

Prophecy

"The spirits will warn you twice, but the third time you stand alone."

The end is nigh. Well, maybe not the end, but definitely a major caf-fofel. We've been measuring things in pyramid inches, reading our Bibles, Nostradamus, Edgar Cayce, Nag Hammandi, the book of Enoch.

The Weekly World News. †

And everyone, including that smelly old man who rummages through our trash at three in the morning looking for tin cans and old socks, is saying pretty much the same thing: Benjamin Netanyahu has to die. ∅

I've asked the CIA to take him out, but they haven't replied to my communiques. I even asked Santa to deliver the goods, but all I keep finding in my stocking in the morning is coal and switches. Maybe it's because Netanyahu's death at this point in the game really wouldn't affect what's happening. There's too much inertia for one man's death to do little more than be a greasy, yellow spot on the windshield of prophecy.

What Santa and the CIA have both realized, but don't let slip too often, is that killing Netanyahu won't work, because you always need a figurehead for evil. When you lie in bed all day and start on that new Hate Your Way to a Better Butt™ diet^π, you've got to focus your aggression on someone or you'll never pass that important 50 lb mark.

Netanyahu is nothing more than a glorified CIA automaton. If you take the time to think about it, you'll have to agree. No, you'll have to. They'll make you. Trust us.

Born in a foreign country, raised and educated in the United States, debriefed by the CIA, he's just what the US always wanted: the leader of a terrorist infested country to divert people's attention whenever politics on the home front starts to get uncomfortably introspective. Besides, no man his age could remain that attractive while running a country surrounded on all sides by large numbers of people who would enjoy nothing better than to disembowel you and wrap the token tourist Christmas tree with your entrails in honor of multiculturalism. Look at the man's forehead



"Hey Everybody!"
"Hey, Doctor Nick!"

† "Satan's head appears in cloud over Chicago."

∅ Okay, maybe the man rummaging through our trash didn't say that, but when he keeps muttering, "If you ain't got a penny, then -fghfgh yffg mfmfmf...", who's to know the difference?

π Soon to be released in *Cosmopolitan*.



DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

Publisher: C. Diablo

Head Editors:

Giles Francis Hall
Matthew Weaver

Main Article:

Sean Hammond
Kelly Gunter
Clare Terni
Jeremiah Perry-Hill
GDT Staff

Layout:

Brian Barrett
Giles Francis Hall
Sean Hammond

Damage Control:

Kelly Gunter

Writers:

Brian Barrett
Gil Merritt
Sean Stanley
Adam Fletcher

Cartoonist:

Gil Merritt

Illustrator:

Matt Weaver

Photographer:

Brian Barrett

Contributors:

RIT's CSH
The kids from "Big
Daddy's Biology
Show"

© 1998 Gracies Dinnertime Theatre.
All material herein is protected by
this copyright, but is still considered
the property of their creators. GDT
reserves the right to reproduce all
material for future use.

for Yhwh's sake! It's shiny and bright-the metal backing of his skull is coming through his skin. You have to wonder if the CIA developed "Nu-Skin" -that famous aerosol that forms a protective layer over your last case of road rash- just for Big Bad Ben. Perhaps every morning he gives himself a spritz, but by the end of the day under that hot Middle Eastern sun, the flesh tone wears thin.

Oh! You don't have any idea what I'm babbling on about, do you? Well, I'm talking about the End Times here, folks. World War III, the coming of the Antichrist, the biggest downer in the world. (Hippies: Duuuude) But we got it sussed.

All of the various prophets in the western world have said basically the same thing, but they can't seem to come to any consensus. I think it's because their all looking at things with different preconceived notions about what they're going to see. To reuse a metaphor that is crying and just wants to be left alone, it's like a bunch of blind men asked to touch an elephant (bad touch) and explain what it's like. One said it's like a large plant (after fondling the ears), another like a snake (after grabbing the trunk), and another like a tree (after getting stepped on by a foot). They're all describing the same thing, but from different perspectives. Luckily for you, the writers of GDT are able to take apparently separate and unrelated information and put it all together for your elucidation. Bare with us and you'll see where we're going with all this. It's funny later on, much like when the organic chemistry professor explains the reaction that produces explosions from cow dung for an hour and a half.

Nostradamus predicted that there would be three antichrists, not just the one that John wrote about while tripping out on mushrooms and moss on beautiful, scenic Patmos. Really, it's quite a bargain. All these years the Christians have been advertising only one Antichrist, but all this time we could get three for the same price. Hot damn!

Anyway, the first antichrist has been fairly conclusively identified by Nostradamus freaks as being Napoleon Bonapart. The second was Adolf Hitler, though he was actually called "Hisler" by Nostradamus. The third, who we'll talk about more in depth later, was also named, but as was often the case with the mystic he used a way to hide who it was (Look for the new Milton Bradley game "Hide the Prophetic Warnings of Doom" soon to be in stores near you).

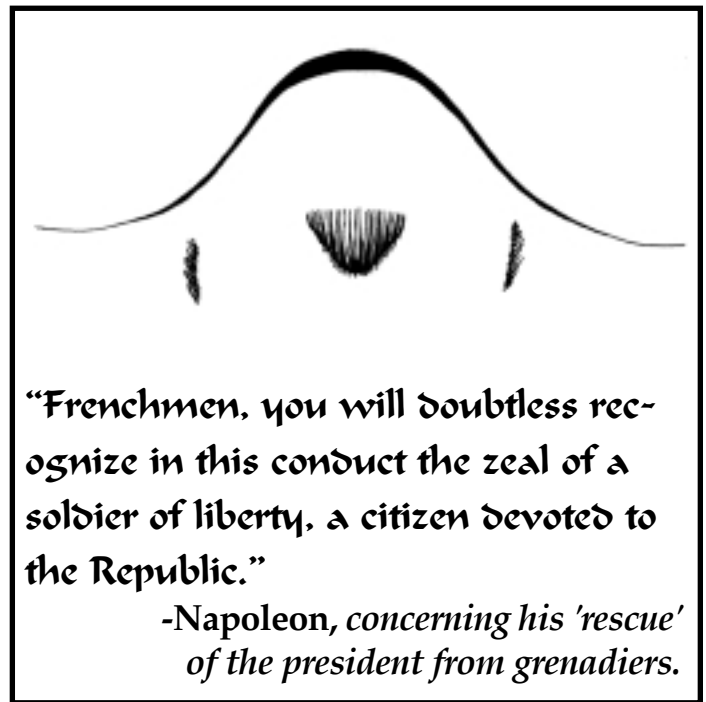
Eight-balls were originally suspected of being able to

bring clarity to the prophecies. In the age of corporate downsizing, however, their capabilities have been reduced to: "Outlook Not So Good," "Definitely Not," "Yes Absolutely," "Reply Hazy," "Ask Again Later," "It Is Decidedly So," "Stop Shaking Me," and that Valley Girl favorite "Whatever."

For a long time I couldn't understand why Napoleon would be considered an antichrist. Granted, he was born in the south of France, instituted the "retro" Greek architectural style of Neoclassicism, and his name closely resembles "naepolluon", Greek meaning "destroyer" or "exterminator," but he really didn't invoke images of fire, brimstone, and Christians asking me in a bored voice, "Have you been saved, brother?"

After several hours of thought and a number of carefully timed "hate breaks" (I was on an eight hour road trip to Maine and needed to reduce my love handles. Besides, what else is one to do but ponder apocalyptic prophecy and devote a lot of run time to hating?), it dawned on me that the three antichrists were people who, through their actions, laid the groundwork for the rise of the next.

Take Mr. Bonaparte for example. Prior to him finding the French crown on the ground and picking it up with a sword, there wasn't really much of a sense of nationalism anywhere. People spoke French, German, Swahili, but the concept of ethnocentrism along these lines hadn't occurred to anyone. Napoleon managed to work people into such a lather over the concept that they spoke French and ate funny-shaped bread that he was able to use nationalism to unite the French for his battles across



Europe.

Of course he was defeated, but the meme of nationalism was now able to run amok (amok, amok, amok) throughout the world. When it combined with and corrupted the philosophies of Nietzsche's übermen,[‡] Adolf Hitler was able to create the most effective and powerful war machine the world had ever seen. Borrowing tactics from the people they would persecute the most (presumably to avoid copyright lawsuits), the people of Germany banded together under a single fanatic to prove to the world that they wouldn't be pushed around anymore. Without a pear-shaped, jug-eared, unitesticular leader to rile them up about loyalty to the Fatherland, the Germans would have been just another group of xenophobic twats with a large arsenal and more sauerbrauten than you could shake a wet lemur at. Without a moral high ground to stand on or pretty uniforms to wear, any major military campaign is doomed to be unpopular. Fight the infidels,

[‡] "Yah we is de supermen. Superdupermen." - Spike Jones

kill the French, wear a snazzy belt and shiny new boots, free the Holy Land, regain what is rightfully the Fatherland's, stop the spread of tuberculosis, kill the French again...even if an excuse has to be made up, there is always someone on a hill,^u waving a flag.

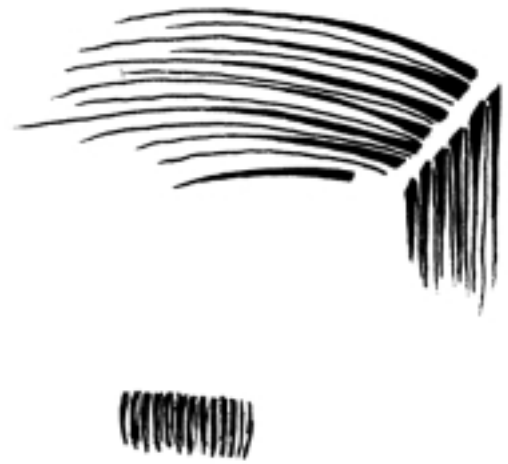
In the course of Hitler's power play across Europe, several million Jews were slaughtered. Persecuted all across Europe ever since Paul made sure they took the fall for Jesus' death, rather than the Romans Paul was sucking up to, the Jews were homeless and frankly sick and tired of it. The Diaspora was fun while it lasted, but everyone was overtired and just wanted to go home. Unfortunately, the Jews did not have a jug-eared, pear-shaped, unitesticular leader to rally behind, and some other group of gits was crowding up their chosen-land.

Luckily for them, it was the British that happened to control the area of Palestine. After a bit of trouble (war) and an argument (more war) a bit of land was carved out (Kids: Very small rocks!) and on 14 May 1948, the nation of Israel was founded.

Following the string of events? For those just joining us and in need of the Cliff Notes "Guide to World Domination", Napoleon's nationalism is used by Hitler to help provide a reason to murder millions of Jews who the British feel sorry for and give some grazing grounds in Palestine.

Speaking of a people whose land was violently ripped from them and replaced with barren, extra crispy chunks of desert, let's talk about the Native Americans. (Trust us. We're just print, we can't hurt you. We do this a lot.)

^u "And Boston shall be a city on a hill, a beacon for all mankind." -John Winthrop. Puritan. Nascent Nationalist.



"Never regard the Reich as secure unless for centuries to come it can give every scion of our people his own parcel of soil."

-Hitler, *Mein Kampf*.

The Hopi, best known for their impassioned pleas in the form of cornmeal and empty liquor bottles (KIDS: No deposit in D.C.) for membership of the various Indian Nations in the UN, have an ancient prophecy talking about shakings of the earth caused by the Great Spirit because not all of the world's people are playing nicely. When we attempted to contact the U.S. Geological Society for a statement on whether there was a connection between L.A.'s tense racial situation and the repeated earthquakes in southern California, they chose not to comment.

Anyway, one social shaking was the first world war, which resulted in the founding of the League of Nations. The Hopi asked whether the Indian Nations could join, but were, of course, berated by the civilized world. The second shaking of the earth was World War II, which brought about the founding of the United Nations. Again, the Hopi asked whether the Indian tribes could join, but were refused as the United States

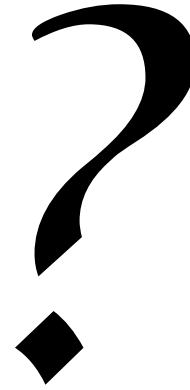
vetoed their right to enter.

The Hopi are now quite upset, gambling, and drunk off their wazoos, what with prophecy being fulfilled left and right. In their most recent gig at the UN the Hopi identified the international space station as the "great house thrown up into the sky where people live" spoken of in their prophecy and an indicator that the third shaking of the world is at hand. Most disturbing is that mankind has been watched over by the spirit world during past struggles, but in the coming wars, we will not retain our spiritual spectators (it seems they keep losing too many bets). The dead will leave us and we'll be alone with ourselves for the first time.

Interestingly, the Hopi identify who will be responsible for the third shaking as one of the first to receive the light of God. In other words, the Jews.

Antisemitism aside, I don't think it's that simple. Nostradamus, as with the other two antichrists, named the third. The name Mabus, however is enigmatic. Many people, grasping for a moral reason to go to war, have pointed out that Mabus backwards is Saddam. Though I refuse to believe that a two-bit dictator is the third antichrist, the Russians must feel otherwise. During the recent military buildup in the Middle East, poor President Boris "Absolute" Yeltsin warned that any military action against Iraq would result in WWII and a marked decrease in the amount of the best part of the potato his liver would be forced to slog through.

Still, that is too easy of an answer and doesn't fit with the prophecies of others. No, I think that the flipping of the name indicates that one poised against Mr. Hussein is the antichrist. Mr. Netanyahu, a Jew, and the man who has provoked the Palestinians



"This depends on how Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu acts, because it is known that the problem is nowhere else."

- Yasser Arafat, on this week's peace talks in London.

wrath since he took office. He may not be the one directly responsible when Hussein attacks Israel, but he is the antichrist. In this case, it really does take two to start a fight. If one guy is standing in another's way and shouting in their face, "You want a fight? Come one. Come at me," and the other guy swings, who started the fight?

So there will be war. Nothing new there. But contrary to what Edgar Cayce had to say about earthquakes and floods raging across the United States, I'm fairly certain he made a misinterpretation. The coming age is that of Aquarius. As could be guessed from its name, it is symbolized by water and indicated by two jagged lines as a kind of shorthand. Personally, I think the floods and earthquakes are nothing but the prophets way of interpreting the coming age of Aquarius. Floods? Well, duh. It's a water sign, and the earthquakes are the jagged lines.

That's not to say that the United States won't get shit on. Quite to the contrary, when bombs start flying in the Middle East, the United States will undoubtedly come to the aid of Israel. Given the massive stock-

pile of conventional and nuclear weapons the US has, I seriously doubt that any country would openly attack us. However, a few crafty terrorists carrying suitcase nukes and biological weapons could put a major hurting on the US. Besides who can the United States attack in a terrorist war? It's really a no win situation.

Hopefully, as with other major world conflicts, a new world body will be created. Whether it will be a totally new organization or a revamped United Nations is hard to say. I can let you know what's on my wish list, though: no veto power for any one nation. Let them all be equal and have their say. I'd also like to see a genuine World Court that actually had the power to enforce its decisions. None of this token judgement shit. If someone is accused of war crimes and doesn't show up for their court date, send in NATO or some world police organization to arrest them with force if necessary. Rule of law.

Tourist's Music Review

THIS WEEK: TORI AMOS "FROM THE CHOIR GIRL HOTEL"

by Sean Stanley

Let's talk a little bit about something we in the music bizz call "Old School Talent" or OST. OST is something easily recognizable. You don't need to look for it, you just know when it's there. Aerosmith, David Bowie, Madonna, Eric Clapton, The Beastie Boys, not to mention the current kings of OST, The Rolling Stones - ALL possess the amazing skills and unique vision that allowed them to become successful many years back. There are not many music groups around these days that possess OST. Most music these days is capitalistic post-modernism in which popular songs from the seventies and eighties are re-recorded and re-mixed by the likes of Puff Daddy and Orbital. We've all heard it before, but we don't care cause anything sounds good to our aural palate. Build a tolerance by having dance-mix USA pumped up your ass and you too could listen to Wyclef Jean's re-mix of "Stayin' Alive" without a grimace. Remixing the Bee-Gees? Do we really need to hear them again? Next, I'll bet The Fugees will set their sights on the classics of more aged decades. There's no doubt in my mind that I will one day walk into a music store and be confronted with any of the following:

- "Duke-2-tha-muthafuckin-Ellington" - a collection of re-mixes featuring Puff Daddy, Method Man, and Snow.
- "Kickin' it wit da Count" - Dr. Dre preaches on about "Holdin up dem fools on da 'A' train" in his soulful urban testimony to Count Bassie.
- "Holst-0909Euro Mix" - Gustav Holst's timeless ode to the various stellar bodies meets the room-thumpin phat jungle beats of DieselBoy.
- "Candle in the Wind: A Tribute" - Elton John's salute to Prince Harry, after his heart explodes while smoking crack out of a car antenna. Hardcore.

But I digress. What I really want to talk about is another post-modern trend that drives me up the wall and makes me long for a simpler, more original time. This trend is OSWIFSA music. What kind of music? OSWIFSA.

Obligatory Strong-Willed Introspective Female Solo Artist

Wow. Record labels realize that women can actually sell. But should they? If I had my way, I'd get them all in a parking lot a la "Dazed and Confused" and talk to them on terms they understand.

AIR RAID BITCHES!!! Line up! Yeah, yeah. Over here, I want all you Prairie Angst

wenches. This means you, Paula Cole. Nobody gives a good goddamn whether Dewane is a loving husband. Take your record contract money and buy a fuckin' dishwasher. Shave your pits, put some shoes on, and shut your flaps. Now over here, can we please line up the Heroin-Chic Perpetual Victims? Move it Fiona! I know, I know, yeah, this world is bullshit, yeah yeah yeah. Go sit over there with Natalie. She's new to the scene, but she's just as torn as you. This is the Guitar-Thought table. Any of you who own a guitar and have posed a thoughtful question to the world or to some intellectual ex-lover who made you feel dumb at the coffee shops, please sit here. Lisa Loeb, park it here on the red chair. And go get Edie Brickell, her new Bohimians, and Joan Osbourne. They can all sit here with Jewel and talk about how they can never quite duplicate the quality of the music videos at live shows. Would the following women please report to the proctology department for immediate removal of your dead insects: Alanis Morissette, PJ Harvey, Ani DiFranco,



Milk it, baby!

Tracy Bonham, and Juliana Hatfield. Once the dead carapace is removed, you might be able to write songs about things that don't bother you. You've got money. Medicate yourself and leave the whining to Trent, Robert, and Morissey...

You may say to yourself, "He's left out a bunch!" Remember OST? The OSWFISA progenitors all have a lot of Old School Talent. They INVENTED the genre. So it makes me feel good to know that there are a few OSWIFSA's out there that still have what it takes. They sit quietly back and smile as the little girls come out to play. Rock out Joan Baez - queen mother of all that which is folk-statement. Rock out Susan Vega - tell us some stories about pain, but don't let us know until the song is over and we have suddenly digested it. Rock out Ella Fitzgerald - you were far naughtier for your time than anyone is today. That soulful voice paints a picture no other can. Rock out Sarah and Liz - not quite old school, but witty and diverse enough to add something NEW to the style that is OSWIFSA. Say hello to Carole King, Aretha Franklin, and give a smile to Janis if you see her.

And Tori? Well, I don't think that she can rock out anymore than she has. In a recent "Spin" magazine article, she said that she wanted to try live band music because she's taken the "chick at the piano" bit and milked it for all it's worth. And why not? She practically created the style herself. She has every right to move on. The good ones do that. Evolution is a major part of the OST. The ability to adapt a good thing to make it better as the years go on is crucial. She's still got it, and delivers yet again. As the others bang on the pianos, violently strum their guitars, and pierce even more conspicuous body parts, Tori and the others, possessed of OST, chuckle. And they should. You can't beat the originals, unless you ARE the original and you're on another great adventure.

BACKSTAGE HISTORY

**AROUND 1916 B.T. - THE MAIN ACT RETURNED FROM THE DESERT,
BLOATED AFTER A FORTY DAY BINGE OF CACTUS BLOSSOMS...**

**COME ON! JESUS CHRIST! PULL YOURSELF
TOGETHER! FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE
SHOWED UP AND YOU'RE A MESS!**

**LEAVE ME ALONE, MAN.
THEY LOVE ME.**

**I'VE SEEN ALL
YOUR SERMONS...
NEVER MET AN
ACTUAL MESSIAH
BEFORE....**



Pieta by Giovanni da Milano, 1365

Moment in Backstage History by Brian Barrett, 1998.

Any similarities between this and any Messiah, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

Religious Right's Tentacles Manipulate System

by Dirk Stemerman

(U-WIRE) SPRINGFIELD, ILL. -- Last month, by a vote of 16 to 11, the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee approved a proposed Constitutional amendment that would for the first time allow state-sponsored prayer in public schools. The full House is expected to vote on the amendment sometime in May.

This so-called "Religious Freedom Amendment" is sponsored by Rep. Ernest Istook, R-Okla., who sees the constitutional wall that separates church and state as needlessly high and is offering this amendment to "punch a large breach through the wall."

The amendment would allow government officials in their official capacity to make decisions that favor one particular faith. And although prayers would not be organized by school officials, the bill would still allow students to impose their religious beliefs on fellow classmates by holding prayers at mandatory school events. It would also allow public funds to be used by religious institutions.

A Constitutional amendment is simply unnecessary.

Contrary to claims by its supporters, public schools are not hostile to students' religious expression. Students already have the right to pray in school, to read the Bible, and to distribute religious materials. But the proposed amendment would allow students to use school intercoms to lead classrooms in prayer and would mandate government funding of religious schools and houses of worship.

Furthermore, if the proposed amendment actually increased "religious freedom" as its originators proclaim, why is it that

several groups, both Christian and non-Christian, are strongly opposing the amendment? The opposition groups include: Southern Baptists; American Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists, Reform and Conservative Jews, the American Jewish Congress, the Baptist Joint Committee, the National Council of Churches, and numerous others.

Some right-wing religious groups also are currently lobbying for school vouchers. This scheme would force federal taxpayers to support religious beliefs and practices with which they may strongly disagree. On the surface, the voucher program appears to help underprivileged youth in substandard public schools.

This is not the case. Voucher programs, which are most often talked about in terms of "school choice," would actually abandon public schools, while concurrently draining desperately needed funds from our public education system. The NAACP, the national PTA, and other groups who have historically fought for the improvement of public schools, oppose the voucher program. In addition to that, they would violate the constitutional doctrine of the separation of church and state by diverting taxpayer money to religious, private, and parochial schools.

Take this into consideration: The proposed amount for vouchers in the last Congress was \$3,000 per student, while the median cost for a private school is over \$10,000 per year. Explain to me how poor families could afford the additional \$7,000-plus per year. Private schools would still be inaccessible to the poor.

The concept of aiding the poor while helping inner city schools is nothing more than a elitist, conservative ploy. Conservative voucher proponents have only

one goal: to subsidize religious education for the wealthy, while leaving those students who are financially less fortunate, with no hope and no opportunity.

In this Congress, there are three bills that would create school voucher programs. Passage of these initiatives is a priority for the Religious Right. At the heart of both the Religious Freedom Amendment and the voucher program is the goal of merging government and religion.

The Religious Right did score one victory last week. Despite the endorsement from the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, the National Commission on AIDS, the U.S. Surgeon General, the National Academy of Sciences, the General Accounting Office, the National Institutes of Health, and numerous other groups, the Clinton Administration refused to allow federal money to be spent on needle exchange programs. This, despite the fact that the Clinton Administration actually supports needle exchange programs. They announced last week that needle exchange programs do reduce the number of new AIDS cases, while not encouraging illegal drug use. So what's the problem you ask?

Guess who you can blame? That's right. Actually, that's Religious Right. Many AIDS victims are homosexuals and homophobic right-wing religious groups think of AIDS as divine retribution.

On the other hand, the Christian Coalition did say in an April 20 press release that the, "Christian Coalition supports efforts to find a cure for AIDS." Whoopee! Finally there is a group willing to

take that difficult stand. Actually, I'm sure there is some fine print that I must have missed somewhere stating that they support efforts to find a cure for AIDS, only if it was not acquired via homosexual intercourse.

These closed minded Neanderthals somehow cannot grasp the concept that clean needles mean less death, not more drug use. In their April 20, press release, the Christian Coalition, "criticized Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala for placing the U.S. government in the position of sanctioning illegal drug use." They also made the argument that "this is big-time kow-towing to the drug-legalization crowd."

Not exactly. Last year, Shalala told Congress that the administration was satisfied that needle exchange programs do indeed diminish the spread of HIV. Until last week, the administration had said it remained uncertain on the question of whether exchanges inadvertently contribute to increased drug use, despite six major reviews of the research literature, including one by the National Institutes of Health last year, that found they do not. Now the administration too agrees they do not contribute to increased drug use, but still will not fund them.

One would think that [fiscal] conservatives would actually endorse them given that they save money.

How? The Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California-San Francisco says needle exchange programs cost about \$9,400 per infection averted, versus the \$119,000 lifetime cost of treating someone infected with HIV.

Contact GDT

<gdt@iname.com>



Gunther: "Guilty Until Proven Guilty."

Story and photos by Brian Barrett

THURSDAY, APRIL 30TH. R.I.T. With a judicial hearing convening in a closed room seven stories above, students staged a rally at the Student Alumni Building to protest the impending suspension of Rochester Cannabis Coalition president, Shea Gunther.

Approximately 250 students braved the relentless sun to show support and hear Kris Lotiliker, the RCC's treasurer and the organizer for the event, tell the story of Shea's non-violent resistance that led to a violent confrontation with five Campus Safety officers.

"I don't know if you know what Shea looks like, but there's no way he could've taken on five officers," Lotiliker and others repeatedly mentioned.

Lotiliker stated that, "One officer, Wayne Sutherland, reported receiving a cut above the eye, but when we saw him the next day he had nothing."

The mic was then opened to students who came up one after the other to describe times when their rights have been violated by Campus Safety. Most occurrences were unwarranted searches.

Demonstrators then started chanting "Berry," in order to get the attention of Berry Calhane, vice president and Gunther's chief

accuser. Mr. Calhane came down from the meeting to say a few words and applaud the students for their lack of apathy.

Dr. Al Simone, RIT school president was not available to speak at the protest, but did give a speech at another rally calling for RIT to put an end to racism and discrimination

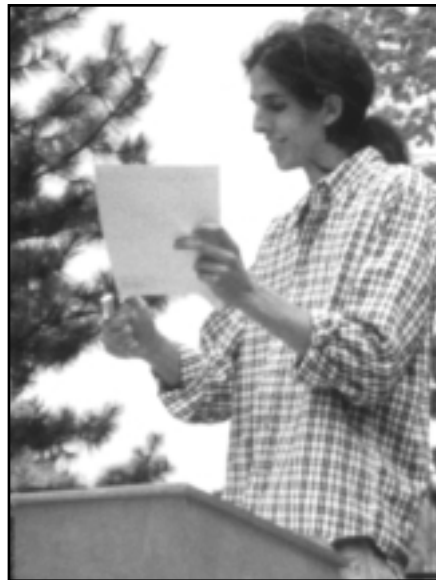
against the deaf in the whole world. This rally was run by a club known as the BACC and held an hour later, fifty feet away and attended by about thirty.

Dr. Simone, a member of what he repeatedly called in his speech, "the majority race," had more to say about the racist scrawlings of one or two of his students than the allegations of his Campus Safety's brutality, and he avoided mentioning anything about Shea.

After his speech, Dr. Simone surrounded himself with about eight attendants of BACC's rally, speaking non-stop, so no one could get a word in edgewise, while constantly talking about feedback.

Almost forty students remained for the outcome of the

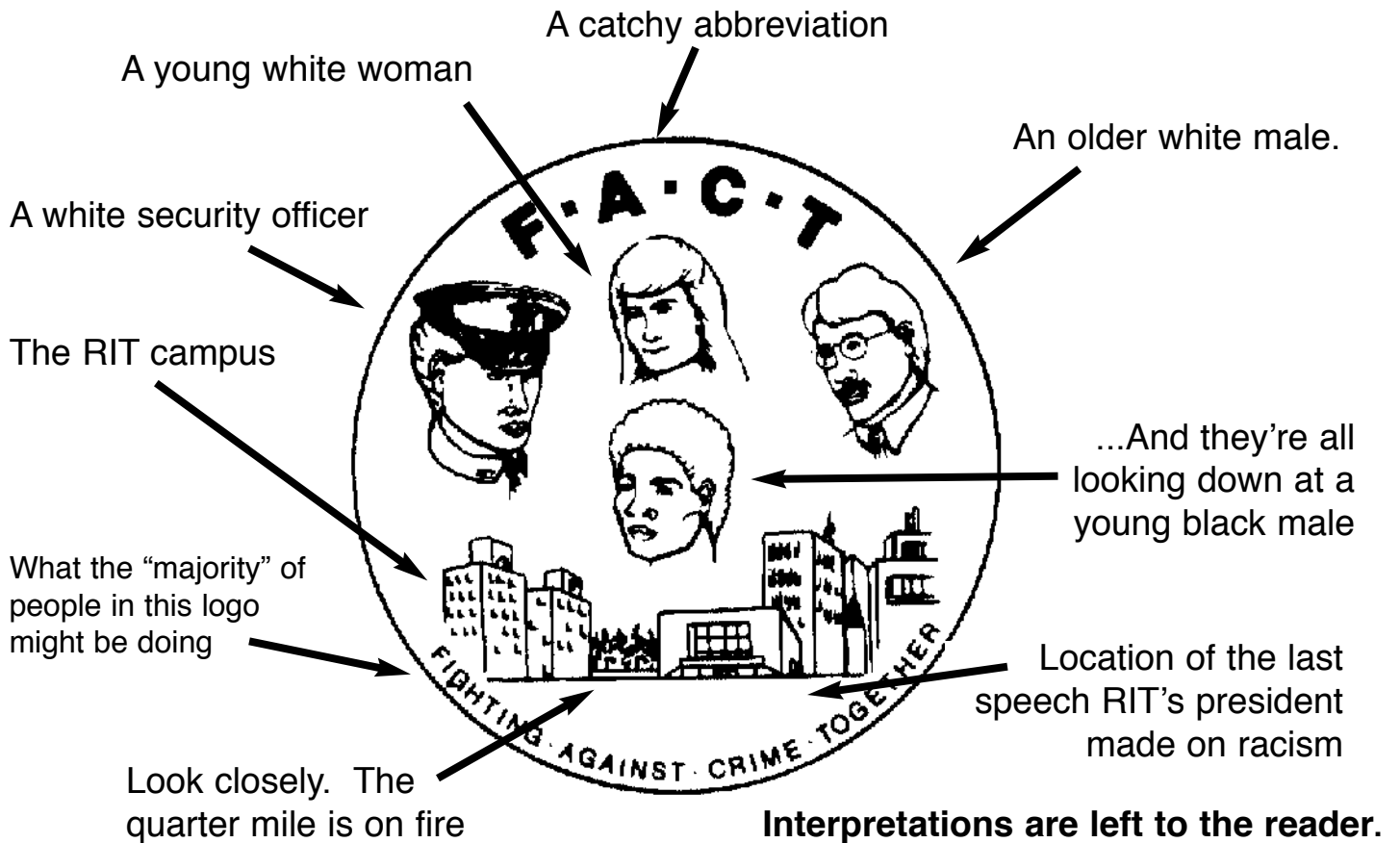
judicial hearing, which lasted over six hours. Despite students' efforts and witnesses for Mr. Gunther's defense, he has been suspended for one year and not allowed to return to campus in that time. He will be allowed to negotiate with his teachers regarding his grades for this semester, but will be unable to complete his courses.



Trying to burn one down, Lotiliker attempts to set fire to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

A Guide to an Actual RIT Campus Safety Logo

Commentary by Brian Barrett



More About Al and the RCC.

by Brian Barrett

ANY AUTHORITY WHICH FORCES ITS WILL TO REMAIN UNEXAMINED LOSES INTEGRITY.

With the recent actions of Dr. Al Simone regarding his decision with Shea Gunther and the Rochester Cannabis Coalition, I have decided that he is possibly one of the best educators on the planet. He's giving valuable lessons and he has done more for RCC's cause than all its members combined. The last thing the RCC needed was to be accepted. What would that teach them? Law-makers at the Capitol won't just listen to you and vote for what you believe in. In Washington D.C. there needs to be protest and screaming to drown out the sound of cash. There needs to be an injus-

tice by The Authority, by their own rules, in order to have wide range support. Oh, and it doesn't hurt if there is a martyr.

Quicksand: the more you struggle, the deeper you go. History is full of examples of ideas taking over, simply because The Authority tried to stop them: Democracy in the New World (1776) and France (1792), Spain (1808) and Mexico (1838), Communism in Russia (1917) and China (1921), Ghandi in India (1919), students in Hungary (1955), Democracy in the Czech Republic (1989) and Soviet Union (1991), Woman's Rights, Civil Rights, and the 1500's religious Reformation.

Not all these ideas were good, but the simple fact that The Powers That Be attempted to silence them made them explode into fruition.

Another example of a bad idea: a government tried to quell someone who was rallying for political changes at a small bar and threw the speaker in jail. Vast amount of support for him came flowing in from the community and all over the world. The year was 1923. The country was Germany. The speaker was Adolf Hitler.

If this process works for things as screwy and diverse as fascism and freedom, communism and democracy, personal rights and those who wish to take them away, imagine what it will do for just one simple plant.

From the GDT Mailbox

A RESPONSE TO THE LETTER FROM SHEA GUNTHER

Mr. Gunther: I am sorry to hear that you have had a problem with Campus Safety. However, the problems you experienced were entirely of your own making:

Student rights do have their price. The prices of these rights are called responsibilities. If you ignore the "responsibilities", then you deserve no part of the "rights". These rights and responsibilities are clearly defined in the "Student rights and Responsibilities Handbook." I believe that this is a document you hold near and dear to yourself. However, if you had taken the time to read through the entire handbook, instead of just skipping to the part about student rights, you would have found that you had broken many of the "responsibilities" laid out in the code of conduct.

In your published letter in Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre, you state "They said [The Campus Safety officers] that I was not allowed in the building." Regardless of whether or not this was justified, you entered the building, in a direct violation of the order of a Campus Safety officer. You were then told "not to go on the second floor." However, by your account, you "went on the second floor." This is a second violation of a direct order by a Campus Safety officer.

Later, when the Campus Safety officers apprehended you, you were told to leave the

building for a second time. Again, you did not comply with the Campus Safety officers' request, a third violation of the RIT Code of Conduct. Although you claimed that you had "done nothing wrong," (*Gracies Dinnertime Theatre*, 29 April, 52 AT) you were clearly mistaken, because you had violated the RIT Code of Conduct three times.

If you had taken time to read further into the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, you would have found out that you violated at least three sections of the code of conduct, namely sections 7, 8 and 4.

Section 7 reads:

7. FAILURE TO COMPLY: Failure to comply with directions of RIT officials or; law enforcement officers acting in performance of their duties, obstruction of the performance of these duties or failure to identify oneself to these persons when requested to do so;

You violated this policy at least three times.

8.VIOLATION OF RIT POLICIES:

Violation of published RIT policies, rules, and regulations including, but not limited to, the RIT Student Bill of Rights, the RIT Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment, the RIT Drug and Alcohol Policies, the RIT Parking and Traffic Regulations, the RIT Code of Conduct for Computer Use, RIT Academic Regulations, RIT Policy on Academic Dishonesty, RIT Smoking Policy, the RIT Residence Halls and Apartments Terms of Occupancy, and other published Institute policies, rules and regulations including those related to entry into and/or use of Institute

rooms, buildings, and facilities.

When you violated section 7, you violated this policy as well. Apparently, Mr. Gunther, your presence was intimidating to Mr. Barry Culhane. I assume that he assumed that you were in the vicinity to disrupt the board of trustees meeting. This worry is not unfounded, as you implied that you were going to bring the decisions of President Simone to the Board of Trustees. (*Gracies Dinnertime Theatre*, 1 April, 52 AT.)

Mr. Gunther, I feel sorry that you may have been injured in your recent brush with Campus Safety. However, I have no sympathy for you because your own admitted actions, regardless if they are justified or not, had a direct result in your consequences. In closing, I quote again the RIT Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook. "Students are adults who are responsible for the consequences of their actions. An academic institution can and should discipline a student who violates institutional rules; students are responsible for using common sense and prudence in looking after their own safety and the safety of their property. The institution can try earnestly to maintain a safe campus,

but it cannot guarantee students that they will be safe in all circumstances." I hope this incident may open the eyes of many people on both sides of this issue.

Works Cited

- Gunther, Shea. Letter. *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* 29 April 52 AT (29 Apr. 1998.): 12-14.
- Interview. *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* 1 April 52 AT (1 Apr. 1998.): 13-19.
- Rochester Institute of Technology. Judicial Affairs. *Student Rights and Responsibilities* [Handbook]. n. pag.: Online. Internet. 30 Apr. 1998. Available <http://www.rit.edu/~301www/handbook/>

-Paul Mischler

**Send your comments to
gdt@iname.com**

Gracies Dinnertime Theatre

Reserves the right to edit for clarity or length,
but will never correct your mind or spelling.



Professional “News Hound” Has to Steal Ideas From Amateur.

photos and story by Brian Barrett

I brought my camera Thursday to cover the “Support Shea Gunther Rally.” It was my first attempt at photo journalism, and all I had was my one button, auto-focus Minolta. I thought I was a shabby operation compared to the other photographers present with their f-stops, foci, zoom lenses, camera cases and khaki colored safari clothing, but I think I did a good job in finding “the shot.” I’d go into a corner or crouch down or move back, take a picture, and within ten seconds, one of the more professional looking photographers (more khaki than a Gulf War correspondent) would take one from the same angle and with the same composition.



This happened not once, not twice, but three times... in a row! She only stopped when I made it obvious that she wasn't going to get away with it. I took her picture, taking a picture of the picture I just took. I would've tried to keep in mind that “Imitation is the sincerest form



of flattery,” but I’m upset that I didn’t even get a “Thank You.”

So, if you’re the teacher or photo editor of the class or publication this woman is working for, let it be known that *you’re grading or paying the wrong person.*



Caught In the Act During Her Last Attempt. The students above were sitting exactly like this for most of an hour. I took these three pictures all within a minute of each other.



Apathy Towards Student Government on the Rise

by Gil Merritt

An uncredited Student Government ad designer had his or her artwork smeared with sarcasm by a member of the *Reporter* staff in the magazine's May 1st, 1998 issue. The advertisement appeared on *Reporter's* back cover and featured the RIT Tiger with the SG logo and a Tiger Oscar. The insult, including such wise-ass remarks as "Peachy Keen!" and "W-O-W is about all I can say," appeared in the same issue under the Tab Ads on the pages immediately preceding the ad.

Most ironic of all is that in the previous installment of the *Reporter* (April 24) the problem of apathy and indifference towards the Student Government was the subject of the editorial.

"I guess they hit that one right on the money," said Slick, cartoon ferret and former employee of the *Reporter*. "But I never foresaw that the problem could come from the staff itself. There's such a fine line between

making your own news and shooting yourself in the foot."

Slick now works for *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* and, in an unprecedented turn of events, says that the *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* staff is offering a design and layout job to the Student government ad designer.

"They're serious about it. I strongly recommend that this designer, whoever he or she is, take the job. It's great over here. Not only do I not get insulted, but the Bare-Foot-Girl feeds me nummy grapes, and I don't have to worry about the staff members losing any of my and Perky's original comic strips. And when Perky and I give them a strip it's guaranteed that it won't be tampered with or drawn on in any way, like the nipples that mysteriously appeared on our dancers in the 'Pringle's' strip. How about that?"

Perky, "a plainclothes art realie" with a "less than frequent sense of layout and design" could not be reached for comment.

Black to play and win.

by Adam Fletcher

Mad props to Comrade Doctor Z and the people's glorious free chess program, Crafty, for this problem. Black has a forced win — but how long can white fight it? Play your best as white — don't let black win quickly. Oh, and a shout out to my peeps for the C.C.C.P.

losing.
threats when you are
tant to make worthless
4. f6+ It is very impor-
3. ... Kxg7
White must play check
to delay the inevitable.
3. ... Kxg7
What else is
2. Kd1 g2
1. ... Qe3+
4. ... Rxf6
5. c3 g1=Q+
6. Kc2 Qg1+ Your game
is probably in trouble
when your opponent
must specify which
queen moved.
7. Kb3 Qd1+
8. Kc4 Qee2#

