

North Avenue Review Issue XVI



Structure

The *North Avenue Review* is produced by a collection of

Georgia Tech students, faculty, and staff—all of whom have contributed writing, graphics, or time.

Unless otherwise state, the views expressed herein are solely those of the individual contributors and are not intended to express the sentiments of the Georgia Tech community.

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All letters are welcome. Your letter will not be edited, so submit it as you wish it to be printed. You may request that your name be withheld from the letter, but we must know who you are.

Submissions

We welcome all original contributions, including articles, essays, poetry, graphic materials, announcements, clip art, poetry, fiction, photographs, surveys, polemics, small items of interest, sheet music, recipes, chemical formulas, madcap hypotheses, prognostications (both psychic and earthly), reviews, dramas, artwork, computer graphics, new patent ideas, dissertations, proclamations and whatever else is adaptable to the printed page excluding bricks. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni are invited to share ideas, opinions, expressions, and illusions with the NAR.

Procedure

At 'writers workshops' throughout the quarter and at the deadline meeting (a date subject to large fluctuations), all submissions are presented for group review. The editors (we are all 'editors' or 'non-editors') then read all submissions, offering anonymous, written, constructive criticism and suggestions. If an editor feels that a particular piece is unnecessarily inflammatory or obscene, he or she can bring the piece to the attention of the group in order to discuss the piece. A submission will be excluded from the NAR with a three-fourth votes against its publication. This provision is essentially to prevent the publication of items that might jeopardize the NAR's existence and in practice we have never censored a final submission although we welcome attempts for your piece to be the first. Attendance and participation by each contributor is extremely important and strongly encouraged to allow feedback and comments—hopefully improving the quality of everyone's work.

All texts must be submitted on a MacIntosh 3.5" disk to lighten the burden of the NAR's oppressed layout workers (who are *planning* on forming a union and going on strike under present conditions). Articles must be typed in ten-point Times font in either Microsoft Word or Wordperfect. We simply cannot type your piece for you unless it is a very short poem. To make layout easier remove tabs and indentations, leave a line between paragraphs, and quote your sources appropriately. Be prepared to rewrite. Also we encourage writers to find visuals to accompany their articles (these do not have to be on a disk simply bring them with your submission).

Getting Involved

The NAR needs your help. Anyone who wants to get involved regardless of his or her literary or ideological pursuits. Come to the first meeting next quarter which will be held somewhere on the third floor of the Student Center on the first monday of summer quarter.

"A free press can of course be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom it will never be anything but bad..."
Albert Camus

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THE BILL OF RIGHTS

Amendment I

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.

Amendment II

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be

taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

Prepared by Gerald Murphy (The Cleveland Free-Net - aa300)
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Comforting Censorship and The Military Posse

Ed "Catfish" Gibbs

Liberty is always dangerous, but it is the safest thing we have.

Harry Emerson Fosdick

War, invasions are big news. Splashed across the airwaves it becomes literally the new national pastime. The press restrictions of the recent Gulf War are now a year old and mostly forgotten. Still the complacency of our traditionally 'feisty' and supposedly 'liberal' press in accepting government restrictions raises many doubts about the press's true freedom.

The willingness to accept blatant censorship from the Pentagon is frightening. Acceptance of the censor implies that the media have become merely agents of propaganda. The public's willing support of this for the most part suggests that they have become a complacent school of fish confined to a dark Orwellian Sea.

Only a few voices made themselves heard in opposition to press restrictions. Respected elder journalist, Walter Cronkite was in the minority when he complained that "with an arrogance foreign to the democratic system, the US military in Saudi Arabia is trampling on the American people's right to know."¹ The vast majority of the media simply went along with the restrictions. Indeed when some liberal/left publications such Mother Jones, L.A. Weekly, The Village Voice, and Harper's were excluded from the pool system the more established media ignored them even after a lawsuit was filed claiming that the pool system was a sure violation of the first amendment. As Sydney Schanberg, one of the writers banned by the Pentagon, states that "the suit is about prior restraint of information, a constitutional issue that normally sets the televi-

sion networks and leading newspapers into instant legal motion."² They never moved.

CNN was the freest of any media covering the War although they were careful to point out that reports from Baghdad were censored and overseen by Iraqi officials. For some reason pool news reporters in Saudi Arabia didn't see any reason to

GULF WAR WORD QUIZ

MATCH SANITIZED PHRASE AT LEFT WITH CORRECT MEANING AT RIGHT

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Pounding positions | A. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Softening up | B. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Collateral damage | C. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Saturation strikes | D. KILLING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Carpet bombing | E. KILLING |

WAVEFORM
OF THE
GULF WAR
THE
PENTAGON

"Censored by the Pentagon" before their reports. Still even CNN's cautious coverage was denounced by Senator Alan Simpson who called Peter Arnett a traitor who spewed forth propaganda for Iraq. CNN should be applauded for refusing to knuckle under to the pack mentality of the other networks who were quite willing to be shepherded by the Pentagon.

This surprising acceptance of pure censorship lead to a general lack of responsible war coverage. Small items of no danger to national security were censored. Reports of fighter pilots watching X-rated movies or the description of returning pilots as "giddy" didn't clear the military officials/censors. Photographs of casualties returning to the US were banned. Those who didn't comply with the pool system could be forced to as in the case of "a

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French TV crew forced at gunpoint to turn over to Marines footage of soldiers wounded at the battle of Khafji.³ Obviously this kind of censorship smacks of a totalitarian regime like Iraq and not the "world's greatest democracy." The evidence points to a press which is not truly free, but very much part of a state propaganda department. The press has become so reliant on the government for information, that when asked to submit to official censorship, they almost eagerly tape their mouths shut. The case of the pool system suggests that the media should be looked at as closely following the propaganda model as developed by Noam Chomsky, Edward S. Herman, Michael Parenti, and others. Under these models the press claims to be free and no official censors are present yet they usually follow the lead of the government and conduct self censorship by leaving out stories that

1. Walter Cronkite, "What Is There to Hide?" Newsweek, Feb. 25, 1991.
2. Sydney H. Schanberg, "A Muzzle for the Press," Washington Journalism Review, March 1991.
3. Jim Naureckas, "Spin Control Through Censorship: The Pentagon Manages the News," *Earth*, May 1991.
4. A report which is as yet unpublicized claims that total civilian casualties in the Gulf War were 156,000 and that the number was acquired from an internal Pentagon report. The Pentagon employee releasing this information has been fired. The 156,000 figure with 39,612 women and 32,195 children comes from an Italian monthly magazine, *Personna* (May 1992).

would harm advertisers or government officials upon who they rely for information. By claiming to be unbiased the media can have much more impact than any obvious propaganda system. The accepted censorship of the Gulf War suggests that press is no longer free to ignore the wishes of our own government. The media can and have become merely propagandists. In conclusion little has changed. Iraq is still in shambles under Saddam Hussein. Israel has been pressured to the peace table, but Israeli leaders see little reason to give the Palestinians the West Bank, probably because their aren't 500,000 US troops sitting on the Jordanian border. The Pentagon has refused to give a death toll for the war seemingly because Iraqi casualties are unimportant.⁴ And still the networks and newspapers go about their work blindly convinced that the public has faith in them.

The bolshien sea of
liberty is never without a
wave.
Thomas
Jefferson



From America - the only American television journalist who reported from Baghdad throughout the entire war

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Southern Heritage: A Case for the Confederate Flag

by E. Foster

It really saddens me to see the hatred and obvious discrimination that the *Technique* (the Georgia Tech student newspaper) allows to be advertised. The ad that displayed a Confederate flag with a negative, or boycott, sign over it is blatant discrimination (*editor's note- the ad ran in the Technique during fall quarter of 1991*). It is high time that whoever is carrying out these actions realize

that the Confederate flag is only a symbol of a heritage- much like that of the African national flag. During fall quarter (1991), there was a debate within the editorials of the *Technique* about the racial issues tied to this flag. I would just like to enlighten all of you armchair debaters,

who whine about the issue of racism, that less than 5% of the entire South owned slaves. Yet people continue to tie slavery to the Confederate flag, even though over 95% of the families who had family members fight and die in the Civil war were "slave-free".

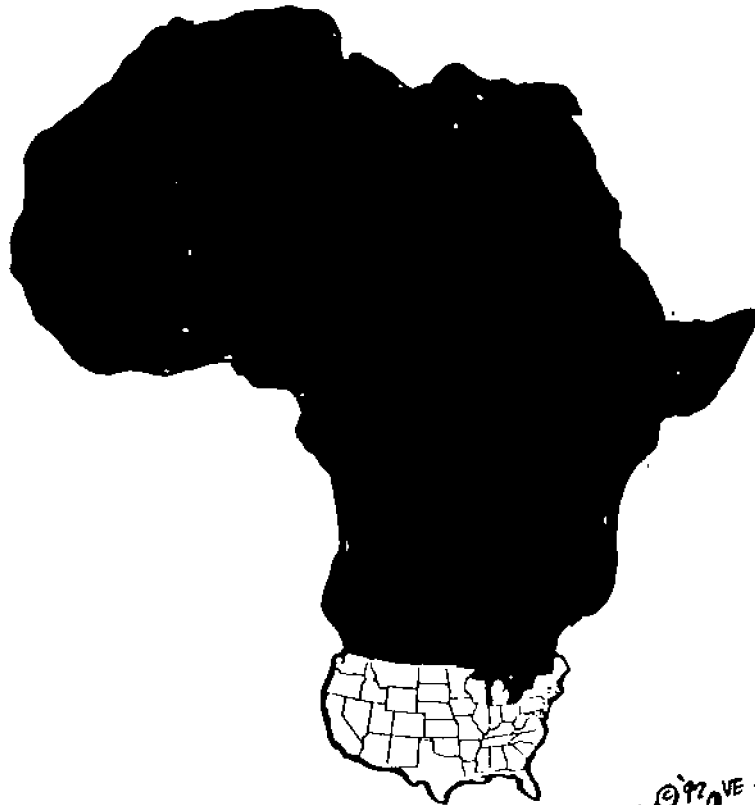
I have been on this campus for two years and I have decided that if a student is smart enough to get into Georgia Tech, then they

are smart enough to accept the fact that the Confederate flag is only a symbol of bygone heritage. In fact, it is no more wrong to continue the (Southern) heritage of this flag than it is for the black/African heritage to be continued through the African continent necklaces, etc..

Don't get me wrong- by no means am I singling out the black community for

attempting to promote their heritage. I just have to ask why the Confederate flag is a cause of controversy. If you racist people continue to spread rumors that your racist parents told you, at least take it upon

yourselves (as, hopefully, more intelligent human beings) to make an *intelligent* accusation; in other words, *know what you are talking about before you talk about it*- substantiate what you are saying with facts. In closing, I appreciate the fact that all of you anti-Confederate flag people out there have had enough respect that you feel a desire to take time to address this issue by reading this article.



How is it that we hear the loudest yelps for liberty among the drivers of negroes?

Samuel Johnson

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The Constitution and Abortion

Bret Tanner

For most people, abortion is a very emotional issue. Abortion as a moral issue is open to debate, but few people ever change their opinion about it. There are legitimate arguments on both sides of the issue. Many people argue that abortion is a constitutional right. Others argue that unborn babies are given rights under the Constitution. However, abortion is not mentioned in the Constitution. An analysis of the Constitution and its history shows that abortion is neither prohibited by, nor is it a right that is guaranteed by the Constitution.

The United States Constitution divides the government into three separate branches: the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. The Constitution gives each branch specific powers. However, in order that no branch may have absolute power, each branch's actions are limited by the other two branches. We all know this as the system of checks and balances. It is quite obvious how the executive and legislative branches are limited in their power by the other two branches, but what limits the judicial branch's power? Quite simply, it is the letter of the law. When a judge is deciding a case, he or she must use the law as the basis for a decision. If a judge does not use the law to decide a case, but instead decides a case based on what he perceives to be right or wrong, he has, in effect, voided the checks that the executive and legislative branches have over the judicial branch. The judge becomes a dictator that is not held accountable to anyone. Would we rather have judges decide what we can and can't do based on their personal opinions, or would we rather decide ourselves, through the election of our representatives and president, what we can and can't do? The latter is the obvious choice of anyone that values individual freedom.

The argument that judges should not have power beyond what is afforded to them by law can also be made in a more simple and straight forward manner. The very purpose of laws is to tell people and judges what the limits of their actions are. If a judge does not follow the law when making a decision, there is really no need to have laws in the first place.

While the Constitution was being written, there was a great debate over whether to include a list of rights that the people have. One group argued that there was no need for a list of personal rights. They believed that people possessed the right to do anything that was not forbidden by law. They also believed that if there was a list of rights in the Constitution, the government would assume that the people did not have any other rights. The other group agreed that the people possessed the right to do anything that was not forbidden by law, but they felt that if a list of personal rights was not included in the Constitution, the government would eventually take away most personal freedoms. In order to settle their dispute, the two groups agreed to a compromise. A list of amendments we know as the Bill of Rights was included in the Constitution as the latter group wanted. Included, after these amendments, was amendment nine, which reads as follows:

"The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

This satisfied the first group because it lets it be known that the Bill of Rights are not the only rights that the people have. Later, the fourteenth amendment was added to make it clear that the states were also bound by the rights listed in the Constitution.

Many people have argued that the ninth and fourteenth amendments give judges the power to strike down laws that they believe infringe on peoples' rights that are not listed in the Constitution. However, this is not a legitimate argument. The sole purpose of the ninth amendment, as demonstrated above, is simply to let the government and people know that the people have rights other than those listed in the Constitution. It is up to the people, through their representatives, to decide what these rights are or are not. The ninth amendment was not meant to provide an avenue for judges to strike down laws that they personally believe infringe on rights that the people should have, but are not in the Constitution or provided for by law. There is not a single

Tyranny is always better organized than freedom.

Charles Peguy

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It is not good to have too much liberty. It is not good to have all one wants.

Pascal

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historical indication that the people who wrote the Constitution intended the ninth amendment to be used as a method for legislating rights from the judicial bench. If we do not insist that our government limits its powers as provided in the Constitution, we will all see our rights eroded by it. People who advocate that judges should be able to expand upon or create rights that are not in the Constitution are asserting that democracy is not good enough for them. They believe that a judge has more wisdom than the president, the representatives, and the people who elected them.

Sometimes, rights we believe that we should have, but are not listed in the Constitution or provided for by law, are restricted or denied by the law. When this happens, we should resist the temptation to have a judge overturn the law through illegitimate means. This is a short term solution that threatens the way in which our democracy works. It is our right and responsibility to petition our representatives and president to eliminate laws that we believe infringe upon the rights that we should have. Things don't always work out the way we want, but that is the price we pay for living in a democracy.

Roe vs. Wade is one of the most well know judicial cases in history. The ruling in the case basically says that states can not restrict abortion rights. This ruling was based on the alleged "right to privacy" in the Constitution. The "right to privacy" was first used to invalidate a law in the case of *Griswold vs. Connecticut*. The Connecticut law prohibited the use of contraceptives. The rationale for the Supreme Court overturning the law was that the government should not interfere with the sexual lives of married people. Justice Douglas stated that "we deal with a right of privacy older than the Bill of Rights, older than our political parties, older than our school system." He is, in effect, stating that there is no legal basis for the decision.¹ The fact that a judge simply believes that a "right to privacy" should exist does not make it so. I believe that laws restricting the use of contraceptives are wrong and that people should be able to do whatever they want in private, so long as it doesn't hurt others. However, that does not make it a Constitutional right. The Constitution simply does not deal with contraceptives or a "right to privacy", and therefore the decision is illegitimate.

The courts quickly began to expand on the "right to privacy". It wasn't long,

only eight years, before the Supreme Court used the "right to privacy" to overturn virtually all laws restricting abortion. In deciding *Roe vs. Wade*, the Supreme Court wrote a 51 page explanation. Almost all of the explanation dealt with the morality of abortion. The only bit of legal explanation said that the "right to privacy", as found in previous court cases and suggested in the Constitution, was broad enough to cover a woman's choice to abort.² Although the Constitution does address certain aspects of privacy in the first, third, fourth, and fifth amendments, it does not mention a all encompassing "right to privacy", and there is obviously no mention of abortion. *Roe vs. Wade* was simply a bad legal decision. Whether you are Pro-Choice or Pro-Life, the "right to privacy" and abortion simply are not alluded to in the Constitution. The issue is up to us, through our representatives, to decide.

There are people who have the misconception that abortion would be outlawed if the Supreme Court overturned *Roe vs. Wade*. This is not the case. The legality of abortion would be left for the states to decide. Some states, such as Maryland, already have laws guaranteeing a woman's right to have an abortion. Others, such as Louisiana, have put restrictions on the availability of abortion, although these restrictions are not yet being enforced.

It now seems very probable that the Supreme Court will either overturn or ignore *Roe vs. Wade*. This is a legitimate step that should be taken to demonstrate that judges do not have the power to legislate from the bench. It is not a moral statement about whether the Supreme Court believes abortion is right or wrong. No matter what your view on the issue of abortion is, it is important to remember that we must go through legitimate means when addressing the issue. Illegitimate methods, such as *Roe vs. Wade*, threaten the very fabric of our democracy. Don't depend on others to make abortion legal or illegal. Call, write, or visit your representatives. Let them know your opinion.

1. Robert Bork, *The Tempting of America* (New York: The Free Press) 97.

2. Bork 113.

The Conservative Supreme Court and the Erosion of Civil Liberties

by Rob Abdelal

It has been both disturbing and saddening for me to perceive the shifting of the United States to the political right over the course of the 1980s and 1990s. The materialist excesses, growing disparity of the distribution of wealth, and social darwinism combined with widespread political apathy of the Reagan-Bush era has given me a glimpse of an America without heart or soul. Presidents have always attempted to leave their political legacy by filling the Supreme Court with ideologues, and Reagan and Bush have responded similarly. The difficulty with this presidential strategy should be clear. When presidents, liberal or conservative, attempt to leave ideological legacies, the composition of the Supreme Court usually neither represents the moderate center nor does it necessarily contain justices noted for their Constitutional scholarship. Furthermore, because the country's political alignment shifts over long periods of time and control over the White House is similarly cyclical, the political and Constitutional perspective of a majority of the Court may be vulnerable to wide swings. For example, the Warren Court, compiled largely by Democratic Presidents since World War II, represents the political antithesis to the present Rehnquist Court. Presidents Reagan and Bush have not hesitated to fill the five vacancies that have opened since 1980 with very conservative ideologues (with the possible exception of moderate Justice O'Connor) who are, often explicitly, intent on undoing much of the liberal activist judicial review of the Warren Court during the 1950s and 1960s. The unfortunate result of this political maneuvering is that the Supreme Court is now even more conservative than the country as a whole and will be for some time to come. Some of these justices are not mere strict-constructionist, but are often prepared to embark upon their own conservative social agenda. We as Americans can now expect the erosion of some civil liberties broadly defined by the Warren Court that we have held dearly, and we should be wary of and prepared for government encroachment upon our political and privacy rights. It is my purpose here only to cite a few areas of personal concern to myself in which the present Supreme Court has shown a definite willingness to chip away at some basic rights. This list is not exhaustive nor is it intended to be; rather, it is a vehicle for initiating discussion

about the state of liberty in the United States and its future.

At the forefront of political discussion today is the possible reversal of the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision which defined and protected women's abortion rights. At the heart of the *Roe* decision and the entire abortion issue is the extent to which there are privacy rights in the Constitution. Specifically, there is no explicit right to have an abortion or to privacy in the Constitution; but many Constitutional scholars and Supreme Court Justices have identified a general privacy right implied by the spirit and intent of the Bill of Rights. Some Constitutional scholars, including Justice Blackmun who is the author of *Roe*, have argued that there is no need even to discern from where in the Constitution our privacy rights stem, but that it is the very essence of the Bill of Rights that the privacy of the citizenry is protected from government intrusion. Others suggest that a reading of the Fourth Amendment, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated..." and the Ninth Amendment, "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people," should suggest a general right of freedom from government interference. In 1973, a majority of the Supreme Court held that women's privacy rights include the right to end a pregnancy without interference by the government. Nevertheless, a majority of the present Court, with the recent additions of conservatives Souter and Thomas (who claimed never to have discussed *Roe* nor to have an opinion about it but who certainly would not have been nominated by Bush if they had not passed a 'litmus test'), seems poised to reverse or at least to continue to emasculate the decision and thus the privacy rights of women. Certainly the Court should never make decisions based upon public opinion, but such a move would definitely inflame the majority of Americans who favor a woman's right to choose and thus illustrate the ideological gap between the Court and the rest of the nation.

Although the legal consequences of the "war on drugs" as declared by Reagan and Bush have been less visible and important to many Americans, they are very dangerous and explicit in their rejection of long-standing constitutional principles. This "war on drugs", which has largely ignored the reasons for American demand

The purpose of liberty is not merely to allow error but to discover truth, not only to restrict the powers of government but to enrich the judgement of the nation.

LBJ

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and has focused on the supply of illegal narcotics, has been used as an excuse for the conservative Court to continue to erode the Fourth Amendment's probable cause and search warrant requirements. Although the market for and effects of some illegal drugs are seen by many to be among our most pressing social problems, our measures to combat the drug trade cannot extend beyond the limits of the Fourth Amendment's protections of the privacy and security rights of citizens. Certainly some exceptions to the Fourth Amendment's strict requirements which have been outlined by previous courts, such as when the police are in hot pursuit or illegal objects are in plain view, are reasonable and maintain the spirit of the protections of the Fourth Amendment. However, increased deference to the police and expansion of these exceptions for convenience or efficiency are very dangerous steps to take in our "official" combat against the illegal drug trade. As the Court continues to dilute the legal protections of the Fourth Amendment and the exclusionary rule (evidence obtained illegally by the police may not be used in court), our protections against a police state where the perceived good of society always outweighs individual liberties are being eroded. In this and other concerns about government encroachment on our civil liberties we should recall the words of Justice Brandeis, dissenting in *Olmstead v. US*, "Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the Government's purposes are beneficent... The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning but without understanding."

One final concern about which I feel strongly is the protection of free speech by the First Amendment. Although the Supreme Court decisions of the last thirty years have tended to protect speech and press liberties (with the important exception of pornography which has consistently been found by the Court to be unprotected by the First Amendment), there was a period of Cold War anti-communist fervor during which the Court upheld certain criminal syndicalist statutes. Recently, in *Texas v. Johnson* (1989) and *US v. Eichmann* (1990), the Court held in five to four decisions that burning of the American flag as a form of political protest is protected speech under the First Amendment. However, there are two concerns which stem from these cases. First, the five-member majority which produced these decisions is no longer intact. Justices Brennan and Marshall have since been

replaced by Souter and Thomas, two judges whose unbelievable reluctance to express their views during Senate confirmation hearings and relative obscurity in the field of legal scholarship have left the country only with the knowledge that we have two more conservative ideologues on the Court whose views on important Constitutional issues remains unclear. Second, although these are very important cases, their possible reversal is not as disturbing as what such a step to curb political speech would imply. The much more disturbing result would be the demonstrated willingness on the part of the Court to again begin eroding Constitutional protections for purely political speech. This is in contrast to legal restrictions on pornography which, although objectionable and constitutionally untenable, are not as important as restrictions on purely political speech for the workings of a democracy. Because speech and press freedom as defined by Jefferson and Madison are so fundamental to our democratic system, it is very frightening to observe the prospect of having these freedoms curbed. Indeed, the First Amendment explicitly states "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..." It is my position that "no law" means exactly what it says. Either we have a right to free speech or we do not; there is no in between. Restrictions on speech only set precedents for further restrictions. Although some political speech may be objectionable to me or even to a majority of Americans, that is not sufficient reason for preventing it. Not only is the principal purpose of free speech under our democratic system to invite dispute and debate, it is absurd to claim that speech is protected while only pleasant or agreeable speech is truly allowed. While I am aware that few members of the Supreme Court have held such an absolutist position on the speech and press protections of the First Amendment for which I argue (notably Justices Blackmun and Douglas), the dangers in moving too far from such a position seriously threaten the essence of our Constitution and democratic form of government.

There are certainly numerous other issues concerning the protection of our civil liberties, and my treatment of these is certainly incomplete due to limited space and a lack of expertise in the field of Constitutional scholarship. Nevertheless, the issues outlined here are useful for discussion and debate because the present Court is undoubtedly intent on more narrowly defining our civil liberties. The extent to which that phenomenon is positive or negative is an important issue to be discussed openly by Americans whose rights are indeed the ones at stake.

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On Our Waning Liberties

By Oscar O'Flahertie

If one is to define liberty in its civil and social contexts, one must first analyze the genesis of the term. As a political term liberty was first recognized as a parallel to an innate right as a citizen to be safeguarded from abusive, tyrannical rule by either a monarchy or a class of plutocrats. It would be an assumed prerequisite that these liberties would be held intact by some sort of system of checks and balances, i.e. a magistrate body and/or a legislative body. The limitation of oppressive power on a ruling body is the primordial function of the term liberty.

John Stuart Mills, an English philosopher and political economist, constructed an axiom that defines the relationship between the ruling party and the ruled. In his Utilitarian philosophical position he states that after the initial limitation of oppressive power on the ruling class is accomplished several vital steps must occur to insure political stability in a nation. First, in "An Essay on Liberty" he states, by obtaining specific immunities, deemed political liberties or inalienable rights, which if the ruler infringes it should be considered a breach of duty. This breach of duty directly violates the "social contract" held between the ruling party and the ruled; the destruction of a social contract justifies the repudiation of a political system or another form of rebellion to ultimately stabilize the ruler/ruled equilibrium. A second vital element Mills describes, as previously mentioned, is a system of checks and balances implemented to represent the general will of the people. Mills warns us that these two premises are simply not enough to cope with modern political enterprises.

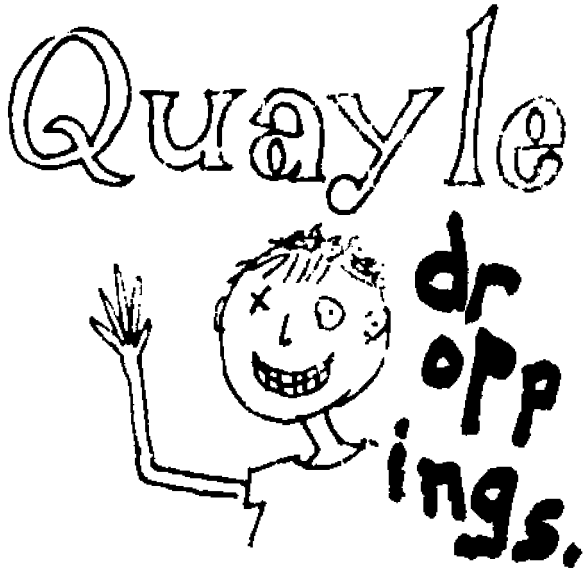
With the advent of a set of mutually agreed upon tenets of civil conduct along with a distinguishable checks and balances system, Mills forewarns that there exists another alternate tyrant. This tyrant is not portrayed as a figure-head ruler or even as an oligarchy of the privileged class; instead, this creature is "the tyranny of the majority."

What we are faced with today is this tyranny of the majority that sets standards in the moral, political, philosophical and social facets of man. Similar to other tyrannies, it operates chiefly and primarily under the tainted guise of public authority. Public authority is a decided term that reflects the common ideals of the active majority. The active majority is not always, and even seldom, a clear cross section of the general will of the people. The only combatance to this is through the persistent exercise of suffrage. It elevates quite a difficulty when society itself is viewed as the tyrant--society as a collective unit comprised of the individuals which compose it. Its means of tyrannizing are not singly restricted to the acts which it may do by the hands of political functionaries. A society does and can execute its own mandates: if wrong mandates are issued as opposed to right mandates, or issues mandates that concern issues that the government has little right to meddle, then it practices a social tyranny more abominable than any oppressive ruling party.

There exists a finite limit to the amount of legitimate interference of collective opinion (or standardization) with individual independence. The underlying problem exists in where to find the delicate equilibrium between social control and individual independence. My suggestion is that we evaluate social and political control reform in the terms of mandates that define there being a specific victim. Otherwise, the individual may not be punished due to committance of self-victimizing acts. The applications and ramifications of this political theory ranges from drug usage to euthanasia to seat-belt restraint to even mandatory curfews and quarantining of AIDS-infected individuals. This would put an end to the never-ending meddling of the ruling party into affairs that only bolster the role and responsibility of the government. The role and responsibility of the individual should be heightened in these matters. To coin a phrase the government that governs least governs best.

Liberty, in its social and political contexts, will soon be eroded if there is not a multi-fronted effort to combat ruling party encroachment in the issues where individual independence allows the best judgement.

Quayle Droppings



This is a sporadic column in our little magazine spotlighting the work of Vice-President J. Danforth Quayle. Please send any nice pictures, clippings, quotables, and so on to: Quayle Droppings c/o *The North Avenue Review*, p.o. box 50271.

My friends, we can and we will, never, never surrender to what is right. How's *that* for inspiration and leadership.

The final frontier, where no one has gone before: It seems the Veeper has been watching one too many episodes of *Lost in Space*. We are leaders of the world of the space program. We have been the leaders of the world of our... of the space program and we're not going to continue where we're going to go, not withstanding the Soviet Union's demise and collapse — the former Soviet Union — we now have independent republics which used to be called the Soviet Union. Space is the next frontier to be explored. And we're going to explore. Think of all the things we rely upon in space today: communications from... Japan, detection of potential ballistic missile attacks. Ballistic missiles are still here. Other nations do have ballistic missiles. How do you think we were able to detect some of the Scud missiles and things like that? Space, reconnaissance, weather, communications — you name it. We use space a lot today.

In case you forgot: America is great, because America is free.

In case he forgot: Sometimes cameras and television are good to people and sometimes they aren't. I don't know

if it's the way you say it, or how you look.

In case he forgot again: I just don't believe in the basic concept that someone should make their whole career in public service.

In October 1991, at the height of the recession, Danny saw the economy gaining health. If you listen to the news, read the news, you'd think we were still in a recession. Well, we're *not* in a recession. We've had growth; people need to know that. They need to be more upbeat, more positive.... Some conservatives are still claiming this, even in the face of massive nationwide layoffs. Sure, the economy *may* be growing, depending on one's definition of growth, but the number of jobs paying a decent salary are definitely shrinking. How else does one explain that, for the first time in a long while, Tech graduates cannot find jobs in their fields? Six weeks after the Veepee's cheerleading, he asked GM autoworkers in Southgate, Need any help? Two weeks after his kind offer, GM laid off 74,000 employees because of the recessed economy. But before that, Danforth criticized some of these exorbitant salaries paid to corporate executives unrelated to productivity... boards of directors ought to do a better job with that.

Out of the pinstripe, into the white hood: The message of David Duke is this, basically: Big government, anti-big government, get out of my pocketbook, cut my taxes, put welfare people back to work. That's a very popular message. The problem is the messenger. This reminds me of a hearty joke: What's the difference between a Nazi's public policy and a Republican's? Nothing. Well, maybe *something*: I do have a political agenda. It's to have as few regulations as possible.

compiled by Stephen Danyo

Mythunderstanding your

SELF

Willi from the Avon quoths "To thine own Self be true.". Which one Will? Which one will?

You live a lie everyday. Me too. Have you ever considered the value of sincerity? One constantly hears this person or that disgusted by the insincerity of it all. "Everyone is so fake," is the most repeated phrase of every angst ridden teen-ager who went to public high school with budding yuppies and socialites. And can we count the number of quiet, shy, normal, nice guys and nice women who are praised for being themselves, for sincerity? And has there ever been a more boring lot than nice sincere men and women? What is the Self? Sartre says the Self is dead, it is a concept that is martyred to justify any and every dysfunctional behavior exhibited by the human animal. Sartre has a lot to say about the Self, but I would need a phd to accurately convey it all. In place of those academic existential postulations, I will tell what I have learned from my short life lived in Myth and legend.

THE BARE FACTS

We are all actors performing a play. [That also belongs to Shakespeare.] I sometimes play the student, sometimes I play the athlete. When I can I play the lover, I am delighted to play the philosopher and never am put out to play the social character. But these are so few of the roles we have in our repertoire. I have my "being myself in the shower" character, my "coffee-drinking intellectual" character, my "relaxing and drinking liquor" character. With every new environment we have a new Self to play. Each Self has a different style, a

new set of ideals, a new set of thoughts, a different attitude. Some Selves are similar, and this is where we find the first roadblock that confuses us. It is this aspect of our career as a human actor that clouds our awareness of our thespianism. It does not follow that because {a} character 1 is almost identical to character 2 that {b} ch. 1 = ch. 2. Some people have characters that seem similar and behave in a like manner, but we cannot conclude from this that there is a core self that exists between the set of selves. Because each self is a complicated combination of the audience's perception of the actor, the actor's perception of the audience, the environment, what the actor ate for lunch, and how long it has been since the actor has last made love, it is unlikely that many selves are identical to any others. It's a lot like snowflakes and navels. In addition to this, the experience and process of learning permanently alter the physiological mechanisms in which we view the Self, (the human body). This alteration allows for the possibilities of a continually renewed set of Selves. And there is an infinite number of subsets of Selves to consider.

In the set of Selves as Me reading a book in my bedroom, there are the subsets: Me reading a text book, Me reading a novel, Me reading a newspaper, etc.. From out of these different sets, there is Me reading a romance novel, Me reading Victorian Literature, Me reading Nausea, Me reading Even Cowgirls Get the Blues, Me reading Joyce's Ulysses or Pynchon's Gravity's Rainbow, etc.. This hierarchic description of selves is by no means complete or accurate to relate the intricate sets of relationships existing between selves. We must also consider, Me feeling sad and Reading Tom Robbins, Me sad and Reading the lesbian sex scenes in the aforementioned

Robbins novel, or Me hungry and the same. Me sad and hungry and Reading the same. The possible combinations are virtually unlimited. Simply by taking into account the time, age, and environment factors of the Self it should become clear that this entity to which we attribute the title of Self can only be a continuous stream of individual consciousnesses. Thus, [perhaps this doesn't even follow logically (but i seem to believe it intuitively)] we cannot describe our "self" as it has been or as it is in the present but only what we intend it to be in the immediate future.

MYTH AND SINCERITY

If one can make the jump from the outdated values associated with "insincerity" and "sincerity" one can come to understand the Joy of Myth. Without sincerity, there can be no insincerity, and because there is no self, there is no sincerity. Without truth there is no lie, and because there is no sincerity, there is no objective truth about the non-existent "Self." We shall see how a conscious set of lies can be more truthful than a fact about one's "Self."

When you change your name to Finneas Flick, every one asks, "Is that your *real* name?" I can only answer, "yes it is my real name." My birthname chosen without my consent by some arbitrary authority can be no more real than a name I consciously chose to convey what I wished to convey about the Myth that is my intended "Self". When asked by someone where I came from, I can say truthfully "New Orleans" or whichever place that may convey more accurately the image I believe more aptly describes my Myth. When someone asks where your birthplace is, they want some data from which to make an evaluation about your Self. Who knows better than you

what will help them make that judgement, especially when you know your birthplace describes nothing about your Real Self, the Myth that is you. It seems the proper thing to want to get to know the real you. The you that is underneath your Social mask. But the myth you are, that you are living in one circumstance is as real as the myth that you are living when you are alone with the audience. While living in the city of dreams I lived amongst Myths. I may have been closer to these Myths than to any uninteresting sincere person I've ever met. Wait. Please try and resist the temptation to equate sincerity with good will and friendliness, you'll swallow this much more easily if you do. Each myth was full of good will and friendliness. Each myth had a story, a legend they had propagated. Each myth brought entertainment and excitement, fulfillment to each encounter. We were all much happier and contented by the process. But not every awareness of the myth of self has to lead to this extreme manifestation of its logical conclusion. We had taken the death of Self and rejoiced and bathed in the freedom we

had to create our identities, yet every one of us humans is involved in this to some extent. In my youth I scoffed at those concerned with an image. I soon fell in to that age old logic trap of the conforming non-conformist. The rebel whose will was controlled, ever directed in opposition to the norm. Why do we tattoo, ear-pierce, hair cut, leg shave, suit up? For an image. There is no big secret that we all have an image, a form, a style. In the human animal, in the consciousness, style is existence. We cannot exist without observers, in fact what we exist as somewhat depends upon how our observers perceive us to exist. Thus consciousness is no independent state, but a relationship between styles and the perception of these contrived styles. It is not a contrived image we dislike. It is not the contrived sounds that we "dis-appreciate. It is those images and sounds that appear contrived accidentally. In fact we hold in high regard the well contrived image, it is the poorly planned "self" identity that we mock. We cannot be disgusted by insincerity We are only angered when

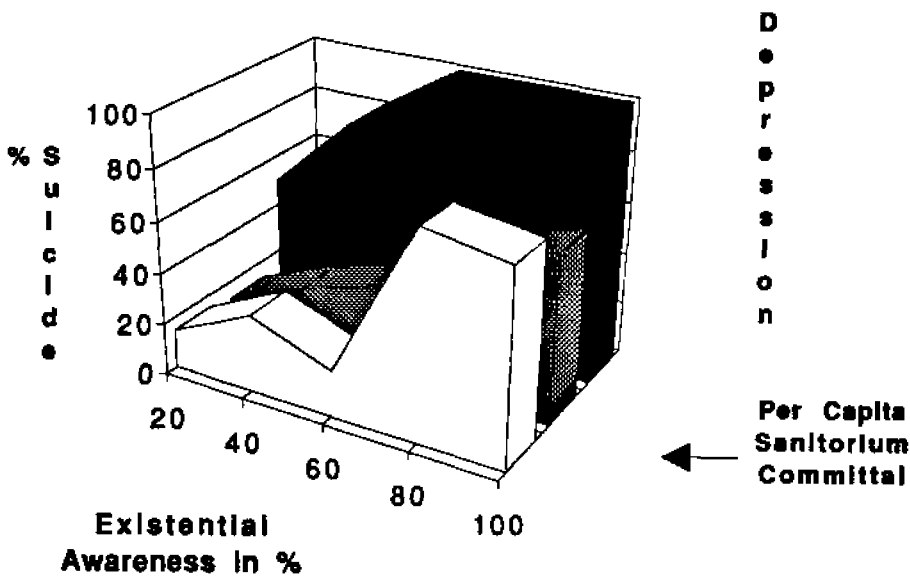
Milli Vanilli, or the prom queen at our party, (who whispered accidentally too loudly that her girlfriend's outfit was tacky,) unintentionally made us aware of the lack of a real Self. WE are afraid to let go of the construct of Self, this concept that seems to define our existence...almost as much as we are afraid of the Self itself.

The Subject of Love and the End

All life is a Subject-Object relationship and Sartre says this is why Love is doomed. (Because as a Subject we cannot become an Object for our lover and they as a Subject cannot do the same. Unable to reduce our lover to an Object, we are doomed knowing we are in limbo existing impossibly as Object and Subject) I think there are a hell of a lot better reasons to doom love, but Sartre uses this one so that's what I give you. Not myself but the awareness of the Myth. The truth is the most horrifying concept in the history of consciousness, so quit looking for it.

My apologies,
Finneas Flick

Here we can see the empirical evidence to support the author's subtle conclusions: The first column, percent suicide seems to show a sharp decline thru the second trimester of existential enlightenment, (presumably due to some temporary phase of Bad Faith). In addition it is worth noting that the commital rate has almost a linear correspondence to the awareness, yet % depression is an uphill climb that levels off only due to definitive statistical limitations. -ed



by
e. foster

a

WHAT EXACTLY IS "A BLACK THING?"
I really wish someone would tell me! I see people walking all over campus with this message on their shirts. And those "things" they have hanging around their necks...I hear they are even going so far as to have a black yearbook. What an outrage! Why don't the whites just decide to have their own yearbook. Boy, that would be progress for the blacks!

This is terrible! This rips to shreds everything that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died for. He died to integrate blacks into a so-called "white society." First of all, if it was truly a white society, and black people are gaining ground, then, as the old saying goes, "don't look a gift horse in the mouth."

You don't see white people wearing shirts that say, "It's a White Thing, You Wouldn't Understand." You don't see white people wearing the state of Mississippi or South Carolina around their necks. This is to say that if white people are doing what many accuse them of - discriminating - then at least they are not demonstrating it publicly.

I think the blacks have done much to gain their due recognition. But now the younger

"Black Thing"

generation (our age, 18-30) is digressing back into the 1950's or even the 1940's, by trying to re-segregate themselves from society. This is apparent by the "It's A Black Thing" T-shirts, and the African paraphernalia (necklaces, hats, etc.)

I hope that I have made at least one major point clear: every time the black people wear those things they cheapen the cause Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died for. **THINK ABOUT IT!!!**



Doing Something About It

President Jimmy Carter at
the Global Warming Conference

foreword by
Joseph M. Stallings

When basketball mega-star, cultural icon, and irrepressible role model Earvin "Magic" Johnson shocked the world with his declaration of having contracted the AIDS-causing HIV virus, it seemed improbable that amid the astonishment and sorrow surrounding Mr. Johnson's predicament, one could find something "good" emerging from this sad episode. But, indeed, something good has happened - AIDS and the HIV virus have been promoted to new levels of national awareness, and now with Mr. Johnson's courageous lead, people will perhaps get on with "doing something about" both the disease and, more importantly, the circumstances which preclude attaining the disease.

But let's not let our new determination and conviction towards fighting the AIDS virus stop with the AIDS virus, but rather continue on into other national problems that beg of commitment and resolve.

There are a host of other problems that desperately need both the recognition of and effort on behalf of the nation. One such issue is the safety and vitality of the environment; particularly, problems such as global warming and resource depletion. In cases such as these, the nation cannot stand still - the world cannot afford - to wait for a national shock (such as Mr. Johnson's startling announcement) before deciding upon action.

To facilitate a better understanding of the urgency of environmental issues, I would like to provide you with the following excerpts from a speech former President Jimmy Carter delivered at the Global Warming Conference (which was hosted by Georgia Tech's Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy) held here in Atlanta last summer. Many of those who participated in the conference, and particularly those who have been intimates of President Carter's over the years, agreed that this was one of his finest, most dramatic speeches in years; and, indeed, a reading of this speech will support that assertion conclusively.

President Carter's speech here demonstrates, among other things, the seriousness of global warming, the importance of energy conservation, and the problems of Third World debt - issues which have had a significant bearing upon the national health of the United States and other nations around the world, but have only recently been seriously recognized and considered by national officials.

Because of men like Jimmy Carter - who dedicate themselves to raising the consciousness and awareness of nations out of self-determination rather than political motivation - these issues have forced themselves upon national and international policy agendas.

Moreover, it is obvious that environmental issues, in particular, are of great personal concern to the former President. The following excerpts illuminate this fact insofar as they serve as a testament to President Carter's own moral conviction about these issues, his awareness of the sense of urgency of these issues, his steadfast devotion to the causes presented here, and his inimitable (and underestimated) leadership qualities, specifically as they relate to raising the national awareness. America, indeed the international community, is fortunate to have a visionary like President Carter in these times - times which, perhaps, are more uncertain and fateful than we may yet be aware of.

Joseph M. Stallings

Following is the address given by former President Jimmy Carter to the Global Warming Conference sponsored by Georgia Tech's Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy, held in Atlanta in June, 1991 (reprinted with permission from the Carter Center and the Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy at the Georgia Institute of Technology):

"Thank you. Well, first of all, let me respond personally to (Governor of Georgia) Zell Miller's introduction, which was very nice and is based upon a friendship that goes back 30 years. I'm sure you will recognize his analysis as totally objective and non-subjective. Zell was one of the few people that returned to the Georgia Senate in January of 1963, because we had totally reconstituted Georgia Senate based upon

the one person, one vote ruling, that changed the old political system in our State. Also, I'm very glad to be here as a guest of our Japanese friends. This has been a special relationship that I have enjoyed personally, and I'm going to refer in a few minutes to some of the experiences I had together with my friend from Japan, Prime Minister Ohira."

"I'm also glad to be with the Georgia Tech folks. I'm an alumnus of Georgia Tech. I have always been proud of Georgia Tech, even when the football team and the basketball team were not national stars. I relish in the glory that has come to Georgia Tech in recent years. Also, I'm one of the very few people - I don't know how many others, practically none - who has an Honorary Doctorate from Georgia Tech.

You might know that Georgia University System has a policy of not granting Honorary Doctorates, but when I was in the White House, they passed a special rule that if you were an alumnus of a Georgia University and became President of the United States, then you could get an honorary degree. So now you know why I ran for President of the United States."

"Today, I've been asked to talk about the international need for cooperation, and I try to think of a story - this is a true story - that illustrates a point I want to make. I just came back last week from fishing in Southern Pennsylvania, and I was sitting around the table one night eating supper with a friend who runs a sporting goods store. This is a true story. His first name is Dick. Dick said that a fellow came into his sporting goods store to buy a box of shotgun shells, and he was looking at the price on the shelves, and he said, I see you get three dollars and a-half on these shotgun shells. Dick said, that's right. He said, well, I come from the nearby town, from Tyrone, and over there the price is only two dollars and a-half, a dollar cheaper. Dick said, well, why didn't you buy 'em there, and the guy said, well, they're out. And Dick said, well, when we're out of shells, we only charge two dollars for them."

"Well, the point I'm making is, that we are facing a future when the ability to go from Tyrone to a nearby town and pay a higher price for what you want will be very significant. But there are many people on earth who cannot go to a distant place, and who cannot neatly improve the quality of life by expending additional funds from their riches. It's almost impossible for me as a lay person to put things into perspective about what is happening to our earth. We know that the earth was probably formed maybe 4.6 billion years ago, and that's hard to envision for me. But it is easier, and I'm speaking in rudimentary terms that you might have heard before, and I'm sure you have, just think about the earth being 46 years. Living creatures came along 13 years ago, and the dinosaurs disappeared last year in 1990. Human beings came into existence last month in May, and we invented agriculture this morning. And the industrial revolution came into being just in the last few minutes. In these recent relative seconds ticking by, we've changed the face of the globe. We've extinguished other species. We've wasted fossil fuels.

We fouled the air and the land and the seas and the atmosphere at an almost inexpressible rate of speed, with little regard for the future. Even when a few leaders...I'm sure like those assembled here can see what is happening, the basic approach is, 'I'll take care of myself, and

We rich people can survive dramatic changes

the people like me, and to hell with the poor and the disadvantages, the inarticulate, the non-influential, the distant, the defenseless.' And we even rob our own children and the descendants of our children. There is no way to separate in a modern world that we have created, which I have just described in somewhat dismal, but not exaggerated terms, the inner relationship among things like population growth, deforestation, land erosion, desert irrigation, starvation, the movement of people to urban areas away from their farms, even civil strife."

"You might be interested in knowing that at the beginning of this month, there were 30 major wars on earth. Wars within which more than a thousand people in each one has died on the battlefield. None of these wars, not a single one, is between two nations, and about them we know very little, or care very little. When I was inaugurated President, there were 7 million refugees on earth as reported by the United Nation's Commission for Refugees. Now there are more than 30 million refugees, many caused by the fact that they cannot survive where they live. We deal in the environment of a beautiful hotel with a great University, and with prominent leaders from Japan, from a sense of kind of casual interest, not life or death interest. We rich people can survive dramatic changes, in both quality of life and supply of energy and the prices thereof. But there are many people who cannot. In 1973, for instance, when the OPEC Oil Crisis first made us aware of a problem, the average Third World family - mother and children - spent two hours a day gathering firewood. A recent study shows, they spend 8 hours a day just gathering enough wood to cook their meals, or perhaps to heat their homes in a cold climate. And to know what happens in a family when the last tree about which you are aware is cut down, and the women from the adjacent villages are competing with you for that precious supply of wood when you cannot afford oil, is

almost unimaginable."

"We talk about Africa. The Carter Center has multiple programs in Africa. Every year for the last 20 years, the production of food grain in Africa has gone down per person, and this is kind of a statistical analysis until you realize, that for each average African today, they have 70 calories less than 20 years ago. It doesn't effect us personally. And we really have to stretch our own imagination and own breath of heart and soul to encompass those people. When I left office, there was a net transfer of 35 billion dollars

from the richest nation on earth to the poorest nations on earth. Last year, there was a net transfer of 40 billion dollars from the poorest people on earth to the richest people on earth. All ready destitute people being further robbed of their precious wealth to pay off debts...a major portion of which have been raised by the high price of oil caused by our squandering those supplies. Perhaps, unfortunately, I don't know, the collective responsibility for what happens in the future, rests with people like us who are really least concerned. Although there are a few examples of crossing this chasm that exists between the richest of all and the poorest of all, those cases are very rare. But they are not impossible. The Carter Center concentrates on this. I'm not here to talk about our Center, but I just came back recently from a visit to Arushia in Northern Tanzania, where we went out to examine what was happening there with our effort to increase grain production, maize in this case, among farmers who in the past had a tiny plot, an average of about two acres at the most, and who were lucky to get five or six bags of maize per plot. They were habitually now getting 25 bags of maize per plot. And in the process, instead of a slash-and-burn technology, where they went into a new area every year, circled the trees with an axe, let them stand, burned off the bushes, planted their corn about - with a pointed stick, they now plant in rows on a contour, and use enough fertilizer along with the right seed to maintain and even increase the quality of the fertility of the land. The Minister of Agriculture in Tanzania happens to be a woman. One point she made to me has stuck in my mind. She said, 'one action is better than a hundred conferences.' This conference is a fine idea - long overdue, but direct U.S. and Japan cooperation is not new. I think the reason it is not new - the fact that it is not new, is indicative of a long term need."

"I remember in 1979, we had an energy crisis. I left the United States to go

Fishtrap

COLLAGE
BY
STEVEN
LEFORT



At the hands of our skillfully-trained aestheticians, a European facial geared so precisely to you, with you'll be reminded with a memory of your knees to your feet with our

Gumby

preFace:

These articles were dictated to MISTER James Lake by their author, Gumby, who insists upon the validity of all recited events. Any similarities to persons living or dead is purely(?) coincidental. All rights reserved, no plagiarism, hands off, print anything from this book and your RNA structures will crumble like sand castles made in Death Valley. c Copyrighted 1991. 5.0 volume five: It's Better Than Bad It's Good

5.1 Game Over Man

"Any heterosexual, however low, is superior to any homosexual, however noble." - Quentin Crisp

Gumby model 103 threw open the door to Cameron's office, splintering the hinges. Cameron turned his chair around, the speaker-phone humming. "Hey, can it wait? I've got Punky Brewster on the line and she's upset." Cameron continued his conversation as Gumby model 103 raised his automatic, sighting in on Cameron's face. Cameron looked up from his papers, his shock letting Punky get the better of him on the phone.

Lake raised his pump 10 gauge shot gun, firing into the model 103's chest. The Gumby absorbed the impact, falling back somewhat. Lake fired again, flooring the machine. Cameron shouted, "we'll do lunch" quickly into the speakerphone as the Gumby fired wildly, hitting the telecommunications device. Lake fired again, the lead shot twisting the Kryptonite Killer into a owl shape. Cameron's

jaw slacked as he saw the clay reform itself around the metal endoskeleton to reconstitute Gumby's shape. "Get out of here man!" screamed Lake as he fired two quick rounds into the machine's head. Cameron scrambled out onto the ledge as the clay ripped off the metal skull beneath.

Lake jumped out onto the ledge, examining the pool several stories below. "We gotta jump. You go first while I hold it off," Cameron looked down and began shaking. "But that's..." Cameron said as he noticed the object in Lake's left hand. Cameron pointed at it like someone not familiar with gutting a wild animal. "Oh that. That's just my skull. Now jump!" Lake yelled as he pushed Cameron from the 32nd story. Lake turned and fired as three rapid shots impacted into his right shoulder, the force knocking the gun from his grip, and Lake back from the balcony.

Lake awoke vomiting recycled city water and blood next to the pool. Cameron looked down at him, the look of disgust not hidden. "Shit," said Lake as he leaned on the wet skull, the bone slippery under his palm. "What the hell is going on?" asked Cameron as he looked up at the skyscraper. "No time, we have to get out of here," Lake replied, struggling to his feet. Cameron helped Lake towards the street, the business people looking at the wet hobbling duo as politically correct people would examine the halls of the Pentagon.

Gumby model 103 strode through the double doors at the entrance, pushing the sheep aside. The Gumby quickly spotted Cameron and Lake, and immediately started firing. A woman caught a bullet and fell down, screaming. Lake quickened his pace and jumped into the back of an available cab. Cameron followed, the bullets shattering the glass of the taxi as it sped away from the curb, its operator used to Los

Angeles traffic. The Gumby model 103 shifted its appearance to that of a yuppie and stopped the next taxi.

5.2 The Candy Skull

"People say I'm heavy. They don't know what I hide." - Black Sabbath

"Tell me what that was and why you're carrying that fossil," Cameron demanded. Lake relaxed from looking out the back window and placed the skull on the seat between them. "That was a Cyberdyne Systems Model 103. A metal endoskeleton encased in a mimetic ceramic. It can imitate any object of equal volume." Lake looked down and pulled an empty clip from his pocket. Filling the clip with some spare bullets, Lake said, "It was sent from the future to kill you. The skull between us is my own. At least its in good hands." Cameron narrowed his eyes, trying to understand. "Why would it want to kill me? What did I do?" Lake replied, "You haven't done anything yet. But you will." Lake explained about how the defense network computer, SKYNET, plans to ensure its existence as more than a mere film by invading reality from the video cassettes. Cameron leaned back, the sweat stinging the small wounds from the recently exploded rear window. "But if I'm dead, and the film is never made, how will they come out of the video cassettes?" Lake thought about this and said to the cabby, "Can I buy your pistol?"

The cabby said, "Sure, sounds like you guys need it more than me. It's gonna cost you double though." Lake nodded and accepted the weapon, inspecting it. Cameron again noticed the skull and said, "what did you mean by this being your skull? That doesn't make any sense." Lake sat up and said, "I found this in an archeological dig. I examined the

teeth and recognized the dental work. Except for this one filling which hasn't been put in yet," said Lake as he pointed to a small silver spot on a tooth in the skull, then to the same healthy spot in his own mouth. "I couldn't find the rest of my bones though. Beats me where they ended up." Cameron asked, "but how did it end up in the past?" Lake stared at the skull for a moment, replying, "I get around."

The loaded pistol in his lap, Lake leaned against the side window, inspecting the still bleeding shoulder. "You're losing a lot of blood. Maybe we should go to a hospital or something," Cameron said as he looked at the growing stain on the ancient seat. The cabby shifted his eyes to examine the mess Lake's blood was making in the back seat, his dull narrow eyes examined his leaking passenger. The cab leaped to a stop, the cabby flying through the windshield.

Lake and Cameron flipped into the rapidly shrinking front seat, the semi-truck continuing to roll over them. Cameron screamed as Lake began firing the semi-automatic pistol right next to his ears, the sound almost inaudible next to the revving diesel engine. "Get out!" Lake screamed as he pushed Cameron off the now backwards rolling taxi. Lake didn't recognize the face behind the large steering wheel, knowing that the CSM 103 must have changed again. Lake steadied himself in the twisted metal wreck, turning to look at what lay ahead. It was the 5:05 Benzene Train straight out of DuPont (We're Beatrice).

5.3 The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. G

"Happy. Happy. Joy. Joy." - Crocostimpy

I looked around the group, realizing that I had overestimated

their collective sense of humor. "No, don't kill him. He may be useful to us," one of them said. Their leader looked at the soldier, examining the possibility that he may have been brainwashed by SKYNET. "Yeh. I can help. Sure I can." I nervously offered in my own defense, looking about me. Their leader leaned into my sweating face and said, "You are going to help us."

"Is this thing still set for the same position as when that 103 left?" he asked. One of his men nodded and said, "It is, but the coordinates have changed due to the Universal Expansion over the past few minutes. We'd have to compensate for that and reset them." The leader shouted at him, "And do YOU know how to do that?" The man stared back, the blank expression on his face a simple answer to read. "Alright, it's decided then. You go." He was looking at me, the gun adding exclamation points to his eloquent phrasing.

I looked into the black tower of energy, realizing that what the other guy had said was right. Stepping into that meant instant death, or worse. "No way." I replied. The leader fired his weapon, the bullet entering my right side. I screamed as I fell to my knees, the broken up clay pouring out the wound. "BAS-TARD!" He walked up to me and said, "We don't have any medical facilities to spare. Your only chance is through that," pointing at the black nothingness. The obscenities rolled off my lips like loose parts off a GM product as they picked me up. They swung me back and forth like a child at a birthday party, letting go at the count of three. My leaking green form arced through the air, heading straight for the dimensional crevice.

My molecular structure expanded around my flying consciousness, the stomach bile already in the space around me before I vomit. The chunks floating through

me as I try to scream in the void, my cries silencing me before I can begin. With bowel-lightning velocity the void was replaced by the harsh light of reality and I impacted the street, face down. Groaning, I peeled myself out of my crater, my cement-cracked eyes looking back at the curious pedestrians. One small girl ran up to me asking, "Gosh Mr. G, are you ok?" My yellow eyebrows focused my attention on her, replying, "Got any money?"

As the scolding mother led her emotionally disheveled child away, I stood up. I looked at the gold plaque on the building entrance, reading its contents for some mild distraction. It read: "Unification Church World Headquarters, Rev. Syung Yun Moon CEO."

5.4 Pyramid Scheme

"Charity is guilt insurance" - Hour Of Slack #155

Cameron turned over, the pain in his arm driving him to scream. He looked down at the obviously broken limb, huddling up against a parked car. A man with a friendly smile leaned over him, inquiring as to his health. "My arm, I think its..." croaked Cameron as he gestured with his remaining limb. The man helped him to his feet, offering a ride to his nearby medical facilities. "You work in a hospital?" queried Cameron. "A hospital of sorts, we repair many things with people." Cameron examined the nice vehicle interior, letting the man shut his door for him. "What's your name?" Cameron asked. "I am Ryoichi Sasakawa. And you are?"

Cameron responded in kind and watched the glass lemming cages swirl by. "You speak english pretty well, where're you from?" Cameron asked. Sasakawa pulled the car into an underground parking garage and

answered, "I am from Japan, where I invest in businesses." Cameron mused upon this and said, "Here's a joke for you: what's a Geo Metro with air bags?" Sasakawa shrugged. "An open casket funeral!" Both men laughed as the car pulled into the reserved parking space.

I walked passed the asian receptionists, deciding the most interesting events of any corporation occurred at the top. I joined the crowd in the elevator, waiting for the vertically ascending cube to empty. As the last stepped off the elevator, I pressed the top floor button. The doors opened and an oriental woman bowed and greeted me with a rose. The man behind her with his hand in his jacket stared at me. "Welcome to our church. What time is your appointment honorable sir?" she asked. My eyes rotated about the open air office, noticing the giant skylight directly above Moon's circular desk. I replied, "I have no appointment, the good Reverend requested my presence at his 1:30 meeting." The woman bowed again and motioned for me to continue towards the man behind her. He holstered his weapon and tried to check me for concealed weapons. He was unsure of my clay body, assuming that since he couldn't see any weapons, I was unarmed. He waved me on.

As I walked up to the giant desk, I recognized Rev. Moon's guests. It was the Borgheads: G' and J', along with Ray Luca. "BAS-TARDS!" I screamed as I jumped them from behind. The Borgheads electromagnetic divergence shields popped up immediately, bouncing Gumby off them like a Pinball hitting a 5,000 point bonus. I landed on the desk, my wound opening up as I impacted, green clay shooting out like Palmolive dish detergent at high pressure. "So, who're going to be working together afterall Gumby,"

said Ray Luca as he smiled. I looked up through the skylight, the knowledge that Lake was worse off than I the only chocolate covered raisin in my bowl of bloodworms.

5.5 Warbling On Speed

"Subgenius Carnal Sin #140: Gumby Writing"- Hour Of Slack #158

Ryoichi Sasakawa led Cameron through the corridors, explaining how his organization helped people in his situation at no cost. Cameron explained that money was not a problem, and Sasakawa agreed. A door opened and an asian woman asked, "Mr. Cameron, how did you hurt your arm?" Cameron started to explain, then stopped asking "How did you know who I am?" The woman smiled as Sasakawa asked for 300 mg. of Rogaine with Minoxidil to be injected into Cameron. Cameron tried to resist but the Koreans easily overpowered his injured body. "What are you doing?" he pleaded before losing consciousness. Sasakawa smiled and approached a wall communications point. After entering the appropriate codes, he spoke into the microphone, "We have him."

I listened to this short message over Moon's speaker phone, curious as to what other conspiracies this yellow peril was brewing. Moon leaned back in his chair, "So, you wish a position within the Unification Church. A wise decision. We can use a television personality like yourself." I leaned up, stating the first thing on my mind: "How much do I get?" Moon and Luca laughed, the Borgheads merely absorbing the data. "Why that is entirely up to you, and how capable you are." My anger returned. This ex-con was questioning my capabilities? Moon saw the hate filling my face and spoke before I could start into a quality rant.

"Don't misunderstand me, but understand we are aware of your troubled past. A twice-failed television series. Bungled investments. Questionable societal associations." Moon open his arms, and said, "But all that's in the past, and we are building for the future. Mr. Luca and his associates and I were just discussing an expansion of our operations on a multi-dimensional scale. We could use a man of your capabilities."

Luca spoke up and said, "You can join our organization and become an equal partner. (At this point the Borgheads instruments determined Luca was lying, but they decided this was acceptable.) So what do you say? You can be in charge of researching new sources of income for us in this reality or the other ones, plus a commission." I looked at Luca and asked him, "But what about Anthony Denison?" Luca laughed and said, "He must be a really great guy!" laughing together with Rev. Moon. I thought it over for a moment and said, "Ok, where do I start."

Lake continued firing into the mechanical driver of the semi, hoping to accomplish something. The mimetic clay disformed under the impact of the bullets, temporarily blinding the CSM 103. Lake jumped from the broken cab as the truck completely crushed it, continuing its course into the moving railroad train. Lake's momentum rolled his bleeding body, the explosion from the derailing train burning his clothes. Lake tried to stand as the rolling death continued to explode one car at a time, like firecrackers on a schedule. The black smoke and flames robbed the atmosphere of its oxygen, replacing it with plentiful amounts of carcinogens. Lake fell to his knees, shaking from the attack on his nervous system.

to be continued...

To Whom it May Concern

by goggi

'Don't know where to start. from eh end or from the beginning. It is the end isn't it?! I wish the end hadn't come so soon, but then I'm glad it's ending; because it never did start. The hope of it ever starting was killing me. The reality of it never having a chance to start has killed me. I am hopeful out of life- has cheated me out of my life.

I was just sitting here, thinking about you. This is what I do for a living you know! This job of mine killed me before my time.

I wish so much that my wish had come true. Sometimes God behaves so stubbornly you know! He just doesn't want to give in - wants to show his authority - wants to tell you that he is the God. My wishes have no value compared to his authority. He does what he well pleases to my fate.

I was just sitting here, making up wishes about you. This is what I do for a living you know! This wish of mine killed me before my time.

Does this all have a point? Yes! It does. Maybe you'll read this some day and feel sorry for me. That will be the happiest day of my dead life, you of all the people will feel SOMETHING for me. There I go again- dreaming of the unwishable. Hoping the hopeless.

I was just sitting here, raising my hopes about you. This is what I do for a living you know! This hope of mine killed me before my time.

Have you ever experienced the pain of your pride? Here I am blaming God for not making my wish come true. Maybe the person to be blamed is me. Maybe the person to be blamed is you. Why can't I blame you? If I could not make my wish come true because of my pride, why didn't you try? Oh! I forgot that you don't care about me. Sometimes I just get carried away and imagine the unimaginable. Think the unthinkable. Wish the unwishable. Hope the hopeless. See! I dream about it so much that I forget it is not real. I wish I could just go and live in hell like the living. I don't know! But I should be able to tell pretty soon.

I was just sitting here, dreaming about you. This is what I do for a living you know! These dreams of mine killed me before my time.

I closed my eyes to visualize you sitting next to me. I can smell your presence in the air around me. Is it the wind blowing or did you say something to me? Is it the rain drops falling or is it you walking right next to me? Is it the scent of flowers or is it you telling me that you can't live without me? I know that you are not around me, but my silly heart deeps on saying-it's you-it's you, who is around me.

I was just sitting here, visualizing you. This is what I do for a living you know! This imagination of mine killed me before my time.

Maybe God did grant me my wish. Maybe you live inside of me. The sad thing is I still can't change the

material nature of my existence. Why do I long for your physical presence? Why can't I be satisfied with you living with me in my shadow, following me where ever I go, being next to me where ever I am. Why do you have to use words to tell me that you care! Why can't I read it in your thoughts! Do you think about me in your thoughts? If you do, that would make my life worth dying for. Should I trust you, when you say you think about me! If you are telling the truth, then why doesn't it reflect in the brightness of your eyes.

I was just sitting here, thinking about your lies. This is what I do for a living you know! This job of mine killed me before my time.

Too bad dead people can't wish.



sex life

well my heart
can't get it up
but my soul
has a prep-school
hard on

and after Trazadone
my brain
is in post-ejaculation
coma

by Ashley Raiteri

photo by F. Flick

Tuned to the local Charlie Parker radio station
i smoked a cigarette she delicately rolled while i made lemonade.
a ping in my back from the battered armchair
and a spider scurries up his thin line
in flight from the green pepper snow pea bean sprout mist
exploding above her gentle hands

Three strangers I'm giving shelter to
on their sojourn from the oil state to hell knows.
they sit in the only other room; my tarpaper house.
I built a sturdy rail for the porch to sit on.

My friend says I am lemonade, my brother is Diet Coke and he is iced tea
from heart to loins.

Sipping my lemonade from tongue to loins I think about her hands.
The same ones that just handed me my cancer, the ones that
last night gave me my seven seconds of teeth clenched bliss
while they laughed and giggled about the road trip phrases they'd coined
and the cleansing sunset we'd watched from the covered bridge
at the empty river state park.

Hands stirring the water chestnuts and opening the wine

my tarpaper house

Two years later I'm staring thru the chessboard;
simultaneously thinking about her hands, cancer, and my dead cat.

by Finneas Flick

photo by K.G.

i have a new navel

When i fell from my tree
She was like the womb
And when the womb cried out against me
she touched me, leaving, leaping for life.

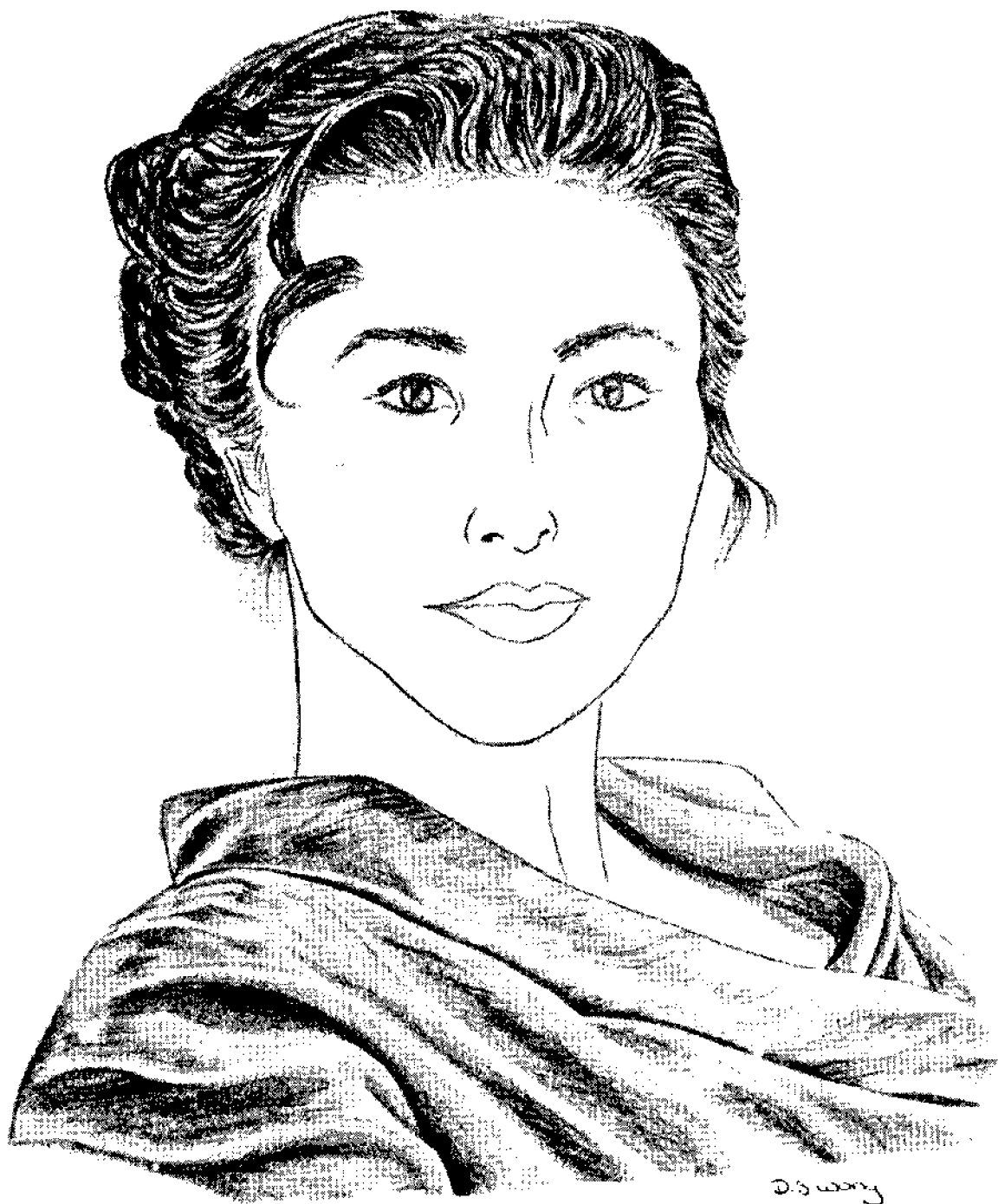
Did i fall and become abandoned
or might i have jumped?
and abandoned my heart for the sake
of what i thought my mind,
heartless could take?

by A. Lowe Raiteri





S. DAND



from Tokyo to Washington to do things, and maybe at the Economic Summit Conference that will be held later on this month and annually, we can encourage that, but that's not going to happen. This conference will produce an opportunity to go, if taken, to let academic leaders and scientists in both countries, private foundations, particularly in this country, corporate leaders, representatives of leading environmental organizations, including experts like Gus Speth and Amory and Hunter Lovins, who can show us as Amory has done or will do at this conference - how you can correct these environmental tragedies and still not let it cost anything. It may even be a profitable effort. What can be done? I'm not going down the long agenda, because you can probably list 50 things that might be done. But let me just give you a few thoughts in closing."

"I think a permanent task force ought to be established and well-financed. Not to duplicate what others are doing, but to take well founded recommendations, for instance from the United Nations, a group headed by Prime Minister Grobruntlan from Norway, and say, not somebody *else* ought to do this, but how can this be accomplished. This is not an impossible thing. Prime Minister Ohira, if you will permit me to refer to him again, set up a group of wise men: six people - three from Japan, three from the United States - who in a very private way would meet and talk about potential conflicts or problems between our two countries. And very effectively, but quietly, they would give me and Ohira the same recommendations. We never had an altercation between Washington and Japan, because we dealt with them effectively. That can be done. Perhaps a more pertinent example is one that we use at the Carter Center habitually. I'll just give you one example. We have a task force on Child Survival there, which brought together disparate groups, who in the past would not talk to each other. Sometimes they were antagonistic. I'm talking about good people. UNISEP, the World Health

Organization, others, and under NOW, a task force that we run from the Carter Center, they have, for the last six years almost, been going into countries an immunizing children against various diseases. Six years ago, only 20 percent of the children in the Third World were immunized against polio, measles, diphtheria, typhoid and so forth. Now, 80 percent are immunized. It shows what can be done if people do work in harmony. I think we need a professional education program, put together with very smart people who can deal directly with the public and let them know the facts about environmental considerations - convince the public and let them convince reluctant political leaders. But that ought to be done on a sustained basis."

"As a personal suggestion, I tried to read in preparing for this talk, which you may not recognize in my talk, some of the papers that were presented. Although I went to Georgia Tech, I had a hard time understanding or comparing these terms that are used. Let me just read a few of them, because I can't remember them all. Exojoules, Gigawatts, Petajoules, Terawatts, plus millions and billions and trillions of tons of barrels and cubic meters and kilometers and things like that. How can you compare one to the other and say, 'what are we doing? How much oil do we have? How much coal do we have? How much natural gas do we have? How much are we using every year?' Several decades ago, my boss, my previous boss, Admiral Rickover - I worked for him in a nuclear program - wrote a dissertation in his inimitable style, and he ran across this problem with physical semantics, and so he decided to measure all energy products,

War' - which I tried to use to tell the American people we had to do something about energy. But I read last night, for instance, that we have in existing times - I used my old Georgia Tech slide rule by the way - 4 million petajoules in energy in proven oil reserves. I changed it to Rickover's cubic miles. We've got 18.3 cubic miles of known oil. I can even envision that. Plains, Georgia, where I live, is a square mile, and I can imagine oil a mile deep. 18.3 of those that we know of in the world. We're using one cubic mile of oil every 21 months, now, at present rate of consumption. We've got twice as much natural gas. We're using it half as fast, so it will last twice as long. We've got seven times as much coal, no, we've got five times as much coal, but it will last seven times as long. But you can say, this is way that you can at least compare notes. Maybe you physicists can think of a simpler way, but if you do, I want you to make it so a peanut farmer can understand it."

"Another thing that I think we need to do is to have a international analysis of the future, similar to our Global 2000, but done on a multi-national basis. I hope Dr. Frank Press is going to be here. I saw that he was on the presentation list. He is the President of the National Academy of Sciences. I think that here in the United States, it might be done. But, we need to take a look on a rolling basis, 15, 20 years in the future. Just, obviously, estimates, but using the information we have available and maybe bring it up-to-date every four years. Not to let it be a secret document to be used for businesses for their own profit at the expense of others, but to let it be public information. That needs to be done. Another thing I would like to recommend is that we form a partnership with Third World leaders. This is something that we don't do, and I'm not talking about little tiny, insignificant countries, if there are any. I'm talking about countries like Brazil, Nigeria, Turkey, Indonesia. We should bring into forums like this, those leaders, and they can explain to us the unique perspective of problems in Africa or the Mideast

area, or in Latin America with rain forests, or in Indonesia. That needs to be done. It has not yet been done. I have a special recommendation for this group, and this is

"I'm not here to criticize President Bush. He does many wonderful things. I just happen to disagree on the thing about peace. ..."

major energy products, and compare it with oil - measured in miles - cubic nautical miles. He is also the one who introduced me to the phrase, 'The Moral Equivalent of

to an Economic Summit Conference in Tokyo. There were lines - automobile lines - in front of the service stations. I was almost stoned as I went through places where people couldn't get gasoline. The Europeans had met early and decided that they would not address energy consumption independently - nation by nation - but only as a European theater all together, because they were counting on the North Sea increases to balance the increase of their own consumption. But Prime Minister Ohira and I decided to meet two days early, and we put into our own agenda, with the



set individual, national challenges or goals to be met in reducing the amount of energy we consumed, and also reducing the percentage of our own energy that we imported. At that time, we were importing more than 40 percent to the United States. That later went down by 1985, which was our target date, to 30 percent. I hate to say now, it is approaching 50 percent, 40 percent already, and some people say that by the end of this century, we will be importing 75 percent of the oil that we consume in the United States. We can afford it. We can pay for it. But, what I'd like to point out is the impact that this has on the *global* situation, among people who cannot afford it, and whose lives are already destitute, but usually unaddressed."

"We also pledged to cooperate among nations on science and technology, not limited exclusively to energy production. That goal has not been met. There is very little cooperation, as you know. We are now, for instance, in the process of designing a massive particle accelerator - so are the Japanese, so are the Europeans. It is going to cost us, at present levels of

budgeting, over 8 billion dollars to build this enormous facility in Texas. I don't deny that it is needed for basic research, but the point is that there is no cooperation in trying to share the scientific effort, where the results of a scientific experiment will be shared after it is concluded. We worked on the Global 2000 Report, which at that time was innovative. We spent three years with 13 major departments in the U.S. government trying to project, at that time, in 1978, '79, and '80, what is the world going to be like in the year 2000, and we called it Global 2000. It was not a dismal picture. It was a disturbing picture, a challenging picture, one that aroused, I think, optimism and excitement. But when I left office, it was denigrated, it was condemned, it was derogated as an unwarranted intrusion by the Federal Government and the private affairs of business and personal life. It was not only thrown in the trash basket, it was condemned. And we haven't done anything since as a nation to take a long-term, balanced, comprehensive view of the future world. Our most recent energy proposal have really ignored things like automobile efficiency. In

fact, the standards that we set when I was President, have been slowly, but surely, frittered away under pressure from troubled American automobile manufacturers. Our average fleet efficiency in the United States is now 16 miles per gallon for a car. In Japan, it is 31 miles per gallon. If we could just raise the American average up to the world average, we could cut down total oil consumption on earth by 5 percent - a tremendous opportunity. On the contrary, our basic approach in energy now is, 'let's go in and explore for oil and produce oil in the very precious, pristine and environmental treasure of the Alaska wildlife area.' But we can add just a few percentage points of increased oil production for a few years to delay our taking those tough decisions that will result in better efficiency."

"Now just 12 years later, after the 1979 meeting, we've got new words in our vocabulary that we didn't ever talk about then in Tokyo; global warming, ozone depletion, acid precipitation. A few scientists knew about those things then, but we didn't talk about them as Presidents;

now, everybody is talking about them. We'd never heard about things like Chernobyl, or Dupont, or the Exxon Valdez, and we had never witnessed the aftermath of a modern regional war, and seen the Persian Gulf covered with an oil slick, or with 500 oil well fires still burning in an irrepressible fashion. In international councils, the United States is generally considered to be recalcitrant in dealing with family planning, because it has some abortion connotations, so we cut off our funds to the WHO, the World Health Organization, which is basically responsible for dealing with AIDS on earth. We generally want to hold out against doing something precipitously and dynamic and bold and adventurous in dealing with acid rain or CFC's to restrict ozone depletion, or global warming. We're the ones that say, let's wait, let's do some more studies, let's cut it by half, instead of doing something in total. In 1979 and still, not only the United States, but Japan is looked upon with condemnation from many people on earth - looked upon as being guilty of over-harvesting forests and not adequately replanting the trees they cut, or being too greedy when they catch fish and whales - things of that kind. Our images are not good. I think that one thing that can come out of this kind of conference is a legitimate and well deserved improvement in our image, not a false face that we put upon people who still despoil environment, but want to claim that we're doing something about it when we're not. Both our nations need to have a bold approach to do the things that we all know should be done."

"What can be done as a result of this conference to utilize these superb presentations that are being made? This is a very choice group, and you will hear over a period of a couple of days the most advanced thinkers on what are the practical approaches to some of the devastating consequences I've described. It is obvious that both governments should re-open the agreement on reducing CFC's, not just cut it by half at the end of this century, but totally eliminate them - the chlorofluorocarbons - by the end of this century. We know that the ozone depletion is worse than it was when the conference encountered to set that very modest example. But I can tell you, I believe that after today, it is not going to be out of this conference a partnership formed between the government of Japan and its leaders on the one hand, and the government of the United States on the other. That's not going to happen. It is absolutely not going to happen. We can encourage each other

the last thing I'll say. I think that we should undertake, and I say we, not you, a specific project, and I would recommend silvaculture forests. Some of you are already working on that, I know. But we have not scratched the surface. I tell you it has to be done on an international basis to protect the rain forests and others that are still there, and to replant areas that have been deluded of trees. The FAO, in a recent report, said that of every ten trees cut down in the developing nations, only one is replanted. Of every 30 trees cut down in Africa, only one is replanted. This would challenge the scientific community, because you need improved trees. I know in Brazil you can grow eucalyptus trees very well. But there are trees that put nutrients in the ground, and who's leaves can be used to feed animals, and you can break off the limbs for firewood and you don't kill the tree, and it stabilizes erosion, and I tell you, that most of the Third World leaders with whom I deal on a daily basis, have no concept of forestry. They don't know what they've got in their woods, and they don't know that they can or should replant trees. That, I think, would be a very good, specific project for this group to adopt."

"If this is like most other conferences on environmental issues or energy conservation, there will be no tangible results. You will not accomplish a thing, except to produce a relatively predictable list of recommendations that will be launched into space very attractively with maybe some photographs of prominent participants, hoping that somewhere, sometime, somebody is going to read this beautiful report, and actually do something. I read them every day, and so do you. Why can't we be different, *this* group - the ones at *this* conference. The world cries out for action, not just for words, and I sincerely hope that with this conference, the result will be different. Thank you very much."

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"I THINK IF I WOULD ANNOUNCE FOR PRESIDENT, I would immediately be unpopular again. In my judgment, which is, obviously, totally subjective as all judgments would have to be, the American people have a deep and broad moral streak in their character. They like to be inspired to things like freedom, democracy, human rights, peace, and so forth. At the same time, we see an aftermath of the Gulf War, an almost worshipping of successful war. I was against the war, I have to admit in this crowd. 200,000 innocent people have died - on TV the other night, on NBC, Ted Koppel said that 170,000 Iraqi children were going to die, because we are sustaining the embargo that would let medicines and proper food supplies, and let them repair their fresh water systems and sewage systems. You know, where is the moral value in that? But I think if the President would say, we've won the war, Saddam Hussein is there, it's our moral responsibility to protect the lives of these little kids - overnight, the American people would be supportive. Sometimes you can depend on that, sometimes you can't."

"I'm not here to criticize President Bush. He does many wonderful things. I just happen to disagree on the thing about peace. But I believe that if Americans could see that the energy crisis, including deforestation and even global warming in *moral* terms, we have a responsibility as leaders to share our wealth, to

share our technologies, to share our knowledge with others, and in the process, put in some selfish deals, we'll benefit ourselves if the people in Benin have a better life; or if Zamalia can have peace. There is nothing wrong with that. But where does it come from? And I would guess, unless this group is able and willing to do it with adequate financing, it is very unlikely to be done. You see, the leadership on environmental quality comes from Scandinavia, not from Tokyo, not from Washington, except in this enormously important initiative that has now been taken by Japan. But I just hope that we don't waste this unique, almost unique, certainly rare, commitment. And if we just come out with a list of 50 recommendations, we ought to do away with CFC's, we ought to cut down on CO2 emissions, we ought to do something about sulfur dioxide - if that's all we're going to do, that's a total waste of time. The thing is, it is not what other people can do, what should other people do - it is, what can we do together. But the inspiration of a public in Japan and in the United States is very important, and I don't see the governments doing that. It wouldn't take many - just a few million dollars, or a few hundred thousand dollars, to provide some outstanding short spots to go on TV primarily, that would present the moral or responsible position on environmental issues. I don't think it would be a detrimental thing. I would have no aversion to seeing it sponsored by polluters. I don't object to that. I'd rather it be done otherwise, but I just hope this conference doesn't come out with a beautiful leather-bound list of recommendations, and then say, we hope somebody else is going to be inspired to do something...that would really be disappointing to me, and I would feel like I wasted my time coming over here. But I tell you, that is the likelihood - unless there is within this group, a core of people who say, we are not going to recommend what other people are doing, we are going to be responsible for seeing that this be done. I have thought about it a lot."

"I think *doing something about it* - if you don't do anything except forestry - maybe you've got a better idea. That's my suggestion. Come to us at the Carter Center. We'll help put together an international task force, we'll do the work - anybody - you could get other people to do it. I'm not asking for a job, but the point is, let the world see for the first time, here is Japan and United States working in partnership to do something good about the global environment. I think it would be a tremendous inspiration to others in Europe and so forth to do a similar thing, and I think it would rise a great deal of common interest and trust, and confidence and partnership among nations that don't know anything about what we're talking about today. Thank you all, very much."

This article was compiled in December of 1991

by Joseph Stallings

# Confessions of a Hypocrite

part III

by A. Lowe Raiteri

## Caution:

reader must yield right of way

When i can see my sanity coming apart at the seams, I write.

When i am wound and glued together so tightly every thought is a super-collider experiment, I can't even write my goddamn name.

Today I am heading in the direction of the former.

### First Issue: weakness

i can remember a day when i was hoping to get arrested for protesting a war, a video game i had seen on cable television. I remember the scorn I had for drunken "scene-sters" who would scorn drunken "dope-fiend" intellectuals. Overnight I went from waking up next to a piece of meat I had dehumanized and objectified...to celebrating the rising dawn with feminist values and mother big love for the woman who shared my bed. Meat was way out; literally. I purged. I wanted so badly to atone for having been born a white middle class male. I had a sharp finger cutting myself and every Tom, Dick and Liz I pointed at. I ate a mountain of LSD, talked to God, and shaved every hair off my body. Behind me I left a trail of non-intellectuals, every one shaking their fists at me trying to put a band-aid on the fresh tattoo my finger had sliced. Every one. The racist. The sexist. The TV addict. The alcoholic. The insincere. Beside me I dragged a porcelain doll through the mud and cloudy puddles of intellectual growth and open honest communication. We were so happy, and every night before sleep, I licked the mud from the bottom of that doll, leaving sparkling the plaster cast engraving: "MADE IN THE ORIENT"

Weakness is human. Humanity is being humane to the weak. Not just the poverty-stricken, or the retarded or the mentally ill. The weak. Inherently everyone. That includes every yuppie ad executive who votes George Bush back in power because he wakes up in a sweat every night thinking the government auctioned off his car phone to feed a family of twelve. That includes every friend you have that can never commit to dinner because she's terrified she'll miss the party of the century while she chokes on the vegetarian hamburger you cooked while listening to Miles Davis in the kitchen. That includes every asshole who can't distinguish between Red China and communist rebels in Nicaragua. It covers all my friends who talk about car stereos or beer, the Atlanta Braves, and the new Nirvana EP because they are petrified of telling you what keeps them from sleep at night. Every 19 year old who gets married, every 40 year old who has an affair, it includes me. I'm sure as a touchdown referee in an antiperspirant commercial that it includes you.

How people deal with their pain is how they keep from strangling their children, friends, and selves. Nobody ever said you have to like hanging out with anyone. But hear this you budding intellectual philosophers; don't go around saying you hate the dumb masses, or the pop-culture freaks, because if anyone hears you, they will hate you back. And I don't think you're ready to be hated by 4 billion people. It can be lonely as hell and you'll end up hating the other cool people (whom you can count on one hand) because they didn't warn you.

### Issue Two: love for the rational we

I don't know what Love is, Tina once called it a second hand emotion. What the hell does that get us? I once told this man I loved him and then i said:

"Love is a word to describe this undescribable emotion we feel that goes way beyond 'like' and gives us physical evidence ('butterflies, increased neurological activity, adrenaline rush, tightened throat muscles, thick tongue, etc.') of its presence. But it's dissimilar to the extreme platonic feeling we call brotherly or human love. It is NOT an entity. Nor can it be preceded in a sentence by words such as 'true', 'real', or 'puppy'. Love is not. It is an abstract. People change and their interaction can only sometimes be described as Love. No one can love another forever by choice, only by accident or coincidence and regrettably by reflex."

When my neuroses proved too much for him to bear, he left me his eyes full of tears saying, "Well this blurry eyed boy still believes love last forever." I wish I could have taken the computer out of my asshole and just said, "I'll always love you."

### Conclusion: common decency

What this all gives me is a hangover. Lately i spend my time pouring alcohol down my throat so that my brain gets too confused to be logical and my heart is too giddy to feel pain.

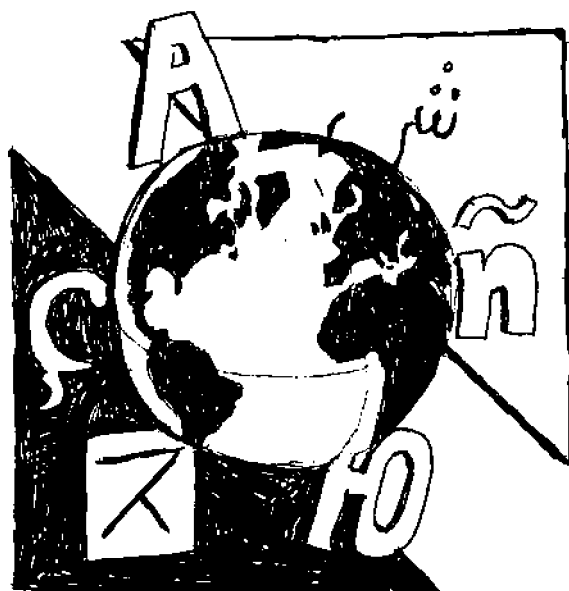
Common Decency. It's not even as common as common sense. Just relax. Let the African American student next to you in the Malcom X tee-shirt he bought at Macy's tell you that the Zulus were the first peoples to have manned a spacecraft to the moon. Maybe Armstrong came in second. Don't crucify the redneck who eats the deer he murdered and mounted on his pickup truck. Educate him. Have a bourbon with him and his wife. Don't be afraid of the guy who spits on your windshield and wipes it with his sleeve asking for a dollar, hand him a Far Side comic strip. Let the skinheads skank at the Ska shows and lay off Kurt Cobaine and Madonna. It's okay to be successful. Hug your grandmother even when she tells you how the Puerto Rican cab driver nearly killed her because he couldn't speak English, and most importantly...let your lover eat at McDonald's if she wants to, just don't pay for it.

-fin.

# A Proposito

by Steve Sams and David Cater

Did you know that Georgia Tech has one of the best English learning centers in the Southeast? Hundreds of international students attend the center each quarter in order to improve their English skills. The center provides an excellent way for everyone at Georgia Tech to cultivate



their foreign language skills.

Students can request a language partner in a desired language; if a match can be found, you've got a new friend with whom you can practice conversational skills. Most importantly, you can find out how people really talk in that language (all the idioms and slang that grammar books do not contain....or even those certain words your teacher refuses to tell you).

What languages are available, you may ask? Well, here are some demographics that an administrator helped me compile. There are 205 students enrolled in the English learning center this quarter. They represent 36 countries and at least 13 languages. The three most representative languages would have to be, in order, Japanese, Korean, and finally Spanish

# The Great O'Keefe Melting Pot

(most of whose speakers, by the way, are from Latin America, not Spain). Some of the other languages represented are German, Turkish, Farsi, Arabic, Thai, Chinese, French, Greek, Portuguese, and Hebrew. This combination changes every quarter, so students of many

different nationalities can become available at any time.

The language students take classes in reading, writing, pronunciation, and grammar, and are ranked in six levels of proficiency. Most of them are preparing to go to an American university or are learning English to help them at home in international business.

A very small percentage

eventually attend Tech, mostly in graduate programs.

Language partners are gassy-blasty funfunfun. I wish more Tech students knew they were available. This quarter I study with Maria, a very lovely Spanish-speaking girl from Maracaibo, Venezuela. We have both seen a noticeable improvement in our language-speaking abilities; in addition, I have also learned about some amusing relationships between our languages. For example, Maria hates to say "I'm embarrassed", because that sounds close to the Spanish phrase meaning "I'm pregnant".

Contact Gretchen Belgul if you are interested in meeting international students. Call 894-2425 or just go down to the language institute next to O'Keefe. You'll be glad you did. Buena suerte!

**NOW THAT ELVIS IS DEAD  
THE N.A.R. NEEDS YOU MORE  
THAN EVER**

