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Does peace have a chance?





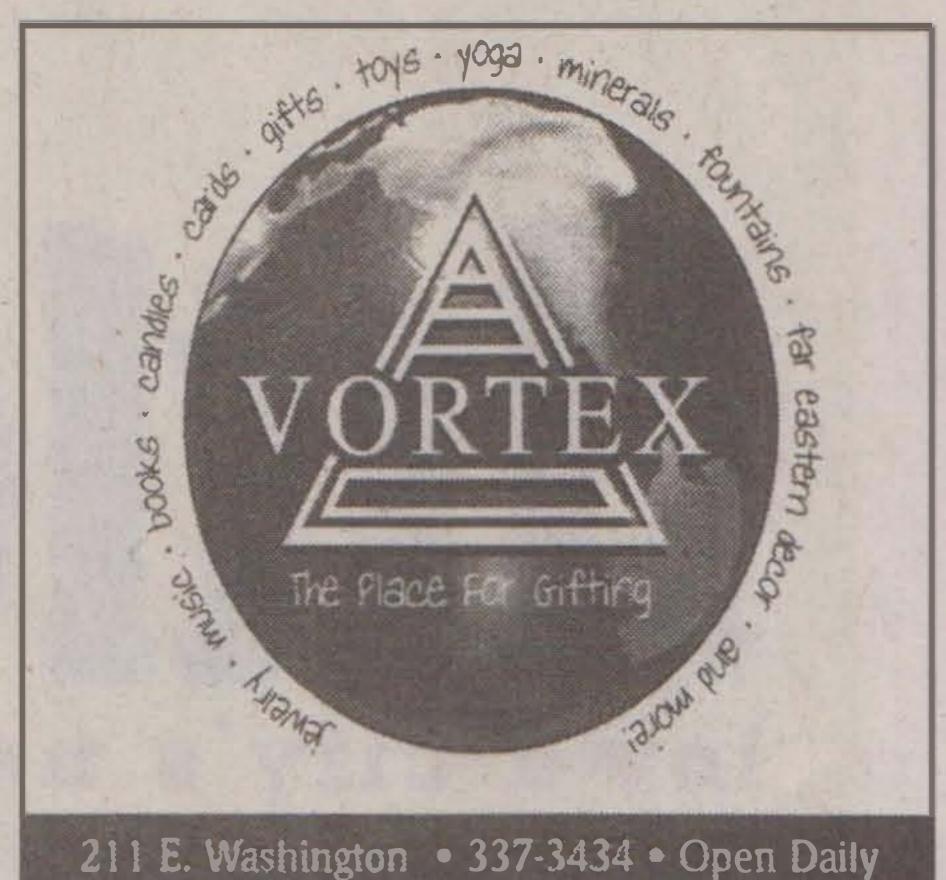
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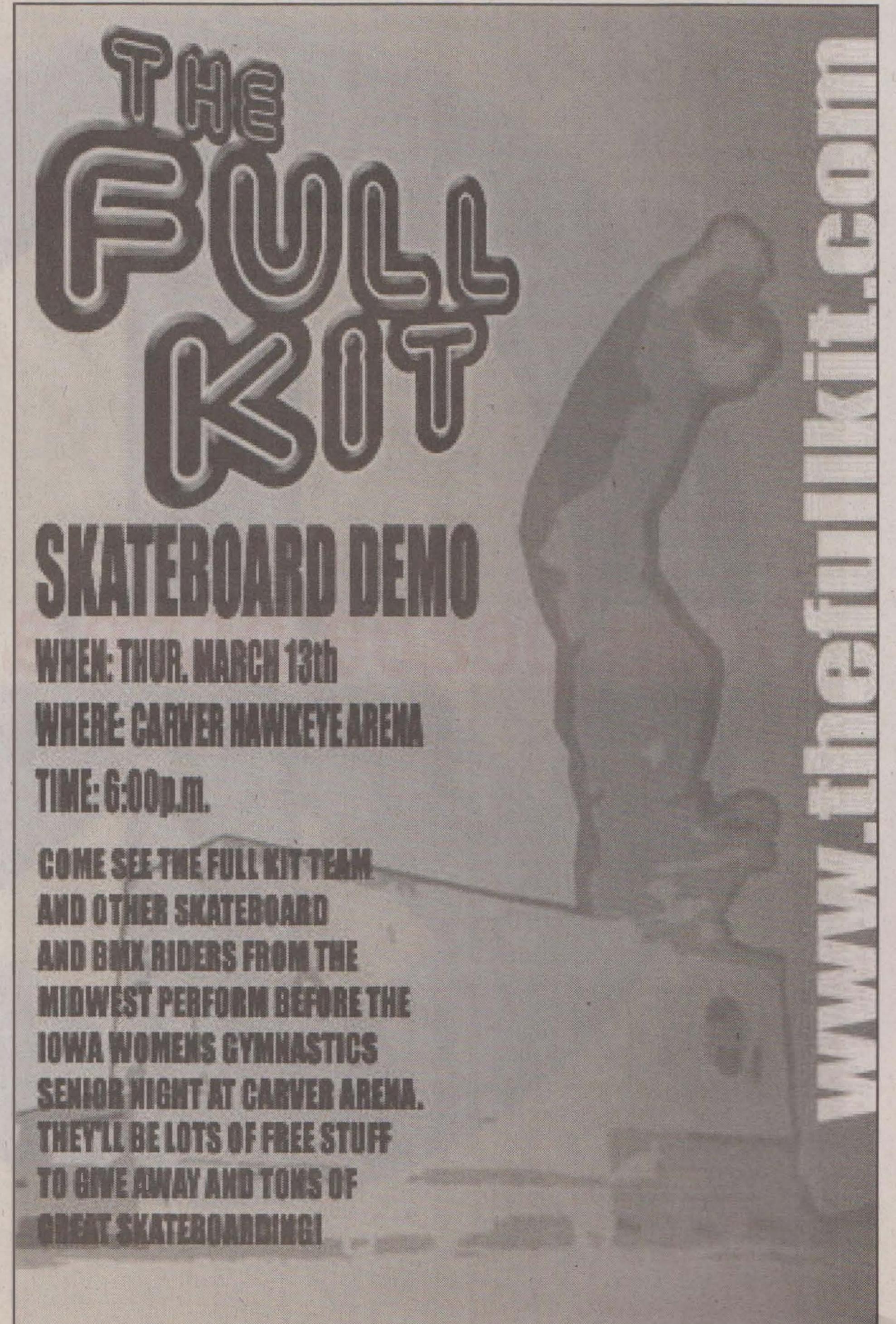
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little village VOLUME 3 ISSUE 24 MARCH 103 Editor Todd Kimm Production Mana ser! Erin Gansen Billin 1/Office Administration | Diane Wass Contributin : Editors | Steve Horowitz Suke Cody Distribution Mana ser | Scottie Hayward Webmaster | Bradley Adita Handy Man | Joel Cochran Contributors | E.C. Fish, Thomas Dean, Kurt Friese, Jimmy Moore, Mike Breazeale, Margaret Schwartz, Jay Miller, John Schlotfelt, Kembrew McLeod, Dr. Star Cover Artwork | Erin Gansen

Photos | Mike Breazeale

lowa City | lowa | 52244

little-villa je@usa.net

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Shed the "must wear fur outside cave" attitude

When the weather is cold, some adults turn to "coat control" and perpetuate the myth that wearing a coat outside will prevent catching a cold. When forcing a child to wear a coat, they're selfishly keeping their own worries down while thinking they're keeping the child from harm. If a child is comfortably warm without a coat and there is no danger of frostbite or hypothermia, adults should relax and let the child regulate his/her own temperature. There is also no increased danger of catching the flu, 24-hour bug, or any infectious disease. The cold temperature can bring out symptoms of an illness already caught. Running around outside without a coat decreases the chance of catching illness because the child is less likely to be near others and breathe airborne (sneezed) particulates. Being inside where it's toastywarm increases incidences of touching handles and others' coughed-on hands, then touching germs to one's eyes, nose and mouth where germs enter the body.

It's been interesting to notice the differences in recess/coat policies of four lowa City School District elementary schools at which I've worked. One school let kids regulate their own temperatures. Another

CALL US CRAZY, BUT WE'VE RECENTLY BEGUN TO

SUSPECT THAT SOME REMOTE VESTIGES OF RACISM

BUT -- I THOUGHT WE TOOK CARE OF THAT WHEN

TRENT LOTT WAS FORCED TO RESIGN AS SENATE

MAY STILL EXIST IN OUR SOCIETY.

THAT WE DON'T TOLERATE THAT SORT

MAJORITY LEADER!

OF THING ANYMORE!

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school forced students to wear coats when snow was on the ground. To teach children a lesson on remembering, the third school wouldn't let them back inside to get coats; shivering, it was reasoned, would go a long way toward their remembering later. The last school had some teachers who wouldn't let pupils out without a coat if it was below 70; when kids complained of burning up, adults clung to their falsehood of illness prevention.

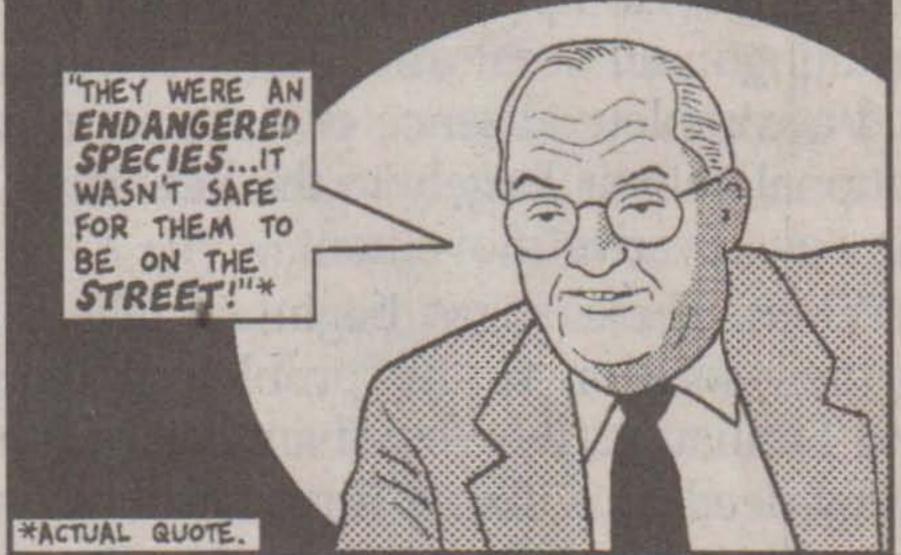
My theory of why the fiction or superstition is prevalent goes back to cave people days. Primitive humans were probably very malnourished during cold months. Children outside the cave without an animal fur around them burned more calories, so were more likely to starve. Wearing furs made them look larger and smell like that animal, so carnivores might've been less likely to attack. Nonexistent weather forecasts made it more likely to be trapped in a storm away from the cave. Genes of adults with a "must wear fur outside cave" attitude were carried on to their children (who were more likely to survive and pass on those genes than non-fur wearers.)

continued page 7



by TOM TOMORROW

FOR INSTANCE, NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSMAN HOWARD COBLE -- WHO IS, INCIDENTALLY, THE HEAD OF A HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME, TERRORISM, AND HOMELAND SECURITY -- RECENTLY SUGGESTED THAT THE INTERN-MENT OF JAPANESE AMERICANS DURING WORLD WAR TWO WAS ACTUALLY A GOOD THING ...



REPRESENTATIVE SUE MYRICK--ALSO FROM NORTH CAROLINA -- LAST WEEK EXPRESSED THE FEARS AND HER HUSBAND SHARE ABOUT THE DANGER AMERICA FACES FROM WITHIN ...

HONEST TO GOODNESS, ED AND I, FOR YEARS, FOR TWENTY YEARS, HAVE BEEN SAYING, YOU KNOW, LOOK AT WHO RUNS ALL THE CONVENIENCE STORES ACROSS THE COUNTRY! EVERY LITTLE TOWN YOU GO INTO,



MEANWHILE ... YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT IT, BUT THE FBI IN SPOKANE JUST ARRESTED A COUPLE OF TERRORISTS FOR POSSESSION OF SECRET MILITARY DOCUMENTS -- INCLUDING MATERIAL RELATING TO CHEM-ICAL, NUCLEAR, AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE ...

THAT'S TERRIBLE! WHO WERE THEY? IRAQIS? | AL QAEDA? HAMAS?



YOU'RE MAKING ONE THE TERROR ALERTS REALLY ARE "COLOR CODED," AREN'T THEY? OF YOUR LITTLE POINTS HERE, AREN'T YOU?

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GO FISH

E.C. FISH

Do we really need a left-wing Rush Limbaugh?

Since the Republican gains of the 2002 elections, the behavior of the Democratic establishment has reminded me of nothing so much as the old parable about the blind men and (appropriately enough) the elephant, with various factions defining parts of the whole without ever acknowledging anything like the big picture. For the last few months, one particularly vocal group of Democrats and fellow traveling liberals, apparently standing a few feet behind the elephant, have decided that, to quote the old S. Gross cartoon, "An elephant is soft and squishy."

The Republicans' secret weapon, the Dems have decided, is the Republican domination of media, both mainstream (the major networks and daily press) and pseudo-mainstream (Fox News, the Wall Street Journal, call-in radio). And so far so good. Since the Reagan Administration pulled the plug on the Fairness Doctrine back in the '80s, the mainstream media, which that decade's trend toward corporate conglomeration has pretty much rendered a fully owned and operated subsidiary of Fortune 500 companies, has been skewed toward the interests of its corporate masters, while biased "infotainment" like the Rush Limbaugh show and the Fox News channel has presented itself as an alternative to a "liberal" media that for all intents and purposes never really existed in the first place. Both these phenomena have been a plague upon the Democrats and the nation at large, resulting in an uninformed, or worse, misinformed electorate and a complete absence of a source of objective facts in the national debate, largely to the benefit of the Republicans and the conservative movement.

Where these sages begin to fall all over themselves is in their solution to this problem. Outgunned by Fox News and Limbaugh, they have announced that what the country really needs is a liberal Rush Limbaugh manqué and a cable network with a leftward skew to counteract the right-leaning Fox. This conclusion is soft and squishy, for many reasons.

First, like most postmodern political tactics, it puts the cart firmly before the horse. Those Democrats looking to find an electoral magic bullet in a greater media presence "start from the premise that the message (of the Democrats in 2002) was right," meaning they build their arguments from one hell of a faulty premise. The failure of the Democrats' "message" consisted largely of their failure to have one in an election year when referring to a spade as a goddamn spade would have sufficed nicely, not to mention having to run on a record of post-9/11 capitulation as opposed to a host of what should have been clear-cut Democratic issues.

Months later, the question of just what the Democrats would shout if given a Republican-sized megaphone is still being asked. Democratic responses to Republican conservatism run the narrow gamut from the neoconservative homilies of Leiberman and Edwards to the incremental me-tooism of Richard Gephardt to the unlikely patrician populism of the spookily Kennedyesque John Kerry, the party's lone if faltering voice of genuine protest having been silenced months ago. As for the greater left, between the influence of identity politics and the self-defeating practice of political correctness litmus testing, it has jangled like a bag of nickels for decades, unable to muster anything like unity even on those issues considered crucial by a majority of its members.

Furthermore, the main question that comes to mind when I hear that liberalism needs its own Rush Limbaugh or Bill O'Reilly is "Why the hell would we want one of those?" As popular or influential as either of these gentlemen (to use the term loosely) might be, their stock in trade consists of equal parts lies and sophistries—collections of their factual misstatements are all over the Web and occasionally on the bestseller lists. It is their freedom from the constraints of honesty and fairness that has allowed them to develop the freewheeling, take-no-prisoners styles responsible for so much of the entertainment value of their respective programs. If one of the qualifications for the Rush Limbaugh of the left is a similar lack of scruples, such a person is much more likely to be part of the problem than part of the solution.

In this, as in so many other efforts, a large part of the Democrats' mistake comes in overestimating the influence of conservative Republicans. Not only don't most Americans listen to Limbaugh and watch Fox, most Americans don't agree with their points of view. Even the much-vaunted support for the president is a mile wide and a millimeter deep, disappearing entirely when questions turn to specifics of his performance. There is certainly much to communicate in opposition to the current regime—millions of people worldwide articulated part of that message eloquently in mid-February.

With this in mind, rather than treating the American people as an audience, the Democrats, and the left in general, should try treating them as citizens—offering information, countering disinformation and insisting on restoring a standard of honesty that has been lacking from the public debate for years. It doesn't take a cable network to do that—it just takes courage and conviction. Unless the Democrats can reclaim those qualities, no step they take can be one in the right direction. LV

URHERE



THOMAS DEAN

The political power of community

I owans, with their first-in-the-nation presidential caucuses, have the rare privilege of playing host to the sometimes rough and tumble jockeying of Oval Office aspirants. Well over a year before the primary season, we are courted and cajoled by commander-in-chief wannabes who pump our hands, slap our backs and flit their eyelashes at us with a vigor both energizing and amusing. I decided to enter this fray in the flesh for the first time this season recently when Dennis Kucinich, Democratic representative from Ohio, spoke with FAIR, a recently formed citizens' group intent on making our local politics and community more progressive.

I've been intrigued by Kucinich for the past two years. His voice (sometimes in the wilderness) has often spoken loudly and strongly against the brutal policies and deceptive practices of the Bush administration. The repressive "war on terrorism" and the impending immoral war on Iraq has brought out the best in Kucinich and made his mission to create a Department of Peace more urgent and, I hope, more high profile. The state of the world has apparently also brought out a sense of ambition, and perhaps duty, in this unique member of the House minority party. His appearance in Iowa City occurred two days before he filed papers for a presidential exploratory committee, though "Dennis Kucinich for President" fliers were already plentiful at the rousing gathering in Old Brick on Market Street.

Kucinich knows how to rouse a crowd, how to use the oratorical techniques of parallel structure, repetition, call and response, and vocal dynamics to good effect. (His history on women's reproductive rights is a matter of concern to many liberals, as is the mere fact that he's a Democrat, a party many see as having lost touch with its base and its modern roots.) Kucinich is also working hard at perfecting a Jimmy Carter broad smile and a Bill Clinton piercing gaze to grab souls (and votes). Yeah, he's a politician; he looks like one and acts like one. But he doesn't necessarily think like one, at least like most of those who pass for our "representatives" these days. Unlike almost anyone else in the current presidential field, Dennis Kucinich understands the power and importance of community.

Kucinich rose to national prominence as the 31-year-old "boy mayor" of Cleveland in the 1970s. His legacy—which led to his re-election defeat and 15-year-long stalled political career—is his cancellation of the sale of Cleveland's public utility to a private enterprise, and the subsequent loan defaults into which his city plunged. Thirty years later, Cleveland thanks Kucinich for saving their public utility, a shining example of the city's civic strength. (Iowa City councilors—pay attention—municipal utilities are Good Things.)

In the dim, warm evening light of Old Brick, Kucinich told us that all of his political successes were due only to

the power of community. Hardly a mainstream thinker, Kucinich has never had much chance of getting the backing of the political establishment, with its machinery of pollsters, lobbyists and professional fund-raisers. But there is something—a sleeping giant, one might say—that can best the well-oiled, often oppressive wheels of "the machine": the grass-roots collective. Kucinich's campaign motto is "one person can make a difference." When many, many, many "one persons" act in concert, revolution happens. Kucinich understands that not only do political electoral revolutions happen from a groundswell of individuals against the machine, but so does social transformation. He knows that individual communities, not party "leadership councils" and "national committees," are the true cauldrons of activism, bubbling the yeast of political change. A true functioning community—of fellow citizens talking to one another in their homes, workplaces and neighborhoods, and joining forces in collective action and decision-making—can surprise the world. Kucinich has depended on this power and succeeded by it.

Kucinich's policies and beliefs are also informed by his sensitivity to community. He knows that war on Iraq is also about what happens at home. He knows that it also means our sons and daughters, as well as sons and daughters in real communities far away, will be killed. He knows that alreadydevastated city, county and state budgets-devastated in part by a national government withdrawing itself from the local and regional-will become even more ravaged as billions of our hard-earned dollars are diverted into a corrupt crusade against a bogeyman. This means that, in Iowa City, our city councilors will continue to say "sorry, the cupboard is empty" to the Emergency Housing Project. (City councilors, take note—THIS is why a city anti-war resolution is, indeed, very much your business.) Our county commissioners will continue to say the same to the Johnson County Senior Center. Our state legislators will continue to say the sane to our universities and small rural school districts.

I dream of a day when a Department of Peace, as Dennis Kucinich says, organizes our society around the concept of peace, not war. The dividends would be great.

I'm really not campaigning for Dennis Kucinich. I honestly don't know him, his history and his policies that well. But I'm here to encourage you, very strongly, to take a hard look at him, as well as any candidate who speaks about community, and who does so with honesty and not empty platitudes. It is in community that revolutionary change begins, grows and flowers to success. It is in community that our national and international policies ultimately devolve into our everyday lives, and determine whether those lives will be ones of care, compassion and prosperity, or ones of moral and material poverty. I think Dennis Kucinich understands that. LV

It's About The Food

CHEF KURT MICHAEL FRIESE

From the Ground, UP!

There is nothing that is taught in school that cannot be taught in a garden.

The Iowa City community has been given an historic opportunity, one we cannot afford to squander. With the recent passage of the school bond referendum, the school district will be building three new schools and adding on to

or refurbishing many others.

One or more of these new schools should be built with gardens, From the Ground, UP! Slow Food Iowa is joining with other organizations to spearhead an initiative with that very name. These gardens can be cared for by the students and supervised by willing teachers and community volunteers. An "edible schoolyard" can be interwoven with the school's curriculum, offering a multitude of learning opportunities. Not just science and health, but so much more: math, history, literature, discipline, communication, self-reliance, understanding, community, cooperation, inclusiveness, problem solving, cause & effect, awareness, and stewardship. Alice Waters, a leader in this cause, and the creator of the "Edible Schoolyard" at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School in Berkeley, said, "From the garden, and the kitchen, and the table, you learn empathy—for each other and for all of creation; you learn compassion; and you learn patience and self-discipline. A curriculum that teaches these lessons gives children an orientation to the future—it can give them hope."

The work in designing such a curriculum has been done many times over across the nation by Slow Food and other worthy organizations, such as Ms. Waters' Chez Panisse Foundation. At the M.L. King School, the garden is at the center of the educational experience. Students cultivate, plant, weed, harvest, prepare, cook, and eat the very fruits of their labor and see the great circle completed when they compost the vegetable scraps. From this they accomplish the grand goal of education: understanding themselves.

It isn't just Berkeley. All over the country, seedling projects are sprouting up in schoolyards. In Philadelphia, Denver, Portland, Boston, and closer to home in Chicago and Champaign, people are learning the value of teaching children about themselves through time-honored principles like stewardship of the land and environmental awareness. It is almost inexcusable that it has yet to happen in a state with as rich an agricultural heritage as Iowa, but now the time has come.

This is not to say that there will not be a lot of work to do to make it happen here. It was Ms. Waters who taught me that the responsibility for the condition of our schools and of the curriculum taught in them lies not with the brave and underpaid teachers and administrators. The responsibility lies with the larger community, who treat our children's education like the weather—everybody talks about it but no one actually does anything about it. Now they have done something, and we must grasp the opportunity.

One step has been taken. The community has spoken and given the school district a one-word mandate: "Grow." The school board should take the community literally and grow healthy kids by growing food in gardens for them to eat. And we must help by giving voice to our concerns about a well-

rounded education, as well as actually lending a hand where possible to design, implement and nurture this project. Plant the seeds; watch them grow.

What would it look like?

It would look like a garden. But that's just on the surface. Underneath would be a curriculum interlaced with the school district's mission to "ensure all students become responsible, independent learners." The edible schoolyard will show students that food comes from the earth rather than the grocery store. It is a complete program that teaches every aspect of life, from plant to plate.

All of us had that experience in grade school, the experiment where the teacher gave you a bean to plant in a Styrofoam coffee cup and each day you would look to see if it had sprouted. Remember your excitement the day the seedling popped through to the surface? Remember your pride when you took it home to show your mother? For most of us, the joy died when the bean sprout withered on the kitchen windowsill, forgotten for weeks until Mom secretly disposed of it. In a school garden, that joy never dies. Have you ever seen a child's face when she bites into a tomato she grew herself, juice dribbling down her chin like liquid sunshine?

How would it work?

The architects would design the garden and kitchen right along with the rest of the building and grounds, with support from community professionals in gardening, landscaping and food service. The curriculum would be designed by the district and the teachers at the school right along with the design of the standard curriculum, with the support of people around the country who have already successfully implemented this exact type of program.

With one teacher in charge of the garden and one in charge of the kitchen, the students would till the soil, plant the seeds, pull the weeds, irrigate, harvest the crops, prepare, cook and eat the food. This too would be supported through the volunteer efforts of community gardeners, local farmers, chefs, landscapers and anyone who has something to contribute. Remember, not only does this help to educate our kids, it also makes them healthier.

How can you help?

To start with, talk. Tell teachers and the school board you support the idea. Write letters to local papers, radio and TV stations. Next, tell Slow Food Iowa of your interest, and join us in promoting this idea to the decision-makers who will be building these schools. Think about what you or your company or your club could do to join in the effort. It could be as simple as donating some old garden tools or loaning your tiller in the spring; or as involved as volunteering to help in the garden once a week or teach a lesson in the kitchen. Through our combined efforts, we can build schools worthy of Iowa's rich agricultural history, places where children can learn to work together toward a common goal and to be healthy, productive members of society.

If you can help, or know someone who can, please contact Slow Food Iowa right away at the email address below. Together we can build stronger kids and a stronger Iowa, From the Ground, UP! LV

Questions and comments invited at AboutFood@Devotay.com

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Letters

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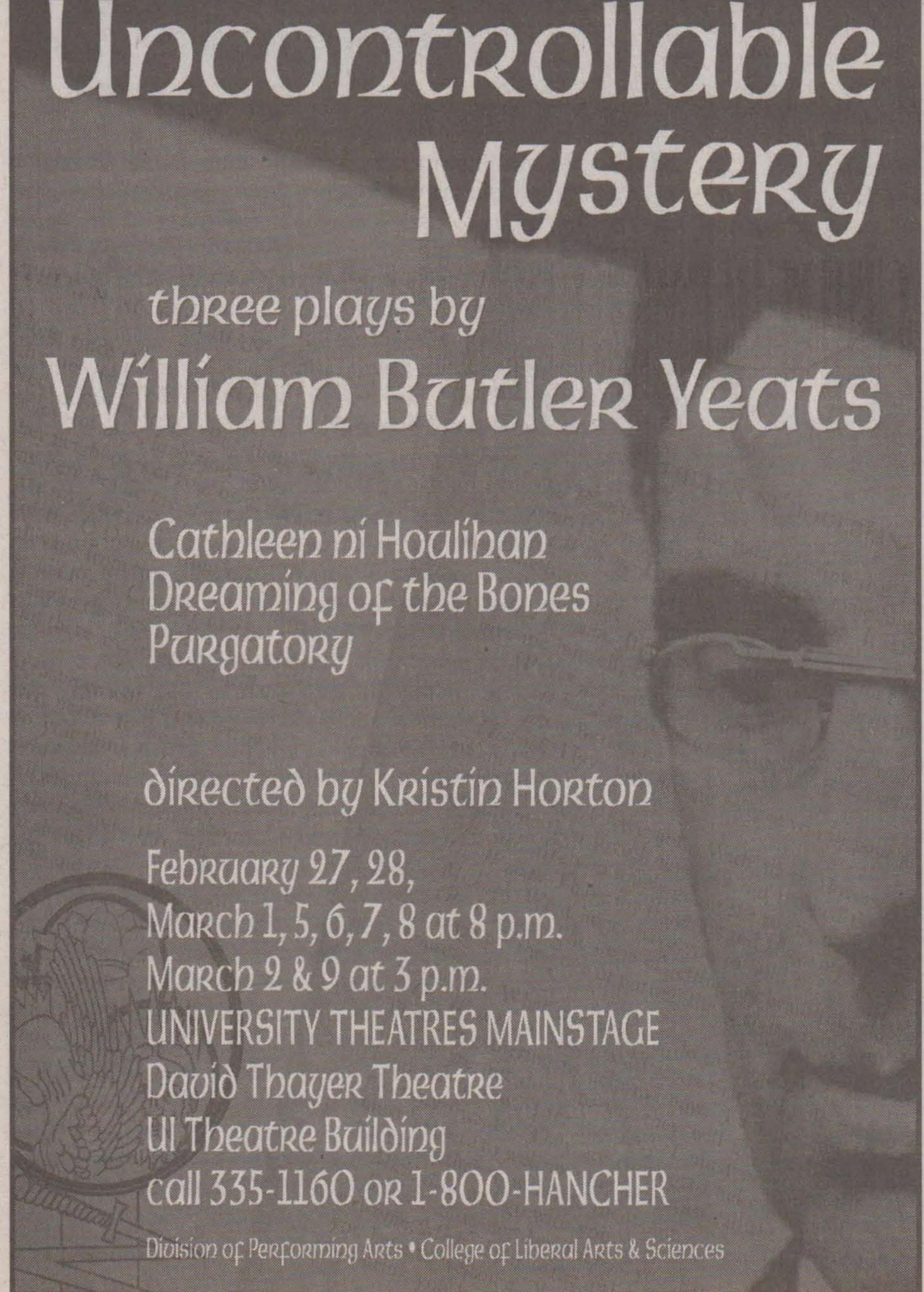
Today, adults can't use excuses of "you're so malnourished that the extra calories you burn without a coat will send you into an irreversible coma," or "there are carnivores out there," so they use the "catch cold" excuse. Other evolved behaviors, such as fear when seeing red blood, can be useful today—with a large wound, fear causes narrower blood vessels and less bleeding (the person is more likely to survive and carry on this emotional response to descendants.)

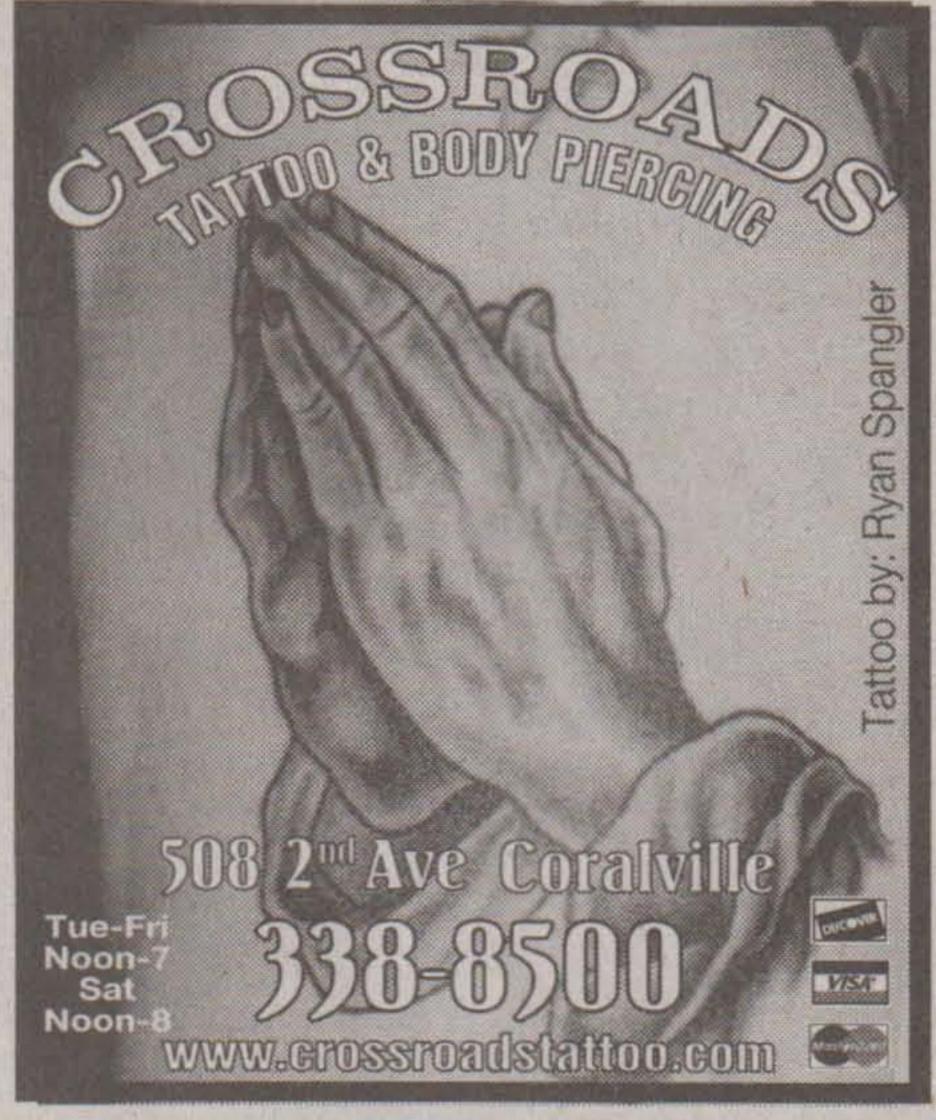
Colds come from germs from other people. If it's 25 degrees with a wind chill of 15, kids can be warm enough playing soccer in a T-shirt and shorts. If they get cold, it's their own fault. A 15-minute recess should be a fun time, not a hot, uncomfortable

time. People with this scientific fabrication of catching colds are likely the same people who visit chiropractors and believe that a spring-loaded Activator adjusting instrument can provide help other than a placebo effect. They put facts aside and let emotions rule. Hundreds of thousands of years of evolution isn't easy to counteract; intellectually, the "wear coat" genes can be kept at bay. If not, at least the shades can be pulled so you don't realize that the overheated, running-like-crazy, healthy children are taking their coats off.

Editor's Note: John Gelhaus works at West High in Iowa City as an educational associate for special ed.







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Does peace have a fighting chance?

Can regular people stand in the way of the Bush Administration's rush to war? Jimmy Moore takes a sprawling look at the burgeoning peace movement—locally and globally. Story: Jimmy Moore Photos: Mike Breazeale



resident Bush appears to be eyeball to eyeball with a tenacious new adversary: millions of people who flooded the streets of New York and dozens of other world cities to say they are against war.... For the moment, an exceptional phenomenon has appeared.... It may not be

as profound as the people's revolutions across Eastern Europe in 1989 or in Europe's class struggles of 1848, but politicians and leaders are unlikely to ignore it.

- From New York Times article "A New Power in the Streets" by Patrick Tyler, Feb 15, 2003

As the Bush administration continues its ministrations for war with Iraq, a new wind is blowing across the land, and it's blowing directly in the face of President Bush. What is the president's response to 20 million feet marching together against his preemptive strike policy in hundreds of cities around the globe last month, likely the largest antiwar demonstration ever?

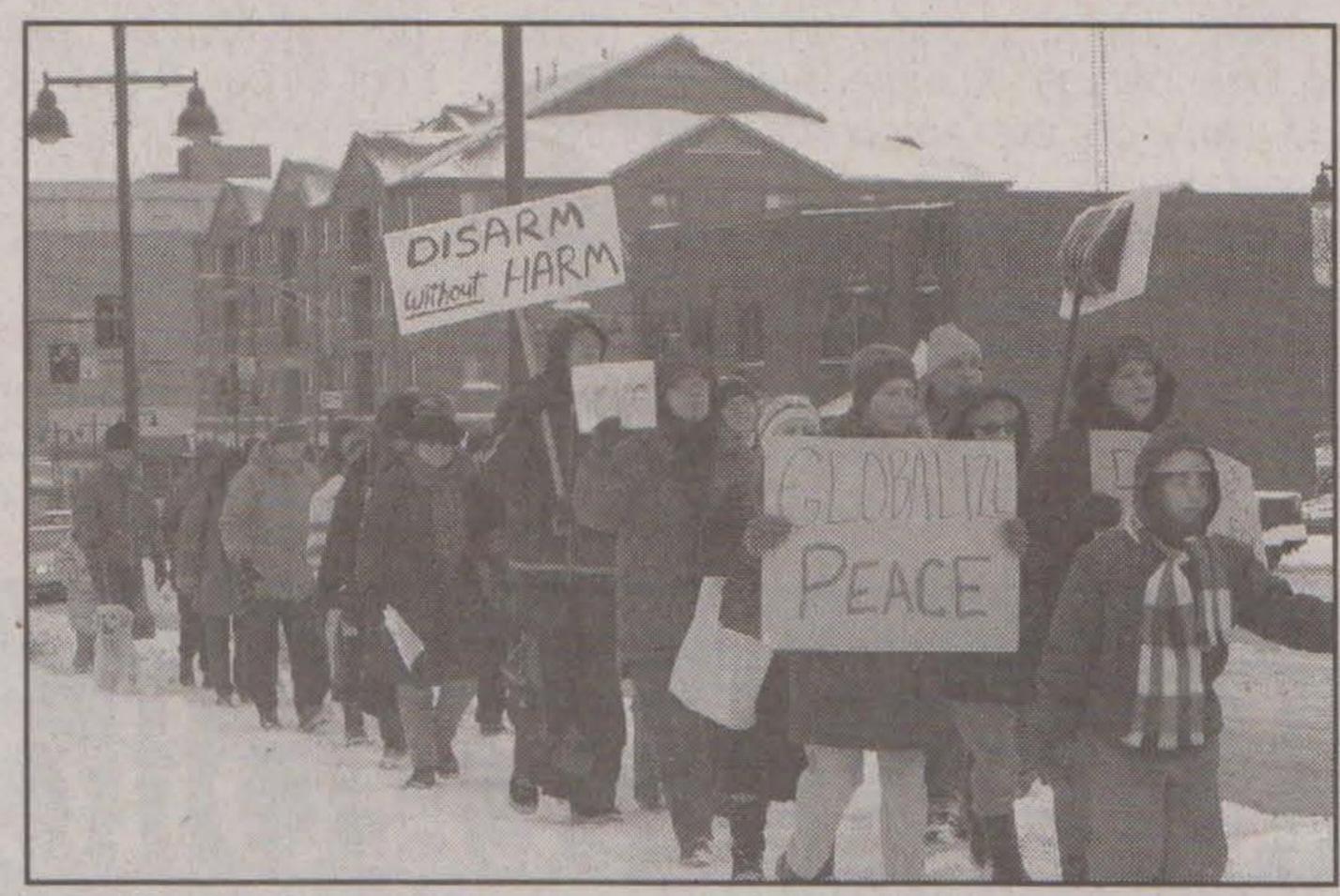
The size of the protest is "irrelevant," he says, playing down the historic significance by comparing it to a "focus group." But when Mr. Bush talks about a leader having to sometimes "buck public opinion," at least he's acknowledging that public sentiment is against him. This is a victory for the growing propeace movement, even as the pro-war contingency continues to chomp ominously at the bit.

Across the country people are banding together in small groups and larger coalitions to express their dismay and outrage. Almost overnight a people's movement has sprung up in a grassroots groundswell that is shifting the national debate and challenging the domestic and foreign policy assumptions of this country's leadership.

"I think the peace movement has made tremendous gains, but we're just getting started. Our leaders won't be moved easily. We have to think beyond Iraq. If they do attack, we have to be prepared to continue building this movement." These words are from Doug Anderson, an Iowa City graduate student and member of the UI campus organization Campaign Against War. He speaks from direct experience. Since Bush took office, Anderson has organized four separate bus trips to the nation's capitol and has seen the crowds grow exponentially each time.

He has just returned from the Feb. 15 New York City rally on a chartered bus out of Madison, Wis. Twenty-degree temperatures did not dampen his enthusiasm. "The vibe was amazing," Anderson says, calling it "the biggest demonstration yet in the country." Although the NYPD refused to make an estimate and kept demonstrators from converging in one area, an estimated half a million people participated. Anderson decided at the last minute to go, unable to resist being part of the historic event, even though once again it meant two nights sleeping on a bus and considerable out-of-pocket expenses.

The massive turnout in New York had great symbolic significance, a point barely noted by the American corporate media. In the very city where the horrific terrorist attacks took place less than a year-and-a-half ago, hundreds of thousands



Iowa Citians for peace, Feb. 15, 2003

of Americans of all stripes and backgrounds joining together in democratic solidarity to promote a peaceful, humane solution to the Iraq crisis is a major statement to the Bush Administration. Like me, many people feel the tragic events of 9/11 have been hijacked by an administration hell-bent on dethroning Saddam Hussein and using the war on terror to retrofit a pre-existing global master game plan. Like me, they keep asking that old Zen koan: How did the war on terrorism become a war on Iraq? And we get the usual official response: The sound of one hand clapping.

People came out in droves—even though an Orange Alert had been signaled by the administration, even though a biological or chemical threat was really "real" this time, even though citizens were given careful instructions on how to duct tape their doors and windows, even though a parade permit was denied (the first time in NYPD history such a rally has been stopped dead in its tracks). There were men, women and children, young and old, students, working and retired with placards denouncing the mad rush to war, braving the cold and police barricades, a true democratic coalition of the willing. As Jimmy Breslin put it: "On our streets of beauty yesterday, gladness was in the place of arrogance and meanness.... They were summer people in winter clothes...an enormous crowd that turned cold sidewalks into beautiful gardens." (Newsday, Feb. 16, 2003)

Back in October, I went to DC with 50 others on a bus out of Iowa City organized by Anderson. About 150,000 people converged from all over the country in what was called the largest antiwar protest since the Vietnam War. I saw firsthand that antiwar does not equal pro-Saddam, that anti-Bush does not equal anti-American. It was beautiful day. Not one arrest. 70 degrees. Imagine a line of people 25-across marching in a steady stream two-miles long around the White House with the dignity of a civil rights march. The media barely touched the story, greatly under-reporting numbers when they did.

But grassroots, community-based and national organizers were busy mobilizing—contacting elected leaders, writing newspaper editors, holding peace vigils, peace fairs

and ecumenical services, starting antiwar petitions, getting pro-peace resolutions passed by city councils, forming coalitions, informing each other, educating citizens about the consequences of the Bush Doctrine, raising money for antiwar campaigns. People uncomfortable with the mad rush to war found they were not alone—not with organizers like Lori Nelson of the Iowa City-based Iowans for Peace stepping up to the plate.

A day in the life of a grassroots rocker

Lori Nelson drives from Iowa City to meet with a group of local activists in Fairfield who have been holding weekly antiwar peace vigils on their town square. She has been invited to the group's monthly meeting to give

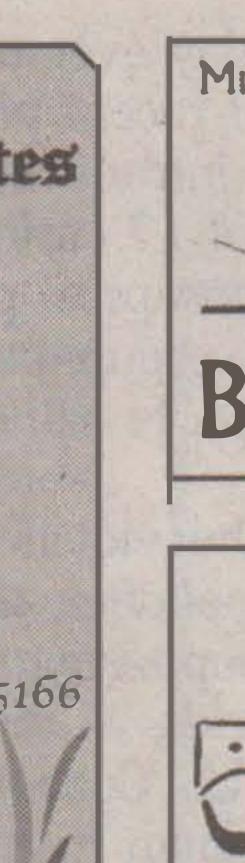
"I think the peace movement has made tremendous gains, but we're just getting started. Our leaders won't be moved easily. We have to think beyond Iraq. If they do attack, we have to be prepared to continue building this movement."

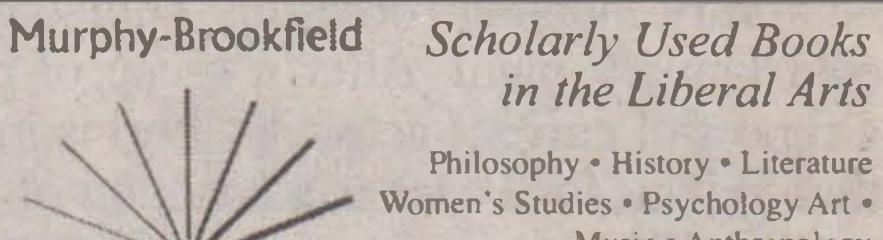
> -Doug Anderson, UI Campaign Against War

a presentation and answer questions. Her husband will take care of their 4-year-old boy this evening. Lori, a social psychologist by training, is director of institutional research and adjunct professor at Cornell College in Mount Vernon. She is soft-spoken, polite, clearminded and direct, a quiet lighthouse with incredibly positive energy.

She learns that the Fairfield group started when 50 people came out one Sunday five months ago to protest the administration's militant obsession with Iraq. After that first vigil, people just kept coming back every week. They eventually began calling themselves the People for Peace. Eighteen traveled to the massive Oct. 26 antiwar rally in Washington, DC. There are about 30 people in the pub-



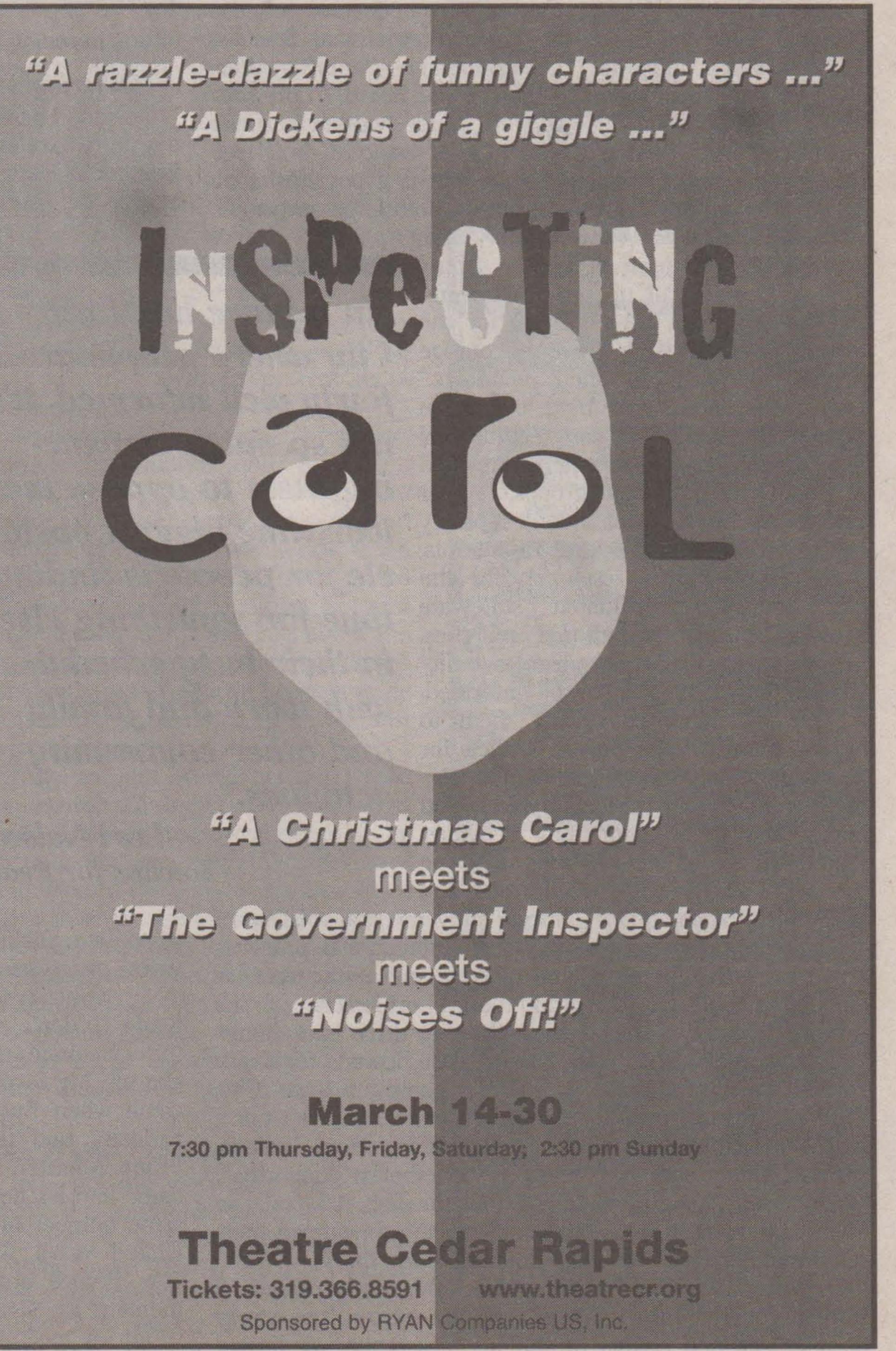




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lic library meeting room this Thursday evening on a bitterly cold January night. After a recap of recent peace news and a report of current activities, Lori is introduced. She explains that Iowans for Peace is a coalition of 17 eastern Iowa peace groups. "They vary from religious groups to political groups to student groups to community groups to professional groups, etc.," she explains, "and we've all come together around certain points of unity."

Those points include opposing the violence of the "war on terrorism," excessive military spending, attacks on civil liberties and racial profiling, while supporting more peaceful and just domestic and foreign policies, as well as the freedoms and rights embodied in the US Constitution and Bill of Rights, the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the Geneva

Convention, and the rules of international law.

Groups include the First Mennonite Church, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Iowa Jews for Justice, Johnson County Greens, Wesley Center, Iowa chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, the Iowa International Socialist Organization, and the UI Campaign Against War.

"It's important to make your voice heard," Lori says answering a question. "People were a little hesitant to speak out in criticism of the government after Sept. 11, but I see that going away now. Public sentiment is a powerful tool. There are so many things you can do both large and small.

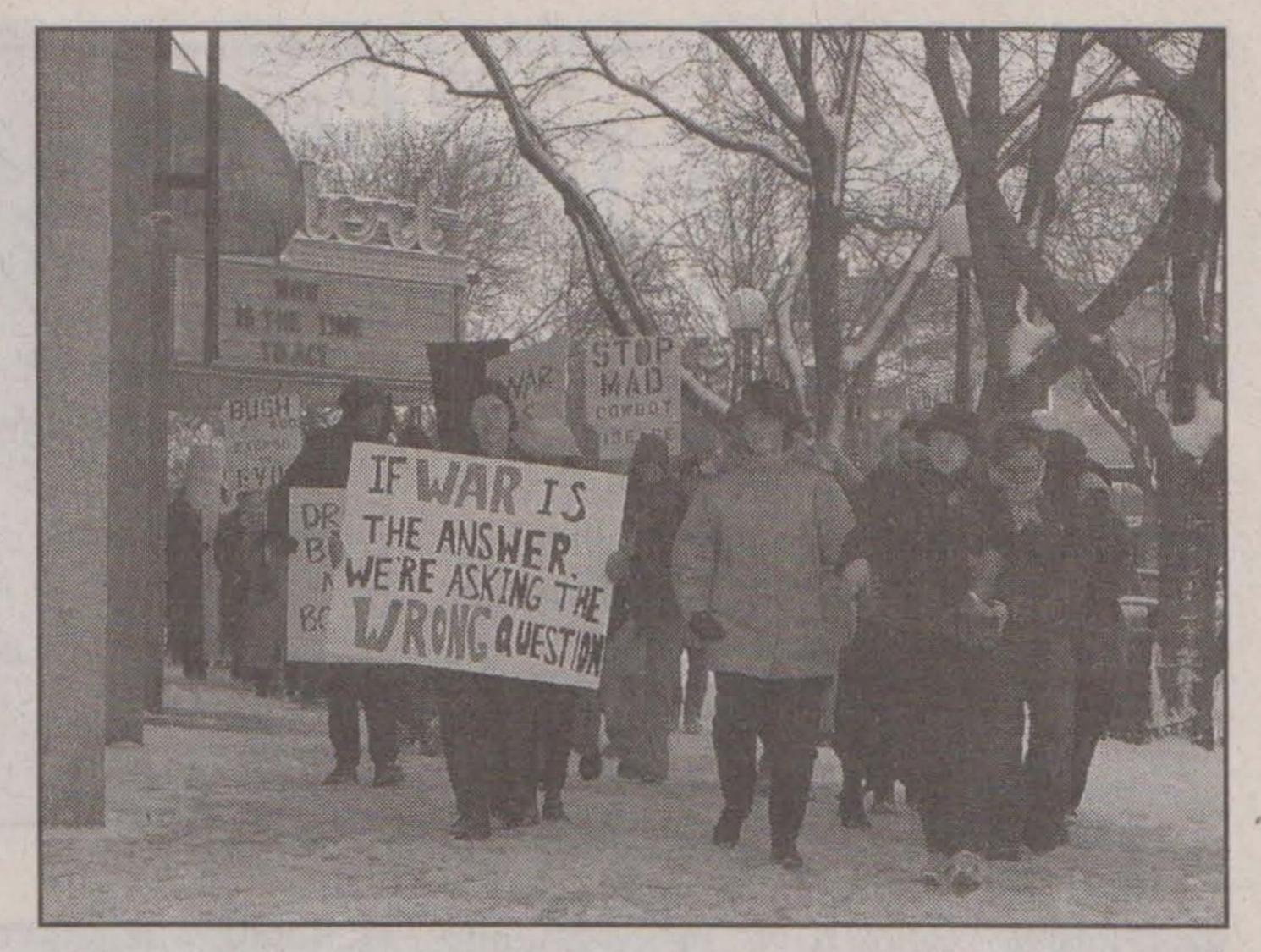
Become informed. Write letters. Email representatives. Join a peace group. Talk to people. Put up pro-peace signs. We have a dove as a symbol for the Iowans for Peace that we encourage people to place in their windows." Lori talks about upcoming events in fairly well informed, it's Iowa City, including an ecumenical antiwar service, a peace fair comprised of booths by individual groups, regular Friday peace vigils at noon, monthly letter writing events at local restaurants, drafting an antiwar resolution for the city council, coordinated statewide protests, buses to national marches.

She explains, "In a place like Iowa City where people are fairly well informed, it's not so much convincing them to oppose the war...the biggest obstacle for people is finding time for something else in their busy schedules with work and family and other community activities. Plus there are so many groups opposing the war. That's why we formed the

coalition. It adds up to a strong movement against war." The whole evening is more or less unemotional, practical, down to earth. There's a kind of Army-ants-in-the-trenches vibe, but a good one. The group thanks Lori for coming. She

returns thanks and makes the hour-long drive back home.

A few weeks later, I ask Karen Pease, Iowans for Peace coordinator, about how things are going in Iowa City. (The daughter of an oil company executive, with an uncle who served as a Republican congressman from Indiana, she laughingly says her family is nonetheless supportive.) "Wonderfully," she says, adding that the Feb. 15 rally in Iowa City drew 300-to-400 people to the downtown area. "Our numbers have at least doubled since the New Year, despite frigid weather." She considers the newly passed UI student government resolution against a war on Iraq a very positive step and credits UI student Nick Smith's dedicated



efforts in seeing it through.

A gathering storm

On Jan. 18, well over 250,000 gathered on the coldest day in two years in DC. More than 100,000 rallied in San Francisco. Many other cities held rallies. This time media across the country gave the story front-page play. Public

> sentiment was clearly shifting as poll numbers steadily declined for the

president.

Dissenting Americans were becoming emboldened by the likes of Nobel Laureates Nelson Mandela and Jimmy Carter, the National Council of Churches, the NAACP, hundreds of labor organizations, the Pope, even former Desert Storm General Norman Schwarzkopf, all speaking out in favor of restraint and prudence.

Disagreement about use of preemptive force versus allowing the inspections to work caused the most serious rift in the 58-year history of the NATO Alliance and an impasse in the UN Security Council. Secretary of State Colin Powell's emotional rescue mission at the UN momentarily reignited everyday America's appetite for war but was greatly undermined when it came out that 12-year-old material plagiarized from a graduate student paper had been presented as

up-to-date intelligence. Hans Blix's report that inspections were progressing favorably didn't help matters either.

Since no credible case for imminent threat has been made, I don't see how the UN can even be humoring the US about using arms to disarm. It's not in the UN charter. My favorite moment in this whole Iraq soap opera came when Bush, laying down yet another ultimatum to Saddam, said tersely, "The game is over." The French Prime Minister, not missing a beat, retorted, "It's not a game and it's not over." (People forget there are nearly the same number of Arabs in France as there are Jews in the United States, which factors into their outlook, I'm sure.)

As France and Germany are being written off at the moment as "sissies" by our indignant leaders, 52 African countries meeting in Paris have signed a petition against

"In a place like Iowa City where people are not so much convincing them to oppose the war...the biggest obstacle for people is finding time for something else in their busy schedules with work and family and other community

activities."

-Lori Nelson, Iowans for Peace

10 | little village | feature

the use of preemptive force in Iraq. Of particular note is that three of those countries are on the Security Council (Angola, Cameroon and Guinea). In a recent summit, 114 non-aligned countries, while urging Baghdad to "actively comply" with UN resolutions, made clear their strong revulsion toward any US-led war.

In the US, over 100 city councils in 28 states, with 100 more considering doing so, have passed resolutions urging restraint. These cities include Los Angeles, Chicago, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Madison, Des Moines and many others. (The Iowa City City Council has a resolution before it. If Campaign Against War group consists they haven't passed it yet, call and of about 25 students, a number that

encourage them.) Meanwhile, in the halls of Congress there seems to be a deafening silence about this issue, something Senator Byrd of West Virginia has characterized as "sleepwalking through history." As our nation enters the Pandora's box of a preemptive strike-before-the-iron's-

· hot era, including the option of tactical nuclear weapons, even against countries that don't have them, Sen. Byrd is perplexed by the business-as-usual attitude in the Senate chambers.

It's impossible to imagine that the Bush clique, hard-selling a preemptive strike for months at home, abroad and on the campaign trail, has thought through the consequences of this momentous policy shift. They have been pushing for war, threatening it, preparing for it, paying for it, praying about it, calling up reservists, deploying troops, even bombing inside the no-fly zones, for months and months. Impatient expediency plus hardball, take-no-prisoners posturing may work for the bottom-line mentality of big business, but it appears to be a Molotov cocktail for diplomacy and international relations.

The National Council of Churches has called an unprovoked attack on Iraq unjust, saying that it will likely cause the cycle of violence and retaliation to escalate, that it is inconsistent with the teachings of Christianity. The president and vice president, both United Methodists, have turned down requests by church leadership to meet and counsel concerning this important step the nation is on the threshold of taking.

The president claims not to be

swayed by polls, or by the millions of people who came out and voted with their feet in this country and worldwide. The obvious question is, can a people's movement make a difference? Can the great sleeping bear of American apathy be roused? Perhaps it all comes down to the question, can individuals really make a difference?

Doug Anderson thinks so. Thinking globally and acting locally, he is optimistic but feels there is work to be done.

"A lot of students aren't aware enough of the consequences of this war for the Iraqi people or for America," he says. "More education is needed." The

> Anderson would obviously like to see grow. He tells me about a new national network of campus groups called the Campus Antiwar Network. He's hopeful about its prospects. "They have open, democratic, delegated meetings and represent about

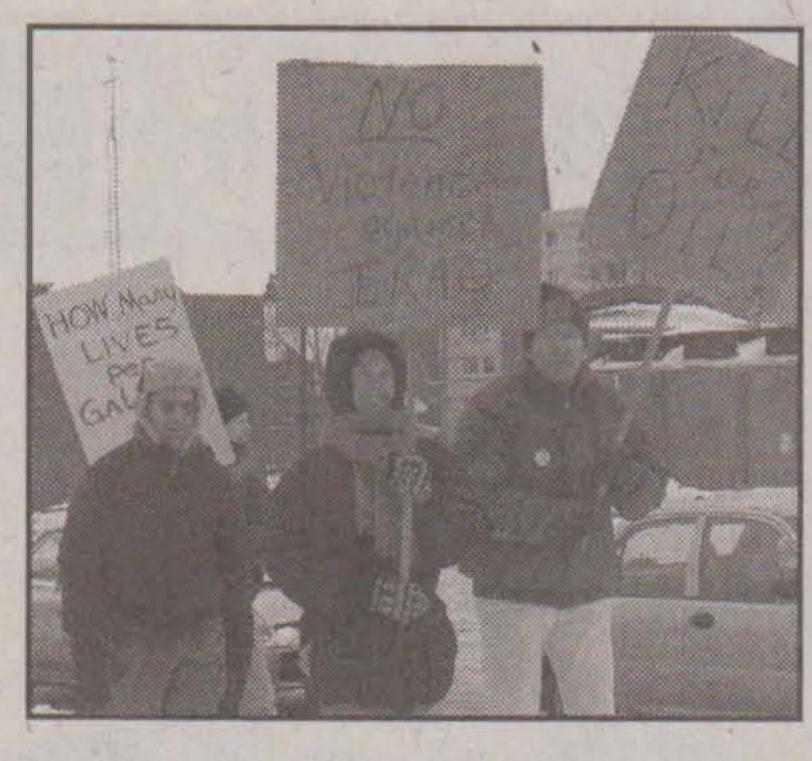
70 campuses so far," he says.

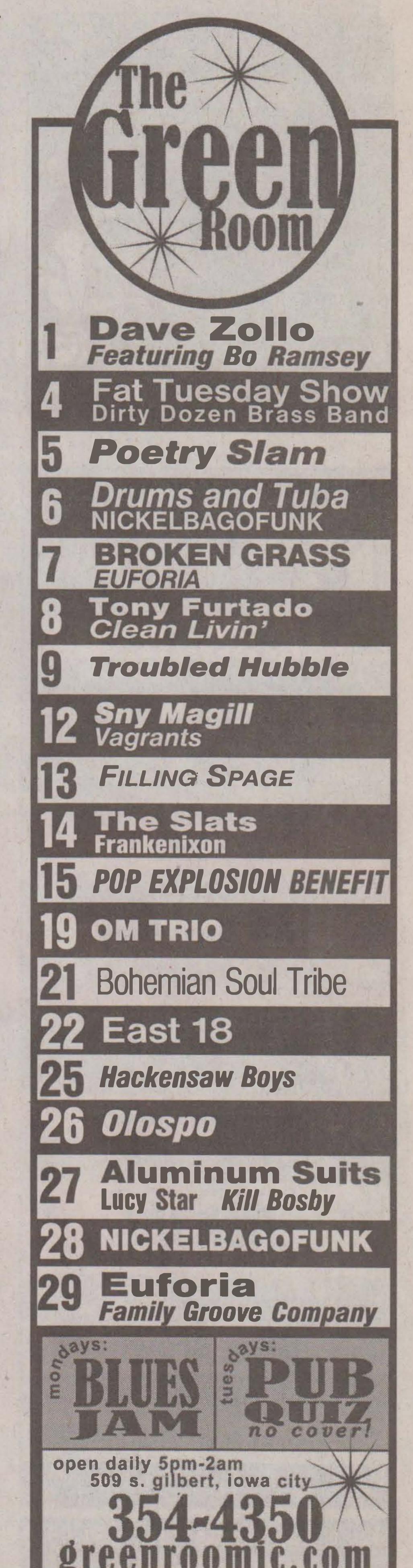
Anderson is smooth, articulate, humble, committed and passionate about social injustice. Peering from behind wire-rim glasses, he's a good listener who has a wonderful touch with people. Anderson is a proud member of the International Socialist Organization, and I ask him about the charge that these pro-peace events are inherently anti-American because some of them have been set up by socialist organizations.

"Any socialist worth his salt would be against an imperialist war, especially a preemptive invasion to force an undemocratic regime change," says Anderson. "The peace movement is incredibly broad-based. Many people don't believe Bush is concerned about human rights. Attacking organizers and organizations is simply an attempt to marginalize anyone who brings attention to things the administration would rather people not have their attention

David and Goliath

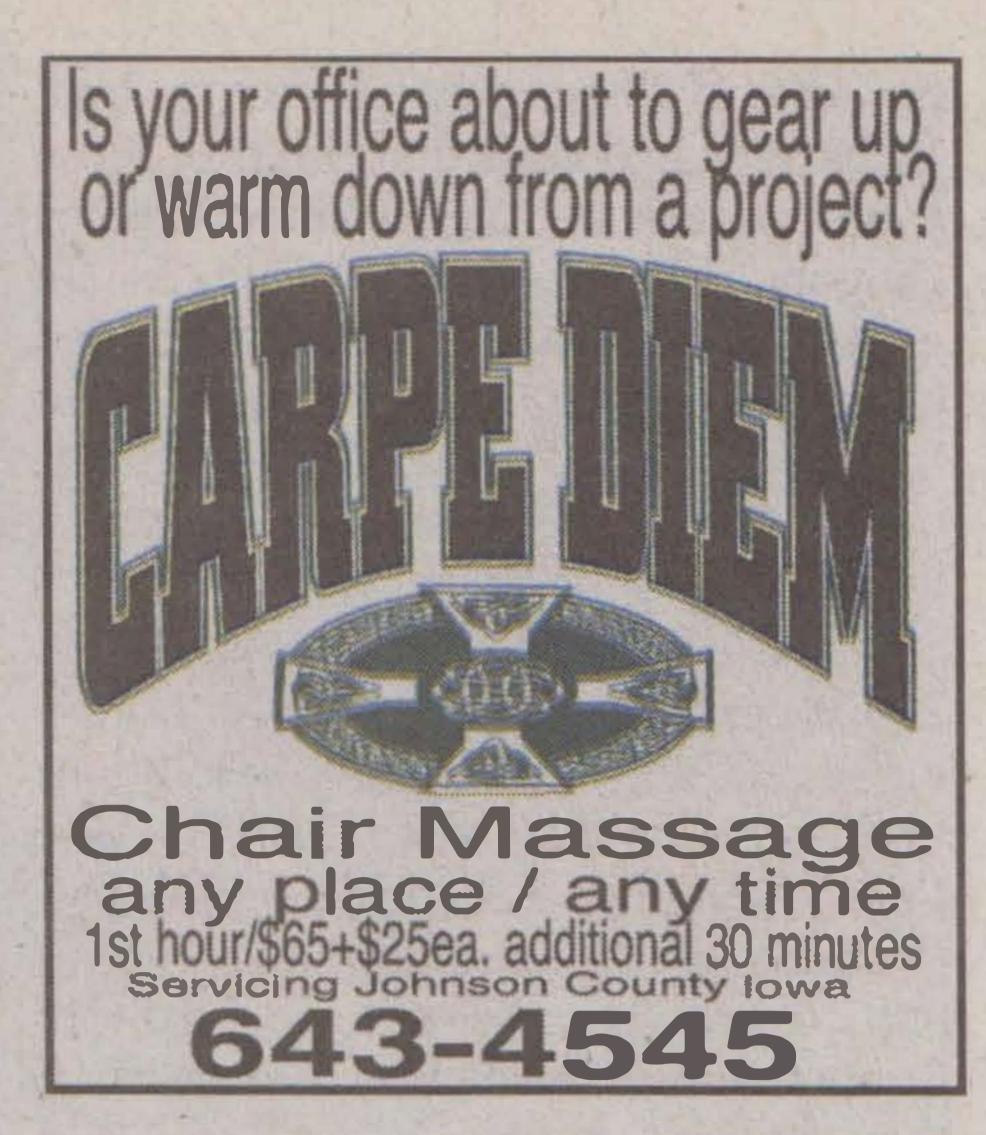
In a way, the peace movement is not unlike that lone Chinese student facing the tank in Tiananmen Square. With nothing more than placards, common sense, organizing power and determination, it is looking down the barrels of the awesome power and the billions



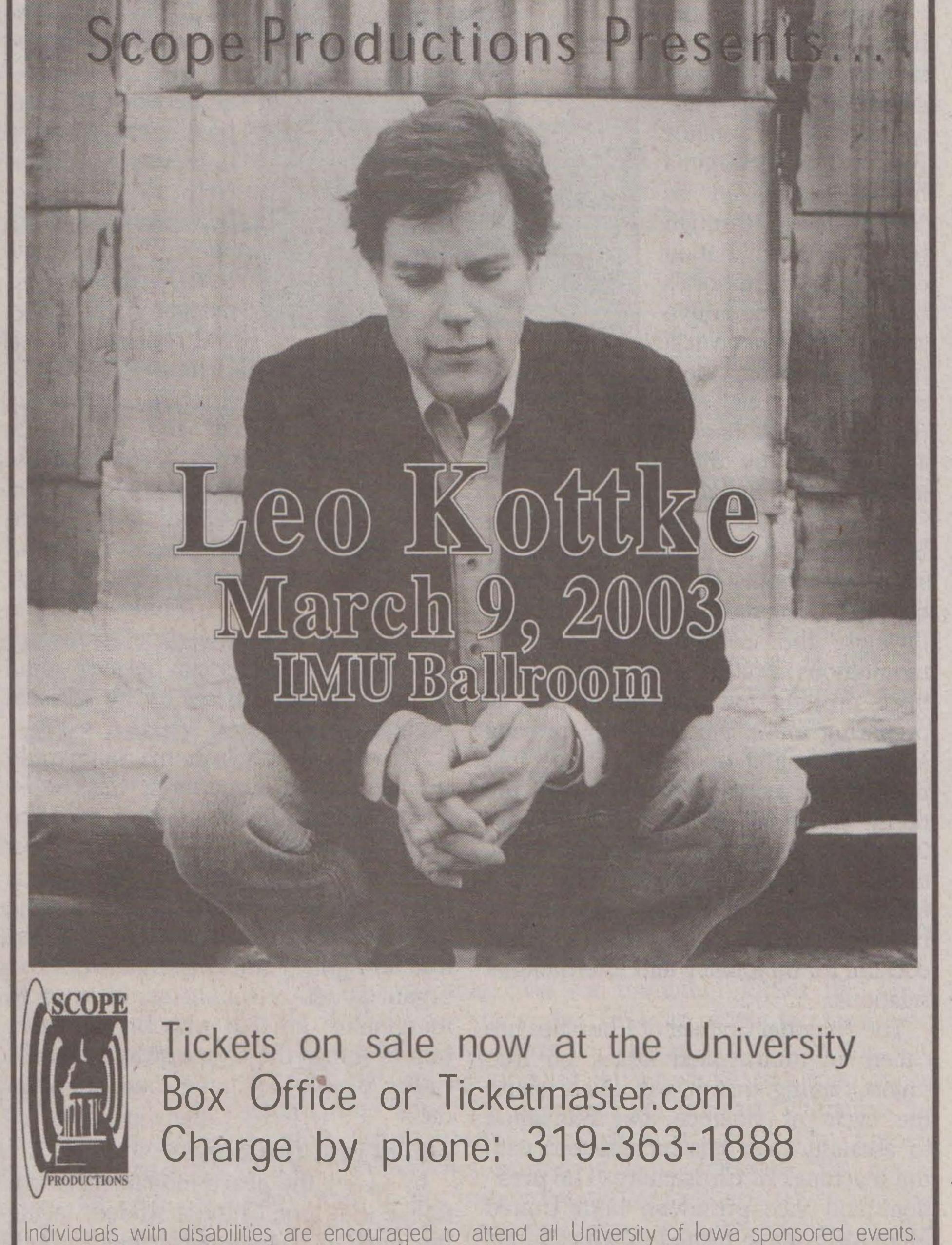












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and billions of dollars of the military -industrial, corporate media complex led by the present neo-conservative leadership.

This is the administration that has made public its plan to use more cruise missiles in two days than were used in all 41 days of the Gulf War. Smart bombs that will in five minutes wreak havoc 14 times greater than the devastation wrought by the atomic bombs we dropped on Hiroshima or Nagasaki. The operation, dubbed "Shock and Awe," is designed to psychologically destroy the will of the enemy, make him give up quickly.

The New York Times said it seems two superpowers may still remain: the United States and world public opinion. If that's true, it turns the David and Goliath metaphor on its ear. Yes, there is strength in numbers. As Arundhati Roy, Indian author and global activist, succinctly put it in a recent talk about confronting empire: "Remember, we be many and they be few."

In the spirit of hope and conciliation, I dream that our president and his clan can find an exit strategy from their entrenched, belligerent war footing to a higher ground without losing face or damaging America's beleaguered reputation. For the health, education and welfare of people everywhere, in the streets of Baghdad as well as in our own struggling cities. Then perhaps the powerful tool of world attention could focus on perennial troublespots like Iraq or Israel/Palestine or India/Pakistan or North Korea, and bring needed light and mediation.

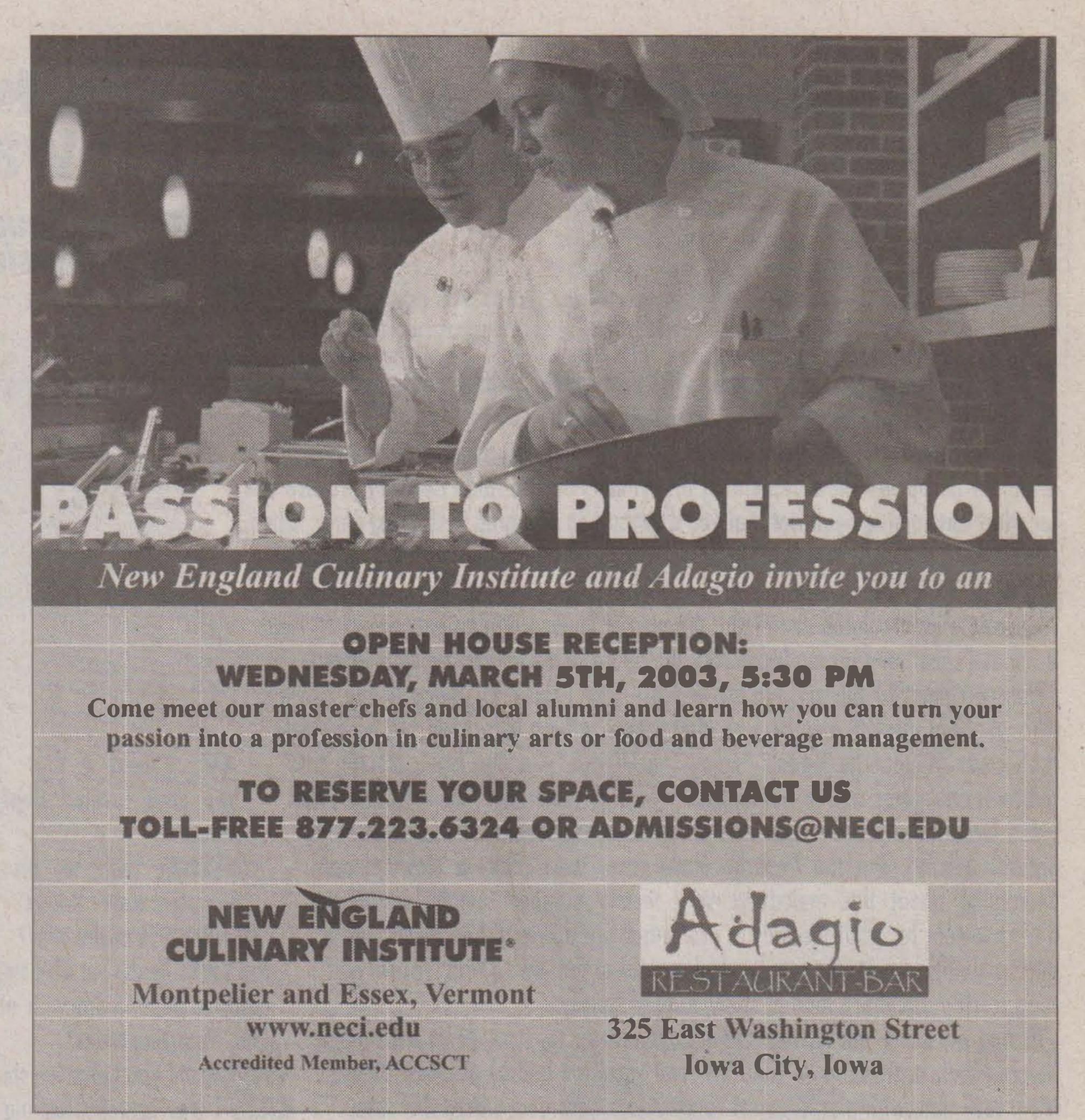
Smart bombs are not the answer; wise counsel and enlightened stewardship are. Ridding the world of evil dictators is a project for Hollywood, not Washington, DC. Even the idea of removing dictators preemptively by force until the world is recast in our image seems delusional, obscene and criminal. It's time for America to stop bullying the world and start burying the hatchet. Sure that sounds simplistic. Beating terrorism won't be easy. But experience indicates use of excessive force without confronting underlying issues will only create new crops of terrorists. Just ask Mr. Sharon.

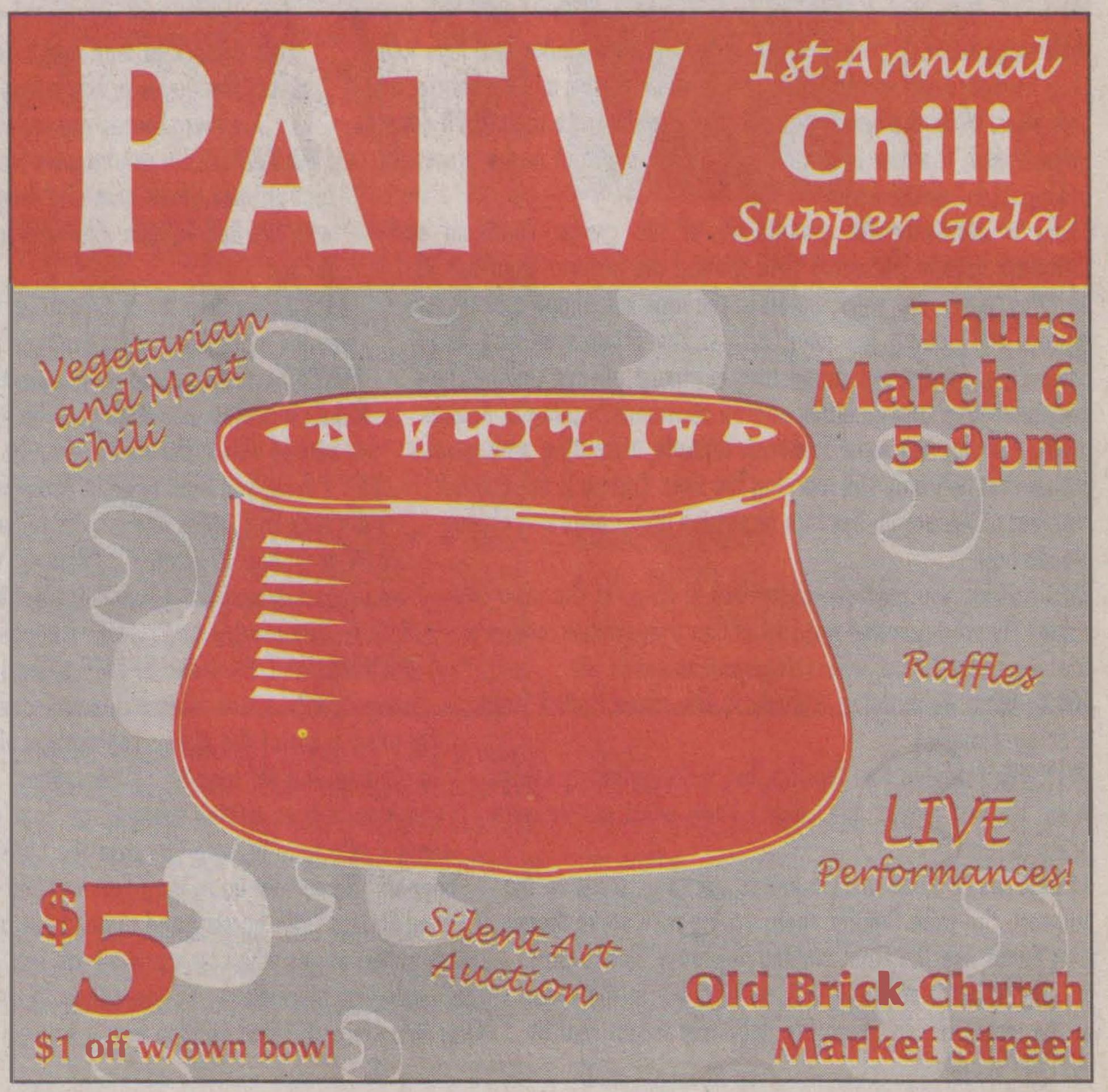
Does peace have a chance?

As long as peace-loving people everywhere are willing to persist, to stand up and be counted, even when the odds are long and the time is short.

Just ask Doug Anderson or Lori Nelson. LV

Jimmy Moore is a freelance writer and musician based in Fairfield, Iowa.





Protostarh... I don't think we're in lowa City anymore

Sythn-pop quartet carves out fresh slice in local music scene Margaret Schwartz

f you've been to the Green Room in the past couple months, you might have caught ProtostarR, Iowa City's dreamy, electro-pop quartet.

At one recent show, the opening act—a droney, strum-heavy rock band whose drummer ended the show by lighting his cymbals on fire—didn't exactly prepare you for what was coming next. Not that you'd have been prepared in the first place. When the pyrotechnics were over and the usual shuffle of equipment ended, the members of ProtastarR took their places behind keyboard, bass and sitar. They set up a dorm-room-esque multi-colored disco light, draped the keyboard in an old *Empire Strikes* Back bed sheet, and proceeded to rock the house in a very mellow way indeed.

The high point of the set, for me at least—and I think for many in the crowd who were not already members of what seems to be a very loyal fan base—was their cover of Depeche Mode's "Enjoy The Silence." On one level, it's fun just rediscovering gems of the not-so-distant past (I remember the color-drenched video featuring a solitary man in a crown enjoying several scenes of stunning natural beauty). But the Depeche Mode cover wasn't just a crowd-pleaser. Something about this melodic-yet-very techno number seemed to be an advertisement for what the kids in ProtostarR are up to: techno music with a pop sensibility; music that people can dance to—or not; music with lyricism and song craft; music that's kind of stony, kind of spacey.

To find out more about what these guys are up to, I sat down with the band in their practice space (and the lead vocalist's house) off Muscatine. It's a cozy pad, with plants, a soft couch and a basement where the band hones its distinctive sound. The four members of ProtostarR are (using their stage names): Payne, lead vocals, keyboard, guitar and tape loops; Lolo, keyboard and vocals; Carissa, bass guitar, vocals and keyboards; and Kaz, sitar. While the lineup has changed slightly since their 2000 debut, Wanderlust, the new ProtostarR is bonded solid and in the process of mixing its follow-up, Malai Kofta.

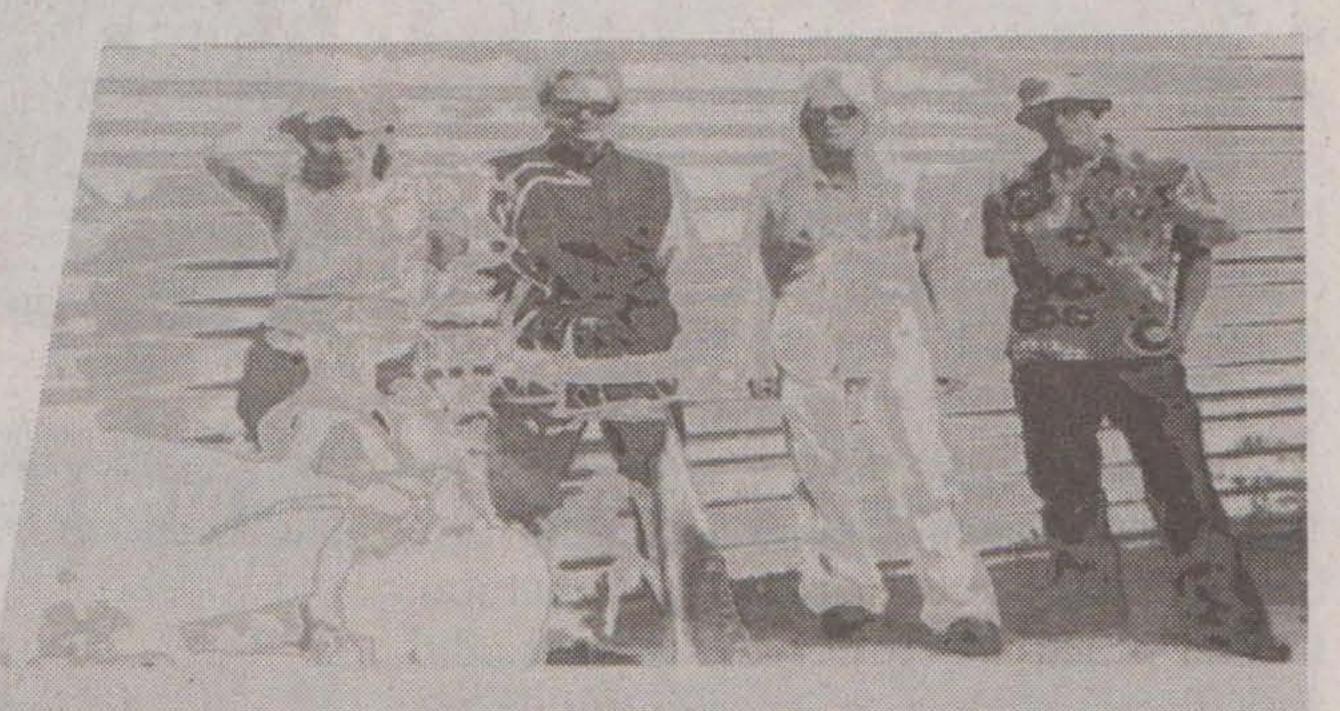
Lolo is definitely the mouthpiece of the group: Confident and articulate beyond her years (she showed me pictures from her 21st birthday party the week before), she was all about making eye contact and getting the point across. The group's musical heart, however, is Payne. His round face is almost always smiling; he's got enthusiasm and ambition and an enormous backlog of Beatles trivia. Kaz has the most laid-back attitude, admitting with good humor that he's only still learning the sitar. Carissa is the quietest member of the group, her face impassive under a curtain of long blonde hair.

LV: How do you guys see yourselves in terms of the lowa City scene? My preconception was sort of that it was either rockers or cowboys around here; where does your sound fit in?

KAZ: What we're doing, nobody in the whole United States is doing. [laughs]

PAYNE: I wouldn't go that far, but we're definitely loners. When we first played out I didn't know what people were going to think.

Midwest. I'm from Omaha; there's a big rave scene there, with bands like The Faint making new-wave electro clash. So maybe not specifically in lowa City, but in the sense of the larger region, there are definitely scenes that fit with our sound.



Protostarr | Shelter House (formerly EHP) benefit show March 29 | Eagles Lodge, Iowa City

LV: I liked it that you guys covered Depeche Mode's "Enjoy The Silence."

PAYNE: Yeah, we also cover "Cars" by Gary Numan, and the Beatles' "Tomorrow Never Knows."

LV: Because of the sitar?

PAYNE: Yeah, but also the tape loops. The Beatles were really one of the first bands to experiment with all that, and we love messing with samples, looping them, distorting them.

LV: How did you get interested in playing the sitar?

KAZ: I was actually looking for a different Indian instrument, called a sarod. [www.sarod.com defines the sarod as a "short-necked, unfretted, waisted lute carved from a block of teak and covered with a skin belly."] I couldn't find one, but I ran across this guy who was trying to get rid of his sitar, so I went for that.

LV: Are there spaces you usually play?

PAYNE: As far as places we frequent, that would be the Green Room, Gabes and doing out of town shows here and there. We played at a huge rave in Cedar Rapids last April with the Bad Fathers; that was a great time...the rave crowd definitely took a shine to our set.

LOLO: We do a lot of supporting local DJs, stuff like that, and Mud River bands. In that way it's more like a collective than just one band. More like a community.

PAYNE: Yeah, people come over here for after-hours all the time and jam.

KAZ: And Matt, our manager who lives on the West Coast, played drums on our album, and we backed him in the studio when he recorded as MC Logo 65.

LV: Payne, you used to be in Pompeii V, right?

PAYNE: True, I was one quarter of Pompeii V. Lots of folks make that connection. Since I was in PV, they think ProtostarR is "Pompeii V version 2," but really ProtostarR is a whole new group and sound dynamic, not trying or wanting to be at all like PV.

LV: So how exactly did ProtostarR happen?

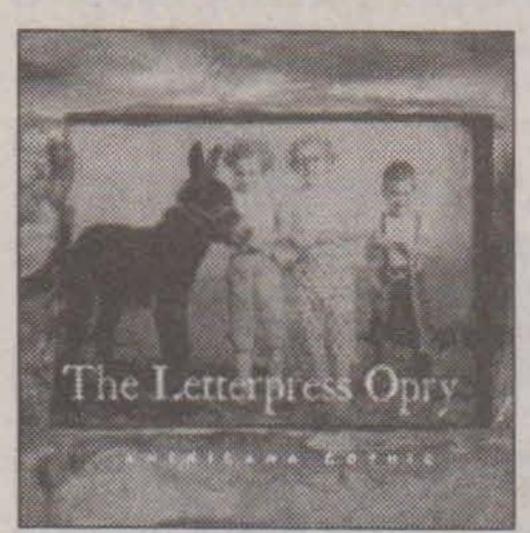
PAYNE: Well, PV ended in 1999 alongside our third record. [Pompeii V is still a going concern, however, with a new release due out soon.] Mainly, we broke up to follow our girlfriends/wives to other parts of the globe: California, Chicago, Cairo, Berlin. I [vocals, guita, synth in PV] was in Chicago and MC logo 65 [PV drummer] was in California. I had kept in contact with Logo and told him I'd been writing some songs. Logo called me one night and said, "Payne, listen, I booked some studio time in lowa City over the Christmas holiday. Let's go in there and make these songs happen." So we met up in lowa City and laid down tracks at Minstrel Studios in December 1999 and asked Carissa [PV's bassist] and some of our friends to help. Logo didn't play drums, only a little wahwah guitar. That's when he assumed the role of manager, executive producer. Overall, ProtostarR is definitely way more electronic-based than PV, which was much more guitar driven and rock-based.

After Wanderlust, I had no idea how it was going to be translated into a live setting; moreover, there

CD Reviews

The Letterpress Opry Americana Gothic Feral Dachshund

As you first listen to The Letterpress Opry's new CD, its title seems in reference only to the Americana music the band lays on thick throughout. A hillbilly fiddle, twangy guitar, upright bass, thumping drums, banjo and steel guitar are accented by lyrics about rivers, willows and fishing. The title's pun on



the famous Grant
Wood painting
appears to be no
more than a clever
way to frame
songs with names
like "lowa" and
"Wapsipinicon."
But a more careful
listen reveals

something else, something more sinister and dark. The word "gothic" begins to take on other connotations as songs like "Funeral" and "Sparrows" wrap their arms around you. In fact, even the initially innocuous "lowa" and "Wapsipinicon" reveal themselves as spooky, the latter about a 7-year-old child who spawns leathery wings "the size of men" out his back.

The former Mayflies of Iowa City have successfully built upon the strengths revealed on their debut CD, Sycamore Tree. (The band changed its name because of legal issues and confusion concerning a band called the Mayflies USA from North Carolina.) The musicianship here is tighter, the production clearer, and although it's hard to describe exactly how, the band members seem more comfortable with each other. This release puts The Letterpress Opry in the top tier of the explosive lowa City roots-rock music scene, along with such contemporaries as Dave Zollo, Bo Ramsey, Dave Moore, Tom Jessen, Mike and Amy Finders, Big Wooden Radio, etc.

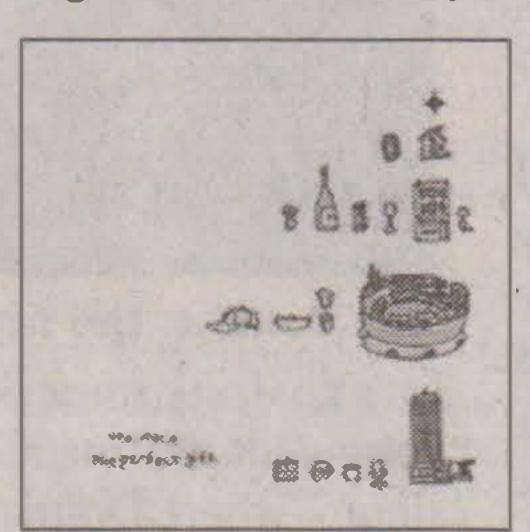
Patrick Brickel's lyrics deserve special attention. In "lowa," for instance, he vividly evokes a man working at an old gas station counting out change, "every word a rosary, sons and bitches one and all." Stacy Webster sings the words with just the right amount of flat emotion, and James Robinson's pulsing trap-playing helps convey the era of an earlier time that never moved forward.

An instrumental leitmotif written by fiddle player Annie Savage called "Americana Gothic" frames the album. The short, haunting musical phrase begins with a hopeful sound that soon becomes a sort of whistling in the dark. There's nothing here to be scared of, the tune suggests, nothing at all. Heh heh heh.

Steve Horowitz

The Race The Perfect Gift Flameshovel Records

This may sound crazy, but the easiest comparison that can be made to the new album by Chicago's The Race is Radiohead. Listen to just the first two seconds of "The Switch Switched," the first track on the new disc, with its programmed drums, squiggly guitar noises and despairing Thom Yorke-style crooning, and you



could be forgiven for thinking you are listening to a new Radiohead single. This can't be considered entirely The Race's fault, though, as they were making music like this years ago

when they were living in Iowa City performing under the name Carrie Elementary, back when Radiohead still sounded like a bad British version of the Pixies.

This is not to imply, however, that the guitar/drums duo of Craig Klein and Kevin Duneman has remained stagnant. The Perfect Gift consists of the most coherent, melodically developed and emotionally direct music this group has ever made. The clear and sometimes even gorgeous production (check out "Feet Don't Fail Me Now") of Duneman's old Chisel Drill Hammer bandmate Scott Adamson places focus on some great nonlinear songwriting. "The Perfect Gift For Your Little Hunter," in particular, defies all logic with its opening crescendo leading into a short, off-balance instrumental segment just before abruptly ending, but, like any great oddball song, it never sounds contrived and, in fact, couldn't work any other way.

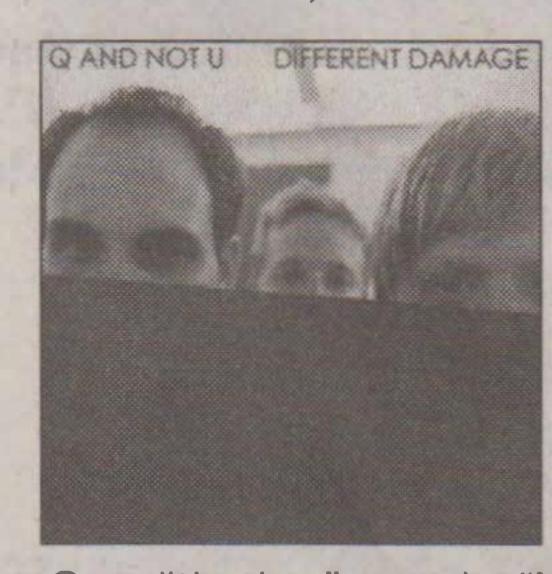
This is very much a studio album. The many layers of guitars, pianos and per-

cussion could never be performed live by two people (which is probably why The Race recently added two members to its performing lineup). The lone exception is the stunning album-closing title track performed solo acoustic by Klein, which proves, if the rest of the album had left any doubt, that music can be arty and original without sacrificing urgency.

Jay Miller

Q And Not U Different Damage Dischord

This trio has come out of the Washington, D.C. area to claim the throne left empty by The Dismemberment Plan's (D-Plan) impending breakup. They're not, however, merely mimicking that band's sound. Since their 2000 debut, No Kill No Beep Beep, Q And Not U (QANU) have managed to develop their own identity without losing any wariness of honoring their heroes. The album kicks off with "Soft Pyramids," a song carried on the oh-so-solid rhythm section headed by the drum work of John Davis. The second track, "So Many Animals," and the sixth, "This are Flashes," are prime examples of D-Plan's influence. Both tracks, as well as a couple others,



hew closely to D-Plan's spazzedout grooves, circa Is Terrified.
QANU also inspire thoughts of Spoon's most recent release, Kill the Moonlight.
Songs like "Air

Conditioning" and "Meet Me In The Pocket" have Spoon's signature swagger engraved in them. When QANU do show off their more original and experimental side it doesn't last long. "Everybody Ruins" (clocking in at 1:51) has a long, primal, percussive, yet spacey build up (taking up a minute of the song) and then just ends.

John Schlotfelt

Correction

Last month we somehow misnamed The Skunk River Bandits new release. The correct title is This is Not the Life That I Ordered. Sorry guys.

wasn't a live group to speak of. I moved back to lowa City and asked Carissa if she was interested in working up a live sound to support the record. She was all about it. Kaz and our friend J-sun Jensen joined in and we worked up a really down-tempo, hip-hop beat-driven, chill set, so chill we were all sitting down onstage and there were no vocals, just improvising. It wasn't 'till about a year-and-a-half ago J-sun moved on to greener pastures and we met Lolo. Then our live sound took a 180 and really began to change

into up-tempo, rockin', thumpin', song-structure pieces with harmonies, hooks and the like. With that said, we still hold onto our improvisational nature in our set. Now, in this last year we've just started to feel a sense of unity.

LV: So you're mixing the new album, Malai Kofta, now. Why did you name it after an Indian curry?
LOLO: Oh, that's actually because we eat at Masala

LV: Where do you see your sound going on this

a lot.

album?

PAYNE: I guess it's a little trippier, a little spacier. [Plays a track; female vocals chanting "we could set this on fire."] I guess in some ways it's a darker feel, not quite as dancy. LV

Look for Malai Kofta in stores soon. For MP3s, band news and photos, go to www.protostarr.com. And to see them live this month, check out the Shelter House (formerly the Emergency Housing Project) benefit show March 29 at the Eagles Lodge.

prairie

Kembrew McLeod

The Donnas: Kickin' ass or tongue in cheek?

It's easy to "rock." That involves little more than a wink, a nudge and a knowing devil sign waved high in the air. But I often wonder, does anyone who screams "roooooooooooccccckkkkk!!!" really mean it anymore? I'm not so sure. Somewhere along the line, we all have become infected by the virus carried by that joker who never fails to scream "Freebird!" at any concert, no matter the genre. (In addition to hearing cries for that beloved Lynryd Skynyrd song at a Fugazi show once, I knew the world was truly coming to an end when I heard it at a Wu-Tang Clan concert.)

Has rock been supplanted by "rock"? After watching a truly ass-kicking performance by the

Donnas at the IMU ballroom last month, it's still hard to settle on a simple yes/no answer. That evening's set was a mixture of self-conscious rock 'n' roll posturing and unhinged lost-in-the-moment wild abandon. Donna C flashed the devil sign as much as humanly possible while furiously wielding drum sticks, Donna R torched the audience with rifftastic guitar solos and Donna A invested her lead vocals with enough 'tude to raise James Dean from the dead. Donna F, bassist and resident party girl, punctuated the between-song patter with her best Ace Frehley-cum-Vince Neil sandpaper falsetto howls, "HOWYAALLDOOOOOOIN TONIGHT!?!" Ms. F also livened things up with jokes that would make even Motley Crue blush:

Q: Knock knock.

A: Who's there?

Q: Little Boy Blue?

A: Little Boy Blue Who?

Q: Little boy blew Michael Jackson!!!

I won't even tell you "the difference between a pair of Wranglers and a cheap motel." It's too dirty.

The Donnas have been together since they met in high school at the age of 15. They are now 23, which means they've been rocking for about one-third of their brief lives, and they have six albums under their collective belts (including one as The Electrocutes). When most of us were studying for exams, they were studying the book of rock, which for the Donnas means deconstructing texts by the Ramones, the aforementioned Crue and the very first all-girl group who tore shit up, The Runaways (which contained two of their role models, Joan Jett and Lita Ford). You can hear the Donnas being pulled in opposite directions by the group's two godmothers, one who leads them down the punk path of righteousness and the other who embraced her inner slut in order to...what's the genderappropriate rhyming equivalent of "rock out with your c*ck out"?

Beginning as the world's best Ramones rip-off group, these explosive cherry bombs captured the spirit and energy of that famed Lower East Side band of cretins with exciting two-minute blasts scrawled on the bathroom walls of Rock 'n' Roll High School. Their cover of "Da Doo Ron Ron" was charmingly inept, "Hey, I'm Gonna Be Your Girl" was the best song Joey, Johnny and company never wrote and "I Wanna Be a Unibomber" recalled a more innocent pre-Columbine time when teen angst could still be expressed with violent, cartoonish jokes. Within two albums, Ms. R learned to play guitar solos and the other three grew up musically, which means the group celebrated their first and obvious love: metal.

For anyone who thought their version of Motley Crue's "Too Fast For Love" from 1999's *Skintight* (Lookout!) was a campy cover, their new album, *Spend the Night* (Atlantic), is a good-natured middle finger pointed at the few remaining indie-rock purists in their audience. They're still the same group, and this new album isn't much different from their last (which contained sweet, endearing couplets like "Police blitz all night long/gonna party like Cheech and Chong/



The Donnas: the high school years

Let's go drink some Schlitz/it's a police blitz!"). In fact, they've been singing dumb metal lyrics for years, beginning with their debut album, where Donna A screeched, "Gonna have a party, alright/All my friends are coming over tonight." On their second album they had graduated to "Just lookin' for someone easy/So baby gimme leather on leather." By the time they released *The Donnas Turn 21*, the group wrote their very own version of "Girls Girls Girls," titled "40 Boys in 40 Nights" ("Have some now, save some for later/'Cause there's no cute boys in Decatur").

Their lyrics are too smart to be dumb, too worldly to be naïve. The Donnas were obviously sassy high schoolers who understood that metal songs rarely rose above the moronic and that most rock bands were filled with toolhead boys—all of which they nevertheless found compelling. You might be able to forgive Poison lead singer Brett Michaels when he wrote, "I'm a sucker for a pretty face/I don't care if she's in leather or lace," because his lyrical glass ceiling is obviously pretty low. Michaels isn't capable of writing anything beyond the rock 'n' roll ethnographic field notes of "Talk Dirty To Me" or "Unskinny Bop." But when the Donnas sing, "You're a zero on my rock-o-meter/You wanna get hot go turn on a heater," it's clear their I.Q. goes higher than 11.

The '80s metal bands that the Donnas worship are dinosaurs who roamed in popular music's last irony-free zone, which was destroyed in the early 1990s by the comet that was Nirvana. Suddenly, it was uncool to rock without reflection, to retard yourself with 200 proof, 200 decibels and 200 groupies. It wasn't really Nirvana's fault, I guess, because those metal bands were SO stupid, SO sexist and SO overblown that they ruined the fun for all of us. Today, it's hard to believe that anyone who flashes the devil sign at a concert doesn't do so without even the slightest thought of, "I don't really mean it...Isn't this funny?" I think the Donnas truly wanna rock, despite all the obstacles that make them merely "rock," which aren't entirely the Donnas' fault. They're the first generation to grow up in the wake of the post-Poison implosion, where ironic detachment is the rule of the day and real "rock action" is impeded by all the tongues planted firmly in cheek, rather than shoved down someone's throat in a fit of horny rock 'n' roll passion. LV

CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free, on a spaceavailable basis. Mail entries to Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, Iowa 52244 or email little-village@usa.net

ART

AKAR ARchiTecture & Design 4 S. Linn St., Iowa City

Ceramics by Michael Kline, Micaville, N.C., March 7-28; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk • Porcelain by Sam Chung, Marquette, Mich., March 31-April 18.

The Art Mission 114 S Linn St., Iowa City

Images of Past Events, paintings and prints by IC artist Byron Burford; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

ARTS Iowa City/The SPACE 129 E. Washington St., lower level, Iowa City

Waking up making love to a wall, group exhibition SPACE collective; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503 Charles Biederman: A Retrospective Exhibition, through March 16 • From Dürer to Blake: Images of War & Peace from the Collection, through June 8 • What's so Funny?: Art with Humor, through Sept. 28. (See Words listing for more)

Coe College

Marvin Cone and Eaton-Buchan galleries, 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8647

Larry Fink, photography, Feb. 28-March 21; opening reception Feb. 28, 5-7pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Units, new sculpture by Katey Carr, Israel Davis, Lance Edmonds, Brian Harper, Josh Krahn, David Marquez, Colin McDonald, Nnenna Okore, and Calvin Spinka, through March 2 • Illuminated Landscapes, scenes of Western Ireland by New York photographer Bill Jorden, through March 2 • Art Across Borders: Works from Palestine and Iraq, 70 works by 50 artists who live in Iraq and Palestine, March 7-30; opening reception March 9, 3-6pm.

Design Ranch Store and Studio Corner of Dodge and Davenport, Iowa City

Alessi Extra-ordinary: A History of Alessi Design; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Faulconer Gallery Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

Layers of Brazilian Art/Camadas da Arte Brasileira, contemporary art from Brazil, through April 13.

Hudson River Gallery 538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488

John Badger, abstract expressionist watercolors, through February • Diolanda Barrera, foil prints, through February • Iowa landscape painting by Coon Rapids, Iowa, artist Nancy Thompson, March 7-April 11; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Iowa Artisans Gallery/D.J. Rinner Goldsmith 117 E. College St., Iowa City

Laurie Elizabeth Talbot Hall: Assemblage; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Iowa State Bank and Trust 102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City

The Annual ISB&T Kids' Art Exhibit; Artist Educators: recent work by area public school art educators; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Lorenz Boot Shop

132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053

Moments, mixed media by former UI dance teacher Alicia Brown; Traveling with Ruth Muir, pastels by this Iowa City artist, both opening March 7; opening reception March 7, -7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Many Facets

125 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City

In the Moment: Objects from Life, oil painting by Bart DeGraaf; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

MC Ginsberg Objects of Art 110 E. Washington St., Iowa City

In-depth photography by Kathy Coryell, opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Mythos

9 S. Linn St., Iowa City

Small Works, Shannon Kennedy, opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Northside Books

203 N. Linn St., Iowa City, 466-9330

Graven Image, recent works by Iowa City artist John Coyne, through Feb. 28 • Drop of Water: Sculpture of JinMan Jo, March 1-31; opening reception March 1, 5pm.

Room Service

257 E. Iowa Ave., Iowa City

Raku-Dream Masks by A. Jeffrey Zigulis; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

RSVP

114 E. Washington St., Iowa City

Book Arts; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Salon

119 E. Washington St., Iowa Tity

Living Large, paintings by Aaron Sinift & Steve Erickson; Photographs by Bill Luce & Reggie Morrow; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk

The Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City

Spanish Textures and More, photographs and paintings by William G. Filios; opening reception March 7, 5-7pm, part of Gallery Walk.

UI Hospitals and Clinics Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

Watercolors by Davenport artist Don Muller, through February, Boyd Towers West • Oil paintings by Iowa City artist Gianna Commito, through April, Patient and Visitor Activities Center, eighth floor John Colloton Pavilion • Impressionistic oil and acrylic paintings by Iowa City artist Suzy Maktabi, through May, Boyd Tower East • Paintings by Iowa City artist Jered Sprecher, through May, Pomerantz Family Pavilion, fifth floor Dentistry.

UI Museum of Art 150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

Farm Life in Iowa: Photographs by A.M. Wettach, Remembering the Family Farm, 150 Years of American Prints and Rural Visions: Paintings by Marvin Cone, all March 7-May 4; opening reception, music by Letterpress Opry, reading by David Hamilton from his book Deep River: A Memoir of a Missouri Farm, March 9, 1-4pm • The Cultured Body: African Body Adornments, ongoing. (See Words listing for more)

MUSIC

Adagio

325 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 339-4811 Jazz Brunch every Sunday with Saul Lubaroff Duo, 11am-2pm.

Arts a la Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526

Contact Improvisation Weekend, jam sessions, movement class, food, March 22-23, register by March 8 by calling 354-5814 or emailing rowanstjohn@hotmail.com.

Sanctuary

Sat Mar 1

SCH jazz Trio

Fri Mar 7

Brad Townsend Trio Sat Mar 8

Chris Merz Quartet

Sat Mar 15

Bob Hillman-songwriter Fri Mar 21

Page 5 jazz

Sat Mar 22

David Zollo

Fri Mar 28

Odd Bar Jazz Band Sat Mar 29

Mike Lee jazz sax



140 Beers Rare Belgian Ales 30 Wines DRINK BETTER



405 S.Gilbert @ Court 351-5692 Mon-Sat @ 4pm

A-LIST

Louise Erdrich

Shambaugh Auditorium • Thurs., March 13, 8pm

Most readers know Louise Erdrich as one of America's great Native American writers whose novels like *The Beet Queen* and *Love Medicine* explore her American Indian heritage. But Erdrich's prodigious talents have always exceeded the pigeonholing of her as a "Native American" or "woman" author. She's just a great damn writer. This time Erdrich decided to explore the other side of her family history, her European American heritage. *The Master Butcher's Singing Club* takes place in the fictional town of Argus, N.D., where several of her previous novels were set, but this time she focuses on the burg's German, Polish and Scandinavian citizens.

The book's main character, Delphine Watzka, the ambitious daughter of the fown drunk, escapes her-origins to become part of a traveling vaudeville act. When the show returns to play Argus, she learns that three decomposing bo ies have been found in the basement of her father's house.

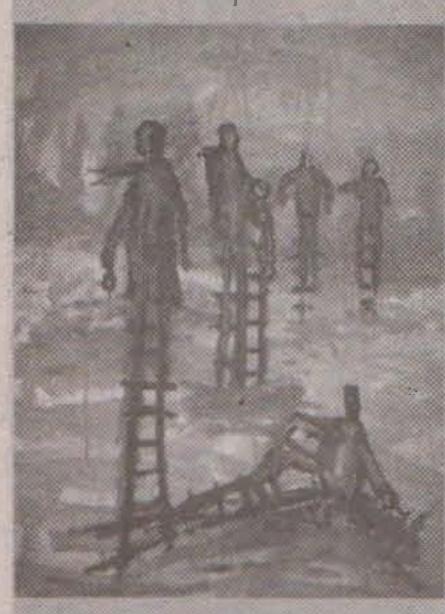
The Master Butcher's Singing Club spans 36 years of prairie life, follows several different plot lines, and offers multiple characters' points of view. Erdrich richly describes everything from the inside of a barroom to the fierceness of the winter weather. The eloquence of her prose promises to make this reading one of the highlights of the "Live from Prairie Lights" series. Ul campús, lowa City. Simulcast over WSUI-AM 910.

Spotlight on CR

Art Across Borders

CSPS • Ongoing

This unique traveling exhibition features the



work of 50 artists who live in Iraq and Palestine. Project organizers spent 10 days in Iraq and over a month in Palestine during the summer of 2002. They worked and lived with the artists, getting to know people who face incredible pressures against their very survival, yet continue to find the

ability to create. March 7-30. 1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580.

Inspecting Carol
Theatre Cedar Rapids • March 14-30

Inspecting Carol hits a lighter note, following high-strung artistic director Zorah as she tries to throw together a production of A Christmas Carol in just four days of rehearsal. On top of that, she's dealing with her company's near-bankruptcy and the threat that a \$30,000 NEA grant will be revoked. Her cast isn't helping matters much. Bob Cratchit is trying to get in her pants, Tiny Tim is far from tiny, and Scrooge wants to turn the Dickens classic into a tale about oppression in the Third World. How could anyone resist? 102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8591.

Clapp Recital Hall University of Iowa campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Iowa Woodwind Quintet, Feb. 27, 8pm • Handel Festival performance, March 1, 3pm • Handel Festival performance, Kantorei and the UI Chamber Orchestra, March 1, 8pm • UI Philharmonia Chamber Orchestra, March 2, 3pm • Annette-Barbara Vogel, violin; David Evanchick, cello; and Hikari Nakamura, piano, March 4, 8pm • University and Concert Bands, March 5, 8pm • Amy Appold, violin; Ksenia Nosikova, piano, March 7, 8pm • Annette-Barbara Vogel, violin; Uriel Tsachor, piano, March 9, 8pm • La Fosse Baroque Ensemble, March 11, 8pm • Symphony Band, March 12, 8pm • Così fan tutte, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, UI Martha-Ellen Tye Theater, March 28-29, 8pm; March 30, 2pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

8pm unless noted otherwise

Old Blind Dogs, March 3-4 • Irish singer Karan Casey, March 10 • Cliff Eberhardt, Bob Hillman, March 26 • Singer/songwriter Catie Curtis, March 28.

First Presbyterian Church 2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City Handel Festival performance, March 2, 2pm.

Gabe's

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788

Jucifer, Feb. 27 • Manplanet, Feb. 28 • Four on the Floor, Pork Liver, The Branded Ones, The Rolemodels, The One Night Standards, March 1 • Yaphet Kotto, Since By Man, Calvary, Hugs, March 3 • The Reunion Show, Motion City Soundtrack, Bayside, Slightly Paradise, Asking Autumn, March 4 • Punk show: August Premier, 2nd Best, North to Alaska, My Junior Year, March 5 • Lucky James, March 6 • The Movie Life, Senses Fail, A Static Lullaby, March 7, 6pm • The Chicago Project CD-release party, with Prime, The Nacrobats (Pugslee Atomz, Thaione Davis, Infinito, Psalm), Lord 360, Tack Fu & 85 db Monks, March 7, 10pm • The Dillinger 4, The Gadjits, The Arrivals, Heads and Bodies, March 8 • Avail (early show), Subterraneous Crew, March 10 • Weed Eater, March 11 • Grasshopper Takeover, March 13 • Dave Olson, Tom Jessen, March 15 Keepsake, March 16
 Sorry About Dresden, March 18 • Sole(anticon), Grand Buffet, March 20 • songs:ohia, Boggs, March 21 • Voodoo Glowskulls, March 23 • Smakin' Isaiha, March 24 • Black Keys, March 26 • xiu xiu, March 27 • John Browns Body, March 28 • DJ Vadim, March 30 • Pinback, March 31.

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Iowa City, 341-3597

Chamber Singers of Iowa City, Community Bach Recital, March 9, 2pm.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Blues Jam Mondays, Jazz Jam Tuesdays

Dave Zollo featuring Bo Ramsey, March 1 • Dirty Dozen

Brass Band, March 4 • Drums and Tuba, NICKELBAGOFUNK,

March 6 • Broken Grass, Euforia, March 7 • Tony Furtado,

Clean Livin', March 8 • Troubled Hubble, March 9 • Syn

Magill, Vagrants, March 12 • Filling Space, March 13 •

The Slats, Frankenixon, March 14 • Pop Explosion Benefit,

March 15 • OM Trio, March 19 • Bohemian Soul Tribe,

March 21 • East 18, March 22 • Hackensaw Boys, March

25 • Olospo, March 26 • Aluminum Suits, Lucy Star, Kill

Bosby, March 27 • NICKELBAGOFUNK, March 28 • Euforia,

Family Groove Co., March 29.

Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Joshua Bell, violin, Feb. 28, 8pm * Inti-Illimani, Chilean music, March 30, 3pm.

Iowa Memorial Union UI campus, Iowa City

Ari Hest, March 4, Wheelroom • Leo Kottke, March 9, Ballroom • George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic, March 30, Main Lounge.

Let's Dance

Lindale Mall, Cedar Rapids, 743-3262
Mark Wills, March 1.

Marion Public Library
1095 Sixth Ave., Marion, 377-3412

Ciao Italy!, Red Cedar Trio, duos and trios, music by Italian composers on 19th-century and modern instru-

ments, March 29, 8pm.

The Marketplace
511 P St., South Amana, 622-3750

All 7:30-11:30pm

Bill Heller, Feb. 28 • Jean Blum, March 1 • Tom Jessen, March 7 • Tornadoes, March 8 • Merrill J. Miller, March 14 • Mike & Amy Finders, March 15 • Open Mic with Kimberlie Lambert, March 20 • Ben Eaton, March 21 • Rob Lumbard, March 22 • John Lake & Al Murphy, March 28 • Bryce Janey, March 29.

Martini's

127 E. College St., Iowa City, 358-2833
Shows at 9:30pm

Bryce Janey Duo, Feb. 28 • The Tornadoes, March 1 • Daddy-O McMurrin & DJ Johnson, March 7 • BF Burt Trio, March 8 • Saul Lubaroff Group, March 14 • Soul Patrol, March 15 • Merrill J. Miller Band, March 21 • Soul Power, March 22 • Kilowatt, March 28 • Rich Webster Trio, March 29.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Friends of Old Time Music acoustic jam session Tuesdays, 9pm; all shows 9pm unless otherwise noted

Joe Price, March 1 • Stuart Davis, March 2, 7pm • Nikki Lunden, March 5, 8pm • JCL Jazz Department, March 6 • Annie Savage & Stacy Webster, March 7, 6-8pm • Dave Zollo, March 7 • Alma Hovey Heyride, March 8 • Tom Jessen Band, March 14 • Ben Eaton Trio, March 15 • Stones in the Field, March 17 • Bob & Kristie Black, March 21, 6-8pm • Steppin' in It, March 21 • Mike & Amy Finders, March 22 • Danzig & Woolley, March 27 • Bob & Kristie Black, March 28, 6-8pm • Shame Train, Liz & Justin Kennedy, March 28 • Wylde Nept, March 29 • Greq Brown,

Northside Books

March 30, 7pm.

203 N. Linn St., Iowa City, 466-9330

Joe Brisben, Steve Price & Sam Price, March 2, 2pm.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

(unless noted otherwise)

Follies 2003—America the Beautiful, March 1 & 8, 2pm & 8pm; March 2 & 9, 2pm; March 7, 8pm • The Oak Ridge Boys, Jimmy Fortune of the Statler Bros., March 18, 7:30pm • Cedar Rapids Symphony, Go for Baroque, with the Cedar Rapids Concert Chorale, Benjamin Coehlo, bassoon; Jane Walker, flute, March 22, 8pm, call 366-8203.

Scattergood Friends School 1951 Delta Ave., West Branch, 643-7600

Barn dance, begins at 8pm

The Testostertunes; Roger Alexander & Marcia Minear, callers, March 21.

Sanctuary

405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692

Jazz Jam, Thursdays

SCH Jazz Trio, March 1 • Brad Townsend Trio, March 7 • Chris Merz Quartet, March 8 • Bob Hillman, March 15 • Page 5, March 21 • David Zollo, March 22 • Odd Bar Jazz Band, March 28 • Mike Lee, jazz sax, March 29.

Space/Place Theater

North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City

World Percussion Ensemble and the Pan American Steel Band, March 7, 8pm; March 8, 2pm.

UI Hospitals and Clinics
Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

John Colloton Pavilion Atrium

Steve and Sam Price, father/son guitar/vocals duo, March 4, 12-1pm • Missing Livestock of Iowa City, covers and originals, March 6, 12:15-1pm • UI Opera Theatre, March 13, 12:30-1pm • Ayke Agus, guest lecturer for UI Colloquium Series on Aging and author of Heifetz as I Knew Him, leads discussion and gives a piano performance, March 24, 12-1:30pm • Major Grooves, UI medical student choir, March 28, 12:30-1:15pm.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

Richard Fuller, music for the fortepiano, March 2, 1:30pm

KSUI Know the Score LIVE!, US Congressman Jim Leach on arts funding, La Fosse Baroque Ensemble, poetry with Marvin Bell, Irish songs by Rick Stanley, harp; Robin Pfoutz, cello, March 7, 5-7pm • Anthony Arnone, cello; Ksenia Nosikova, piano, March 28, 7:30pm.

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401

Mud River Open Mike, Feb. 28, 8-11pm, sign up 7:30pm, all welcome • Greg Dirks Small Mall Benefit Concert, March 1, 7-9pm • Blanca Estella Casas, quitar, March 2, 2-4pm • Mud River Dinner and Jam, March 15, 6-11pm.

US Cellular Center

370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888 Toby Keith, Rascal Flatts, Feb. 28, 7:30pm.

Voxman Music Bldg. UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1603

American Handel Festival 2003, through March 2, registration required for nonpublic events, 335-4141 • "Willa Cather: Her World of Music," lecture recital by soprano Jane K. Dressler and pianist Linda Jones, March 3, 8pm.

Yacht Club

13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464

Blues Jam hosted by B.F. Burt and the Instigators, Sundays Matt Grunstad, March 5 • Groove Lotion, March 6 • Brother Trucker, March 7 • Homeless Todd jam session, March 12 • Shame Train, March 14 • Chris Beard, March 15 • Slim Pickin's, March 20 • Hop On Johnny, March 21 • Gibbs Brothers, March 22 • Homeless Todd jam session, March 26 • Ben Eaton and the Dirtcheap, March 28 • Clean Livin', March 29.

DANCE

Arts a la Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526

Iowa City Dance Jam, dance to eclectic music, second and fourth Fridays, 8pm-12am, 354-5814 for more info • Salsa Breaks, Tuesdays, 10pm-12am • Contact Improvisation Weekend, jam sessions, movement class, food, March 22-23, register by March 8 by calling 354-5814 or emailing rowanstjohn@hotmail.com.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

(unless noted otherwise)

Burn the Floor, March 25, 7:30pm • International Dance Challenge, March 29, competition begins at 9am.

Scattergood Friends School 1951 Delta Ave., West Branch, 643-7600

Barn dance, begins at 8pm

The Testostertunes; Roger Alexander & Marcia Minear, callers, March 21.

Space/Place Theater

North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City

Dancers In Company, Feb. 27-28, March 1, 8pm • Dance Faculty Concert, March 27-29, 8pm.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

City Circle Acting Company Oakdale Auditorium, UI Oakdale campus, Coralville, 354-3006

8pm, except Sunday, 2:30pm Shadowlands, Feb. 28, March 1-2, 7-9.

Coe College

1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8647

Picasso Does My Maps, by Carter W. Lewis, March 7-8, 13-15, 8pm; March 9, 2pm, Dows Theatre • National comedienne Vickie Shaw, Iowa City's Graffiti Theater (to benefit National Women's Music Festival), March 15, 8pm, Cherry Auditorium.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Manny and Chicken, new play about the tensions between a young brother and sister in a newly bi-racial family, by local playwright Lisa Schlesinger, staged by Atlanta's Pushpush Theatre, Feb 27-March 1, 8pm • The Man Who Discovered Iowa, benefit performances of Mel Andringa's one-man play about Grant Wood, March 14-15, 8pm.

Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Riverdance, March 4-7, 8pm; March 8-9, 2pm & 8pm.

Iowa City Community Theater Exhibition Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Iowa City, 338-0443

Fri. & Sat. 8pm; Sun. 2:30pm

How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Tony Award-winning musical from 1962, through March 16.

Owl Glass Puppetry Center 319 N. Calhoun, West Liberty, 627-248

Community Puppet Performance, Cloud of Dust Theatre (Estes Park, Co.), March 15-16, 2 & 4:30pm, New Strand Theatre, 111 E. Third St., West Liberty; Make-and-Take Workshop at 3:15pm on show dates.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672

Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm The Laramie Project, drama based on the murder of Matthew Shepard, March 28-April 13.

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8591 Inspecting Carol, created by Daniel Sullivan and the

Seattle Repertory Theatre, a tongue-in-cheek response to the endless parade of annual holiday fluff, March 14-15, 21-22, 27-29, 7:30pm; March 23 & 30, 2:30pm.

UI Theatre

Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160 Uncontrollable Mystery, trio of plays by W.B. Yeats, Mainstage production, Feb. 27-March 1 & March 5-8, 8pm; March 2 & 9, 3pm, David Thayer Theatre • Julien Po, new musical by UI Playwrights Workshop student Andrew Barrett, with music by Chicago composer Ira Antelis, University Theatres Gallery production, March 6-8, 8pm; March 9, 3pm, Theatre B • Southern Women, by Stephanie Richards, University Theatres Gallery production, March

WORDS

27-29, 8pm, Theatre B.

Boyd Law Bldg. UI campus, Iowa City

Indigenous Nations Law Symposium, March 14, registration deadline March 14, for more info call 335-9089 or email carolyn-tappan@uiowa.edu.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art 410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

"Ancient Roman Busts in Context," gallery talk with Dr. David Caccioli, March 12, 12-1pm • "Heads and Tales: Art and Science in the Sculpture of Malvina Hoffman," film lecture by June Finfer, March 20, 5:30-6:30pm.

321 Chemistry Bldg. UI campus, Iowa City

Jim Crace, fiction reading, 8pm.

First Presbyterian Church 2701 Rochester Ave., Iowa City

"Israel in Egypt" by Annette Landgraff, Handel conference event precedes performance, March 2, 1pm.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350 Poetry Slam, March 5, 9pm.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

"Women and War," panel discussion on women's concerns on war, March 6, 7-9pm, Meeting Room A • "Going to Pot—Container Gardening," master gardener Marilou Gay, March 9, 2pm, Meeting Room A, live on The Library Channel 10.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529 Talk/Art/Cabaret, March 12 & 26, 9pm.

Prairie Lights

15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City (unless otherwise noted), 337-2681

All 8pm (unless otherwise noted)

Broadcast live on WSUI

Sanjay Nigam reads from her second novel, Transplanted Man, Feb. 27 • UI Workshop grad Nick Arvin reads from his first collection of stories, In the Electric Eden, Feb. 28 • Sunita Mehta reads from Women for Afghan Women, March 7 • Paula Morris, current Glenn Schaeffer Fellow at the Writers' Workshop, reads from her novel, Queen of Beauty, March 10 • Australian fiction writer, physician and UI Workshop grad John Murray reads from his first collection of stories, A Few Short Notes on Tropical Butterflies, March 11 • Louise Erdrich reads from her new novel, The Master Butcher's Singing Club, March 13, Shambaugh



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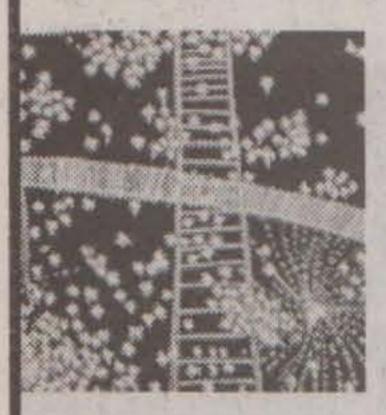


BRAZILIAN ART

FAULCONER GALLERY, GRINNELL COLLEGE

31 JANUARY – 13 APRIL 2003

CURATED BY LESLEY WRIGHT, DIRECTOR, FAULCONER GALLERY











Relieve the winter doldrums with a visit to *Layers* of *Brazilian Art*, an exhibition of contemporary painting, photography, sculpture, mixed-media works, and site-specific installations by 24 Brazilian artists. The exhibition will reflect the cosmopolitan richness of urban Brazil. Programming will include speakers from many disciplines, visiting artists, Brazilian music and children's events.

Free admission. Call 641.269.4660 or visit the website for more information. Faulconer Gallery, Grinnell College, 1108 Park Street, Grinnell, Iowa 50112 www.grinnell.edu/faulconergallery

Detail images from left to right: Sandra Cinto, Nina Moraes, Luis Flavio, Sonia Müller, Nelson Leirner

GRINNELL COLLEGE





Plaza Centre One
On The
Pedestrian Mall
354-5950

Coralville 474 Ist Ave. Riverview Square 338-6274







Auditorium • Siri Hustvedt reads from her new novel, What I Loved, March 18 • Novelist Sue Miller reads from A Story of My Father, a memoir about her father's descent into Alzheimer's Disease, March 21 • Amy Colen reads from her poetry and her essay, The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire, March 24 • Cal Bedient reads from his book of poetry, The Violence of the Morning, March 25 • Ayke Agus reads from her biography, Heifetz As I Knew Him, March 26 • Katie Lederer and Rick Barot read from their poetry, March 27 • UI workshop grad Oscar Casares reads from his short story collection, Brownsville, March 28 • UI Workshop grad Z.Z. Packer reads from short stories, Drinking Coffee Elsewhere, March 31.

UI Art Building

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1771

"Print the Legend: Photography and the American West," Martha Sandweiss, professor of art and American Studies, Amherst College, Feb. 28, 8pm • Lecture by sculptor Barbara Cooper, March 3, 8pm, Room E109 • Lecture by printmaker Patricia Villalobos Echevarria, March 4, 7:30pm, Room E109 (Informal discussions with artist, March 6, 3:30pm; March 7, 9am, Printmaking Studio, Room E125) • Lecture by sculptor El Anatsui, March 5, 7:30pm, Room E109 • Lecture by artist Nicole Eisenman, March 6, 7pm, Room E109.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

KSUI Know the Score LIVE!, US Congressman Jim Leach on arts funding, poetry with Marvin Bell, March 7, 5-7pm • "Decoding the Photograph," panel discussion, March 13, 7:30pm • Museum Tour with Keith Achepohl, March 27, 7:30pm • Public tours of farm exhibits, March 30, April 13 & May 4, 2pm.

Uptown Bill's small Mall 401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401 War and peace poem reading, March 1, 12-2pm.

Voxman Music Bldg.
UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1603

"Handel meets Nero: Hamburg, Venice and Imperial Rome," Wendy Heller, speaker, part of American Handel Festival 2003 (see listing under *Music*), Feb. 27, 7:30pm, Harper Hall *• "Willa Cather: Her World of Music," lecture recital by soprano Jane K. Dressler and pianist Linda Jones, March 3, 8pm.

FILM

101 Becker Communication Studies Bldg. UI campus, Iowa City

Series of films by three women directors, 7pm: Not Wanted (Ida Lupino, 1949), Feb. 27 • Nana (Dorothy Arzner, 1934, 90 min.), March 6 • Working Girls (Dorothy Arzner, 1931, 77min.), March 13 • Where Are My Children? (Lois Weber, 1916, 44 min.); Suspense (Lois Weber, 1913, 12 min.); Fine Feathers (Lois Weber, 1912, 12 min.); A Japanese Idyll (Lois Weber, 1912, 12 min.), March 27.

Iowa Memorial Union UI campus, Iowa City

King Gimp, explores social attitudes toward people with disabilities, March 5, 11:30am-1pm, Purdue Room.

Women's Resource and Action Center
130 N. Madison St., Iowa City, 335-1486
The Way Home, white women and women of color building

EVENTS

Hancher Auditorium

alliances, March 26, 4-5:30pm.

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

David Skorton installation as the UI's 19th president, March 1, 10am.

Iowa Memorial Union UI campus, Iowa City

International Women's Day Celebration, March 8, 8pm-12am, Richey Ballroom, 337-2112 or emmagold@avalon.net for more info.

Uptown Bill's small Mall
401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Lysystrata Mask Making peace event, March 1, 2-4pm.

Pre-Frontal Dispatches

Despite threats of a US invasion, lraq doubled exports of oil to US refineries, helping them cope with the most chronic shortage of oil stocks in 27 years and offset the loss of 1.5 million barrels per day from Venezuela because of that country's strike. The report by London's *Observer* newspaper said that the shipment, which involved diverting oil bound for European and Asian customers, is legal under the terms of the United Nations' oil for food program.

US sperm banks began offering servicemen being deployed to the Middle East free storage and discounts on sperm processing. Lab managers explained that the men making inquiries are concerned less about dying in combat than about returning to discover they're infertile from exposure to anthrax and smallpox vaccinations and chemical and biological agents. "You wouldn't believe the interest we have gotten," said Dr. Cappy Rothman, medical director of California Cryobank, which advertises up to a year's free storage. "We now have about 40 troops in the past two or three weeks who have gone out of their way to store their sperm before they go to war."

Why They Call It Dope

After someone called police in Surrey, British Columbia, then hung up, officers responded to the house from which the call was placed. According to the *Vancouver Sun*, an unnamed 60-year-old woman who answered the door told the officers that she had heard that if she dialed 911 she would get a recording informing her

if the police were tapping her phone. After assuring her that such wasn't the case, the officers found "a reasonably sized marijuana-growing operation" in the house, and arrested the woman and three men.

Crime in Search of a Motive

Authorities in Davenport, lowa, reported that a man wearing a 12-can beer box over his head with eyeholes cut into it walked into a food store and



sprayed produce with a fire extinguisher. Tony Fuhrmeister, the store's assistant director, said that the 13-second assault cost nearly \$20,000 because all the produce had to be destroyed, and extra store personnel worked eight hours to clean up the mess.

Fringe Benefits

Italian prosecutors charged 67 air traffic controllers with regularly leaving their posts at Milan's Linate airport to play soccer, shop or attend parties.

The prosecutors conceded that no crashes or other incidents resulted from the controllers' absences.

Drooling in Anticipation

Anti-bacterial chemicals formed by the saliva of nursing calves could become essential ingredients of toothpastes and antiseptic creams, according to researchers at Westgate Biological of Dublin. Director Mike Folan told *New Scientist* magazine that the chemicals, which help protect newborn calves while their immune systems develop, create a protein residue that when added to toothpaste slowed the build-up of dental plaque by two-thirds.

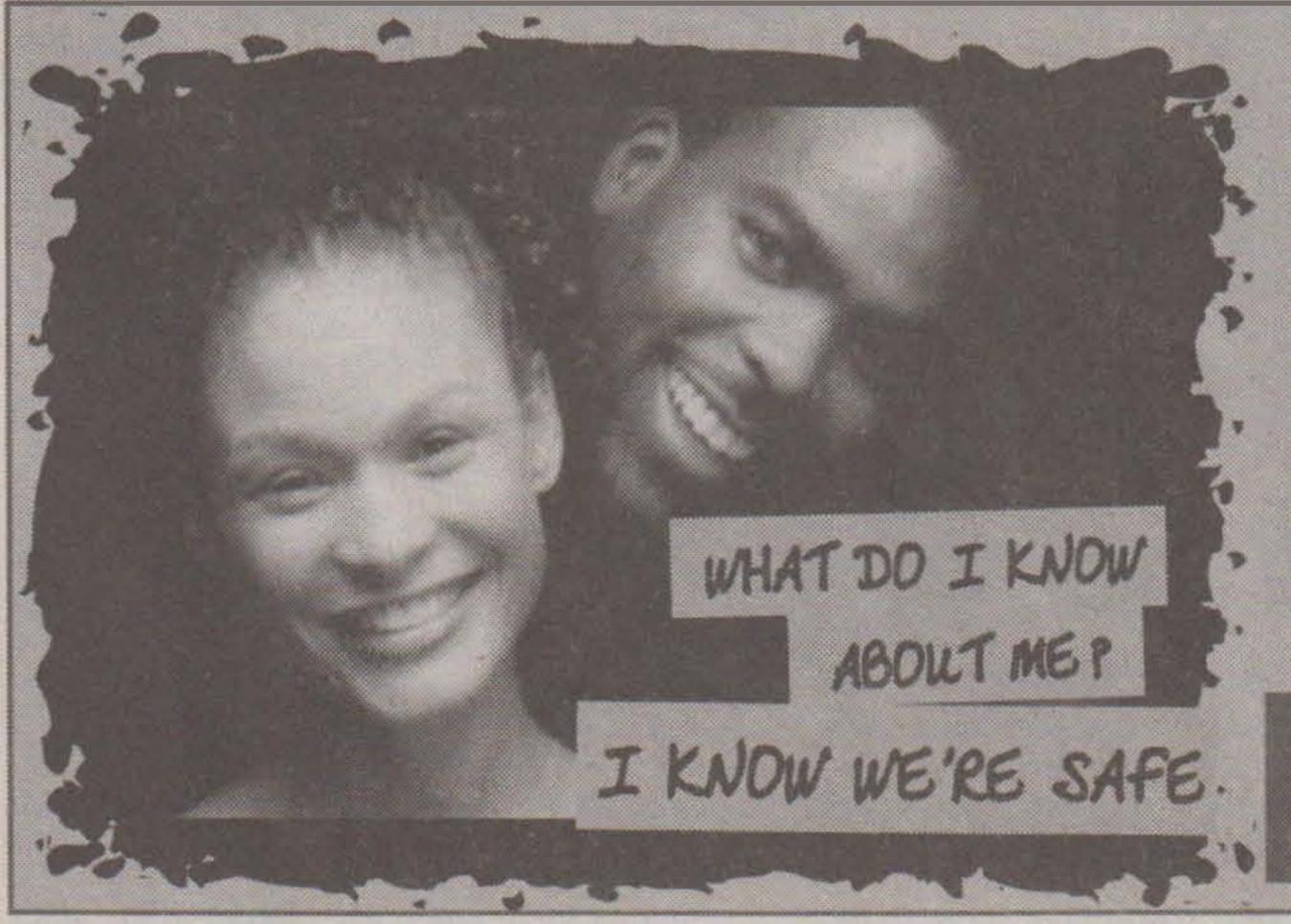
Necktie Party

Paul Connick Jr., the district attorney for Jefferson Parish, La., reprimanded two assistant district attorneys for attending a hearing in a capital murder case wearing ties decorated with a hangman's noose and the Grim Reaper. Defense attorney Clive Stafford Smith accused Donnie Rowan and Cameron Mary of making light of the possibility that his client could get the death penalty if convicted. "They were a joke," Connick explained, "although a poor joke."

Little Things Mean a Lot

Police in the Philippines accused Arnel Orbeta of shooting Eduardo Cristomar, 40, who challenged the men at a drinking party in Antipolo City to show their penises to determine whose was the biggest. Officer Joseph Pueblo said that Orbeta immediately unzipped his pants and showed his organ, but Cristomar responded by laughing at Orbeta and refused to show his penis. Orbeta pulled a gun

continued on next page



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Quirks

continued from previous page

and shot Cristomar several times.

Cracking Down

California's Valley College imposed a speed limit of 4 mph for wheelchairs on campus. "It's a safety issue, pure and simple," said Tom Jacobsmeyer, vice president of administration, who proposed the rule after seeing a student nearly hit by a woman "going very fast" in a wheelchair. Violators will receive a warning, but repeat offenders risk being cited, suspended or expelled.

Airport Security to the Rescue

Four months after having abdominal surgery, a Canadian woman was suffering from persistent stomachaches, but doctors didn't know why until she set off a metal detector at the airport in Regina, Saskatchewan. Despite repeated scans, security guards couldn't find any metal on her body. A few days later the woman had an X-ray, which revealed a 12-inch long surgical retractor that had been left in her abdomen during the operation.

Beating Alzheimer's

Engineers at Microsoft's Media Presence lab in San Francisco said they are developing multimedia databases that chronicle people's life events and make them searchable. "Imagine being able to run a Google-like search on your life," Gordon Bell, one of the developers, told New Scientist magazine. The venture, dubbed the MyLifeBits project, aims to create a surrogate brain that will overcome the whims of human memory and become an accurate repository for most of our experiences. "Users will eventually be able to keep every document they read, every picture they view, all the audio they hear and a good portion of what they see," said Microsoft's Jim Gemmell. The system will require abundant computer memory, but the researchers calculate that within five years, a 1,000-gigabyte hard drive—enough to store four hours of video every day for a year—will cost less than \$300.

Gotta Dance

Authorities fined a British pub chain \$7,850 after undercover inspectors caught patrons at two of its popular

bars violating licensing laws that forbid "rhythmic moving." Another pub was served two written warnings when customers were observed "swaying." The movements were determined to constitute dancing, which is banned in pubs without public entertainment licenses. "We have spent ages trying to stop people dancing," insisted Derek Andrews, a representative of the owners of the Pitcher & Piano chain, which pleaded guilty to the offenses in London. "We have signs up everywhere. Managers instruct customers. We turn the music down, rearrange the furniture and so on."

Not in Our Back Yard

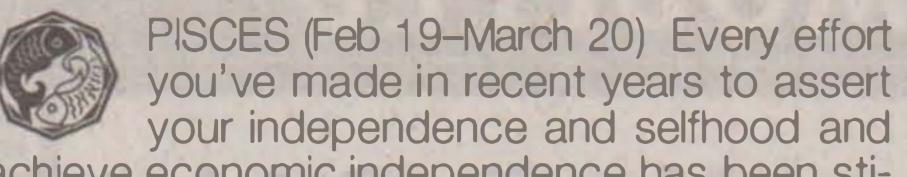
Asbestos was found at the headquarters of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in Research Triangle, N.C. The federal agency helped educate the world about the dangers of asbestos.

Compiled from the nation's press by Roland Sweet. Submit clippings, citing source and date, to POB 8130, Alexandria VA 22306.



stars over lowa city.

FORECAST FOR MARCH 2003 • BY DR. STAR



your independence and selfhood and achieve economic independence has been stifled by powerful outside resistance or blocked by the lingering consequences of past decisions. In March, Pisces will become the foremost agent of change in their social context. Seize the initiative. Generous and supportive partners and associates will back you solidly and the rules will begin to work in your favor. Don't worry about a return of recent difficulties. The times are changing and it's Pisces' turn to lead the way.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Powerful motivating forces emerging within your own mind, demanding change, conflicting signals all around you, signs of the changing times everywhere. A very confusing situation already and there's much more to come. The confusion will continue to grow for quite awhile, yet. That being the case, you'd best take your time sifting and sorting and making choices. Let some patterns emerge before you act. You should take things in the direction you eventually decide is best, and you can, but you'll have to fight. The month ends on an up note.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Despite your best efforts and some promising movements in the right direction, you movements in the right direction, you are pretty solidly cemented in the circumstances you have been trying to escape for quite a few years, now. The forces of change worked consistently against you. Whatever bonds are holding you in place will loosen in March, suddenly and significantly. The initial changes might be a bit jarring and the prospects uncertain. However, this is the real thing. This time the forces of change will be working with you. The end of March holds much promise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Just about the time your boss got bit really hard by the we're-going-to-have-to-startdoing-things-very-differently bug, your partners and coworkers got bit pretty hard by the we're-not-putting-up-with-this-crap-anymore bug. Exceedingly mixed signals are now coming from all concerned. Nobody's talking compromise. This will go on for quite awhile. Find some allies. Build consensus. You will have to guide and shape events as best you can. For sanity's sake, spend more quality time privately or with supportive friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) The forces of change are acting up again, but now they are working in your favor. You sense attractive possibilities emerging as conditions change around you. Financial conditions are still favorable. But you're worn down from years when the forces of change ignored your preferences. You need to rid yourself of unfair burdens and responsibilities. There are also some important, complicated and possibly expensive lifestyle changes looming. It would be best to stay in low gear and not commit too quickly to a particular plan of action. Let things develop.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) Leo, the zodiac's biggest cat, is headed into deeper spiritual waters. The powerful, longterm planetary influences now going into effect are hitting the Lions pretty squarely at a private, personal and sensitive angle. This

will complicate and ultimately enrich your inner life. You will soon find that your creative and your romantic life, as well as your contacts with young people, will spur more profound changes within you than you thought possible. Kinds of involvement that were once light and

playful will soon become serious and weighty matters indeed.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22) You'd think with all the hurdles Virgos have had to clear, they'd be due for easier times. But Virgos are going to be in the middle of the next big battle, too. This time, though, they won't have to worry about where the rent is coming from while they fight. As Virgos launch into their next big campaign, Jupiter will launch a new cycle of prosperity. Also, previously, when Virgos looked back, they saw only bridges burning behind them; this time, they will see the lasting results of their efforts.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22) The first of many major changes will begin rumbling through your workplace this month, with the promise of even bigger changes to come. These changes will bring an opportunity to assert your freedom and display your talents and abilities...if you are willing to stand up for yourself. Your real power springs from your roots in the local community, as you must know by now, but the path to more fruitful foreign alliances will soon clear. Jupiter and Saturn are not being overly cooperative with Librans, so watch your budget.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21) Scorpios will have to put their foot down in March and make a decision, once and for all and for everybody concerned. The nature of the problem is now obvious. Your options are clear. The time has come to set things in motion. Achieving the goal will take time and persistent effort, but the resistance you once faced is softening and obstacles are disappearing. Pretty soon, circumstances and events will start conspiring actively in your favor. Much that has burdened you and hampered your plans is about to go away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21) You will almost surely feel pushed and pulled in a number of directions at once by rather powerful and compelling forces. You will also sense, correctly, that long-standing partnership issues are about to clear up. However, this is no time for a great leap forward. A new set of challenges and opportunities will soon emerge in your life. Some will be opportunities you never imagined possible. But whatever happens, whatever you decide, you should proceed with one eye on long-term financial issues. March ends on an up note.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19) A rerun of conflicts related to finances and work, issues you hoped were settled once and for all, could knock you off balance. Although the conflicts are old, and real, your circumstances are now very different and a successful outcome is most likely. In the months ahead you will be able to find more permanent and satisfactory solutions to whatever issues remain. Your economic outlook is generally more favorable than it has been in recent times, too, which will soften any shocks. March ushers in a time of opportunity.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18) Aquarians will no doubt sense that their immediate personal lives are no longer the hub of change and they themselves no longer bring a disquieting sense of rebellion and revolution wherever they go. The focus of change will move into financial and work areas. The new and changeful circumstances you will soon encounter are intended to help you clarify and develop your long-term financial plans. All the changes you make now should be aimed at the conservation, consolidation and longterm growth of assets, new and old. LV

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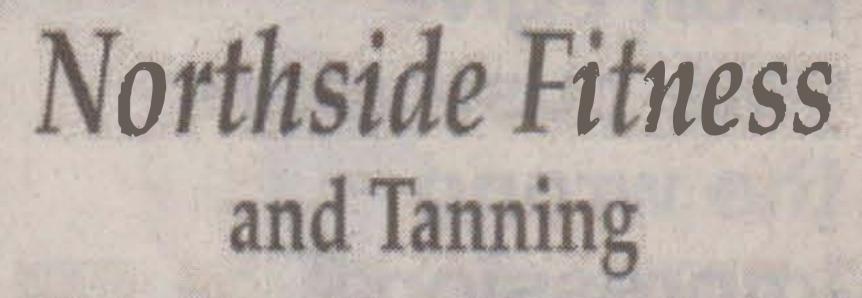
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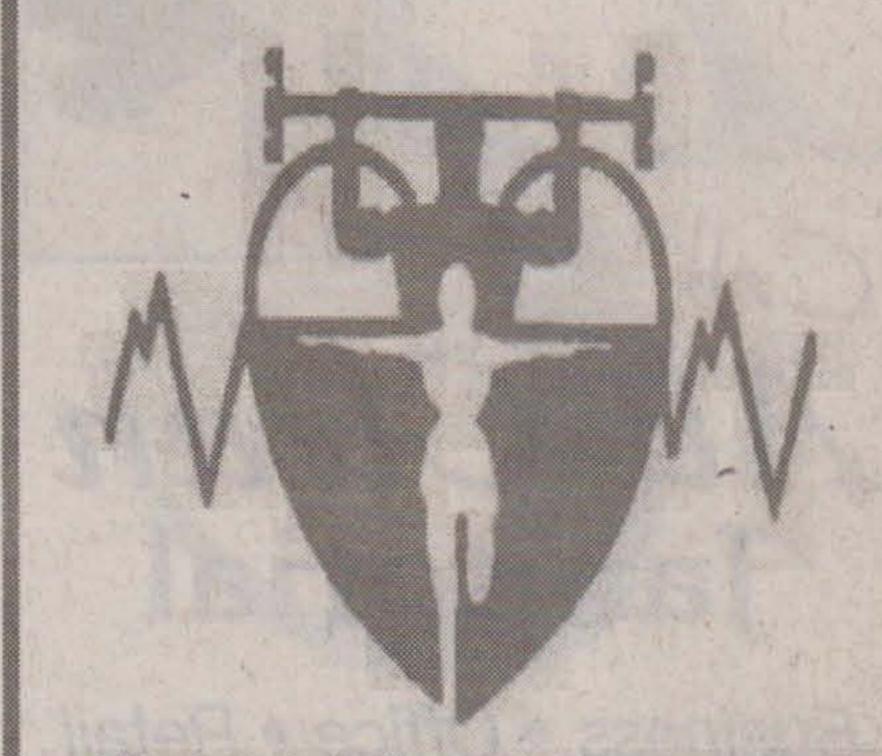
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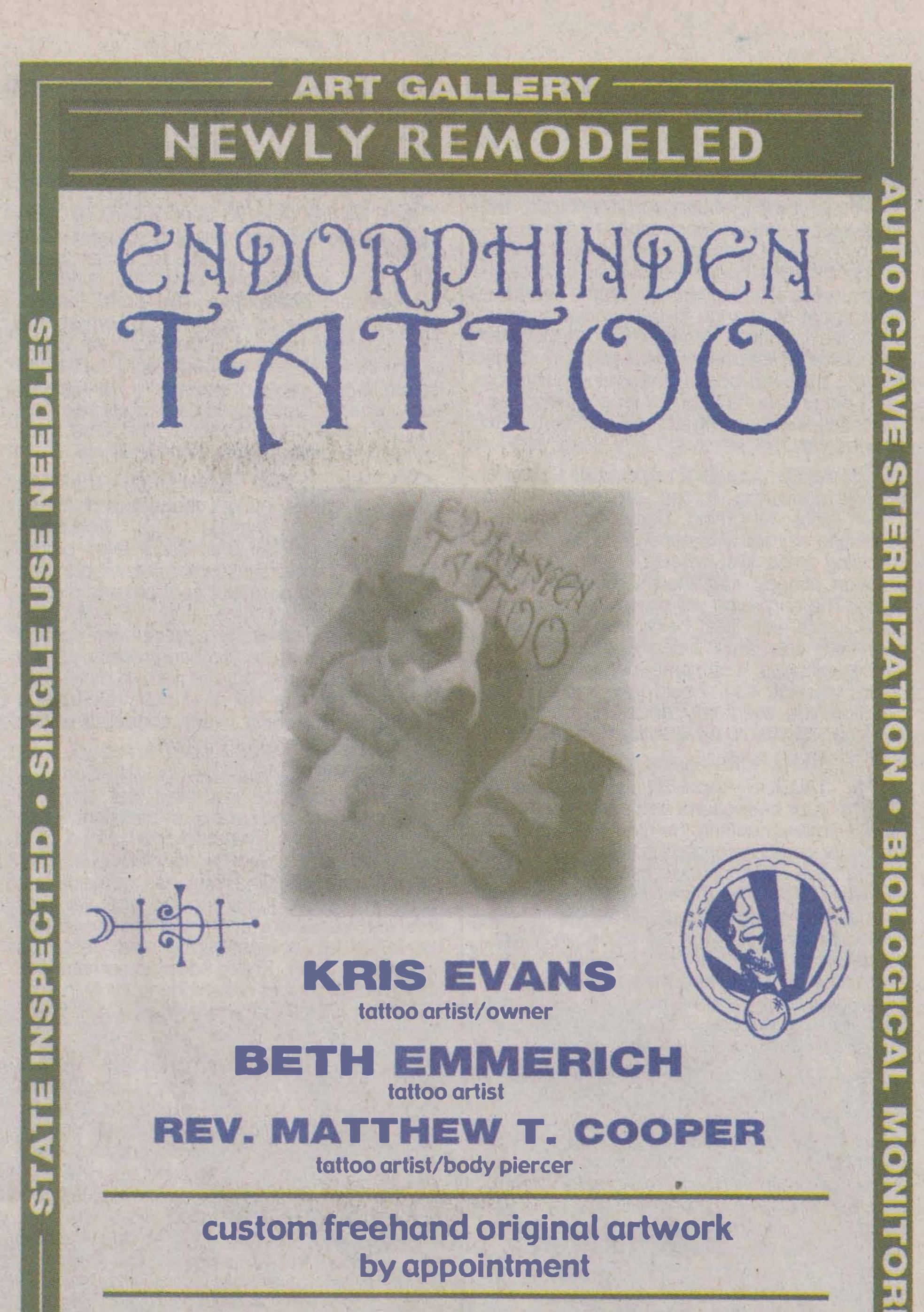


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