Numerous student organizations consistently violate university policy regarding advertising. Story on page 4.

Photographer Ansel Adams was the subject of a biography feature at the DC Environmental Film Festival. Story on page 8.

Maryland sophomore Ben Parker appeared on *As The World Turns* and *The Early Show*. Story on page 6.


Liberal Crap creator Josh Eiserike sits down with The Terrapin Times. Story on page 6.
The following letters represent the views of their respective authors, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors of The Terrapin Times.

EXPANSION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS TO EMPLOYEES OF MARYLAND PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES INCREASE COLLEGE TUITION

During the 2001 legislative session, several Prince George’s and Montgomery County Democrats sponsored legislation, which former Governor Glendening signed into law, to expand collective bargaining rights for state employees to include employees of the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, St. Mary’s College, and Baltimore City Community College (HB300/SB207). Among the sponsors, was then-Senator Christopher Van Hollen.

Before the legislation was signed into law by former Governor Glendening, the Maryland Department of Legislative Services (DLS) in its fiscal impact report to the Maryland General Assembly, warned that the legislation could increase administrative costs due to the implementation of collective bargaining agreements, increased employee compensation, costs for outside attorneys, economists, labor institutions, and other items negotiated through collective bargaining agreements. The DLS also reported that 70% of the increased costs associated with the legislation would come from the Maryland general funds or require tuition increases. The DLS was right!

Why our elected officials would pass such fiscally irresponsible legislation that would increase college costs for those that are the least able to afford it, at a time when we are trying to make a college education affordable for all Maryland children, at a time when the economy was in a downturn and with the increased homeland security costs after September 11, is a mystery, but then again, organized labor played an important part in the 2002 elections.

This “cost to the wind,” and “spend now, pay later” legislation is exactly what Governor Ehrlich was elected to change. Governor Ehrlich offered a plan to increase the general funds needed to fund education, unfortunately, the spend and tax Democrats refused to support the Governor’s plan that would have raised outside revenue through slots, preferring instead to...raise the tuition costs for Maryland’s college students.”

- Sharon Constantine
District 16

I think you guys did a great job and I commend your efforts. Although I don't necessarily share all of your views I think it is very important that your views are out there. I understand being in the minority as I was in the minority at Bloomsburg University where EVERYONE was a conservative Republican. Only a few of the professors (those from out of state) were Democrats.

I enjoyed the article by Katie Mucklow because I could relate to it on the opposite angle. You are absolutely right, it isn't fun to be on the “wrong” political side. Keep up the good work and I wish you much success.

Christina Hostetter
Graduate Student
History and Library Science

Dear The Terrapin Times Staff,
Congratuations on an excellent inaugural edition of The Terrapin Times; the content, layout, and web availability are outstanding.

“Inform not conform” is up there with “Fair and Balanced”.

Matthew P. Galloway,
Ph.D. Professor,
Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences
Wayne State University

I saw the Terrapin Times on a bench while I was waiting for a bus. After reading it for a few minutes, I was shocked that there was actually someone else in UMD who shared any of my conservative beliefs. Much better than The Diamondback!

Michael McDermott

If you would like to respond to something you’ve seen in The Terrapin Times, please contact the editors at editor@theterrapintimes.com
May 1775: Focus on Canada “Establishing Strategies, Controlling Passageways”

May 1775 was a lull in the Revolution. To leaders in London and everyone in the colonies, the battles of Lexington and Concord had driven home the point that an armed revolution had begun. Colonial leaders turned their attention away from the occupation of Boston and towards the next big strategic threat: Canada.

The water route between Canada and Albany, New York consists of Lake Champlain and Lake George as well as the St. Lawrence River. If Britain controlled this waterway, it would effectively split the wealthy, northern, industrial colonies from the food supplies of the south. New York could then be occupied and easily reinforced from two directions, limiting American freedom of movement. The key to control of the waterway lay at Fort Ticonderoga. In May, early planning began in order to make preparations to take the fort from Vermont.

The Green Mountain Boys, guerrillas from the Vermont section of New Hampshire, set out under the command of Samuel Parsons and Ethan Allen. They would later meet up with 200 men under the command of Benedict Arnold. The raiders were to capture boats at the Skanesboro and Pantone. Then they could transport their force across Lake Champlain to besiege Ticonderoga.

Ticonderoga had been neglected by the British after the French and Indian wars. Its commander, Cpt. William De la Place, had fifty men under his command. The rebels had no problem getting two barges and landing them within a mile of the fort. They took it by surprise, as there was only one sentry on duty (whose musket misfired). The men of the garrison were either not inclined to fight, or still asleep. De la Place was captured while getting dressed, literally, with his pants down. De la Place was captured while getting dressed, literally, with his pants down. Ticonderoga and its 100 heavy cannons fell to the American Revolutionists.

Join the Staff of The Terrapin Times!!!

Tired of other campus newspapers? Want to make a difference? The Terrapin Times is looking for innovative staff members with a desire to give voice to the issues that go unnoticed on the College Park Campus. We are looking people who would like to:

WRITE, DRAW, ADVERTISE, AND LAYOUT.

Please contact the staff at:
editor@theterrapintimes.com

The Express purpose of the Terrapin Times shall be to inform the student body of the University of Maryland, College Park on relative issues concerning them. The day-to-day operations are run by UMCP students and are concerned with issues relating to the daily lives of the campus community. The periodical will also serve as an educational tool for the student body in terms of explaining conservative principles. The Terrapin Times will print news items only with thoroughly documented research and we will not tolerate social, political, or economic injustices upon our campus.
"It’s Your Campus!"

Students Called to Keep Each Other Accountable

My Take:

If groups claim to be working to make this campus better, fight for workers’ rights, love the environment, or be supporters of any other cause, they should start by being responsible for themselves and doing what the university policies demanded of them. Follow the rules, post flyers on kiosks and bulletin board, chalk on the sidewalks; don’t create a mess that you don’t want to clean up. It’s not the administration’s job to clean up after you, but it should come down hard when you break its rules.

It may seem a little silly to only allow posted flyers on bulletin boards and kiosks when you look around and you’ll see why. Duct tape dried to the sidewalk, chalk stains left on building walls or stairs, or other illegal practices. Duct tape dried to the sidewalk, chalk stains left on building walls or stairs, or other illegal practices. According to Teabout, Building and Landscape Services is continuing its efforts to stop the violations. He told The Terrapin Times, “Building and Landscape Services] removes all flyers that are not on sidewalks. We turn them in (one copy) to Kathy Broady of Campus Reservations who attempts to contact the group and change the behavior.” He reminded The Times that they, “seldom receive funding” from groups in violation. According to Teabout, “Building and Landscape Services hasnt sent me flyers in years.”

As The Terrapin Times reported in its April 2003 edition, groups acting in violation of university policy regarding advertising cost students and taxpayers approximately $30,000 annually according to Harry Teabout, Director of Building and Landscape Services. Taping or pasting flyers and chalk on sidewalks or other prohibited locations may result in student fines. Numerous other groups acting in violation of university regulations.

Students and Workers Unite (SAWU) and the Operation S.I.C.K. (Stop Inciting Children to Kill) campaign are the latest student organizations to join in the policy breaking. “Op S.I.C.K.” has been using signs and masking tape through various methods to break the rules in their campaign to bring www.opsick.com’s message to campus. The Students and Workers Unite organization continues in the tradition of their sisters at the Peace Forum by using glue to attach flyers to light posts. Numerous other student organizations continuously violate regulations by taping flyers to sidewalks or other prohibited surfaces, and by chalking on surfaces other than sidewalks, many violating regulations unknowingly.

According to Teabout, Building and Landscape Services is continuing its efforts to stop the violations. He told The Terrapin Times, “Building and Landscape Services] removes all flyers that are not on sidewalks. We turn them in (one copy) to Kathy Broady of Campus Reservations who attempts to contact the group and change the behavior.” He reminded The Times that they, “seldom receive funding” from groups in violation. According to Teabout, “Building and Landscape Services hasnt sent me flyers in years.”

According to Ms. Broady, the Office of Campus Reservations sends each organization’s president a letter outlining the policy regarding advertising in addition to the office’s handbook on the subject. Aside from the fact that no outside organizations are permitted to post information, the letter states that, “Approved locations for posting materials include kiosks, public bulletin boards, display and showcases, banners and print media bins. Posting of materials on buildings, walls, trees, sidewalks, poles, etc. is prohibited. Removal of materials from these locations may result in student organizations being billed by the Facilities Department and are referred to the Office of Judicial Programs.”

According to Broady, is that, “[violators have] never been punished.” Obviously frustrated she added, “if someone would fine the check out of these groups...they might learn. If [I had the power], I’d be billing them.” She recognized that, “they won’t discontinue doing it until someone holds them accountable.” Other punishments Broady recommended include revoking organization status and assigning community service, “including taking down flyers and cleaning up chalk.”

Steve Adams, Assistant Director of Operations for the Office of Campus Reservations, called the flyer problem epidemic, “[as] big a problem as the campus has [right now].” He concurred with Broady the fact that a main cause of continued violation is the lack of enforcement. He added that, “it’s always the blame game.” He told The Terrapin Times that a large problem in enforcing the regulations is finding out just who is responsible. His office gets frustrated by student groups denying involvement when accused of violating regulations.

But he conceded that, “if we don’t know who did it,” and was too frustrated to finish his statement. What is even more frustrating to Adams is that he realizes that the president of each organization should be held responsible for their group’s actions, no matter the specific culprit, but again there is no one enforcing the policies.

Adams and Broady agreed that manpower is a big hassle when trying to clean up after groups who disregard policy. Current budget problems at the university find more and more workers being released, when more and more workers are needed to keep the campus presentable. Broady asks for students’ help in solving this problem. “It’s the students’ right and responsibility to remove policy breaking signs.” Adams added, “it’s their campus,” and it’s about time students get fed up with the garbage.

My Take:

If groups claim to be working to make this campus better, fight for workers’ rights, love the environment, or be supporters of any other cause, they should start by being responsible for themselves and doing what the university policies demanded of them. Follow the rules, post flyers on kiosks and bulletin board, chalk on the sidewalks; don’t create a mess that you don’t want to clean up. It’s not the administration’s job to fight it. Building and Landscape Service’s Director Harry Teabout, on the other hand, seems to place the cutting of grass behind CSPAC above overall campus appearance. When presented with the idea that groups continue disrespectful behavior due to lack of university priority, Teabout responded, “This is probably true…” Mr. Teabout brings in a salary of $93,801 annually (which places him in the top 10% of earners in the nation, according to IRS statistics from FY2000); Broady’s and Adam’s combined income tops Teabouts by $14,299. Who is being paid to make this issue a priority?

The Terrapin Times is dedicated to pressing this issue until the administration starts enforcing its policies. In addition to posting the “Regulations for Advertising at the University of Maryland,” the “Policy on Chalking,” and the letter each group president receives on the newspaper website (www.theterrapintimes.com), The Terrapin Times will keep an up-to-date list available to its readers, including the administration, of groups currently in violation of campus policy. This list is not intended to pick out any specific groups or target certain causes; it will exist to present an unbiased, factual representation of campus organization that is unknowingly or unknowingly, university policies that are meant to benefit the student body.

Currently, the following groups can be found in various forms of violations. Whether it be flyers taped to sidewalks or buildings, chalk on walls or stairs, or other illegal practices, the College Democrats, Dancin’ Divas, Delta Gamma Sorority, “DiamondCrap,” Erasable Inc., Faux Paz, International Socialist Network, International Solidarity Movement (sponsored by Students for Justice in Palestine), Jewish Social Action Committee, Korean Campus Ministry, Operation S.I.C.K., Pandemonium, Peace Forum, Pre-Dental Society, Pre-Med Society, Senior Council, Sketchup, Skydrive, Student Government Association, Students and Workers Unite, Terp Runners, UM Electronic Dance Music Club, Voices of Truth and WMUC are in violation of university policies regarding advertising on campus.

If you notice other groups in blatant violation of campus policy, please inform The Terrapin Times by e-mailing editor@theterrapintimes.com.

Know of a topic you’d like The Terrapin Times to investigate? LET US KNOW! E-mail: news@theterrapintimes.com.
Comptroller’s Office Takes Bite Out Of Layoffs

Bryan Shyu Editor-In-Chief

Following up on a recent lead, The Terrapin Times inquired with Julie Phelps, Comptroller of the University of Maryland, about the occupational and budget status of her department. In these strenuous budget times, the entire campus community is affected by budget cuts, including the Office of the Comptroller, which employs approximately 130 workers.

According to Phelps, the office was forced by budget constraints to cut three senior level positions. She explained, “The three positions that were cut resulted from two resignations and one retirement.” To compliment these cuts, lower level employees were promoted and given subsequent raises. Those promotions were accompanied by salary increases appropriate to the increased level and volume of work assumed,” said Phelps. She further explained, “[I]n other words, fewer employees are doing more work.”

Sophomore John Samsock felt differently. He expressed his opinion on the Phelps’ commentary by asking, “so does that mean our taxes were being wasted or at least not properly utilized before?”

After promoting the employees, the Office of the Comptroller treated them with special lunches to celebrate. Phelps explained further that the luncheons were simply thanking the newly promoted employees for taking on more work. Over four months, there were three of these luncheons totaling $248.87, which covered 20 employees, 11 of which were recently promoted employees. She justified this action by explaining that it was “…to reward them for their hard work and for their willingness to take on more responsibility.” This luncheon was on the operating budget according to Phelps. She explained her concern that as “…rumors of lay-offs and furloughs are rampant, it is calming to an operation to make something good from something bad – i.e., jobs are eliminated, but for less expense other jobs can be upgraded.”

Sophomore Samsock commented, “Well, common sense would imply that if you could do something for less expense, then you do so. You’d think the Office of the Comptroller would be especially familiar with this concept of operation.”

Phelps noted that the Office of the Comptroller has been lucky. “So far, we have not had to lay-off any employees from my offices.” During the past year, the Office of the Comptroller did successfully cope with a $355,521 reduction to their budget. “However, it does not seem that we will be so fortunate in FY 2004,” said Phelps.

Editors Note: We’d like to thank Ms. Phelps for her prompt and forthright responses. The Office of Comptroller can be found online at, http://fas.umd.edu/

The Terrapin Times

Operation S.I.C.K. Attacks Campus

Nathan Burchfiel Staff Writer

Current world conditions have led to a recent surge in campus organizations focused on international affairs. The newest of these groups seeks to support the United States government in its efforts to put pressure on foreign nations that incite children to kill.

College Park’s Operation S.I.C.K. (Stop Inciting Children to Kill), a chapter of the national organization with the same name, found its way onto campus this semester thanks to group president Jason Schoenbrun. Schoenbrun, a Sophomore computer engineering major, told The Terrapin Times, “People don’t know about [the issue we’re confronting]. People don’t care about this. And something has to be said about it.” In an effort to educate the student body, the organization’s mass teaser campaign found the campus plastered with flyers, tape, and chalk, spelling out its web address, www.opsick.com.

The group, according to Schoenbrun, is, “Against the governments of any country inciting children [through a] state sponsored media or other means … to hate or to kill.” Governments on S.I.C.K.’s “Hot Spots” list include the Palestinian Authority, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and the African nations of Ethiopia, Uganda, Sierra Leone, among others. The focused effort of its inaugural semester was to obtain student signatures on a petition to be sent to Senators and Representatives in the United States.

The petition was to obtain student signatures on a petition to be sent to Senators and Representatives in the United States. “We believe that if this petition is signed, the government will be more willing to do something,” explained Jason Schoenbrun. Schoenbrun explained, “If we support America putting [financial] pressure on them, then that would make the most of a difference.”

OP S.I.C.K. was able to obtain more than 100 signatures while on display in front of Stamp Student Union on Wednesday, April 30. Schoenbrun reported very little opposition to the cause, citing the fact that, “This message is very apolitical. It’s only about stopping the incitement of children to kill…I would hope that no person on campus would disagree with the position because by disagreeing they’d be saying, ‘I believe children should be incited to kill.”

The group plans to continue its campus presence into the coming semesters, and looks forward to continued support from over 40 student organizations.

Students from OP S.I.C.K. obtain signatures in their effort to end the incitement of children to kill.

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For the past two years, Maryland senior Josh Eiserike has been a mainstay of the University community with his daily comic strip Liberal Crap, which has been consistently run in The Diamondback, and Really Liberal Crap, which appeared in the first two issues of The Terrapin Times.

As he prepares to graduate and move on to greener pastures, The Terrapin Times took a moment to take a closer look at Josh—his influences, interests and experience with “The Diamondcrap.” Many people know the name behind the popular comic strips on campus, but who really knows the man, the myth, the legend? Here’s our exclusive interview with Josh Eiserike.

The Terrapin Times: To start things off, how old are you and where are you originally from?

Josh Eiserike: I’m 21 and from Olney, Maryland.

TTT: What’s your major, and how do you plan to use it once you graduate?

JE: I’m majoring in American Studies, with a citation in Comparative Literature. I probably won’t do anything with it—I hope to get a job in editorial cartooning, and if that doesn’t work, I am headed to either Northwestern or Missouri for a Masters in Journalism.

TTT: How useful has your writing been so far in seeking either employment or admissions for graduate studies?

JE: It hasn’t made a big difference in admissions, but I’m actively seeking employment as an editorial cartoonist and that really helps. Also, Liberal Crap just won third place in the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists’ annual John Locher Memorial Award competition, which recognizes the most outstanding college editorial cartoonists in North America. It’s pretty competitive, so that’s going to help as well.

TTT: Congratulations. Since Liberal Crap has seen such success, think back to the beginning of it all—what inspired you to first write Liberal Crap?

JE: Originally, I was trying to do something apolitical, situational, in the vein of a Calvin & Hobbes, but then I became interested in politics with the 2000 election and the David Horowitz book I read. I became interested in politics with the 2000 election and the David Horowitz book I read.

TTT: What was the first thing is to make friends with Photoshop first. My first semester’s strips were not very humorous, but I think that Photoshop was gradually able to bring it together. Also, learn the structure of a comic strip; that took me a long time to figure out. I organized, over April Fool’s Day, a giant cross-country comic swap where you read a lot of college comic strips. I noticed how many writers don’t understand how a strip works—pun line and the basic structure. Also, learn how to listen and take advice. I worked with Frank Cho, who wrote UNIVERSITY2 for The Diamondback and now writes Liberty Meadows. When he first read Liberal Crap, he tore it apart, but he’s a professional and his input definitely helped. When you get something going, don’t be discouraged, The Diamondback is notorious for making it hard to get a strip, so stick with it. One more thing: do not be afraid of what other people think—good or bad. Don’t be afraid to go out on a limb or on some crazy tangent that might “offend.” The bottom line is that you’re getting to draw comics, so have fun with it!

TTT: Thanks, Josh. We really appreciate your insight. The Terrapin Times staff thanks you for your contributions and wishes you the best of luck in the future.

Editor’s Note: More of Josh’s creations can be found on the “Liberal Crap” website www.liberalcraponline.com

Advertise with The Terrapin Times!!!

For prices and other information, e-mail: advertise@theterrapintimes.com
In March 10th, Roman Gelmam, a Sophomore marketing major here at the University of Maryland, received a phone call. He was told he had a few days to take care of any personal matters and then ship out to help in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He reported to the military base in Aberdeen, Maryland for training and preparation.

The war in Iraq has had an impact on students at this campus and campuses nationwide in a variety of ways. Some have given up on the notion to take on the sacrifices to become an American soldier. He wanted to serve his country. He hopes that one day he will be able to correspond with American soldiers who remain there. Soldiers are getting hurt almost everyday might play is in assisting the law enforcement agencies [in Iraq] to regain control, training them how to do it, and making sure that the new government functions and operates. And then to get out of there as soon as possible [in order to] allow the Iraqi people to govern themselves.

As of now it looks like there is a possibility Roman might not be deployed to Iraq after all, as many military personnel are already being recalled back home. He is still waiting for the order of assignment at Aberdeen Maryland, and it will continue to be there until further notice. But he can be sent to help support the peace-keeping process at any moment.

More than two years have passed since George Walker Bush was elected President of the United States. Since then, some of the roles that the U.S. military offers to help keep in touch with loved ones back home depend on the mission and the availability of postal services and email accessibility. E-mail is an option, but it is dependent on the mission, whether the soldiers are allowed to write home. Nonetheless, if the circumstances permit as they are now, Roman will be able to correspond with family and friends freely.

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Environmental Film Festival Review: Ansel Adams: Capturing Nature

Chris Weed
Staff Writer

Photographer Ansel Adams

The 2003 DC Environmental Film Festival on March 13-23 screened well over a hundred films at museums, embassies and other venues around town. The festival included a number of serious environmental films highlighting the beauty of nature and efforts to keep people safe from the real dangers of a polluted environment. However, the vast majority of the films fell in the category of fake activism, from exposing the dangers of vinyl siding to the growing scourge of “consumerism.” The film Ansel Adams, a documentary about the famous photographer, follows his life and quest to capture on film his emotional response to the wild landscapes of Yosemite and the High Sierra.

Throughout his career, Ansel Adams was born between San Francisco, where he grew up, and Yosemite, where he fell in love. As still an amateur photographer, Adams practiced to become a classical pianist in San Francisco. Yet, he spent the summers in Yosemite exploring and trying to capture on film the emotion and mood of his surroundings. For him, the interplay of wind, sky and arrows of light evoked a transcendent experience. Once he was able to make a mountain “look how it feels – a huge monumental thing”, he embraced photography as his career.

Shortly after, Adams had a revelation about the meaning of photography, and focused his work toward a realistic portrayal of nature using a broad tonal range and “the simple dignity of the glossy print.” As other artists during the Depression focused on suffering and social injustice, Adams continued to focus on what he considered a more profound and universal issue, finding truth and meaning in nature.

Ansel Adams pictures are probably some of the most easily recognizable in American art. From his early focus on the details of nature to his later expansive views of the mountains and brilliant skies, Ansel Adams was able to manipulate light to draw out the majesty of the West. Using light filters to expose the mountain from the sky or meticulously adjusting the print in the darkroom, Adams created photographs that uniquely conveyed his view of nature. His stunning pictures have also captured the imaginations of many Americans and politicians, resulting in the establishment of national parks to guard these unique treasures. In the film, Adams conveys his hopes that Yosemite will return to true wilderness. And, Carl Pope of the Sierra Club laments the creation of the interstate highway system that allowed the average American easy access to these beautiful places.

Adams’ work brought the beauty of the American West into the homes of people who may have never ventured beyond the confines of their towns and cities, but it is likely his work produced the opposite effect of his wilderness preservation message. Upon seeing the breathtaking images of our national parks provided by Adams, average Americans naturally desired to venture to these places and view them in a personal encounter.

Throughout his career, Adams was well respected in the art community; however, to live comfortably, he spent relentless hours photographing and developing pictures for companies, shows and books. It wasn’t until later in life that he became a popular icon and his work was mass marketed, thus ensuring him financial security. He was then able to focus on environmental activism. Despite the fact that he wrote more than 5000 editorials on the subject, his photographs speak louder than words about the beauty in nature. Before his death in 1984, his work was featured in a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, he was featured on the cover of Time magazine, and he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor.

To learn more about the film and Ansel Adams, visit the PBS website on “Ansel Adams American Experience” at: http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/ames/. Experience film series, was co-sponsored by the Sierra Club, and the writer and director Ric Burns (of the PBS civil war series fame) was on hand at the DC festival to discuss the film. The film can be seen on PBS, but was screened in high-definition for the film festival.

Even though Parker is now a Computer Science major, he has taken and will continue to take theatrical classes at Maryland. “It’s amazing how you can get a lot of classes for you. There is never a time to stop learning about acting.” He pointed out that award-winning actors such as Helen Hunt and Robert DeNiro still go back to school and take classes to learn new theories and ideas about the art. And, at UMD, Parker has all the opportunity he wants to learn and succeed in this field. He cited the family atmosphere among the staff and students, and the flexibility that the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center adds to the entire experience.

While Parker realizes that making it as an actor is a tough living, he still has his dreams. As an actor, he loves the movies because it is “more of a finished product” than a television series and, like theatre, there is “more time to work on specific scenes.” One of his favorite actors is Ed Norton because of the quality movies and variety of roles he plays. Yet, Parker owes his real inspiration to his family, friends and girlfriend. “Everyone is so supportive,” but above all, “my mother is my most active supporter.” She is “always very concerned for me to have the best opportunity that I can.” And, with Parker intent on keeping his options open, Maryland just may be that breeding ground of opportunity.

To learn more about the live audition that Ben Parker performed for The Early Show you still can online at: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/04/22/earlyshow/series/main50545.shtml.
Pro-Life
Erin Galloway
Staff Writer

The New York Times (NYT) recently reported [Surprise, Mom: I’m Against Abortion, March 30, 2003] that a survey by pediatricians and U.S. A shows that support for abortion rights among American college freshmen has dropped from 67% to 29%. However, this data can be invalidated with plenty of research. For example, evidence shows the glaring fault in the pro-choice argument and address a possible objection.

The crux of the “pro-life” argument is the following:1) All human beings have a right to life.2) A fetus is a human being.3) Therefore, a fetus has a right to life.

The argument centers on the justification of proposition two, and is consequently false. It is possible to show that a fetus is human but not a human being, a very important distinction. A fetus contains characteristics of human beings which anti-abortion activists can delineate ad infinitum. However, evidence shows that at a microscopic scale a fetus contains cells with human DNA similar to grown humans, and at the macroscopic scale a fetus contains features similar to a grown human, particularly in the pregnancy’s third trimester. (The second of these is often sensationalized with plenty of gruesome pictures showing a fetus’ features). Even with all its similarities with you or me, a fetus is not an entity unto itself—evidence shows that at a microscopic scale a fetus contains cells with human DNA similar to grown humans, and at the macroscopic scale a fetus contains features similar to a grown human, particularly in the pregnancy’s third trimester.

The taking of life is immoral. The Pope says War is Bad! Abortion is the Taking of Life.

Vincent Van Gogh DNA that painted “Starry Night” ran through that ear. A hard fact that even the quickest pro-abortion advocate concedes is that the fetus in fact has a wholly separate and unique set of DNA. The baby’s DNA is not the same as the mother’s, signaling a new and separate person. The baby is in itself a new human being, not an extension of the human being that is the mother. Similarly, if a car is parked in a garage, it does not become part of the garage, or even an extension of it, but is its own unique entity. Even the movement of technology have time and time again supported the fact that an unborn baby is indeed a separate and living human being, not a “slime” of a human being. Moving pictures show parents evidence of their child moving on its own, sucking its thumb, and reacting to outside stimuli. The movie “Silent Scream” shows the actual process of an abortion from beginning to end. As the suction tube enters the uterus to suck out the baby, the viewer clearly sees the baby “jump” to the opposite side of the uterus in a natural survival instinct. One pro-choice couple, upon having an amniocentesis which they wished to use for another child, were shocked to see their child’s DNA that matched the baby’s DNA. 

Advances in modern technology have time and time again supported the fact that an unborn baby is indeed a separate and living human being, not a “slime” of a human being. Moving pictures show parents evidence of their child moving on its own, sucking its thumb, and reacting to outside stimuli. The movie “Silent Scream” shows the actual process of an abortion from beginning to end. As the suction tube enters the uterus to suck out the baby, the viewer clearly sees the baby “jump” to the opposite side of the uterus in a natural survival instinct. One pro-choice couple, upon having an amniocentesis which they wished to use for another child, were shocked to see their child’s DNA that matched the baby’s DNA.

Furthermore, the founder of National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL), Dr. Bernard Nathanson, came to a similar realization through modern technology after years of committing abortions in his lucrative private business. Dr. Nathanson said, “Modern technologies have convinced us that human beings existed before the moment of conception. They are simply another human being, another member of the human community, indistinguishable in every way from any of us.” He went on to regret his “certainty that I had in fact performed over 60,000 deaths” (New England Journal of Medicine).

In similar fashion to Dr. Nathanson’s transformation from abortionist to pro-life activist upon witnessing the human life inside a woman’s womb, the case study of the “Jane Roe” of 1973’s Roe vs. Wade has also become pro-life. After leaving a life of drugs, cult activity and suicidal depression, Ms. McCorvey has dedicated her life to the pro-life movement. In 2000 at the Oregon Right to Life annual conference “Jane Roe” declared, “I am now pro-life without exception, without compromise and without apology.” It looks like Roe can finally agree with all those witnesses from 1972... baby life begins at conception.
**Staff Editorial: Nathan Kennedy**

**Honorary and the Diamondback**

Last week, during a lame-duck session of the SGA, after hours of debating on various issues, the Legislature voted to remove Compensation For Duties Fulfilled (CFDF) for members of the SGA legislature. I was honestly surprised when I read this in The Diamondback. As it has been said, it was a year-long effort to get this passed. What I am wondering, is why did it take a year? The same legislators proposed a referendum to remove honoraria during last year’s closing session. The issue was tabled. Again this past fall the SGA voted on a referendum, not a complete removal, but a referendum. The referendum failed and was killed. Then in November, the SGA tried to completely remove honoraria, it again failed and was killed. So why exactly did they magically approve the removal of it in the last meeting of the year? Let me tell you why.

If the majority of members are against a referendum, they most likely are for keeping CFDF, which they proved a month later when the majority voted to keep it. For those of you who are unaware, CFDF aka Honoraria, is the compensation that SGA members receive for their “duties fulfilled”. Each member of the SGA is constitutionally required to attend a weekly meeting on Wednesday, many times lasting for many hours. In addition, they are required to work in the SCA from two to three hours a week and they must reach out to their constituency by going to meetings such as hall councils or clubs directly related to their constituency. For doing all of this, an SGA legislator gets a very small amount of money. It has been said that SGA legislators get paid approximately two dollars per hour, if that. The estimated amount of student activity fees was not the amount that was needed for CFDF, due to the fact that many SGA members do not do their work sometimes. SGA members do not get paid for doing nothing, so despite what the other newspaper says, the SGA does do a lot for this campus.

So why did SGA members vote down a referendum? A referendum would have let the students decide if they wanted their money to go towards the SGA; it would have helped the legislators to know how their constituency felt. To those who voted for the referendum: you had the right idea. Those who voted against it must be in favor of CFDF and were worried the students’ money would not be spent properly. Instead of merely reporting facts to students, the other campus newspaper drives forth the agenda of its editor.

In November, they said let’s just forget the referendum, let’s just remove it. For the sake of the legislators, and thanks to pressure from The Diamondback, SGA members felt they needed to remove it. Instead of merely reporting facts to students, the other campus newspaper drives forth the agenda of its editor.

When spring rolled around, that meant SGA elections. With CFDF still not removed, The Diamondback jumped at the chance to smear Pat Wu and his entire campaign. On top of it all, The Diamondback found a poster-boy for their agenda of removing CFDF, Aaron Kraus! First they smeared the current SGA, and then endorsed a candidate who knew nothing about the SGA besides removing CFDF. The students then elected a legislature and executive council 90% of FLASH candidates winning. Good call Diamondback.

Now we have approximately three to four legislators who voted on the referendum and CFDF in the fall and were elected to year to SGA. For the sake of the SGA members again, after a whole year of being told they were useless by the other newspaper, and almost none of them returning, they voted to remove CFDF to feel like they had accomplished something. This could have negative effects on SGA, and some positive effects.

The other school newspaper finds it their job to criticize the SGA President- Elect Tim Daly and the FLASH party. They said that during the election the FLASH party mentioned nothing about CFDF or removing it. As a newly elected legislator, representing South Hill and a member of the FLASH party, I can tell you this is false. We had only to do 90% of our campaign next year. The survey was a success and as a result, HBO will be here in the fall. Daly’s idea for a survey of students for the HBO plan was a success in capturing student opinion. The Diamondback claims that Daly and FLASH Party never said anything about removing CFDF. Yet, his party was proactive in pushing this issue with the idea of a referendum.

Let me make something quite clear: higher education is not, nor should it ever be, the top priority of a state government. Believe it or not, there are many other programs which need money even more, and by cutting its funds, could create even more damage. What about primary education? Shouldn’t the children of this state be given the same or better education than their parents? Is higher education more important than ensuring there are enough police officers to protect you and your family across this state? It is very understandable why the SGA, RHA, and the Diamondback to protest Governor Ehrlich and his budget cuts. There needs to be finger pointing, so the first person to point at is our Maryland government. Otherwise, what would happen? Maryland has enough of a revenue. Part of this tax plan is also increasing everyone’s taxes than simply removing CFDF. So why can’t we just stop all the money that currently leaves the state when people go to the horses run around a track. So why not stop all the money that currently leaves the state when people go to Delaware and West Virginia to use slot machines? I will admit that there was no definite amount that was estimated to be raised, but many accounts put it close to $800 million. That’s $300 million more than the proposed “cuts” to this University.

When Ehrlich took office, he was presented with an almost $2 billion dollar deficit. He fully knew what he was getting into, and had several plans to help fix this budget. Not among these plans was taxing every single Maryland resident to make up for the irresponsible spending Glendening did during his administration. Otherwise, what would separate Ehrlich from every tax and spend liberal? One of the main parts of his plan was putting slot machines (note that this does not mean casinos) on four horse tracks across the state. He figured that gambling was already prevalent in this state with both lotto and Keno, and that the main reason people went to horse tracks was to bet. Not to have people to just watch the horses run around a track. So why not stop all the money that currently leaves the state when people go to Delaware and West Virginia to use slot machines? I will admit that there was no definite amount that was estimated to be raised, but many accounts put it close to $800 million. That’s $300 million more than the proposed “cuts” to this University.

The Terrapin Times
Two suicide bombers blew themselves up at Mikes Place Pub in Tel Aviv before David Shapiro’s International Solidarity Movement came to campus. At the beginning of the meeting, Shapiro expressed his concern for the victims by labeling the bombing a tragedy, but quickly followed it up with a “but.”

You’ve probably heard the “but”s before. Israel is a racist state like South Africa; Zionism is racism; the Israelis killed innocent civilians in Afghanistan than were killed on 9/11, as well as ten times that number of putative fighters. These are all things that could be addressed within a political process. But no cause justifies terror. The United States will make no concessions to terrorists and demands and strike no deals with them. We make no distinction between terrorists and those who knowingly harbor or provide aid to them.

- The National Security Strategy of the United States (emphasis added)

The Peace-Terrorism Movement

In many regions, legitimate grievances prevent the emergence of a lasting peace. Such grievances deserve to be, and must be, addressed within a political process.

But no cause justifies terror. The United States will make no concessions to terrorist demands and strike no deals with them. We make no distinction between terrorists and those who knowingly harbor or provide aid to them.

The Terrapin Times

The Peace-Terrorism Movement

The Terrapin Times: An Informed Full Disclosure

Over the past few weeks, since the first issue of The Terrapin Times hit the campus, our staff members have received a lot of attention. In fact, a recent Washington Times article (April 30) mentioned our presence on the UMD campus. We have had an extraordinary number of questions from all as well as a few critics. However, we have had many questions from all. So, we’d like to do a little better job explaining ourselves.

First, we want to establish that we are an independent student newspaper. We do not receive any funds from the University, including the SGA. We are funded solely by advertisers and donors. We were the recipient of a Balance in Media grant by the Campus Leadership Institute (LI) in Arlington. We applied for this grant in February, after we first thought of the idea to form another campus paper. Basically, the purpose of the grant from LI is to help college students learn to be editors and writers. We want to use this money to challenge the “liberal-dominated, official college campus newspapers.” LI gives money to students only after we show them our progress and the layout of our first issue. The funds we received from them helped us pay a part of the costs of the first issue alone.

To survive as an independent paper, however, we need advertising, of which we are dependent on for the rest of our future funds. Of course, we appreciate any other donations anyone would like to give us. But, as of now, we are a non-profit paper. And, that means that all of our staff is unpaid. Many of us on the staff have put in long hours to help put the paper together through editing and layout. And, others contribute articles and help procure advertising, as well as attend weekly meetings. The staff is very dedicated, and since our first issue, student interest in joining our staff is only growing. We are the publishers, and growing staff, and the advertisers that support us, The Terrapin Times is making strides at a faster rate than we all expected.

For now, we plan to be a monthly publication, with quality articles, something that is difficult to do in a daily paper. Yet, our plans include possibly becoming bi-monthly, and with any success, a weekly could be within sight. For now, however, we don’t want to pose a “challenge” to any of the other papers on campus. We seek only to be another voice. And, we want to raise awareness of all those other lost voices on campus. And, we want to provide a place for the students to express themselves. By being conservative to moderate backgrounds, there is room for other issues to be voiced within our paper, and we welcome them.

Some students that don’t agree with the issues in our paper have told us they still like that we are here. It gives us voice to our side and stimulates more discussion among all sides. This is the purpose of our guest editorials, as well as the competing issues that we voice within our paper. We hope you all enjoy a good read in The Terrapin Times. And, we hope that you keep us in check if you feel we have misrepresented the facts. We seek to inform, not conform.
Humor

Michael Moore to Mockument Weight Watchers

Nathan Burchfiel
Staff Writer

Michael Moore, outspoken liberal director of the Academy Award winning mockumentary Bowling for Columbine, has announced plans to aim his guns at “Fergie’s FatHouse.” Moore plans to use similar tactics to those used in Bowling: errant facts, sensationalist demonstrations, over-edited interviews, etc., in his expose’ of America’s popular weight loss program.

“Twinky” Moore, as his crew has come to call him, experienced a traumatic childhood, being constantly mocked for his weight “problem.” In true Moore fashion, Begging for Cheesecake will expose Weight Watchers as a capitalist pickpocket, robbing poor helpless fat people of food and money. Being overweight, Moore will claim, is society’s fault, and programs like Weight Watchers serve no purpose other than to mock overweight people who can do nothing about their condition.

Begging for Cheesecake will closely resemble Moore’s previous work in that facts will be distorted and sensitivities exploited in order to trick the audience into hating Weight Watchers. As Bowling accuses gun owners of being nothing more than fearful rednecks, Begging will accuse healthy people of making the unhealthy overweight. Rather than focusing on the problem of dedication and willpower, Begging will expose people like Monica Lewinsky and Sarah Ferguson as being members of a vast government conspiracy to trick citizens into believing in its pocket corporations.

Set to hit theatres nationwide in late August, Begging for Cheesecake will include such features as interviews with Rosie O’Donnell, Tom Arnold and the late Chris Farley, as well as exercises in which Moore does not exercise, but rather eats...and eats...and eats. One highlight of what Moore calls his “favorite documentary” is the demonstration organized by Moore and several of his fat friends; demonstrators will return bags full of spoons and buckets of Ben & Jerry’s to 7-Eleven stores across the country, accusing the corporation of making its patrons fat.

Parts of Begging follow the recent lawsuit in New York in which an overweight youth and his family sued the McDonald’s corporation for his weight problem. The child was found to have eaten at McDonald’s restaurants multiple times each week, consuming numerous Big Macs, french fries and milkshakes. The lawsuit accused the McDonald’s corporation of not taking responsibility for its consumers’ weight problems brought on by eating McDonald’s food. The case was recently dismissed.

Moore expects Begging for Cheesecake to be an even bigger hit than Bowling for Columbine thanks to his recent media attention. Moore spent his Oscar acceptance speech berating President George W. Bush and Operation Iraqi Freedom, including references to the 2000 presidential elections. Moore considers four recounts all finding Bush the winner in Florida to be “a fiction.”

Those suspicious of Moore’s work characterize his newest film as another example of Moore’s fanaticism. They say he is doing nothing more than fulfilling the old saying: “Blaming guns for killing people is like blaming spoons for Rosie O’Donnell being fat.”

Michael Moore to Mockument Weight Watchers