

March 1988

## New Expression: March 1988 (Volume 12, Issue 3)

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# EXPRESSION

The Magazine of Youth Communication  
Chicago

**NEW**

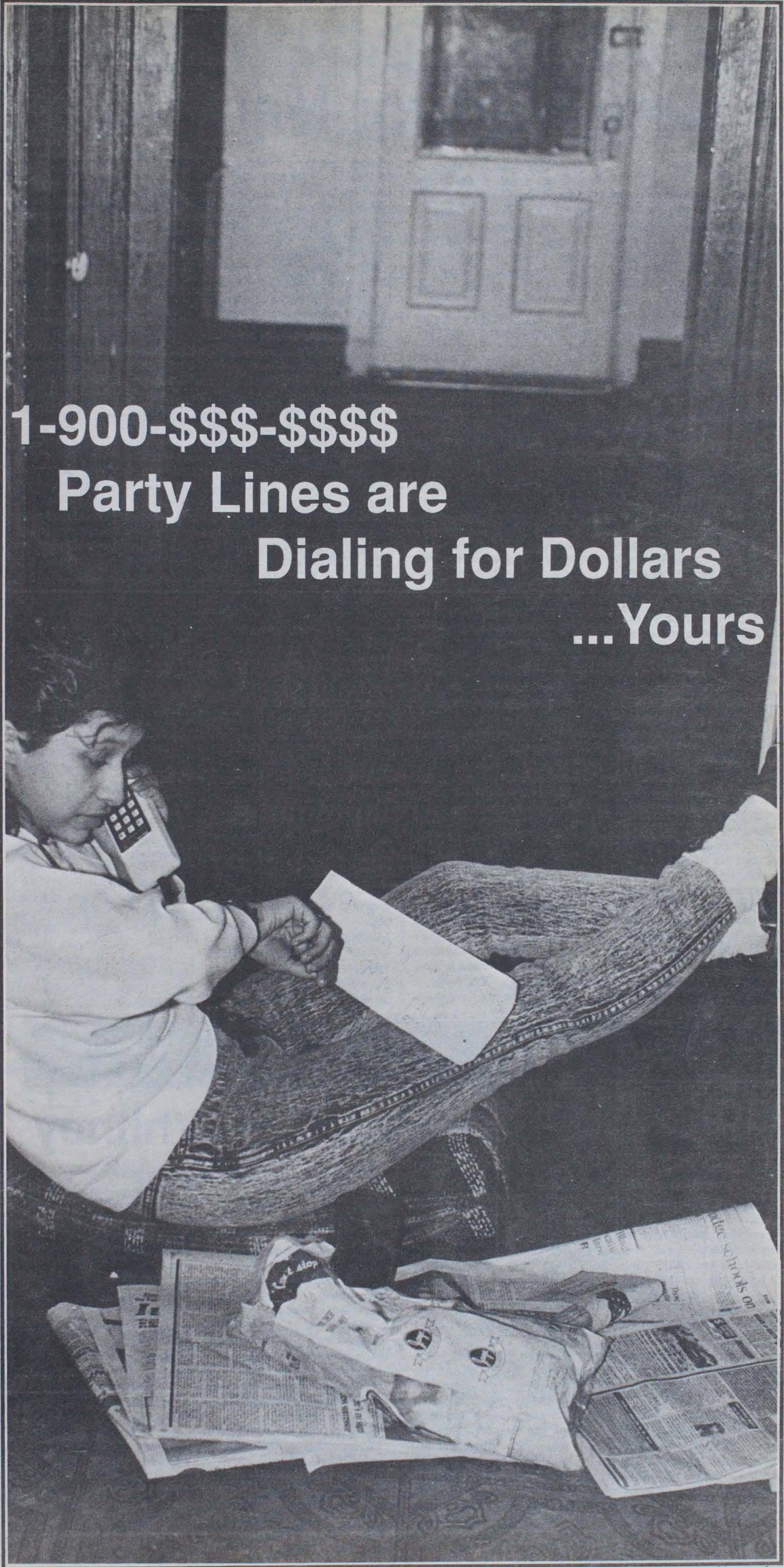
March  
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No. 3

## INSIDE

Teens find friends, alternative schooling, and psychiatric care at Thresholds. **See Page 2.**

Are your counselors always unavailable when you need to find out about applying to college? Find out how you can become a college peer counselors and help your friends on **Page 11.**

Morris and wife start a new Day with "Day-dreaming" while Spike Lee dazzles with School Daze! It's all in our Entertainment section starting on **Page 15.**



1-900-\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$  
Party Lines are  
Dialing for Dollars  
...Yours

Photo by George Marraquin

## A New Start for Mentally Ill

By Lenise Hightower

For years the mentally ill have been depicted as dangerous social discards, posing a threat to themselves and to others. That image does not hold up to objective appraisal, however. "Only one-half of one percent of the mentally ill are dangerous," said Mary Wessel, director of education and principal at Thresholds School.

Thresholds is a psychiatric rehabilitation center founded in 1959 to help the mentally ill cope with everyday life. One of the agency's most recent initiatives has been a program to work with psychologically impaired young people. It's been reported by the American Psychological Association that the number of teenagers admitted to private psychiatric institutions has risen 400 percent in the last five years. Thresholds' "Young Adult" program is an effort to meet that growing need.

This program helps young people between the ages of 16 and 21 who wish to continue their education in an environment less stressful and more supportive than they would normally experience in a regular school.

"There are at any time about 60 to 65 young adults in our program," said Wessel. "Some are here to get their high school diplomas or obtain the skills to get their GED, but others have done that, and are just here for vocational training."

Barry (not his real name) is part of the "Young Adult" program. He is 20 and has participated in this program for almost three years. Barry came to Thresholds to get his high school diploma and some vocational training. At the time he talked to **New Expression** he was preparing for a job interview at a record store. He had gotten that interview through Thresholds' placement program.

"I'm looking forward to hopefully getting this job," said Barry, "because I've been waiting quite awhile for an opportunity where I can be on my own."

Barry explained he had reached the point where he believed it was time to find out if he could function outside Thresholds' supervised job program.

That program teaches participants to cope in the work place. Upon successful completion Thresholds' clients are hired by various businesses which have previously agreed to "test" their abilities.

The participants are initially hired in groups. Once they have proven themselves, they move on to individual placements where they get to work on their own.

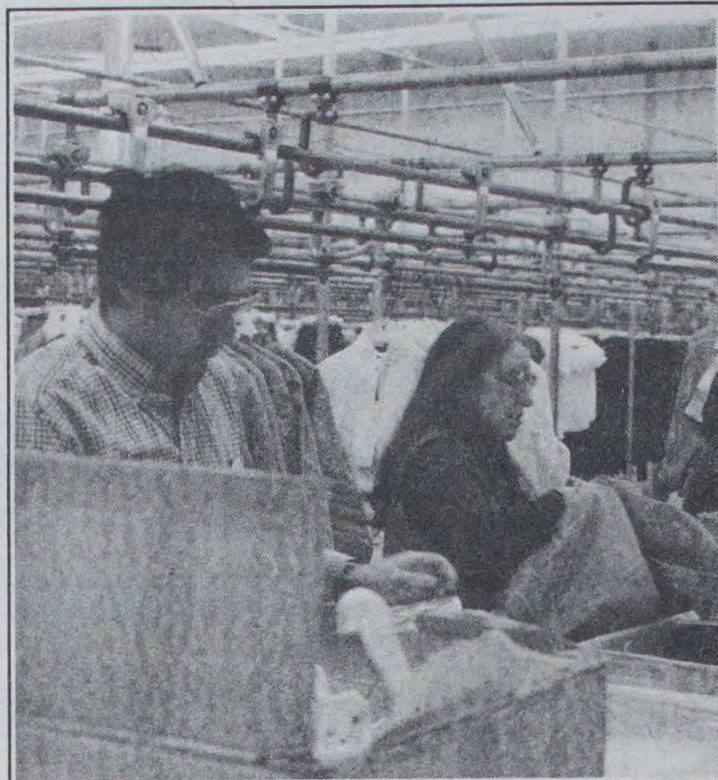
According to Wessel, the average profile of a student in Thresholds' "Young Adult" program is an 18 year old, who may or may not have a high school diploma, who has been hospitalized for psychiatric reasons two to three times, and who is probably on medication to control symptoms of mental illness. "And they are all volunteers," she said. "They all want to be here."

Students are referred to Thresholds either by their school district, or from a department of rehabilitation services counselor, psychiatrist or psychologist. They then go through an intake process to see if their needs and what the program offers is a match.

"At Thresholds they give you the tools to help you build your self-esteem," said Barry, "but it's up to you to get your own self-esteem."

"If I hadn't come to Thresholds I think I'd probably still be living at home. I might be working, but I don't think I'd feel too good about it, and I don't think I'd feel as good about myself as I do know."

"I wouldn't be surviving at the



Students at work in one of Thresholds' supervised job training programs. After a short time the students will be allowed to begin working independently.

level I wanted to survive. I would basically be more of a loner than I am now."

According to Jay Douglas Forman, assistant director at Thresholds, the agency has five basic goals. Prevention of unnecessary hospitalization is the first goal.

"Everytime you go back into a hospital it disrupts your life," he said.

The second goal is finding jobs since society tends to identify people by what type of work they do.

Socialization is another goal. "We teach people how to integrate into a work force and with society," said Forman.

"Slowly we teach members to become more responsible and self-reliant with independent living. Members have a choice of living at a variety of housing fa-

cilities, either group housing or independent housing."

The next goal is education. Forman said that it is important to have Thresholds' clients finish their high school education.

"One of my goals is to be working full time," said Barry. "Another is to get my own apartment and hopefully to go back to (col-

(continued on page 7)

"Straight Talk" is a **New Expression** feature designed to answer the real questions you have about sex, health, or just about yourself.

If you have any questions for "Straight Talk," or even just some ideas, or comments for our "Health and Sexuality" page, send them to **New Expression** c/o Lenise Hightower, 207 S. Wabash, Chicago, IL. 60604.

## Inside Track

### AIDS Poster Disputed at Whitney

By Alison McKenzie

AIDS awareness became a controversy recently at Whitney Young High School when several students petitioned for the removal of two "AIDS Awareness" posters that they considered anti-homosexual. The posters were among a group of posters warning about AIDS that were put up by students on the wall of the school's Microbiology room under the supervision of Al Williams, a microbiology teacher.

Josh Warner, a senior at Whitney Young, who organized the petition drive, said, "I believe the message the posters sent was not to tell teenagers to be careful about AIDS, but to not be homosexual."

"One of them says 'A Man and

a Woman make Love, a Man and a Man make AIDS.'

"I felt that it wasn't up to the school to tell kids what to do with their lives. It would be up to the kids and their parents."

"I didn't feel he was doing it to be intentionally mean, it just wasn't true, so me and a few of my friends decided we would petition to try to get them taken down."

Djar Horn, a junior at Young who signed the petition said, "He was saying some things that were totally wrong. Last year he had one up that said 'God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve,' and they took that one down. This guy's got a doctorate and he has this whole philosophy about AIDS that is just wrong."

The petition, which was signed by 45 people including two

teachers, was sent to the principal, Powhatan Collins, who agreed to talk to the teacher. But the posters remained until Warner's parents came to the school to complain. The posters were removed the next day.

Williams, the teacher in charge of the posters, said he felt the students had a biased complaint. Williams said the students weren't concerned about the nature of the project, which was to inform people about how AIDS is transmitted and raise student consciousness about the seriousness of the disease.

"They (the posters) were basically paraphrasing what was in the (AIDS prevention) literature. The posters were the expressions of the microbiology students. They phrased it through reading scientific literature.

"The petitioners were probably ill-informed because they empathize with homosexuals. I wonder how they would feel if they actually read the materials themselves. I feel it's dangerous to sacrifice people's health and safety because someone is offended by the term homosexuals," said Williams.

According to a spokesperson at the Board of Health, there is no medical basis for the idea that homosexuals are the cause of AIDS, although they make up the largest percentage of AIDS cases. Also, according to a Board of Education spokesperson, there is no official Board of Education policy about displaying posters in schools. Determining the appropriateness of material displayed in schools is left to the discretion of the principal.

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## When Getting a 'C' Means Going to Jail

By Cassandra Chew

"I feel that Katic owes me," said Harry Bohlke, a teen who lives in Hammond Indiana. Bohlke was referring to Hammond City Court Judge Peter Katic who sent him to jail for violating the terms of a controversial court policy Katic has instituted.

Under the policy, if a teen is found guilty of committing an alcohol or traffic related offense he will be placed under court supervision for one year. In addition the student has to do community service, is under a curfew, and is required to take drug tests at random. The aspect of the policy that has attracted the most attention however, is Katic's requirement that students must have no grade lower than a "C" in all subjects.

Katic was unable to be reached for comment, but according to Michael Malorian, Hammond City's Chief of Probation, Katic saw about 85 teens from ages 16 to 18 last summer on alcohol

related offenses. It was this large number of youths that prompted him to enact the sentencing policy.

The policy has not been uniformly accepted by Hammond's teaching professionals, however. David O'Dickson, Hammond High School superintendent, said, "Why send teens to jail for these offenses when we don't send adults to jail for committing these same offenses."

Hammond High Principal Casel White is not opposed to what Katic is trying to do, but he feels that assigning the grade of C to all students was not fair.

"Not everyone can make a C," he said.

White said that Katic had not met with the Hammond City School Board prior the enacting his policy.

According to Malorian, Katic did not want the principals and teachers to know about the policy. "He wanted the students to put forth effort. He didn't want the teachers to just give students

grades. He wanted the grading system to be fair," Malorian said.

According to White, however, Katic's policy may be backfiring. White said that teachers have come to him asking what to do when students who need C's to stay out of jail, confront them.

According to Malorian, Katic makes allowances for students who have learning disabilities or students that are mentally retarded. He also said that each student is treated as a separate case. "Each student has to come back before Judge Katic to discuss their progress," he said.

"Not all of the students have gotten a C in all of their classes. We look at the students' behavior to see if they have put forth effort," he said.

"If the student has gotten a D in a class, but his attendance to the class and the teachers' comments show that he has put forth effort in trying to get good grades, then the Judge won't just throw them into jail," he said.

When asked what results have been observed since the new

policy, White said, "It (is) not making a great impact, but there has been some positive change."

Michael Malorian feels the same way. He said that in a few cases, the policy was helping. "In some students, there have been improved grades and a better outlook on life."

Bohlke, the student who says Katic "owes him" because of his experience with the sentencing policy, may not agree. Bohlke and two of his friends were "having fun" the day before Halloween in 1986. One of Bohlke's friends got five cans of his father's beer out of the refrigerator. Then they climbed a church. While they were on the roof, the police arrived.

"We tried to get away, but they were all around us. They immediately smelled the beer on us."

Bohlke spent eight days in Lake

County Jail before his boss, Max K. Blackly, owner of a steel company, got him out. Blackly paid for his lawyer.

After he got out of jail, Bohlke's school would not let him back in because he missed eight school days. "They knew that I was in jail, but they didn't make any allowances."

Bohlke said that his Mom was really mad. He feels that the sentencing policy was the "dumbest thing."

Bohlke, who just turned 18 last month, hasn't graduated from high school yet. Now he works for Blackly's steel company, 70 hours a week.

He plans on becoming a plumber and a pipemaker. "I'm making the money I need to make. Soon, I'll be making \$45 an hour," he said.

Bohlke has no plans of returning to high school.

## CSC Meet Draws Few Students: Delegates Discuss Motivation Dilemma

By Sonia Orfield

Improving delegate motivation was at issue when North Side members of the City-wide Student Council (CSC) met earlier this month at Lane Tech. The meeting began a half hour late with 14 out of 54 members present.

The meeting was called to order by Co-Secretary, Maria Figueroa of Lincoln Park. She and Parliamentarian Reginald Redmond were the only members of the executive committee present. Olga La Luz, the adult coordina-

tor for the North high school CSC, saw this lack of attendance as a measure of commitment within the council. Concerns voiced during the meeting about the council itself, included increasing attendance, involvement, and motivation. Redmond of Kelyyn Park wants to see "more backbone" in the district.

He said the council should function as a "problem shooter," but would "like the students in the district to know what they're up against." Redmond said the council was established to serve

every student in the district. However, he said, that if the delegates aren't concerned enough to show up for council meetings, there is little the CSC can accomplish. According to Redmond, the North Side meetings were at least valuable as a means to "weed out the undesirables who don't want to be here and to work."

Figueroa, said the basic problem was motivation. Improving security and school spirit is one way to increase motivation, she

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## Asbestos Poses Problem

By Terrell Johnson

Chicago public schools have a deadline to meet to remove all asbestos materials from their buildings. The Federal Government has mandated that asbestos must be removed or a plan for its removal developed by October 12, 1988. Bob Saigh, a spokesperson for the Board of Education, said, "We're going to have difficulty complying with the deadline.

"Most of the schools have asbestos in some degree," he said. But Saigh called the health hazard posed by the presence of as-

bestos a matter of "interpretation."

"Some people say asbestos is a hazard in whatever degree it is present," he said. According to Saigh, other health experts disagree about asbestos' threat. He emphasized that Chicago's schools fall within all city, state and federal guidelines regarding safe levels of asbestos.

Asbestos had been widely used as insulation for piping and heating. When the asbestos lining ages, however, it begins to break away in the form of tiny glass dust particles which can then be inhaled. People who work or study

in an area where asbestos is present increase their risk of getting lung cancer.

According to Saigh, the cost of completely removing asbestos from all of Chicago's schools would run into the "hundreds of millions."

"Most schools district in Illinois don't have the cash, including Chicago," he said.

Saigh added that unless money is allocated from the State Legislature, or otherwise raised through outside resources, it is unlikely that the Chicago Board of Education can afford the clean-up.

## PMRC Strikes Again

By Kathryn Beverly

Censorship of violent and sexually explicit lyrics continues to be an issue today, two years after the start of a conservative campaign to create a record rating system similar to the system already used to rate movies. The most recent effort threatens to expand similar controls to music videos, video cassettes and television programming.

In 1986, Tipper Gore, wife of Sen. Albert Gore, Jr., began a far-reaching campaign against suggestive lyrics on records. She appealed to record companies and parents in an attempt to reduce youth access to what she termed "offensive" material.

Gore was successful in getting some record companies, such as Geffen and Enigma, to either use warning labels or to start printing potentially offensive lyrics on album covers where they could be reviewed by parents.

A spokesman from Musicland called the "self-policing" that followed Gore's well-publicized efforts "effective and adequate." So far, he said, his company has received no complaints or concerns from customers.

In terms of videos and TV programming, Gore hopes to get companies to cluster violent and sexually explicit videos in the evening hours.

This suggestion has not been accepted by companies such as

MTV. Barry Kluger, vice-president of press and public affairs at MTV said, "Video music is a creative and expressive music and art form and is against any form of censorship." He said companies have standards which all material must meet, and that these standards are



satisfactory measures of acceptability for television.

Kamisha Gray, a Kenwood Academy sophomore said, "I think it's up to the artist on the video to decide what effect he wants his material to have.

"People shouldn't judge music by just their own standards."

According to one music industry executive, Gore's campaign has not been as successful as it was two years ago, due to reduced news coverage and a change in the public's attitude to such censorship. However, Gore and her husband—who is in the middle of a presidential campaign—plan to continue their efforts through a more moderate attack on the industry.

## College Bonds Offered

By Alison Mckenzie

The State Legislature provided a valuable boost for college-bound students when it recently issued its first order of Illinois College Savings Bonds.

According to Robert Mott, a vice-president at First National Bank, the bonds, which are free from federal and state income tax, are mainly geared for people of low middle income, about \$30,000 annually, or higher. The

bond is sold at a cost much lower than its face value.

The price of the bond depends upon when it "matures," the date buyers can cash them in. Mott explained, a \$5000 bond, maturing in five years would cost \$3,552.90 while a 20 year bond would cost \$1,020.65. When the bond matures, the buyer receives its full \$5,000 value.

Although the bonds do not have to be used toward college, Mott said, there is an added bonus of

\$400 if it is used toward an Illinois school. However, in order for a teenager to use the bonds for college, they should be purchased at least five years in advance because the earliest maturity date is 1993.

The majority of the first bond issue has already been sold out. Mott said, however parents and students should be on the lookout for the next issue which may take place later in the fall.

## Advanced Placement Cuts College Cost

By Taunya Cooper

To cut back on the cost of college or just to leave school earlier, many students are participating in the College Board Advanced Placement program. This program is taken all over the country and prepares high school students for college by testing them on the college level. There are 15 different subjects in which students are tested, including politics, computer science, mathematics, English, music, art and foreign languages.

The College Board gets high school and college faculty together to develop courses and examinations for the college

bound student. The exams are given in May and graded in June by a select group of teachers and professors. The grading is based on a number scale, one to five, with five being the highest grade. Students who get a three or higher on the exams can receive college credit. Last year, 68 percent of the grades on the exams were three or higher out of a total number of 364,616 taken in 1987.

Advanced Placement courses are challenging students in all kinds of schools, but it is growing more among schools serving blacks, Hispanics, and other minority students. The number of minority students taking college-level courses is at an all-time

high. Over the past four years the total number of participating students grew 47 percent. Of that number, Mexican-Americans increased 99 percent, blacks 83 percent, and Asian Americans 85 percent.

Students do many things with the extra time earned by taking Advanced Placement courses. According to the University of Texas at Austin, 14 percent of the students used the extra time earned by high school college-level credits to study abroad. Seventeen percent spent the time and credits earned to complete either two degrees in four years or to complete a double major.

## Diet Soft Drinks Linked to Teen Tooth Decay

By Perry Tran

Drinking diet soda may help control a growing waistline today, but tomorrow or a few years later it may impair eating abilities or even worse, ruin that Colgate-smile. And when that happens, there's no way back, you're in the "Denture Zone."

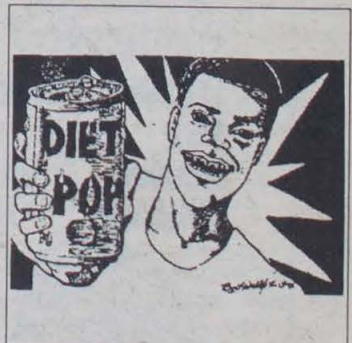
The Professional Journal of American Hygienists Association has seen an increase in the number of patients with enamel erosion and even complete tooth decay as a result of diet soda. According to the hygienists, the

process by which sugar is extracted from soda creates chemical elements in the pop which has an acid-like effect on tooth enamel.

Claudia Gonzalez of Whitney Young was disturbed by the news. "I'll stop (drinking diet soda)," she said.

Rebecca Rosen of Francis Parker was less concerned. "C'est la vie!" she said.

To avoid the rapid erosion of tooth enamel, Henry Saberman, D.D.S., suggests that diet soda drinkers swallow the soda rapidly rather than keep it in their



mouths. Saberman also suggests using a straw to avoid contact of the soda with the front of the teeth.

(Continued on Page 7)

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# Cover Story

## 'Hello...Is Anybody Listening?'

### Party Lines Don't Ring in with Local Teens

By Cassandra Chew

Party lines, new phone services that allow up to 10 people to talk on the same line at once, have become something of a phenomenon in national telecommunications. However, they are not making a big impression with local teens.

Eighty-one percent of the teens surveyed by New Expression say they never use the party lines. Many of the teens who reported that they have used the lines say that they stopped using them after a few phone calls. Teens reported that they simply could not afford to pay for the often expensive party lines.

"I've never wanted to use them; it's a waste of time and money," said Derrick Addams, 17.

"I don't use them because I feel I don't have to use them to get to know people," said Trinette Hudson, 17. Some teens do not share Hudson and Addams' feelings, however. Some have run up extremely high monthly phone bills. One Chicago teen used the lines so often his parents received a monthly bill of over \$2,000.

These teens are being exploited, according to one Chicago psychiatrist. Susan Rubenstein, a psychiatrist with Associates in Clinical Psychology, said that party lines are a financial exploitation of teens. She said talking among each other is something teens naturally like to do and something they may not always perceive in terms of how long they are talking.

"It may be difficult for a teen to think about how dollars are being used up. If they knew the costs per half hour instead of just by the minutes, they might think twice," she said.

Party lines rang in last June when Illinois Bell started their service, "Connections." Connections has two numbers, one for ages 16 and under and the other for older teens and adults.

According to Tim Bannon, spokesperson for Illinois Bell, when someone calls Connections, they hear a brief tape-recorded message letting them know that they have reached the party line, and how much it will cost: 20 cents for the first minute and 8 cents for each minute after.

"The caller is then bridged to a conversation. Connections can hold up to 60 conversations at one time," he said. A caller can call two times within one minute and be bridged to two different conversations, according to Bannon.

The other group in Illinois which provides party line services is 900 Service Corporation. According to Bannon, they have about 30 or 40 party lines for teens and adults which cost about a \$1 for the first minute and 50 cents for each minute after.

Several different "office" numbers for 900 Service Corporation led only to answering machines. Representatives from 900 Service Corporation did not respond

to repeated messages left on these machines in an effort to reach them for comment.

Officials from 900 Service Cor-

will switch off any customer they feel is speaking inappropriately.

It is unclear what monitoring is conducted with other party lines,

speaking to many people from Chicago on any of the lines. "Most of the teens were white guys from the suburbs. I only spoke to two

meeting them face to face," she said.

Psychiatrist Susan Rubenstein said that teens who make large numbers of calls to party lines may have social problems. "It could indicate someone who is lonely or shy and is reaching out to friendship in an indirect way," she said.

Rubenstein said party lines are not necessarily unhealthy for lonely or shy teens. "It's a good way for teens to practice social skills," she said.

However, Rubenstein said she would prefer that teens meet people face to face through community groups or organizations instead of just meeting on the telephone. She said in this way they can make real relationships where they will be able to observe the other people.

Marian Miller, 17, has a friend who has three-way calling and listens in a few times when he calls "Rapp Line." "They talk about each other, curse at each other and they talk about where they live and what they do," said Miller.

"One time a girl and a guy were talking to each other and they exchanged telephone numbers, got off the party line and on to the regular phone. Once I heard someone I knew, but they were going by a different name," said Miller.

Miller doesn't call the party lines often, but admits she may give them a try again. "I think that people only use party lines when they are bored and have nothing else to do, and we (she and her friend) were," said Miller.

Monica Frazier, 14, thinks that the party lines are great for meeting people. "I've met some of the people and dated some of the boys I talked to on the party lines," she said.

According to Frazier, her parents are not upset about her using the party lines and the highest bill they received for party line calls was \$58.

However, according to her sister, Tracy, 16, their mother, "cursed (Monica) out" and was very upset about their \$384 phone bill.

Shonda Gilbert, 17, used to call party lines. According to her mother, Charlotte Gilbert, the highest bill she received for party line calls was \$1500. "I can't tell you what I said to her," said Gilbert laughing.

"She's not using party lines, not on my phone," she said. Gilbert said that she hoped for "(her) daughters' sake" that Shonda wasn't using party lines any more.

Shonda Gilbert called the party lines every night before her mother intervened. "Every night the same people would be on the line and we would 'trip out,'" she said.

Shonda said she never realized how much money she was spending on the calls.

That is not until the phone bill came at the end of the month.

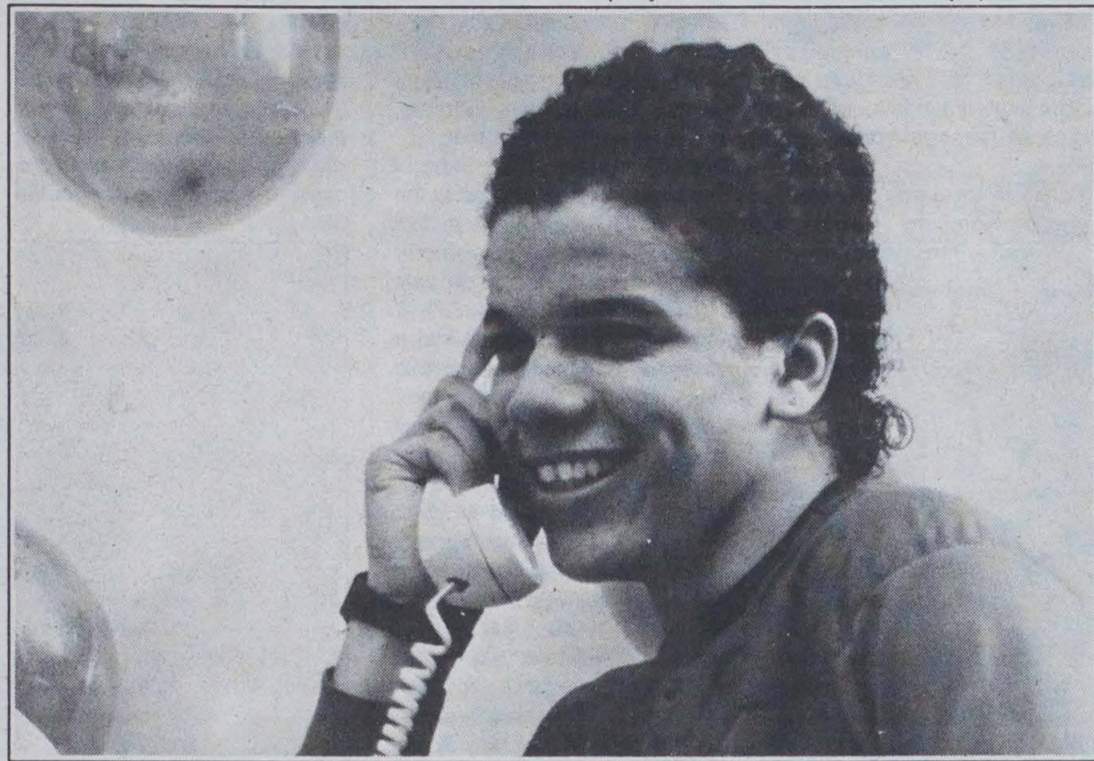


Photo by Alexander Chaparro

poration have good reason to screen their calls in this manner. Their company's services have been generating a lot of anger among the parents who pay the bills, but who can't always control their children's telephone habits. Parents have been complaining to Illinois Bell about the expenses and the "movement" has even attracted the attention of Operation PUSH, a civil rights advocacy organization.

Illinois Bell has responded by removing party line charges from bills, but only the first time a customer complains. Parents not satisfied with that measure will soon be able to block calls to 900 and 976 numbers, according to Bannon. Illinois Bell initially planned to charge parents \$25 to block the calls, but, bowing to pressure from parents and Operation PUSH, the company has agreed to offer the blocking free of charge. Bannon said that call blocking within the 312 area will be available in five weeks and state-wide in four months.

Rev. Willie Barrow is the national director of Operation PUSH. She was incensed by the party line phenomenon, describing the services as another bad influence for teens.

According to Vanessa Burford, Barrow's press secretary, Barrow was very concerned about the fact that teens would have access to explicit sex on pornographic lines.

"Call blocking will prevent children from being able to have access to these lines," she said.

Protecting the privacy of callers who will still have access to party lines is important at least to Illinois Bell. According to Illinois Bell spokesperson Bannon, Connections callers are not allowed to trade personal information such as telephone numbers and addresses, or use "abusive" language. Company "monitors" eavesdrop on conversations and

but teens who have used them report that they have been able to trade personal information and make dates over the lines.

Janice Johnson, 17, called a party line once because she "just wanted to see what it was like." When she called, she did not find the conversation or the people interesting. "I didn't say anything; they weren't really talking about anything either," she said.

Charlie Bonds, 16, used to call the party lines a month ago. "There would already be a conversation going on. I would say hello and introduce myself," he said.

Bonds called about five times and stayed on the line for about a minute each. His bill came to about \$5.10. He paid for his own calls.

Bonds feels that it was not worth his money. "The kids were acting rude; they wouldn't let me get into the conversation. If you want to meet people you can go to Evergreen Plaza and it won't cost you anything," he said.

Barbara Burfield, 16, called the party lines a few times but, she said, she will never call again.

"It's not worth it if you can't meet the people you talk to," Burfield said.

Burfield said one of her friends made a date with a girl that he met on the line, but the girl did not show up for the date. She said party lines cost too much money when you can simply meet people on the street. The charges for Burfield's calls came to about \$5 which she paid for herself.

Maria Hunter, 16, started calling the party lines last summer, when they first came out. She not only called Connections and the teen party line, but she also called other party lines such as the gay party line and adult party lines because she was curious about them.

Hunter said that she did not

teens from Chicago," she said.

Once Hunter called Connections 17 times in one day. "I wanted to talk to different people. Each time you call you get hooked up to a different conversation," she said.

The highest bill Hunter has paid for party line calls was about \$35. "I called 'Voices' which costs about a dollar a minute and stayed on the line for 25 minutes. Then I called the gay party line and listened in for about 10 minutes.

Nothing really interesting was being said so I got off the line," she said.

Hunter once felt that they were worth the money, but now she feels that party lines are a waste. "There are too many party lines now," she said.

Yvette Anderson, 17 called Connections about five or six times. "I think that it was worth the money; it's a way to meet people," she said.

Anderson doesn't call the lines any more because she lost interest in them. "I just wanted to see what they were like; they were entertaining for a while," she said.

Andersons' calls came to about \$2 per month.

Kenya Vaughn, 17, said that the reason he doesn't use party lines is basically the money. "I'd use them if they weren't so expensive," he said. Vaughn's feelings typified the attitude of most Chicago teens who responded to New Expression's survey.

Karen Griffin, 17, says party lines are "pathetic." "Party lines are for desperate people who have no friends. They are like singles bars—a last resort. There are natural ways to meet persons," she said.

Griffin feels that party lines are even worse than singles bars. "You don't know who or what you are talking to. You can get a better sense of a person by

# Prom Nights Provide Mixed Memories

By Michelle Porter

It's time for mom and dad to pull out the pocketbooks and dip into their savings account. In the weeks ahead teens are going to look in on several prospective prom dates and attire. Young ladies will have difficulties planning their prom dresses and accessories. Young men will be trying to figure out which car to rent, which party to attend and

During the 80's it is common to see couples in rented cars or limousines, but for my Mom transportation was a problem. "Our prom was located in Des Plaines and many students were upset because cars were not as available as they are today and adults were not in favor of loaning cars to teens going to the suburbs.

"I was told not to worry about the transportation, my date was

shown on the late night movie channels. Ten to one June Cleaver met her husband at their prom. How romantic it must have been luxuriating by the buffet, dancing in the moonlight, stepping on toes and being asked for your hand in marriage. My Aunt Emma Porter, nee Hatcher, could tell you all about that.

She went to Dunbar's prom in 1971 with Reginald Porter at the McCormick Hotel. She said, "We were too late to eat and the only thing we had time to do was dance and look at the lake." Their dancing in the moonlight had a lasting effect on their relationship because three years later they were married. June Cleaver would have been proud of them.

People often strive for the respect and admiration of their parents. But sometimes parents can become a little too much in terms of what they want you to do and how they want you to do it. Ask Carlos Patterson, a graduate of Dunbar in 1973.

His father—who was a minister—agreed to take him to his

was going out to eat dinner.

Joan Bruggers prom experience was something totally different from most Americans—which only makes sense since she was living in Japan at the time. Joan went to prom in 1973 at an international school. During that time, proposed new laws to make social conditions equal for men and women were being discussed in Japan and all over the world.

ing any of the guys." The majority of the girls made their dresses and wore little makeup, because it was considered uncool to dress up for prom. Think of how much money our parents would save if dressing up for prom were still considered uncool.

Lilian Hudson, a computer applications shop teacher at Dunbar Vocational, says that she didn't spend a lot of money on her dress at the 1961 Dunbar Prom.



Denice Porter, just before she took a ride in a "joke" to her 1968 prom.

whether or not to go to Wisconsin Dells.

Proms have always been hectic times for young people. Believe it or not even our parents were young once and had their own proms to agonize over.

My mother, Denice Porter, went to the Wendell Phillips High School prom in 1968. She says that it was a "highlight" of her life that she will always remember.

"It was the first time that I wore make-up and I could not believe that the person in the mirror was me," she remembered. She said that her dress was not expensive.

"It was my first formal (gown) and I paid about \$30 dollars for it. I really enjoyed looking for that dress.

"My prom date looked so nice. He was very popular on the basketball team and my best friend."

going take care of it.

"It was not until the couple that was riding with us and another couple that needed a ride came that I found out what we were riding in. That beat up, old gas guzzler was a joke and I prayed all the way to Des Plaines that the car would not break down or that anyone would see me get out of it."

At the Phillips prom of 1968 the "kids" enjoyed some live entertainment, a band called "The Crusaders," who at that time were really hot. The Crusaders are best known for "mellow jazz." Mom said their sound set a real romantic mood. It was this mood that influenced her prom date to propose marriage after the prom. She didn't accept that particular offer.

Prom and romance are sometimes linked in movies that are

*"It was the first time I wore make-up and I could not believe that the person in the mirror was me..."*

—Denice Porter

prom, but gave him only \$7 to spend that night. What kind of fun can you have with that kind of money? Patterson had a one word description for his prom—BORING!

Even though getting to his prom was not a problem, getting a date was. "I asked a girl that I liked and I felt she liked me, but she said that she didn't think I was really going to go.

"Then her best friend asked me if I was going and I told her that I did not have a date so we went together."

Due to his religious upbringing he was expected not to dance or indulge in the same things that many of his friends were doing like drinking beer or "fooling around" after the prom.

Patterson admits to dancing at the prom, but he was prevented from exploring any other "after-prom" activities because his sister and next door neighbor were waiting to pick him and his date up as soon as it ended. That was not the complete downpoint of the evening, unfortunately. On the ride home the car ran out of gas and he had to push it to the nearest service station while still clad in his rented tuxedo.

The only highlight he recalls



Lilian Hudson thought the 1961 Dunbar Prom was "very nice," but thinks proms these days are too commercial.

At Bruggers' school the result was a feud between the senior guys and girls about "Women's Lib." In Japan more attention is paid to male children, and they have more restrictive ideas of what women should be and what they should do. The girls at the international school who were not orientals were considered wild as a result.

"Since a lot of guys were orientals they decided not to ask the senior girls to the prom because of the arguments so the senior girls decided to go as a group and not wait for any of the guys to ask them," Bruggers remembers.

At that time it was unusual for a girl to go to prom without a date, but that didn't stop these girls. At Bruggers' prom they ate Sushi and danced to a live band.

"We (the girls) brought our own music and put it on without ask-

When asked if she thought her prom was all that she had anticipated she said, "Yes, I thought it was very nice."

Since becoming a teacher at Dunbar and attending the proms over the years, Hudson says she has noticed a major difference between recent proms and hers back when John Kennedy was in the White House. "I think prom has become more commercial and expensive," she said.

**New Expression** has a suggestion for teens interested in attending a prom for less than their school is asking: rent a hall and order several buckets of chicken, wear your best pair of jeans and Reebok, listen to Stevie Wonder and after you've had a great time, send us the \$200 that you saved as a thank you. Trust me, your parents and June Cleaver will be proud.

# CSC

(continued from Page 3)

said. "Without motivation you can't achieve power; I want us to have power," Figueroa said. "I want to make sure we, as students, have a voice and are heard."

"Are we going to be heard truthfully? Or is the board just going to nod their head and say, 'Oh, that's nice.'" According to La Luz, Figueroa has since resigned her position as co-secretary.

"Whether (CSC) works or not is up to the students," said La Luz. "(The students) have a great opportunity and if they don't go in there with a lot of commitment it's not going to work."

"This is a crucial time of change in our nation," said La Luz. "Students must be ready for challenges; they must be strong."

The council voted to reschedule the Lane meetings to the second and fourth Friday of every month from 3:30 to 4:30 pm. They were also given information about the District 31 (North Side) college fair which will be held at Lane on March 29.

The next order of business was to elect Treasurer Lauren Gusik of Mather along with a budget committee consisting of Alfonso Rodriguez and Robert Jenee. The budget committee and Treasurer discussed ideas to raise funds to produce the council newsletter. The budget committee wanted to hold district dances and sell tickets. Guzik approved this idea, but said that in the near future it would be more realistic to hold a raffle or sell candy, as a dance would require money to set up.

After some prompting delegates voiced concerns about problems in their school and were given suggestions by delegates from other schools. Many delegates were concerned about security. Students from Clemente said their had been a rash of locker break-ins at their school.

Students from Orr and Kelvyn Park suggested this problem be combated by the institution of a junior security guard or SCI (Student Criminal Investigators).

Some delegates were concerned with students not getting

the extra help they needed. Kelvyn Park's Redmond suggested that a tutorial service be provided by the honor role students during their free periods.

The next North Side CSC meeting will be held at Lane on March 25.

## Thresholds

(continued from page 2)

lege.)"

Mental illness is a disease in

which many of those afflicted suffer only minimal psychotic symptoms. Due to public stigmatization it is difficult for even those people to "come out of the closet" with their illness.

According to recent studies, most mental illnesses are caused by chemical imbalances which can be controlled by medications and not necessarily by childhood traumas as is popularly believed.

According to Forman, mental

illness is more widespread in society than people realize. He pointed out that comedian Johnathan Winters has had to be hospitalized for minimal types of mental illness.

"It shocked me at first how the mentally ill were viewed, that (the media was) only going to show the real severe cases," said Barry. "There are actually some people that are like that, but not all are like that. Most of them through medication or counsel-

ing get better.

"They can fit in, they can work and go to school, and they can live on their own. A lot of the people you meet are pretty cool."

According to Barry, he's had a lot of support from his family.

"They think it's a good thing for me going to Thresholds. They think it's helped me a lot and they've seen a lot of changes in me," he said.

"More changes than I've seen in myself."

# Newsbriefs

(Continued From Page 4)

## Mayor's Office Sponsors Summer Job Program

By Nancy Johnson

The Mayor's Office of Employment and Training administers a job placement program for youth. The Mayor's Summer Youth Employment and Training Program is designed for students who are economically disadvantaged.

Applicants must be Chicago residents between the ages of 14 and 21 with Social Security cards, and their families must meet income limits. The maximum income for three people in one family is \$10,440. Income can be raised approximately

\$2,400 for each additional family member.

Interested youth can apply at the approximately 25 intake centers which will be established throughout the city. At press time those locations had not yet been identified by the Mayor's Office. The program is tentatively scheduled to begin on April 11 and will continue as long as jobs are available.

Youths will begin working through the program at the end of June. For more information, contact the Mayor's Office of Employment and Training at 744-8787.

backs in federal support for education has led to a decline in the number of direct student grants.

As a result student loans are being substituted for student aid. Education experts say many blacks are not enrolling in college because they are reluctant to take out expensive college loans.

According to the American Council on Education's report many black high school graduates are entering trade schools, enlisting in the military or becoming unemployed instead of going to college. Last year 40.6 percent of 18 and 19-year-old black high school graduates were unemployed.

## Black Student Enrollment in College Declines


By Vecia Madden

A new study indicates that although more black students are graduating from high school, fewer of them are continuing their education in college.

The rate of blacks entering college has been going down since 1976, according to a report, "Minorities in Higher Education," released by the American Council on Education. Another report

from the Census Bureau noted that from 1976 through 1985, the percentage of black high school graduates who entered college dropped to 26.1 percent from 33.5 percent.

The NAACP's Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York blamed the problem on declining efforts by colleges and universities to recruit black students. The high cost of college is another major obstacle for blacks. Cut-



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# Retrospective

## Dear Diary...a 70's Coming of Age

By Michelle Banks

Sex.

It was the hottest topic back in 1977. As a senior at a predominantly black South Side high school, I can remember feeling uncomfortable whenever the subject was discussed in mixed company.

My friends and I were from established middle class black families whose parents wanted the best education for their kids—except for sex education, that is.

Sex was rarely, very rarely discussed in our homes. As a result, we only discussed it with our best friends.

Sex was something we knew you didn't have to be married to have. Yet, if you had sex (while in high school), you were saying, "I am committed to this person, and we are eventually going to get married."

If you decided to have sex, you better not get caught! Pregnancy was not acceptable. If you were pregnant, you were automatically an outcast in high school society, which consisted of books, parties and schoolboy crushes. And you were talked about (unfavorably, of course) by the guys, as well as the girls.

There was definitely a double standard where sex was concerned, but it was still acceptable for a girl to have sex—if she were discreet. To maintain this discreetness, she had to:

1. Protect herself from getting pregnant. Most girls did this by going to Planned Parenthood's "Teen Scene" where gynecological examinations by reputable doctors and consultations about various methods of birth control were provided. All was done in strict confidence. Parental consent was not necessary.

2. Act as if she were not having sex. In other words, she did not discuss her sexual activity with anyone except her boyfriend. If by chance there were rumors that the couple were having sex, she denied them. If

she became pregnant, she either had to have an abortion or left school to avoid gossip and al-

The following are excerpts from my personal diary during my senior year in high school. The

Dear Diary,

I can't believe it. Johnny fi-

Dear Diary,

Johnny came over. It took him a whole hour to get over here because of the snow. We hurried up and studied our French. Afterwards, we went to the den and watched "Sanford and Son." After seeing a Pearl Drops commercial, Johnny asked me if I polished my teeth because they were so white and pretty. Then he leaned over and kissed me.

I swear I heard bells. My mother must have heard them too because she stuck her head in the doorway of the den and told Johnny it was snowing harder. In her "Mother Knows Best" voice, she suggested that he leave before it took him two hours to get home. I swear, I was so embarrassed. As I walked Johnny to the door, he asked me to go with him. I can't believe it. Me go with Johnny! I swear, this is the happiest day of my life.

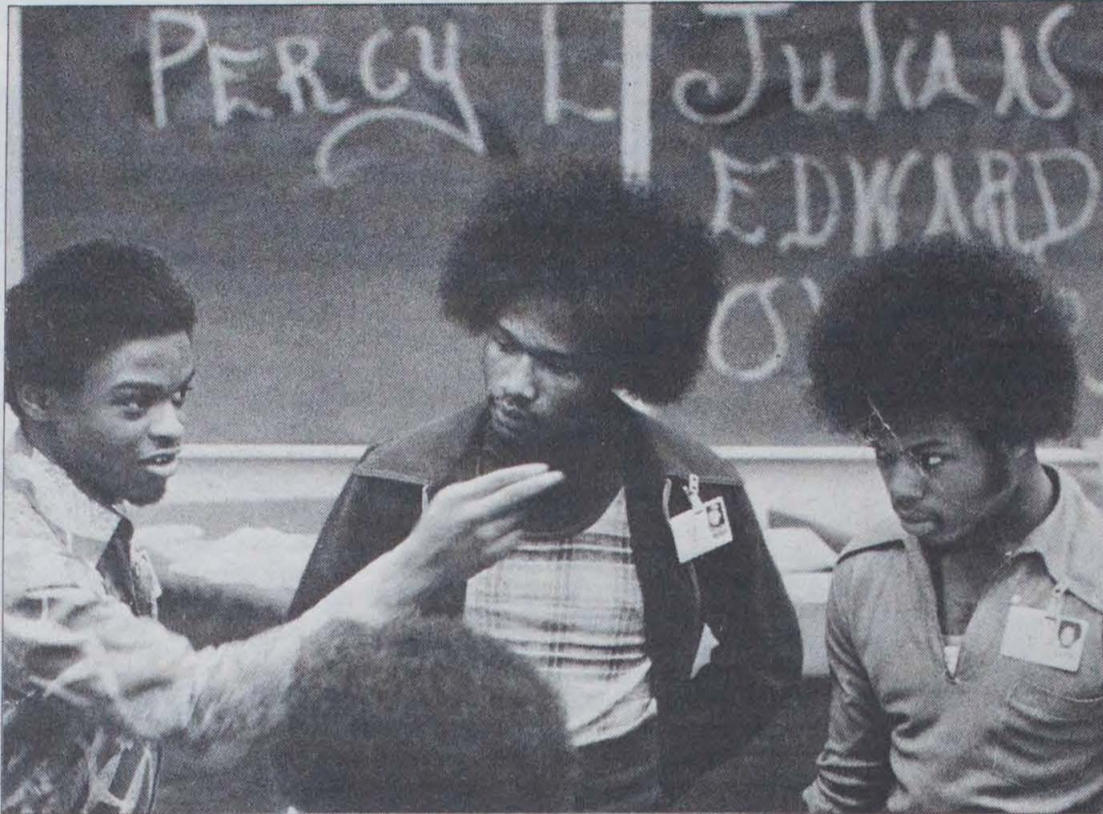
After Johnny left, I called Vanessa to tell her the scoop. We talked for three hours. She was having problems with Darryl again. I think he wants to have sex with her. Vanessa won't come out and admit that's what is wrong, but I'm pretty sure that's the problem.

Dear Diary,

Johnny got his natural cut into a shag. He looks so good. We went to the Evergreen Plaza this weekend and bought some "HIS and HIS TOO" t-shirts. We're going to wear them at the sock hop next week. Johnny bought me Stevie Wonder's new album, Songs in the Key of Life. He knows how much I love "I Wish."

Dear Diary,

I talked to Vanessa this afternoon. She said she was going over to Darryl's house to watch "Roots." I freaked out. My parents would never let me go over Johnny's. Anyway, I don't think his parents allow him to have girl



iation.

It was more acceptable for guys to have sex. However, it was not acceptable for them to be fathers. Girls did not like to talk to guys with babies. The reason was simple. He would always have ties with the mother, and that was too much to deal with.

During my four years at Lindblom, I knew of four pregnancies. Of the four students, one transferred to another school, one had an abortion, and the other two stayed in school and graduated on time.

The last two were courageous. Although no one said anything to their faces, the majority of the students were uncomfortable with their situation and excluded them from a lot of social activities. Other girls would no longer want to be seen joking or talking to them, even casually, for fear someone might think they were more than friends.

names have been changed because, as I stated before, we only discussed sex with our best friends and, of course, our diaries.

January, 1977

Dear Diary,

I went to the Plaza and bought some Coffee Bean lipstick, a nikk shirt and the Average White Band's Person to Person album (I love "School Boy Crush"). I watched "The Midnight Special" (K.C. and the Sunshine Band were on again). Vanessa called to tell how she hates Wolfman Jack's voice. I think she really called me to tell me that she and Darryl were back together again. She's so lucky to go with Darryl; he's the best looking guy in our senior class. I'm sure they are going to win "Best-Looking Couple" this year.

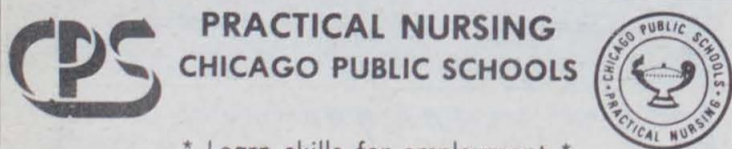
nally noticed me in French today. He asked me if I understood conjugating verbs. He also told me my nikk shirt was "bad."

Dear Diary,

Johnny waited for me after French today. He walked me to my locker. He told me he saw me coming out of the girl's gymroom in my gymsuit. He said I looked "foxy" in my gymsuit. Foxy? How can anyone look foxy in those drab powder-blue bloomers? (He must really like me!)

Dear Diary,

Johnny asked if he could come over tomorrow night and study for the French exam with me. Naturally, I said yeah. Next to Darryl he's the finest boy I know.



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# Retrospective

company. So, Johnny and I decided to call each other during the commercials!

Dear Diary,

Aside from "Roots," the major topic in the lunchroom is the Sock Hop on Friday. I feel sorry for Vanessa. She broke up with Darryl, and she's so depressed. Johnny said he had a cousin named Kenny who went to South Shore. He said Kenny seems like Vanessa's type. He's very popular, and I saw a picture of him, and he's fine too.

Dear Diary,

I can't believe it! Vanessa told me why she and Darryl broke up. She caught Darryl feeling all over Anita by the lockers last Friday. Anita is so fast. I hate her. She gives it up to every boy who wants some. I feel so sorry for Vanessa; she is too nice not to have a boyfriend.

I told her about Kenny, and she said that Kenny and Johnny could all come over Saturday afternoon because her parents were going to be gone for the weekend. It was just going to be she and her big brother at home. She's so lucky. My mother and father never go anywhere anymore.

Dear Diary,

The Sock Hop was wild. Johnny and I stepped in with our "HIS and HIS TOO" t-shirts. I swear, we looked so good. When "I Got Love On My Mind" by Natalie Cole came on, I noticed Darryl walk over to Vanessa and ask her to dance. I must admit they did make a cute couple. I have a feeling they are going to get back together.

Dear Diary,

I was right. Vanessa called me and told me she didn't want to meet Kenny anymore. Darryl told her he loved her. He also gave her a friendship ring.

Sunday, January 31

Dear Diary,

I asked my mother if Johnny could come over tomorrow and watch the Sylvers on the "Captain and Tennille Show." She said, NO!! I swear she is so cruel. I mean I'm 17 years old, and I can barely have boy company. Vanessa is so lucky. Her mother is so cool.

Monday, February 1

Dear Diary,

Johnny got a job at Jewel as a stock boy. He says now we can start going to concerts and stuff 'cause he'll have some money.

Dear Diary,

Today was "S\*W\*A\*T Day." All the seniors dressed up in army fatigues. I got mad at Johnny. I saw him talking to Anita who had on some skin tight fatigues. Vanessa said she must have poured herself into them. I agree.

Dear Diary,

I went into the girls' wash-room today, and Anita was in there smoking and playing cards. I overheard her say that Darryl came over to her house last night. I couldn't believe it! (Vanessa said everything was really good with Darryl). I don't know what to do. Johnny told me to stay out of it. But Vanessa is my best friend.

Dear Diary,

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day and an In-Service Day. I didn't tell my parents that I only had a half day of school because Johnny said he wanted to come over and give me my Valentine's Day present in private.

Dear Diary,

Johnny came home with me this afternoon. We ate Mickey D's in the kitchen and then we went into the den. Johnny started kissing me. It felt too good.

I don't know how long we had been kissing when I heard a key in the door. I couldn't believe it. It was my father! We tried to act as if we were watching TV. But I know I looked guilty because I felt guilty.

I immediately told my father we got out of school early. He was so cool. He said OK. Johnny was scared and left about an hour later.

After Johnny left, my father said, "I don't think it's a good idea to have boy company when no one's at home." I said, "OK," and that was it. He didn't even tell my mother. Oh, yeah, Johnny gave me "L'air De Temps" by Nina Ricci for Valentine's Day and a whole lot of things to think about.

Dear Diary,

I thought what happened to me was something! Vanessa said she and Darryl went to Planned Parenthood's "Teen Scene" for some "aspirin." I swear, I almost died. It was really traumatic for her. She said they both went, and she started crying on the way over there. She said everyone on the bus started staring at them because she was boo-hooing!

I feel sorry for her. I don't think she really wants to do it. She's going to because of Darryl. I never did tell her about what Anita said in the bathroom.

March, 1977

Dear Diary,

Johnny is acting differently now. It's like he's just now finding out he's cute or something. I swear! I'll never understand boys.

Dear Diary,

Guess who called me? Vanessa! She was crying. She said

Wayne told her Darryl told him that they were having sex. I couldn't believe it. How could Darryl discuss something so personal to big mouth Wayne? I told Vanessa to deny everything.

Dear Diary,

In our health class we discussed VD. Statistics show that 1977 is an epidemic year. One out of 10 people have VD. That's scary. I'm glad I'm not doing anything.

Dear Diary,

I saw Johnny standing at Anita's locker talking to her. I was so mad!

I walked over and asked what was going on! Anita laughed and said to ask Johnny and swished away. I was so mad!

Johnny said there was nothing to be worried about and palmed my butt! I was really mad then. I slapped him and walked away. He called me later on that night.

I was really cold to him. He told me I had a lot of nerve to be possessive since I wasn't giving anything up! I hung up on him! He called me back and said it was quits! I called Vanessa.

Dear Diary,

Vanessa and I decided to go downtown and see "A Star is Born" with Barbara Streisand tomorrow. It's another In-Service Day.

Dear Diary,

This is the last in a five part series of retrospectives celebrating the 10th Anniversary of **New Expression** and examining the different ways teen attitudes and experiences have changed over the last decade.

I almost died! On the way to the show we saw Anita and Johnny at the bus stop. They were probably going over to her house. Both, Vanessa and I cried all through the movie. It was good.

## Ten Years After: '88 Reaction

"In the 70's girls were more embarrassed to talk about sexual relationships. Now girls are more open about the sexual relationships they have. Girls have less to hide. Today, they speak more freely.

"Guys haven't changed because they've always talked about their sexual relationships. It's a totally different thing for a guy." — Evelyn Torres

"I think a lot more girls are careful about what they're doing because they are better educated as to the dangers they can encounter from sexually-transmitted diseases." — Lenny Sartor

"Sometimes I...think today's teens consider sex to be no big thing. Back then, sex was a big thing." — Kim Earnise

"Pregnancy is (still) a big problem, but it shouldn't be blown out of proportion. Girls get pregnant and they still finish school....Teens today are a lot more concerned about a decent education. The major problem teens face today is the fear of contracting AIDS or some other sexually transmitted disease that can be life threatening."

— Kena Haywood

"I think teens are more sexually active today because they know more about sex. They are aware at an early age about sex and are therefore more mature about it at an earlier age.

"Ten years ago sex was shocking and unspeakable. Today it's all right to talk about sex and no one is really embarrassed about it." — Lucile Ayala

Compiled by Scott Spilky

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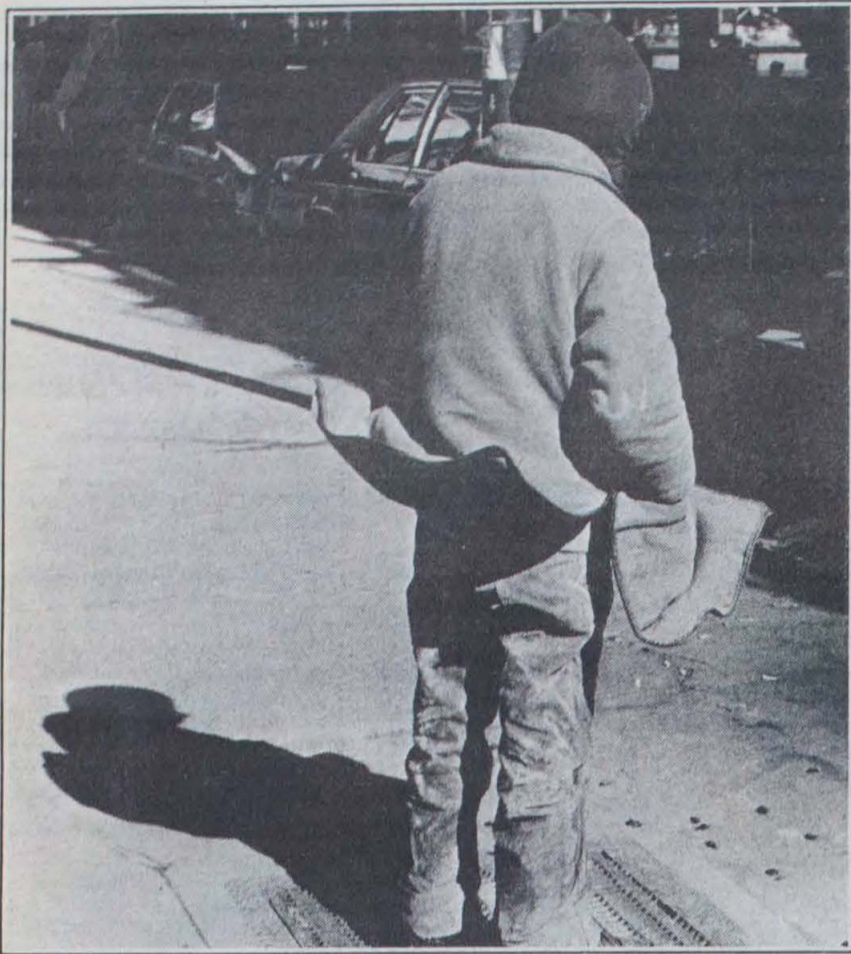


Photo By Alex Chaparro

Hot Shots is a new feature in New Expression. We will be publishing a new photo by one of our readers in each month's edition. If you have a good photo and would like a chance to be a part of **Hot Shots**, just send your photo to Alex Chaparro, Youth Communication 207 S. Wabash, Chicago, Illinois, 60604 or drop it by our office at the same address. In order for us to return your photo you must send along a stamped self-addressed envelope. You may also pick them up in person. Remember, black and white photos will be given preference.

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# Peer College Counselling

## New Program Helps Students Who Are 'College Bound'

By Risha Jamison

Project College Bound helped Stephanie Boyd prepare for her college entrance.

"The counselors gave me forms for financial aid and helped me to meet the deadlines. If they didn't help me I wouldn't have made my deadlines."

Through College Bound high school students help other students who want to go to college acquire the information and assistance they need to get through the college preparation and admission process. The program is funded by the Joyce Foundation.

"Students need to be more aggressive about college entry because high school counselors are overburdened with responsibilities," said Barbara Gianneschi, assistant director of admission at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Gianneschi feels that this is a primary reason why student enrollment is down. This is also a reason why the College Bound was initiated.

In College Bound, student counselors meet with students in their schools. Their service not only helps students to prepare for college, but supports school counselors who often don't have the time to give students a lot of individual attention, according to Joan Bruggers, the program's director.

Jeri Daniels, a counselor at Senn High School said, "I'm helped by student counselors because they can take care of a lot of things like helping students fill out forms and applications."

Bruggers calls the program a "positive form of peer pressure." She says, "Some students are timid about talking to their counselor and they may feel more comfortable talking to another student."

Michelle Porter, a peer counselor at Dunbar Vocational High School, said a common problem that students have is that they procrastinate about filling out forms because of their length. She explained the long, complicated forms often intimidate students who find one excuse after another to put off completing them until they sometimes miss their deadlines.

Bruggers said that students are also easily confused by the different types of financial forms that schools require. She explained that a financial aid form used by one school may not be accepted by another school.

Another problem, according to Bruggers, is that many of the students don't know when to register or how to prepare for the ACT and the SAT tests. Workshops to help students fill out forms are also offered by the program.

According to Porter, peer counselors are needed because schools are overcrowded and counselors overburdened. She said that at her school six counselors have to work with over 2,000 students.

Porter says she joined College Bound because she "needed some help myself." Porter said she felt that she didn't fully understand the college application process. "I figured the best way to find out was to get involved yourself, and I had a lot of fun."

This is the first year of the program, and it is now at 12 schools. This year College Bound has decided to work solely with general and vocational high schools. "Many of these students want to go to college, but because they attend vocational schools, don't get the information and assistance that other schools might provide," Bruggers said.

She explained that students at magnet high schools generally receive the attention they need.

"Lots of students pick their school because their friends go there or because it's local, and they don't consider that it's a vocational school," she said.

The groups of students in the program form "college clubs." Each is different in organization. Some schools, like Dunbar, have weekly meetings in which they try to recruit new members and plan seminars. Other schools have bimonthly meetings or meet during extended division. At Steinmetz, peer counselors leave brochures on a table in the cafeteria where students can come by to get assistance.

Many club members recruit their friends. "They got sick of me at the beginning of the year," Porter said, describing how she used to nag her friends about application deadlines.

The schools in the program this year were selected based on their location. Bruggers said that program organizers wanted to have a "good geographic balance" throughout the city.

Even though the schools are different, the college clubs all have the common goals of motivating and helping students prepare to enter college, and publicizing information concerning college fairs and other activities.

If this pilot year's Project College Bound Program is successful, more schools will be added next year.

### Do you want to get involved?

The following are the schools involved with Project College Bound and the contact students at each school. If you are interested in getting involved with College Bound, you can either get in touch with the student listed for your school, or call Joan Bruggers at 663-0543.

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1.) Amundsen: Shan Boldt (senior).    | 7.) Lake View: Anna Meader (junior).          |
| 2.) Austin: Mrs. Haney (Guidance).    | 8.) Metro: Anthony Brock (senior).            |
| 3.) Celemente: Marcia Lima (junior).  | 9.) Senn: Marvin Lynn (junior).               |
| 4.) Corliss: Rose Powell (senior).    | 10.) South Shore: Goddess King (senior).      |
| 5.) Dunbar: Kimberly Wright (senior). | 11.) Steinmetz: Valerie Stewart (senior).     |
| 6.) Hyde Park: Shawn Green (senior).  | 12.) Westinghouse: Mary Ann Whiting (senior). |

In April and May Project College Bound will sponsor two activities students from any Chicago high school can participate in. On April 23 a financial aid workshop will be conducted from 10 a.m. until 1 pm at the State of Illinois Center. Counselors will be available to help students complete their financial aid forms.

Throughout April and May "college survival" workshops will be conducted. Students should call Joan Bruggers at 663-0543 for more information.

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# Talk Back

## Black Students Aren't Quitters

by Stephanie Walters

Have you ever seen the commercial for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF)—the one with a young man sitting with his parents discussing his college career? His Mom and Dad won't be able to send him this year; they just don't have enough money. Maybe next year, they tell their son. The viewer can't tell who is more devastated by the news—the son or the parents.

The ad really touched me the first time I saw it. It was so easy to feel for the young man, since I, as a college freshman and black, could put myself in his place. But the more I see the ad, the angrier I become.

"This young man is just giving up," I think to myself. Poor black kid with no money and no luck, but all the potential in the world. Too bad—it'll never be realized now. He's not able to go to college because Mom and Dad can't send him. What a shame.

Truly, what a shame if this young man chooses to hang his head because he got a bad break. It is truly a shame that the UNCF chose to air an ad like this. Is this how this organization perceives the black youth of America—dependent and quitters? I feel insulted. How could such an organization promote hopelessness and helplessness among

the young people they should be helping to stand firmly on their own?

Yet this is exactly what they do when they don't show the options this young black man (who is representing all young black people) has. And there are many options open to black students today.

The young man could apply for scholarships. There are many out there established especially for minorities and/or financially disadvantaged college bound students. Of course, most aren't well known and often go unawarded because no one applies. Imagine, free money going to waste. That's a real shame! Since many are well hidden, that means we as students just have to dig all the harder, seeking these opportunities out for ourselves. No one will point them out to us.

Federal dollars for education are becoming more difficult to obtain, but there are still federal grant monies available, and enough to fight for (I know, I did). Students can also apply for low-interest state loans that don't require payment for up to a year after graduation; some wait even longer before repayment fees are to begin. In Wisconsin the interest is a reasonable five percent. And there are loans available through universities at lower rates.

Additionally, there is the possibility that the young man could live at home while going to school. He could work part-time while in school full-time. Or maybe he could continue his education at a junior college until he's able to straighten out his financial situation.

These are just some of the options that this young man has, as well as all other black college hopefuls. And one thing is very clear—no longer are black parents the sole source for providing college tuition to their children. In fact, they don't have to play a role at all, except to assist their children in filling out forms that will help them receive aid.

I'm sure some are thinking that's easy for me, a Marquette University freshman, to say. I must have nerve talking about junior college and taking out loans when my parents are dishing out \$10,000 for me to go to school. Well, not exactly.

As much as my mother would have liked to send me to college, she just didn't have the money. No, I didn't win the lottery, either. I applied for scholarships and grants, took out loans, and I discovered a special program for minority and financially disadvantaged students, and I happen to fit both categories. This program, EOP (Educational Opportunities Program), is helping to

pay for my college education, as well as providing counselling and tutorial services. It really is a big help.

Marquette isn't the only university in the country with such a program, and it is up to black college-bound hopefuls and their parents to seek out these kinds of opportunities. They are out here for us, and today no parent should feel guilty because they can't send their children to college. Students have to find a way to do it for themselves.

A sermon? I hope not. A pep talk? Maybe. A mind is a terrible thing to waste, but I think the UNCF should find a better way to bring across its point. This ad

does nothing but reinforce the myth that blacks, especially young blacks, have no ambition, cannot do for themselves and are basically hopeless. If we are ever to be successful in the marketplace and be competitive, we can't allow these kinds of stereotypes and the vision of that young man hanging his head to hold us back.

.....  
This article originally appeared in **The Milwaukee Courier** and is reprinted here with their permission. Stephanie Walters is a one-time Editor-in-Chief of **New Expression** and is currently a freshman at Marquette University.

**Talkback Wants You!**  
Have you been having a hard time finding college funds? Are you a quitter or are these "scholarships" just not there? *New Expression* would like to know how you feel about this article and any other story in this month's edition. Please write to:  
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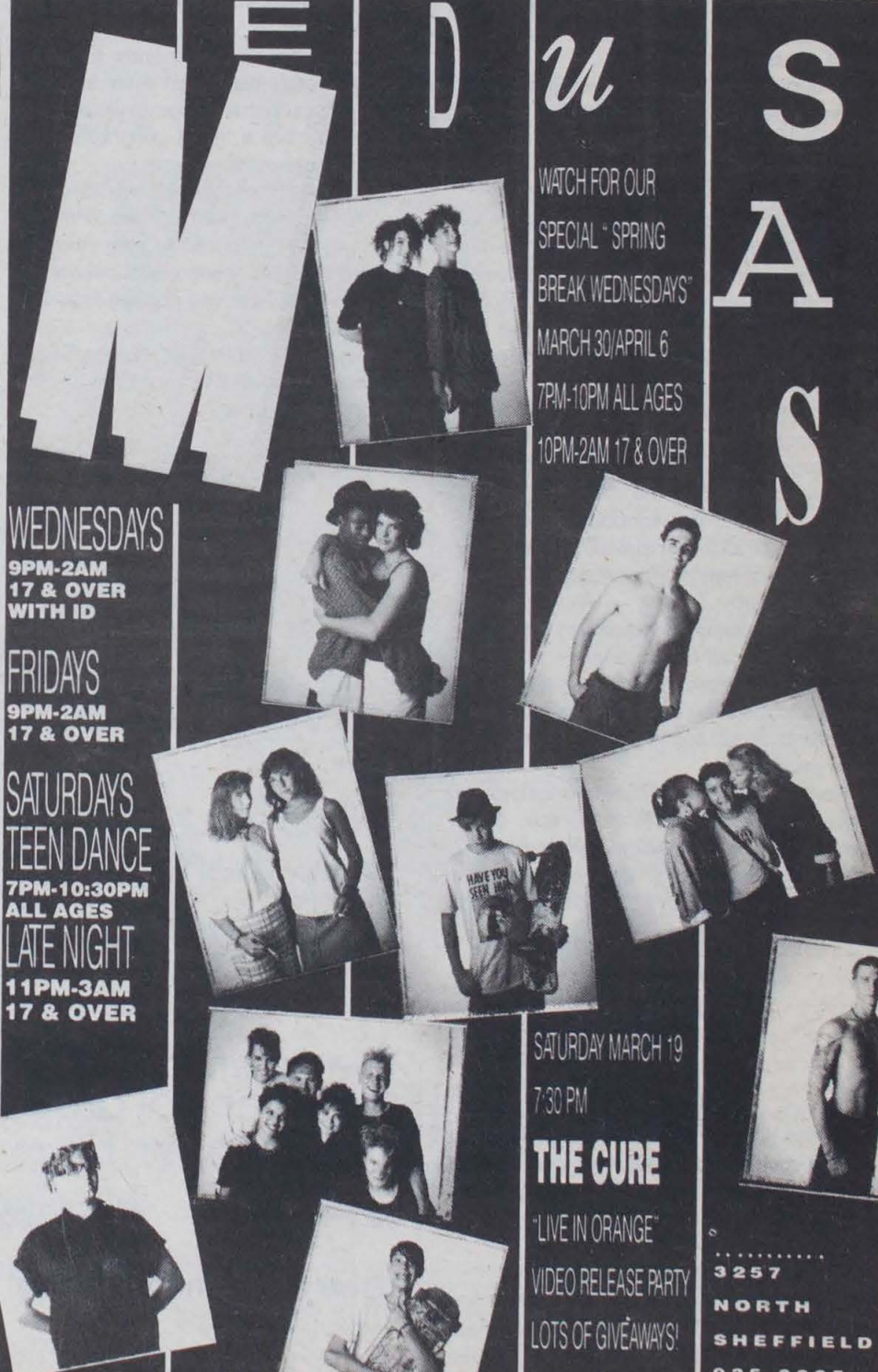
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## Legislators Pay More 'Attendance' To Dollars Than to 'Sense'

People are always coming up with "bright" ways of saving money only to try them out and find that they're not so smart after all. The newest ones to think up a not-so-bright way of economizing are the State Legislature and the Board of Education. Unfortunately, the money they're hoping to save is going to be at the cost of public education in Chicago.

By now, most students have probably heard about the new attendance policy. Chicago schools are going to start taking attendance differently. Instead of just seeing whether or not a student is present, they're also going to check how many classes the student actually attended. If you attended eight full class periods (not including lunch) you receive a full day of attendance. If you were present at less than eight, but more than three classes, you receive a half day. And if you attended three classes or less, you don't receive any units of attendance at all.

What's the point of all this? Well, the Illinois Legislature, which funds the Chicago public schools, provides the system a certain amount of money per student for each full day of attendance. They provide less money for a half-day and no money at all for an absence. So, the higher a school's attendance, the more money that school receives from the state.

Although these guidelines have been around for a long

time, their enforcement is new. The guidelines themselves are reasonable—except when the people who enforce them go to extremes. For example, when students arrive late to their first classes, they can be counted as half-day attenders, as if they did not attend eight class periods.

How will students be affected by this? The most direct effect that we'll probably see is a crackdown on tardy students and cuts. Schools which are losing money on students who come late or miss classes aren't going to be too happy about it. Looks like a lot more of us will be cooling our heels in detentions in the coming months.

But there is a more important and less visible result to this policy—one which legislators may not have considered while counting the money they might save. The new "bookkeeping" may result in less money for the Chicago public schools next year. That could mean fewer new facilities, lower pay, and fewer supplies for the schools. None of this will help the already bad situation in the public schools.

If you think about it, the legislators' calculations aren't really very practical. Paying the schools according to the number of students who show up doesn't make sense, as the expenses of the schools remain the same. Schools aren't going to switch off the heating or cancel any classes if students are absent, and teachers are



Illustration by Phat Chung

paid the same no matter how many teens show up. In fact the implementation of this policy is nothing more or less than a method to reduce the amount of money that the State Legislature constantly grumbles about having to pay.

Nor does it make sense to take money from the schools for low attendance. One of the main reasons students cut classes and

come late is that the educational environment they face is depressing. Decreasing financial aid to public schools will worsen their already depressed conditions and attendance will probably drop further, leading to even less money for the schools.

The minor cuts in spending that the Legislature makes now will lead to a subtly deteriorating school system that at some point will require a massive infusion

of new funds. To be more precise, the pennies it saves now may become the dollars it will have to spend in the near future.

Unfortunately for the State Legislature, saving money at the cost of the education of teenagers isn't the right solution to its money problems. And decreasing financial support for schools is too heavy a punishment for a few tardies and cuts.

## Letters to the Editor

### Steamed by Hazelwood

I read the article "A Free Press for Student Newspapers" and got steamed. This age-old battle about censorship in school is getting out-of-hand because the free press has lost. Is this how the battle ends? Is it back to book burning like in the 60's?

If the administrators control the press we'll never see any "real" articles. I think the principal who censored the articles should know it's a wild and "uncensored" world out there and the best way of dealing with it isn't to pretend like problems such as teen pregnancy, suicide or problems in the school don't exist.

Whether or not we use this freedom (is part of our) right. It doesn't really matter if blacks never sit in front of the bus, but no one has the authority to say we

can't sit in the front, and it works the same way with the freedom of the Press. I think it's a school paper's duty to inform a student of everything that affects them, even if it's something as big as "suicide" or as small as a "bake sale."

Felicia Smith

### Social Club Debate

I'm writing to you about your recent article about social clubs. My opinion on this matter is that principals and teachers should not have the right to decide if students participate in clubs. These clubs are not during class time; these clubs are before or after school.

Teachers and principals should encourage that every student take part in a club instead of

taking drugs. With these clubs students feel good about themselves. Most clubs' requirements are to come to school everyday and to look your best.

Otis L. Ames

I'm writing to you about the article in your January 1988 issue about "social clubs" in high schools. I am a person who disapproves of social clubs totally. Whenever you have a group of people hanging out together something's gonna happen wrong. I think they should ban all social clubs in high schools.

There might be someone in a club jealous of a person in another club and once they both are in clubs, the clubs will get involved, or there could be a problem outside and people of differ-

ent clubs see one another the clubs will also get involved. These events usually will add up to be fights, that's why I feel all clubs should be banned.

Scott Curtis

### Problems for Juarez Students and the Board of Education

I am a student at Benito Juarez, High School. My opinion to improve the public schools of Chicago is we should talk to the Board of Education and settle these problems we have in these schools. There are many things we need in our school, Benito Juarez. We need more sports, more teachers and good counselors. Nobody does anything to help to improve our schools.

Another thing that Juarez has is the problem with the gangs and

drugs. Nobody can stop this problem that the teenagers have, (except teenagers). The students can talk and stop the drug dealings.

The teachers can't stop gangs and drug dealings because they don't know what is going around in the halls at Juarez, but we students do. We are going to give the Board of Education a chance. If they don't do something about this we sure will and that's a promise.

I really hope you put my letter in your newspaper, **New Expression**, because I want students from other schools to know that we want to finish this problem once and for all.

I would like to read opinions from other students about their situation.

Ricardo Luva

# YOUNG CHICAGO

## Spinning Dreams

By Annlisa Leppanen

My friend Trisha and I were just high school kids, but we would go to the university cafeteria to hang out. We sat in the light. The sun poured through the window onto gleaming teeth, laughing. "They must really think we're crazy. They must think we're on drugs or something. Can you imagine what we'd be like if we didn't have all this homework to do?"

I laughed and said, "Crazy." I watched as her small tapered fingers spun a glinting dime across the table, splintering the light. "Just like the trendies or the punkers hanging around after school. They have nothing else to do, nothing to worry about. Having beer parties, going to concerts until 2 a.m. If people think we're crazy now, can you imagine what we'd be like if we weren't so busy with school?"

"Yeah!" Trisha laughed. Another dime flipped across the table. It looked like a ball. The grooved edges made stripes across the spinning coin. It was deeper in the center, more translucent on the edges, like flickering butterfly wings.

I watched the coin wavering, like a deepening bowl, with a sharp clinking as it settled flat on the table.

"Oh," it hit me. "I forgot to tell you my dream. I wanted to tell you this all day. Listen." I had to get my thoughts. She started laughing about the guy with the crew cut at the next table. He was eating a hotdog loaded with mustard. "Shut-up! Okay. I dreamed I had gone over next to the lake. And you'll never believe who was there. Guess."

"I can guess."

"It's someone in our class."

"I don't know."

"Todd," I said as I leaned across the table to emphasize my point.

"Oh, you're right. I would have never figured that out."

"I don't know why I dreamed about him. But listen," I continued, "I've been starting to control my dreams. It's so weird. You know how I've been doing tarot readings to predict the future? Well, I'm trying to find out who those guys are that keep showing up in the tarot cards as my boyfriends, or whatever, for the future."

"So when I woke up at six, I said to myself, 'I'm going to dream about a guy,' and I went back to sleep, and I dreamt that I was this girl like Marilyn Monroe."

"She was sitting in the park across from the White Hen, and someone was writing a book about her saying how pretty she was. Anyway, she had this scummy boyfriend who had just got her pregnant. And her best friend... do you know what she was doing?"

"She was figuring out what the sun sign of this kid was going to be. She said: 'This is October, so in nine months, it'll be July and that's Cancer!' The poor girl. She looked so sad."

"Ooh, weird. Does this mean you're going to get pregnant?" Trisha started laughing hysterically.

"It's not funny. What do you think this means? Do you think this has anything to do with Dexter? That



scum! He's new at our school, right? And in three days, he's got a girlfriend and they're making out under his leather jacket on the hill, and he's got a hickey, too! How disgusting. I was all ready today, you know? I sneaked out with my brother's leather jacket just so I could look like a punker. And I was going to go up to him and talk to him, you know? And now all my plans are ruined!"

Trisha spun a couple of dimes. I watched them. They looked like little worlds spinning around in perfect balance. I wanted them to spin perfectly like that forever. They were slowing down. I can't make the dimes speed up and go faster. It requires delicacy and skill. I'm too impatient.

"Give me a dime," I demanded. She slid one across the table. Now there were two dimes spinning on the table. Perfect harmony. I watched them spinning together.

Trisha looked at me and said, "You look like a cat, you know. Like you're ready to pounce on it." I slammed my flattened hand across the dime. The music stopped.

"Ooh...vicious," she teased.

I laughed, "Get out some more." She dug around in her bag and pulled out a quarter, a nickel, and a couple pennies.

"Listen," I explained the strategy. "I get three and you get three. And we've got to try and keep them going." We laughed as we furiously spun nickels and pennies across the table, picking up the flat ones and spinning them into worlds again. We watched them spinning all at once, whirling into this frenzy of harmony, like an orchestra rising in crescendo. And then the wavering clink as, one by one, they all flattened out.

We sat still for a moment, and then I said, "You know, that leather jacket, it gave me a feeling of power. Like I was somehow stronger and more confident."

"And my little black mini. I got so

many guys turning to look at me today. It was kind of fun. Even that snob Christina was jealous. And all the guys were looking at me...all except Dexter," I sighed.

"I don't know what it takes to get his attention."

The sun was lower now. But its light was still pouring steadily across the table. The shadow of my hand looked like a fat fist hovering over the tiny glistening dime. I picked it up, feeling the lightness of it between my fingers and held it up to the sun. The light sparkled off the dime, flickering into the air. I put it down and picked up my black leather jacket and my bookbag and said, "Well, I guess I better go. My brother would have a fit if he found out I had worn his jacket to school today. I've got to sneak it back down into his room."

"You could walk with it on into the house. He probably wouldn't even notice," Trisha said.

"Yeah right! I walk into the house with a big leather jacket with a skull painted on the sleeve, and he wouldn't notice that!"

"If he does, then just deny you took it. Say, 'You're hallucinating. This is all a dream,'" she laughed. "That's what I would do."

"Yeah...well." I left before I could think of something to say. Dexter really bothered me. I liked him. Actually, I idolized him—tall and broad shouldered. And the way his curly hair would bounce over his dark brown eyes. He was so gorgeous. He also represented everything that I wished I could be like—laid-back, carefree. Instead, I was confined by all the school work I had to do. As I was walking home, I counted the months to graduation. I started losing track.

"This is depressing," I muttered to no one in particular and kept on walking.

The next day was Friday. It was 7:51, and I was standing at my locker scribbling "T.G.I.F." (thank

Illustration by Lawanna Fox

God it's Friday) all over the blue notepad on the inside of the locker. Trisha rushed up behind me, with a sparkle in her scheming little eyes and her lips halfway open with that I've-just-got-to-tell-you expression. I could always tell when she had some juicy gossip. Trisha thrived on gossip. I always admired the way she was just so good at it.

"Dexter dumped his girlfriend, and he's got another one. And guess what? She's 19 and he's 16 and she's got her own apartment, and she's into crack and now she's got him doing it." She was breathless. I was amazed.

"How did this happen?" I screamed at her. I was breathing irregularly now and my fingers were all ready to choke someone. "How did you find this out?"

"I have my sources," she coyly remarked. I threatened to choke her, and she gave in. "OK, OK! Kate who is friends with Jason, who is the best friend of Dexter's ex-girlfriend told me. She said that it's all very steamy if you know what I mean."

"You ought to be a gossip columnist, you know that?" Now I was truly disgusted, but before I could think about it any longer, Trisha grabbed my arm as she screamed. "There's Dexter and his girlfriend. They just went out the door!"

I grabbed my jean jacket out of the locker, zig-zagged through a couple groups of trendies and jumped out the door.

My eyes narrowed. There Dexter was with that short, dumpy, mean,

arrogant, old, dark, depressing girl. He was smiling as he talked to her, with his arm curled around her waist. Maybe they were going out to breakfast.

Trisha looked at me with this gleam in her eye and said, "Come on! Let's follow them."

"But we've got a class to go to!" I protested, whining. It was a lame excuse.

"Forget about the class. We've got some meat to attend to." I was convinced. We took off after them. What I liked about Trisha was the way that she could always make something into an adventure. It was almost as if we were private eyes.

We followed them down the street, with my insides silently burning up with jealousy. But as they turned a corner of houses, we realized that they were going back to his house.

"What a slut!" I started screaming. "I do not believe this. I bet that all he wants from her is sex. I bet that's it. That's all that guys ever want. It's not like she's pretty or anything. I mean, she's so dark and dumpy looking. And don't you think I look better than her? I mean, he could have me instead of her. Why doesn't he...?"

Trisha gave me a silent, solemn look as we watched them open up the gate of a tall black fence. Then they stepped inside the house, abruptly closing the large wooden door behind them. I felt like crying.

"I guess... I guess I shouldn't have fallen for him anyway," I mumbled dejectedly. I looked over at Trisha. "He just seemed so perfect, though, didn't he?"

"Yes." She had this glassy-eyed stare. "Like a Greek God."

I smiled softly. "I guess it just wasn't meant to be."

"Don't worry about it," Trisha said as we started walking back. "You'll find someone, someone better than Dexter. That was really scummy for him to be doing drugs like that and stuff. You don't want anyone like that. Some day you'll find a guy who'll be sweet and exciting and warm. You're only 16. You've got plenty of time."

I thought of the spinning dimes just then, imagining how they revolved in perfect unison with the sun's golden vitality gleaming off their rough edges. They didn't stop; they just kept spinning.

I remembered the sunshine filtering through the window at the university cafeteria, the sunshine glinting off window-panes, spreading an orange-yellowish glow across the bleached blue sky. It made the whole front of me feel warm. I smiled, and whipped my scarf across my cheek, thinking thoughts of the future.

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# Entertainment

## Movies

### She's Having A Baby

"She's Having a Baby" is a very disappointing movie. It was created, produced, and directed by John Hughes. That name almost always assures you of a good movie, but not in this case.

Kevin Bacon stars as Jefferson Briggs or Jake, as he likes to be called (stupid right?). The story follows him and his new wife Kristy, played by Elizabeth McGovern, and their settling down in their new home in Evanston, Illinois.

The title gives the idea that the movie's going to be about a couple having their first baby. That's not even close. It should be called "She's Trying To Have a Baby," because that's really what it's about.

Jake and Kristy try every method possible to have a baby. At first, it seems that Jake is sterile, but the doctor tells him that his underwear is too tight and says he should wear boxer shorts! When that little problem is out the way, they really get down to business. It gets so bad that Jake literally hides from his wife so she can't try any of her new techniques on him.

This movie is also about a boy trying to be a man. Jake is having a hard time with married life and questions his reasons for marriage. Through his dreams we can understand his conflicts. He has one fantasy about a girl he meets in a dance club who almost attacks him because she's so attracted to him. He ends up having a short affair with her and feels very guilty afterwards.

His friend Davis, who dates porno

queens and the like, continuously tries to get Jake to fly the coop and join him in a life of wild women and hot cars. Davis wants Jake to remain immature, but Jake is trying to become a man. Although this is a good conflict the director doesn't represent it too well.

Even though all of this sounds vaguely funny, the comedy is stiff and when it is funny, it's not funny for very long. It's very surprising that John Hughes would make such a bomb.

Maybe he'll do better next time, but now it seems like he's trying to make an enjoyable, funny movie without Molly Ringwald and the other brats, and getting absolutely nowhere.

Taunya Cooper

### School Daze

"Your eyes are blue, but you ain't white, your hair is straight 'cus you pressed it last night." That is the line the "Jigaboos" chant at the Mission College step show and it may be the most obvious reflection of the underlying theme to "School Daze," a new movie from Director/Writer Spike Lee. Lee's second film is more action packed than his first film, "She's Gotta Have It." There is a lot more dialogue, outdoor scenes, and it's in color!

In both movies Lee demonstrates his gift for relaying a serious message through comedy and satire. That talent is even evident in the name of his production company, 40 Acres and A Mule. This name comes from the post Civil War Reconstruction Era when ex-slaves were given 40 acres and a mule to start their "free" life.

"School Daze" is set at a fictional black college and tackles a controversial subject that exists in the black community. The major battle is between the "Wannabee's,"



lightskinned, upper-middle class blacks who wear weaves and colored contacts, and "Jigaboos," girls who are not materialistic or appearance concious and are into their heritage.

Veteran actor Larry Fishburne ("Cotton Club," "Apocalypse Now") plays Dap, the lead "Jigaboo," a militant black leader who wouldn't be caught dead with a light skinned girl. Tisha Campbell ("Little Shop of Horrors," "Rags to Riches") plays the rich, pampered head "Wannabee," Jane.

Lee is successful in illustrating the class-color conciousness of black people. There is a scene in "Madame Re-Re's" hair salon where the "Wans" and the "Jigs" sing a song about "good and bad hair." Lee explains how similar values are apparent in the everyday life of blacks.

The movie also addresses the demeaning acts and separatist attitudes within the Greek fraternity/sorority system. Lee plays "Half-pint," who must lose his virginity before he can become a "Gamma Man."

"School Daze" is not only an upbeat film, but a great musical. In many scenes the characters burst into musical numbers. The most popular is E.U.'s "Da Butt."

Stevie Wonder and Phyllis Hyman also contribute songs.

Spike Lee says he was put on earth to make movies for black people, but "School Daze" can be enjoyed by all.

Roberta English

## Music

### Morris Day Daydreaming

The most outstanding feature of Morris Day is his playful character. It is so strong and unique many of my peers have adopted his mannerisms. And when his last album came out you couldn't go into a club without seeing someone do his "oak tree" dance.

But the best thing about his character is that he can make fun of himself. He knows that he is egocentric and he enjoys it. He has ironically become admired even

(Continued on Next Page)

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# Entertainment

## Music

(Continued from Previous Page)  
though his character deserves ridicule.

On *Daydreaming*, as with his projects with the Time, Morris blends sexuality and humor to create fun songs that adolescents often end up using as personal anthems.

Most of this new batch of songs are of the expected heavy funk variety. *Daydreaming* starts by setting a pleasant

ment to moment. Meaning in life comes from his frequent romantic and sexual experiences.

This seems to be a recurring theme on the album. "Sally" is a song about a girl with a free spirit who has a free attitude about sex. In all of the songs Morris is surrounded by sweet sounding, heavy breathing women.

All of this is very ironic coming from a man



scene and then tearing it down with a funny, sexy chord rising into a crescendo.

Two of the songs were produced by Day's ex-band mates, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. Those names are always equated with great music. Unfortunately the market seems over saturated with the Jam and Lewis sound, but watch out later this year for a full-fledged Time reunion combining the many styles that the band explored.

Even though Morris concentrates on sexy dance numbers, with "A Man's Pride" he indicates that there is something deeper to relationships. The line "It's a man's pride that makes a man a man" suggests that he thinks that sexuality and romancing is fun, but it takes second chair to a man's concept of himself.

In "Love Is a Game" he tells us not to play to win, but to play to survive. He doesn't believe that the ideal love exists, so he goes through relationships to keep himself happy instead of waiting for something that will never come. He lives from mo-

who seems happily married. His wife Judith co-wrote and co-produced most of the songs on *Daydreaming*. Maybe Morris developed his character before he got married.

He is expected by his fans to act the way he does so he may be essentially more an actor than a musician. But while he's straightening himself out, we have a lot of great grooves to enjoy until his next project.

David Ratzlow

### Megadeth *So Far, So Good, So What?*

Rarely can a heavy metal band combine hard-driving intensity and thoughtful lyrics in a successful and entertaining album. Megadeth's new album, *So Far, So Good, So What?*, easily accomplishes this. The

album defines what good metal should be.

The vocalist, Dave Mustaine, sounds like he's eating ground glass, but he manages to belt out the songs convincingly. The guitar work, the most important part in any metal band, is excellent and really holds the songs together. The drumming is equally good.

One of most disappointing songs on the album, though is the remake of the song "Anarchy in the U.K." first performed by the punk band the Sex Pistols. Megadeth fails to carry out the raw energy that vocalist Johnny Rotten of the Pistols conveyed in the original version. Megadeth attempts to make up for this lack with flashy guitar work, but only ends up making it less enjoyable.

Aside from "Anarchy in the U.S.A.," the songs on *So Far, So Good, So What?* are really good, hard metal songs that deal with typical metal topics—love, hate, and the PMRC. "Hook in Mouth" deals with the nemesis of all free-thinking bands in the U.S.A.—the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC). The song discusses the fears of many bands that are targets of this group that tries to censor song lyrics.

The lyrics of the songs show that Megadeth is not a band made up of shallow morons. Their songs tend to be intelligent, unlike those of glam-metal bands which often create songs only to boast supposed sexual prowess. Megadeth's

lyrics express views about world problems, personal relations, and censorship. Unlike some other metal bands their hard style is used to describe ideas, not just to make noise.

Megadeth is not the kind of band to bring home to your parents. They don't try to please any groups or submit to any standards of musical style. Their sound hasn't changed from their early days and probably won't change soon. It's a sound that won't please everyone, but someone who enjoys great guitar work will really appreciate this album.

This new album is a good example of fast and hard metal. *So Far, So Good, So What?* is the perfect introductory album for the fledgling heavy metal fan, and would make a good complement to a fan's record collection. It's a worthy sequel to their last album, *Peace Sells, But Who's Buying?*, which brought them into the mainstream of metal. Even a non-metal fan will enjoy this album, if not for the intelligence of the songs than for the beauty of the guitar work.

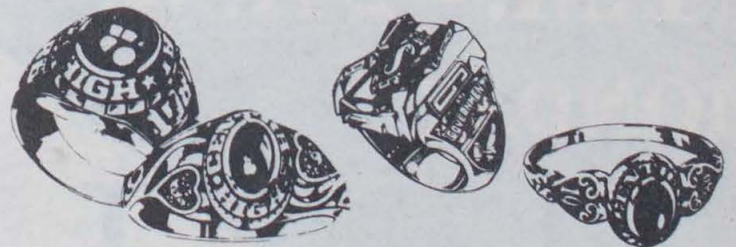
Brian Glazebrook

**Editor's Note:** Due to a typographical error Brian Glazebrook's by-line was deleted from an album review (Dokken, *Back for the Attack*) he wrote for our February edition. Our apologies to the writer.

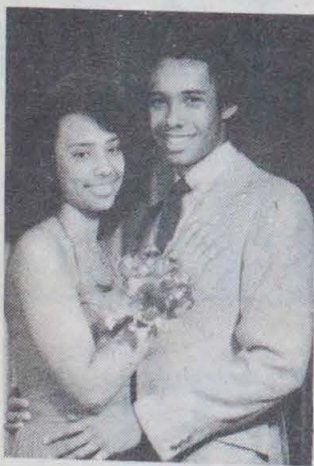
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