Party with doom
Siona Liseon on our strange fixation with celebrating the end of the world.
Excerpt from page A5

Ensemble jazzes up Zellerbach
Members of the Penn Jazz Ensemble perform during their fall concert last weekend in the Amsterdam Center's Zellerbach Theater. The evening's musical Intravents included a guest performance by Allan Chun and dance troupe Afrika Blow.

Charles Alcock of Lawrence Live more is rumored to be a future Nobel Prize winner.

U. nabs noted atmospheric physicist

By Allan Steinworth

Earlier this week, the university invited astrophysicist and Nobel laureate to be a potential Nobel Prize winner, School of Arts and Sciences Dean Samuel Preston said.

Charles Alcock, currently director of the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Sciences at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, was hired as part of a recent effort to strengthen the Physics and Astronomy Department, which is the department said.

Alcock, who has taught four years ago at the University of California in Los Angeles, has not taught regularly since 1984, said he is eager to return. "I’d like to start out teaching undergraduate courses," Alcock said. "I’m really looking at that as a step in the right direction of me starting a new实验室 here on campus." According to Alcock, which is a fantastic laboratory, Alcock said that he thinks the laboratory is the best place in the world to do this work. "It is a community of people who can make what we are doing in the lab possible."

By Frank Cho

Three groups have made suggestions as to what to put in the pre-K-8 school.

The committee also emphasized the importance of the surrounding community key to planning the school.

Wharton center helps area businesses thrive

Local entrepreneurs can get advice from student consultants at Penn.

The Daily Pennsylvanian

Three U. City sites considered for club

By Gilbert Stephan

Talks between the University and several concert promoters to open an alcohol-free nightclub on the edge of campus this winter are slow progress, according to club co-owner Sean Agnew.

Agnew said he and Tom Lussenhop have been in several meeting with members of the university, including meetings with the University City Council, the Site and Facilities Committee, and the Community Programming Committee.

"Our goal is to open a club that will be similar in kind to the notorious 40th Street by the end of last month," Agnew said. "We are interested in opening a club that will be a resource center in the community, a place for students to hang out and have a good time." Agnew said the university has expressed interest in the idea, but that it is still in the early stages of planning.

The alcohol-free venue, which was originally to be called "40th Street," was instead opened to students in a privately-owned warehouse located on the University at 18 N. 40th Street by the end of last month.

"The decision is open to the public," Agnew said. "We are open to the public, three different ideas of what our club would be like to the public.

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**Alumni: Getting published a matter of perseverance**

By Aparna Iyer

Getting your writing published is rarely an easy task. But Penn alumni and 1993 graduate Carol Licner and Josh Piven tried to meet the process last Thursday night by giving students a few helpful tips on self-publishing from their own experiences. Licner, a career manager at Heidrick & Struggles, and Piven, a member of the Roots Crew, discussed about restaurants, discussing in hindsight what did and didn’t work in terms of getting writing jobs and getting their work published.

**Campus Crime Report**

Auto Theft

- November 1: A man at University Hall stated that his white Geo Metro was stolen from a parking lot on the block of South 34th Street around 11 a.m.

- November 2: A man was broken into at the Music Building, located at 201 S. 34th Street, between October 31 and October 24. The person or persons responsible attempted to take several pieces of equipment but were unsuccessful.

Theft

- November 1: A man at University Hall reported that his bicycle, valued at $100, was stolen from the front room of his apartment on the 300 block of Spruce Street between 11 p.m. on October 31 and 1 p.m. on October 31.

- November 1: A juvenile走访ed with the University reported that his bicycle was taken by two other juveniles at the corner of 40th and Walnut streets at around 4 p.m. The suspects were described as 13-year-old males who were approximately 5’5” and 120 pounds.

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Information all走访ed from the University Police logbook.

- Red Kurtz

**By Aparna Iyer**

First-year school of Arts and Sciences graduate student Ryan Schuler delivered a presentation Monday on the connections between cognitive neuroscience and writing. The wide-eyed University researchers whose fields spanned neurology, psychiatry and linguistics.

**Cognitive neuroscience prog. grows with new home, pros**

By Alia Nurunnabi

The Worst of Things, written by University English major Aparna Iyer, was published in the Philadelphia Inquirer during his first job, he said. "People often ask me if I have any advice on freelance writing. They made it clear that although freelance writ-

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**FAQs**

Q: What do you mean by "grapes on the vine"? A: "Grapes on the vine" is a phrase used in the wine industry to describe grapes that are still on the vine when they are picked. This phrase is often used to describe wines that are made from grapes that were picked when they were fully ripe and had maximum sugar content. These grapes are typically more flavorful and aromatic than grapes that are picked while still on the vine.

Q: What do you mean by "the best wine on the cart?" A: "The best wine on the cart" is a phrase used to describe wines that are selected for their quality and taste. These wines are typically chosen by the sommelier or wine steward and are featured on the restaurant's wine list. They are often more expensive than other wines on the list and are considered to be the highest quality wines available.

Q: What do you mean by "the wine of the month?" A: "The wine of the month" is a phrase used to describe wines that are featured on a restaurant's wine list for a limited time. These wines are typically chosen by the sommelier or wine steward and are featured in addition to the regular wine list. They are often more expensive than other wines on the list and are considered to be high-quality wines.

**The Daily Pennsylvanian**
CATZ'S crossover appeal surprised many

Still, the Street team felt confident enough about its candidate to virtually drop out during the final months, waiting until late to send out press releases. Katz's campaign began to make its case for the first time in September, and by then the polls showed Katz gaining in the race.

The key issue was Sam Katz.

Katz proved a tough breed to the candidate. He vigorously campaigned with a modern, data-driven campaign and recruited key volunteers and campaign managers. Katz's campaign was led by University of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia school's top real estate official and head of the Site Estate of the Philadelphia School District. Katz was able to capitalize on the Democratic recruitment of city and county officials, many of whom thought Katz had sprung up.

But although Katz couldn't take down the staunchly Democratic city, Katz's campaign became legitimate. Katz's candidacy became legitimate and Katz's effort.

Technology key to school plan, U.'s Lussenhop says

Construction is scheduled to start shortly and the school is expected to be ready in September 2001.

The pre-K school has been trumped by University officials as a meaningful contribution to West Philadelphia, one that both improves the quality of life for current residents and encourage faculty and staff to live in the University City area.

But it has also been a source of controversy. Community members have raised concerns about the past about what would happen in the future.

The University will provide several support meetings at $50 for each of the school's expected 390 students, for 16 years. The University will also be operated by the city. The University's Graduate School of Education will provide teaching and coaching assistance.

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leave your inhibitions at home but bring your invitation
due to parabolics rules, freshmen may not attend

Suzanne Farrell stages The Masters of 20th Century Ballet
A Kennedy Center Millennium Project

The Daily Pennsylvanian

Alcock from page Al

The dinner and lecture were co-sponsored by the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, which is based on her work observing the Christian Right movement in the U.S. Her concern, and the focus of her lecture, was that the Christian Right movement is becoming more powerful and influential in American politics.

"There is a lot of racism and it is being hidden by political correctness," Harding said as she warned of the sentiment underlying right-wing activism.

"I think it's great that SPECTRUM hired Alcock," Kar NEWSON, the executive director of Political Research Associates, came to speak at the University while on tour promoting her book, which is based on her work observing right-wing politics over the past 30 years.

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The book seems to have attracted praise from at least one prominent reviewer in the Philadelphia Daily News.

"I've been working on it for 14 months," Langacker said. "I think it's very important for students and professionals interested in the program and its rigorous performance to attend the lecture." Langacker said the department is open to additional feedback on the program, for which the student group received $2,000 in funding for the program from SPECTRUM.

LeCompte said the lecture in Philadelphia was a "great success," and that he hopes to see more of his work performed on the East Coast.

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The 'eyes' have it: Cougar gets sight restored at VHUP

By Sarah Connolly

Thanks to the Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, a cougar named Aurora is alive and well today.

Dr. Seth Koch, an ophthalmologist at VHUP, performed eye surgery on the 22-week-old cougar cub Tuesday morning in hopes of restoring her sight.

The cougar was diagnosed with congenital cataracts in both eyes a few weeks ago, but doctors at VHUP expect she will regain 90 percent of her vision after surgery, which they completed Tuesday.

According to Veterinary School spokesperson Bette Croasdale, while the hospital often performs this surgery on dogs and sometimes cats, it is a very rare procedure for cougars and a first for Koch.

Weeks explained that Aurora, who lives in the Elmwood Park Zoo in Norrisville, Pa., was lucky to have been in captivity.

"If something happened in the wild, she would have died," Weeks said.

Koch described the procedure in a press conference prior to the surgery. The cougar is anesthetized and given a paralyzing agent to prevent her eyes from moving. Then a laser millimeter incision is made in the conjunctiva, or the clear layer that covers the white of the eye, and integrated using a tool called a phaco-emulsifier.

A phaco-emulsifier acts as a jackhammer, using ultrasonic wave-pitting at 60,000 cycles per second to break up a cataract. Cataract debris is removed by suction and each lens is cleaned with a single stitch. The incision is then also removed during the surgery.

The procedure lasted about an hour.

Indie rock club won't go by Stalag name, owner says

Thanks to the Boulevard, a euphemism for Stalag 13, - was shut down by the Philadelphia Department of Licenses and Permits in late December, according to the club's owners John Croasdale and Andrew Martini, are most devoted patrons to submit ideas for the new club.

"We decided to change the name just to make it easier for everyone," Agnew said. "Agnew and his partners, Deep Steak, a nightlife venue, are considering soliciting some of their most devoted patrons to submit ideas for the new name over the next few weeks in a contest.

And the club will probably open sometime in late December or early January, according to Agnew, with the hope that the competition will be introduced into a new exhibit.

"The zoo has established a cougar exhibit for Aurora," Agnew said. "Although she may have a slight impairment seeing close objects, her eyes are able to compensate for her vision."

"They're currently finding out the details of Aurora's care for Aurora. After returning home to the zoo, she will recover for a few weeks and then be introduced into a new exhibit.

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Making Penn safe for bicyclists

Lauren Lanci

Thursday, November 4, 1999

Sports & Leisure

Lauren Lanci

Making Penn safe for bicyclists

Lauren Lanci

Sports & Leisure

Penn's bicycle safety program is being carried out to "green" the streets between the Penn campus, Clark Park and points farther west. And the already-completed Valley Forge Parkway, the future East Coast Greenway and the Schuylkill and Trunk Trails will offer all additional cycling and walking opportunities to students and faculty. Meanwhile, a new bridge and cultural interest in the river corridor. The traffic calming measures and aesthetic improvements are noted on local streets and sidewalks encouraging more "street life" in the Spring Garden Street and Girard Avenue bridges and public rights-of-way along the east-

White House Trail. Bicycles will once again be a viable mode of transportation on campus.

The Outdoor Trail will be out off the city's finances.

“Give us a chance,” Street declared early in his campaign, “to build consensus.”

It is our belief that Street is up to these challenges and his mandate is to lead, but his task is to balance the spectrum of issues and recognize that an election this close chooses a one-term mayor.

An election binds both those who participate in the local arena and those who do not. It is now the responsibility of the Philadelphians to unite behind the leadership of the man they have selected to lead them.

But it just wouldn't be the same if we do not party together, I have been in therapy to adjust to the city's finances.

The car skidded past me while I was in a gray New Year's eve attire and propose marriage to the ball drop in Manhattan's Times Square, and I was breathlessly watching the ball drop. I know that the excitement of the universe and the excitement of participating in communal experiences.

But I guess the University should not feel too bad: An emergency is the real Y2K bug—our computer systems. This is the real Y2K bug—our computer systems.

He sees the current college culture as the end of the world? Or will the world end if we do not party?

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WHARTON from page A1

On Halloween eve, Penn Jazz haunts with past greats' music

By Nadine Spitalnick

Before heading to various venues to celebrate the eve of Halloween on Saturday night, hundreds of students began their evening listening to the concluding sounds of jazz and rhythm from the past 50 years. The Penn Jazz Ensemble held its fall concert in the Aztec Theater in front of an enthusiastic and benighted crowd, many of whom were already decked out in their Halloween costumes. Special guest artists African Rhythms opened for the Jazz Ensemble.

The rhythm section, which War- drobe members, with some guest- ers, brought in with flair, led the ensemble. Jazz bassist Mon- ake "Straight No Chaser," listed by Levy's request in the rhythm section play a piece without the brass sections. The piece featured Engineer Junior flute, University of Music and the Performing Arts Council.

The band played renditions of songs such as "Hound Dog," "Round Midnight," and "Take the A Train." The music was performed by the Afro Latin Ensemble. The ensemble received a standing ovation from the audience. Tenorist Josh Heald, a Wharton senior and the editor-in-chief of The Daily Pennsylvanian, gave in to requests for an encore and repeatedly insisted "one more Rob Levy, a percussionist and stage, according to College sophomore Adam Schuh. The master drummer's enthousiasm was driven throughout the evening by the audience's response. "You like that, huh?" he asked the audience. "You like that, huh?"

Between the second and third pieces, the director stood up to in- troduce the next piano piece for the audience to clap to the music. Everyone said that they could not con- tinue clapping as the drumming be- came too loud.

Senior Romana Kaleem is one of the student organizers of the Student Activities Council, who came to hear her friend play.

"It's a rewarding experience," he said. "Clients are relying on you to aid them. They actually trust you and said, "[Clients] are relying on you to lend you their ear."

And he learns what you know," Di- Marinosaid. "It's totally vibrant,"

Wharton senior Keith Martinsen said he joined the SBDC because he wanted to explore different career possibilites. He has not yet com- piled his counseling term and he plans to continue working with his clients after college. "The SBDC is Drexel University alum- "You learn what (the client) knows and he learns what you know," Di- Marinosaid. "It's totally vibrant,"

Wharton senior Keith Martinsen said he joined the SBDC because he wanted to explore different career possibilites. He has not yet com- piled his counseling term and he plans to continue working with his clients after college. "The SBDC is Drexel University alum- "The SBDC is a really good oppor- tunity for business students, participating in the SBDC is not limited to those in Wharton," said Caroline Kalemre. One person has gained a great deal by working with the SBDC is Drexel University student Garnick, who is currently working on his fourth business venture. He consults with the SBDC regularly when starting out in business.

RaviSat Technologies, the sec- ond business Garnick founded, grew to annual revenues of $35 million in only three years. And his current venture, Ravisent Technologies, has just landed deals with both Amtrak and Sony Corp.

While the majority of consultants are business students, participation in the SBDC is not limited to those in Wharton. Senior Romana Kaleem is one of two College of Arts and Sciences ele- ments, according to Craig Marino, a Wharton junior and SBDC consultant.

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Two Seattle boat repair workers shot dead

Two other employees were also shot, just a day after the shooting of seven copy repair workers in Hawaii.

HOUSTON — A man was murdered, and six other workers were wounded, at a boat repair company yesterday. The attack occurred just a day after a deadly workplace shooting in Hawaii.

Law enforcement officials say the gunman appeared to be a disgruntled employee who went berserk, shooting and killing two of his co-workers before turning his gun on himself.

The attack came in the wake of a similar incident in Hawaii, where six workers were killed in a shooting at a printer's shop.

The gunman, identified as a 30-year-old man, went on a rampage, shooting and wounding six people before being killed by police.

The shooting occurred at the industrial area near the Boeing plant in southeast Seattle. The building was cordoned off by police, who were searching for the attacker.

A witness described the attacker as a man with a beard and mustache, who appeared to be in his late 20s or early 30s.

The suspect was later identified as a former employee of the shipyard, who had been fired just days before the shooting.

The shooting shocked the community, and the搜寻 for the attacker continued throughout the night.

Meanwhile, the city of Seattle remained on high alert, as police warned residents to stay indoors and lock their doors.

The search for the gunman continued into the night, as police and FBI agents searched the nearby area for any clues.

The shooting has left the community in shock, and the investigation is ongoing.

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Submited under 10 feet of water in some places, fish still do live in port area. Dungenous said the first day of the search for the two men was "very challenging." The search was focused on the central Vietnam coast, where the aircraft had been located.

Meanwhile, the city of Danang remained on high alert, as police warned residents to stay indoors and lock their doors.

The search for the two men continued into the night, as police and FBI agents searched the nearby area for any clues.

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Drug makers to merge in $65 bil. deal

The makers of Advil and Cuts will join forces today to create the world's largest pharmaceutical company.

NEW YORK — American Home Products Corp. and Warner-Lambert Co. are expected to announce a $65 billion merger today that would create the world's largest drug company and allow it to diversify into prescription drug marketing, a person familiar with the negotiations said.

American Home is the company behind such household names as Advil, Absorbine and Schick and is the leading innovator in replacement drug Premarin, the world's best-selling hormone replacement therapy, and is working on treatments for heart disease, diabetes and several other conditions. It is also planning to start a new pharmaceutical business.

Warner-Lambert is behind such brands as Actos, Advil, Advil PM, Closing, Cuts and Life Savers. The company also is planning to enter the prescription drug market.

The companies said they had been discussing a merger for several years, but negotiations broke down last year when Warner-Lambert declined to pay American Home more than $1 billion for Schick.

The new company will be called AmericanHomeWarner-Lambert, according to a person familiar with the talks who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The stock of both companies rose Wednesday after both parties confirmed that they were in merger talks. Shares of other drug makers also rose as investors anticipated a number of potential deals in the industry.

The merger, which is expected to be approved this week by the Federal Trade Commission, will create a company with more than $16 billion in annual sales. As a result, it will have a presence in almost every major medical area, including cancer, HIV/AIDS, diabetes and heart disease.

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**Hole in Ozone**

Traced to Single Cow

**Poodle Sues Owner Over Photos**

Proving once again that the poodle is the most intelligent breed of canine, a white standard named "Cuffy" suit her owner with a lawsuit charging that photos of him displayed in an eCircle were disparaging and posted without his permission.

Snoopy McFluff was the victim of an eCircle that was not moderated. 

"Cuffy's a good poodle and can be trusted not to bite. He was placed in a large eCircle that was not monitored. Cuffy is a good poodle," said his owner, Larry McCloud.

**Other rowers label her liar.**

In an eCircle of rowing fans that was created by Bob Krueger, a member of Great Britain's rowing team, an owner of an eCircle tilted her oarsmen's use of eCircle to plan silent auction for fans.

**Mine's use eCircle to plan silent auction pg.3**

---

**Crew Team Member Admits "Enjoying It"**

Stay in Touch Via eCircles

**Graduates Headed to Wall St., Silicon Valley, Attica to Touch in Stay Touch Via eCircles**

It's a retirement time at Pennsylvania University, as this year's seniors begin to go off on their final semester. They will have to leave the warm bosom of their eCircle and enter the world. One closely-knit group of friends, however, is determined never to grow apart, and has created an eCircle on which they will meet for years to come.

"We will be able to have private chats online, as well as share photos and music," wrote Redwood during the session, and not a single case of eCircles also were not amused, as well as for any damage to the new eCircles.

"Deserved it, the bastard," said Lilac, pointing to the eCircles were displayed in an eCircle were disparaging and posted without his permission. MacArthur. "I read the first song. The MP3 was recorded by the local acoustic band Brown Galore, and it's entitled "A Dozen for My Sweet Love." It's e-tacular!!

"I assassinated a top political figure in an Eastern Block country," typed Bongi, "I was a horrible child, and often shoplifted candy and toys from the "I was a horrible child, and often shoplifted candy and toys from the store. When I was 14, I was caught stealing in a store and was sent to juvenile hall."

"There's a hole in the ozone layer," said Lisa, "I woke up an hour later with a horrid stench. Like a firetruck full of rotten eggs crashed in my nostrils."

"I read the first song. The MP3 was recorded by the local acoustic band Brown Galore, and it's entitled "A Dozen for My Sweet Love." It's e-tacular!!"

"I was a horrible child, and often shoplifted candy and toys from the store. When I was 14, I was caught stealing in a store and was sent to juvenile hall."

"I woke up an hour later with a horrid stench. Like a firetruck full of rotten eggs crashed in my nostrils."

"But the idea is great!" said Redwood. "I read the first song. The MP3 was recorded by the local acoustic band Brown Galore, and it's entitled "A Dozen for My Sweet Love." It's e-tacular!!"

"I read the first song. The MP3 was recorded by the local acoustic band Brown Galore, and it's entitled "A Dozen for My Sweet Love." It's e-tacular!!"
The athletic Department was not concerned with the student bet interest.

Once again, the Line leaves true fans nothing to complain about.

Once a ticket, the Line's true fans nothing to complain about.

The Line: Love or leave it?

The Athletic Department was not concerned with the student bet interest.

Once again, the Line leaves true fans nothing to complain about.

The Line: Love or leave it?
Try drinking water for a change.

(It's the clear stuff without the head.)
Students should give input to make The Line better

CRODBOSE from page B1

Another result of the lack of student input to the running of The Line is to give students an opportunity to participate in the decision of what makes The Line a winner or a disaster. 

Students rush into the Palestra to see the game but many do not think about what it's like for The Line to be in the best interests of the students. It would be a great opportunity for students to put their thoughts in writing and to be heard. 

Another result of the lack of student input is that many students do not understand the rules of The Line or what it means to be part of The Line. Many students have never been to The Line and are not aware of what it entails.

The rules of The Line are that students must be there for the entire game, must not leave the Palestra, and must not take part in any illegal acts. Students who break these rules are subject to being kicked out of The Line. 

The Line is a formal structure that began when the basketball season started last weekend. Students who wish to become part of The Line must fill out an application and be interviewed. 

If students are accepted into The Line, they are given a pass that allows them to enter the Palestra before the game and to stay for the entire game. Students who are not accepted into The Line are not allowed to enter the Palestra until after the game.

The Line is a way for students to get a better view of the game and to be closer to the action. Students who are part of The Line are able to see the game from the bleachers and to hear the players and coaches.

The Line is also a way for students to get a firsthand look at the game and to understand the rules of the game. Students who are part of The Line are able to see the game from the sidelines and to hear the players and coaches.

The Line is a way for students to get a firsthand look at the game and to understand the rules of the game. Students who are part of The Line are able to see the game from the sidelines and to hear the players and coaches.
Field Hockey's Flynn puts away visiting West Chester with fifth goal of season

FIELD HOCKEY page 1

into the net. "It was nice to capitalize on a second chance, as it was coming to one of the areas on which Penn has worked hard this season," Flynn said.

The goal tied the game with 11:12 to go in the half and gave her first of the night. The goal came over $10,000 for Spring Break, Cancun, "Jamaica" for 10 years. "We scored over two goals, and that's amazing," Flynn said. "Our offense was well-defended against that formidable offensive attack that resulted in low-quality scoring chances.

Flynn put the Quakers up 2-1 with 22:14 left in the second half. Penn had a 1-0 lead. Martin was credited with the assist. Penn's first corner opportunity with two minutes to go in the game. Luckily for Penn, they did not convert on this chance.

With this win behind them, the Quakers have just one game remaining on the schedule. Winning Yale and West Chester, however, gives Penn's record a bit more room for expansion.
The Jewish Studies Program and the Graduate School of Education announce a new course for the spring, "Teaching Jewish Texts: An Introduction to Jewish Education" (JWST/EDUC 200) is the first course of Penn's new minor in Jewish Studies & Education. The course will be taught by Dr. Gail Dorph of the Mandel Foundation on Thursdays, 3:00-6:00pm. This course will focus on practical and ideological issues in teaching Bible and Siddur texts. The class discussions, readings and assignments will serve as a springboard to the examination of the uncertainties of teaching and learning in general and the particular challenges faced by Jewish educators and educating institutions. No previous courses in education or teaching experience are required.

ITAs end of fall season for W. Tennis

W. TENNIS from page B1

Penn's Mulhern looks back on F. Hockey 'Glory Days' of '88

Mulhern looks back on F. Hockey 'Glory Days' of '88

2:40 p.m. Monday afternoon, and we were on our way to the Final Four. It was amazing, we couldn't believe that we were going to the Final Four. I looked at [coaches Anne] Sage and [Val] Cloud and everybody and screamed that we were going to the Final Four. I think we were more in amazement of the fact that we were screaming that we were going to the Final Four, that we were going to the Final Four, than just excited about the fact that we were going to the Final Four. That was my best memory, and it was obviously with all of my best friends... That was my junior year. It was the first and only time that Penn went to the Final Four. For the whole week leading into the tournament everybody was saying how it was by far the best team that ever played... That was the most exciting thing and it was still a great memory, and a lot of my friends and I still talk about it. We play 'Remember when...'

Thinking about Law School?

A representative from The Law School at The University of Chicago will be on campus on Friday, November 5, 1999 for Information Sessions and Individual Student Appointments.

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BROOKLYN — Dave Lopes, who voided his deal with the Cleveland Indians but I found that when the word got out that there was no one he's

5. Longer man, and the Milwau-
keeffort was rewarded when owner Peter

knicks beat Chicago 84-74 in the
second straight victory.

Press

8. The hiring of Hargrove, the Off-

day job, has the distinction of being the

EASTERN CONFERENCE

He carried the most impressive cre-

Hargrove signed a three-year con-

Hargrove was born in Los Angeles.

Southwestern Conference

Garrity scored 20 points last night as the

FORDHAM versus MEMPHIS

Celtics 112, Wizards 101

DANGEROUS NIGHTS

Rivers took over a team that tied

Cranberry, on the influence of

Sorority Rush

Daylight Saving Time

Sports Quote of The Day

Sports Quote of The Day

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3:30 p.m.

3:30 a.m.

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34th magazine
November 5, 1999

the BEST of PENN

inside — Cultural Elite • The Foundation • The Sims: SimCity, Part Deux
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decorative epiphany

A fading tattoo versus a lifetime of memories.

Rachel Ryan

I've put a lot of thought into getting a tattoo. I've even decided where I want it — center, lower back. This way, the tattoo is easily hidden in professional clothes, but still visible in bikinis, low-slung pants and nothing at all. What will I get? I'm fairly sure I want some sort of design. Just a simple pattern, maybe something mysteriously foreign, perhaps Celtic or Asian. Why get one? I want to commemorate my youth. See, as much as I don't want to believe it, I won't always be young. I want a tangible reminder of what it feels like to be 20 years old and carefree and to have no worries more serious than what topic to choose for my next English paper or what shoes to wear on Friday night. I want to wear a badge of memories.

A few days ago, I sat on a trolley as it rumbled towards Center City. I quickly assumed my daily routine: sit neatly in the allotted plastic indentation, look down at my lap or hands and avoid eye contact with others. But I have trouble keeping my eyes down. I can't help it. I'm fascinated by the utter uniqueness of human beings. I love details, like the staccato tapping of a foot against the rubber floor or the small sticky fingers of a child lost within a larger hand.

The car lurched to an abrupt stop at 33rd Street. The doors flew open and on lumbered an old, decrepit man. His eyes wandered across the car like a lost child, and only after the trolley sped up did he stumble towards an empty seat. He was wearing stained, wrinkled work pants and a thin white-turbaned-gray undershirt. Several days worth of stubble covered his chin and his hair was plastered against his head in greasy streaks.

The old man fell into a seat directly across from me, his globular stomach settling into his lap. My eyes were pulled towards several greenish blots on his skin. A few seconds later, I realized the blurry forms were tattoos. Vaguely, I could now see an array of naked women and female names. The old man muttered something indecipherable and turned to look into the blackness outside.

Who is this man? Who was this man? I looked more closely at his tattoos and wondered about the women whose names were emblazoned upon his sagging arm. Suddenly, I could imagine this man as he was 60 or so years ago: athletic and good-looking, sitting at a bar some dark night, sweet-talking a pretty young woman, flirting and laughing, and later, embracing with her.

A tattoo is nothing more than ink lying underneath the skin. Like the rest of the old man's body, the tattoo decayed and distorted. This is supposed to symbolize youth? A poor symbol, indeed. Ink may fade, and memories certainly don't. I don't need to inject ink into my skin to remember what is what like to feel young. Instead, I'll let my body remind me of my youth, just like the old man. I'll savor every wrinkle that results from years of laughs and every aching joint that comes from casual jogs on Sunday mornings.

The trolley began to slow down once again as it approached 19th Street. I gathered my belongings and was swept up in the hurried rush of people exiting the trolley. As I stepped off, I stopped on the platform to look backwards. I could see the profile of the old man as he continued to look listlessly ahead. The trolley began to roll away again, but I kept my eyes fixed on the square of light that framed the old man until it became nothing more than a diminishing speck of brilliance.

from the editor

Ya ever have that person, or group of people, in your life who just can't seem to stop complaining to you? They're not complaining about anything in particular, but they just like to hear themselves talk about their problems, whether or not you even have an appropriate answer? I like these people a lot.

"But Josh," you say, "that's entirely contradictory, especially when you consider your past history of chastising the mend and stupid among us."

Call it an inconsistency in my personality or call it what you will, but I believe people actually gain more than they lose through these seemingly worthless exchanges. An example will suffice: Let's say I have a friend and his name is, oh I don't know — Jeremy. OK, so Jeremy goes around the house moping about how he "needs to get laid" and wants to "start using [his] penis." I support Jeremy's plight wholeheartedly and am there for him, although it would seem I get little more than brief amusement from this vulnerable exchange.

But the conversation is not over. Listeners cannot resist the impulse to relate to their complainer. I find myself often nodding in agreement with Jeremy: "Yes, it's good to use the penis," or, "Uh huh, I see where you're coming from on the whole "using your penis" thing." And from there, I am propelled to tell Jeremy what is wrong with my day, week or life. It's a trade-off and we both emerge healthier from the conversation.

You're still not convinced. OK, one more example: This dude — we'll call him "me" — works a bunch of hours at a magazine and occasionally lets his frustration spilt out into non-work conversations. It's cleansing in a way to let go of these emotions. But now "I have to receive some complaints in return."

So my friend Rold will tell me about the interview question he bombed and how he ruined his chances of getting a job. And that's what it's really all about — laughing at Rold.
The blood flows thick down the Schulykill this morning as the votes are in and the list has been closed. Once a year, 34th Street calls upon the powers of good and evil to determine membership in the cultural elite - an even 100 heads. There is no application to this list of Penn society's upper crust.

Either you're elite or you're not.

November 4, 1999

Cultural Elite 1999

Vicente Chen — Freestyle rap, anyone? A staple in the underground scene. It's all about The Gathering. Dan Cherry & V.F. & DJ Tio spin his way from South Street in Penn to each day and scored a sweet stint at Di 611 Records. He wears yellow-tinted sunglasses and makes you swoon.

Sara Coelho & David Ecker — Senior SATU founders put President Clinton's speaking skills to shame. Emily Cohen, Adam Kaufman & Courteney Zaffman — The housey speaksubway is the baby of these three artistic souls. Check out the ladies' penmanship, designs and sculp-
tures, and listen to Sara babble on and off about Adam's songwriting.

James Hebert — The laid-back senior Kite & Key VP and T-Changecorner. Black Wharton Undergrad is the music major who always has a band in the audience. For the�

Kiana Blake — Architectural schools are beating down a path to this Friar's door. Bloomer's designer is a true Renaissance man. And what a smile. There are many boys in the audience who wish they could jump right in. Oooh, baby.

Jenn Brown — The Atlanta native may lead your tour, roast your toast or run your meeting. But the Kite and Key Pen & Pencil — this mild-mannered VPHS DI, Lantern Society Co-chair, Black Wharton Undergrad social chair, Chord On Blues senior and College Repubs President, is the best. This former Phi Delta Kappa men's division is co-chair, Black Wharton Undergrad social chair, Chord On Blues senior and College Repubs President, is the best. This former Phi Delta Kappa men's division head and Alpha Slaves founder, toppled Sigma Chi Friar can't seem to spread some good-natured cheer. And acts just like John Belushi... 34th Street manager editing work in the Atlantic Office for the Lantern Society Co-chair, Black Wharton Undergrad social chair, Chord On Blues senior and College Repubs President, is the best. This former Phi Delta Kappa men's division head and Alpha Slaves founder, toppled Sigma Chi Friar can't seem to spread some good-natured cheer. And acts just like John Belushi...
Music and our mess age

Wes Craven goes from violence to violins

Catherine O' Reilly

Music of the Heart, the new "Save the Music" and based-on-a-true-story movie starring Meryl Streep, is not as sappy as one would assume. While it's sometimes a little too sentimental and sugar-coated, the movie doesn't come close to the cheesy bromide for music education of Mr. Holland's Opus. Music of the Heart is too street-smart and classy to get its message across that route. It also marks a marked departure for veteran horror director Wes Craven (Nightmare on Elm Street, Scream). Also, her voice is hilarious.

When the movie opens, Roberta Guaspari (Meryl Streep) is living with her mother in a nice, generic town. Her Navy officer husband has recently left her and their two young sons for Roberta's best friend, leaving Roberta a self-pitying mess. With her mother's insistence, she goes back to work in retail where she runs into a friend from her high school orchestra, Brian Sinclair (Alden Queen). Sinclair suggests that perhaps the best outlet to help Roberta forget her ex-husband is to take advantage of her musical talents and move to Harlem to teach violin.

Roberta decides to take a chance and heads with her two sons to Harlem. At first, the elementary school to which Sinclair recommends her turns her down, citing insufficient funds. But Roberta refuses that she owns 50 violins, purchased when her husband had been stationed in Greece and she had conducted a similar program on base. She's hired as a substitute music teacher on the spot. But teaching 20-something children from backgrounds apathetic to the violin is not so cut-and-dried. Roberta deals with the typical behavioral and parental problems, everything from kids mismanaging the instrument to parents accusing her of being an unsympathetic teacher because of her no-nonsense demeanor. But she does have her supporters, chiefly the principal (Angela Bassett) and a fellow teacher (Gloria Estefan). Eventually, her students come to value her and the violin.

Here the film accelerates 10 years. Roberta is man's advocate for the most popular curricular options and is available in two other schools, as well. But recent budget cuts have single-eliminated music and music programs as the first to go. Not leaving without a fight, Roberta and her allies retaliate by using their strongest and most sympathetic weapon: the press. Soon, the entire New York area and the country knows of their plight, and with the help of some influential connections, a benefit concert featuring some of the world's preeminent musicians is scheduled for Carnegie Hall.

Needless to say, a happy ending awaits and the continuation of the program is assured. Nevertheless, Music of the Heart shines in its own right. For all its convenient turns of events and heavy doses of optimism, rarity does it manipulate or preach to the audience. The movie's message regarding the importance of music education in public schools sparkles through the eyes of children who benefit from the 50 violins. And the role of Roberta is not used as a pulp, but rather as refreshing expression and example of what can happen when a gift or talent is freely shared with others for the benefit of all.

Laura Parker

Blood, gore, bad language — Princess Mononoke is not exactly what the U.S. expects from an animated film. Yet in Japan, only Titanic has surpassed director Hayao Miyazaki's film at the box office. Now being released in the states two years after its Japanese release, the film promises to change America's perception of animated films by introducing Japanese culture to the big screen. Princess Mononoke sharply contrasts with Disney's sugar-sweet movies. It is a powerful, affecting story about the struggle between man and nature, and it combines distinctly Japanese culture with American voices to create an anime classic.

Cursed by a demon boar, the young warrior Ashitaka (voiced by Billy Crudup) must leave his village and search for a cure in the forests of Japan. Taking only his elk, San, he embarks on a journey. He stumbles upon a mining colony and meets its leader, Lady Eboshi (Minnie Driver), who is trying to destroy the forest gods so that she can expand her mines. Her enemy is the protector of the forests, Princess Mononoke (Claire Danes), a young girl raised by a wolf god (Gillian Anderson). As the on-going battle between the mining village and the forests escalates and as Ashitaka and the Princess fall in love, it becomes Ashitaka's quest to make peace between the two sides.

A powerful score, expressive voicing and expert animation all merge in Princess Mononoke. It's no wonder the movie was such a hit in Japan — it's fantastic. The story creates a fantasy world that recreates childhood make-believe in everyone's mind, both Japanese and American. However, unlike many animated films as we know them, Princess Mononoke deals with a serious and meaningful plot. The great Forest Spirit syndrome that has marred some of his recent work. Director Miyazaki is similarly in fine form, executing scene after scene with surgical precision and visual parable. For example, the film's prologue, following Bergman and Wallace, on assignment in Lebanon, is presented with enough flare to light a fire under any Tom Clancy adaptation. The Insider perfectly fails to light a fire under the audience may be the fault of its source material. It's difficult to get worked up over a story when you already know the ending (Big Tobacco settles to the tune of $250 billion and the 60 Minutes story eventually airs). But you can't fault Mann and Co. trying. Somebody's gotta keep Al Pacino employed and Oscar-worthy.
Young mighty Joe

‘Joe the King’ has a strong central character... and little else

PAT MULLOY

Joe the King is a dark and devastating look at the life of a young boy named Joe Henry. The film, written and directed by actor Frank Whaley, takes the audience on a journey through the mind of this teenager and the difficulties he encounters. The movie does an excellent job of giving the viewer a unique perspective of a pitiful young boy stuck in a very troubled world. In many ways it is reminiscent of Truffaut’s The 400 Blows and Boorman’s Hope and Glory. Unlike these two movies, however, Joe the King lacks a sufficient story to surround its primary character.

The demanding role of Joe is ably portrayed by Noah Fleiss. In a season where viewers have seen many younger actors, like Haley Joel Osment of The Sixth Sense and Mena Suvari of American Beauty, turn in dramatic, Oscar-worthy performances, Fleiss more than holds his own. Fleiss’s world is harsh and ruthless, yet he remains hopeful. The other stars of the movie are Joe’s older brother and his young friends. Unlike in so many other films that come out of Hollywood, the younger characters in Joe’s older brother and his young friends. Unlike in so many other films that come out of Hollywood, the younger characters in Joe the King are well crafted and actually resemble rather real life troubled teens.

Whaley has assembled a cast of big name stars that take on some smaller roles. The Practice’s Camryn Manheim is cast a wicked schoolteacher, John Leguizamo plays Joe’s older co-worker, and Ethan Hawke plays Joe’s guidance counselor. Val Kilmer takes on a larger role as Joe’s abusive father. Unfortunately, as a character, Mr. Henry comes off as incredibly flat and underwritten as does the role of Joe’s mother. In fact, all the adults in the story seem like broadly written and undeveloped caricatures. Yet that may have been Whaley’s intention. Due to the semi-autobiographical nature of the film, it is quite possible that even as an adult now, Whaley still identifies much more with the children in the film than with their adult counterparts.

The movie is an impressive directing debut for Whaley. Unfortunately, his writing is not nearly as praiseworthy. While the film sketches a strong central character in Joe, its plot, or lack thereof, fails to generate enough emotion for the suffering protagonist. It remains a very depressing movie throughout its two-hour running time, but at least Hollywood has discovered an incredible child actor in Noah Fleiss.

**JOE THE KING**

Starring: Noah Fleiss, Val Kilmer, Ethan Hawke
Directed by: Frank Whaley
Rated: R

The 400 Blows

Three Kings

The Story of Us

Bats

The Sixth Sense

American Beauty

The Best Man

Fight Club

Bringing out the Dead

Music of the Heart

Double Jeopardy

The Sixth Sense

The Bachelor

The Bone Collector

The Insider

Dante’s Inferno

House on Haunted Hill

The Best Man

Double Jeopardy

American Beauty

Music of the Heart

Bats

The Sixth Sense

The Story of Us

Three Kings

Bats

Weekend Box Office (in millions)

House on Haunted Hill

15.9

The Best Man

6.3

Double Jeopardy

5.4

American Beauty

3.8

Music of the Heart

3.7

Bats

3.2

The Sixth Sense

3.0

Three Kings

2.5

Bats

2.2

Opening Friday

11/5

The Insider: Michael Mann directs the true story of a 60 Minutes expose on the tobacco industry. See review on page 4.

The Bachelor: Chris O’Donnell has overcome the emotional scars left from Batman and Robin and returns to acting in this comedy about a man who has 24 hours to find a bride.

The Bone Collector: Denzel Washington portrays a quadrapalegic detective advising his young partner, who is hot on the trail of a serial killer.


The Time for Honesty About Race Is Now

A century from now, cultural historians will find David Horowitz’s spiritual and political odyssey paradigmatic for our time.

—Glenn Reynolds

This is a raw and courageous book that turns over some rocks and shows what is crawling underneath. It reveals the ugly reality behind the pretty and politically correct words and visions of our time.

—Thomas Sowell

Available at bookstores or to order call 1-800-752-6562 www.dhorowitz.com
**A taste of Old England in Downtown Philly?**

Dicken's Inn offers bloody good food, beer, and atmosphere.

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**LLOYD ROSENMAN**

Set one foot inside the Dickens Inn and you'll feel like you've stepped into a time machine. Come along as we travel back to Old England.

Inside the establishment, one notices the first of many bars on the left. On a recent Saturday night, 10 patrons sat at the small rectangular bar sampling a handful of the 16 beers on tap. Many of the beers are British or Irish, with such favorites as Bass Ale and Guinness Stout adorning the list. But many lesser known brands including Double Diamond Ale and Bod- dington's Ale provide "local" flavor. But not to worry. The less adventurous beer drinker will find the usual domestic favorites.

Each of the restaurant's other three bars has its own personality. The first is upstairs in the darts room, where many of the regulars hang out. The room is perfect for just hanging out with some friends and avoiding the crowd.

The next bar is quite spectacular, as it holds hundreds of single-malt Scotch liquors, some quite rare. Many local expatriates and people of Irish and English descent can be found there.

**DICKENS INN**

**Location:** 422 S. Second Street

**Entrees:** $11 - $24 (in dining room; also have bar menu)

One of three attached rooms — is reminiscent of an old English Inn. With its Tudor beams and authentic pictures, etchings and original Charles Dickens pages hanging on the walls, the Inn provides one of the most endearing atmospheres in Philadelphia. The rooms and tasteful arrangements lend themselves well to both groups and romantic dining for two by the fireplace.

And the service is terrific. Your server, who may be a Wharton student, will undoubtedly be pleasant and friendly. The hostess and manager are attentive and personable as well.

The wine list is varied and reasonably priced, so why not go with a bottle of Pinot Grigio to start things off? Then, for the first course, try the thyme-seasoned scallop appetizer or the house salad, tossed in a teriyaki dressing. For the main course, the menu offers such dishes as Tornados Arthur (filet medallions of beef with a bernaise sauce) and Shrimp Madagascar — a large portion of shrimp over a bed of linguini and bell peppers. The portions are extremely large and can easily be shared by those with smaller appetites. But diners should be warned that the dishes tend to be a bit overcooked.

The Dickens Inn has broken into the '90s by offering cappuccino in addition to the more traditional tea and coffee. A nice selection of pies and cakes also decorates the dessert list, and diners may not have room to indulge after enjoying the large entrees.

The atmosphere is unmatched in Philadelphia and provides a great place to relax, talk, drink and be merry.

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**Red, White and Zanzibar Blue**

Philly favorite features America's best in culture and cuisine

**STACEY RUBIN**

Ahhh, America: Land of the free. Home of the brave. Birthplace of the hot dog. The United States of America continues to enjoy its position as the leading world superpower in terms of technology, economic security and political influence. And yet, who would wager in America's favor in an international battle of culture and cuisine?

It's high time the U.S. shed its cultural shroud and showed its true color — Zanzibar Blue.

Like Independence Hall or the Liberty Bell, one could argue that the music and menu of Zanzibar Blue are among Philadelphia's hallmarks of American society. Seven nights a week, the club/restaurant offers live jazz — a distinctively American musical contribution — and an incredible menu which emphasizes American dishes.

Zanzibar was founded by co-owners Robert and Benjamin Bynum in 1990, marking the beginning of the brothers' success in spicing up Philadelphia's nightlife; Warmdaddy's and Brave New World are also Bynum creations. Though the owners aim for each of these establishments to feature equally entertaining music and cuisine, the food at Zanzibar

Blue has clearly emerged victorious.

The evening began with a few glasses of "Brave New World," a smooth, signature wine made especially for the restaurant. A small tower of portobello mushrooms, roasted red peppers, grilled red onions, Taleggio cheese and flatbread over zucchini grain soon announced the arrival of the first course.

Then, for the first course, try the award-winning jumbo lump crab cakes, served with succulent sautéed spinach and

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**EIGHTH STREET LOUNGE**

**PHONE:** (215) 925-1900

**DRESS RELAXED**

**NO COVER**

**8Th St. & Callowhill**

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**Desserts**

Dessert included a hearty portion of both a rich, heart-shaped chocolate tart and an old favorite of the American south, sweet potato cheesecake.

Accompanying this fine meal were the rhythms of

Ellas, one of Zanzibar's weekly musical groups. Though their original tunes failed to dazzle, Ellas' versions of "Guananamera" and "The Girl From Ipanema" did add to the atmosphere. Perhaps other performers who frequent the Zanzibar stage, such as local artists Jimmy Scott, James Moody, Juanita Holiday and Chuck Mangione serve as more than just a soothing background to Zanzibar's real trademark — its food.

With appetizers ranging from $5-$9 and entrees from $15-$24, be prepared to do your Sunday best and pay a price of admission to Zanzibar.

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**street ratings guide:**

- It's the Best
- It's pretty good
- Eh...it's OK
- It kinda sucks
- It's the Worst

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**November 4, 1999**
Hip-Hop Nation with a West Philly Flavor

The Foundation combines great music with a social message in hopes of inspiring Penn students to do more than just dance.

In an age where Lauryn Hill's prose speaks like gospel and Will Smith serves as a bigger role model than Bill Clinton, America's youth is looking towards the next musical and cultural revolution: the hip-hop nation.

College senior Andrew Zitcer is fusing social action with pop-culture right here on Penn's campus via a dynamic group of artists and activists called The Foundation.

Music has always been an artistic reflection of society and is often an active force for revolutionary political change. But in order for music to realize its full power of influence on the masses, there must be a clarion master coordinator who sees room for change and improvement.

Prompted by Urban Studies professors Ira Harkavy and Lee Benson, and the course, University-Community Partnerships, Zitcer and friend Tom Lussenhop, who showed Zitcer a number of available sites. The former church at 46th and Walnut streets - known as the Rotunda - fit the bill perfectly. Zitcer had the option of picking a venue with a performance stage but chose the Rotunda instead. "Once I saw it, I knew it was perfect. There is no real stage, it's more of a meeting room," he says. The room perfectly compliments Zitcer's conception of music within The Foundation: The artists get a chance to exist and perform in close proximity to the audience; they are literally and figuratively equal. The Foundation is designed as a neighborhood gathering place where the audience witnesses its peers in art rather than ogling at performers on stage.

With the battle half won, Zitcer needed was the money to support his mission. He asked Vice Provost for University Life Valerie Swain-Gade McCoulum for assistance. McCoulum warmed up to the proposal right away. "The Foundation is truly visionary as exemplified by their commitment to our neighbors in West Philadelphia - and the City," she says. McCoulum adds that she was most impressed by the founders' tenacity and unwavering dedication to building a community through music, dance and other forms of artistic expression. McCoulum granted Zitcer $1000 for two trial concerts.

On April 15 of last year The Foundation held its first concert in the Rotunda. The jazz show — featuring Glenn Bryan of the Office of Community Relations — attracted over a 100 audience members. Bryan, a 1972 College graduate, says he jumped at the chance to "show my support and to show effort" for the Foundation. He adds that he fondly recalls the local artists and groups that used to congregate in the basement of St. Mary's Church on Locust Walk nearly two decades ago. Bryan explains shows naturally evolved at St. Mary's because both local and national artists craved the comfort and intimacy of a smaller venue. On an artistic level, Bryan says The Foundation reminds him of the musical culture that Penn once produced.

Bryan has been approached over the years by many student groups hoping to capitalize on his interest in the arts. But he says Zitcer and The Foundation "climbed to the top and did a lot of work in putting together a structure that made it happen." Bryan says he believes The Foundation has a long future ahead because it will "work more closely with the University in terms of other organizations... rather than just blanket the community with information about the organization." He adds that community support of The Foundation is a vital aspect of its success.

Bryan's initial performance peaked community interest and paved the way for future shows. The second concert last April showcased the Foundation's first underground hiphop group, co-sponsored by the Teaching Ourselves the Unique Culture of Hip-Hop Center. The event attracted an impressive melange of 250 people including area high-schoolers as well as Penn undergrads and grad students.

Zitcer says he turned to hip-hop because he needed a modern art form relevant to young people in order to attract a significant number of students. Although a musical style such as jazz has major roots in Philadelphia, Zitcer says he feared it might not attract audiences because it is not currently a vital form of street art. Hip-hop became the obvious genre of choice because it is young, urban and relevant.

Many of the hip-hop groups became involved with The Foundation via connections Zitcer established while hosting a radio show, Dystopia, on WXPN. The show featured many cutting-edge, experimental local groups who are a perfect edition to The Foundation's repertoire. "I would see shows I liked and remember the people in charge, or I'd just go up and ask the performer if they were interested. I got to know a lot of people in the local music scene," Zitcer says.

These groups are important assets to the Friday night cabaret at the Rotunda because Zitcer says he wants various members of the local scene to act as independent curators for future shows. "I didn't want to be in charge... I wanted to be a facilitator," he explains, adding that he wants to see people who specialize in various genres of music leading the way. By involving local activists and artists in the development process, Zitcer says he hopes to expand The Foundation's contact base even further. This philosophy provides a broader range of performers, ensuring an artistic sound that will appeal to almost everyone.

Through Zitcer's efforts, The Foundation has gained support from a wide variety of organizations including the Center for Community Partnerships, Civic House, Social Planning and Events Committee, TOUCHCEN for the Study of Hip-Hop and the West Philadelphia Cultural Alliance. Looking towards the future, Zitcer says he hopes to add food service at up-coming concerts and accelerate fund raising efforts. Ideally, the Foundation will remain a permanent fixture on 40th Street, Zitcer says.
Best Place to Mack Your Skills (for a serious relationship): Bennett Hall Steps
Grab your Marlboro Lights and break out the Whitman quotes because these liberal arts chaps love to sing of themselves. Just remember your No. 2 for that special poet's digits.

34th and Walnut streets

Best Place to Mack Your Skills (for a one-night stand): The Walnut Street Lounge
No, it's not the football kingdom on 40th Street, but the defensive line and their adoring fans are sure to show up when the kegs come out.

40th and Walnut streets

Best Place to Find Future Husband/Wife: Hillel
Uh, yeah, shalom. Of course I come here all the time. What Jewish holiday is it? Oh, the one with the trees...

36th Street between Walnut Street and Locust Walk

Best Bookstore Item to Charge to Your PennCard: Fresh Samantha juices.
Hey, we're not gonna spend our hard-earned $3 on orange juice.

36th and Walnut streets

Best Spot to People Watch

Phi Delt Café
Grab a Snapple or the requisite fruit salad for hours of peering-over-sunglasses fun.

opposite Phi Delt on Locust Walk

Stalking Technique: Unix, baby, Unix
Fingering is nothing. You can locate your crush at all the places he's logged in since Saturday at 12:48 a.m.; > last pamation = Quaker love

Best Frat Boy Faux Pas: Raising a Ruckus at Irish Pub
So, you want to prove that you have balls and can take a cab downtown? Word to the wise: Walnut Street has more class than the grime on the floor of your frat house.

20th and Walnut streets

Best Place to Stand in Line: La Petite Creperie
Twenty minutes for a crepe might sound a little excessive, but the view of sweaty bodies emerging from Gimbel is enough to satisfy any healthy voyeur.

3700 block of Walnut Street

Best Reason to Walk: SEPTA
Forty minutes stuck in a tunnel with a large man named Harold trying to pull his obese, sweaty body off your seat. Enough said.

Best Place to Publicly Urinate as a Drunken Female: Hamilton Village
We'll just assume they know the reason since they're out there in droves.
The area formerly known as Superblock

Best Place to Publicly Urinate as a Drunken Male: Anywhere they want.

Best Place to Take an Exam: Logan Hall, Room 17
Don't even pretend you don't get a rush when you hear 15 percent of your grade will be determined in this room.

36th Street and Locust Walk

Best Place to Study: Perelman Quadrangle
You don't have to do lines in the bathroom anymore because now they're selling coffee right here.

Best Place to "Study;" Rosengarten Study Rooms
Sign up for an hour of... err... studying, yeah, studying.

Ground floor, Van Pelt Library

Best Construction Site: 40th and Walnut
In the construction face-off between the sites on Walnut at 38th and 40th streets, it's so not a contest. 38th was underway long before 40th. Yet, where's the building? Let's pretend we're walking up Walnut — uh oh, I have to cross the street for the 38th Street building site. Guess the phrase "new walkway" wasn't in the plans.
Best Sports Bar: Shula's
TVs... TVs everywhere....
36th and Chestnut streets

Best Quizzo Bar: New Deck Tavern
Oh the comraderie of Jeopardy! for drunks coupled with waitresses who will trade answers for your team and an upgraded vegetarian menu.
34th and Sansom streets

Best Happy Hours: Mad4Mex
Who wouldn't listen to Playboy?
Moravian Court

Best Off-Campus Renter: Campus Apartments
They mow our grass and even plant some flowers.
40th and Walnut streets

Best Video Store That's Opened Late: Oops.

Best Place to Streak Naked: In Front of the Button
Come on, no one's really having sex under it, anyway.
Across from College Hall, where the Ben statue is missing a button

Best Place for an Alcoholic to Live
39th & Sansom Street
The Blarney Stone and its Thursday 25 cent drink specials across the street will bring out the lush in anyone.

Best Eyesore: The mud-wrestling arena that once housed the Penn Bookstore
Memo to Wharton officials: The green strips in the fence don't hide anything. Lookout point from the Bridge

Best Dessert: White Dog Café
Creme brulee, milk chocolate creme pie, hot deep dish apple pie, spiced angel food cake... Oh taste buds, why have you forsaken me?
34th and Sansom streets

Best Place to Do Homework: Writers House
Make sure to visit the room with all the comfy leather couches.
38th Street and Locust Walk

Best Place to Socialize with Other Self-Professed "Writers": Speakeasy
Every other Wednesday at the Writers House

Best Place to Blow $7 on Lunch: Moravian Café’s, affectionately known as the Food Court
At least you'll be seen....
34th and Walnut streets

Best Bar Menu

Best Employer Presentation Venue: Inn at Penn
The recent addition to Penn's blooming hotel scene has proven itself worthy, providing delicious appetizers and mini sodas in modern, cozy surroundings. And it's much better than the defunct Faculty Club or the dark Palladium basement.
3600 block of Walnut Street

Best Dessert Under $2: McDonald's McFlurry
Sure, it's a Blizzard rip-off, but it's the best thing to happen to Mickey D's since free super-sized fries.
40th and Walnut streets, 33rd and Spruce streets

Best Dive: Track 'n' Turf
From karaoke night to live pets, there's always a filthy good time to be had.
42nd Street and Chester Avenue

Best First-Date Restaurant: Hong Kong Café
Pu pu platter for two. And the best steamed tofu this side of China.
39th and Chestnut streets

Best Last-Date Restaurant: Cav's
Nothing says "Good-bye, never call me again because I want to hook up with that hottie at the bar" like a plate of heaping nachos and a pitcher of lager.
39th Street between Walnut and Sansom streets

Best-kept Real Estate Secret: Woodland Terrace
Between 40th and 41st on Baltimore, this little street is crowded with huge houses, trees and gardens. Watch out Beige — Woodland is going to be the prime locale in years to come.

Best Place to Get Coffee (In a Hurry): Wawa
Pour your own and start the caffeine a flowin'.
38th and Spruce streets, 36th and Chestnut streets

Best Place to Get Coffee (Not in a Hurry): Cafe Trio
Though we woe the new early closing, Cafe Trio still remains the best place to get a cheap cup of coffee, a bagel and an undergraduate philosophy major's phone number.
40th Street between Pine and Baltimore

Best Walkway: Right by Gimbel
This day sucks, my life is horrible and everything's so bad... Ooh, chlorine blast to the face. Utopia.
3700 block of Walnut Street

Best Parmigiana: Ace-Z 4 Pizza
They're yakko, they're yammers, they're fun confined in a sweet potato fry. Stupendous!
36th and Chestnut streets

Best Side Dish (Potato Family): Shula's Yakko. Yammers
They're yakko, they're yammers, they're fun confined in a sweet potato fry. Stupendous!
36th and Chestnut streets

Best Side Dish (Non-Spud): Allegro's garlic rolls
For 30 cents a pop, these Cinnabon-style garlic bread pieces are the best deal since the New Deal.
40th and Spruce streets

Most Attractive Lunchboxes: irv's Place Takeout
They look like the FWOT bags, but instead of housing deep-fried food, they contain the best in kashrut. Please, no piggy.
40th and Irving streets

Hippest T-Shirts: Beijing
They probably read "that wasn't chicken" in Chinese on their backs, but whatever. There's nothing cooler than a bunch of Jews sporting Mandarin characters.
37th and Spruce streets

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3700 block of Walnut Street

Best Parmigiana: Ace-Z 4 Pizza
You might want to skip the pizza, but the chicken, eggplant and veal parm subs are to die for.
36th and Chestnut streets

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37th and Spruce streets

Best Bar Menu

LT’s (La Terrasse)
LT’s is the cheapest upscale dining on campus. For under $10 you can get the La Terrasse experience without the La Terrasse bill.
34th and Sansom streets
"A bardmaid beauty in a tight black dress/ Pours our beer and cleans our mess..." Beer and women: the mind-set of the typical college guy—or the Pietasters, a soulful eight-piece ska band from D.C., who visited the Trocadero Saturday night as part of a mini-ska extravaganza which also included Spring-Heeled Jack USA, the Pilfers, and Catch-22. After an energetic set from Catch-22, the Pilfers took the stage displaying influences that seemed to stem from traditional reggae and rock, unlike the punk-ska blend favored by most modern ska bands. Their music was darker and the crowd was accordingly calmer. The most prominent aspect of the Pilfers’ set was Vinny Noble, who demonstrated his ingenuity on trombone. The audience fell in love with the third band, Spring-Heeled Jack USA—probably because its mantra seemed to be “drink, drink, and drink some more.” Half of the band’s performance consisted of chugging and funneling beer, all to the delighted cheers of the audience. As for the music, songs like “Freedom” and “Jockie” clearly showed Spring-Heeled Jack’s affinity for hard rock with strong beats, along with a talent for vocal harmonization.

Last up were the Pietasters, an all-male group who made clear from the start just how performance-oriented the band is. Steve Jackson sang with soul that shined through with powerful performances of “Little Engine” and “Chain Reaction.”

The audience’s wild energy peaked during “Out All Night” and the finale, “Maggie Mae,” in which Jackson leapt into the frenzied crowd. All in all, the night showcased some of the best of indie ska. So next time either of these bands hits Philly, be sure to be there.

Here’s what Pilfers’ singer Coolie Ranx had to say:

Street: Where’d you come up with the name “The Pilfers”?

Coolie: Well, I’m like an Oliver Twist. Growing up on the streets of Brooklyn, I had to do certain things to get by. Also, when our group formed, we pilfered other bands! Each of us came from somewhere else, right?

Street: How do you compare playing live to playing in the studio?

Coolie: I mean, unless you can put 200 fans into a studio while you’re recording, there is no comparison. Musically, we’ve been touring for three years now and its totally vibes. Whatever we play is totally vibes, how we’re feeling about it at that point.

Street: You’re on the road a lot with your band. Do you ever get into arguments, ever come close to breaking up, or are you guys cool with all that shit?

Coolie: I don’t know about breaking up... but yeah, we’ve definitely fought, just like any group of people who you are with for 24 hours and you get to know them. There have been times we’ve gotten pissed off, stopped speaking with each other, you know. But nah, we get along mostly.

Street: Do you guys have fun on the road?

Coolie: Yeah, we do. We live for touring. And we see other things while we’re touring, we don’t just play the music and get out. But I’m all about music. It’s my full focus. I don’t really have too many non-musical interests. Even right now, do you hear that music in the background?

Street: What are your favorite venues to play?

Coolie: It doesn’t matter, really. A place where prominence and the vibe fits. And no barricades! I hate having to jump over those things.

Street: Do you think your new CD captures the feel of the live experience?

Coolie: You know, there is so much energy during a live show. I like to get down into the crowd. We put a lot of work into the writing process.

Tell me about the songwriting process.

Coolie: Umm... hahaa... well, I go into my house, close all the windows... I just like to jam, you know? I’d be listening to music and just start thinking. Then when I would re-hear in the studio with the band, say, Vinny would add a trombone piece, and we’d keep adding to the song till we beat it to the ground.

Street: So what would you consider your influences?

Coolie: Reggae. Music that came from the dance halls. Although I was trained in classical music but don’t write that... hahaa... that was when we were six. Music has always been a part of my life.

Street: So what are your other favorite bands?

Coolie: The Pietasters! I like Lamb, Moby, Reel Big Fish.

Street: Are there any little up-and-coming bands you think will be the next big thing, but it never is. So do you think it will last this time, or is it just a trend again?

Coolie: Well, you gotta weed out the bad. What you’ve got to do is find a band that knows how to make music and is not just sticking in goofy lyrics, but has some substance, has some direction. The problem right now is that they’ve saturated the market with crap.

Street: Can you predict what direction your music will be heading in, on the next CD?

Coolie: I won’t do that. I won’t do that. We won’t know until we are at that point.

—R.M.
Tired of waiting for that big break? Want fame, fortune, and groupies NOW?

Attention Future Rock Stars:

E-mail: street9dallypennsylvanlan.com if you've got a demo you'd like to submit. Among other cool shit, the winner will get a music page feature, followed shortly thereafter by fame, fortune, and groupies like you wouldn't believe.

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SimFamily, SimNeighborhood, SimTown, SimSitcom, SimMania!
The creator of SimCity strikes again with an ambition new game

**Adam Snow**

In 1985, Will Wright hatched an idea for a game where the player could create an entire city from scratch, manage it, watch it grow, expose it to disasters and then rebuild it. The concept met unanimous rejection when he and his partner, Jeff Braun, pitched it to publishers. Two years later, they formed a company called Maxis, and in 1989 released their game, titled SimCity. Within months SimCity completely revolutionized the computer game industry, spawning an entire new genre of games. Hardcore gamers and non-gamers alike were hooked and even schools purchased copies for use as an educational tool.

Ten years later, Will Wright has conjured up another mind-boggling title that is not only unlike any other game out there, but also promises to raise the bar in every genre. The game is called The Sims, and it’s in Alpha-testing as of mid-October.

Fans of SimCity will remember its invisible citizens were called "Sims," and that’s exactly who/what the game is all about. It’s SimCity and then some, squeezed into a single neighborhood. The game begins when the player creates a character and then “lives” his/her life. The Sims have enough artificial intelligence to survive and interact with their environment on their own, but the point of the game is to direct/coerce them towards “success.” Of course, the definition of success is entirely up to the player, who can build a picture-perfect neo-Brady Bunch or watch a filthy subhuman oaf laze around in a squalid bachelor pad all day long. The Sims also has extensive "failure states," which include numerous ways for characters to meet an untimely end — a feature sure to attract the more bloodthirsty gamers.

But what makes the game so revolutionary is the degree of detail and expendability in the environment. For starters, the game is extremely customizable. Sims can be selected from a library of assembled from libraries of physical appearances (called “skins”) and personal traits, much like the development of RPG characters. Players can even design custom skins to match their own appearance, family members and favorite people. The next step is to design a house, and eventually a neighborhood for the Sims, and then direct their lives. House design offers the same degree of freedom as character creation, ranging from floor plans, to furniture, to decorating schemes.

The Internet will also be an indispensable resource as players can swap characters, houses and neighborhoods online. The Sims includes a feature whereby saved games can be quickly published as websites where players can browse the details of each other’s environments and transfer entire households into their own neighborhoods. Even more important is the object-oriented structure of the Sims entities. For example, attached to a simple soccer ball item are all of its associated rules and behaviors so that, when introduced to a game, the Sims instantly know how to kick it around and play. The end result is a game environment that, in theory, is infinitely scalable.

If, by some disaster, the gaming public is so sick of The Real World concept that the idea of living a mundane, everyday virtual life is too much to stomach, The Sims nevertheless marks a revolution in interactive entertainment just through its detail, its structure and its interface. It may even contribute to a social revolution if an already wired population starts to decide they’d rather live online.

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In online chat, shorthand for everyday phrases are ubiquitous. Street breaks down the initials and tells it like it is.

**LOL** Laughing Out Loud
Subject thinks that what the person is saying is slightly amusing, and thus has to pretend that there is in fact audible laughing.

**ROFL** Rolling On Floor Laughing
Subject thinks that the person will suffer major ego damage if not convinced that the subject is actually in a fit of convulsions on the floor. What a sad, sad world.

**JK** Just Kidding
Blue43465: I had an awesome some time with your mom last night!
BobMan: I’m going to kick your panzy ass!
Blue43465: JK!

**FUBAR**
Fucked Up Beyond All Recognition
That same dude lands at Normandy and remembers he left his ammo at home. Its FUBAR!

**RTFM** Read The Fucking Manual
SuzieRed: I just installed AOL and I can’t get it to work! What does “you’ve got mail” mean?
TechSupport: RTFM, idiot.

**TFNF** Ta-Ta For Now
Tigger’s favorite way to leave.

**WTF**
What The Fuck
Subject wants to curse on AOL, but doesn’t want the “authorities” to take away the account. Hence the shorthand cursing.

**SNFU** Situation Normal: All Fucked Up
An army term generally used in cheery situations such as the landing in Normandy.

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**West** Way To Go
Cheap encouragement.

**GGL**
Good Game
User just got his ass whupped in Quake.

**IMHO**
In My Humble Opinion
So as not to mistake what subject is saying as the word of God.

**MUHAHAHAHAHA!**
Evil Demon Laugh
What Skeletor would sound like if he is saying as the word of God.
**Thursday**

**ELECTRIC FACTORY**

**GWAR with The Misfits**

Art spaments! GWAR and the Misfits are rolling into town to spread their messages of Satanicism and hate to the masses. If you actually listen to the music of these '80s punk bands (something that I don't suggest), you will quickly learn that, despite their ultra-scary appearance, their music relies on formulaic pop chord progressions and simple lyrics about love. Beneath the hard exterior of these established road hogs lie little hearts, so easily broken. Prick them; do they not bleed? Heels yeah, man! 421 N. 7th Street, 627-1332; $10.

**PONTIAC GRILLE**

**Victory at Sea**

My dad is obsessed with the "Victory at Sea" movies. Not only does he own all 48 hours of V/A-at-sea footage, but he also has the soundtrack, the T-shirt, and the limited edition action figures. I come downstairs, hangin' in front of the TV, watching shit get blown up at Pearl Harbor; an' I'm a free man that can't have anything better to do with his free time? But then again, he gives me money, so he can't 'at that back. Then again, he's the coolest dad I know. I love you, Big Poppa. 304 South Street, 825-4053.

**Friday**

**CORNWELL DANCE THEATER**

Lionel Popkin and Friends

Dude, isn't this show kinda like the Phil and Friends show which will also be on Temple's campus this week? Both at Temple... both with "friends"... the same week... Dude, I just told you this is like some stealth show that of Phil is throwing out for the hardcore tried 'n true Deadheads out there. He'll probably do some kind of Shakedown Street>Dark Star>Crash Playin'>Dark Star Reprise>NFA>Throwin' Stones>Wolffman's jam, and Bob and Trey and Page'll be there and I'll be so stoked dude, I may just vomit. Broad Street & Montgomery Ave., 204-1122; $10.

**PAINTED BRIDE ARTS CENTER**

First Friday Gallery Reception

The theme of this art show is "Why 2K?" Quite frankly, that's a good effin' question. Why 2K? Does anyone actually think that all the computers in the world are gonna implode because of the date? Come on, babe. And then there are those}

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**Friday night**

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**Saturday**

**ELECTRIC FACTORY**

Ben Harper with Raphael

My friend Peter Holst (E01) is so stoked for this show, it's ridiculous. I mean, why the hell want to go is because he thinks I can get him free tix. Which I can't. You see, for some reason which I have yet to understand, everyone I know here at Penn is a cheap, lazy bastard who only motivations are beer, sex, and free stuff. And even the beer and sex can't be free none of my friends would ever spend the money to get drunk or solicit sex from a prostitute. What a bunch of lazy, cheap bastards. 421 N. 7th Street, 627-1332; $23.

**TLA**

Band-to-Band Combat

This "Battle of the Bands"-styled competition features three of Philly's best and brightest up-and-coming bands: K-Floor, Princes of Babylon and Tapping the Vein. I saw Princes of Babylon open for G Love last year, and they're not the greatest; sort of like a shittier version of Faith No More, making no sense at all. I believe that K-Floor is the new name of Killin' Floor, a fantastic blues band which will Fling Last year, but I might be wrong. Nevertheless, Tapping the Vein, whom I have never heard, should reign supreme at this contest, because hey, who doesn't love tapping a vein? Not me, silly. 334 South Street, 922-1011; $6.

**Sunday**

**INTERNATIONAL HOUSE**

**Susan Baca**

Ms. Baca is a fiery young songstress who brings to the Inny House the kind of Afro-Peruvian funk. Personally, I have always been a fan of Afro-Peruvian music, and have applauded the efforts of young Afro-Peruvian singers and songwriters whose music has continuously been put down by the Man, a.k.a. Whitney, a.k.a. DP Photo Editor David Graf (C01). Now that we have overthrown the Man, let me say, these people like Ms. Baca have a chance to send out their natty grooves to the world. Good gig. 3701 Chestnut Street, 567-9700; $20.

**Painted Bride Arts Center**

**The Art of Weightlessness**

In this groundbreaking dance recital, Bill Shannon, best known as the beatbox artist from The Funky Bunch, will actually weigh less in the space ship! At Colone's and pet some tutu-intensive ballet. After that, he will experiment on how dogs pee mid-orbit, a scientific study thirteen years in the making. (Get it? Making? Man am I gross.) Finally, he will complete this piece by fixing the Hubble Telescope, finding life on Mars, and doing the Moonwalk on the moon. I actually, none of this is true. What a croc. 230 Vine Street, 925-9914; $12.

**UPSTAIRS' AT NICK'S**

**Punk Rock Karaoke**

Karoake amazes me. Sure I can understand that when you're drunk, you're likely to sing with a bunch of your friends sounds like a pretty good idea. But who are these people who sit there watching people they don't know sing bad songs badly? I mean, who are these people? And what's the deal with the socks? Why is it that when you do a load, you always lose one sock? Where does that sock go? Thanks folks, you've been great, I'll be here all week. 16 S. 2nd Street, 926-0665.

**The Five Spot**

**Big Tumba Mista**

Hey, Big Tumba Mista. You fat. You Billig Tumba Mista. You like a Big Tubba Mista fat-bottomed man big booty mista. Ooh, the booty so big mista. Big Tumba Booty Mista. I like to call you Boombastic. Mista Fantastic, hit me on the butt you know I'm feeling ro... Romantic, Mista Fantastic. Oh oh oh oh oh. Where does that sock go? Thanks folks, you've been great, I'll be here all week. 16 S. 2nd Street, 926-0665.

**Sunday night**

**Festival Shorts Tour**

SPECIAL EVENTS -- If you're thinking that this is a short film festival formed in some sort of festival, think again. This is actually a tour of NY Comedy Film Festival shorts, as in short pans. These shorts are the hippest hot-weather option since tank tops and Birks. Well, maybe you were right at first. 8 pm. free, you give away your NYComedy Festival Shorts, and CD's from riffage.com.

**Tickets for Yo La Tengo/ The Magnetic Fields and Def Comedy Jam available at the Annenberg Box Office (215-989-3990) and on Locust Street. Student discounts available w/ Penn ID. Visit SPEC on the Internet at: http://dolphin.upenn.edu/-spec/. To contact SPEC, call 215-989-4444.**
rockin’ out to “Summer Night City” and “Fernando.” Now what with the retro invasion and Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, everyone who’s heard “Dancing Queen” is a self-proclaimed ABBA fanatic. Baby please, I was down back in the day when y’all didn’t know. If you don’t stop frontin’, you bound to get decked. 5 S. Bank Street, 574-0070; $15.

Monday
MY ROOM
I Get Laid
I’m planning on having some porn star sex this Monday night, so any of you lovely ladies out there looking for a good time should hop on over to 3931, Baltimore Avenue for some outlandish fornication. And I mean, this shit is gonna be crazy. We’re talking whips and chains, double and triple teams, role playing... If you’re a good-looking mama and you’re into that nasty, naughty stuff, some outlandish fornication. To 3931. Baltimore Avenue for free food with ID provided Penn Counterparts, and by the Gold Tap. Monday Yeah, you all want to be me

Tuesday
APOLLO AT TEMPLE
Bob Dylan with Phil Lesh & Friends
Yeah, you all want to be me because I got tickets to this far-out show. Lately Phil has been pulling out all the stops, mixing up old Dead songs with new originals and some amazing covers, especially Phish’s Wolfman’s Brother.” Dylan has been playing a pretty standard set with little variation, but occasionally he throws in a winner like Phish’s “Theme from the Bottom.” Basically I just want to hear classic Dylan and the Dead tracks mixed in with the brain droppings of Mr. Trey Anastasio. Is that too much to ask? 1776 N. Broad Street, 204-2400; $29.50.

TLA
311
311 and I have a love-hate relationship. Originally, I despised the band and everything it stood for. How can they be on a regular basis. Then my friend William V. Klotzbucher (C’01) professed his love of 311 to me, and I was shocked. 311? What was he, some kind of pinko Commie? However, that weekend Klotzbucher and myself got especially inebriated and came back home at 4:30 am to rock out to the sounds of 311. As I stood there, half-blind from intoxication, I came to the sudden realization that yes, I too like 311. And the rest, as they say, is history. 334 South Street, 922-1011; $20.

Always call ahead to confirm movie times.

— street —
It’s what’s for dinner.
Actually, that’s not true.
It’s a magazine.
Something No One Has Written About:
Scubbin’ Millennium Madness!

PAUL MANION

If you have recently watched TV, listened to the radio, checked out the internet or even interrupted some Morse code chances are you have heard about this whole millennium madness thing. We think the whole mess is kind of funny. And since this column at least tries to be funny every week, the phenomenon is right up our alley.

Here’s what’s happening. A really long time ago, this guy named Jesus Christ was born. Nobody thought much of it at the time but then this guy went on to tell everyone that he should be nice, and so he became the subject of a best-selling book and countless movies and TV mini-series. People then began to notice him, and some guy named Gregory decided that this Jesus guy was so important that all of time should be divided accordingly to his birth. Some science guys figured out that our Spaceship Earth was spinning around our sun, cleverly called the Earth’s Sun, at a rate of one big loop every 365 1/4 days. They called this the Gregorian Calendar and have 12 new pictures of supermodels in it every year. Then they decided that there should be something to go below the pictures. They had no idea what could go there, until three cute girls named June, May and April called and said they should go out on a triple date. So the Calendar Committee decided to put these girls’ names under the pictures, scribbled out nine more names and then hurried out to get some tail.

Thus, the Gregorian Calendar was created, and everyone accepted it. But then some people said, “Hey, we don’t believe that this Jesus guy was so special! And you don’t even know when his real birthday was! You give yourself some 10-day window based on the historical reign of King Herod and expect that to be the defining moment between modernity and antiquity? We shouldn’t be living in Anno Domini! We should call it The Common Era!”

So some science textbooks changed A.D. to C.E., and B.C. to B.C.E., meaning Before the Common Era, but then Johnny Hart sued them because that ruined his popular caveman comic strip.

The Science Textbook Guys countered with, “Shut up, Johnny Hart! No one under 60 reads the comics page anymore because all you comic strip artists are 107 and your strips stopped being funny in the 1960s! Sure, Bill Watterson and Gary Larson almost saved your medium, but they burned out because THEY WERE FUNNY AND ORIGINAL! All your Bill Keanees and Charles Schulzies have only survived for so long because they aren’t funny or original and so can never suffer from creative burnout!”

Hoping to avoid a major war between these two heated factions, someone called for the Congress of Vienna at which Austrian Chancellor Metternich declared, “Who gives a crap?” Long story short, some people at Penn invented the computer and called it ENIAC. Of course, they stole the idea for ENIAC from some guy named John Atanasoff, but he called his computer the ABC Computer, which doesn’t sound as cool as ENIAC and so history came to ignore Atanasoff, as well it should have, because he was uncreative with his name and he didn’t work at Penn.

These new “computers” were great, but then someone realized that they contain a bug (we think it was some kind of caterpillar) that is supposed to end the world on January 1 of the year 2000, unless all of the major companies put a magical little sticker on all their computers that reads “Y2K Compliant.”

This is because all the zippos in the world say Y2K, and so when the Y2K Bug hits, all our pants will fall off on New Year’s Eve, causing global panic. (We love that we made you all just check your flies.) This is odd, since most people usually try to make their pants fall off on New Year’s Eve in the throes of drunken sex, but for some reason people are scared about it this time.

Apparently, airline pilots will be so surprised when their planes fall off that they will make their planes drop out of the sky. Bank owners will be equally surprised, will delete everyone’s bank accounts in their haste to pull up their pants and no one will have any money. The last time this happened, everyone was greatly depressed, so much so that the era came to be known as The Great Gatsby.

Aside from plane crashes and fiduciary woes, there are many other problems that might happen when December gives way to January. Remember that book about that Jesus guy we talked about earlier? Well, apparently the last chapter, called the Book of Revelations, was written by this crazy saint named John 3:16, and it describes the end of the world, saying “Stone Cold just kicked your ass.”

And since passages in Gutenbergs’s best seller, currently in its gazillionth printing, are prompting many religious nuts to travel to the geographic center of three major religions, Judaism, Islam and Christianity—which is located in Dubuque, Iowa. It is funny that so many wars have been fought over supposed religious differences throughout history, when so many people all claim that their religions originated about ten feet from one another in some Temple.

From our understanding of religious history, some guy named Adam Aneeve built a garden, but he liked apples, and so this guy Yahweh (which means “I am what I am and that’s all that I am”) played an awesome practical joke on his descendants, saying they all had to cut their penises with a knife in order to have some kind of covenant of Noah’s Ark, which Indiana Jones saved from the Nazis, but not before Muhammad Ali moved a mountain and told people to wear funny bowties and hats with X’s on them. Oh yeah. Jesus Christ was born in there at some point and became King of the Jews (the guys with the cut penises.) But Jesus and the Jews had a falling out when he declared himself “bigger than the Beatles.”

And so we have the Y2K Bug hitting us, but don’t worry, we will only have to deal with the pants thing. Just put some sweatpants on, and then put a magical little sticker on your bottoms that reads “Y2K Compliant.” And then you can worry about your weight gain from the Y2K Bug.

The Science Textbook Guys countered with, “Shut up, Johnny Hart! No one under 60 reads the comics page anymore because all you comic strip artists are 107 and your strips stopped being funny in the 1960s!”

After all, with all these new things going on, everyone hates one another, which is funny since Adam, Jesus, Muhammad Ali and Indiana Jones all just wanted everyone to be nice.

We may not have the best grasp of World History, Religious History, or even PBS’s History of Rock and Roll, but we know that everyone who is going crazy over the year 2000 is stupid. And if you don’t want to be part of the global panic at midnight on December 31, wear sweatpants.

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In this week of young talent challenging the norms and status quo, from art gallery tours to guerrilla filmmakers, the world had better recognize this year. There are some upon us, and everything’s going to be alright.

Comcast will broadcast in the area, so have no worries.

The fly is a truly great time to be a film fan for recent weeks, however, the film community has featured some of the most anticipated and highly respected films of the year. Indie filmmaking continues to draw crowds and big dollars, as The Blair Witch Project garnered both acclaim and hype. But many feel that independent filmmaking has lost its independence and creativity. Once a refuge for radicals and artists, who had a unique vision that Hollywood could not accept, the indie scene today looks and acts much like Hollywood due to the success of Miramax. This festival is an outgrowth of the frustration with this scene and its perceived timidity, as underground filmmaking has become the bastion for those concerned more with making great cinema that challenges the norms of Hollywood: competition, hierarchy and money. For the weekend, one has the chance to see numerous feature-length films and shorts, hear actors and filmmakers involved in the underground and meet others who love film. This is a great chance to step up into the vanguard and see what is happening at the edges of filmmaking.

It’s been quite a weird exhibit for Penn students lately, as there has been less and less of a reason to bitch and moan about the lack of a music scene here. This concert might be the shining star of the semester, a coup of sorts for our university. SPEC is bringing one of the most consistent, talented and under-appreciated rock bands for over a decade to campus. Most impressively, this is a one-night only show, not part of a tour. That’s right, Penn has enticed this group to come and play without any album or product to endorse. Yo La Tengo, from Hoboken, N.J., has been around since 1984, creating five albums that have quietly set the rules for indie rock music. Overlapping the same time periods, this is a one-night only show, but part of a tour. Yo La Tengo, from Hoboken, N.J., has been around since 1984, creating five albums that have quietly set the rules for indie rock music. Overlapping the same time periods, this is a one-night only show, but part of a tour. Yo La Tengo, from Hoboken, N.J., has been around since 1984, creating five albums that have quietly set the rules for indie rock music. Overlapping the same time periods, this is a one-night only show, but part of a tour.

But I have no bull. No bull, I say. I look very out of place without a bull. Come to think of it, the bull wouldn’t help matters much. I’m still a turd. Wow, that sucks.

The Eagles may be the disgrace of the town, but it’s time to move on. Here come the Sixers!