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was one of those late-night production errors. The writer of that story was Adam Witte.

Democrats are smarter

The top nine states with the highest ACT scores (used for college admissions) in order are Maine, Oregon, Vermont, Washington, New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Hawaii, and Iowa. These "smart" states all voted for Democrat Al Gore over other candidates. In 10th place, New Hampshire barely went for Bush 48 to 47 percent with Ralph Nader 4 percent.

Be smart and work for campaigns of Democrats who have a heart and wisely care for ALL. Republicans personally do nice things, but politically fight to give more and more to those who already have more. Possessions possess them. Some vote for social aid not because they want to, but because they need to in order to be reelected. Maybe some year a Republican gene will be found and cured.

Many figured out that the Republican tax plan is "trickle down economics," which didn't work in the '80s. Increased money of the wealthy is supposed to trickle down to the less wealthy from increased buying/hiring. But the wealthy can pay executives even more and hire more people at low wages.

Some with quite high income ($100,000/year) mistakenly think they will be big winners; the huge tax break goes mainly to those making over $900,000 per year.

If given a test asking if the words "altruistic" and "Republican" are a match, the answer is no.

Letters continued on Page 5

CORRECTIONS

A review of Gayla Drake Paul's new CD, Retrospective: 1982-2002, in last month's issue mistakenly indicated there were only partial versions of songs on the CD-ROM portion of the release. The CD-ROM contains over five hours of music, full versions of 86 songs, plus lyrics, tuning and capo information, technical notes, discography and biographical information.
One would expect the lead-up to a war to address two basic questions—"Why war?" and "Why now?"—and to establish national and international consensus on the resulting rationale for war. One would, in the case of Iraq, be wrong. The question of why we would go to war with Iraq has been thoroughly entangled with our government's contentions that we are, in fact, already in a state of war (despite any objective evidence to that effect), that the definition of "war" is among the things changed completely by the terrorist attacks of last year, and that the declared enemy is evil itself. Based on this logic, the Bush administration initially denied that it needed to answer any questions whatsoever. The War President, who asserted that his powers in wartime were complete and unquestioned, had spoken. When questions persisted, the White House counsel issued a statement saying that since Congress had already issued a declaration of war against Iraq after the Kuwaiti invasion a decade ago, further congressional action was unnecessary—a statement that, absurdly, also seemed to indicate the president's authority to attack Vietnam, Korea, Germany, Japan, Italy, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Spain, and the southern half of the United States.

While this approach developed no consensus whatsoever, it nonetheless served the Bush administration better than they could have imagined. Instead of the necessity of war, public debate suddenly focused on the president's intransigence and failure to follow proper channels. With attention focused off the ends and placed firmly on the means, and opinion polls showing strong support for an invasion only if Congress and the UN were consulted, the administration suddenly acquiesced—the UN would be addressed, and congressional advice and consent would be sought, they announced.

They then proceeded to conduct these consultations in the most pro forma manner imaginable. The president's UN speech consisted of a rehash of Iraq's past misdeeds and an exhortation to enforce the UN's post-Gulf War resolutions against them, conveniently ignoring a slough of UN resolutions against Israel and others that the US has ignored routinely. It was capped with the promise that the US would act regardless of the UN—that is, a bald-faced admission that Bush considered his presence before them the merest of formalities. "Consultation" with Congress has thus far consisted of sending to Capitol Hill a draft resolution that gives the president carte blanche to use any means he deems necessary to respond to security threats throughout the Middle East, and effectively daring them not to pass it in an election year.

So why Iraq, why war and why now? Obviously, answers based on the geopolitics of fossil fuel production or the fact that Saddam Hussein has had and used weapons of mass destruction in the past—something we know for certain because our own government gave them to him back when we were supporting his war against Iran—no evidence has been offered that he has and intends to use them now. Nor is any explanation offered as to why Iraq's weapons of mass destruction are any more dangerous to the United States than those possessed by, for example, North Korea, Pakistan and China.

The question of why now becomes even trickier. While it's true that war with Iraq has become, in effect, the OJ Simpson trial of late 2002—the thing that we talk about instead of what's really happening in the country—and while it's also true that the news being forced off the airwaves and front pages by this story uniformly makes the president and many members of his administration look like bumbling atbest and un-indicted corporate co-conspirators at worst, it should be remembered that "finishing" the war with Iraq was on candidate Bush's foreign policy to-do list during the 2000 campaign.

What is more likely is that the atmosphere of terror and the presidential empowerment that has gone with it have given Bush and his administration a context for doing what they intended to do all along. As for the—to usea word of Vice President Cheney's choosing—"reprehensible" suggestion that this is serving as a smoke screen for a failed domestic agenda and the economic shambles it has caused; that would seem to be the sort of serendipitous coincidence—like cuts in marginal tax rates mostly benefiting the sort of people who contribute to GOP campaign funds—that Republicans have thrived on since time immemorial.

Not that any of this should make us any more comfortable with, much less supportive of, this war. Nothing the president or any member of his administration has presented thus far has even attempted to answer the basic question of why a "regime change" in Iraq is worth the life of even one American service person. Until such time as they do, suspicions that the might of the US government, and the faith and trust of the American people, are being hijacked for a vendetta, or a political smoke-screen, or something even worse can and must be given free reign.
Letters to the Editor
Continued from page 3

Don't invade Iraq

Representatives from Iowans for Peace (IiP) recently met with US Congress member Jim Leach. Our message: Don't invade Iraq. There are non-violent and moderate alternatives to the Bush-proposed violent overthrow of the Saddam Hussein regime - a proposal that will only lead to continued bloodshed and war.

Rep. Leach, a member of the House International Relations Committee, apparently agrees with the above sentiments. At the IfP meeting he said that under the present circumstances the US should not invade Iraq. In a recent National Public Radio interview, Mr. Leach noted that in addition to the anti-war petition he received from Iowans for Peace, "people in Iowa have very grave doubts about the case for intervention today."

We urge Rep. Leach to continue in his leadership role by signing on as a sponsor for the following bills in Congress regarding Iraq:

H.J. Res. 109 - Calling for Congress to consider and vote on a resolution for the use of force by the US Armed Forces against Iraq before such force is deployed;

H.R. 742 - To provide the people of Iraq with access to food and medicines from the United States, and for other purposes;

H.R. 3155 - Depleted Uranium Munitions Suspension and Study Act.

Iowans for Peace wishes to thank Rep. Leach for taking the time to engage in discussion with our group. We applaud his willingness to explore modern methods of less violent conflict resolution, as opposed to the ancient "eye for an eye" mentality that seems to permeate the current presidential administration.

The public is invited to join IfP for regular Sunday meetings at 6pm during which peace and justice strategy is discussed. Call 358-1557 for details.

Sincerely,
For Iowans for Peace: Bob Smith, Carolyn Palmer, Lori Nelson, Cathy Marston, Steven Konner, Tim Eldridge

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October. I can’t revel enough in the blazing leaves, crisp apples and cooling temperatures that, near the end of the day, cause us to anticipate coming home to the comfort of fresh snugness. October’s autumn twilight is its most marvelous gift. Those brief moments when the rustling golden day tips toward chilly, smoky night are unmatched in their power to evoke the shadows of mystery and the possibilities of story.

Nathaniel Hawthorne, in seeking to depict the truth of the human heart, set his stories, metaphorically, in twilight—what I imagine to be a particularly October twilight—managing his “atmospherical medium as to bring out or mellow the lights, and deepen and enrich the shadows, of the picture.” Hawthorne also loved to pull stories from epochs “now gray in the distance,” which bring with them their “legendary mist.” That mellowed and deepened atmosphere is the ideal breeding ground for telling our stories in the deepest way possible.

In the Iowa City area, we are lucky to have a storyteller who is not afraid of the suggestive shadows of romance—whether from the spirit realm, legendary sensibility or eccentric imagination—as he weaves tales of our place here in the Midwest. And every October for the past five years, this storyteller—whom one critic characterized as “roaming somewhere between mystic, philosopher, poet, and naturalist”—has brought us a wonderful program that marries time, place and language perfectly: the Harvest Lecture.

Steve Semken is a writer of such books as *Moving With the Elements* and *The Tin Prayer*, both works that move beyond the traditional particular details of what one might call “nature writing” to explore imaginative realms sometimes bordering on the fantastic, yet still grounding us in place. He is also proprietor of the Ice Cube Press and founder of the Standing by Words Center, an entity promoting place-based cultural work.

Steve passionately believes in the necessary uniqueness of place. “I fear people all being the same everywhere,” he says, “that all decisions will be made by big business for the whole country and that eccentrics will slowly fade away. Without creativity—the chance to play and the chance to learn of a place on your own—diversity and place will not remain alive.”

The spirit of the word is crucial to this creative play and education. Steve has worked hard, then, to bring to an eastern Iowa audience the words of talented writers and thinkers who practice the intersections of language, spirit and place. Through the annual Harvest Lecture, he says he tries to help us “see a tie between mystics and artists and the creative process and the workings of the natural world. I think of language as a wild on-the-spot way to know the world our way.”

This year, he will do so by evoking voices no longer with us—in body, at least. Steve says, “I wanted to search for a tradition of successful Midwestern poets/artists who have cared for where they live and have carried that love with them. I think the old (perhaps) wiser (through time) poets have something to teach us all.” The first of these poets will be Paul Engle, one of the founding fathers of the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop and creator of the UI’s International Writing Program. “These two things alone have made Iowa a hotbed for writing,” Steve explains. “But Paul Engle’s contribution to making Iowa a place to examine and want to be is remarkable.” Next on the program is James Hearst, “a well-known farmer/poet. His hope and courage to go it as a writer in this world of Iowa near Cedar Falls makes him a natural choice as well.” Last is William Stafford, perhaps known more for his work in the West, but whom Steve calls “a Midwesterner at heart who speaks of the land with reverence. He speaks of place as vital to who we are.”

Reciting the poetry of Engle, Hearst and Stafford will be well-known figures who are also excellent public readers. Robert Dana, retired professor from Cornell College in Mount Vernon, will read Engle. Scott Cawelti, professor of English at The University of Northern Iowa and editor of the complete works of James Hearst, will read from the subject of his own scholarship. And Denise Low, professor of English at Haskell Indian College in Lawrence, Kan., and editor of Kansas University’s creative writing journal, *Cottonwood*, will read from Stafford’s poetry.

As was the case with last year’s Harvest Lecture, Steve is also publishing a limited edition companion book, available for purchase by lecture-goers, the proceeds of which will go toward supporting this and future Harvest Lectures. The book reprints poetry of Engle, Hearst and Stafford, with...
commentary by their respective readers at the lecture. The volume also contains a new foreword by noted Iowa farm poet Michael Carey.

The Harvest Lecture has a new venue this year—Prairie Lights Bookstore, 15 South Dubuque St., in downtown Iowa City. Date and time: Oct. 17, 8pm. Admission to “The Good Earth—Three Poets of the Prairie” is free. If you can’t make it down to Prairie Lights, the lecture will be simultaneously broadcast on the “Live from Prairie Lights” radio program on WSUI, AM 910.

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GRINNELL COLLEGE
Welcome Back Students

Does Iowa City hate you?

Story by Michael Antonucci
Photos by Mike Breazeale

The relationship between a college town and its students is always a little rocky. But do recent developments (crackdowns on drinking, an attempted ban on porch furniture...) mean Iowa City has finally lost it and declared war on its helpless scholars? Garlic Press editor emeritus Michael Antonucci talks to city council members, bar owners, students...to find out and wonders if the state of affairs might propel students toward greater involvement.

I live on South Johnson Street, a lively but unsightly neighborhood of indistinguishable brick people boxes, charred lawn furniture and a constant string of riotous parties. I'm writing this article inside just such a people box. In the course of my efforts, a young man came to my ground floor window and yelled something about "fargling." Twice. My upstairs neighbors are either tossing dwarves or engaging in some form of Napervillean tap dancing. An irregular beat of shattering glass forms a sort of counterpoint to the clicking of my keyboard. I can only hope to churn out this article before I'm fargled again...

Most cultures and subcultures entertain the myth of a Golden Age, Edenic stories that constitute, in the words of Sir Kenneth Clark, "the most enchanting dream which has ever consoled mankind." Iowa City is no exception.

Dee Vanderhoef, 63-year-old city council member and mayor pro tem, hearkens back to a clean-cut past in which young people's excesses didn't "stare you in the face" and the "other" Union was the heart of student social life. "There was no way that underage drinking happened in Iowa City when I was a student there," she reminisces. "We went to movies, we played games. At the Union, there were both the sun porches; you had an hour break between classes, and we were frequently there playing cards."

"Bones," the 29-year-old proprietor of the Hall Mall's Tobacco Tabernacle, articulates a different vision of a Golden Age, in which Iowa City was an undisputed cultural mecca for Eastern Iowa, when the town was known as the "circus without a tent" instead of the arrest capital of...
the Midwest: "I've been coming to Iowa City since I was an early teen-ager because I thought it was a really exciting place...now a lot of that's been curtailed. I couldn't fathom my youth without coming up to Gabe's and seeing House of Large Sizes or other local bands that I wouldn't have got the chance to see if I hadn't been allowed in. Go back to Iowa City circa 1982—it was some of the best years. If I was that young again, I'd probably say 'I'm getting out of Iowa.' Iowa City was the last bastion of a little bit of culture and some personal freedoms that weren't taken for granted, and now they're all getting swept away."

Somewhere between these two opposed visions lies a set of antagonisms between competing business interests, disparate income levels, between established residents and transient dwellers. The uneasy relationship between a large university population and the surrounding community that it spawned and sustains may not encompass the entire dilemma. Regulators consistently emphasize that they wish to crack down on errant behavior, regardless of the miscreants' age or enrollment status. It's undeniable, though, that regardless of the lines of battle, university students are caught in the crossfire.

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood

If the antagonism between older property owners and younger renters is indeed a war, the Neighborhood Housing Relations Task Force is the elite commando unit for those who envision a quieter, more regulated community. [Editor's note: The council dissolved the task force Sept. 24.] On Oct. 21, 2001, the Iowa City Council passed Resolution No. 01-353, which sets up the task force. The driving force behind its establishment was the Neighborhood Council, a group of neighborhood representatives who, according to Jerry Hansen, the Wetherby Neighborhood group spokesman, "corrupting forces polluting their neighborhoods" (11/07/01 NHRFF minutes, available via www.icgov.org). The Wetherby Neighborhood includes an area, south of K-Mart, with pockets of low-income housing. The original impetus for the task force may thus have been the bogeyman of an Iowa City gang crisis, and some members may have expected a crackdown on minorities and the poor instead of a crusade against drunken fraternity hooligans.

Bob Thompson, local musician and activist, drew this exchange from the task force's meeting minutes that might partially illuminate the group's initial motives: "[Task force member Jerry] Hansen said that after the Wetherby drive-by shooting, anyone who was pulled over for a routine traffic violation had their car searched. He noted that this cut down on drugs and violence and would like to see more enforcement like this...Hansen went on to say that racial profiling is unavoidable and that the community needs to back the police up on this. [Task force member Mike] Carberry said that the silent majority agrees with that statement."

These designated representatives of the "silent majority" quickly shifted their focus, however, from the alleged prevalence of gangland menace to discussions of the student problem. Matt Blizek, vice president of the University of Iowa Student Government, believes that an anti-student bias was inevitable, given the council-determined constitution of the task force.

"When they put this task force together (and who knows what the driving force behind that was), one token student, Nick Klenske, got to be on," Blizek laments. "They really should have included more students, because if there's a nuisance ordinance, of course, us students are considered the nuisance."

Steve Kanner, the council's Green Party member, claims that he pushed for student representation, and that he had to fight tooth and nail for the solitary token member: "The student body president, we barely got him on; it took me something like 10 times saying, 'Let's get the student body president.' I wanted more rental representation on there and the majority didn't want to do that."

(For those keeping score, the task force was made up of three neighborhood council representatives, three tenants reps, three landlord reps, one member named by the Association of Realtors and the at-large chair.)

In the inaugural meeting, Tim Walker, representative of the Northside Neighborhood Association's vaguely Orwellian-sounding Tranquility/Safety Small Working Group, directly refers to students as a frequent source of friction. In April, when the task force members compiled and released their initial set of 31 recommendations, they "overly expressed their desire to regulate student behavior, recommending the city ban the ominous presence of upholstered lawn furniture, require permits for parties of over 30 people, and adopt a keg permit ordinance. Unsubly, they urged city staff to coordinate with the university to withhold diplomas and transcripts from students with unpaid municipal fines.

Young people in Iowa City, like young people throughout the United States, are frequently a politically somnolent bunch. News of the task force recommendations made it to the students, however, and, for once, they got mad enough to act.

Thompson, in an email to the JCNews list-server jokingly exhorted those outraged by "this big smelly pile of legislation" to bring their "torches and pitchforks." While students left their farm implements at home, they did bring symbols that they considered even more powerful: their kegs and their couches. About 100 student protesters turned out April 30; the most creative recreated a mock living area near the front steps of the civic center. Students handed out buttons promising a "Couch For Every Porch." They demonstrated that when local bargains set their sights on the party, students would bring the party to them.

The furor continued inside the forum, as students and non-students alike roundedly bashed the proposals. Thirty of the 45 comments published in the April 30 minutes denounced the provisions as unenforceable, unconstitutional, discriminatory, and just plain stupid. Task force chair Hillary Sale concluded the meeting with a sneer at the assembled students, recommending that they obtain their information from a source other than the Daily Iowan.

Presumably, she was not recommending they read the Iowa City Press-Citizen, which issued a May 4 editorial on the task force's "shotgun approach" as "the kind of approach people take when they assume they are dealing with their adversaries, not with their neighbors." The task force partially capitulated (or fine-tuned, depending on your perspective) by withdrawing the couch, keg, party permit, and diploma-withholding from its final recommendations.

The council members with whom I spoke eagerly distanced themselves from the abandoned recommendations. Irvin Pfab forthrightly admits that the dropped items were "hard-brained ideas that never really had any chance," defending the process as a "brainstorming session."

Connie Champion saw the limits on parties as a "real infringement on people's rights." Thompson, in our interview, expressed some hope that the struggle had been concluded or had at least reached a turning point: "After the bashing that [task force members] got at that public forum, they were probably a little bit gun-shy." Still, some disturbing points made it into the final recommendations uncathed.

Particularly concerning were recommendations Sale outlined in an Aug. 19 memo to the city council: "...direct City Manager to direct police to issue citations in disorderly house occurrences more frequently, and, where appropriate, on the first call...consider increased patrols of neighborhoods experiencing disorderly house and criminal complaints. For example, foot-
patrols in near-town neighborhoods between 2-3 AM and utilize the municipal infraction process to cite properties in violation of zoning and housing codes. While ordinance-speak is always open to interpretation, one might tentatively translate this language as “crack down on band practices,” “arrest more students stumbling along South Johnson Street,” and “push the police to perform functions traditionally performed by less intimidating city personnel.”

Blizek feels similar trepidation, noting that “…we had kind of mixed feelings about increased patrol of the student areas (such as South Johnson), foot patrols and actually walking around in there. They used some fancy wording, but it was pretty clear they meant student areas, where there are going to be parties and things like that…This is a good idea in principle, but only if these officers aren’t just walking up and down the street breaking up parties or harassing students.”

The task force presented its final recommendations, conveniently enough, on Aug. 19, when most students were more concerned with moving couches than rallying around them, and while the maligned Daily Iowan still slumbered. The timing of the meeting was not lost on Sale, who described it as “an ideal time of year to pass this.” In her snippy conclusion to the April 30 forum, Sale had urged the attendees to come to regular meetings to obtain better information. This injunction, however, was apparently forgotten over the long summer months. The task force expressed its desire that its future incarnations conduct meetings privately, to avoid concerns over litigation when it begins to name names of specific violators. [Editor’s note: The council recently directed the city manager to appoint a new committee, which will not have open meetings.]

Hang me in a bottle

The task force recommendations, with their heavy-handed anti-party recommendations, should logically have no more avid supporter than Mike Porter, the 34-year old owner of the Summit and One-Eyed Jake’s. After all, if students can’t party at home, they’re more likely to go downtown and party in his bars. He can’t, however, support the task force members in good conscience or even figure them out. “I’m not sure what the housing task force is really doing,” Porter confesses. “They said they’re concerned about their property values. Well, the students are what make their property values so high. I don’t know what their big issue is.”

The nascent political mobilization unintentionally sparked by the task force’s extremism might please him more. Porter has spearheaded past efforts to register students and encourage them to vote in council elections. He’s going to continue this process, actively working with the UI student government to get registered young voters to the polls for the next city council election. He’d better. Voting students defend his business interests, and, given some council members’ desire to push the age for bar entrance to 21, those business interests are in some jeopardy.

Absent prohibitory regulations, most downtown bar owners seem to be doing well. Bars are plentiful, and alcohol is inexpensive enough that even a starving freelance writer can occasionally afford a drink. Champion, an advocate of 21+ entrance ordinances, bemoans the river of cheap alcohol flowing through Iowa City’s center: “You can almost not afford not to drink. It’s cheaper than water.”

Blizek analyzes the prevalence of downtown bars as the confluence of economic trends and the university-enforced withering of frat parties: “The bar explosion has mainly happened over the past seven or so years. The two biggest contributors were, one, the Coral Ridge Mall opened up, basically sucking out half the business, and leaving spaces where bars could come and fill it up. There’s always going to be demand for a bar. The second big thing was when the Greek houses here on campus went dry, because here you have five or six thousand students who can no longer drink in their own homes.”

Instead of treating the problem as an economically based one, with solutions ranging from rezoning to limiting liquor licenses, the city council has thus far taken a largely punitive approach to underage drinking, enacting a patchwork of regulations that limit, for example, the number of drinks served to a single customer, and promising to get tough on bars and underage drinking this fall. On his website (http://home.mchsi.com/~thombobson/arrest.htm), Thompson diag-
noses the current trend toward escalating enforcement as the result of the Stepping Up Committee, a "little cabal" of "administrators and big shots from the University, elected and appointed officials from local and state government, law enforcement, and prominent people from the private sector, banded together around some impressive grant money." The group formed in 1997 to combat high-risk drinking, relying on funding from the UI, the American Medical Association, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation of Princeton. The original charter includes every major player in local law enforcement. The group initially garnered $875,000 in grant support, and has brought its financial clout to bear effectively.

Mike McConnell, general manager of the Field House and College Street Billiards Club, admires the organization's efficacy while, predictably, opposing its goals: "No one has tried positively and successfully to involve the students in a decision. It's been the immoral majority as I call them, the Church people." The actual involvement of religious groups in the committee isn't apparent, but their exceptional zeal is unquestionable. McConnell describes the current potpourri of regulations as "an attempt to keep the Stepping Up Committee at bay for a little bit." And Champion characterizes her support for a potential 21+ ordinance as, in part, a response to past lobbying from "Mary Sue Coleman, her staff and the committee."

By regulating the downtown bar scene, many council members enter into strange, unfamiliar territory. Pfab, an outspoken proponent of pushing up the age for bar entrance, freely admits his complete lack of firsthand knowledge of bars or the culture: "I've probably spent 30 to 40 hours of my life in a bar, maybe less than that. So, certainly, you're not looking at anybody with any smarts as to what to do with this. I apologize. I'm the last person who should be telling these people how to do this. I don't know a damn thing about it. Maybe we have a reputation of being a party town, maybe. That's what I'm told."

Alissa Bernard, on the other hand, is intimately familiar with the bar scene. As a bartender at the Field House, the 22-year-old has interacted with the seething masses of sweaty undergraduates every work night for the past two years. From her vantage point on the front lines, even the most restrictive ordinances appear futile at best, counterproductive at worst.

"We pull maybe 10 or 20 [fake IDs] here a night as it is," she says. "Imagine everyone under 21 trying to get fakes; it'd be insane. All it's going to do is spread the problem. At least now it's downtown, concentrated in an area. If they make everything 21, without any kind of alternative, it's just going to go everywhere, risking even more underage drinking and date rapes at house parties, things like that. If a kid
"[T]hese are exactly the sort of venues that get out of control in Third World countries."

- Jann Ream, city code enforcement assistant, on the DIY venue, the Mouse Trap

wants a beer, a kid's going to have a beer; there's just no way around it."

The Stepping Up Project and its supporters do see a way around it, through the obverse proposition: If a kid doesn't want to have a beer, a kid's not going to have a beer. Thus far, however, the project and the council haven't proactively offered much in the way of alternatives for students. Other than a single rave in the depressingly vacant Old Capitol Mall, most students would be hard-pressed to name a viable entertainment option provided by the prohibitionists.

Vanderhoef faults the student body for this gap. "The students are going to have to help design what they want it to look like," she said. "I was really hopeful after the public conversation that the students listened and took heed, so I'm disappointed."

Providing alternatives, however, has proved challenging for some enterprising local music enthusiasts. A group of young music lovers trying to publicize a drug and alcohol-free music venue were shut down this summer, before they even started. The Mouse Trap, a planned straightedge performance space on East Burlington, cancelled their first shows in response to pressure from the city. The housing enforcement division, acting on an anonymous tip to the city's legal department, notified the Mouse Trap's landlords of their displeasure with the proposed venture.

Jann Ream, a code enforcement assistant, cited safety as her primary concern with the Mouse Trap, as "[t]hese are exactly the sort of venues that get out of control in Third World countries." Ream suggested that "they should try to find a way to get a commercial venue." She didn't have any specific suggestions, however, as to how a group of poverty-stricken musicians might go about renting a separate commercial building and obtaining the permits necessary to provide for their entertainment.

Vanderhoef has some ideas, but it's not clear that independent music fans would find them particularly helpful. "If they wanted to have a straightedge [sic], maybe they could go to a church," she opines. "They could go to the
IMU and try to rent a room. You could put about 30 people in the room; it wouldn't cost too much for the janitor. We rent our meeting rooms during the day in the Senior Center.

Just damned

Students are thus, at present, damned if they party in their homes, damned if they try to start entertainment options without a hefty bankroll—and they're certainly damned if they drink downtown. "I want to go after the bar owner for sending a patron our drunk into the waiting arms of the police," Pfab says. His sentiment, while not entirely unreasonable, seems to beg the question of who sent the police into the Pedestrian Mall at 2am and encouraged them to fill quotas by issuing tickets for public intoxication. A few statistics (mined from Thompson's website) shed some light onto the legal perils faced by a student or young person walking home after a night of drinking downtown. In FY 2000, Iowa City's arrest rate for minor infractions, relative to the population of the jurisdiction, doubled, tripled, quadrupled, or further exceeded the arrest rate for minor offenses in towns such as Des Moines, Ames and Cedar Falls. Iowa may maintain athletic rivalries with some of these towns, but when it comes to the orange jumpsuit game, there's not even a pretense of competition.

After crunching the data, Thompson offers his analysis on his website: "What's different here is that most of the nightlife activity is occurring in one relatively small area. This area is in close proximity with the lion's share of student residences; this creates a source of frustration for homeowners in that area who don't want to live with party noise. It also makes downtown an attractive location for bars. The people who have the most say in Iowa City about policy is a small group that generally doesn't include bars in its vision of what downtown should be like. The difference between

continued on page 23
A couple batches of reissues skidded into my mailbox recently—Like, Omigod! ’80s Pop Culture Box (Rhino Records) and the first four Replacements albums (Restless Records)—and I’m deep into ’80s nostalgia, sucked into the pop culture wayback machine.

Yet as I listen to Omigod—a seven-CD set jammed with ’80s radio hits, broadly surveying the surface of the pop culture landscape—I’m reminded of how hard it is to capture the “sound” of any period of popular music. What were the ’80s for my crew and me as we hung out in our boring, seedy beach town? Punk rock compilation tapes (Dead Kennedys, Black Flag, Butthole Surfers, etc.) and Top 40 radio (Bryan Adams, Tears for Fears, Soft Cell and Wang Chung). I would guess that I am not alone.

What I would like to see is a compilation geared toward my crowd. We all made it out of that sad little town and have jobs now. We have disposable income. I’d like to see tracks from the first two albums I bought with my own money—Madonna’s Like a Virgin and the Butthole Surfers’ Rembrandt Pussyhorse—included in a compilation like Omigod. None of us saw any contradiction in listening to these divergent kinds of music, and we couldn’t even conceive that there could be a contradiction. My friend Bunny and I get into these heated arguments about the relative popularity of R.E.M. during the 1980s compared to artists like Bananarama, Culture Club or Tommy Tutone (all of whom, save for Michael Stipe, are not included on Omigod for obvious reasons: They don’t fit the cultural-relevance template used by Rhino for this project. Which raises an interesting question: What makes something culturally relevant, “important”: album sales or, for lack of a better word, soul?

My friend Bunny and I get into these heated arguments about the relative popularity of R.E.M. during the 1980s compared to artists like Bananarama, Culture Club or Tommy Tutone (all of whom, save for Michael Stipe, appear on this Rhino Records box set). She agrees that “867-5309/Jenny,” the one Tutone hit, can be called to mind by anyone who was alive during the ’80s. Yet, she refuses to equate “knowing” a tune with “listening intently” over many wine-soaked evenings to Michael Stipe. “Tommy Tutone is like the cute guy you brought home from the bar in the 1980s,” she argues. “You can still see his face but you cannot remember his name. Stipe is the guy you dated. He took you home to meet his parents. Why can’t you see the difference?”

Which brings me to the pressing issue. Do radio play or record sales suggest anything more than, well, radio play and record sales? In terms of influence and longevity, I think R.E.M.’s “South Central Rain” holds up far better than, say, “867-5309/Jenny” —or at least I know which one I could listen to 10 times in a row without jumping out a window. It’s fitting that R.E.M. doesn’t make an appearance on Rhino’s version of the 1980s, because this box set is all about the above-ground story, what rose to the surface (and what was only as deep as the surface). Not that this monstrous, jaw-droppingly lavish seven-CD box set totally neglects the quirk-factor—it begins with Devo and ends with the B-52’s— but it does fall short on representing any kind of underground phenomena. Hip-hop is barely represented. (Kurtis Blow’s “The Breaks” and Run-DMC’s “Walk This Way” are about it, unless you count Taco’s awful, ass-clenching “Puttin’ On the Ritz” as rap.)

In terms of record sales, the Replacements were as far away as possible from the ’80s arena rock of bands like Guns ‘n’ Roses (though they embodied the raw, rau­cous rock ‘n’ roll spirit of Axl’s band, one reason why aging Replacements bassist Tommy Stinson was recruited into the new, “improved” GNR). Led by talented singer-songwriter Paul Westerberg, the Replacements were a messy punk band that was both stupid and sincere in their early days. The loud-hard-fast “I Hate Music” coexisted with “Johnny’s Gonna Die,” a solemn (and prophetic) tribute to the doomed Johnny Thunders on their debut, Sorry Ma, Forgot to Take Out the Trash. After four years and four albums, the Replacements evolved into a slightly more mature band that was still, well, stupid and sincere (their final independently released album, Let It Be, ranged from the heartbreaking ballad “Unsatisfied” to the moronic amphetamine rush of “Gary’s Got a Boner”).

Even after they jumped ship into the majors, the Mats never made it big, though Westerberg’s ghost can be heard in the songs of numerous artists today, especially those stuck with the unfortunate genre label “emo.” The closest the Replacements came to having an impact on the mainstream was being referenced in the 1980s teen black comedy Heathers, whose director was a big Mats fan. In the movie, Winona Ryder’s school
was Westerberg High and one of the Heathers offhandedly remarked during a key scene, "Color me impressed," a direct nod to the best song on *Hootenanny*. This 1983 album was considered their masterpiece until they followed it up with *Let It Be*, which is widely acknowledged as one of the best albums of the 1980s. Why was it one of the best albums of the 1980s? Westerberg could write a pop song as good as anyone included in the '80s *Pop Culture Box*, but *Let It Be* better reflected the idiosyncratic nature of life, the quirk factor, that just doesn't come through in songs by Ray Parker, Jr., Kenny Loggins and Rick Astley.

I cannot say I did not enjoy my nine-hour, seven-disc '80s immersion. As Bunny says, "But hey, 'Brew, you're a complete freak." Cultural relevance? Of course! Influential? Not in any important way. Fun to listen to? Hell yes! The power of pop: I'll send out a Hüsker Dü CD to the first fan who emails me the lyrics to "867-5309/Jenny."
Little Village seeks people with ideas, drive and maybe a little business-savvy to get involved with this here publication. Don’t be looking to just get your feet wet, either. Jump in headfirst.

Call 337-4545 or write little-village@usa.net
Flow
CSPS, Oct. 3-12
"The storm's coming," rapper-turned-actor Will Power says, "it's getting bigger and bigger, and the storytellers are endangered." In Flow, a one-man play connecting hip-hop culture to African storytelling traditions, Power strives to single-handedly save the storytellers—it's an equally harrowing and exhilarating rescue mission. Of Power, the online magazine African said, "Nimble as a cat, the lanky, latte-colored brother doesn't act; he steps inside his characters, and all are finely drawn by Power, who uses every octave of his voice and every inch of his body to get the job done."

In Flow, Power ranges between a total of 30 characters—male and female, seemingly of every age and ethnic background. The work is structured around seven fictional urban storytellers and the stories they tell. Racism, sexism and homophobia; the effects of drugs and liquor; and threats of violence and environmental destruction are all touched on.

Joining Power on stage will be DJ Reborn, who will spin tracks while interacting with Power, in effect reshaping the score for each performance. Reborn has previously performed with The Roots and India.Arie.

Also of note is the project's director (who will be in town for the show, too), Danny Hoch. Among other things, Hoch is the guy who co-wrote and starred in Marc Levin's 1999 indie feature Whiteboys, parts of which were filmed in Eastern Iowa.

This is a world premiere. Oct. 3-5 and 10-12, 8pm, 1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580.

ART

Akar Architecture and Design
4 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 351-1227
Geoffrey Wheeler: Recent Work in Porcelain, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Arts Iowa City
Jefferson Building, 129 E. Washington St., Iowa City
101 Prints from the University of Iowa Print Studios, featuring the unframed work of 14 artists hailing from Iowa and around the world, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

The Art Mission
114 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 466-1006
Sharon Burns Knutson: Cool New Work, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art
410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
Classic Images: From the Ansel Adams Archive, through Dec. 8.

Coe College
Marvin Cone and Eaton-Buchan galleries, 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-399-8647
Quad Cities Artists, through Oct. 4; John Andrews (encastastic on aluminum) and Gerald Auten (oil and graphite on paper), Oct. 25-Nov. 15; reception Oct. 25, 5-7pm.

Design Ranch Store
Corner of Davenport and Dodge streets, Iowa City, 354-2623


Faulconer Gallery
Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660
Italian Drawings and Prints from the Castelvecchio Museum, Verona, through Oct. 20.

The Frame House & Gallery
211 N. Linn St., Iowa City, 338-0988
Works by Marcel Mouly, the last living student of Picasso, original acrylic work and prints; opening reception Oct. 12, 4:30-6:30pm.

Hudson River Gallery
538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488
Wood-fired ceramic and metal sculpture by James Kasper; monoprints by Deanne Warnholtz Wortman; opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Iowa Artisans Gallery
117 E. College St., Iowa City, 351-8686
Sheyl Ellinwood: Storyboards and African Masks in Fused Glass, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Iowa Killed Buddy Holly
Hall Mall, Iowa City
Perverted like a breakfast of oatmeal and hashish, artwork by J.C. Jogerst, plus poetry reading (see Words), Oct. 17, 6:30-9pm.

Iowa State Bank & Trust
102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City
Landscapes/Dreamscapes, paintings by Alicia Brown.

Catherine Jones Davies, Kim Hannah, Genie Patrick, Marcia Wegman, Laura Young and Deb Zisko; opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Kirkwood Community College
Iowa Hall Gallery, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, 398-4956
Silver, Gold & Foil Imaging 1966-2002, work by Virginia Myers, Oct. 4-Nov. 4; reception Oct. 10, 5-6:30pm. (See Words for related event.)

Lorenz Boot Shop
132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053
Authentic Spaces, photography by Robert Fox; A Bee's Eye View, paintings by Cathmar Prang; Range of Motion, photography and drawing by David Trawick; Student Viewpoints, work by UI art student Karlee Morehead; opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Many Facets
125 S. Dubuque, Iowa City, 341-4562
Dean Spencer: Movements in Metal, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art
110 E. Washington St., Iowa City
Tony Brown: Acrylic Paintings, opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

Medical Education and Biomedical Research Facility
UI campus, Iowa City
Channels, a 116-foot-long wall incorporating six large plasma screens by artist John F. Simon Jr. (See Words for related event.)
**Books**

* Murphy-Brookfield Scholarly Used Books in the Liberal Arts
  - Philosophy
  - History
  - Literature
  - Women's Studies
  - Psychology Art
  - Music
  - Anthropology
  - Mon-Sat 11am-6pm
  - 219 N. Gilbert
  - 338-3077

**Body Piercing by Robert FREE**

* After care pack with every piercing
  - Crossroads Tattoo
  - 503 S. 3rd and Arc Carville
  - Tattoo & Piercing
  - www.crossroadstattoo.com
  - Tue-Fri 12-5 Sat 10-5

**The Mill Restaurant**

* Bar 
  - Music
  - Coffee

**Thursday Oct 3**

- Nick Stika
- Donny Brazil Band
- Dave Zollo and the Body Electric
- Joe Price
- Dennis McKirrin & the Demolition Band
- Greg Brown
- Alastair Moock & Bob Hillman
- Mike & Amy Finders Band

**Friday Oct 4**

- TBA
- The Blue Band
- Shade of Blue
- Big Wooden Radio
- Ellis and Allette Brook
- Too Much Yang

**Saturday Oct 5**

- The Mayflies of Johnson County, Oct. 19
- Michele Crider, Oct. 3, 8pm
- The Mayflies of Johnson County, Oct. 19
- Michele Crider, Oct. 3, 8pm

**Sunday Oct 6**

- Brian Monahan Band
- The Blues Band
- Shade of Blue
- Big Wooden Radio
- Ellis and Allette Brook
- Too Much Yang

**Monday Oct 7**

- MONDAYS 
  - OPEN MIKE 
  - 8PM
  - 120 E. Burlington 
  - IC 
  - 351-9529
  - Open 4pm
  - 7 Days a Week

**Missing Peace Galerie**

- 620 S. Dubuque, Iowa City, 248-0338
- The Smart Rope, works by Michael Sinclair, through Oct. 15; opening reception Oct. 5, 6-8pm; Screen printing by Hilary Williams, Oct. 15-31; closing reception Oct. 31, Halloween Masquerade.

**Mythos**

- 9 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-3760
- Shara Rowley: Still Life Paintings; UI BFA student; opening Oct. 11; opening reception Oct. 11, 5-8pm, part of Gallery Walk.

**Room Service**

- 257 E. Iowa Ave., Iowa City

**Ruby's Pearl**

- 13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 248-0032
- Techno Infused Ritual Art, works by Lizzy Brown, through October.

**UI Museum of Art**

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

**Music**

**Adagio**

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

**Clapp Recital Hall**

- University of Iowa campus, Iowa City, 335-1160
- Jeffery Agrell, horn, and Evan Mazurin, piano, Oct. 8, 8pm
- John Muriello, baritone, and Shari Rhoads, piano, Oct. 9, 8pm
- Choral Collage: Women's Chorus, Kantorei, Camerata singers, and University Choir, Oct. 11, 8pm; UI Chamber Orchestra, Oct. 13, 3pm; Amos Yang, cello, Oct. 15, 8pm
- Kenneth Tse, saxophone, and Rose Chancler, piano, Oct. 17, 8pm
- "Fall Festival," Old Gold Singers, Oct. 18, 8pm
- Johnson County Landmark Jazz Band, Oct. 19, 8pm
- Philharmonia Chamber Orchestra, Oct. 20, 3pm; Mala Quartet, Oct. 23, 8pm; David Greenhoe, trumpet, and Shari Rhoads, piano, Oct. 24, 8pm
- Symphony Band, Oct. 25, 8pm
- Christine Rutledge, viola, Oct. 27, 3pm; Annette-Barbara Vogel, violin, and Marcelina Murciano, piano, Oct. 27, 8pm; Lofaso Baroque Ensemble, Oct. 30, 8pm.

**Coe College**

- 1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8600
- Family Weekend Concert: Concert Band, Jazz Band, Oct. 26, 7:30pm, Sinclair Auditorium.

**CSPS**

- 1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580
- 8pm unless noted otherwise
- Boston singer/songwriter Bill Morrissey, Oct. 16

**Folkloric SONGa of Disappear Fear with Minneapolis songwriter Bara Ryan, Oct. 18
- French guitarist Pierre Bensusan, Oct. 20, 7pm
- Boston singer/songwriter Ellis Paul, with Iowa City singer-songwriter Bob Hillman, Oct. 23
- Australian folk legend Eric Bogle, Oct. 31.
Let's Dance

Lindale Mall, Cedar Rapids, 743-3262
Party Mix Specialists, Oct. 4, 9pm-1am • Jerry Beauchamp, Oct. 6, 6-9pm • Dale Thomas, Oct. 13, 6-9pm • Mackie Blue, grand opening, Oct. 18, 9pm-1am • The Bandits, Oct. 19, 9pm-1am • Ken Paulson, Oct. 20, 1:30-4:30pm • The Do's and the Don'ts, Oct. 25 • The Four of Us, Oct. 27, 6-9pm.

The Marketplace

511 P St., South Amana, 622-3750
All 7:30-11:30pm
Let's Dance
Party Mix Specialists, Oct. 4, 9pm-1am • Jerry Beauchamp, Oct. 6, 6-9pm • Dale Thomas, Oct. 13, 6-9pm • Mackie Blue, grand opening, Oct. 18, 9pm-1am • The Bandits, Oct. 19, 9pm-1am • Ken Paulson, Oct. 20, 1:30-4:30pm • The Do's and the Don'ts, Oct. 25 • The Four of Us, Oct. 27, 6-9pm.

Kirkwood Community College

Ballantine Auditorium, Iowa Hall, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, 398-5578
Fourth Annual Blues/Jazz Concert, Dennis McMurrin & Friends, Blues Combos, Kirkwood Jazz Ensemble, CR Jazz Big Band, Oct. 5, 7:30pm.

The Union Bar

121 E. College St., Iowa City, 339-7713

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Robbie Reverb, Oct. 4, 6-10pm • John & Kris McClure, Oct. 5, 1-3pm • Jasmine, Oct. 5, 8pm • Sheer Bliss, J.J. Alberhasky, Oct. 17, 7:30pm • Nancita Wernet, Scotty Hayward, Oct. 20, 7-9pm, American Sign Language, open mic, Oct. 26, 7-9pm.

US Cellular Center

370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888
John Anderson, Oct. 12, 7:30pm • Jars of Clay, The Eulms, Oct. 17, 7:30pm.

Voxman Music Building

Harp Hall, UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1603
Steel Drum and Percussion Duo, Oct. 4, 8pm • SCI student compositions, Oct. 5, 8pm • Zagar Saxophone Quartet, Oct. 20, 2pm.

Mondo's

212 South Clinton, Iowa City, 358-0776
Sabor Latino at Mondo's, dance to DJ Frank Rubero's offering of Latin dance music, come early to take a dancing lesson from salsa instructor Modes Akeya, every Thursday & Saturday (lesson every other Saturday on Saturday), 10-10:15pm (lesson), 10:15pm-1:30am (dancing).

Old Brick

26 E. Market St., Iowa City
Iowa City Dance Jam, dance to eclectic music, Oct. 11 & 25, 8:30pm-12am.

Scattergood Friends School

1951 Delta Ave., West Branch, 643-7600
Sadie's Dance Cafe, begins at 8pm.


Space/Place Theater

North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City
Global Express, Oct. 20, 6pm.

Theatre/Performance

City Circle Acting Company

Oakdale Hall Auditorium, Oakdale Campus, Coralville, 354-3006
Thurs. 7:30pm; Fri., Sat. 7:30pm & 10:30pm
The Rocky Horror Show, Oct. 31-Nov. 9.

Coe College

1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8800
The Taming of the Shrew, Oct. 3-12, 8pm; Oct. 13, 7pm • The Language of Angels, by Naomi Iizuka, Oct. 10-12, 8pm; Oct. 13, 7pm • Theatre B • Life is a Dream, by Pedro Calderón, Oct. 17-19, 8pm • Oct. 20, 3pm; 23-26, 8pm • Oct. 27, 3pm, E.C. Mabie Theatre • The Dirty MSP: A Twisted Cinderella Tale by Ralph Hall, Oct. 30-31, 8pm, Theatre B.

WORDS

Becker Auditorium

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-0128
Etienne van Heerden, Paul Engle Memorial reading, Oct. 12, 8pm • Edward Carey and Elizabeth McCracken, reading, Oct. 18, 8pm.

Coe College

120 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8581
Poet and Iowa native Sarah Lindsay reads from her poetry, Oct. 21, 7:30pm, Keller Lecture Hall, Hickok Hall • Iowa author/poet Mary Swander reads from her work, Oct. 29, 11am, Keller Lecture Hall.

Grinnell College

1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660
"A Tale of Two Cities: Old Master Prints & Drawings in Verona and Chicago," Suzanne Folds McCullagh, Anne Vogt Fuller & Margaret Titus Seale, Oct. 9, 4-5pm, Lawrence Lecture Hall, Bucksbaum Center for the Arts.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200
Panel Discussion on Living and Dealing With Mental, Oct. 7, 6pm, Meeting Room A • Iowans for Peace with Iraq workshop, "Divestment and Other Activist Tools," led by human rights activist Randall Lindsey, Oct. 8, 5pm, Meeting Room A • Chiky Sok, UICHR deputy director and a native of Cambodia, will discuss "Freedom in Cambodia," 2002 Carol Spaziani Intellectual Freedom Festival Brown Bag lunch program, Oct. 8, 12-1pm • "Fantasy and Reality in Contemporary Literature," IWP panel discussion, Oct. 9, 9:30pm • Author Shay Salomon and designer Jay Shafer discuss how smaller houses are changing lives and the environment for the better, Oct. 9, 7pm, Meeting Room A • "Now, Before, After" • Michael Fox: They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers by Loung Ung, part of 2002 All Johnson County Reads the Same Book project, Oct. 9, 7pm • Oct. 15, 25, Meeting Room A • "Learn about New Pioneer Recovery Plan and Member Open Forum," Oct. 10, 12-1pm, Meeting Room A • "The Kitchen Garden," presented by Linda Naeve, Second Sunday Garden Forum series, Oct. 13, 2-4pm, Meeting Room A • "Brown Bag Discussion with Gustav Murin, Oct. 15, 12pm • Celebrating Clean Water—A Discussion," Robin Middlemis-Brown, district chief, US Geological Survey, will discuss the Clean Water Act and local monitoring work,
Von Miller, USGS hydrologic technician, will then present a real-time demonstration of resources available on the US Geological Survey's webpage, Oct. 15, 2pm, Meeting Room A. "Para-Literary Careers," International Writing Program panel discussion, Oct. 16, 3:30pm - IWP director Christopher Merrill, speaker, Oct. 22, 12pm - "Images of America," IWP panel discussion, Oct. 23, 3:30pm - IWP panel discussion, Oct. 30, 3:30pm.

International Center
UI campus, Iowa City
Don't Rabinian, speaker, Oct. 14, 12pm.

Iowa Killed Buddy Holly
Hall Mall, Iowa City
"5 Epicureans," poetry reading featuring Margaret LeMay, Scott Draggo, B.C. & Marco Maisto, plus artwork by J.C. Jogerst (see Art), Oct. 17, 6:30-9pm.

The Java House
211 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 341-248-0338
KSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays at 10am

Kirkwood Community College
Iowa Hall Gallery, 6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, 398-4956
Gallery talk with artist Virginia Myers, Oct. 10, 6pm.

Medical Education and Biomedical Research Facility
UI campus, Iowa City
Artist's talk by John F. Simon Jr. in the Auditorium followed by reception near the artwork, Channels, a 116-foot long wall incorporating six large plasma screens, Oct. 10, 4pm.

New Media Poetry: Aesthetics, Institutions and Audiences
Third-Annual International Writing Program Festival, Oct. 11-12, begins 8:30am each day, various locations, 335-4105
Focuses on poetry composed for digital environments, featuring some of the leading writers and critics in this field, http://www.uiowa.edu/iwp/newmedia/index.html for info.

Old Brick
26 E. Market St., Iowa City

Prairie Lights
15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2681
All 8pm (unless otherwise noted)
Poets Tara Muhammad Ali, Aharon Shabtai and Peter Cole, Oct. 3 • International Writing Program/Writer's Workshop reading. Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, 5pm • UI Workshop grad Susan Power, fiction, Oct. 7 • Daniel Mason, fiction, Oct. 8 • Lance Olsen and Harold Jaffe, cutting-edge fiction, Oct. 9 • Stephanie Strickland, hypertext poet, Oct. 10 • Deborah Magpie Earling, Native American fiction, Oct. 11 • Mark Spragg, fiction, Oct. 14 • Daniel Weissbort, 6:30pm; Michel Faber, 8pm; poetry and fiction, Oct. 15, 7pm • Brian Jacques, children's author, Oct. 17, 4-7pm • Antonio Jose Ponte, Oct. 16 • Harvest Lecture Prairie Poets, Oct. 17 • Pura Lopez-Colome, Oct. 22 • Robin Schiff and Lisa Lubasch, poetry, Oct. 23 • John McCain, Oct. 25, 7pm, Buchanan Auditorium • Doug Powell and Matthew Cooperman, poetry, Oct. 28 • Aleksander Hemon, Oct. 29 • Alex Shakar, fiction, Oct. 31.

Shambaugh Auditorium
UI campus, Iowa City
"Students Against Sweatshops: Student Activism and the Corporate University," lecture by journalist Liza Featherstone, Oct. 9, 7pm.

Shambaugh House
UI campus, Iowa City, 335-0128
International Writing Program readings, Oct. 4, 18, 25, 5:30pm

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

Uptown Bill's small Mall, 401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Open House for the Bill Sackter Documentary, filmmaker Lane Wyrick is making a documentary about the life of the late Bill Sackter. The public is invited to participate by bringing anecdotes and mementos of Sackter. Oscar and Emmy award-winner Barry Morrow will join national entertainer Jack Doepke and locals Rabbi Portman and Tom Walz for storytelling at 3:30pm, Oct. 20, 2-5pm.

EVENTS/FESTIVALS

Clarion Hotel
525 33rd Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids
ICON 27, science fiction convention, Oct. 18-20, www.mindbridge.org/icon/

Coe College
1220 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, 399-8581
29th Annual International Cultural Show, Oct. 5, 7pm, Sinclair Auditorium.

Paul Engle Center for Neighborhood Arts
1600 Fourth Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580.
Paul Engle Birthday Party, open house with music, poetry, cake, Oct. 13, 2-5pm.

UI Museum of Art
150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727
Octoberfest at the UIMA, beer-tasting, grilled picnic dinner, music, Oct. 11, 6-9pm.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Center for Learning in Retirement
Room 201, 28 S Linn Street, Iowa City, 356-5214
New lifelong learning program offers classes and workshops for people 50 and over in the eastern Iowa area. Six-week course, "What's a Chair?", beginning Oct. 4, fourth week health course begins Oct. 23, call to sign up.

Missing Peace Galerie
620 S. Dubuque, Iowa City, 248-0338
Candle-making class needs eight students to set date, call gallery. Anyone interested in bookmaking, screen-printing, drop-in drawing classes or a book club, call gallery.

Theatre Cedar Rapids
102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592
SPLASH Theatre Arts Classes, children 6-11, Saturdays, Oct. 5-Nov. 2, 12:30-3pm, call to register, class descriptions available at www.theatrecrc.org.

MISC

Critical Mass
Last Friday of each month, Iowa City Ped Mall
A gathering of bicycle riders to promote alternative modes of transportation, 5pm.

IC Public Library
123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200
Kids Chess Tournament, grades third through sixth, ribbons, trophies and refreshments, Oct. 5, 12pm, Meeting Room A.

Lives Worth Living
Oct 26, Pinicon Ridge State Park, Central City, 393-9579.
Day-long gathering for gay and bisexual men, co-sponsored by Legion Arts, Gay & Lesbian Resource Center and Rapids AIDS Project, 10am-5pm.

Paramount Theatre
123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888
Bob Newhart, comedian, Oct. 24, 7:30pm.

FILM

101 Becker Communication Studies Bldg.
UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1348
FORECAST FOR OCTOBER 2002 • BY DR. STAR • Write Dr. Star at doctorwinkler@home.com

LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22) Librans will remain comfortable and secure in their seats, undisturbed, as others complain loudly about how badly the boat is rocking. They will see progress in every area of their lives: partnerships, business concerns, creative projects, travel, and the expansion of spiritual and intellectual horizons. There will be quick and bright progress or the resolution of longstanding issues and the removal of once-stubborn obstacles. Do not allow private annoyance or impatience over remaining difficulties to spoil the experience. If you are worried about spending too much, tighten the purse strings a little.

SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21) You recently experienced prolonged pressure to build a more sound, secure and realistic financial base and you have responded appropriately to those pressures, with beneficial results. You might experience some worry or irritation as the big financial issue raises its head again. And, as you know, some money issues are still unresolved. However, October will bring significant progress on a broad range of financial issues, positively affecting your economic situation. Family issues may cause worry, but something you do behind the scenes, or within your own mind, will help considerably.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19) Your work and financial situations will put a damper on travel plans or any other plans you might have had to expand your horizons. This might not really be the right time for it, anyway. If, despite this restlessness, you are willing to take on a few extra duties or put in a few extra hours at work, even if the boss is being impatient and unreasonable and even if it does get you more than a little bent out of shape, you will find that the rewards are substantial.

ARIES (March 21–April 19) A mix of progress and delay, hope and impatience, faith and worry await the Rams in October. Limited opportunities for self-expression and career on the local scene might bring delay and impatience. However, investments, romance, creative projects at a distance, and partnership matters will all progress, produce rewards and inspire hope for the future. The wisdom of past decisions will become apparent, even as you are allowed to go back and revise them. Overall, lots of stuff will work out very well. You can keep things on fast-forward.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20) It will be necessary to dig a little deeper and do a little more figuring in areas you thought would allow quick and easy progress. And those in charge will probably continue to give you reason to worry—if you are so inclined. However, you will find it easy to go back and revise whatever agreements might need revising. You can also expect great leaps forward in financial and work areas. These highly beneficial developments should provide whatever you need to clear any hurdles. Love and care will be rewarded.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20) October will be a month of contrasts. Something important in your life is very likely to cause some level of impatience and irritation this month. However, the pressure will ease up considerably before worse comes to worst. There will be time to go back and make revisions. On the upside, many positive, long-term trends will solidify, laying the groundwork for future progress. Financial and partnership matters will come together in very beneficial ways. Inspiration and motivation will also be very high. Shoo off fears and misgivings at month’s end.

CANCER (June 21–July 2) I understand why many Cancerians might feel as if they are standing on the edge of an abyss, unable to back away and at risk of falling in. In all likelihood, your job or livelihood is the source of any worry. However, the arrangement of the planets this month practically guarantees that your worst fears will not materialize. In fact, they foretell second chances, positive resolutions and wholesome personal adjustments. They also indicate that you will get over a hurdle you have been trying to clear for many, many months.

LEO (July 23–Aug 22) You will be feeling elevated levels of frustration with your private, personal limitations as you are challenged to delve more deeply into the issues that hold you back. However, as an aid and inducement, the stars plan to fulfill some of your fondest wishes. They will bring a burst of progress on projects you’ve been working on for some time. Romance, friendship and creativity are especially favored. Toward the end of the month, troubling partnership issues will require close attention. All in all, though, quite a good month for Leo.

VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22) You will be experiencing welcome rewards and successes even as you encounter more resistance over longstanding issues this month. Some of the rewards will be intangible; some will be tangible. All of them will be quite substantial. Once again, work, career and professional areas appear to be the source of the rewards and the aggravations. However, the positives will far outweigh the negatives. When it is over, you will find yourself with a much more solid economic footing in the community. Don’t allow worry to affect health or morale.
Does Iowa City hate you?
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this area and the others studied is that this area...is the central area of contention in a small/cultural economic clash of interests.

In our interview, Thompson summarizes even more succinctly: "It's a war zone between the people who sell ceramic figurines and the bars. The perception of the city government, and particularly the police, is that they've been given a mandate to do this."

Champion spins the data a bit differently than Thompson, disagreeing with his assessment of a powerful police force eager to issue fines. In her mind, the police serve a civic function, arresting only those who draw attention to themselves by engaging in problematic behavior under the influence. "Yes, there is a crackdown," Champion asserts. "But it's certainly not a crackdown on the students. We got a report from the police department...one weekend there were something like 42 public intox arrests. It listed why they were arrested, and it's not just because they were drunk. Three or four of them had fallen down on the sidewalk and could not get up. Four were involved in a robbery. Four or five of them were involved in vandalism. Four or five of them were involved in a fight." Champion directed me to the Iowa City Police Department website (http://www.iowa-city.org/police), to look at the public intox pickups. I lack Thompson's patience with data analysis, but I followed her suggestion, analyzing the most recent weekend, Aug. 16-17.

Champion notes that alcohol isn't arrested for their drunkenness alone. Her observation is correct—and, in the context of a debate over underage drinking, entirely irrelevant. There were many arrests for egregious drunken behavior. There were, however, remarkably few egregious drunks under the age of 21. Forty-three individuals under 21 were picked up over this sample weekend. Thirty-seven youths were picked up for simple PUA. Two were picked up for public intoxication, without any other associated charges. Three underage drivers were charged with driving while intoxicated, but there's no indication that they became intoxicated in a bar.

Only one underage criminal lent credence to Champion's proposed ordinance: an unfortunate young man who criminally urinated on a South Dubuque Street lawn. Perhaps, if the age for bar admission were raised, at enormous expense to the city's tax base, that innocent lawn might have been spared.

Kanner's stated response to the alcohol "problem" mirrors his response to the task force recommendations, favoring decriminalization instead of more stringent enforcement. "I don't think that's the answer. I think it would be nice to get back to 18 as a drinking age," he muses. "If we're going to consider people adults, we give them adult responsibilities, including allowing them to drink alcohol if they like, or for that matter, other drugs which we should be legalizing. Certainly marijuana. We should legalize." Iowa City's rebirth as the "Amsterdam of the Midwest with a Really Big Mall" seems unlikely; student mobilization against draconian measures against underage drinking, fortunately, does not.

"Animals in our backyard"
I'm skeptical of any governmental agency that undertakes a mission to protect individuals from themselves. One argument, however, seems difficult to deny when translated from euphemisms and civic codes: young people in Iowa City can be annoying idiots.

An undergraduate shouting out the window of his SUV or vomiting on my shoes doesn't threaten me, and I don't particularly need the council to intervene and protect me from his presence. I'm crusty enough, though, that he will offend my aesthetic sensibilities.

Bill Francis, a 30-year-old piercer at the Hall Mall's Atomic Piercings, doesn't fit any '50s sitcom mold of respectability. His head is shaved bald and he has multiple facial piercings. As a downtown businessman catering to a heavily collegiate demographic, students pay his rent and bills. Still, he's lived in Iowa City for eight years and he's old enough to feel the crust.

"I worry, because this is my town," Francis says. "I don't go to school here. I live here. I rely on the students, but, at the same time, I begrudgingly put up with them. Some of them are really nice kids, but a lot of them want to come in and eat away at our town for four or five years, and then bail. If college kids aren't throwing up all over the place and if 19- and 20-year-old college students weren't getting drunk and getting into trouble, the city wouldn't be hovering over them all the time. But it's hard to explain that to someone who goes off to college and is told by their parents and friends that it's time to cut loose for four years and just be an animal."

"Unfortunately, they're being animals in our backyard."

Dee Vanderhoof encourages me to visualize the downtown after a particularly hectic Saturday night. "We've put millions of dollars into beautifying the downtown," she complains. "It's sickening if you get there on Sunday. You find where people have vomited, you smell urine, you smell feces. It's kind of sad to spend all of those dollars to make it nice." I'm unsure, though, that an immaculately sterile downtown of glass and high rises appeals much more.

Francis envisions a third, considerably more dire scenario. "I think it's going to stay the same, or get worse, on the part of the younger generation, deciding 'you're not going to tell us what to do,'" he predicts. "It's not uncommon in college towns for there to be annual riots. I would say the best thing they can do for the downtown area, from a city standpoint, is just take away anything that's big enough to throw, and just see if you can contain it."

There's a certain appeal to Francis' vision of violence. I take some guilty pleasure in the prospect of students responding to an exclusionary process by igniting dumpsters and hurling a new kind of cocktail special. Ultimate, though, I'm not disillusioned enough with Iowa City's local politics to root for this kind of direct action. Short of that, though, even from the most determinist perspective, the economics of downtown commerce and simple mathematics of Iowa City's population seem to dictate against restrictive solutions in the long-term.

The downtown is rife with bars for a simple reason: They make money. Bar owners have the resources to conduct registration drives, and the savvy to "advertise" the political process to their young adult patrons. If pushed far enough, this economically powerful group may well prove politically powerful to contest.

Young voters' willingness to defend their own welfare absent prodding by self-interested businessmen is less certain. The smug pronouncements of the task force may well have been the only trigger that could convince youthful apartment dwellers to, in the words of student and small business owner Leah Galey, "do anything but sit around and bitch." Everyone claims (with so many residents) to be delighted at the prospect of some renewed political passion among the young. Iowa City's university population gives the town its distinct flavor. If that population were to actually wake up from its slumber, a cultural and political renaissance might be something other than a venerable piece of Iowa City mythology.
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