin into vitamin D. The darker the skin the longer it takes.

Vitamin D is a necessity and is found in very few foods. The intestines would not be effective in absorbing calcium without it. Misshaped birth canals, which can be fatal for mother and child, osteomalacia and rickets can result without the necessary calcium for the strengthening of bones.

The oils and livers of marine fish are primary sources of vitamin D. Skin must be dark enough to protect the person who does not have access to the ocean from harm so he or she can endure the ultraviolet radiation of the sun long enough to produce vitamin D.

Skin color is a trade-off. People with access to the ocean, in cold climates do not need to be dark skinned. The cold weather does not permit the exposure of their skin and they have vitamin D readily available.

Blacks and whites may have shared a common ancestor as early as 10,000 years ago. We are all brothers and sisters.

Believe it or not, all African-Americans can't dunk and dance.

In fact, there have been documented cases of white people who can almost touch the rim and move their feet to a rhythm. There are orientals who are tall and stupid. There are generous Jewish people. Well "endowed" men of all races exist (maybe more women should look into this matter).

Interracial couples tend to have beautiful children — no matter how ugly the parents are. Is this coincidence? No. It is a hint from a higher being. There is great beauty in having a child with someone of different ethnic origins.

See people for who they are, not their skin color.

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Consciously excluding an entire race from a person's possible mates is racism. Black or white. If you will not lay-up with whitey or if you could fall in love with someone — if only they were white, join the crowd of bigots that stain our nation.

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Seeing an African-American woman date a white man is not only more rare, but harder for both people to cope with — she's a sell-out and he's a wannabe wether or not they are trying to assimilate into another culture.

People are so blind. There is no question some of the accusations of status symbol and curiosity (a.k.a. Jungle Fever) are true, but it is the exception rather than the rule. Humanity and love have ways of shining through, for love is blind.

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Entertainment



Motorpsycho has released their new major label debut, class kids with a band and a recording contract. Maybe.

Motorpsycho

By Mark Brett
Staff Writer

One good thing can be said about L.A. crunch band Motorpsycho: they're better than Poison. Of course, since listening to elevator music is a more edifying experience than listening to Poison, that's not saying much.

Allying themselves with such punk icons as the Ramones and the Misfits and claiming to have a raw, street-wise sensibility, Motorpsycho recently coughed up *Wrenched*, their major label debut. Rather than blazing new three-chord rock trails like their idols, however, Motorpsycho takes a different route. They trot out a collection of tired heavy metal licks that were on their last diseased legs when Metallica cut *Kill 'Em All*.

Starting off *Wrenched* is "Scarred for Life," an adventure in vagueness. The lyrics point to some dissatisfaction with society and an undefined goal to resolve the difficulty. The piece plods along atop a wheezing metal standard, complete with a chorus of barbarian wanna-be backing vocals for over five minutes. Reading between the lines a bit, the song may be about suicide. It may also be about bestiality; who can tell? "Scarred for Life" basically sounds

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Everything Else is the Same





Photo by Kevin Estrada

Motorpsycho has released their new major label debut, *Wrenched*. However, the group seems more like a bunch of bored middle-class kids with a band and a recording contract. Maybe next time, they'll find the right music and direction to express their anger

Motorpsycho releases anger

By Mark Brett
Staff Writer

One good thing can be said about L.A. crutch band Motorpsycho: they're better than Poison. Of course, since listening to elevator music is a more edifying experience than listening to Poison, that's not saying much.

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like the whining of a bunch of bored and nearly articulate middle-class teens.

The fun continues with "No Hope," a cheery little number with an opening line that, if it were better written, would be a really ironic commentary on understanding world affairs. "Six cups of coffee," singer Larry Hernandez groans, "pumpin' through my veins/I wipe the sleep from my eyes but the world it still seems strange." An attempt to see the world as its rulers do, through a legal drug-induced haze? More likely, a fortunate accident of words. From there, the song disintegrates into some meandering talk about various media-dictated "issues" and becomes uninteresting.

From the popular concerns and melancholy of "No Hope," the boys swing into their favorite topic, how pissed off they are about everything. "Hatebox" is a veritable orgy of negativity, an expression of orchestrated, unreasoning unpleasantness that spins around itself at Mach Five. It collapses into disorganized rubble, reveling in its own wretchedness to the bitter end. Don't think the song is effective, though; it's just as boring as the rest of the album.

Finally, Motorpsycho hits very near the rock bottom of stupidity with "Thunderhead." Half anarchistic statement of purpose, half dippy introduction of the

band's official mascot (a guy with a cracked skull-head, gears for brains and a propensity for drinking motor oil), "Thunderhead" is just plain bad. There are Hell's Angel dream lines like "Ride like the devil just to race with the wind." There's a truly embarrassing evil laugh thrown in for effect (the effect it gets is laughter). There's even a lot of moronic riffing going on, to make this the perfect generic bad heavy metal song. Give the boys a hand, folks.

Overall, Motorpsycho seems to be a bunch of bored middle-class kids with a band and a recording contract. They're too intelligent to buy into a whitebread society that lost its validity when "Leave It to Beaver" went off the air and too stupid to really articulate their anger. Even though *Wrenched* is bad (and it's incredibly bad), it's hard to hate them. Everybody knows them; some probably were them.

Rock and roll has always been the medium for the expression of stupid, undirected rage. It's one of the things that makes it great. If any of the anger had a real feeling of conviction behind it, this album might at least have some validity. However, it sounds as if Motorpsycho needs to convince themselves of their righteousness before they start singing about it to someone else.

'Far and Away' drivels profusely on audience

By Ike Shibley
Staff Writer

In *Annie Hall*, a movie patron stands in line pontificating about director Federico Fellini. He claims that the Fellini's latest film "lacked a cohesive structure" and that he finds him "incredibly indulgent."

Such is the case with Ron Howard as exemplified by his latest film, *Far and Away*.

Howard's indulgences have rarely been more evident than in *Far and Away*, the story of a poor Irish man and an aristocratic Irish woman struggling to fulfill their dream of owning land.

Subtle will never be used to describe a Ron Howard film. Perhaps Howard spent too much time in Mayberry as a youth.

Far and Away tells the woeful but inspiring (at least in Howard's mind) tale of Joseph Donnelly (Tom Cruise) and Shannon Christie (Nicole Kidman). Donnelly watches his father's house burn to the ground and vows vengeance on the wealthy landlord who owned the earth the Donellys worked. While trying to shoot Mr. Christie (Robert Prosky), Donnelly's gun explodes in his face. This injury, combined with the pitchfork wound in his leg which he suffered by surprising Shannon, forces him to remain in the Christie's home temporarily.

Shannon wants to escape to America where she can own land and breed horses. These dreams assist her decision to help Joseph escape from Ireland. Eventually the two arrive in Boston where more struggles await them.

Donnelly and Christie work plucking chickens for a time but Donnelly finds much more money in the world of bare knuckle boxing. As soon as his rise begins, his fall becomes evident due to the telegraphed punches of the movie.

Because of losing a big fight, Donnelly is forced to leave Boston. He heads West where he again meets Christie. They both participate in the Oklahoma land rush of 1893.

Howard's directorial career began auspiciously with a charming comedy called *Night Shift*. Howard was also at the helm for *Splash* and *Cocoon*, both moderately successful and entertaining pictures. Then the slide began.

Willow proved moderately entertaining but unfulfilling as a motion picture. Two films followed that lacked common and artistic sense: *Parent Hood* and *Backdraft*. Both films proved that Howard lives in his own private Utopia where a setback only serves to accentuate a happy ending, a world where a rainbow waits

behind every cloud.

Reality became unglued in these films. Howard wanted these films to be so overtly powerful that he became confused by his own good intentions. Instead of a work of art, the films played as commercials for parents and firemen, respectively.

Far and Away provides the same commercialism for Irish immigrants. This film tries so forcefully to elevate these characters that the pedestal becomes visible. Instead of looking up to these characters, we laugh at them because their inflated importance is evident.

Howard's entire mentality is cinematic. Every scene must have a rousing finish, every character must be sharply drawn to the point of caricature, the story must be told in bold strokes. Subtle will never be used to describe a Ron Howard film. Perhaps Howard spent too much time in Mayberry as a youth.

Never once does an interesting nuance appear in the characters in *Far and Away*. The characters, as well as the actors portraying them, remain stiff throughout the entire length of this film.

And what a length *Far and Away* is. The film runs almost two and a half hours. Howard seems to get more long-winded as he goes. So much of this movie should have been left on the cutting room floor. The story of Shannon's parents is interesting but it detracts from the main story of Joseph and Shannon. The Irishman who wants to marry Shannon (Thomas Gibson) is a boonsh caricature whose villainy does not advance the plot. He has no place in the film. These changes would have shortened the film but they would not have improved it.

Inherent flaws cannot be edited away. Cruise, for instance, has acted only once in his career—in *Born on the Fourth of July*. In every other film he simply exuded cockiness for the camera. In *Far and Away* his cockiness does little for him. Joseph Donnelly is flat because Cruise is flat.

(Tom) Cruise, for instance, has acted only once in his career—in *Born on the Fourth of July*. In every other film, he simply exuded cockiness for the camera.

The simple-minded script provides very little character development and little originality. Most scenes remind one of better scenes from better films.

A film must remain true to its self-imposed boundaries of reality. *Far and Away* wants to be a realistic film yet spoon feeds the audience this melodramatic drivel.

On a scale of one to ten, *Far and Away* rates a four.

of who you are

In fact, there have been documented cases of white people who can almost touch the rim and move their feet to a rhythm. There are orientals who are tall and stupid. There are generous Jewish people. Well, "endowed" men of all races exist (maybe more women should look into this matter).

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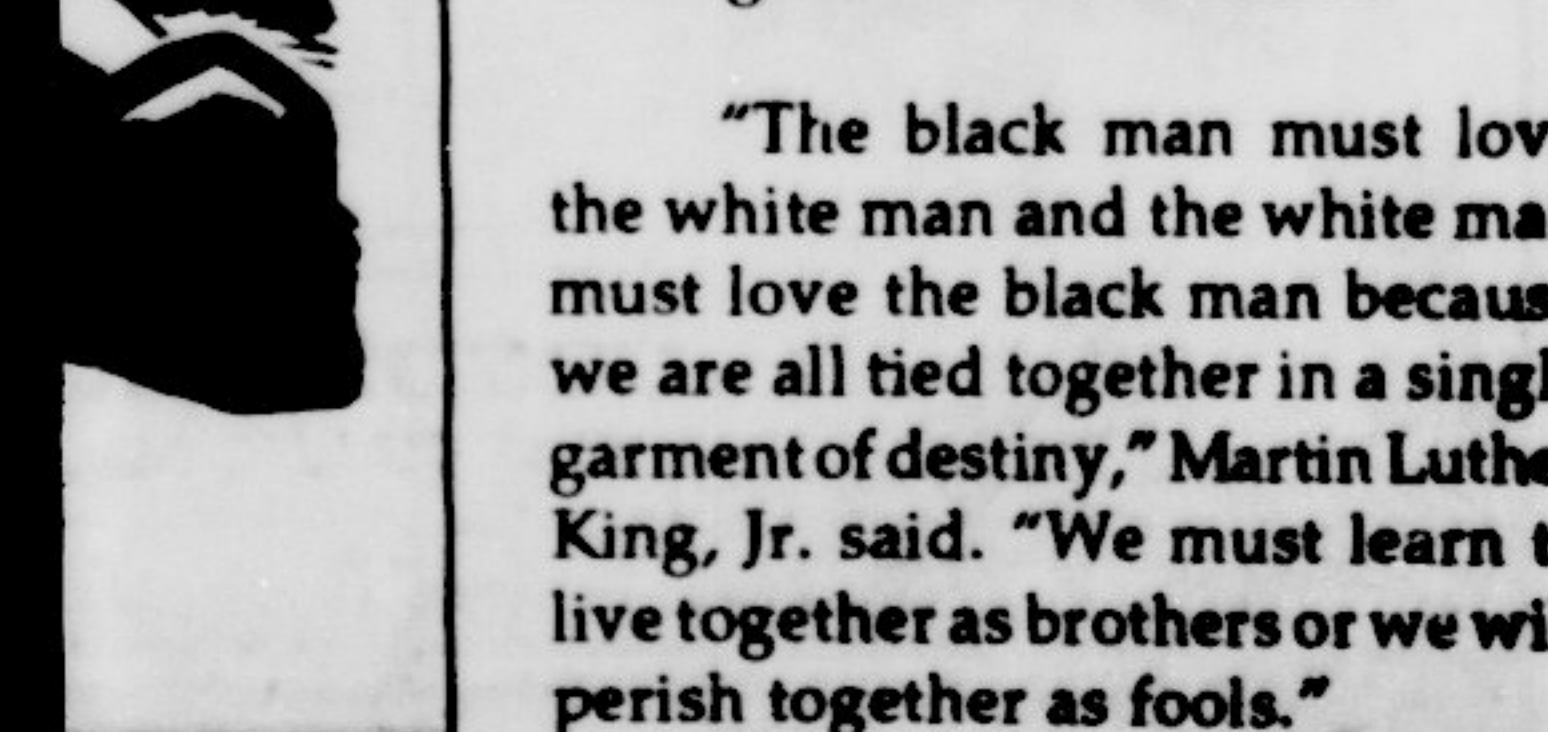
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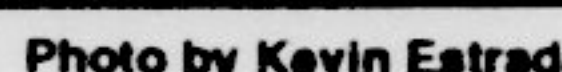
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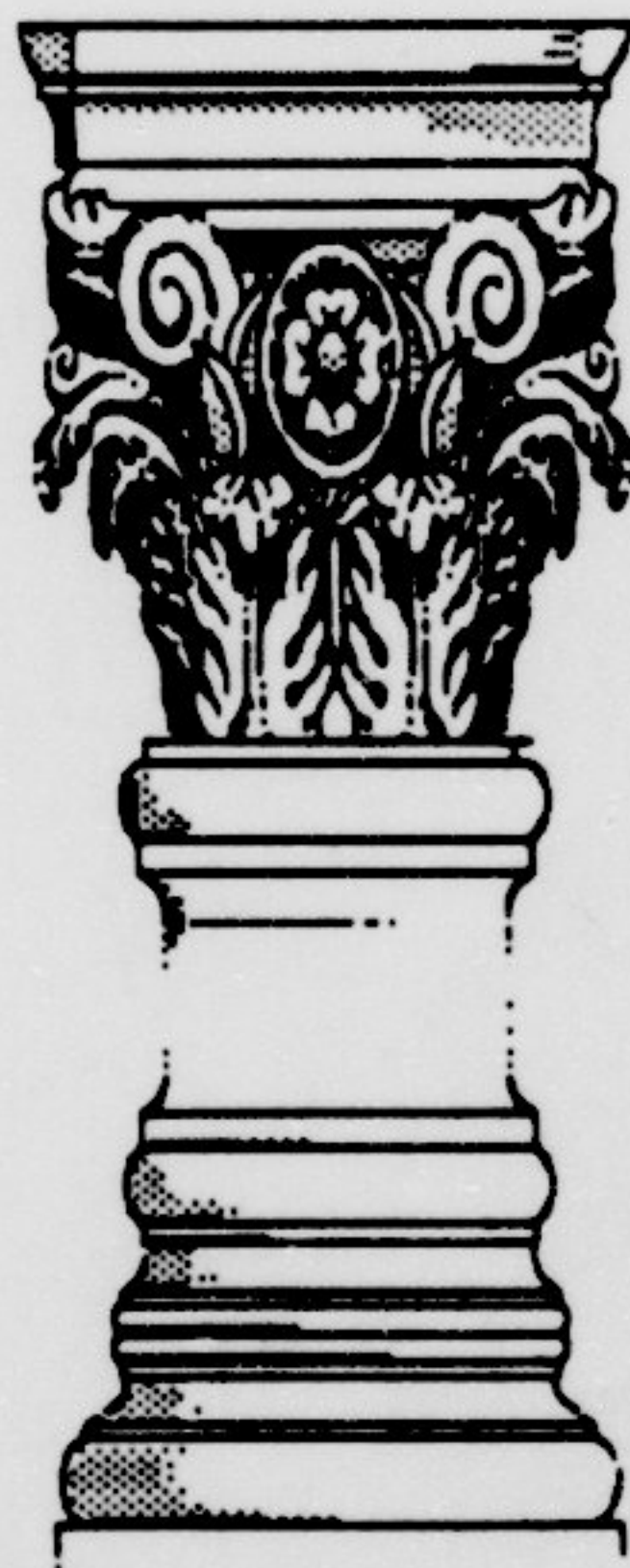
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of who you are

and... In fact, there have been documented cases of white people who can almost touch the rim and move their feet to a rhythm. There are orientals who are tall and stupid. There are generous Jewish people. Well "endowed" men of all races exist (maybe more women should look into this matter).

Interracial couples tend to have beautiful children — no matter how ugly the parents are. Is this coincidence? No. It is a hint from a higher being. There is great beauty in having a child with someone of different ethnic origins.

See people for who they are, not their skin color.

"She looks good... for a black girl," or "He's phat... for a white boy," only magnify the differences the speaker sees between the races. A person is attractive — or they are not.

Consciously excluding an entire race from a person's possible mates is racism. Black or white. If you will not lay-up with whitey or if you could fall in love with someone — if only they were white, join the crowd of bigots that stain our nation.

Interracial relationships should not draw, and do not deserve, the amount of attention they receive. If an African-American dates a Caucasian woman, he is seen as just using her as a status symbol. "I wouldn't marry a white girl, but I'd put it up in her." The woman is labeled a slut — white trash.

Seeing an African-American woman date a white man is not only more rare, but harder for both people to cope with — she's a sell-out and he's a wannabe wether or not they are trying to assimilate into another culture.

People are so blind. There is no question some of the accusations of status symbol and curiosity (a.k.a. Jungle Fever) are true, but it is the exception rather than the rule. Humanity and love have ways of shining through, for love is blind.

Black guys wanting to hit black girls for seeing white guys. White guys spitting on white girls who are "ruined" or impure after having been wasted on a "nigger." These are the people who don't want racism to end.

Children are taught racism and in them lies the only way to end racism. No one is born a bigot. Teach your children to break the chain of racism and ignorance. Fight racism and ignorance with intelligence and excellence.

"The black man must love the white man and the white man must love the black man because we are all tied together in a single garment of destiny," Martin Luther King, Jr. said. "We must learn to live together as brothers or we will perish together as fools."



Photo by Kevin Estrada

Motorpsycho has released their new major label debut, *Wrenched*. However, the group seems more like a bunch of bored middle-class kids with a band and a recording contract. Maybe next time, they'll find the right music and direction to express their anger

Motorpsycho releases anger

By Mark Brett
Staff Writer

One good thing can be said about L.A. crunch band Motorpsycho: they're better than Poison. Of course, since listening to elevator music is a more edifying experience than listening to Poison, that's not saying much.

Allying themselves with such punk icons as the Ramones and the Misfits and claiming to have a raw, street-wise sensibility, Motorpsycho recently coughed up *Wrenched*, their major label debut. Rather than blazing new three-chord rock trails like their idols, however, Motorpsycho takes a different route. They trot out a collection of tired heavy metal licks that were on their last diseased legs when Metallica cut *Kill 'Em All*.

Starting off *Wrenched* is "Scarred for Life," an adventure in vagueness. The lyrics point to some dissatisfaction with society and an undefined goal to resolve the difficulty. The piece plods along atop a wheezing metal standard, complete with a chorus of barbarian wanna-be backing vocals for over five minutes. Reading between the lines a bit, the song may be about suicide. It may also be about bestiality; who can tell? "Scarred for Life" basically sounds

like the whining of a bunch of bored and nearly articulate middle-class teens.

The fun continues with "No Hope," a cheery little number with an opening line that, if it were better written, would be a really ironic commentary on understanding world affairs: "Six cups of coffee," singer Larry Hernandez groans, "pumpin' through my veins/I wipe the sleep from my eyes but the world it still seems strange." An attempt to see the world as its rulers do, through a legal drug-induced haze? More likely, a fortunate accident of words. From there, the song disintegrates into some meandering talk about various media-dictated "issues" and becomes uninteresting.

From the popular concerns and melancholy of "No Hope," the boys swing into their favorite topic, how pissed off they are about everything. "Hatebox" is a ventable orgy of negativity, an expression of orchestrated, unreasoning unpleasantness that spins around itself at Mach Five. It collapses into disorganized rubble, reveling in its own wretchedness to the bitter end. Don't think the song is effective, though; it's just as boring as the rest of the album.

Finally, Motorpsycho hits very near the rock bottom of stupidity with "Thunderhead." Half anarchistic statement of purpose, half dippy introduction of the band's official mascot (a guy with a cracked skull-head, gears for brains and a propensity for drinking motor oil), "Thunderhead" is just plain bad. There are Hell's Angel dream lines like "Ride like the devil just to race with the wind." There's a truly embarrassing evil laugh thrown in for effect (the effect it gets is laughter). There's even a lot of moronic riffing going on, to make this the perfect generic bad heavy metal song. Give the boys a hand, folks.

Overall, Motorpsycho seems to be a bunch of bored middle-class kids with a band and a recording contract. They're too intelligent to buy into a whitebread society that lost its validity when "Leave It to Beaver" went off the air and too stupid to really articulate their anger. Even though *Wrenched* is bad (and it's incredibly bad), it's hard to hate them. Everybody knows they're probably were them.

Rock and roll has always been the medium for the expression of stupid, undirected rage. It's one of the things that makes it great. If any of the anger had a real feeling of conviction behind it, this album might at least have some validity. However, it sounds as if Motorpsycho needs to convince themselves of their righteousness before they start singing about it to someone else.

'Far and Away' drivels profusely on audience

By Ike Shibley
Staff Writer

In *Annie Hall*, a movie patron stands in line pontificating about director Federico Fellini. He claims that the Fellini's latest film "lacked a cohesive structure" and that he finds him "incredibly indulgent."

Such is the case with Ron Howard as exemplified by his latest film, *Far and Away*.

Howard's indulgences have rarely been more evident than in *Far and Away*, the story of a poor Irish man and an aristocratic Irish woman struggling to fulfill their dream of owning land.

Subtle will never be used to describe a Ron Howard film. Perhaps Howard spent too much time in Mayberry as a youth.

Far and Away tells the woeful but inspiring (at least in Howard's mind) tale of Joseph Donnelly (Tom Cruise) and Shannon Christie (Nicole Kidman). Donnelly watches his father's house burn to the ground and vows vengeance on the wealthy landlord who owned the earth the Donellys worked. While trying to shoot Mr. Christie (Robert Prosky), Donnelly's gun explodes in his face. This injury, combined with the pitchfork wound in his leg which he suffered by surprising Shannon, forces him to remain in the Christie's home temporarily.

Shannon wants to escape to America where she can own land and breed horses. These dreams assist her decision to help Joseph escape from Ireland. Eventually the two arrive in Boston where more struggles await them.

Donnelly and Christie work plucking chickens for a time but Donnelly finds much more money in the world of bare knuckle boxing. As soon as his rise begins, his fall becomes evident due to the telegraphed punches of the movie.

Because of losing a big fight, Donnelly is forced to leave Boston. He heads West where he again meets Christie. They both participate in the Oklahoma land rush of 1893.

Howard's directorial career began auspiciously with a charming comedy called *Night Shift*. Howard was also at the helm for *Splash* and *Cocoon*, both moderately successful and entertaining pictures. Then the slide began.

Willow proved moderately entertaining but unfulfilling as a motion picture. Two films followed that lacked common and artistic sense: *Parenthood* and *Backdraft*. Both films proved that Howard lives in his own private Utopia where a setback only serves to accentuate a happy ending, a world where a rainbow waits

behind every cloud.

Reality became unglued in these films. Howard wanted these films to be so overtly powerful that he became confused by his own good intentions. Instead of a work of art, the films played as commercials for parents and firemen, respectively.

Far and Away provides the same commercialism for Irish immigrants. This film tries so forcefully to elevate these characters that the pedestal becomes visible. Instead of looking up to these characters, we laugh at them because their inflated importance is evident.

Howard's entire mentality is cinematic. Every scene must have a rousing finish, every character must be sharply drawn to the point of caricature, the story must be told in bold strokes. Subtle will never be used to describe a Ron Howard film. Perhaps Howard spent too much time in Mayberry as a youth.

Never once does an interesting nuance appear in the characters in *Far and Away*. The characters, as well as the actors portraying them, remain stiff throughout the entire length of this film.

And what a length *Far and Away* is. The film runs almost two and a half hours. Howard seems to get more long-winded as he ages. So much of this movie should have been left on the cutting room floor. The story of Shannon's parents is interesting but it detracts from the main story of Joseph and Shannon. The Irishman who wants to marry Shannon (Thomas Gibson) is a boorish caricature whose villainy does not advance the plot. He has no place in the film. These changes would have shortened the film but they would not have improved it.

Inherent flaws cannot be edited away. Cruise, for instance, has acted only once in his career — in *Born on the Fourth of July*. In every other film he simply exuded cockiness for the camera. In *Far and Away* his cockiness does little for him. Joseph Donnelly is flat because Cruise is flat.

(Tom)Cruise, for instance, has acted only once in his career—in *Born on the Fourth of July*. In every other film, he simply exuded cockiness for the camera.

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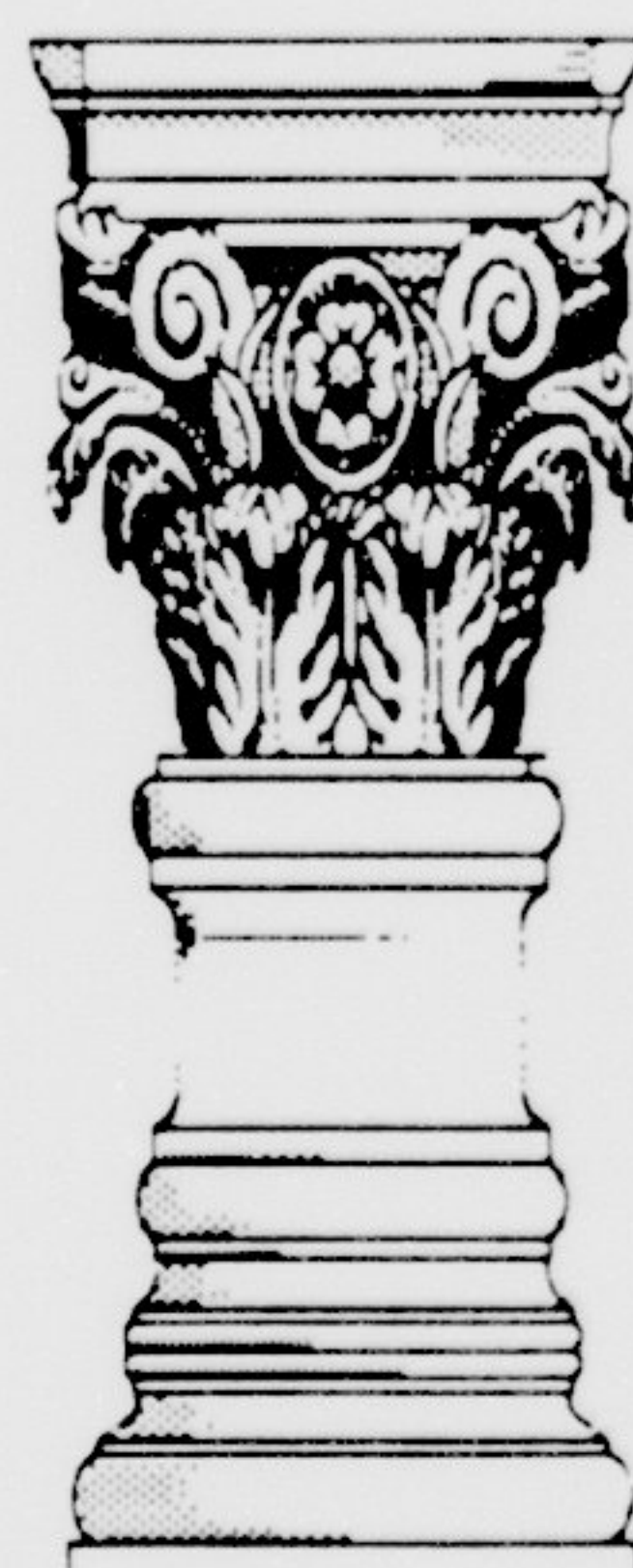
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Air Jordan?



File photo
Playing basketball on College Hill is like free green fees to poor golfers — everyone has to get a piece of the action.

Flame arrives in Spain, torch lit

EMPURIES, Spain (AP) — The Olympic flame arrived at dusk Saturday after a six-day crossing of the Mediterranean Sea to begin a tour of Spain that ends at the Summer Games in Barcelona.

A rowboat brought the flame onto the beach at this ancient port 75 miles north of Barcelona, serenaded

by a chorus and the haunting sound of tenors — oboe-like instruments from this Catalan region of north-eastern Spain.

The flame then was used to light a cauldron built on a Greco-Roman wall more than 2,000 years old, and that cauldron ignited the first official torch of the 43-day relay.

Bulls take second title with win over Blazers, 97-93

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Bulls made a furious fourth-quarter comeback with Michael Jordan on the bench, then jumped on his back for their second straight NBA title Sunday.

Jordan scored 12 of his 33 points in the last 6:01 and the Bulls held the Portland Trail Blazers to 14 points in the final period of a 97-93 decision that gave Chicago a 4-2 NBA Finals victory.

Trailing by 17 in the third quarter and 79-64 after three periods, the Bulls rallied with Scottie Pippen the only starter on the court. They started the period by scoring 14 of the first 16 points, closing 81-78 before Jordan returned.

Jordan's first basket of the quarter, with 6:01 left, pulled Chicago to 83-82 before Pippen's three-pointer tied it 85-85 40 seconds later.

After Jordan tied it again at 87-87, he stole the ball from Buck Williams and dunked for Chicago's first

lead since early in the game.

After a layup by Clyde Drexler, Pippen, who scored 26 points, gave the Bulls the lead for good with a jumper with 2:22 left. Jordan followed with another basket at the 1:39 mark for a 93-89 lead.

Two free throws by Drexler were answered by Jordan's layup with 35 seconds left, making it 95-91 with 35 seconds left. After two free throws by Jerome Kersey, who matched Drexler with 24 points for the Blazers, Jordan dribbled the clock down to 11.8 seconds before his two free throws concluded the scoring.

Kersey's missed 3-point attempt with 4.7 seconds left was rebounded by John Paxson, setting off jubilant cheering and singing by the Bulls and the delirious sellout crowd.

Fifteen minutes after the game ended, the crowd was still at their seats singing songs that were blar-

ing over the public address system.

Chicago is the NBA's third repeat champion in six years, but unlike last season, when the Bulls lost only two postseason games on the way to their first NBA title, they struggled in the 1992 playoffs.

They lost seven times and had 2-2 ties in each of their last three series against New York, Cleveland and Portland. But they won Game 5 each time and beat the Knicks in seven games and the Cavaliers and Blazers in six.

Jordan, named Most Valuable Player, is the second player to be voted MVP of both the regular season and Finals and the first to win both awards in consecutive years. Larry Bird was MVP for the Boston Celtics in 1984 and 1986.

Jordan's 35.8 scoring average is the highest ever for a winning player in the Finals, surpassing his own 31.2 mark of a year ago. The Finals scoring record of 40.8 by Rick Barry

for San Francisco in 1967 was in a losing effort.

Portland overcame another poor shooting start to take a 15-point lead in the second quarter, then nearly folded when Jordan scored 10 points in less than three minutes, helping the Bulls pull within 6 at halftime.

But the Blazers came back strong in the third quarter, building the lead to 60-46 with an 8-0 run keyed by Terry Porter's driving jumper and breakaway layup.

Drexler, playing with four fouls, extended the margin to 70-54 with a layup, made it 73-58 with a three-point play and then blocked a layup attempt by Jordan, leading to Porter's two free throws and a 75-58 advantage with 2:12 left.

Porter finished with 22 points, his best effort of the series after he had an NBA playoff record 18 3-pointers in the Western Conference finals against Utah.

Boxers battle for birth on Olympic team

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — Tim Austin ate like a heavyweight champion in the morning and fought like a flyweight champion in the afternoon.

"I just ate the right food," Austin joked after power-punching his way to a 78-45 decision over Aristead Clayton in the 112-pound final at the Olympic trials Sunday in the Centrum.

Austin, of Cincinnati, peppered Clayton, of Baker, La., with right jabs and hooks and solid shots to the body. Clayton kept coming back for more.

Vernon Forrest of Augusta, Ga., the silver medalist in the 1991 world championships, won the 139-pound title by rallying in the third round for a 39-31 victory over Steve Johnston of Colorado Springs, Colo.

Ivan Robinson of Philadelphia, a member of the world championship team, was upset 35-20 by Julian

Wheeler of the Navy at Little Creek, Va.

Three other World Championship team members won on Sunday.

Raul Marquez of Houston bombed away with right hooks and lefts to the head and won a 71-18 decision at 156 pounds over Antwun Echols of Davenport, Iowa, who took three standing 8-counts.

Oscar de la Hoya of Los Angeles scored well with jabs and counter left hooks and won the 132-pound title on a 41-6 decision over Anthony Christodoulou of Syracuse, N.Y.

Eric Griffin, winner of 106-pound titles at the world championships in 1989 and 1991, and Chris Byrd, the 165-pound member of the 1991 world team, won finals Saturday.

Griffin, of Jasper, Tenn., overwhelmed Mario Bueno of the Army at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., 70-16. Byrd, of Flint, Mich., whose father Joe will

coach the Olympic boxing team, counterpunched his way to a 41-17 victory over Michael DeMoss of the Marines at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The 12 trials champions will meet most-noteworthy opponents in the

box-offs, which will determine the Olympic team, June 26-28 at Phoenix. If a trials champion wins, he is on the team. If he loses, there will be another bout June 28, with the winner going to Barcelona.

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