

10.23.2000 VOL. 1 ISSUE 2

the paper

Harper College

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the paper

10.23.2000. Volume 1, Issue 2.

General Information

the paper is supposed to be the student publication for the Harper College campus community, but is instead a secretly encrypted message coordinating the invasion of our solar system by the planet Zorg, tentatively scheduled for the third Sunday of next month, weather permitting. *the paper* is distributed free to all students, faculty, and administration, except Dr. Breuder, who will not be allowed to have his own copy until he proves he can play well with others.

Letters Policy

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

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

2. All entries must refer to the staff as "All Mighty Lord of

the Universe", and display a submissive tone that is appropriate for speaking to the future rulers of your world. Any negative feedback will be met with harsh consequences.

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

Advertising

Products and services advertised in *the paper* are not necessarily endorsed by the rulers of Zorg, unless said advertising incapacitates the reader and further insures the conquest of Earth.

the paper

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This Is Ours, 2000.

All rights are on reserve, until then, we wait.

Note: Our check bounced at the copyright office. Guess it would help if we had accounting software to manage this beast. So, any unlawful reproduction of this material, or naughty thoughts about its Music Editor, Dan Kurash, should be considered encouraged, as long as part of the proceeds go towards our outstanding debt with the Library of Congress. Without the space between *out* and *standing*, it actually seems like we enjoy this indentured servitude thing.

Staff Members

Any mishandling of staff members by small forest creatures was done under the close supervision of OSHA and the KGB. Any mishandling of Dan Kurash by small forest creatures was consensual by both parties and occurred all nine times in a small padded closet off of company property. Way to go Dan.

Anonymous Critic

The staff of *the paper* would like to thank our biggest fan, the "Anonymous Critic," who so courageously dissected our first issue without ever revealing their identity. Their profound insight into our first issue allowed us to see the error of our ways. We now realize we should have never even included the word "Harbinger" anywhere within *the paper*, since the name alone is associated with poor grammar and bad stories. Without you, as our most trusted resource, it might have taken three to four issues to realize this. Isn't it ironic that the name you are so angry with us for changing, actually means: "A person that initiates or pioneers a major change." For future reference, please address your critiques to "All Mighty Lord of the Universe," and if you so wish, refer to yourself as "Weak and Spineless One." Just so we know it is you.

Beeswax

Any beeswax damage to college property should not be blamed on one of our staff

members, even if we consider him an editor. Besides, how was he supposed to know that the midday heat would melt his hair to the window of the school van and that the Jaws of Life would be needed to extract him from the vehicle?

Tom

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

Retraction

We would like to apologize to the family of Jenny Geheb for any pain and suffering our labeling her "the ripest peach in the bushel" may have caused. Upon further review, the staff of *the paper* recognizes her disorders as "fun for family get-togethers," especially Oktober-fest, and deems her worthy of finger food and slippers, just don't let her get her greasy mitts on that damn remote, she has definite control issues and an insatiable appetite for "Facts of Life" reruns.

STAFF PERSONALS



Craig Rot
Looking for someone "special" to spend my spare seven minutes a day with.

Favorite infomercial: Nads, anything to remove unsightly ear hair.



Jenny Geheb
I'm rough on one side, sensitive on the other.

Favorite "Facts of Life" character: Tie, Jo and Blair.



Just Rana
True love is a background and credit check away.

Favorite Blueman: Papa Smurf.



Collin Souter
I have nothing to do with these raving lunatics.
Favorite Activity: Disassociating myself from these losers.



Gina Schiavo
You need it, I got it.

Favorite Pope: John Paul.



Kevin Lorenc
Will take anyone who can stand my lack of objectivity.
Favorite 80's Heavy Metal Icon: Kip Winger.



Mark Imburgia
You know what they say about men with big feet? They're generally really tall.
Favorite Public Safety Officer: Mini-wheat.



Anonymous Critic
I am pathetic. Bedtime routine: Counting sheep while wetting my bed and sucking my thumb.

Think you can draw?
Prove it

We have seen many students sitting around the art department just doodling in their sketchbooks, and we know there is a lot of talent at this school. We want that talent working for *the paper*.

Rules for submission: the comic must be on white paper with black ink. The sharper the image, the better. It needs to be a re-printable size, no larger than 1/4 page horizontal, or 1 column vertical. Computer images must be binary tiff format at a resolution of 300 dpi., 100% size.

So...what are you waiting for? Get to the drawing board.

EVERLONG

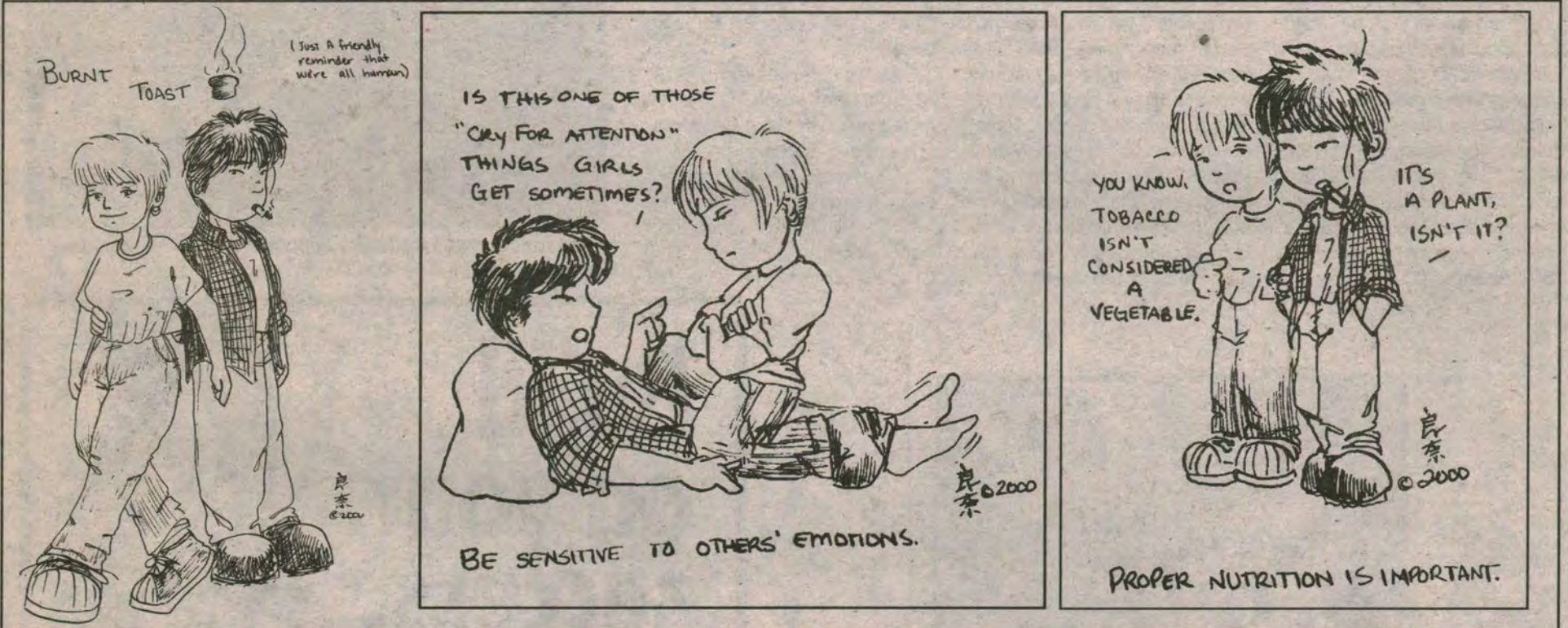
By Jeff Lacadan



Burnt Toast

burnttoastcomics@hotmail.com

by Rana



Staff Personals: them too

Tracey Fuller Is a pulse too much to ask for? Favorite Slayer Song: South of Heaven.	Dan Kurash Anyone need a date for the junior prom? Favorite Backstreet Boy: Guy with uni-brow.	Brian Samuelson I do Dan. I mean: I do, Dan. That is, I need a prom date and a punctuation lesson. Favorite milkable barnyard animal: Who could choose just one?	Ken Webster I've got more beets than a Jeff Lacadan salad. Favorite Singer: Barry Manilow.	Mike Casaccio I have peace in my heart because I love all people. Favorite Music: Death Metal.	Jeff Lacadan Short, dark, and nearly mute. Favorite Meat: Salami. I paint toenails, do dishes, and, if asked, make pasta in my nose that tastes like bubblegum and smells like fish.	Barrett This section was my idea. Could you possibly spare some of those cheetos? Favorite Pace bus driver: Anyone who will pick me up.	Dann Gire These are my people. They know not what they do. Favorite Bible Character: Moses.

Former Harper teacher runs for Congress

By Brian Samuelson
Staff Writer

In 1974, former Harper teacher and Northwestern graduate Lance Pressl welcomed U.S. Congressman Phil Crane to Rolling Meadows High School. As Rolling Meadow's Student Council President at the time, Pressl had no inkling that he would be running against the veteran incumbent Crane nearly a quarter century later.

Today he is doing just that. Using his wife as the main source of financial support for his campaign, Pressl is running for congress in the 8th congressional district this upcoming fall. On Tuesday, September 26th, Pressl visited Harper to speak to the students about his campaign and issues facing the student body as well as the nation.

"Who can guess what my chances are in facing a 31 year incumbent in this election," was Pressl's question to the students. "Slim," was the answer received. Pressl cordially acknowledged the fact that traditionally incumbents have a 95% chance of winning the

election over newcomers. "But why is that," he asked. It is, in part, due to the fact that people generally vote for that which they know, candidates whom they have grown accustomed to; and that, incumbents are, according to Pressl, "granted unlimited access to campaign resources" such as money. But why then would Pressl run if he knows the odds are against him? Because, the average age of a person in this district is 36 and Pressl himself is 43, an age he believes the voters can identify with more than with the age of the incumbent that has been in office for the past 31 years.

If it is the policies of the candidates that the people in the 8th congressional district will be voting for come November 7th, and not simply name recognition, then their decision needn't be difficult because Pressl and Crane differ on "almost every topic," according to Pressl. Where Pressl was for "supporting the reduction of class sizes," Crane called for the "elimination of the U.S. Department of Education." On issues of higher education,

Pressl "supports deductions for the cost of college tuition and fees and supports full funding for student loans," whereas Crane was "one of four members (who) [voted] against the Higher Education Act Re-authorization, against financial aid." I had a chance to speak with Pressl before and after his appearance in a political science class. I asked him, if elected, what he would do to bring about change to ensure that his policies come about. His answer was to give it "good old-fashioned hard work and determination." "The willingness," he said, "to work on both sides of the line." To be open to the opinions of both political parties is something democratic candidate Pressl practices and republican opponent Phil Crane does not. Pressl also talked to

Harper president Dr. Brueder that same day and I asked him what that conversation encompassed.

The topic of the referendum discussed included the "need for higher education." According to Pressl, Phil Crane's commitment is not

meeting these needs, and much to the disappointment of Dr. Brueder. Finally, Pressl was asked the all-important cliched question that candidates running for any political office most often hear, why vote for you in the upcoming election? "The desire for change," replied Pressl.

He touches on the fact that opponent Phil Crane has lacked the desire for change for the past 31 years, which is why congress needs some "new

blood" and "new ideas," some change for the changing times, for this new millennium with which Crane has failed to change.

With all that said and done, November 7th is just a little over one month away, and perhaps the voters could use a change, and one for the better. Is Lance Pressl the right man for the job? Why don't you decide?



Pressl (right) meets his future opponent as Rolling Meadows student council president in 1974.



She's finally coming over, huh?
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Sexual harrassment an issue in L building

By Robin Leininger
Staff Writer

An anonymous female walks through this noisy hall almost every day. Small groups of people are scattered around each involved in their own conversation. People are running to their classes. But, even with all the commotion she knows what's coming. It happens every day that she walks through this hall. She looks to the ground, waiting for it to happen, picking up her pace. She feels the eyes on her and here it comes. "Hey girl, you look good. Why don't you come and talk to me?"

Of course it's different every day. Yesterday it was catcalls and a lot of wooing. Tomorrow, it may be a shout. "Hey let me get your number!" Someone shouts from within the crowd.

She keeps her head down and walks even faster to get to her class or just out of the building.

"It's degrading, it makes me

really self-conscious. Some times I take the stairs so I don't have to walk through that hallway." She says.

This isn't any college and this isn't any hallway. This is the "L" building at Harper College. This isn't just a problem for a select few but for almost all female students that travel this hallway. Eight out of the ten women interviewed for this article feel that harassment is a big problem in the "L" building.

What is sexual harassment exactly? Though the policy isn't posted anywhere on campus, including the "L" building, Harper College's pamphlet on sexual harassment states it can be but isn't limited to any of the following: leering or ogling a person's body, verbal harassment or abuse of a sexual nature, brushing against another's body, and sexist remarks about a person's clothing, body, or sexual activities.

One day in the "L" building, some male students declared it condom day and were throwing condoms on the floor and at

girl's feet telling them to pick them up. According to a few girls, it is better this year but still a problem. One female student told me of a situation where she stopped and talked to a guy in that hallway and he eventually said to her: "I don't want you, I want what's in your pants."

Verbal comments are one thing but physical confrontation is another. These scenarios clearly fall into what Harper College defines as sexual harassment but why does it keep happening? One woman interviewed said,

"I think administration ignores it and they need to start paying more attention."

Public Safety officers are scarce at best in the "L" hallway and vicinity and Harper does not have an officer assigned to that specific area on the campus.

Having a Public Safety officer around might be helpful but there are other more immediate things that can be done to help students with this problem. One solution to the

harassment is reporting the problem. Some students may feel that what was said wasn't bad enough to be reported.

No matter how minor or major a comment is, it's still unacceptable. A student can and should always report a situation that they find offensive. Students can file a formal report with any counselor or administrator and an investigation will be conducted. After careful review, disciplinary action may take place. But remember, students who report harassment don't have to tell about a specific situation or name a specific person. Through reporting, the administrators, teachers, counselors and Public Safety can be made aware that this is a problem that needs to be addressed.

Another even more immediate solution is to confront the person that is harassing you. You can quietly approach the person and let them know that what they are saying and doing is offensive and to please stop. Harper College Counselor Kris

Conroy said, "A lot of women don't feel comfortable confronting their harasser but that is usually the most effective way to deal with it. Ignoring the behavior is almost saying that it's okay."

One female student told me that she was talking to another male student in the "L" hallway and during the conversation he asked if she was a virgin. She quickly told him that she didn't like him saying that, he was out of line and she hasn't had any problems since then.

Kris Conroy also told me that this issue is something she feels very strongly about because this type of behavior is completely inappropriate.

For every girl that is sexually harassed walking through the "L" building, there are some that aren't.

Some students may enjoy the attention they receive but that could be part of the problem. The male students that do the harassing may see that and think that all girls enjoy being

Continued on pg. 8

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October 24, 2000 — 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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Students affect teacher evaluations

By Tracey Fuller
Staff Writer

The semester is almost over. Your teacher tells you to complete an evaluation based on your opinion of their teaching methods. Knowing that whatever you put down doesn't affect your grade, you decide to leave your honest opinion, sometimes. But, what actually happens to the evaluations you fill out each semester? Does your opinion count?

Julie Fleenor, chairman of the English department and president of the Faculty Senate at Harper, claims that students' appraisals of the teachers do in fact contribute to decisions made by chairmen and deans during their teacher evaluations. New teachers get reviewed once a year, while teachers who are part of the faculty get evaluated once every three years. The review contains four parts: the "self" evaluation, where the teacher gives an assessment of their performance; the student evaluation, which is a critique of teacher performance, including possible improvements; a

review of the evaluations by a peer committee, which consists of three chairmen; and a final evaluation by the dean of the teacher's department, based on all the information collected.

Fleenor also comments that the teachers' evaluations are strictly confidential; comparing it to a student's grades. But, if class grades are sometimes posted with only the last four numbers of their social security number, then why couldn't the teachers' evaluation results be posted as a way of acknowledging our efforts and opinions? If the students don't know the results of the evaluations, then why would they care about filling out the forms? How do the students know if their comments on the evaluations are helping the teachers to improve anyway?

Evaluations are important, Fleenor assures, stating: "We do read them and seek out advice on how to improve."

Marcia Litrenta, chairman of the speech department, claims that what students write on the back of the evaluations is more useful to her than just filling out the scantron on the front. What

the students have to say about what they dislike or like about their teacher gives the chairmen something to think about when it comes time to evaluate.

"Evaluations give me the overall feeling of the students," Litrenta explains.

If the majority of the teacher evaluations are negative, then

actions are taken, some as severe as a teacher's dismissal.

Litrenta claims that most of the negative evaluations she's seen have consisted mostly of complaints dealing with teacher fairness, grading, and approachability. Litrenta says she usually goes over the evaluations with the teachers to

see what improvements they could make to better meet student needs.

This further demonstrates that what the students have to say is important, and that the students should fill out the evaluation completely. Now, Harper should consider making general evaluations on teachers public.

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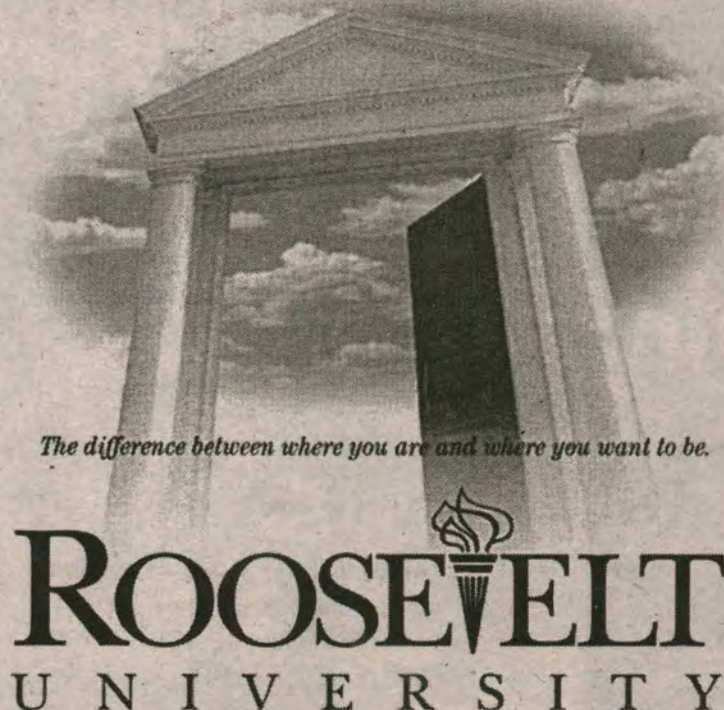
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Election option: Libertarian candidate Browne

By Michael J. Casaccio
Staff Writer

Taking a look at the upcoming presidential election, we can see our choices are limited. Anticipation has turned into farce. The debate on October 3 clearly established this election as just another republican and democrat slugfest of big promises and little follow through. But hope exists for voices calling themselves the Libertarian Party, and their candidate, Harry Browne, speaks from his gut about issues the other two wouldn't touch.

Harry Browne has raised controversy in the liberal media, speaking truthfully about the annual income tax, gay rights, and the war on drugs. His website quotes him saying: "I am running because I don't believe (Bush and Gore) are capable of running your life."

One of the things Browne is working towards is restoring a constitutional government,

limiting the government to powers awarded to them by the Constitution. Browne supports the ideal of the Constitution for the people, not for the big business lobby like his opponents.

"We need to reduce the government to just functions authorized in the Constitution." He goes on to say: "Then, if you believe that leaves the federal government too big or too little, we can work to amend the Constitution to make it more to your liking. But the first step is to establish limits, so that we no longer have an unlimited government that the politicians can use for anything they want."

Personally against abortion, Browne states that the government should not be interjecting itself into the decision. "Government doesn't work. It doesn't protect adults on the streets. It doesn't protect children in the schools. Why should we think it's capable of protecting unborn children?"

About the war on drugs,

Browne said: "There are no violent gangs fighting over aspirin territories. There are no violent gangs fighting over whiskey territories or computer territories or anything else that is legal. There are only criminal gangs fighting over territories covering drugs, gambling, prostitution, and other victimless crimes. Making a non-violent activity a crime creates a

black market, which attracts criminals and gangs, which turns what was once a relatively harmless activity affecting a small group of people into a widespread epidemic of drug use and gang warfare."

Harry Browne has a war to fight against the epidemic of ineffective government and

bad politicians. To all the voters that see politicians as used-car salesmen, he offers a reason to get out of bed on November 7 and place a vote. His words, like his actions, speak louder than those of the other two candidates, who are only looking for a free meal ticket to the whitest house in the world.



Browne believes the government should be restricted to only the functions authorized in the constitution.

Harrassment (Cont. from page 5)

treated in such a way. For every male student that participates in sexually harassing girls, there are plenty of male students that don't. A male student said, "I think women are beautiful and caring. I would never do anything to be mean or disrespect them." Women are still going to walk through this hallway every day.

Unfortunately, some of them will probably still be harassed. But maybe in time, when Harper College really addresses this problem, women won't feel compelled to walk so fast, won't have to keep their heads down, won't have to take the stairs, and will be able to think about what they should be thinking about in these hallways; an education.

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Master Plan unveiled

November's referendum to fund next phase

By Kevin Lorenc
Staff Writer

During the last Board of Trustees meeting, the Master Plan was approved and the school is asking the community for funds. The goal of the Master Plan is to outline the future of Harper and to give the school direction.

The plan puts in print the board's highest priorities, providing for what will be built in the future as money is received. The first two buildings are currently under construction and have been funded: the Performing Arts Center being constructed adjacent to building L, and the the Conference Center adjacent to building A.

The next phase of the Master Plan, which extends to the year 2012, is the construction of three new buildings: the Science Center, the Center for Emerging Technology, and the Health Careers Center. These buildings come with hefty price tags of \$37.7 million, \$19.6 million, and \$31.5 million respectively, totaling \$88.8 million. \$88.8 million is approximately one-third lower than the previous referendum attempt which sought \$127 million.

Harper claims that these three additional buildings are necessary, saying the campus is out of space, and have even installed modular classrooms just outside of J building.

Quoting figures that Harper states in a informational flyer, enrollment at Harper is projected to be up 8.6% by 2005 and 13.4% by 2008. With the population in Harpers 23 community projected to grow 4% by year 2008 and Harper projected to receive 20% of the in district students, they claim if action is not take Harpers facilities will quickly become inadequate and outdated.

Additionally, Harper claims that during Monday through Thursdays, 90% of classrooms are utilized from 9a.m. to 2p.m. and that utilization climbs to 100% from 6p.m. to 10p.m.

While Harper claims these classroom utilization numbers, many students observe other-

wise saying that many classrooms are not used during the 6 to 10 pm time frame.

Additional reasons that Harper gives to justify the referendum include a claim that over 33% of buildings on Harpers Campus are more than 30 years old, and that the condition of these buildings includes leaking pipes, outdated electrical systems, and inadequate ventilation.

Renovating current science labs has been ruled out because of tremendous expense and the difficulty of finding properly equipped space for chemistry classes due to their special needs.

The Master Plan, which include the three buildings that the referendum seeks to fund, includes the construction of eight additional buildings and three parking garages.

Besides new construction, the plan also outlines the renovation of existing buildings, realigning the entry drive, restriping the southern parking lots, and the overall addition of landscaping and walkways throughout campus

While most students do agree that changes are necessary for Harper to keep up with the needs of the changing market place, there have been voiced concerns about current plans including parking.

On the list of priorities, the first parking complex is listed at number 7, so no relief is coming anytime soon.

Further concerns include the lack of funding for the maintenance of these new buildings. With the construction of several new buildings, and no real significant raise in maintenance funding, people are concerned that the school will come back requesting more money keep the campus running, although the school has never indicated any intention of doing so.

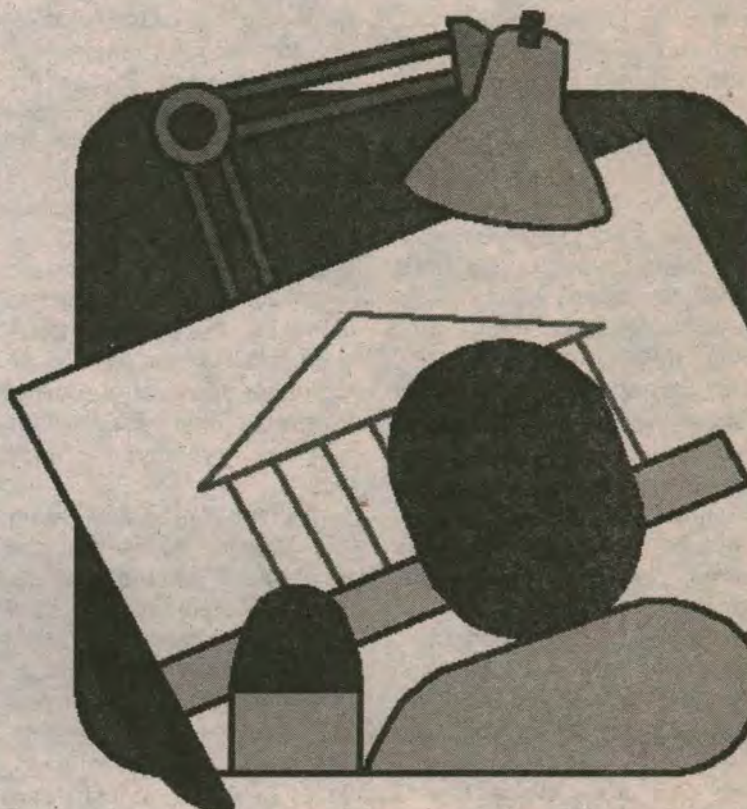
The last concern deals with the fact that Harper's enrollment has been going down in all areas with the exception of computer courses and non-credit courses. While it is true populations are increasing, there are no guar-

antees students will attend Harper and many doubt that the current campus is as full Harper claims.

Harper's Master Plan will attempt to make the college attractive to students and to help the college meet the needs of the community. The \$88.8 million dollar referendum, which comes up on the November 7 ballot, is integral in getting the three buildings done.

The college did hold community discussion groups while putting this plan together to get a feel for the needs. The college president's office has stated that even if the referendum fails, they will stick to the Master Plan.

For more information on the referendum, a flyer is available at the information booth located in building A.



Harper College's Master Plan calls for the construction of 11 new buildings and three new parking garages by the year 2012.

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Students can anonymously submit questions on wellness related topics by placing them in the marked box outside Health/Psychological Services Office in A362 or the box located outside of the Journalism office, A379. Answers will appear in future issues of the Harbinger. All questions will be thoroughly researched and responses will be provided by health professionals and are not related to the Harbinger.

Sometimes when I wheeze after I play sports. Could I have asthma?

A. It is possible that you have asthma, but to know for sure you need to see a health professional for a physical exam and health history to determine if that is what you are experiencing. Asthma is an inflammation of the bronchial airways. The inflammation causes increased mucus production and muscle contraction. This leads to airway

obstruction, coughing, wheezing and chest tightness. Sometimes more serious symptoms can occur such as shortness of breath and low oxygen levels. Asthma is a lung disease that can be life threatening, but it is also treatable and can be managed with professional health care. What usually starts an asthma attack to occur are asthma triggers.

Typical triggers are mold, dust, feathers, certain foods and exercise. Cigarette smoking is a very big asthma trigger and should be avoided. If exercise is an asthma trigger, one can still exercise or play sports, but medicine may need to be taken prior to the event to prevent an asthma attack. The best thing to do is to see your doctor or stop in Health and Psychological Services, A362 to be evaluated for your symptoms. If you are diagnosed with asthma you can be treated and continue your athletic activities.

Trip offered to Jewish students at Harper

By Roshni Mudgal
Staff Writer

Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life offered Jewish students at Harper College the chance to visit Israel at no cost for ten days during the winter break.

Hillel is the largest Jewish campus organization in the world, with foundations and affiliates on more than 500 campuses around the globe. It provides college students with the opportunity to explore their Jewish identity regardless of their background, affiliation, or level of observance, in a pluralistic environment. The program was initiated by philanthropists Charles R. Brofman and Michael H. Steinhardt.

The itinerary includes visits

to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, The Dead Sea, and the Galilee region. Hillel's Birthright Israel trip, underwritten by Birthright Israel offers the opportunity to have fun with fellow college students while touring the country's most popular contemporary and historical sites.

To qualify for the winter excursion, students must be enrolled in nine or more credit hours, have never been to Israel on a peer trip, must be of Jewish descent, and must be between 18-26 years of age. Students must register online at www.israel2000.org before October 5. They will then be called for a personal interview by the foundation. After the students are selected, the Foundation will draw names, via lottery in Mid-October, for

the final list of students. About 40 students will be selected from the 13 participating community colleges around the Chicagoland area, according to Heather Landesman, Senior Jewish Campus Corps Fellow at Hillel.

Birthright Israel is the most extensive philanthropic Jewish outreach program ever to target Jewish young adults worldwide through a first educational peer group trip to Israel. The Birthright Israel gift is made possible through a \$210 million partnership from a group of prominent philanthropists, local Jewish Federations, the government of Israel, Keren Hayeson, and the Jewish Agency of Israel.

Attention Harper Students: the paper has an office position open on campus, 10 hours per week.

(yes, you do get paid)

Elixir made easy

By Dan Kurash
Music Editor

For those guitar players looking for long lasting tone that makes a good investment, I might have a recommendation. There is a new acoustic and electric guitar string called "Elixir". Let me tell you from personal experience, they are phenomenal!

First off, cost ranges from \$10-\$15 a set, but they last two to three times longer than any other string on the market. It doesn't seem like that bad of an investment, considering most other strings are in the \$6-\$9 range. I use them almost exclusively on my guitars. Once I tune, they are set in place tone wise, unless I want to alter my tuning in some way.

Elixirs are coated in a polyweb wax substance that protects the steel in the strings from corrosion from the oils in

your fingers. They won't be slippery either, so don't think that you won't be able to play. The wax also helps to maintain the vibrancy, or tone, of the string and sound. Guitar picks, over time, murder the life of the string, but like I said, Elixirs will stand up to the toughest guitar players.

Elixirs are available in many styles. They have light, medium, and heavy gauge strings for acoustic and electric guitars, as well as ones for the bass. I know what you may be thinking. Am I making cash for advertising these strings? Well, of course, that answer is no. I'm just someone who enjoys the quality of the product.

So the next time you're at Guitar Center, or your local music store in need of a change of strings, think of trying Elixirs. For those musicians with a different instrument other than guitar and bass,

Elixirs are also available for banjos and mandolins. For more information on these strings, you can visit www.elixirstrings.com.

If you're like me, in desperate need to save some money, this will certainly prove to be a wise economic decision that will keep you satisfied with many months of quality tone, or your money back. Well I can't guarantee that.

Need any more incentive? Hundreds of professional musicians use elixirs. The feel of them also makes playing easier on your fingers. I experience less blisters than ever before. That, in- and -of- itself, sold me. Remember, the key to tone lies in every small detail of your equipment: from a certain guitar, amp, and equalizer; to your strings, patch cords, and picks. Improve your sound with Elixirs.

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Grammy nominee coming to Harper came

By Collin Souter
Arts & Entertainment Editor

**“Cause I know
where this
boat will go,
Pulled down by
the undertow,
It’s lucky I
know,
How to row”
--From Aimee’s
song “Choice
in the Matter.”**

Aimee Mann has been in the heat of battle with record companies throughout her entire career. Refusing to cater to the usual demands of “radio-friendly hits,” Aimee’s music instead stays truthful to herself and whomever she sings to/about, a truth that makes record labels nervous. After all, how can a radio station follow up a bubbly Sheryl Crow diddy, such as “Everyday Is A Winding Road” or “All I Wanna Do” with the soul-crushing sadness of “Deathly” or the Academy Award-nominated “Save Me?” Apparently, record labels have it in their heads that people only want to hear upbeat, catchy love songs, with only a slight touch of hip cynicism.

“In terms of love songs, I don’t think I have the linguistic skill to express joy in terms that don’t sound fatuous,” Aimee, 39, told the *Boston Phoenix*. “I think that’s difficult for anybody. But I’m in the record business, man. There’s always going to be something going on that’s a drag.”

Her concert at Harper College on October 19 was in support of her latest album, *Bachelor No. 2*, an independent release from SuperEgo Records.

She rose to fame in 1982 via a rock band formed by herself, Michael Hausman, Joey Pesce and Robert Holmes called *Til Tuesday*. Their hit single/album *Voices Carry*

(currently a staple of Chicago’s all-80s station WXXY) went gold within 7 months, thanks in part to exposure on a struggling little cable station called MTV. Their follow-up albums, *Welcome Home* and *Everything’s Different Now*, didn’t sell as well, but still received critical acclaim. “The fact is *Til Tuesday* sold a lot of records, but made very little money,” Aimee says.

Her first solo album, *Whatever*, came out just as its label, Imago, started falling apart. Aimee’s disputes with Imago’s president Terry Ellis (who still had her under contract despite Imago’s demise) became a series of give-and-takes. Aimee gave a second album, *I’m With Stupid*, and Terry Ellis kept taking it nowhere. Warners would have released it, but with zero fanfare. Aimee dubbed them, “Instant Death Records.” Finally, a year after its completion, Geffen released *I’m With Stupid*. Another label, Giant Records, put one of the most popular songs from the album, “That’s Just What You Are”, on their *Melrose Place* soundtrack, which gave it a great deal of airplay and made it a hit.

“Was it really a hit? I have no idea if and where on the charts it went,” says Aimee. “If it was a hit, I’d never see any money from it anyway.”

Then along came *Magnolia*, Paul Thomas Anderson’s Altman-esque film about a day in the life of nine desperate people and how their lives intertwine with one another. Aimee’s music serves as the film’s aural emotional centerpiece. In what has to be the most-moving and audacious scene of any movie released in 1999, all nine characters stop to reflect on the events of hours and years past in a brilliant montage. Aimee’s slow piano-and-strings driven, “Wise Up”, plays, and every character takes a verse and sings over Aimee’s voice.

“Like one would adapt a book for the screen,” says Anderson, “I had the concept of adapting Aimee’s songs into a screenplay.”

Magnolia’s soundtrack features nine Aimee Mann songs, including a cover of

Harry Nilsson’s “One,” which opens the movie, and “Save Me,” which earned her an Academy Award nomination, and an appearance on the awards show. The soundtrack also went on to sell 300,000 units domestically. Still not enough to interest the major labels.

“If it’s not selling at least a million records, they’re not interested in it,” she says. “But that many units is a significant amount of records to me, and if I sell that many, I can actually make a living.”

To help secure that living, Aimee, along with her husband singer/songwriter Michael Penn, created United Musicians, a group that allows artist-owned labels to share marketing and management services.

She has also joined up with Artists Against Piracy, which fights the royalty-free downloading of unauthorized material. Unauthorized downloading of music hurts artists such as Aimee who count on CD purchases to earn a living.

“Britney Spears...gets money up front from whatever label she’s with,” she says. “I don’t get that. I have to dip into my savings account to make my record, to go on tour. And there is no other source of income for me...I can’t afford to do it for free.”

Aimee has turned down offers from other labels. Her husband Michael has also bought back his new album, *MP4 (Days Since A Long Time Accident)*, from Epic Records. The independence works in their favor as their current tour, *Acoustic Vaudeville*, allows them to break free of the standard concert norms to try some experimenting. Aimee and Michael play together in their songs (with a back-up band), while every once in a while, comedian Patton Oswalt comes in to lighten the mood.

“Every system that the music industry has, has served each of us poorly,” Penn told the *Los Angeles Times*. “So the more systems we can subvert, the more exciting it is.” Aimee adds: “Also, there’s something to be said for doing something meaningful to you, rather than in this rigidly prescribed way.”

There exists a good possibility that Aimee Mann has written a song about your life. Her lyrics have a sort of sneak-attack agenda, and when they hit you—right in the bullseye—you can’t help but replay the CD so they can strike you again. Unless you’ve been following her career from day 1, you’ll never see them coming.

In fact, a good portion of Aimee’s songwriting has been interpreted by her fans and critics as diatribes against those in her profession, namely record executives. Though she denies any such direct correlations, it would be easy to draw that conclusion, given her history

with the labels.

“It cost me a big chunk of money,” she says regarding the buying back of her album from Interscope, “but it was much more costly to stay in that situation. I left the old system because it wasn’t working, and the new setup is working. So I’ll ride this train until it stops.”

Currently, Aimee tours on her own while Penn works on a soundtrack for a film. Another luxury of not having to tour within the system: You can get off the train whenever you want to.



**Grammy nominee, Aimee Mann,
coming to Harper
came**

Ben Harper: paving his own road

By Dan Kurash
Music Editor

"When you love music and you love what you do, you can only hope that people will get behind what you're doing."

The spirituality in Ben Harper's music leaves out all fakeness. He makes music the way it should be. He rips through his songs with a true-ness and honesty that sings my emotions with his ancient delta blues style. Yet somehow, he makes it all his own. Harper discovers tones rarely heard from any mainstream musician.

The most note-worthy addition to his music peaks through the rare Hawaiian instrument called the Weissenborn. Much less popular but much more rare than a standard guitar, it has a very

unique sound. At one instant it could cut through high sustain slide guitar, and in the next moment sound like a raging electric guitar. Made in the 1920s, the Weissenborn shouldn't be played standing up, and Harper knows this. His whole mysticism in music revolves around his heroes. Old blues men like John Lee Hooker and Son House, true acoustic blues men, played in a chair. He does the same thing, with the Hawaiian instrument placed gently across his lap. Harper not only uses that, but also plays with standard acoustics and Fender Stratocasters.

There seems to be no glamour in Harper's life, just purity. He knows what he feels. His music speaks for itself. Harper, from his own words at www.benharper.com:

"I just love music, you know what I'm saying? When you love music and you love what you do, you can only hope that people will get behind what you're doing. And music don't lie. Music is the truth. You can look into a man's eyes and know, because a man's heart is in his eyes, and

music comes from the heart. You can look into a man's eyes and know if he's about music or he's just a pirate."

These words are powerful, especially coming from a man who insists on sitting down in front of thousands of fans while performing. I think that what fans love and respect so much about him comes from his unique way of carrying on musical tradition.

Harper's four Virgin Records albums: *Welcome to the Cruel World*; *Fight for Your Mind*; *The Will to Live*; and most recent, although no less soulful than all the others, *Burn to Shine*, portray his true roots. Amongst bold acoustics and slide guitars, Harper sings about loss, love, and the power of rejuvenation.

In fact, Harper even used a Maya Angelou poem, titled "I'll rise", as lyrics to a song, keeping the title the same as the poem. A different conceptual song, "Another Lonely Day," Ben brings a taste of lost love into our minds, a true emotional escape. But Harper not only sings of pain, he also speaks of faith in god. Spirituality definitely rings

through many of his songs. *Burn to shine* closing track titled "In the Lord's Arms," to me, just shows his trust in god, and that all will be okay when he goes to sleep at the end of the day.

Harper loves to co-work, or create, depending on how one views studio sessions, with other musicians. Every album has different musical guests achieving and gaining the power behind his music. They help to physically put down in music what Harper envisions in his music. "Suzie Blue" off of *Burn to Shine* calls for a live jazz band—one in which probably performed in the 50s in a downtown bar for lovers who embraced each other in the fire and beauty of the moment. Harper uses harmonicists, cellists, violinists, various percussionists, both drums and cow skin, pianists, brass players, and others.

The first time I listened to him, I became hooked. That inspiration made me buy all his records because I had that much trust to know they would all be worth buying. I love his music for one simple reason.

He knows what he loves, and goes for it. Acoustic folk/blues with a splash of rock and a cherry on top sums it up. Unique and untamed, raw and structurally traditional; Harper gladly accepts his role.

Some may view him as a Hendrix or Marley rip-off, but listen before making that kind of judgment. Hendrix mainly used loud electric guitar that wept through the haze, and Marley chanted freedom of man with his reggae sound. Harper has been noted to feel inspired by their music, and also by the way they carried themselves in life. In no way does he copy or try to be either of them.

His career thus far has been very underground. He gets little radio time and hasn't really been covered by mainstream music marketers. But Virgin did sign him to a long deal after hearing some demos back in the early 90s showing confidence in him. I enjoy his music and what he says. Ben Harper paved his golden road in music, one in which has not been walked on until his emergence as a musician.



Football, Cross Country, Soccer

By Dwight Esau
Sports Information Director

Football

The Hawks improbable, bizarre 36-35 overtime win over Grand Rapids on Saturday proved that the game can turn not only on a funny bounce of the pigskin, it can twist into strange and surprising plays that no coach can, or would dare, draw up on the blackboard.

In this game, there were two returns of kicks for touchdowns, one team scoring on the other's two-point conversion attempt, the first overtime for a Harper team in four years, a tailback running for eight yards from scrimmage and scoring three touchdowns, and one of the most exciting and dramatic Harper football victories in years.

GRCC scored with 36 seconds to play to take a two-point lead. Their two point conversion try wound up in a fumble, and Hawk freshman defensive back Marcus Jones scooped up the ball raced 87 yards to the Raider end zone, for a Hawk two-point conversion that tied the score.

In overtime, Grand Rapids scored in three plays, but their extra point kick was wide.

Hawk quarterback Griff Jurgens completed three straight passes for the tying touchdown, the final one a six-yarder to back Stephen Berdley. Brian Crawford then calmly kicked the winning extra point.

Hawk tailback Colin Carr ran seven times for eight total yards, but scored three touchdowns on short runs.

Jurgens threw a near school record 55 passes and completed 27 for 300 yards and one touchdown. He is the first quarterback in Hawk history to pass for more than one 300-yard game in a career.

Volleyball

Using a series of "timely and magical digs and saves" by defenders, the gritty, never-quit Lady Hawks won their second match over Triton in four games (15-11, 5-15, 15-4, 15-10).

It left the Hawks 3-2 in the N4C conference and 5-6 overall. The Hawks are enjoying their best volleyball season in the last several years under Coach Nick Brescia. "Defenders Katie Puccinelli (Schaumburg), Angelika Wilk (Hoffman Estates), Courtney Provost (Barrington), and Kristen Kwasniewski (Fremd) provided the spark in this win," Brescia said. "We had difficulty blocking tonight, which made those plays all the more important."

Cross Country

The Hawk men's team shined again in the major college Loyola University Lakefront Invitational on Saturday in Chicago.

The Hawks didn't finish high up in the team standings in this meet contested largely by Division I NCAA teams, but

they had a new leading runner: John Franzen (Maine West). He led a tight Hawk pack in the five-mile event, followed in order by Ahmed Alghazali (Chicago Foreman), Greg Baluk (Niles North), Assad Alghazali, and Mohannad Alansaari (Hoffman Estates).

In another indication of progress, the Lady Hawks had a full five-member team for the first time this season. Tracie Thoele (Downers Grove North), Susie Riemer (Palatine), Corrie Clarke (Hersey), and Kristina Soukop

were joined by Michelle Grempla (Buffalo Grove).

Men's Soccer

The Hawks romped to their second win of the season last week in a 9-0 win over Prairie State.

Sheldon Dyer (Jamaica) had a three-goal hat trick. Other multiple goal scorers were Shawn Church (Palatine), and Luke Zdanowski (Cary-Grove). It was the end of the best week of the Hawks' season, which started with a 2-2 tie with South Suburban in which Dyer scored the tying goal late

in the game.

Women's Soccer

Playing eight-on-eight against a short-handed Waubonsee team in an unofficial practice game last week, the Lady Hawks scored a second victory over Waubonsee this season, with a score of 7-1.

Leading scorer record-holder Kristina Bratt had four more goals, which won't count in her official stats for the season. Sophia Flesor (Barrington) also had a multiple goal scoring game.



Coach Eliasik calls the play for quarterback Griff Jurgens.

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Hawks vs. Chaparrals

By Dwight Esau
Sports Information Director

Harper football's Hawks wound up a foot short last Saturday in its second consecutive overtime game this season, a 26-20 loss to College of DuPage in a dramatic but sloppy N4C conference game in Palatine.

After Zac Crawford's (Chatham-Glenwood) pass interception in the final seconds preserved a 20-20 tie in regulation, the Hawks went 24 1/2 yards on the first possession of overtime from the 25 yard line. A fourth down plunge by Ricky Williams left them inches away from the Chaparral goal line, leaving the door open for COD.

The Chaparrals didn't waste their opportunity. On the fourth play of their possession, they threw a 12 yard TD pass for a win that indicates that their renewal record of football is coming along nicely in its second year.

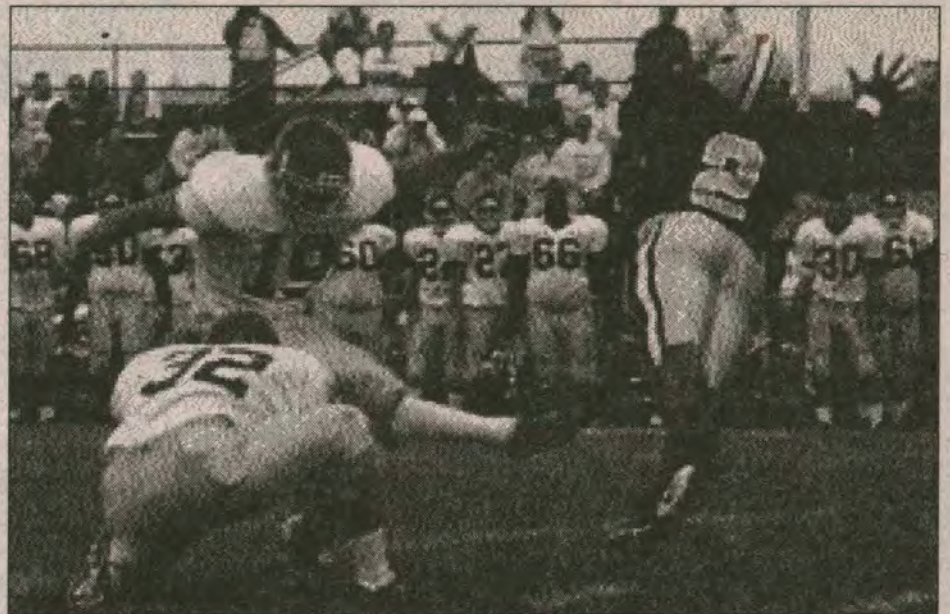
After a shaky start that saw two Hawk fumbles converted into early COD scores, the Hawks settled down and surged into a 20-14 lead by halftime with a sparkling 20

minutes that started in the middle of the first quarter. With Dwayne Williams (Dundee-Crown) running wild at tailback with 174 first-half yards, the Hawks went 76 yards in nine plays, with quarterback Griff Jurgens (Chatham-Glenwood) capping it off with a five-yard TD pass to Daryl Scarborough (Richards).

A second drive was finished by a one-yard burst by tailback Stephen Bradley for the tying score and Williams ran 10 yards to end a third drive after a Chaparral turnover.

But that was it for the Hawks. DuPage used two big plays to go 61 yards for the tying score in the third quarter, and the defenses then took over and dominated the rest of the way, until overtime.

The Hawks out-gained COD, 377-252. Jurgens completed 13 of 28 passes for 152 yards and a touchdown. Williams had the best rushing day for a Hawk this season and his own season-best performance, with 218 yards on 38 carries. The game included nine fumbles by both teams, the Hawks dropping six balls and losing three of them.



Hawk cornerback Joe White tries to block an extra point.

Health Watch

By Char Padovani

Harper Wellness Advisors

Shots aren't just for kids! Vaccines also prevent many illnesses in adults too. The following immunizations are available in Health and Psychological Services, room A362, for a nominal fee: Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine \$3, Tetanus/Diphtheria boosters \$3, Hepatitis B vaccine \$81 and Meningitis vaccine \$60. Call 925-6268 for more information.

Therapeutic Chair Massage

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

If you are interested in health and wellness or want experience working in the field consider being a Harper Wellness Advisor. For more information, call Char at 925-6626.



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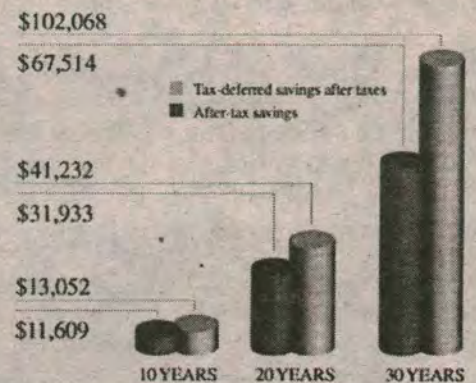
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Nurse Betty, a good cure for unoriginality

By Collin Souter
Arts & Entertainment Editor
(***)

You have to give credit to a movie just for keeping you guessing. Too many movies these days follow the Syd Field approach. Establish your hero, your bad guy, their motives, and what they want, in the first 20 minutes. "*Nurse Betty*," a true original, doesn't let the audience off that easy.

It starts off with a waitress in Kansas named Betty Sizemore (Renee Zellweger) and her addiction to a soap opera called "A Reason to Love." Mainly, her attraction focuses on the main character, played by Greg Kinnear. Betty has been married to a sleazy car salesman, Del, who does some shady dealings on the side. One day, a pair of professional hitmen, a father and son team, bind and gag Del and kill him in an extremely brutal manner that would make Tarantino wince.

Betty witnesses the murder and sees it as her opportunity to get out of Kansas to find her true love—the doctor from "A Reason To Live." Not the actor who plays him, but the

actual doctor. *Nurse Betty* also does something that few Hollywood films know how to do. It showcases original characters such as the father and son hitman team played by Morgan Freeman and Chris Rock. Freeman's character tries to instill a code of ethics in his son, a loud-mouthed bully who knows his father might be losing his grip. Freeman's character spends most of the time fixated on a picture of Betty, slowly falling in love and creating a character from it.

"Betty would never move to L.A. to find a soap opera star," he says. "It's beneath her." This after only meeting her in a diner a few days prior when he asked for more coffee. Morgan Freeman usually doesn't do comedy, and at times it feels like the oddest casting choice of the year. But it works, mainly because Morgan Freeman can make any role work for him.

Neil LaBute, director of the dark suburban satires *In The Company of Men* and *Your Friends and Neighbors*, directed this film, which makes it unrecognizable when compared to the aforementioned titles. The tone of the film feels

un-even and that may be a wise choice. An overly comical movie would get in the way of its message, while a dead-serious movie would hammer away at it.

But what could the message be? When we get to know that Freeman's character has fallen in love with Betty from only seeing her picture, while Betty herself has fallen in love with a fictional character, should we presume the movie has been trying to tell us a story about a stalker who gets stalked? When Betty finally arrives on the set of the soap opera, shocked to find cameras and grips everywhere instead of actual doctors and nurses, should we think the film has been slyly giving us a message on how television distorts our reality?

Maybe both, or maybe the film just wants to tell the story of love at first sight, told from the point of view of a waitress and a hitman. As I write this, a half-hour after coming out of the film, I really don't know. But I have to give credit to a movie that keeps me guessing even after the credits roll. I also have to give it credit for just being entertaining.



Renee Zellweger stars as the title character in the Neil LaBute film, *Nurse Betty*.

Dr. T and the women

By Collin Souter
Arts & Entertainment Editor
(***/2)

Maverick filmmaker Robert Altman has said that he has never been interested in telling a plot-oriented story or spinning a good yarn. He likes to make movies about human behavior. His latest movie, *Dr. T and the Women*, should be approached with that in mind. The film consists of 1 hour and 45 minutes of calm, and 15 minutes of the storm, as we watch Dr. T (Richard Gere) quietly move through his mid-life crisis until it reaches its pitch. And you may think you see the ending coming, but, believe me, you don't.

Dr. T tells the story of the world's busiest gynecologist, Dr. Sullivan Travis, whose office may be the most relaxed

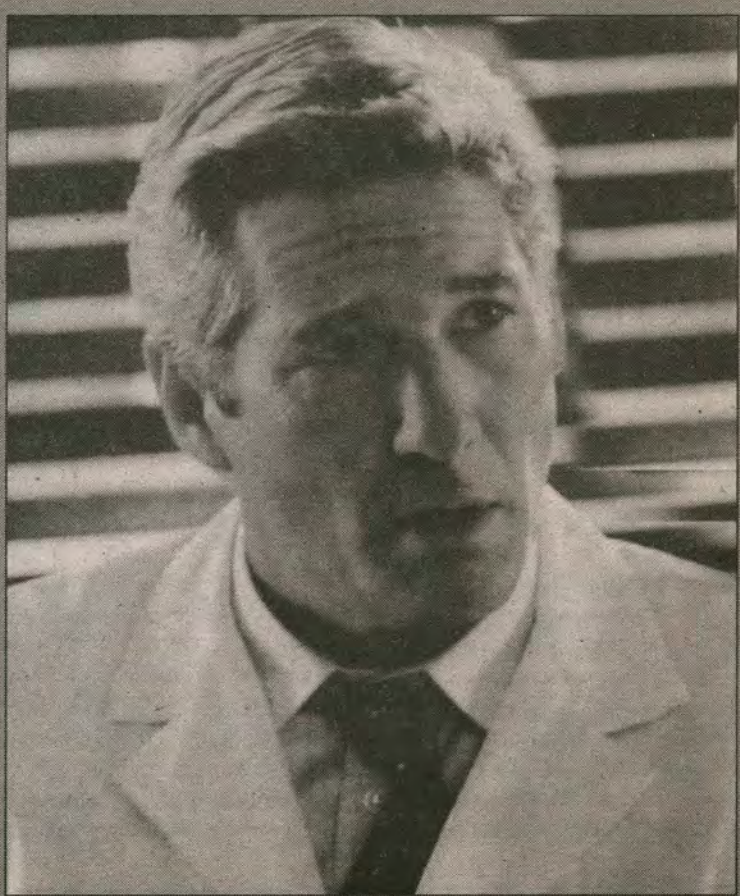
and chaotic of its kind. Women treat their examination as if claiming it as a prize. They want it as soon as possible. While Dr. Travis examines his patients, his daughters (Kate Hudson and Tara Reid) go shopping at the most expensive clothing and jewelry stores in the mall with their erratic and flighty mother (Farah Fawcett). They pick out diamonds and try on dresses while their mother strips naked in the middle of the mall and dances in a fountain, right in front of Godiva's.

For this, she gets placed in an institution where her doctor (Lee Grant) tells Dr. Travis that his wife has Hestia syndrome, a rare disorder women get when they've been given everything they want and have been "loved too much." Dr. Travis has been seeing her as less of a wife and more of a patient anyway. He tries to

have sex with her, but she turns him down by simply saying, "It's not nice."

Then he meets the down-to-earth Bree (Helen Hunt) and takes an instant liking to her. He sees her as "unlike any woman I've ever seen before," probably because she dresses more like a person and less like a mafia princess. She becomes his source of sanity as he tries to juggle his wife's institutionalization, his daughter's wedding (which may not go as well as planned due to her same-sex flirtations in her past), and the dozens of patients/groupies who flock to his office every day. Even his loyal secretary (Shelly Long) can't help but flirt with him.

On top of that, his dense sister-in-law (Laura Dern) and her three bratty little 6-8 year old daughters have just moved into his house. Here, the movie gets its biggest laughs



Continued on pg.19

Remember the Titans

By Collin Souter
Arts & Entertainment Editor
(**)

There exists a handicap associated with every sports movie: You always know who'll win. Well, duh. The producers didn't shell out \$50+ million of their hard-earned overhead so that you could go to a movie and watch the once-racially-divided/now-in-harmony home team lose the game. They know better.

Unfortunately, *Remember the Titans* falls victim to this thought pattern in massive ways. A movie so cliché and in such a hurry to tell its story and get its message across, it rarely lets a single scene linger for more than 55 seconds, for fear you might get a little antsy whenever they do that annoying character development thing. Another recurring philosophy amongst studio heads: The audience has short attention spans. With that in mind, I will try and plow through this review so that even the busiest of producers will be able to absorb it. Ready? Here goes:

Denzel Washington plays Coach Boone in the racially-

divided town of Alexandria, VA. His team has been equally divided, half of the members white, half of them black. His iron-clad no-nonsense demeanor unites the team as one, they sing and dance, they win the games. The end.

(This may be the easiest review I have yet written.)

The movie has a hot soundtrack made up of mostly redone, overused pop songs of the early 1970s.

The movie has a kid who feels he doesn't deserve to go to college. Guess what? He earns a C+ average and his dreams come true.

As with any movie about racial division in a small town, you can count on a brick being thrown through a window.

(Some of these sentences have been running way too long. If only I could write a montage to the tune of, say, "Spirit In The Sky." That way I could get my point across in familiar, cliché methods and you won't have to process any real thoughts...kind of like watching the movie itself.)

This movie brings to you a little girl more annoying than the robotic baby genius on

those horrifying Pepsi ads.

The movie's score, by Trevor Rabin, feels made up of mostly recycled music cues from other sports films.

Denzel Washington plays another fast-talking do-gooder with an answer for everything.

Not only do these guys overcome their racism in a matter of days, they overcome their homophobia within minutes.

Too many scenes end with either a song and dance or a fist-fight.

Everyone loves the white star player (Ryan Hurst), yet after he breaks his legs and ends up watching the game from a hospital bed, no one will join him there.

(Are you still there? Should I write all my reviews like this?)

If it seems to you as though I'm dusting off this review, I'm not. I'm merely trying to convey how I felt while sitting through this film: Dusted off. Now, I'll kindly elaborate with my Director's Cut of the above review:

First, the music. We need to put a ban on using classic Motown, "Spirit In The Sky" and Credence Clearwater

Revival songs to convey an emotion or to "take us back." I know, many people regard them as prominent staples of the late '60s and early '70s, but enough already. I am reminded of a scene in *High Fidelity* where one clerk tells the other that he can't consider the Rolling Stones' "You can't Always Get What You Want" one of the Top 5 songs about death due to its relationship to *The Big Chill*. Why? The song, like all the songs in this film, has lost its authenticity from being over-used or used in the wrong way.

Second, the characters. We get all the stock characters here from other sports films, from the wisecracker to the chronic singer from the here-with-the-most-potential-who-loses-it-all to the fat kid with low self-esteem. They tell us at the beginning, "Based on a true story," and from that we can see the codas coming 1 hour and 50 minutes away.

Third, the racial themes. Of course we need wholesome movies to tell us to judge not by the color of skin, but by the content of character. I have no doubt that a brick did get thrown through the real Coach

Boone's window. But it seems as though it might have been worse for them and the movie doesn't want to tell us about it for fear of losing its PG rating.

It also doesn't take very long for everyone to overcome their racism and homophobia. Except for one bad dude who still can't accept the blacks on his team, everyone else on the team resolves their differences within the first 35 minutes. After that, the coaches bring in a new player, a long-haired homosexual named Ronnie Bass (Kip Pardue). The star player doesn't like him at first. Two scenes later, "they're cool."

Fourth, that annoying little rugrat, Hayden Panettiere, who plays the white Coach Yoast's (Will Patton) 9-year-old daughter. She looks bitter, as though she lost the audition for the evil stepsister in the new *Olson* twins movie. She stomps around the bleachers during all the games, as would a tantrum-throwing soccer mom, and tells her all-too-tolerant father how to run his plays. Will Patton plays it so calm and reserved around her that we think, any minute now, he'll snap and a new Jean-Benet

"The Heart Is" in aisle 5

By Collin Souter
Arts & Entertainment Editor
(*1/2)

(Note: This review will not have the right effect unless you read it with a female Southern accent in mind. Thank you.)

Hi, y'all!

I just watched on my video cassette machine that darling little movie *Where The Heart Is*, starring that adorable part-Iranian little muffin-top, Natalie Portman. Why, I think she is just about as cute as a basket of baby pigs at a Sunday picnic.

Anyway, Miss Natalie plays one of those poor troubled teenage souls who needs guidance. She gets knocked-up by the local no-good dirty-dog mechanic, who has the soul of a booze-swiggling country-singing poet (we find that out later, you see.) One day, they go to Wal-Mart, and here my

eyes lit up like a Christmas tree bug-light, because I shop there too. Only this one had low ceilings, friendly customer service and over-all good intentions. And, guess what? Miss Natalie gets to live there!

Oh, wait I left something out, didn't I. Yeah, her mullet-headed, yet absolutely dreamy young beau leaves here there to pursue his career as a country music singer. My hand on the Bible, he does. With nowhere to go, this poor little angel, Miss Natalie you understand, sets up camp in the Wal-Mart's camping division. Now, what's great about this movie is that it not only lets you care about these dumber than peat-moss characters, but it also lets you do a little shopping of your own.

I sat there through most of it saying, "Oh, I could use one of those...Oooo, that would look just precious on my niece Daisy-Jenkins...I'm gonna have to go to Wal-Mart when

this is over, I just have to!"

So, finally one night Miss Natalie gives birth to a beautiful baby angel in aisle 6, with a little help from the local librarian, the winner of the Zach Gallagher look-alike contest. She wakes up in the hospital the next day a huge celebrity, see because she gave birth in a Wal-Mart.

At this point, my hateful teenage boy leaned over to me and said, "Poor thing's cursed for life, for nothing could be worse of an omen than to be birthed in a Wal-Mart." Now, I don't know how to comprehend a comment like that. Many of these—what are they called again?—cynics, that's right. The cynics believe that Wal-Mart is responsible for most of the country's problems, simply because they're run by the Christian coalition and that they don't believe in prescribing the morning-after birth control pill to people who may need it. Why, I just think that is

a foolish thing to say. Wal-Mart is a very friendly building to shop in, and other than a few people getting pulverized by heavy items being stacked too high on the top shelves, I've never heard of any problems with that darling corporation.

At one point in the movie, Miss Natalie's baby is kidnapped by a couple of hard-working Jesus people, because they say it's a "damnation," see, because it was born out of wed-lock, and that's a sin, you know. Now, again, my wisenheimer teenage son leans over and says, "You know, Wal-Mart would actually endorse that activity."

Now, why did he have to ruin the movie for me like that? Wal-Mart does nothing but help people its done bodily harm to. One guy had one of those Sony TV's fall on him from the top shelf, and Wal-Mart, a \$70 billion dollar corporation, compensated for his crippled-

ness by paying him \$50,000. They're conscience, as far as I'm concerned, is clean.

Anyway, to get back to the movie. Oh, what a lovely little movie. Miss Natalie's problems end after the first forty-five minutes, after which time she gets hand-out after hand-out. Sure, a big tornado comes and kills some people, but you know what? That happens. And sometimes, you just gotta pick yourself up, dust yourself off, take that \$40,000 inheritance from your best friend and build yourself a lovely little dreamhouse for you and your daughter. Not only will you feel good about yourself, but the house will keep itself nicer and tidier than anything seen in one of those Donna Reed shows. Oh, I miss her.

Anyhow, *Where the Heart Is* also stars Ashley Judd as somebody who has lots of precious ones running around, kids I mean, while getting beat

Continued on pg. 18

Jam Session: Concerts

10/23/00

The Roots, Tatib Kweili, Ded Prez @
House of Blues
Deals Gone Bad @ Wild Hare
Lowbelly @ The Hideout
Lexie Vloor Band @ Elbo Room
Tim Reynolds @ Schubas
Fin Fang Foom, Sidekick Kato @
Empty Bottle

10/24/00

Nina Gordon @ House of Blues
The Roots, TatibKweili, Ded Perez @
House of Blues
Oh My God @ Double Door
Coldcut, DJ D.K. @ Metro
Andrew Zorc, The Everyday's, My
Delusion @ Elbo Room
Wendy Morgan's Local Vocal Brew @
Lyons Den
The Dears, Leroy Bach @ Schubas

10/25/00

Illusion of Safety, Dante's Voo Doo
Cabaret, Lab Report @ Elbo Room
Ras Kelly Indika @ Wild Hare
14 Rivers, Royal City @ The Hideout
Bohni Kempton Band @ Lyons Den
Twilight Singers @ Metro
Toshack Highway, Satyrs @ Schubas
Asher Love @ Double Door

10/26/00

SR 71, harvey danger, Wheatus @
House of Blues
DiscoBiscuits @ Metro
Double Helix, Black Cuntry Rock @
Elbo Room
Glen Kotche, Tim Barnes @The
Hideout
Damage Manuel, Meg Lee Chin @
Double Door
Damien Jurado, Julie Doiron @
Schubas
Versus, Mark Robinson @ Empty
Bottle

10/27/00

Maceo Parker, DJ Logic @ House of
Blues
Soil, Omega Man, Bender @ Metro
Michael McDermott @ Double Door
Patti Loveless @ Star Plaza
Swamp @ Wild Hare
B96 Halloween Bash: Christina

Aguilera, Pink, Ruff Endz @
Allstate Arena
Damon & Naomi, Windy & Carl @
Schubas
TRS-80, Wisdom pf Harry @ Empty
Bottle

10/28/00

DP, Koko Taylor @ House of Blues
Screeching Weasel, The Eyeliners @
House of Blues
Local H. Million Yen @ Double Door
Sunny Day Real Estate, Euphone @
The Vic
Flex Crew Melaku @ Wild Hare
Greenhornes, Sadies @ The Hideout
Angeles Azules @ Aragon
Los Lobos @ Riviera
Freeheat @ Schubas
Cinerama, Rainer Maria @ Empty
Bottle

10/29/00

Screeching Weasel, The Eyeliners,
The Jackie Papers, Yesterday's Kids @
House of Blues
Kelly Hogan and the Pine Valley
Cosmonauts, Neko Case @ The
Hideout
Gwar @ The Vic
Joan of Arc @ Schubas
Frankie Beverly and Maze @ Chicago
Theatre
The 90 Day Men @ Empty Bottle

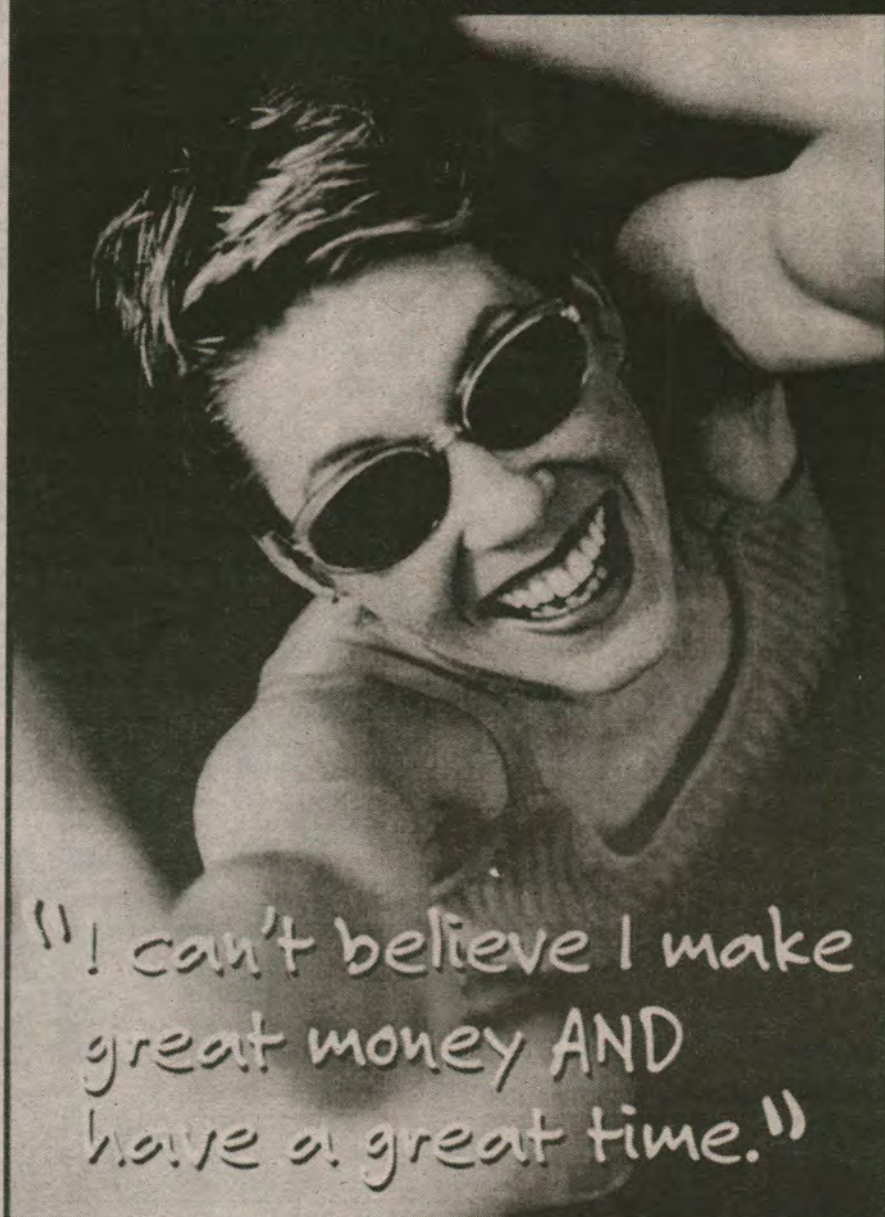
10/30/00

King Crimson @ Park West
Anger Management Tour: Limp Bizkit,
Eminem, Papa Roach @ Allstate
Arena
The Flaming Lips, The Knack @
Empty Bottle

10/31/00

Fenix TX, Good Charlotte @
House of Blues
King Crimson @ Park West
Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom, The Young
Blood Brass Band @ Elbo Room
The Almighty Rogers @ Lyons Den
The Makers, Evil Beaver @
Empty Bottle
Branford Marsals @ Old Town School
King Crimson @ Park West
Java, The Locals @ Elbo Room
Swinger, Salteens, Mabels @ Schubas

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Chicago dance scene sinking into oblivion

By Ken Webster
Staff Writer

Something always bothers me about Chicago. As a whole, Chicago portrays a terrific city. We have one of hip-hop's biggest names representing us, and also began the home of house music. How many cities can say that? But for some reason, Chicago has a horrible underground dance scene.

For those of you who aren't into the hip about rave parties, let me tell you you've been living with your eyes closed. Underground Techno rave parties currently get coverage on an international basis thanks to recent TV spot-lights which have made the cover story of *Time Magazine* two issues in a row this year.

But for some reason, Chicago just doesn't get coverage from the mainstream media that other cities like Los Angeles and New York get.

Have you ever stopped to consider why?

The Chicago underground dance party scene has been more than just washed up. Much like the Roman Empire with their mass empirical expansion, Chicago's reign over the dance music industry has reached a turning point.

The promoters in Chicago don't get along, all the DJs become primadonna, and the kids just don't hang around for much longer than 4 months at a time these days.

Even worse than that, Mayor Daley has personally banned all rave parties held within the city limits. Now the only urban dance entertainment is clubs.

The situation has me wondering how it got this way. Chicago used to be one of the original cities on Earth to play electronic music.

Many people believe the cause for all the dramatics

within our city has something to do with hotshot DJs and the greedy promoters who won't pay them.

This sort of thing happens a lot in our city, because we've been around the longest. It's the DJs versus the promoters.

Often these rivalries cause tension within the ranks of the scene.

The situation altogether seems devastated, but can anything be done to prevent disco from dying twice? I for one believe that the best way

to help the scene will simply be to get more involved with it.

Attend more clubs and support smaller promoters to keep the focus off of the bigger ones. Our city must grow back the roots it once had.

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Rapture: We be clubbin'

By Ken Webster
Staff Writer

There's a cute little club downtown, right off of Chicago Avenue called Rapture. Unlike other clubs, Rapture's atmosphere is very laid back. The moody down tempo climate sets a vibe unlike other clubs. Some of the talents, who perform there, include Boo Williams, Phantom 45, The Pacifics, DJ Funk, Danny the Wild Child, MC Phase and DJ 3D.

Rapture has a bar and grill in the main room, complete with booths, and a dance floor. The unique lighting pattern is colored with colored chandeliers instead of a usual laser light motif. Expanded with a DJ booth, a second room offers the same environment but with less scale.

Because Rapture has a free food buffet, as well as a grill where you can order food any time, it creates a feeling of cuteness and uniqueness. Ask the bartender about their drinks made with real Kahlua.

Rapture will never be ordinary making each night different in its own way. My favorite nights to visit are Tuesdays and Sundays. Tuesday promotes "raver" night, hosted by MC Subzero and Incline Productions. They call it Gold; and the whole idea of Gold produces a club night for rave party enthusiasts ages 21 and

up. The DJ's on rotation play a combination of house, trance and jungle.

Rapture's Sunday night event has been called the most controversial club night in Chicago. Sunday becomes Chicago Hip-Hop night, bringing in only Chicago talent. All the records spun, and all the acts performing came out of, you guessed it, Chicago.

You might remember the Chicago Hip-Hop promoters from their recent protesting of the House of Blues, which televised on Fox News. Incidentally, they protested that the House of Blues doesn't book enough Chicago Hip-Hop acts.

If you like free food, good music and a laid back environment, then Rapture will definitely be a place you should check out. Rapture is located at 730 N. Green St., just west of where Chicago Avenue and Halsted Street intersect. For more information on Sunday nights, look up www.chicago-hiphop.com. For more information of Gold, call 773-509-8588.

I give Rapture 3 out of 5 stars. A nice club, but far away and not close to anything else worth visiting. It also gets a little slow there sometimes. Rapture seems to be a good weeknight club, but you'd be better spending your weekends somewhere else.

Heart

(Cont. from page 16)

up by her flavor-of-the-month boyfriend. I guess that's the way attraction works, don't it. You win some, you lose some. Sorry, but I just don't buy into that psychological nonsense that you get with movies that have—what do they call it again?—character development, that's right.

Now, I gotta tell you, this movie is based on—what is it?—a book, that's right, that was endorsed by Oprah Winfrey herself. She's that self-help spiritual wacko on the cover of all those *O* magazines, which I've never read myself, personally. So, you know the movie's got to be as good as a potato cake and a

hot bath in January.

Anyway, everybody falls in love and gets married at the end, and you'll never guess where Miss Natalie ends up marrying her new beau. That reminds me, I need a new weed-wacker.

Where the Heart Is is available on videocassette rental. If you want to avoid the harsh realities of life, shop at Wal-Mart or just sit back for some downhome Southern colloquialisms more colorful than a black-eyed bowl of Fruit Loops on an acid trip, then you should go rent it.

My teenage son would tell you to just go burn yourself down a Wal-Mart instead.

Titans

continued from pg. 15

Ramsey case will have been born.

Finally, the score. It sounded as though they left on the temp track, which borrowed music from *Glory*, *JFK*, *Braveheart*, and any other "sweeping" or "patriotic" music scores from James Horner or John Williams. Every time

Denzel says something of minor importance, we get clobbered with instrumental variations of *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

The movie has good acting (with the exception of the aforementioned Pia Zadora-like sitcom rag) and will likely please mass audiences. The opening \$21 million weekend shows that audi-

ences have been waiting for a movie such as this. True, we do need more films that *everyone* can go see, and I suppose you could do worse, but for a film based on a true story, *Remember The Titans* feels about as authentic and involving as a made-for-VH-1 TV movie.

We're calling it an Open House.

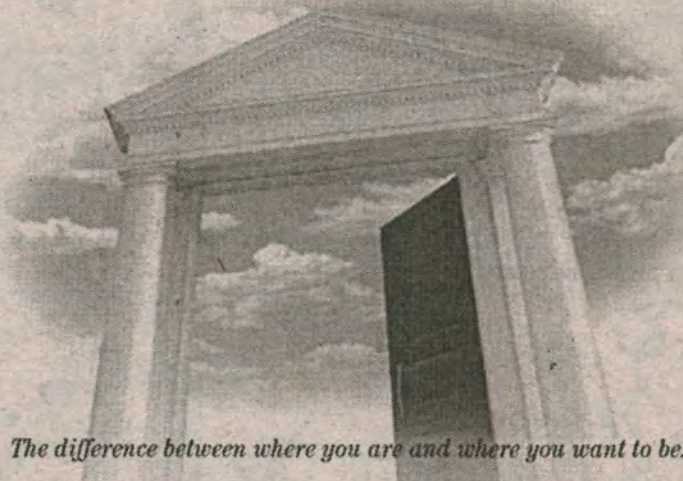
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Dr. T

(continued from page 14)

On top of that, his dense sister-in-law (Laura Dern) and her three bratty little 6-8 year old daughters have just moved into his house. Here, the movie gets its biggest laughs as Altman uses Dern's character to satire the behavior of upper-class socialites who live only to shop and sip champagne, never to contribute or make a difference. She drinks around her kids while showing them how to make cookies, and trips over her furs when half-heartedly making an effort to join the family in a group hug.


Altman doesn't waste time in getting the audience to feel uncomfortable. The opening shot of the older women getting an examination had the women in the audience shifting in their seats. From this moment, Altman has made it clear that he has returned to his roots, leaving behind the more story driven material of years past, such as *The Gingerbread Man* and *Cookie's Fortune*. He wants to get a reaction and fast. The final scene, which I would never give away, got the same response, making it a perfect bookend to the film.

While the film asks us to sympathize with an adulterating male liar, the film nonetheless treats women as Goddesses, making references to Greek mythology (the protective Goddess of the home and hearth, Hestia) and Arthurian legend (the Lady

of the Lake). Dr. Travis tells his friend at the beginning, "Women are saints by nature, and should be treated as such." The only female entity that Dr. Travis has yet to encounter comes calling for him at the end (again, I won't give it away).

The film also benefits from a score by Lyle Lovett. In the film's pivotal romantic scene, Dr. Travis and Bree consummate their relationship in a beautiful one-take shot while Lovett's "She's Already Made Up Her Mind" plays over it. No dialogue. Lovett's songs also serve as the film's final punchline, a one-verse one-line tune that sums it all up.

Dr. T and the Women may put off people who only look for action and a plot-by-numbers storyline, but should be seen by people who crave adventurous filmmaking. Altman has returned, and now more than ever, we should be grateful.

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Club Chick's Club Picks of the Week

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Schubas.3159 N. Southport . 773-525-2588

The Roots (10/23)

Schubas.3159 N. Southport . 773-525-2588

Maceo Parker (10/27)

House of Blues.329 N. Dearborn-Marina City.312-923-2000

.www.hob.com

Local H (10/28)

Double Door.1572 N. Milwaukee.773-489-3160

Midwest Scream Fest (10/28)

Halloween Rave Party, Location to be released

Gwar (10/29)

The Vic.Lakeview on Sheffield

Limp Bizkit/Eminem (10/30)

All State Arena.Rosemont off of I-90

Club Chick

