

## Art building stolen!

Campus officials will not confirm building's disappearance.

**A.I. Dan and Journey Litz**  
Serial Pyros

Art, design, and GED students returning from spring break arrived Monday morning ready for classes, only to find that there were no classes. Rather, there were no classrooms, to be more precise.

Following hotly on the heels of two daring burglaries last term, one involving paintings taken from the Gallery and the other a set of keys, the LCC campus is once again reeling from a daring theft. This one, though, has much more dire consequences: Building 11, better known as the Art Building, is missing.

Many of the affected students spent the early part of the day sitting around the industrial remains of the building, waiting for word on what to do. But staff and faculty provided little guidance and seemed similarly stunned.

"It was really confusing," said art major Trish Abbott. "I had a drawing Fundamentals class scheduled for 8:30 Monday morning in Room 122. But when I got there I realized there



Photo by Snappie McGee

Art students were shocked to find only the foundation to the Art building left when they arrived for class.

wasn't a Room 122. I looked some more to be sure, but it didn't look like there were any rooms. I thought this was weird, since I had a class in Room 123 last term and found it with no problem."

Student Matt Melman found the situation equally perplexing. "I showed up a little bit late, so I was fortunate in that by the time I showed up, there were about 200 other people stand-

ing around this big hole in the ground where the art building used to be. I didn't know what else to do, so I stood around, too."

The students' situation was due in part to the fact that departmental faculty are not being permitted by administration to make any official comment on the matter. According to two teachers who wish to remain anonymous, Harry Richardson,

department head for Art and Applied Design, Architecture, Civil Engineering, Culinary Arts, and Physical education issued direct orders to the faculty not to acknowledge that the building was even missing.

"That puts us in kind of a bind," said one of the instructors. "We were told that this matter was one of the strictest security, and was to be discussed only on a need-to-know

basis. Administration feels students don't need to know."

"In fact, we were told not to even speak to [the Torch]," said the other. "We're taking a big risk by sharing what little we know. We were told that our pensions were at stake."

Numerous calls to administration yielded nothing except an irate Richardson.

"Who told you?" was the only official comment issued by an obviously angered Richardson. "This is on a need-to-know basis, and you don't need to know!" Richardson then hung up and did not respond to further calls.

Campus Public Safety would not confirm if the building was stolen or not. "This is a pretty big campus, and it's hard for us to know exactly which stolen item you're talking about," said officer G.W. Leroi. "It may or may not have been a building, if it was anything. It might have been nothing. Then again, it could have been something. Maybe a building. But maybe not. It's really not our position to speculate on what does or doesn't get stolen around here, and it's certainly not our position to share those speculations, no matter how well founded, with the students."

Public Safety did confirm, however, that there are currently no suspects for the crime

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## New cafeteria food is whisker-lickin' good!

Culinary Arts students make use of feral cats.

**Kitty Chow**  
Fire Starter

As a result of recent budget cuts, many departments have been effected, including the Culinary Arts program. Because of the lack of funding, the department is no longer able to purchase meats such as chicken, beef and pork. Beginning this term, the Culinary Arts students will instead be using "mystery meat" in their recipes. This mystery meat was recently identified as cat.

"There are so many feral cats at LCC and people just keep dropping more off," says Culinary Arts student Stu N. Kitters as he prepares a lettuce and calico sandwich. "We thought this would be a good way to keep their numbers down, plus the meat is free!"

Culinary Arts students collected the cats over spring break so they would have enough to start the term.

"We didn't want people to know what the meat was until they tried it so they would not prejudice it," said Kitters. "It's a little gamey, but with enough spices most people say it tastes like chicken."

The Culinary Arts students have, however, run into a few problems with the meat.

"I ate a burger from the cafeteria yesterday, and I haven't been able to stop coughing up hairballs," said LCC student Ralph N. Fur.

In response to this complaint and other reports of undercooked steaks meowing at students, the Culinary Arts department has issued a statement saying they will try to put more effort into cleaning and cooking their meat.

"In learning how to prepare a new food, there are sometimes mistakes before you get it just right," said Kitters.

The Culinary Arts program hopes to continue using feral cats in their dishes until they run out of cats, find another meat source or raise enough money to buy meats from a factory. The decision to use cat meat was made last term when



Photo by Abigail Schneider

Culinary Arts students prepare tasty meals now made with feral cat meat. One stubborn kitty, however, clings to the Chef's arm exclaiming "let my 'people' go." Now fondly referred to as Moses, the rogue kitty will be spared and kept as a kitchen pet.

the chicken and beef were almost gone.

"We knew something had to be done because we were going to run out of meat," said Culinary Arts director Tabitha "Tabby" Baker. "We took a vote and decided cats would be the most efficient

choice."

Other possibilities for a new meat source were dissected lab specimens, students who owed the school money, students failing classes, Torch editors and

See **WISKER-LICKIN'** page 4

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### WEEKEND WEATHER

Snow Showers  
32/10



Sunny and  
Warm  
125/90

### Last week:

SPRING BREAK!!!!



## SNEWS

## Board approves funny-looking hats

All students will now be allowed to wear department-specific headgear

**Smad A. Mas**  
Stuff Writer

The LCC Board of Education voted last Wednesday to commission the design and production of a funny-looking hat for each department on campus.

The decision was enthusiastically received by the student government representatives who had been advocating for the decision for three months.

"I think it's an important step in the direction of academic equality," said ASLCC senator Jay Walken.

The movement to bring funny-looking hats to all students began when a handful of English majors began to complain to senator Walken about the lack of distinctive apparel to identify and celebrate their major of choice.

"For too long now, culinary arts students have been able to lord their funny-looking hats over students in other departments," says English major Libby Rary. "I can critically analyze Chaucer and diagram a sentence like you wouldn't believe. But until now, I haven't been able to use my clothes to tell everyone that."

"I really know where they're coming from," says Walken. "I have a hard time talking to chicks and I would love to have a funny-looking hat that told everyone what my major is. It's a total conversation starter."

Walken declined to comment on whether his dating difficulties were perhaps related to his insistence on calling women "chick" rather than his lack of department-specific apparel.

"I think it's great," says P.E. major Ron Fast. "Now that I've got a hat that says I'm a P.E. major, no one's going to bother me with questions like, 'Do you know where the library is.'"

P.E. majors are generally happy with their funny-looking hats because they match their funny-looking gym clothes to make a funny-looking ensemble.

"I hate it," says math major Polly Nomial. "I'd like to be able to wear my hat but I can't because people keep coming up to me and asking me to help them with their homework."

"Kids these days are ungrateful," says board member Amber Valent.

"Back in my day you only got to wear a hat on graduation day. And everybody wore the same hat. But did we complain about it? No sir. We liked it. We loved it. We said 'thank you' and asked for more. In the snow. Up-hill. Both ways."

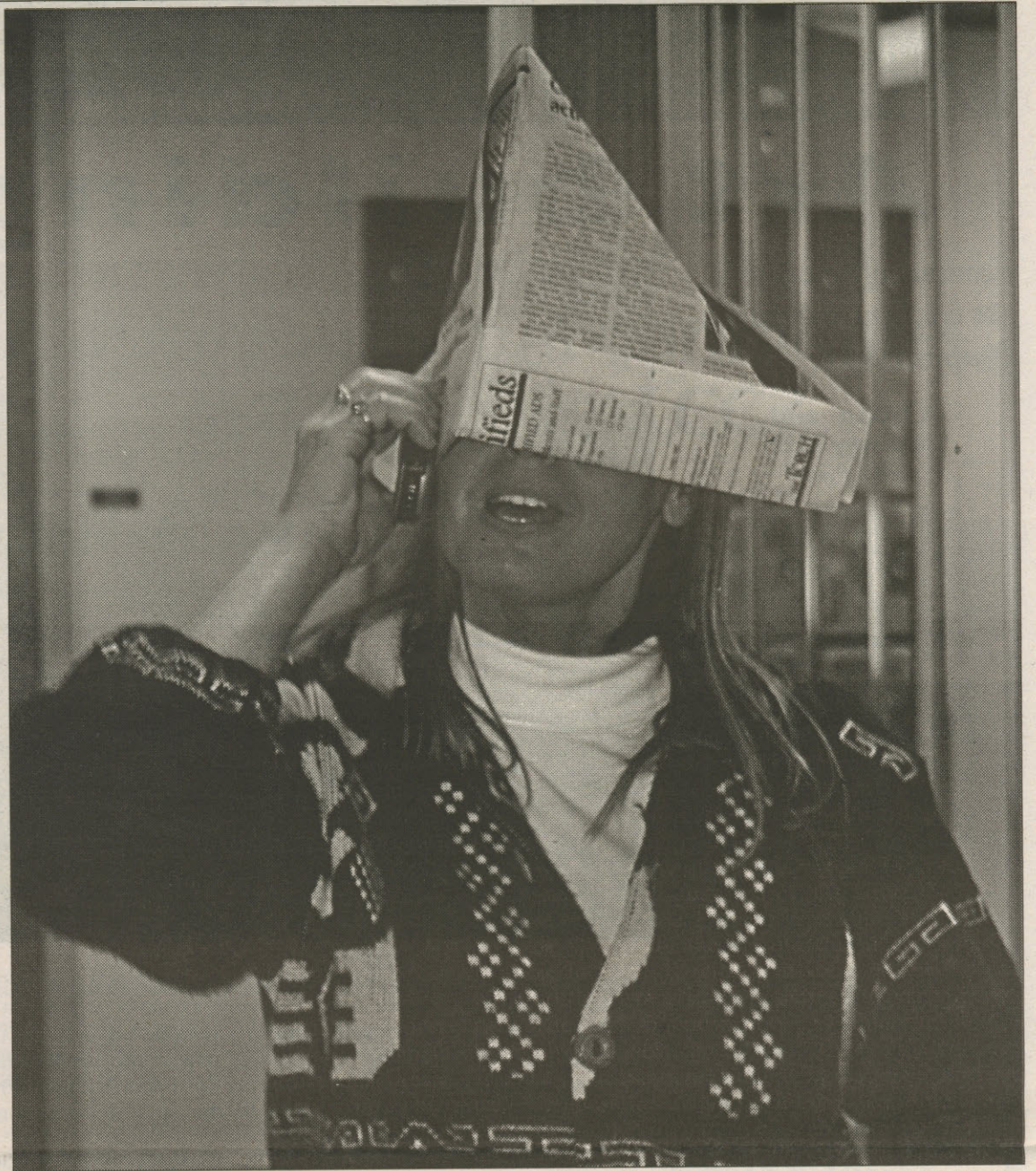


Photo by Milfred Smith

Torch production manager Gertrude Fine models the new funny-looking hat that all Torch staff members are eligible to wear as a result of a recent Board of Education ruling.

## A good April Fool

Working at the Torch paper. Lots of work to go do, and lots of reading, study books. Get busy. Let's get down to business. Go take all day long or work overtime, every night.

Parks and picnic grounds season opens up. Fishing and camping also.



**MACK  
WORLD**

**John Mackwood**  
Columnist

chips and be quiet. Concentrate reading your book, and take the test. No food allowed. Be quiet.

Cafeteria prices are too high. Better to bring your own. Or go to Student Resource Center in the future. Buy coffee and pop and go to class. Always be in a good mood.

Cartoon candy bars eat my artwork.

April fools.

Call Liz "Mayflower". She likes it.

A good April fool.

Editor's note: John Mackwood is a G.E.D. student at Goodwill in Springfield. John writes his column with the help of a Torch editor.

## off the mark

by Mark Parisi

www.offthemark.com



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PREMIUM KITTEN-FLAVORED DOG FOOD  
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## THE TORCH

The official student-managed newspaper of Lane Community College is published every Thursday

### Submission Guidelines

Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words. Commentaries should be limited to 750 words. Please include the author's name, phone number and address (address and phone number are for verification purposes only and are not for publication.) The editor in chief reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

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## TILT

## Classifieds

## For Sale

Large furnished cement structure. Two stories. Spacious. Includes office space, art equipment, ceramics and welding material, and some paintings. Eager to sell. Will ship. Contact building movers@hotmail.com

## Lost

Small bag of marijuana. Slightly used. If found, please page Mick Mickelson at 420-4204.

Virginity. Possibly left in white and yellowish '81 Chevrolet Monte Carlo with a duct taped passenger side front window. Last seen in back seat. Must be found in order to reuse. Return to Hide E. Phlyce's Red Light Motel on Route 4. Need by 10 p.m. Discrete brown wrapping please.

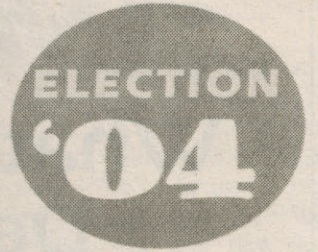
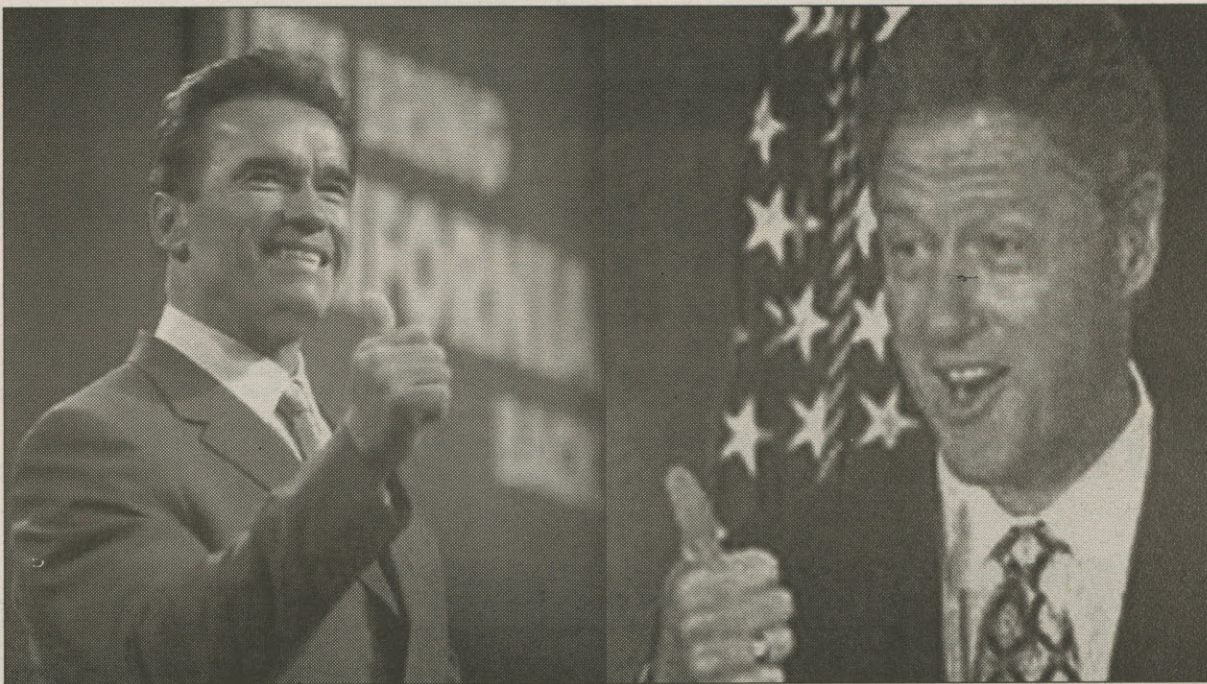
## Reward!

Large brick structure, possibly a building, stolen from LCC campus. Full of desks, chairs, art supplies, etc. Large number '11' on outside. \$50 reward for return, no questions asked. Call G.W. Leroi, 364-5657.

## Wanted

WF desires tall, dark, middle-eastern male, power-hungry and middle-aged for possible LTR. Interests must include military uniforms, palaces, multiple wives, body doubles, weapons of mass destruction, games of large scale hide and go seek and being mean for fun. Contact Zil Maymeadow for your perfect partner.

Desperate white female seeks single male to fill the void left in my life by an emotionally distant father with an unhealthy relationship. Will pay for everything and be far more permissive than I am comfortable with if you pay attention to me and pick up the phone every couple of hours when I call you.



## Kerry/Clinton vs. Bush/Schwarzenegger?

*Both parties announce controversial running mates to increase hot-topic media exposure.*

**A.P. Ryder**  
Torch Gopher

In a startling move just announced last night, Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry has picked former U.S. president Bill Clinton as his running mate in the upcoming November elections. Not to be outdone, however, President George W. Bush has countered by dropping current Vice President Dick Cheney in favor of California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In what has already become known as

"the battle of the bulges," many pundits expect this squaring-off of popular pawers and gropers to turn up the heat on what has thus far been a relatively mild campaign season.

"Sure, it's been full of mud and slander," said political analyst Tim Russert of MSNBC's "Meet the Press," "but where's the sex? Where are the boobs? The Janet Jackson incident is already two months old, and didn't personally involve a single candidate. The American public is hungry for fresh meat, so to speak."

That ever-prescient cultural barometer called television seems to echo this sentiment, as spates of new reality-TV shows are already being prepared to coincide with the November showdown. CBS has just announced plans for "Survivor: the Oval Office," while FOX has trotted out its new "Bachelorette Beauty Pageant Make-over Sexual Harassment Lawsuit" series.

Three episodes of the latter show were purportedly shot in the space of 45 minutes this morning.

T-shirt shops and bumper sticker manufacturers are expecting a booming business as summer and fall approach. Adam "Hungry" Leman, owner of Atlanta-based Hotshot Designs, is looking forward to what he predicts will be record sales.

"I had my creative team, composed of my cousin Gary and my wife's brother Chi-Chi, working on ideas all night," said Leman. "We've already started the presses with our 'If this vote's a-rockin', don't come a-knockin'' shirts and 'Ahead in the poles' bumper stickers. That's hilarious!"

Presidential spoiler Ralph Nader has not officially commented on the moves by his opposition, but a source close to the wildcard candidate asserts that Nader is seriously eyeing dead comedian Benny Hill as his running mate.

## Torch rebukes rubrics, reboots robot

*Mechanized reporter still utilized despite controversy.*

**Journey Litz**  
Incompetent Freak

A discovery was made within the Torch offices recently that may impact the ability of the paper to enter any journalism contests. On March 6, 2004, it was revealed that one of the staff writers is not technically a student; further, 'he' is not technically even human.

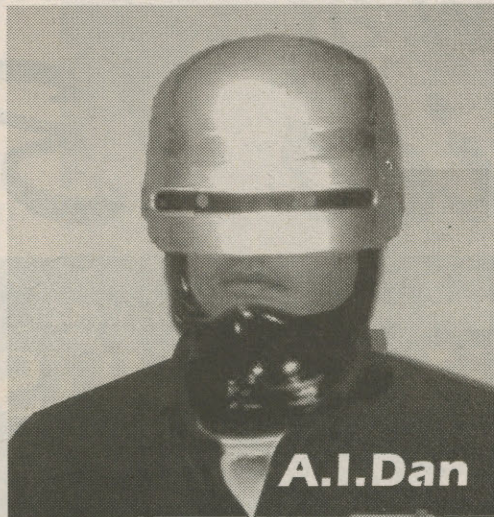
The reporter known as "Aidan Keuter" has been discovered to be a beta-test prototype of a government experiment in artificial intelligence. The model was created by the Keuter Corporation of Germany, engineered to specialize in the boring task of reported writing.

"I take no responsibility for this whatsoever," said Torch news editor Snoop D. News. "I simply did not know. All this time, I've been calling him 'Aidan,' but it turns out his name is just 'Dan.A.I. Dan.'"

"Had I known, I certainly would not have continued assigning him, er, it news stories," News continued. "I would have put it to better use, such as proofreading for grammatical errors and making photocopies, or maybe writing my marine biology papers."

News made the startling discovery on the Saturday in question after accidentally tripping over an electrical cord plugged into the outlet in his office. "I followed the cord back to its point of origin, which was coming out of the cuff of A.I. Dan's pants."

A.I.Dan was apparently standing in a dark corner, facing the wall. "I was uncer-



tain of what to do," said News. "I'm very accepting of everyone's personal sexual deviations, so I certainly didn't want to judge or interrupt whatever was going on. But when the lights started to flicker, I thought whatever was in his pants may have short-circuited and may in fact be harming him. Boy, was I wrong."

Wrong indeed. What News actually discovered upon closer inspection were blinking LED's and the name 'KeuterCo.' etched in a plastic panel on the back of the neck of the A.I.Dan unit. This led to a series of phone calls, first to the school then to the government and finally to the Keuter Corporation itself.

Pentagon officials and executives at Keuter Corporation refused to comment at this time, citing security concerns and a general disdain of the media. "Mind your own damn business," said one unnamed military officer.

Like News, editor-in-chief Ebag Yeldrab also denied any knowledge of A.I.Dan's

origins, though he hinted that such late knowledge of the unit's purpose may not keep the paper out of the running at the annual Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association awards.

"It certainly would not be prudent, hypothetically speaking, if the paper were to knowingly engage in a course of action that would take advantage of an unfair situation," he said. "Under these particular dubious circumstances, however, my gut instinct tells me that that ONPA association may not hasten to disqualify us, based on the simple assertion that our own organization did not possess the prior wherewithal to actively alter the factors of error in a timely fashion. No falsehoods were knowingly construed on our behalf."

Advisor Dorothea Wearne clarified Bradley's statements. "To put it more simply, we're not sure if we'll be disqualified since we didn't knowingly break any rules," she said. "Judges for ONPA are still deciding how to rule, since obviously this is uncharted territory."

When asked for comment on his future with the Torch, A.I.Dan replied, "Prime directive number 1: Keep paragraphs short. Prime directive number 2: I before E except after C. Prime directive number 3: Uphold the inverted pyramid."

The case with ONPA was ongoing at the time of this writing, though Torch editors plan on keeping A.I.Dan around for the time being. "I've always called him my 'writing machine,'" said News, "but I had no idea just how correct I was."

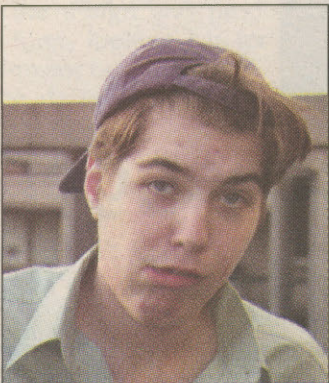
The Torch is currently petitioning the government to allow the LCC computer science division to reconfigure the A.I.Dan unit with upgrades that would enable it to make coffee and take notes at Board of Education meetings.



# BACK PAGE

## The Pulse

What did you think of presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich's recent visit to LCC?



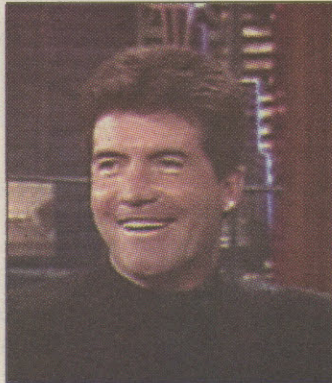
**Jake Smythe**  
Village Idiot

He was reasoned, intelligent and didn't use cliché political buzzwords — I couldn't understand a thing! I need to go home and catch the sound bytes on CNN.



**Alfred E. Newman**  
American Icon

He sure is an attractive man, isn't he?



**Simon Cowell**  
Professional Ass[t]

That was absolutely dreadful. I'm being completely serious. You call that politicking? You do realize that American President is an election, don't you?



**Tracy Dougan**  
Scientific Research Subject

It was great! I would love for him to be the first bobble-head doll president of the United States.



**Bill Woodson**  
Demonic Ape / Business Ethics

It's great that he's able to speak up about progressive issues while at the same time not affecting the vote one bit. Ralph Nader could learn a lot from him about the delicate balance between having strong convictions and convincing anybody to give a damn about them.

Compiled by Jimmy Hoffaman

## Now at Movies 13

### The guy from Lethal Weapon and Braveheart presents... **THE PASSIVE CHRIST**

"Whatever"  
- Sisko and Eggbert

"I was moved ... all the way to the couch."  
- Joe L. Spiegel



And the shocking ending...  
...Jesus gets a hair-cut and a real job!



**R** For Realistic Lounging and Scratching

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bums.

"So far, the cats are working fine, when they come to eat the scraps we throw out at night, we just throw a net on them, but that won't work forever, soon we may have to resort to

mice-on-a-string," said Baker. "I have heard rumors that there may be a protest against the new cat meat which may give us a new opportunity...I've always wondered what hippie meat tastes like."

### ART BUILDING from page 1

that may or may not have happened, nor had any sightings of the building been reported.

Possible motives for the burglary range from monetary reasons to pure maliciousness, though more sinister rumors are beginning to circulate on campus. A student in the art program, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that he thought it might have been an inside job.

"Nobody could pull off this kind of heist without some inside help," he said. "Anybody know what the school gets from the insurance company for something like this?"

The affected students, for their part, seem to be adjusting rather well. Determined to press on despite the adverse conditions, coupled with the school's near-maximum occupancy, they are doing their best to make do with what they have. With such a large percentage of their program gone, however, the art students in particular are left with what amounts essentially to a very large sand box.

Restructuring many of the

classes into a learning community titled "A Return to Basics: Art Principles of Primitive People," instructors have begun providing guidance to the students in proper techniques of modeling, using mud, and scraping elaborate pictures in the dirt with some twigs and branches found nearby. Most will still not admit that there is no building, however.

Student Alisha Smith finds the exercises a refreshing change of pace. "It's cool. I mean, what else are we supposed to do? Like, dirt and stuff is natural and like, you know, I don't mind. Sometimes the sun makes it kinda hard to see what the teacher is scratching into the ground but you know it's aight. My butt gets dirty sometimes though, so that sucks."

Anyone with information on the supposedly missing building is encouraged to contact either the Administration or Public Safety. A reward may or may not be offered, depending on whether it is determined that the building was ever actually missing in the first place.