

Quo Vadis

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"The vigilant protection of constitutional freedoms is nowhere more vital than in the community of American schools." Healy v. James, 1972

Board Of Trustees discuss tuition hike for fall 2003

By John Stevenson

Details of the proposed tuition hike for 2003 were among the topics covered at the March 26 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

If the proposition passes, in-county tuition credit hour rates will increase from \$70 per credit to \$73.50 per credit hour, while out-of-county and out-of-state rates will increase

from \$140 to \$147 per hour.

Changes in technology fees will also occur, with many classes that carry such fees increasing by at least \$5 for in-county students while out-of-county and out-of-state students can expect their amount to jump to \$18.

These changes in tuition rates will go into effect during the summer 2003

session if the proposal is approved at a public meeting to be announced.

The meeting also contained details on improvements to buildings on and off campus, Middlesex County College's computer contract, faculty retirements and resignations and the nomination of John Bakum, MCC president, to the Board of the State Employment and

Training Commission.

Board members also discussed payments for various repairs to the college buildings.

This included construction for more academic space at the New Brunswick Center, improved ventilation in Edison Hall rooms 162 and 168, and boiler replacement and lab gas conversion in L'Hommedieu Hall.

Also, the college's purchasing contract with Dell Computers was authorized under the provisions of state contracts under \$25,000 already in effect. Middlesex County College paid \$22,576.67 for purchasing services.

Under the finance portion of the meeting, the proposed budget for July 1 to June 30, 2004 in the amount of \$57,713,890 for current unrestricted operations and \$2,500,000 for the minor capital fund was approved.

Compensation and stipends from professors as well as salary changes for academic and non-academic faculty were reviewed

and approved.

The Board of Trustees also made a note of the resignation of George Bandics, the director of police, effective on March 28.

The retirement of Jay Sachs, professor of mathematics, as well as Jeanne Smith, a member of the Dental Auxiliaries Education Department, and Joan Utrecht, a member of the Correspondents Center, were also noted.

The retirements go into effect on June 30. The Board of Trustees recognized and thanked the three faculty members for their years of service.

At the end of the meeting, it was announced that John Bakum had been nominated to serve as a member of the Board of the State Employment and Training Commission, of SECT.

"This is a particularly important appointment for the community college sector, since... I will be the only community college representative on the Commission," Bakum noted in his President's report.

College Assembly alters MCC policies on withdrawal criteria

By John Stevenson

The current withdrawal notations of WP and WF would be abolished and replaced with only a W, members of the Academic Standards Task Force suggested during the monthly College Assembly meeting.

In addition to this, the deadline for dropping a class would be changed to 10 business days after midterm grades are made available to students.

The Academic Standards Task Force also wants to note the change in the "Withdrawal from a course" section of the MCC catalog.

This movement was tabled, however, when the wording of the change was not agreed upon.

The task force believes that since a WP has the same effect on student records as a W and a WF has the same effect as an F, it would be best to abolish it in favor of just a W.

The faculty is also inconsistent in how the grades are assigned, and many believe the system does not work.

"We did a survey of the faculty. Eighty-three percent of those that responded wanted to abolish WP and WF," said Naomi Schatz,

chairperson for the Academic Task Force.

Members also covered various proposals from task forces present on Middlesex County College's campus.

Approved at the meeting was a suggestion from the Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Task Force, headed by Dr. Christine Harrington, to purchase 5 Evacu-track Chairs.

This is so "each two story building on campus will be equipped with a means for persons with mobility impairments to exit the building in the event of an emergency."

The Bylaws Task Force, represented by chairperson Iris Ramer, successfully passed motions to have adjunct-at-large positions added to the Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Task Force and the Student Life and Community Concerns Task Force.

The Bylaws Task Force also moved to add a representative from the Department of Informational Technology to the Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Task Force.

The Campus Diversity Task Force recommended a survey be done on MCC students to get their overall

impression of their college experience.

This has been done in the past, but "it doesn't look like it was done consistently," according to Frank Burke, chairperson for the Campus Diversity Task Force.

Next was a short approval for a new biology course, Human Structure and Function, suggested by Curriculum Task Force chairperson John Gutowski.

The Educational Resources Task Force proposed that faculty members work closely with librarians in order to effectively determine books for the library.

They also recommended that faculty and student health be protected "through ergonomically-sound practices," noting that "ergonomic disorders are a leading cause of injury and illness."

On a related note, the Student Life and Community Concerns Task Force recommended that information on such issues be made available to the MCC community.

All recommendations made at the College Assembly will be looked at and signed for approval by Dr. John Bakum, president of MCC.

MCC experiences loss in Human Resources

By Tiffany Sellars

According to FYI (For Your Information), the tri-weekly publication from the Office of Marketing and Publication at Middlesex County College, Lawrence Alford, the executive director of Human Resources and Labor Relations, passed away March 26.

Alford, who had been employed at Middlesex County College since January of 2002, was 59 years old.

Dr. John Bakum, president of Middlesex County College, was quoted as saying, "His profession-

alism was an inspiration to everyone. He was the consummate professional but with a personal touch."

Prior to beginning his work at Middlesex County College, Alford was employed in the Human Resources department at the Children's Village.

He was also employed at Drew University and by the United States Navy.

Alford obtained his college education at Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina, where he served as president of the Sports Hall of Fame after graduating.

War protests are an expression of our Americanism

By Allyson Meli

With the War for Iraqi Freedom well underway, the events of protests are present on a daily basis.

The White House, school campuses and downtown centers all over America have been the gathering places for all types of protests aimed toward expression about the war.

Michael Moore, *creator of Bowling for Columbine*, used his platform at the Oscars to voice his personal protest, "Shame on you President Bush."

Everyone has the constitutional right to express themselves. That is what being an American is about.

Protests are the people's way of being a part of the history that is taking place around us, and the history that has preceded us. Being able to protest is an

American right, fought for by the founders of our nation, created by war itself.

The Bill of Rights states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The first amendment to the Constitution enables us to express our opinions and gives us the right to assemble peaceably in protest.

The protests of recent months have seen opposition as well as support for the war in Iraq.

Our nation's leader orchestrated the coalition to liberate the Iraqi nation, sending an energetic mes-

sage to the stronghold regime of a tortuous leader while attempting to remove him from his reign.

The war in Iraq has taken our fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, uncles, aunts, cousins, in-laws, fiancées, loved-ones, ex-boyfriends, ex-girlfriends, first loves, best friends, worst enemies, acquaintances and daily passers-by and put them smack in the middle of hell on earth.

This war effects everyone in the nation, as did the events of 9/11. The people are voicing their opinions.

Protesters against the war express that the liberation of Iraq from the terrorist dictatorship of Saddam Hussein is not the responsibility of the United States.

American casualties

and POW's are not worth the struggles across the oceans and civilian casualties would be avoided.

Opposition to these protests argues that these protests lower morale of our troops and in turn, when morale is lowered, casualties are produced.

Protestors supporting the war are generally showing support for the troops and boosting their morale, but not necessarily supporting President Bush.

The substance of this war really revolves upon the premise that there are weapons of mass destruction stockpiled in Iraq for the use of aggression and not self-defense.

Many in Washington believe the ultimate justification for this war is the view that the United States was instrumental in saving the

world and it's freedoms from Adolf Hitler in World War II.

All sides have valid points. Vindication is closer on a daily basis.

The bottom line is that protests against and in favor of the war are doing nothing but motivating our forces to move faster, play harder, and fight dirtier in defense of our inalienable rights as Americans, rights that the Iraqi's have been denied on so many levels; rights that should pertain to every human on this planet.

The greater the number in protest, the louder the protest, and no matter what side of the war the protest, American troops are fighting for us to have these rights under the Constitution of the United States of America.

Get involved, protest and express your ideas on the war, it is American.

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Column

Search for yourself

By Steve Maroldi

Why do girls feel it necessary to go tanning and get implants and drastically change their bodies? Do they honestly think that it looks attractive?

Come on now, sporting a thick summer tan when it's 30 degrees outside and the middle of winter is not natural. Also, it is unhealthy. Speaking from a guy's perspective, tanning is well, gross.

Girls really feel the need to fit the "status quo" and be accepted by the masses through tanning and implants. Now don't get me wrong I will not be a hypocrite; looking at those girls might be fun at times but when it boils down most guys indeed look for natural girls. The all American look for instance which does not require spending 30 dollars and an hour in a tanning booth each month.

Most of my buddies and I have talked about this topic before and all of us agree that girls should not go tanning, it just looks bad. Can't they wait till summer to get tan? Is it really that hard not to be at that "perfect" skin tone for a couple of months out of the year.

I recently ran into one

of my friends that I graduated with in high school, who has been tanning for about 5 years now and she looks horrible. She looks like she is 30 at the age of 19. Her skin is all wrinkly, dry and burnt due to the countless times she went tanning.

Implants are a whole other story. This is worse than tanning. Girls spend thousands of dollars on implants each year to impress and, attract other people (mainly guys). They bring their breast size up to a double D and that is disgusting. Girls should realize that guys do not like fake breasts that are hard and lumpy. Again, natural is the key here.

Oh yeah, some girls say they do these things because it is for them. I find this hard to believe. If the media and social surroundings did not tell these girls that going to a tanning salon every week and getting implants will make you happier and have guys more attracted to you, then they wouldn't do it.

Girls out there should wake up and see that the mass populations of men do not like the "all American fake look" and should try and make themselves happy by liking what they got.

Wrath of the protestors affects soldiers and resources

By Adasi Beckles

Since the existence of war there have been the existence of anti-war protests. People shouting slogans and holding signs expressing their views on the war and why they are against the war at hand.

Students and average Americans have come together to voice their opinions on the war.

But does the voicing of ones opinions intefer or lower the morale of the soldiers? Pre-war protesting exercised protestors "freedom of speech" but once the war began it became evident that many believe that such protesting takes away from the morale of the soldiers.

First and foremost protestors risk their own lives by standing in the cold for hours on end to protest,

many may say this shows their dedication but it only shows their stupidity.

In a recent CNN poll 75% of Americans , both teens and adults believed that war protesting was unpatriotic. The idea that after the war in Iraq has taken our friends, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and other affiliated family members, the way protestors thank them is with dishonor and namecalling.

So why should we degrade soldiers honor by telling them what they're doing is wrong. Protestors shouldn't soil the love soldiers have for their country by calling them murders.

Fighting for the continuance of our freedom, including our right of "freedom of speech" which includes protesting. Another aspect of protesting is seen in Holly-

wood. While celebrities might not be found holding signs they voice their opinion through their muse.

They voice their notions on war through awrad shows, and fashion. This should not be accepted, the voicing of one's opinions is an American right but when the protestors rights of protest jepordizes the well being and/or offends others it is not seen as protest but instead slander.

When hundreds of people gather to protest in present day New York City they are placing their fellow New Yorkers at risk.

Such protests is unproductive and dangerous because any time when the country is at risk of terrorism the resources of the law enforcement are being

wasted in an effort to keep protestors under control.

Protestors block traffic of roads of major cities and they make the lives of non-protestors harder beacuse they constrict transportation and protection.

Low budget governments are now being forced to spend resources they already lack on the supervision of protestors.

Another thing that gets me about protest has to do with the way protestors try to get their point across.

While voicing one's opinion is part of being an American, it depends on how one's opinion is voiced.

Protestors are at times some of the most violent people, they protest peace but they fail to practice it.

They fight, throw things, scream and often times hit bystanders with alternative

views.

Fortunately such hypocrisy allows many fellow Americans to not take them seriously and attribute their protesting to mere complaints.

Protestors would like you to believe that their protesting motivates the soldiers to move faster and fight harder but that is not the case since most protests are against the war.

Therefore protesting only allows to see that protestors think fighting is unnecessary and in turn says that our troops deserve to die since they should not be fighting.

Instead of being greeted by honey our soldiers are greeted by vinger. Instead of holding signs that say "hero" our troops are greeted by signs that say "baby killers."

Column

War takes backseat

By Mattew Schreibman

Since the beginning of the war we have seen a lot of coverage of what is going on in Iraq.

We have also seen the ability of the Americans to unite and be patriotic. I believe that if you do not want to support the war, you can still be patriotic.

In recent weeks, the sales of American flags have gone up. Everyone has a flag on his or her car.

Now if you support the war, you must have a yellow ribbon somewhere in your house.

Do you really have to be patriotic just because we are at war?

If I really wanted to, I would walk around campus wearing a sign that says, "I do not support war with Iraq." I thought this style of patriotism (the need to wear it on your sleeve, house, or car) was over.

Hasn't 9/11 past? What gives anyone the right to say you can't be against war?

Do I have to go around school wearing an American flag across my chest? Do I have to put an American flag on my

car to be patriotic? I think not.

This media has brainwashed the American public in thinking, since you're an American citizen you do have to support the War.

If people want to support the war they can just say they are for war. They don't have to state it across their chest.

If you choose not to support the war, the media has made it apparent that you are not patriotic. I have chosen not to support the war and therefore not be patriotic.

Hollywood also thinks that you must support the war to be patriotic. Hollywood booted Michael Moore, who does not support the war, and they cheered Adrian Brody because he got up on stage and gave a patriotic speech.

Is it not patriotism when you stand up for the National Anthem?

Can't you be paritotic sitting on your couch watching the constant news coverage of the war?

I do not really care if people support or do not support the war. I am just saying that you do not have to support the war in order to be patrotic.

My Word

Pro-anorexic sites gone too far

By Adasi Beckles

The information superhighway, otherwise known as the Internet has served billions since its arrival, it has brought knowledge and power and placed it at the fingertips of its subscribers but at times I wonder the cost of such power.

Virtually anything can be posted on the Internet and just recently I found out how true and disturbing that is.

While doing some research on anorexia I stumbled on to some "pro-ana" web sites.

For those of you who are unaware "pro-ana" means pro-anorexic and these web sites provide support for people dealing with anorexia.

It does not provide them support in terms of recovery but instead support in terms of them remaining anorexic.

These sites refer to people suffering from anorexia as anorexic beauty; furthermore these sites themselves have defined "pro-ana." According to anorexicbeauty.com and other sites "pro-ana" is a way to force the outside world to look at what they

want to ignore.

They claim that the existence of the prejudice of the outside world threatens them and takes away their need to be extremely thin.

These sites provide tips and tricks to hide the eating disorder from friends and family and also how to maintain a low wait.

These tips vary from eating spicy foods to raise metabolism to drinking lots of water to take away hunger cravings.

Portraits of their ideal body types and models (Kate Moss and even sickly malnourished bodies) grace their web pages as icons.

One showed a picture of perfection; it declared that when a female's thighs are as skinny as her shins she has reached perfection.

Unfortunately, many die before reaching perfection and others don't stop when they reach this disgusting idea of perfection.

In reality anorexia is when a person starves himself or herself by eating way to little.

Some symptoms of anorexia are significant weight loss, high fear of becoming fat, even when obviously thin, excessive exercising and dieting, chronic insomnia, con-

stipation and even preoccupation with counting calories.

Many times anorexia can be linked to other eating disorders such as bulimia.

With bulimia the person eats but gets rid of the food afterwards by vomiting, diet pills or laxatives.

While doctors are unsure as to what causes these eating disorders they are sure that these disorders are dangerous.

They allow the person to feel the ability to control overwhelming feelings.

Both of these are dangerous eating disorders and should be taken seriously and should not be glorified.

One out of 100 women are anorexic and that should not be taken lightly.

So instead of teaching individuals how to be the best anorexic they can be, these "pro-ana" sites should reevaluate their need.

Although many of these "pro-ana" sites have been removed many stil exist so if by any chance you ever stumble across one you can report it to the web server because these sites are dangerous to the health of your mother, sister, friend and even you.

Editorial**Prevention of AIDS and STDs starts with knowledge**

It has often been said that knowledge is power.

So why in today's society is the ever-increasing AIDS rate rapidly rearing its ugly head?

People know how the disease is spread and still chose to practice risky behavior.

For all those who still try to remain ignorant, risky behavior includes having anal, oral, and vaginal sex without a condom, and using intravenous needles and works.

Clinics all over the country and even the world offer free testing and still the AIDS rate continues to grow.

Most feel that contracting HIV can't happen to them, but the ignorance seen by so many can ruin our up and coming generation.

Students have been taught since the sixth grade that AIDS is alive and well

in today's society and since they insist on having sex like it's the 60's, the highest group at risk for contracting HIV is still women ages 15-25.

Women! Women of all ages! You have got to protect yourselves.

These men don't give a damn about you, so the only other thing to do is to TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES!

When the man in your life tells you that he just had an AIDS test two months ago, ask to see the results.

Or even better, go down to the clinic together. Instead of having unprotected sex for the two weeks until the results come, try and get to know each other.

Trust me; you'll thank yourself if he does test positive.

Since I ragged on the women, I must speak to the men as well. Please wear a condom. It's in your best in-

terest.

Let's go over the ways to keep yourself safe, for all those who might claim that they don't know.

1. Get tested. Most doctors agree that you should be tested every six months, but if you're active with many different partners then maybe you should up it to every three months.

2. Actually call the place where you got tested to get your test results. The

only way you know that you have the disease is if you get the results.

Everyone is scared of the disease, and most don't even get tested, but if you have enough nerve to go down and take the test, then you might as well follow through.

3. If you do have the virus, begin treatment as soon as possible. Treatment is based on income, so everyone rich, or poor, can get the medicine they deserve.

4. If you've already been tested, and your HIV negative, begin using condoms from the minute you get tested to the day you're married and in a monogamous relationship.

Finally, if you take the correct precautions, we as young people can start to lower the AIDS rate until it no longer exists.

Although this goal sounds far off, please remember that it is within our reach if you follow all the proper precautions.

Editorial**Indecent exposure gets disgusting**

Indecent exposure, like everything else, rests upon your perception of things. According to the law, indecent exposure involves any display of "private parts" or "lewd acts".

But it's not every day that you get flashed. Most of us are more familiar with a more relaxed form of indecent exposure, commonly known as, PDA's or public displays of affection.

In today's society, it's not uncommon for people to just go at it in public, which is probably due to the desensitization entertainment has had on sex. And that is great.

Don't start saving up for therapy just cause your five-year-old sees some soft porn on channel 50.

This country is too uptight about sex, but come on, you have got to put your hormones in check when others are around.

There is nothing wrong with a couple walking down the street holding hands or the occasional kiss while waiting on a line. But always try to respect other people's space.

Nobody wants to be sitting in class studying or what have you and a couple sitting next to you are groping each other like they never felt another human body before. This is nauseating and makes others feel uncomfortable.

Some of us like the idea of possibly getting caught. Sex under the bleachers during a home-

coming game with the queen sounds like a good time, but probably wouldn't be for the father trying to enjoy the game with his six year old son, who happens to catch a first hand glimpse on the birds and the bees.

On the other hand, don't go to the local lovers lane and have a picnic with the family and get mad at people making out. You should expect to see something going on there.

So if you feel the need to be affectionate, try not to get caught and definitely keep it in your pants in public. There is a time and a place for everything.

Or better yet, next time maybe you should just get a room, preferably one with a locking door.

Editorial**War lacks patronage**

One can't help but think about this country's current political situation once he or she caught a glance of the Army's Cinema Truck that was parked outside of the College Center a week ago.

Among the patriotism and flag-waving of some citizens, there is a huge backlash against this most current Gulf War and it shouldn't surprise anyone.

The war has had trouble finding worldwide support, not to mention here in the United States. Has there ever been a war when the protests started before the actual fighting began?

Nothing sits right with the contributing factors of this war. President Bush played it off like it was a necessity, but mentioned that we should keep in mind that Saddam Hussein is the same guy who ordered an assassination attempt on his father, George H.W. Bush. That sounds more like a personal vendetta.

Bush and company also stressed that they didn't expect a prolonged battle or

many casualties. But then again, they did order 77,000 body bags.

The war is also supposedly not going to result in any gain for the United States; it is solely to liberate the Iraqi people from the tyrannical Hussein and extinguish him as a threat to the world.

But of course Haliburton, the largest oil company in the United States, that is also proud to name Vice President Dick Cheney as a CEO and prominent stockholder, won a bid to rebuild Iraqi oil fields after the war.

It's so blatantly obvious what the true motive for this war is. The fact that they're barely covering it from us, not to mention using our own army to reach their personal goals, is just the final insult.

There is nothing wrong with the Army recruiting on our campus or anyone else's for that matter. They offer many good programs for students. Now just doesn't seem like the right time to be doing so.

Response Policy

The Editorial Board of Quo Vadis will publish any "Letter to the Editor" that includes: authors's name, address, contact phone number. All letters must be type written, and are preferred submitted on a 3.5" disk in text format.

All submissions must be made a week prior to the date of desired publication, and are, always, subject to editing for spelling, punctuation, spacing and Associated press(AP) style.

If you would like to submit a Letter to the Editor simply drop it off in the Quo Vadis newsroom, located in the College Center, Room 316, or leave it in the Quo Vadis Mailbox located in the Student Activities office in the College Center.

Boat Trip is surprisingly an extremely funny movie

By Shalice Toney

Boat Trip is a movie that I would give four out of five stars to. In this movie, Jerry (who is played by Cuba Gooding Jr.) is in love with his girlfriend of four years, Felicia (who is played by Vivica A. Fox). However, when he proposes to her she turns him down and tells him

she is leaving him for the man who details her cars. This leads Jerry to go into a deep depression where he spends all his free time looking at the screensaver he has of Felicia's picture.

Jerry's friend Nick (who is played by Horatio Sanz) convinces Jerry to go on a cruise because Nick is

convinced that Jerry will meet the girl of his dreams there. Jerry agrees, so they decide to go to a travel agent to book the trip. While at the travel agent, Nick has an argument with one of its employees. As a result of their argument, Nick calls him an offensive name.

This leads to the employee's boyfriend to book the two on a gay cruise without telling them, as revenge.

The two have no idea that the cruise is gay, and set out to go.

Once there, they have no idea that they are on a gay cruise until Lloyd (played by Roger Morre), one of the crew passengers, tells them.

The two immediately are shocked and Nick tries to find a way off by shooting a flare out of a flare gun and accidentally hits a plane. Jerry, who is extremely drunk, hits his head and falls into the pool.

He is rescued by Gabriella (who is played by Isabella Sanchez). Jerry is receiving CPR from

Gabriella he later tell his friend that she is "the one."

The next day Jerry is looking for her, and when he finds her he discovers that she is on the ship because she has given up on men and that she thinks he's gay.

He tries to tell her the truth but thinks that he will have a better chance with her if she thinks that he is gay.

In the meantime Nick is in heaven because the plane that he shot down was full of tanning models who are now on the cruise with him.

The struggles that Jerry and Nick go through to get the girls that each of them desire make the movie funny, and seeing the many sides of Cuba Gooding Jr.'s body make it even better.

South Park: 100 episode really exploits the ignorance of a war

By Steve Maroldi

South Park celebrated it's 100 episode on April 9, . It was a really funny episode that combined (like always) humor with political and social implications.

In the 100 episode of *South Park* the creators decided to exploit the war with Iraq to show its viewers the ignorance that United States people have.

The 100 episode of *South Park* gave an in depth look at the fundamentals that America was built upon.

In this episode, the town of *South Park* was divided into 2 separate parts: people protesting the war and people that were for the war.

Throughout the entire episode the townspeople were fighting about who was right, and what "our forefathers would do" in a situation such as this.

So of course the boys

of *South Park* (Kyle, Stan, Kenny, and Cartman) were told to do a report on the forefathers of America to give an exact overview of what they would do (forefathers).

Cartman decided that he did not want to study for this project and tried numerous times to create a flashback to 1776. Including, rigging a rock to fall on his head, hanging himself over a swimming pool while a television is packed full of history shows.

After numerous failed attempts, Cartman finally achieves his goal and is sent through a flashback to 1776 (by electcuting himself and being put in a coma).

While in a coma, Cartman gets to sit in on the decision making process that our forefathers had to make on the war with England in 1776.

Cartman saw the underlying fundamentals that

America was built on.

This is the most hilarious part. Ben Franklin was of course one of the forefathers and he said, "We should build America on saying one thing and doing another; by allowing people to protest the war, no one could really say that, we are for it or against it." Basically he just put things into perspective.

If citizens are allowed the right to protest then no one can actually hate the United States. The United States would get their cake and eat it too. Cartman eventually wakes up out of his flashback and delivers his new found news to the rest of the town (who are literally killing each other over the war) and saves the day.

Like any 100 episode, it ends with a giant song and dance skit. Also with Kyle and Stan astounded that Cartman actually saved the day.

Wanda At Large excites TV fans with her no-nonsense attitudes

By Shalice Toney

With all that is going on in the world, it is nice to know that there are shows that can for 30 minutes help viewers focus on something else.

That show is *Wanda at Large* which recently premiered on Fox at 9:30pm after the *Bernie Mac Show*.

In this show Wanda Skyes plays Wanda Hawkins.

A struggling stand up comic who is one day hired by her best friend Keith (who is played by Dale

Godboldo), who works as a segment producer for the Washington political show called WHDC11.

Once Wanda has the position she is an immediate favorite of the cast and crew, except for Bradley (played by Phil Moris), who feels that Wanda is loud, obnoxious and should not be on television.

Despite that, Wanda is a fan favorite at work.

At home she is attempting to help her sister in law raise her niece, Holly (who is played by Jurnee Smollet) and nephew,

Barris (played by Robert Bailey Jr.).

The show is an extremely good way to spend the night because Wanda calls everything as she sees it.

It reminds people of what they want to say and what most are not brave enough to say. Her no-nonsense attitude is what makes her a fan favorite.

For more information about the *Wanda at Large* visit the Fox website at www.fox.com/wanda or look on line for her stand up act.

The end of Buffy is quickly approaching

By Shalice Toney

Buffy the Vampire Slayer has been entering the homes of fans for the past seven years. Recently, *Buffy* (played by Sarah Michelle Gellar) moved from its home on the WB to its new home on UPN 9.

The show has evolved and changed from what it was in the beginning. The first season of the show *Buffy* was a teenager who just wanted to fit in. However, she was the "chosen one" who was responsible for killing all the demons and vampires.

After the first season, *Buffy* managed to gain so much fan appraisal for its characters that a spin off show was created where *Buffy's* vampire boyfriend, Angel (David Boreanaz) left their home of Sunnydale and began trying to help people who needed his help.

Now *Buffy* is in its seventh season, which is reported to be its last; the show is ending, and according to UPN there will be a spin off.

The characters on *Buffy*, often referred to as the Scooby gang because of the close friendship they all share and because of the way they work together to

solve problems, are Willow (Allison Hannigan), Xander (Nicholas Brenden), and *Buffy's* little sister Dawn (Michelle Trachtenburg).

The shows topics are not all based on killing demons. It is also about all of the things *Buffy* goes through in her life.

She has faced some dramatic things such as losing her mother and raising her little sister, and failing out of school and many other things.

Despite the way that people may perceive her, she has weaknesses and is a human being with problems, the same as the rest of us.

However, all good things must come to an end and in less than 10 episodes *Buffy* will be over. But like many other shows, the reruns come on Fox and UPN.

For more information on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, visit the UPN9 website at www.upn/buffy.com.

If you are interested in watching *Buffy* it comes on UPN at 8-9pm on Tuesday nights. You can also read the *Buffy* books that can be found at any book store. And there are also DVD sets on the first three seasons.

Soul Food a must watch show that deals w/ real life

By Damaris Diaz

Soul Food is one of the hottest shows on Showtime. With its sexy crew, touching on a variety of issues about family, relationships, and real life topics, it is definitely the show to watch on Wednesday nights.

Showtime gave us something to talk about with last week's episode of *Soul Food*, "All Together Alone". It also gave us something to look at, with its opening sexual scene.

With the kids asleep (or so they thought), Maxine and Kenny went at it on top of the kitchen counter. At that moment, it seemed like nothing else mattered, only mutual gratification.

But at the peak of one of Showtime's sexiest scenes, Ahmad, the couple's adolescent son, discovered his naked parents having sex.

Disturbed at what he had witnessed, Ahmad stormed out of the kitchen and into his room.

When Kenny talked to Ahmad, he tried to avoid the topic saying that there's nothing worse than seeing your parents having sex.

Ahmad confided in his friend, Mike, telling him what he saw. Mike suggested that he should tell his parents to act like normal people. Ahmad decided to do just that.

Ahmad arrived home a little earlier than expected, with his mind set on talking to his parents. However there was no one in sight.

He walked into his parents' bedroom to find his mother (acting) asleep, and his father's clothes spread all over the floor. Meanwhile, Kenny hid in the closet.

Maxine also tried to talk to Ahmad about "what he saw". Again, he avoided the conversation.

Ahmad eventually sat his parents down and gave them a speech, along with a new house rule.

He suggested that they keep their business in the bedroom, with the door closed and locked. He even gave them a sign that read, Do Not Disturb.

Meanwhile, Damon

Carter got arrested and charged with driving under the influence.

His father Walter, "the Judge", rescued him arguing that the Breathalyzer was not administered properly.

Teri, who feels that Damon has been drinking and hanging out more since he got the job as a Sport's Agent for CGR, expressed her concerns and suggested that he attend an AA meeting.

Walter revealed to Teri that Damon's mom was an alcoholic. They feared that Damon might be headed in the same direction.

Although Damon doesn't think he has a problem, he agreed to attend an AA meeting.

But while he was at the meeting, he looked around with speculation and walked out in the middle of one woman's testimony.

Damon dismissed his fiancé and father's fears by telling them that he had been to an AA meeting.

In the meantime, Damon was still drinking and getting into further trouble behind the wheel, driving his truck into a ditch.

Damon called Lem for help, and coerced him into not telling Teri. Lem was not happy that Damon was manipulating him to keep quiet. Damon reminded him of the time when he asked his father, "the Judge", to help Lem when he was incarcerated.

Meanwhile, Lem had problems of his own. He hadn't had sex with his wife in over a week, breaking an all time record.

What he didn't know was that Tracey, otherwise known as Bird, had a serious problem.

An old algebra teacher named Michael was stalking Bird. He had a history of preying on young girls.

It appears that while Bird was in high school, she had a fling with this teacher. She thought that her history with Michael would remain buried in her past, but he came back to haunt her.

He started by sending Bird flowers while she was at work, then he waited for her in the parking lot.

When she told him to stay away from her, he violently yanked her out of her car and tried to force himself on her in the middle of the parking, in broad day light.

Michael managed to rip Bird's panties off as he held his other hand over her mouth. Bird tried to break free from her attacker as she yelled for help. Eva, a co-worker, came to her rescue. Michael ran off with Bird's panties.

Eva suggested that she talk to her husband or sisters about this creep, who left several bruises on her body.

Bird was afraid to confess her past to Lem. One night, when Bird was closing up the salon, Michael walked in.

Bird grabbed the phone and dialed 911, she told him the police were on their way. Michael walked out, but not before approaching her with a pair of

scissors. Bird was freaked out and she didn't know what to do.

She finally spoke to her sisters about the ordeal, and Teri (a lawyer) helped her by filing a restraining order against him.

Things got ugly when a daring Michael sent a bouquet of flowers to Bird's house, along with a note that read, To the little mouse, from the big cat. Lem automatically thought the worse, accusing Bird of having an affair.

Terry came to her rescue and they told Lem about the algebra teacher. Lem was furious, but Bird and Teri managed to keep him from storming out the door in search of Michael.

The next morning, Lem noticed Michael hanging around their house. He calculated a plan without telling Bird.

Lem kissed Bird, told her that he loved her, and headed out the door. Sec-

onds later, someone walked through the front door. Thinking that Lem had forgotten something, Bird called out his name.

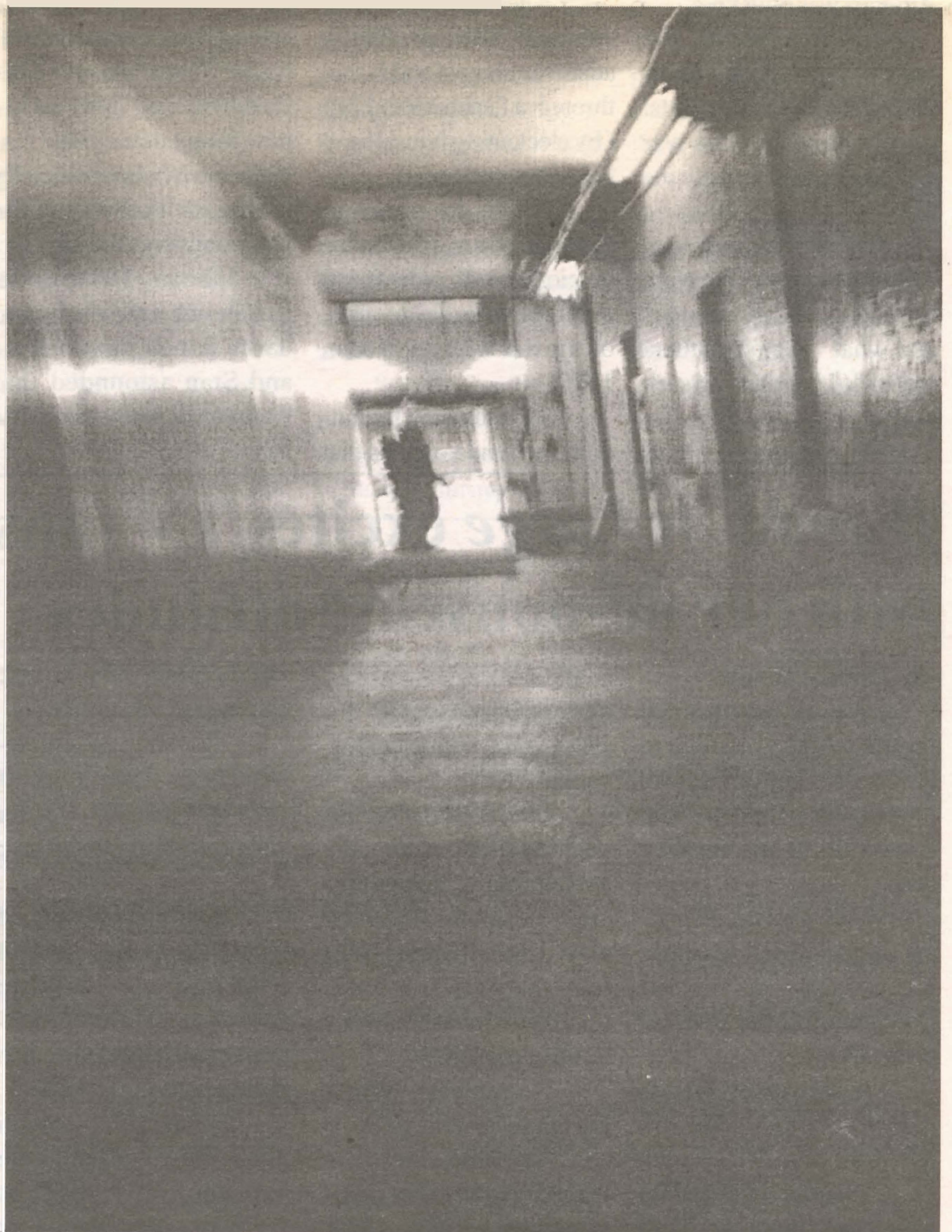
However, it wasn't Lem, it was Michael. Bird panicked and searched for a knife in the kitchen as Michael approached her. Lem surprised Michael by putting a gun in his face. Bird grabbed a pan and struck him over the head, causing him to fall to the ground.

An angry Bird kicked Michael repeatedly as he lied on the floor helplessly. Lem called 911 and reported an intruder. The show ended as Lem held his wife in his arms.

This week's episode promises to be as entertaining and action filled as the last. Don't miss it.

The show airs on Wednesday nights at 10PM, only on Showtime. For more details go to Soulfood.com or Sho.com.

Photo of the week



Picture of the week
Titled Terminal Anxiety

Photo by Sean Hovey

White Stripes release offers unique sound blends

By Steve Maroldi

The White Stripes released their fourth album entitled *Elephant*. The newly divorced duo Jack White and Meg White really show what their made of in *Elephant*.

It's hard to believe that there are only 2 of them in The White Stripes, in this album comes together beautifully and sounds better than most fully complete bands.

In *Elephant*, The Stripes combine many different styles of music such

as blues, grunge, rock, and even some jazz using electric keyboard, organs, and bottleneck guitars to spice up songs.

Jack White's guitar playing is exceptional on this album. White uses distortion, feedback, incredible melodramatic riffs and underlying style to show listeners that The Stripes, while only being a 2-person combination, can still be excellent. Jack White's vocal portions of this album are also well maintained and follow the same basic formula

as previous albums such as *De Stijl* and 2001 release *White Blood Cells*. In *Elephant*, White also combines other vocal styles to give it somewhat of a twist that could not be heard on earlier albums. White uses blues eccentrics with an overlap of pop rock and undeniable feeling.

White's lyrical writing in *Elephant* has also improved greatly from previous albums. White's writing also shows that he is still sticking to his blues roots and not afraid to show the darker

aspects of his being.

Through his words White lunges himself from the shadows of self-doubt and back again, making *Elephant* a highly relatable album for anyone who has been in the depths of symbolic depression.

Meg White must also be given credit for her drumming in *Elephant*. While keeping her drumming simple and easy, it flows nicely with Jack White's guitar, piano, and singing. Meg White also sings on *Elephant* with avid together-

ness with ex-husband Jack.

It's really surprising to find out that The White Stripes recorded this album in only two weeks using only basic equipment and recording tools. This still makes Jack and Meg White the king and queen of new grunge/ garage movement.

Some really good songs on this album that might intrigue and tantalize your ears are "Black Math", "Ball and Biscuit" and "I just don't know what to do with myself". The whole album is a massive success

General Hospital enters its fortieth year successfully

By Shalice Toney

General Hospital recently celebrated its fortieth anniversary on abc.

General Hospital is a soap opera which features all of the people who live in Port Charles which is supposedly located in New York and all of the rich families that live there.

The riches family in Port Charles are the Quartermines who consist of Edward, Lila, Monica,

Alan, AJ, Skye, Jason Morgan, Emily and Ned.

This family is so dysfunctional they might give Ozzy a run for his money.

First, there is Edward who sold his granddaughter Skye for profit.

Then there is Alan who has spent multiple times trying to kill his wife Monica.

The children of the family who are all adults are Emily, Jason, AJ and Skye.

Emily has just returned

from college and she is using drugs.

Jason works for the mob and has completely disassociated himself with his family to work for the mob, which is why his name is Jason Morgan instead of Jason Quartermine.

AJ and Skye are both outcasts of the family as well. They are both alcoholics and AJ had his wife stalked so that he could save her and come off as hero. Then there

is Skye who lied, cheated and did what she had to do to be in the family.

Ned also slept with the sister of his dead fiance soon after her death.

The Quartermines are not the only family that exist in Port Charles. There is the town mob boss Sonny Corenthos and his wife Carly Spencer Corenthos.

They have their own set of drama, they live together with their son (who is actually AJ Quartermine's biological son) and across the hallway from Sonny's right hand man Jason Morgan.

Now Sonny has been through a lot; from having a belligerent drunk for a step father who he would watch abuse his mother, to losing both of his biological children before they were born.

Even though Sonny had an affair with Alexis Davis, his former lawyer and she had his child Ned Ashton (who is also a Quartermine) manipulated the pregnancy test so that it would say the baby was his and not Sonny's.

Carly is full of issues as well, she is the daughter of Bobbie Spencer, and she dated her mother's fiance, Dr. Tony (even though at the time she didn't know that Bobbie was her mother because Bobby gave Carly up when she was 14).

Then there is Luke who is the father of Lucky. He is Bobbie's older brother and he runs a bar called Lukes.

He recently pushed his

wife into a catatonic state and she is away in the mental hospital.

His son Lucky and he were recently dating a stripper named Summer at the same time.

However, the two of them recently found out that Summer was paid by Laura's biological son Nicholas Casadine to keep Luke away from his mother.

Then there are the other members of the cast that have issues all in their own.

There is Jasper "Jax" Jacks who is the white knight who comes down to help all of those in need.

Even if that means leaving his wife Skye Quartermine Jacks weeks after their wedding for his true love Brenda Barret who was held captive by Sonny's enemy, Louis Alkazar.

Louis, manipulated Brenda into thinking that she had a suicidal illness while the rest of Port Charles thought that she was dead after her mother drove the two of them off a cliff and Jax jumped out of a plane to save her with no success (he only found her scarf).

For more information about *General Hospital* there are episode recaps on abc.com and it also runs twice a day on soapnet.

General Hospital comes on every weekday at 3 on abc.

It also has a spin off soap opera titled *Port Charles* which stars Lucy Cole who used to be on *General Hospital*.



Tanning is a way to show off your stuff and status

By Allyson Meli

Once upon a time, having a tan was looked down upon. A tan was a symbol of the working and lower classes, consisting of farmers, merchants, servants and the impoverished.

In the days of the Renaissance, powder white, porcelain skin was considered a status symbol. The absence of a bronzed tone on the skin signified wealth and a life of luxury. These upper-class women and men actually applied white powder to appear more white.

This lack of skin tone was reserved for the wealthy; those who entertained on a weekly basis and listened to famous pianists while getting drunk on fine wines and snuff.

Today, the story is quite the opposite. A great tan is the envy of every social butterfly. God forbid you don't have time to go tanning before your Saturday night out. You absolutely can not wear this or that without being tan.

Guys and girls are equally obsessed with obtaining a great tan, a status symbol of our day.

The jet set, Hamptonites, and spring breakers are fortunate enough to travel to beaches of paradise locations to bask in the sun.

The poorly time managed among us have to succumb to other alternatives.

People are so absorbed with attaining that gold glow that they actually spray or paint tans on themselves.

J Lo and Britney Spears are both known for having special assistants to personally apply their beautiful, golden tans.

For those of us who are not as fortunate to have personal tan maintenance crews, there lie other options.

Tanning salons are a quick and easy solution. They are in almost every strip mall and some stay open 24 hours. Most gyms have tanning facilities to accommodate their body conscious clients.

Tanning bulbs contain

UVB, which is believed to be less harsh than UVA. UVA penetrates the top layers of the skin, producing an immediate tan or redness. Excessive exposure to UVA can lead to skin cancer and melanoma. UVB is believed to be a lot less harmful, penetrating deep into the layers of the skin, producing a tan within 24 hours.

Tanning beds come with different levels of intensity. It is suggested that people with fair skin start at the lowest level intensity for a minimal amount of time.

Most low intensity beds have about 42 bulbs and give off two percent UVB.

Fair skinned people should start with two five-minute sessions to avoid being burned and to acquire a base tan. A session in these beds will cost about \$7.

(Just as you would burn in the real sun, artificial sunlight can produce a slight burn with over exposure to light skin.)

Once a base tan is started, or if you are starting with a medium skin tone, you can use a moderate intensity bed. These beds usually have 54 bulbs and have eight percent UVB. A session in this bed should run 10 minutes. UVB at this intensity tans darker and faster. A session in these beds will cost about \$15.

Now that you have attained a pretty decent golden tan, you might find that you have reached a plateau.

The next step is a 60-bulb bed, the ultimate in high intensity tanning. The color you get from these beds is the deepest and darkest. Your color will also show up the fastest. A session in these beds could cost about \$18.

Most tanning beds now have face tanners, which are blue, square lights that concentrate solely on the face. Most of the tanning veterans out there can tell you that tanning in a bed with no face tanners can leave the face a little less tan in comparison to the rest of the body. This can be due to the sensitive nature of the skin of the face. Products we use daily such as moisturizers,

toners and cleansers can also contribute. (Truly a waste of time.)

All of these beds come in lay down or stand-up forms. Salons like Hollywood Tans only have stand-up beds.

They feel it is more sanitary. Stand-up beds are a 360 degree enclosure that totally encircles you with bulbs. This ensures an all-over tan.

Just a word of advice, believe the girl at the counter when she tells you to buy a lotion. Use the lotion while

you are tanning. Lotions moisturize your skin while tanning, intensify the color you get and prolong the life of your tan.

Some lotions have added bronzers; You really have to look through them to see which one will help you attain your desired results.

One alternative to UVB tanning beds is a UV-free tan. Hollywood Tans offers a four-second, spray tan that is totally UV-free.

The color you get with this tan is a beautiful golden

brown, not the orange you would expect from a bottle of tanner.

This is the best tan to buy if you are worried about wrinkles, and trust me; if you tan too much you will get them way before nature intended.

You can also buy bottles of sunless tanner in the drug-store that are pretty decent.

In department stores, Lancome makes a great self-tanner that costs \$24. They can be very messy and hard to work with.

Full lips are hot for this spring

By Damaris Diaz

Full, luscious lips are hot this spring.

However, you don't have to have a mouth like Angelina Jolie's in order to look sexy.

For the look that will have men drooling, and other women envious of your luscious lips, there are a few tricks you should learn.

First, you have to take good care of your lips. Always condition them by using lip balm.

Second, you have to choose the right products, ones that will bring out the best in your lips.

There are certain products on the market designed to give you the effect of fuller, more luscious, lips.

These are crème-based products which are shiny and smooth.

Lip-glosses with a

touch of shimmer are the latest trend in lip color. These are extra shiney.

Clinique has a big line of lip color. To add to their collection, they have created a line of translucent products, called Sheer Shimmer.

These come in different tones, and give your lips a wet, radiant, look.

L'Oreal offers you a product called Endless Liquid, a lip-gloss that gives you a wet finish, leaving your lips looking moist all day long.

MAC also has a great line of creamy glosses. For a pouty look, try Love-In, from the MAC Lacquer collection.

This is a nude gloss, which looks great when applied over a neutral lip liner.

For an even fuller lip, try applying the liner just outside the natural lip line.

If you have a great

color that you don't want to give up, try applying a clear gloss over your color. This will give you a fuller finish. You can pick one up at the Body Shop.

Even if your lips are thin, you can achieve the effect of fuller, more luscious lips.

Simply follow these easy tips, pick up affordable products like these, and you will have sexy looking lips.

However, if you still desire even fuller lips, there are aesthetic procedures you can resort to.

One that is guaranteed to give you thicker lips is a procedure by which fat is surgically removed from the buttocks and transferred into the lips by making two small incisions.

The cost of this procedure is approximately \$5,000.

Bangs are making a comeback

By Allyson Meli

How long did it take you to grow out your bangs from the late 1980's?

Do you remember using hideous headbands and clips to camouflage the middle stages of letting your hair grow out?

There is a reason why people cringe at the thought of their high school portraits back in the day.

Finally, we were freed of teased out, hair-spray oppression.

The 1990's and early 2000's saw the age of beautiful, long, flowing hair. Girls cut long layers to add style

and shape

Bangs were finally banished!

Recently, the unthinkable occurred.

The people who decide on style, the trendsetting elite of the fashion nation, called upon the era of bangs and put a retro spin on them.

You can see bangs on models gracing the covers of fashion magazines like Elle, Cosmo and even Bazaar.

Heidi Klum is sporting the new retro look.

Bangs are actually cut uneven and wispy, extending around the face in a what hairdressers call a face

frame.

Some girls are just cutting short, blunt baby doll bangs that have a gothic, dominatrix feel to them.

The look is edgy and has tons of sex appeal.

Some people, as we learned back in the day, get absolutely nothing out of bangs.

You don't have to run out and jump on the trendwagon.

If you feel you have a longer forehead, or you are just bored to death of your hair, definitely give this look a try.

Bangs are back!

CELEBRATING

| | | | |
|-------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| | Film Festival - "The Reduced Shakespeare Company" | All day | College Center |
| 15 | Film Festival - "The Reduced Shakespeare Company" | All day | College Center |
| | Presentation by Psychology Textbook Author, Dennis Coon | 11 a.m.-Noon | TSC 100 |
| 17 | Media Seminar | 3:30 - 5 p.m. | TSC 100 |
| 21 | CPR / Fitness Seminar | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Room 319, College Center |
| 22 | Dean's Tea and Awards Ceremony | 4 - 6 p.m. | Corral, College Center |
| 23 | Faculty and Staff Talent Show | 1:30-3:30 p.m. | Bunker Lounge, College Center |
| 24 | Faculty and Staff Talent Show | 1:30-3:30 p.m. | Bunker Lounge, College Center |
| | Poetry Reading | 2 p.m. | IRC 235 |
| | Inter-American Development Bank and Consular Workshop | 5 p.m. | Corral, College Center |
| 29 | Sociological Workshop on "Biology, Culture and Behavior - The New Compromise" | 2 - 3:30 p.m. | Room 319, College Center |
| May 4 | Spring Dance Concert | 3 p.m. | PAC |

You are cordially invited to help Middlesex County College celebrate Liberal Arts Month in April. Events are open to the public. Call 732-906-2528 for information or

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Tattoos that are more than just skin deep



By Steve Maroldi

Many tattoo shops have been opened in New Jersey over past years such as Destiny, Tattoo Ville, and Another Tattooshop etc. then there was Sinister Ink.

Sinister Ink opened on December 16, 2001 and since that time Sinister Ink has become the one of the greatest tattoo shops. Sinister Ink incorporates art as well as piercing as an overall basis of business.

Sinister was built and brought up around the most

Franklin, Julio Reichard) and a resident piercer (Brian "Bone" Lobyecz).

Since the opening of Sinister only a little more than a year ago they have built up a following of loyal customers in both the piercing and tattoo fields.

"We try and form a bond with our customers and work with them with their (tattoo and peicering) ideas. 85 to 90 percent of our tattoos are original and we do hardly any flash work [pic- tures that were already cre-

rived from traditional tattoo art. Hardcore Inc. magazine also showcased some tattoo art by Franklin.

Sinister sets many goals for themselves and that's why they are becoming one of the best tattoo shops in

New Jersey.

"Our overall goals is to produce great work and get our artists recognized, and to the show the good side of tattoos (not affiliated with any biker gangs etc.). We also plan to open more shops in Jersey". Said Bone.

The overall essence of Sinister makes it such a great shop.

So if you're looking to get some tattoo art or piercing done check out Sinister Ink located on Easton Avenue in New Brunswick.

The crew at Sinister will treat you good and will make sure that you get the best possible work done.



Chuck DeNise does some finishing touches on a full leg
Photo by Sean Havey



Brian "Bone" Lobyecz (left) and Chuck DeNise show off some there sanitation techniques
Photo by Sean Havey

recent regulations and health codes that a tattoo/piercing shop inhibits.

"Our shop is built up around the most current Middlesex County laws and regulations, in fact the Middlesex County Board of Health uses our shop to train new inspectors on how to look for what's right. The Board of Health almost uses our shop as a classroom because were so up to date on codes. Including ID's, we don't care if you're 50 you're still getting ID." Said Brian "Bone" Lobyecz piercer at Sinister.

Not only is Sinister a solid foundation for safety and health codes but also the overall atmosphere of Sinister creates a relaxed, laid back mood due to the crew who works there. The crew involves 3 main tattoo artists (Chuck DeNise, Alex

ated]... also we're not jerk offs to our customers. We try and steer them in the right direction with their ideas, we are flexible with prices and out quality of work gets better and better with each tattoo. We're booked more than a month in advance now." Replied Bone.

Dawn Heavens who recently got her fist Tattoo at Sinister explains her experience as great (besides the pain) "because the people who work here are really funny and cool".

Brittany Faneil another initiate into the realm of tattoos at Sinister describer her experience "as painful but Chuck made my mind at ease while getting tattooed".

Recently 2 artists at Sinister, DeNise and Franklin were featured in a gallery exhibit entitled "Dedicated" which was de-

By Sean Havey

At first glance the 18-wheeler outside the College Center two Thursdays ago, with a big Army logo on it may have appeared as though we were expecting an invasion at MCC.

In reality the truck was part of a recruitment method conducted by the Army.

The "Cinema Van" as it is known, was basically a moving movie theater that goes from area to area along with a band of recruiters that stand outside trying to get people into the "Van" to watch a film about the army.

Playing that day, inside the theater that fits about 60 was a 15 minute film about

movie joked that after watching *212 Ways to be a Soldier* we could watch any film of our choice, *Barbershop* if anyone brought it, he said

During the playing of the movie a student yelled out his perception of the Army. "Its like a Frat Party without the beer," said the heckler.

MCC student, Keith Penny, after viewing the film stated, "I liked the fact that it showed the army personal as human beings not as killers.

According to one of the recruiters Staff Sergeant Abimelec Rivera, the amount of inquiries via of

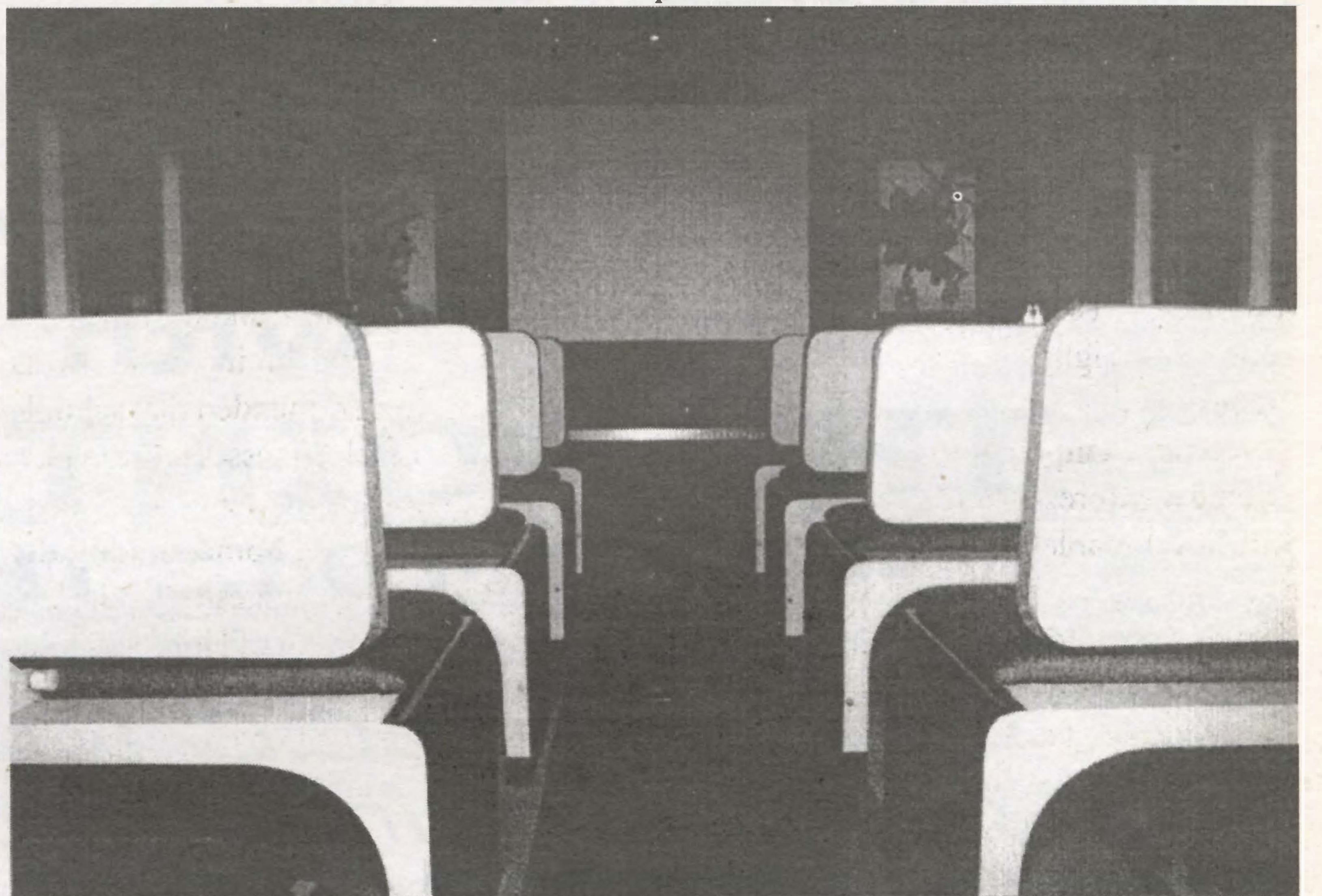
"its not like that."

Staff Sergeant Way talked about some of the benefits of the army while recruiting people outside the Cinema Van.

"The army aint all about shooting people it's about getting benefits. Medical and Dental are the ones I like," said Way.

Sergeant First Class Mark Fortinberry who drives the Cinema Van from place to place was interviewed after veiwing the film and gave some insight into the his perception of the war.

"I think the country in general thought the war would be over by now [they] remembered the first Gulf



A sneak peak inside the Cinema Van which graced MCC with its presence two Thursdays ago.

Photo by Sean Havey

some of the different jobs in the Army titled *212 (total amount of jobs in the Army) Ways to Be a Soldier*.

The exhibitor of the

phone calls are down at his recruitment office in Edison. "People think that if they join the army now they are gonna go right to war" said Rivera

War and thought it would be just like that," said Fortinberry, referring to the four days that made up the Gulf War.

MCC currently gets involved in International Week

By Damaris Diaz

The Modern Languages Department sponsored a series of events on April 7, in celebration of International Week.

Students, faculty, and staff members gathered in the College Center of MCC throughout the day.

The mood at the events was considered to be a festive one according to those who attended.

The events were organized in conjunction with the

celebration of Liberal Arts.

"Liberal Arts is the center of a college education", said Dean Grace Strong Kehrer, of the Social Science and Humanities Department, who was present at the events.

Dr. Virgil H. Blanco, Chairman of the Modern Languages Department, gave a welcoming speech, and briefly introduced the scheduled events. Blanco culminated his discussion with a breakfast invitation.

All those present enjoyed coffee, teas, biscotti, international pastries, and passion fruit juice.

Dr. Blanco, who has been with MCC since 1972 sees great importance in hosting events that educate about different cultures. He said when that he arrived at MCC, there were only about 54 non-English speaking students. Today, there are approximately 4,000 students at MCC who are learning the English

language. He explained that there is definitely a demand to embrace these cultures.

The show was supposed to feature a group of folkloric Mexican dancers and was scheduled to begin at 9:30AM. Students said they expected their performance to be the highlight of the event. However, when the dancers did not arrive as scheduled, most people attributed their tardiness to the inclement weather.

Spectators enjoyed the refreshments and mingled with one another as they waited.

By approximately 10:15AM, the college had received the news that the Mexican dancers were involved in a motor vehicle accident. Sources said they were not seriously injured.

It is possible that they may perform at a later date, said Professor Juan M. Saborido, of the Modern Languages Department.

The dance performance was quickly replaced by a French film (with English subtitles) shown as part of the Foreign Film Festival. The film was introduced, and briefly discussed by Professor Brenda Cavanaugh, of the French Department.

Kehrer, said that these types of events are very important because they educate people on human cultures.

Among those present

at the event were Nanette Granuzzo, of the Modern Languages Department, and Barbara Coyle, Coordinator of the International Education Center.

As the filmed played, members of the Hispanic American Club quietly set up for their international food sale.

Among those hosting the food sale were faculty advisor, Gloria Zuluaga, Julian Garcia, President, and Nicholas Zuluaga, Vice-president. They served a variety of dishes from Puerto Rico, Columbia, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Spain, and other parts of Latin America.

It appeared as though the aroma of the food lured the crowds, as people gathered around the table and started to place their orders before the club members could finish setting up.

The food sale was a fundraiser designed to collect funds for the club's budget.

With these funds, the club will grant scholarships to students of MCC, said Zuluaga.

The events had a great turnout. The College Center was filled with students, faculty, and staff members throughout the morning and most of the day despite the announcement of an early closing due to the snowstorm.

Greatest Show on Earth Returns

By Damaris Diaz

The world's most famous circus, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey, is still said to be "The Greatest Show on Earth." The circus visited The Big Apple, and Madison Square Garden was transformed by workers again to a house which some consider a spectacular event. The circus opened at the Garden on March 22, 2003, and held shows through April 13.

With its enormous setting, the circus is not only the "Greatest", it is undoubtedly also the largest show on earth. It is no wonder that the circus performs in places

like the Madison Square Garden, which has the capacity to seat 20,000 people.

This show, packed with diverse acts, is one of the oldest and still most popular shows in the entertainment industry.

Fans of the circus waited anxiously for the coming of the circus this year. Whether they went to see the show for the first time, or for the fifth time, spectators displayed their excitement as they took their seats.

"While our country is at war, it is nice to get away from reality and into the fantasy world of the circus",

said Luis Rivera, who took his son, Justyn, to see this circus for the first time.

J. Rivera who had seen smaller circus shows, was very excited and emotional to see the clowns, and the different animals as they interacted with the acrobats and members of the audience. J. Rivera said, "It was great, I want to see it again!". "The show gets better and better each year," said L. Rivera.

With its circus clowns, acrobats, elephants, horses, monkeys, and other trained animals, each show is a memorable one, filled with wonders that amaze spectators of all ages.

MCC Campus Police answer the new Homeland Security alert

By John Stevenson

The Middlesex County College Police Department issued a message in response to the Department of Homeland Security raising its color-alert system from yellow to a higher-ranking orange.

The Campus Police created measures in dealing with any possible emergencies.

"We would like to remind the College community that everyone—faculty, staff, and students alike—have a responsibility to work toward creating a safe and secure campus," George Bandics, Director of Police, wrote in a statement.

Among the new measures, additional precautions at public events will be taken.

Deliveries on campus will also be monitored more closely. Overnight parking restrictions on campus will be enforced.

There will also be an increased frequency in the amount of building checks the police already routinely make.

Checking student and faculty ID's before using computer labs will also be more strictly enforced.

The MCC Campus Police had previously noted that they are working in conjunction with Edison police and fire department if there happens to be an upgrade to a red alert.

If raised to red, the highest level of national security, there is a severe risk of a terrorist attack.

Currently, orange is the

highest the scale has gone since its creation after the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Although government officials are reluctant to list all of the measures that would be taken by the U.S. in such an incident, it was recommended that schools and businesses create a plan of action.

At home, among the things suggested by the Department of Homeland Security is for people make a survival kit, have a plan, and be informed.

Any questions can be directed at the Campus Police. They can be reached at (732) 906-2500 or by picking up any of the red emergency phones located in classroom buildings and parking lots 1, 4, 5, 6, and 6A.

PDA makes people ill

By Shalice Toney

People who walk anywhere are likely to be attacked at one point or another by some couple groping in public.

But what separates these acts from of affection from indecent exposure?

What is considered alright and what is considered tacky? In short when is the phrase "get a room" considered appropriate and when is it considered rude?

Many people feel that affection in moderation is alright. Megan Ballinger a college student stated that "I don't like when someone is grabbing someone's balls or guys grab boobs but, the ass is fine." She continues to emphasize her point of view

by saying "no penetration in public."

Steve Maroldi another college student said that, "as long as your not in front of kids than it's [PDA] ok."

Most feel that it is alright to kiss or hold hands in public but they feel that selective things are inappropriate if it is very likely that they will get caught.

For example, Steve Maroldi said "having sex in a football field at night, that's ok."

Sean Havey, however, does not agree. He said that the only sensible place to have sex is "in the privacy of your own home."

The debate about public displays of affection remains unsolved.

Clinic offers free and anonymous AIDS/HIV testing

By Tiffany Sellars

"It can't happen to me." "I know the partner that I am sleeping with." "This man has been my husband for years, so there is no way that I can be HIV positive. "You have to be on drugs to get the disease."

These are all comments that Fran Hoey, a social worker and AIDS counselor at the Eric B. Chandler Health Center in downtown New Brunswick, hears on a daily basis.

The clinic offers free testing 5 days a week to anyone who walks in. They also offer anonymous testing to those who would rather keep their identities a secret.

Although the clinic offers testing to everyone, whether you are a patient or not, Hoey says that not enough people are taking advantage of this resource.

According to Hoey, many patients are just too plain scared to get tested. "People don't like to change their behaviors." Hoey explained.

When asked which group of people are most at risk, Hoey was hesitant to answer, since she says many people assume that if they are not in the group that she mentions, that they are safe from the disease.

Hoey did point out that since the AIDS rate has risen for the first time in ten years,

that everyone is at risk. The groups that do stand out, Hoey described to be females age 15 to 25 and women over 60.

She also explained there is a correlation between women who are battered and women who test positive for AIDS.

Many women, Hoey went on to add, put everyone ahead of themselves. "Women have to take care of the home, children, and at the same time maintain a full-time job outside of the home," Hoey explained. Also according to Hoey men of all ages and ethnic background cheat on their wives. She conducts a counseling group called Project

Light once a week, where she describes 95% of the women to be married with socially accepted jobs, such as teachers, nurses, and corporate professionals.

These men that cheat often do not use condoms, Hoey says, which adds to an already staggering AIDS rate.

Hoey also blames the media for the rise in AIDS rates.

According to Hoey, every type of media from commercials to music videos depicts women as sex symbols, which Hoey says robs women of their identities. "Women are taught that the only way they can relate to men in society is sexually." Hoey said.

The Eric B. Chandler Health Center began offering free HIV testing about 5 years ago, and the test Hoey adds, is 95-98% accurate.

HIV testing is done using either the Western Blot format or by DNA, two tests that Hoey explained to be almost one hundred percent accurate.

Results from the testing routinely take two weeks, and can not be given over the phone for privacy reasons.

Hoey takes her mission everywhere she can in order to reach those she deems to be most at risk.

Most of her counseling takes place during her seminars, which help those already infected, but she does venture out to jails, churches and shelters in order to reach children in the age group most at risk.

The program for which Hoey works is grant-funded and donations can be made by contacting her at (732) 235-6716.

Although AIDS can be scary, it is not the end of life Hoey concluded. Many who test positive go on to have successful careers and to finish school as well.

Medicare is based on income for those who test positive, Hoey explained, so even the poorest person can get the medical attention he or she deserves.

Clinics such as the Eric B. Chandler Health Center, offer the free testing in the hopes of lowering the AIDS rate the only way they know how, which is by getting those that are infected the knowledge they need to protect the people they are involved with, Hoey ended.

More information about the testing schedule and the hours that Fran Hoey is available can be found by calling (732) 235-6700.

Further info on AIDS itself can be found by contacting the Center for Disease Control.

Sesame Street observes 34 year

By Shalice Toney

The Public Broadcasting Network is celebrating the Sesame Street's 34 year anniversary.

Sesame Street is well known for it's characters which include Big Bird, Cookie Monster, The Count, Grover, Bert and Ernie, Snuffy, Oscar the Grouch and the famous Elmo.

Part of the success of *Sesame Street* over this period of time is explained by pbskids.org as there way to "meet the needs of our 2 to 4 year old viewers by appealing to the way they think, learn and explore."

They further explain how they appeal to their viewers by explaining the reasons behind the change. According to pbs.org/sesame/caregivers "Recent

research shows that preschoolers enjoy following a sequence of events in a narrative story, so the traditional street scenes in each show are now combined into one story line for the first time."

In the past, *Sesame Street* also had famous guest stars such as Keisha Knight Pullium (who at the time played Rudy Huxtable on *The Cosby Show*), Sabian Glover (star of *Stomp*), Tito Puentes (famous singer), Whoopi Goldberg and many others.

Now *Sesame Street* has quest stars that range from First Lady Laura Bush to Queen Latifah (star of *Chicago* and *Bringing Down The House*). New episodes have more to do with what is going on in the world. However, these things are

approached in a way that is friendly to the children who will be watching them.

An example is an episode where ground zero fire fighters arrive to put out a fire at Hooper's Store, which scares Elmo.

However, after Elmo spends time with the fire fighters and touring the fire house, Elmo is no longer afraid.

According to pbs.org "Sesame Street has developed four new story lines that model behaviors and strategies, overcome obstacles, and learn to express emotions."

Those fans who are interested in watching the older episodes of *Sesame Street* can watch them on Noggin (Check your local cable listings for time and channel).

Adelante searches for expansion

By Shalice Toney

Adelante is a club, which is geared toward the success of Latino students in Middlesex County College.

This year Adelante is working toward benefiting its student participants by hosting two workshops according to Hugo Tapia.

Tapia said that Adelante is a Latin American organization trying to explain issues that re happening at MCC that pertain to the Latin population here.

He said that the "club is trying to focus on the needs of Latin American students."

The two workshops are scheduled to take place on April 20 and April 24. The first workshop that is scheduled will be about scholarships.

According Tapia 100 scholarships they can look at. The second workshop is supposed to be a lecture which gives advise to students. Tapia explained that Adelante is trying to pre-

pare things for next year.

According to Tapia Adelante is going to lose many of its members because they will be transferring to four-year colleges.

For more information about Adelante and other clubs run in the minority student affairs office contact Aaron Bruce who is the faculty advisor for both Adelante and the NSBE in room 113 or call him at (732)-548-6000 extension 3894.

MCC defeats Mercer

By Mathew Schreiber

The Middlesex County College baseball team defeated Mercer County College in a high scoring game, 18-11, on April 3.

Outfielder Keith Naylor stared for Middlesex by going 4 for 6 with a two-run home run, triple, twosingles and seven Runs Batted in (RBI).

Naylor home run came in the fourth inning with a runner on first. Naylor stated, "Hitting it [home run] felt good, it boosted my confidence."

Catcher Mark Rennie contributed with by going 2 for 3 with single, double, two walks and two RBIs.

Outfielder Doug Radar helped in the victory by

going 2 for 5 with 2 RBI's. Shortstop Keith Presico, second basemen, Chirs Petrowski, and third basemen Sixto Sanchez had a RBI each.

Pitcher Ed Goodwell started the game for MCC. Goodwell pitched five innings, letting up five runs. Mercer did not give up.

Mercer scored three runs in the seventh inning and three runs in the ninth to make the game close.

Head Coach Michael Lepore stated, "Hitting it we did very well, we hit the ball well but we played poor defense. We gave up too many runs.

MCC record now stands 12-4 and extends their winning streak to three games.