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NEW EXPRESSION

MARCH 1999

VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 5

SEXUAL MOLESTATION...

...THAT DIRTY SECRET

By Eliyannah Yisrael, The Israel Academy

As a child some scars heal quickly and others stay for a while. But the wounds of sexual molestation last for a lifetime.

While sexual molestation is one of the best kept secrets among teen victims, it's something that many are dealing with, according to psychologists who counsel these youth.

By definition, molestation occurs when adults make sexual advances toward minors, but that definition doesn't describe the psychological effects of having the act occur from people who youth trust with their lives.

More often than not, the people who commit these acts have a family closeness to their victims. Mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, cousins and family friends are the ones who take their whole worlds away.

One of the most disturbing truths about sexual assaults is that the victim and offender generally know each other, and the victim has an investment of trust. According to a 1997 Bureau of Justice Statistics, 60 percent of rapes and sexual assaults took place in the victim's home or at the

home of a friend, relative or neighbor. Among rapists, about 70 percent said their victims were not strangers. Of those people convicted of other sexual assaults, less than 15 percent said the victims were people with whom they had no prior relationship.

Teens deal with being molested in many different ways. According to Jamillah Kareem, a counselor at The Israel Academy, some psychological effects of being sexually molested include low self-esteem and behavioral changes.

"A person who is naturally outgoing may become shy and vice-versa," Kareem said. She added that some people develop abnormal sexual patterns as a result of being molested, and others become open to abuse, including alcoholism and drug abuse.

In cases of sexual abuse, self-esteem is greatly affected and psychologists have proven that to survive happily in life, you need high self-esteem.

"Low self-esteem can turn into self-hatred, which isn't healthy," says Brenda Jones, a counselor at The

continued on page 4

Students applaud Clinton's plan

By Lenora Boothe,
Lindbloom Tech

During his January State of the Union address, President Clinton outlined his plans to improve America's schools. The plan includes ending social promotion, transforming failing schools, building modern schools, supporting qualified teachers and promoting innovation, competition and discipline.

Later this year, Clinton will ask Congress to support a plan holding states and school districts accountable for progress and rewarding them for results. Known as the Education Accountability Act, the bill would require every school district receiving federal help to end social promotion, close or reform under-achieving schools, improve the quality of teachers, provide parents with more information on schools and implement discipline policies.

"The whole idea of progressive learning is an extremely feasible one," said Andrea Chinnaswamy, a 17-year-old senior at Farragut. "Cooperative learning is the key and you cannot build one's self-esteem by putting them in a class full of yo-yo's. I whole-heartedly believe that the majority of the funds should go toward public institutions. The idea of President Clinton's plan to refurbish deficient schools is definitely a good one, but he may want to think of

the students' (needs) more than the schools'," Chinnaswamy said.

Clinton also plans to triple funding for summer school and after school programs to avoid detaining students when the system fails.

"If you doubt this will work, look at Chicago, which ended social promotion and made summer school mandatory for those who don't master the basics," Clinton said in the state of the union address. "Math and reading scores are up three years running, with some of the biggest gains in some of the poorest neighborhoods."

The President is also recommending a six-fold increase in scholarships for college students who commit to teach in the inner cities, isolated rural areas and Native-American communities, in order to attract young teachers. His budget also includes 200 million dollars to help states reform failing schools, and also expand the number of public charter schools.

"I think it's a good idea to give teachers more money to teach in urban areas," said LaJaun Criswell, a 15-year-old sophomore at Whitney Young. "In urban areas a lot of children don't have the same exposure to the learning materials, so it makes the job harder," Criswell said.

Verdict still out on standardized tests

Avian Carrasquillo,
Weber

Much controversy has arisen over standardized tests. At one time, students only had to worry about passing classroom quizzes and exams to go to the next grade. Now, no matter how well a student does in classroom assignments, the final grade is based upon how well a student scores on state and national standardized tests.

Despite the uneasiness about the tests, Chicago students are doing well, according to results from recent test sources.

The Illinois Goal Assessment Test (IGAP), is a test given annually to all public school students in Illinois to measure

student achievement in subjects such as reading, writing, math, science and social science. According to last year's results, public schools improved their performance on the IGAP tests, boasting gains in 16 of 18 areas. This is the 3rd straight year that Chicago's IGAP scores have improved.

"The IGAP results are another sign that our schools are getting better," said Gary Chico, Chicago Public School, (CPS) Board President, in a recent press release.

Increases in Chicago's average scores on the IGAP outpaced

the statewide gains in 13 of 18 areas reported. Chicago's 10th graders improved in writing and the city outperformed the county. Four Chicago schools: Lane Tech, Lincoln Park, Von Stueben, and Whitney Young were above the state averages.

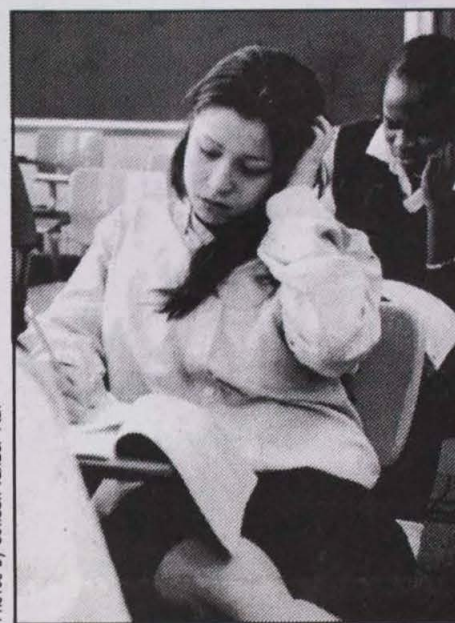
The ITBS/TAP (Illinois Test of Basic Skills/Tests of Achievement and Proficiency) test is also used to monitor progress. Again, the students continued to show improvement.

"No matter what test is used, our students are showing improvement. We have seen three years of gains on the IGAP," said Paul Vallas, Chief Executive Officer of the CPS.

Another exam put into place recently was implemented as part of the Board of Education's plan to reform learning and teaching assessments.

The CASE exams were developed by over 20 teachers in the CPS system and took a year and a half to create. It covers 11 high school subjects such as U.S. history, algebra, world studies and English.

These tests were just implemented during the last school year and results are not yet available to show how students are faring.



Photos by Colleen vander Noot

Despite the uneasiness about the tests, Chicago students are doing well, according to results from recent test scores.

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Watch your mouth: Nasty news about cold sores

By Angela Ruiz,
St. Scholastica

If dealing with acne is a headache, then cold sores are migraines. Cold sores, or fever blisters, are caused by the herpes simplex viruses' type 1 and 2. Either type can infect the mouth or genitals, and generally show up as little blisters which can spread to other areas of the body, causing painful burning or itching sensations.

Herpes simplex is spread by direct skin-to-skin contact. If an infected person kisses someone on the mouth, or has oral sex performed on him or her, the virus can spread to the previously non-infected person.

Over 30 million Americans are estimated to have genital herpes. According to the American Social Health Association, over 50 million Americans have oral herpes. In some people the virus lies dormant over a lifetime, while others have frequent outbreaks.

Many conditions, including colds, flu, UV rays, menstruation, emotional upset, stress, fatigue or extremely hot or cold weather can trigger cold sores.

Once a person is infected by Herpes Simplex type 1, it can remain dormant in the body until it reacts to physical, environmental or mental changes. When the change occurs in the body, the virus travels from the nerve roots in the spine up to the skin and creates a lesion, or an unsightly blister.

Health officials say cold sores are commonly found on the lips, and

inside the mouth, and on the genitalia because they thrive in warm moist areas of the body.

There is no cure for cold sores but there are ways to suppress the outbreaks. Health officials suggest the following tips:

Early detection is a must. See a doctor and get a prescription for Valtrex or a similar drug. If you feel a burning, itching or tingling sensation around your mouth, pop several pills immediately. This will limit the pain and growth of the sores almost immediately. Over the counter products

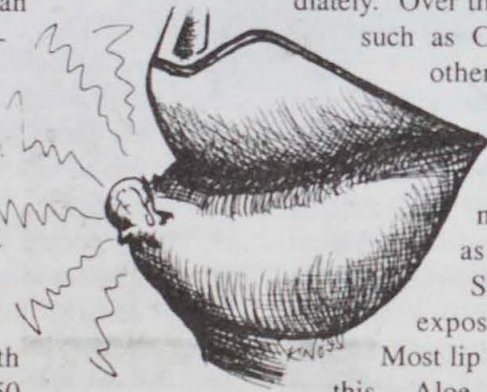
such as Carmex, Blistex or other ointments that contain Benzocaine are OK, but aren't nearly as effective as Valtrex.

Shield lips from sun exposure or cold air. Most lip balms are good for this. Aloe, cocoa butter, and vitamins A and E are natural ointments that may help with the irritation.

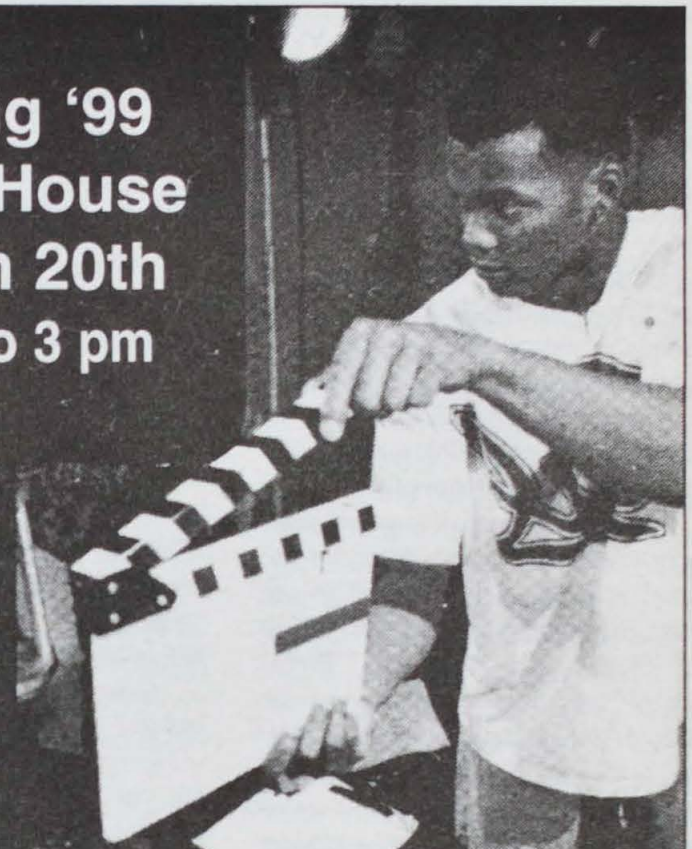
Take steps to reduce personal stress. Take a time out! Medication, massages, yoga or anything that is relaxing can help reduce stress levels. Also, eating healthy and regular exercise reduces stress and helps benefit the body in other ways too.

If an outbreak has already occurred, infected persons should keep the outbreak clean and dry and avoid touching the sore at all. This includes kissing. Infections can spread and become worse when constantly touched. Outbreaks usually occur for only 3-7 days. If cold sore flare-ups become frequent or very severe, see a physician.

Art by Joaquin Ochoa



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Inside NE

More Ways to Impress a Girl.....page 6

Sick of Tests? Teens speak out.....page 11

Recruiters prey on teen athletes.....page 14

Teens love violence

By Dar'Keith Lofton,
Foreman

People seem to love violence and can't help renting "Faces of Death" from the video store, or slipping a quarter into the arcade machine for a quick game of "Mortal Kombat." For those of you who think that I'm full of crap, here is an example.

Two students are in a school hallway loudly bickering. Many of the other students gather around to see what the commotion is about. Some of them begin shouting, "Fight! Fight!" as more students join the crowd. Before the heat gets any hotter, a teacher breaks things up and sends the two arguing students away. When everything is quiet, a student exclaims in disappointment: "Darn, I wanted to see a fight!"

Does this scenario sound common?

Violence has been a major form of expression throughout world history. In the days of the old west, if two people wanted to settle a dispute, they simply grabbed a gun and dueled to the death. If a country wants to take over another country, they invade and attempt to massacre a huge number of people, and start an ongoing war with the country.

Events of the past have a strong impact on the future. Today, violence has gone beyond just a way of settling disputes. It is now a mode of human pleasure. It is difficult for many people to choose a movie to rent from Blockbuster that doesn't have a gunfight and at least three explosions. For teens, there is hardly a time in which they purchase a video game without first wondering if it has any fatalities or blood codes.

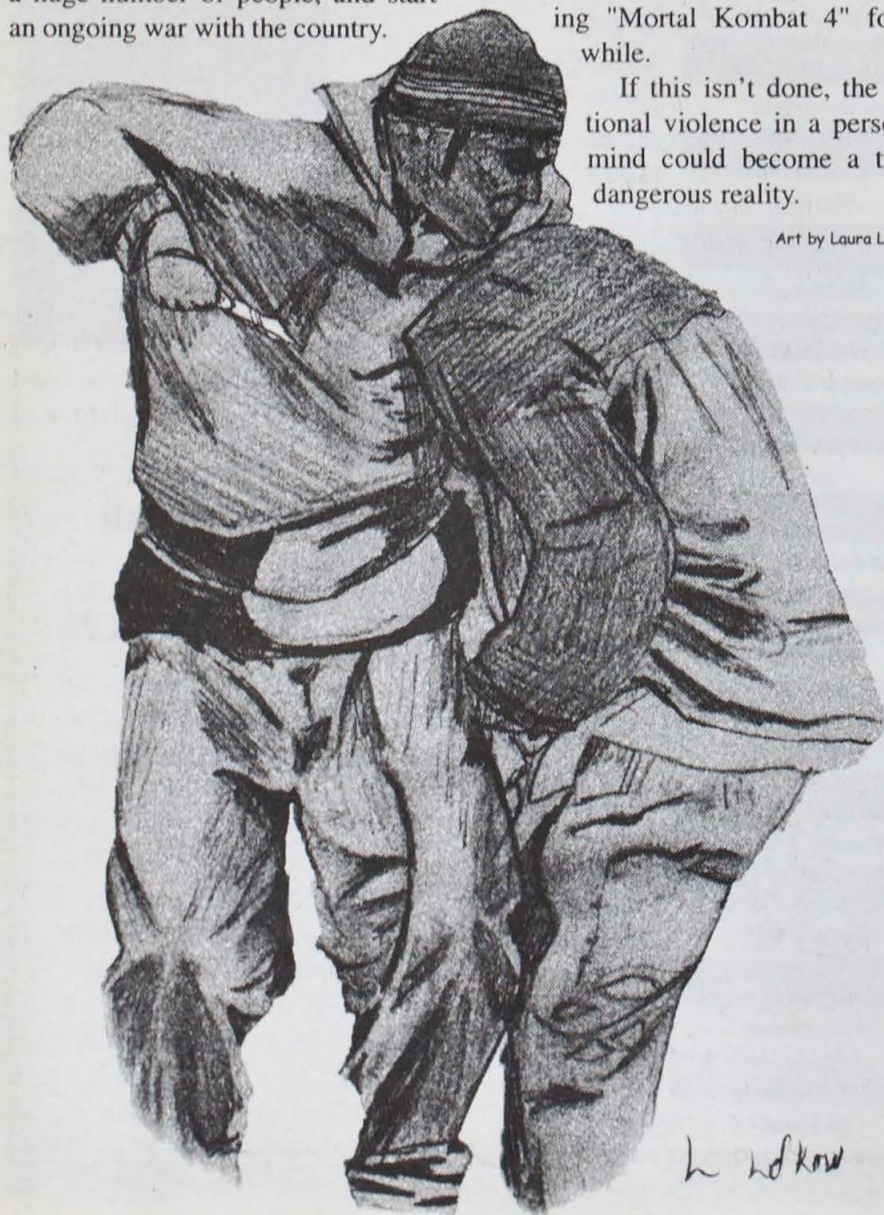
Does this say that we are all sadists?

Not exactly. There is a limit to the amount of violence a person can express. It is obvious that there would be nothing cool about pumping a shotgun shell into someone's stomach or ripping your friend's head off his body.

A person must look deep into their soul desires. If they seem too attracted to violent motives and even feel like copying with what they see, then they should "boycott" themselves from the things in their life that promote violence. This means not going to the theater to see "Psycho" or playing "Mortal Kombat 4" for a while.

If this isn't done, the fictional violence in a person's mind could become a truly dangerous reality.

Art by Laura Lefkowitz



Art by Crisol Gracia

(Molestation, continued from cover)

Family Rescue Center, a center that counsels rape and molestation victims.

According to John J. Marcionis, author of "Sociology," most children are abused from mid-childhood to about ages 16-18. By the time they've reached any kind of adulthood, including adolescence, they have already soaked up all they need to know about love. Consequently, many victims shut love out of their lives.

Psychologists have suggested that sexual abuse victims sometimes tend to blame themselves for the abuse. This self-blame makes them think this is the way people show their love. They will also grapple with verbal, mental, and quite possibly, physical abuse. In future years, these victims will accept their mates cheating on them just to avoid being alone. They develop a dependency because they lack self-esteem. They may even go on to abuse their children, psychologists suggest.

Most sexually molested children tend to keep secret what happened to them because they think that no one will believe them, or they might have been threatened.

They are told, "If you tell, I'll do the same thing to your brother," or, "If you tell, I'll kill your mother," Kareem said.

The silence exists because they fear people may ridicule them, Kareem suggested.

"Females think people will think they're sluts, and males are afraid of being called gay, particularly if the abuse comes at the hands of a female," Kareem said.

She adds that there are questions that race through victims' minds, such as, "If I hadn't worn this, if I hadn't said that, if I hadn't put these

clothes on. They also, at times, think God is punishing them for something they did or didn't do."

Brenda Jones says it's important for victims to talk to someone when they are abused.

"Many people feel they're okay, and they're not aware of the psychological damage that can come from being sexually abused. These people need to get help if they want any chance at a happy life."

If you have been sexually molested and would like to get some help, here is a list of places you can call:

- 1. Chicago Counseling and Psychotherapy Center (CCPC)**
203 N. Wabash, Suite 2208
203 N. Wabash, Suite 2208
- 2. Circle Family Care**
1629 N. Hamlin
(773) 227-9015
- 3. Circle Urban Ministries**
118 N. Central Ave.
(773) 921-1446
- 4. Community Counseling Centers of Chicago**
(773) 769-0205; 4749 N. Clark
(773) 506-2323; 5691 N. Ridge
(773) 549-2322;
1447 W. Montrose
- 5. NuWay Community Services Inc.**
(773) 363-3480;
7237 S. South Chicago Ave.
- 6. Serenity Counseling Inc.**
(773) 643-0500;
2011 E. 75th St.
- 7. Sullivan House Inc. Lan 82**
(773) 651-4901;
8254 S. Cottage Grove Ave.

"My Child is Gay" By Bryce McDougall
Allen & Unwin, 193 pages

By Brandon Bruner,
Robeson

"My Child is Gay," is a series of letters from parents who have a gay or lesbian child. The parents wrote the letters to share how they dealt with their feelings and their children.

The author suggests that few parents are accepting of their children's alternative lifestyle and many even are confused over the matter. Several parents express feelings of uncertainty on where to turn for help and support for their feelings of grief and loss.

The book expresses the anger, embarrassment, guilt and confusion that many parents deal with as they come to grips with the issue.

While this book is more geared toward parents, youth looking for ways to tell their parents about this issue could benefit somewhat from reading the testimonials, but they offer no official advice.

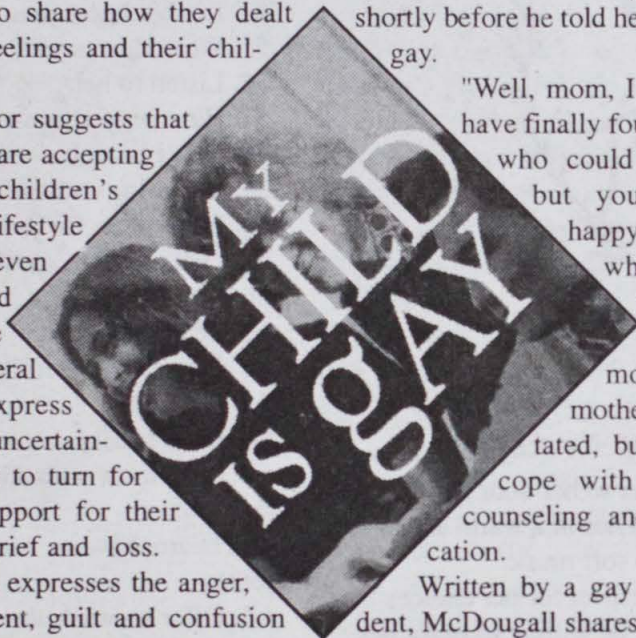
One chapter describes a mother's

anguish after the eldest of her three sons told her he was gay. She described him as being withdrawn shortly before he told her that he was gay.

"Well, mom, I think I may have finally found someone who could be special, but you won't be happy about it," is what the unidentified son told his mother. The mother felt devastated, but learned to cope with it through counseling and communication.

Written by a gay college student, McDougall shares his personal story and how he dealt with the issue. However, there are no concrete tips for students who may be dealing with how to talk to their parents about this.

I would recommend the book if you are just curious to find parents' reactions to their gay and lesbian children, but if you're looking for something else, forget about it.



NE CD Reviews

"Chyna Doll"
Foxy Brown

By Laila McCloud,
Lincoln Park

In her second time around Foxy Brown shows some maturity. Foxy is the executive producer of "Chyna Doll," and had total control over the production. With the ability to write her own songs, naturally there are some changes. For example, the subject matter has strayed away from the



initial CD which focused on money, cars and clothes. However, there are still a lot

of collaborations and samples from other artists, which lends one to think that Foxy still can't hold her own. The likes of DMX, Mya, Jay-Z, Total and Noreaga are some of the many guest artists on this CD.

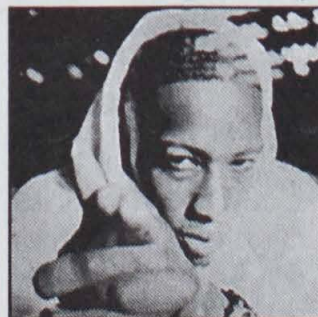
As far as the CD goes, "Tramp" is a re-make of the Salt N' Pepa classic, where Foxy pays homage to some of hip-hop's pioneers. The autobiographical, "My Life," gives listeners a look at how Inga Marchand became Foxy Brown. My personal favorite, "Ride (Down South)," features 8-Ball, MJG, Juvenile adding a little southern flavor to the release.

Overall I give this CD a B+. However, Foxy Brown sounds a lot like her rival Lil' Kim.

"It's A Beautiful Thing"
Keith Murray

By Eliyannah Yisrael,
Israel Academy

Keith Murray's newest release "It's a Beautiful Thing," is truly a beautiful thing.



With 19 rocking songs, this CD is sure to keep your head bobbing in such a rhythmic motion that it may take you into a trance. Each song will have you smiling and doing all the oohing and aahing your mouth can manage.

Of course, this album isn't free from profanity, but it's not laced with a curse word in every line, either. If you can get beyond that, then you'll enjoy songs like "Bad Day," a flip to Ice Cube's 1995 release "Today Was A Good Day."

Another track sure to captivate listeners is "A Message From Keith." This number is about insight and life's choices. It is about dealing with your mistakes, growing up and respecting life. Something like this might be the motivation some young people need to focus on making their life the best it can be, and to stop wasting time.

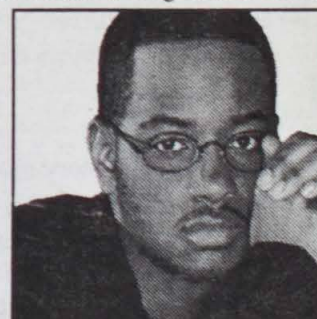
The CD is thoughtful and entertaining, but Murray still managed to keep it real. This is evident with the appearances of his Def Squad Crew members: Erick Sermon, Redman and Cannabis, Too Short, LL Cool J and Déjà Vu. This is a must-have for all hip-hop fans.

Marc Dorsey
"Crave"

By Eliyannah Yisrael, Israel Academy

Marc Dorsey, a new artist for Jive Records, will have a long future ahead

of him if he keeps turning out hits like his debut album, "Crave."



The title track, "Crave," is beautifully written and the music is enough to make you get all sentimental inside. This song is about a lost love that he misses: "And even though there's no more us to save, it's you I crave..."

His soulful and melodic voice sounds really relaxing, but there are few problems. The lyrics from the track, "If you really wanna' know," are unclear. It sounds like he's still in love with his old girlfriend on the song verse, but the chorus calls this woman, "an ex-girlfriend of mine, a little thing that I kick on the side." Things that make you go h-m-m-m.

The last song on the single, "Tell your man (he's gotta' go)," makes you want to get rid of all the men and women who are dogs. One verse says it all, "Pack all his bags, call him a cab."

The lyrics are strong, his vocals are powerful and, hopefully, no one will pack Marc Dorsey's bags and call him a cab, because he's a good one.

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Lessons guys need to learn from girls

(Part 2 in a series) By Johanna Martinez, Gage Park

In the February edition of NE, we suggested 35 ways for a guy to impress a girl. Here are 33 more tips. The final tips will be listed in the April edition of NE. We welcome responses to our list. Send your letters to New Expression newspaper, Ways to Impress, 600 S. Michigan, Chicago, Illinois 60605-1996, or E-mail us at: newexpress@aol.com, or Fax us at (312) 922-7151. We may print your letter in the next edition of NE.

- 36. Have good self-esteem but don't be arrogant
- 37. Take her to an amusement park
- 38. Pay for her nails to get done
- 39. Take long summer night drives together
- 40. Stay physically fit
- 41. Look good

- 42. Always smell good
- 43. Don't leave food stuck between your teeth
- 44. Have good smelling breath
- 45. Call her just to say "hello"
- 46. Have good taste in clothes



Art by Cathy Chouloute

- 47. Walk her to her door after a date
- 48. Sit with her in a warm area listening to soft music
- 49. Have respect for her choices
- 50. Always be willing to make her number one

- 51. Give her money
- 52. Carry her purse or book bag
- 53. Keep your ears clean
- 54. Let her know your goals in life
- 55. Wear clean socks
- 56. Listen to her.
- 57. Have a good sense of humor
- 58. Don't be tight
- 59. Get a dog named "Fluffy"
- 60. Be on time for dates
- 61. Learn how to speak to her without slang
- 62. Be independent
- 63. Don't look at other girls when you're with her
- 64. Have family values
- 65. Have a car with a bumping stereo system
- 66. Learn how to wash your own clothes
- 67. Offer to wash the dishes at her house
- 68. Do your household chores

History overlooks teens Civil Rights workers

By Lenora Boothe,
Lindbloom

During Black History month, many teachers spend long hours assigning students projects to get them more in touch with black heritage and give them insight to black perils. Unfortunately these assignments usually overlook the contributions of young people in the struggle for civil rights.

According to the book, "The Civil Rights Movement," in 1961, James Bevel, a Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) member, persuaded Martin Luther King, Jr. to use Birmingham, Alabama's black high school students as demonstrators in the civil rights movement's efforts in that segregated city. Bevel argued that while many adults might be reluctant to participate in marches, fearing that jail would cost them their jobs, their children had less to lose. King agreed, and on May 2, over 1,000 black children ranging from 6 to 18-years-old marched out of the 16th St. Baptist Church to demonstrate racial discrimination in downtown lunch counters, restrooms, and stores.

Police Chief Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor brought in

school buses to arrest 959 of the adolescents. The next day, Birmingham barricaded the 16th St. Baptist Church. Connor had also ordered out the city's police dogs and firefighters. When some of the students tried to leave the church, the police struck them using fire hoses with enough pressure to take off tree bark. The jet streams ripped their clothes and left them bloodied on the ground. Several of the children were beaten indiscriminately by police and attack dogs were set loose among the crowd.

Across the nation, the violent incidents shocked the American public. People watched television news and read newspapers and magazines of children being washed away by the water hoses and attacked by police dogs.

Teens also contributed to the desegregation of schools. On September 3, 1957, 250 National Guardsmen surrounded Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, to allow nine black teens to enter the all-white school. After weeks of enduring the taunts and threats of angry mobs, the Little Rock Nine (the name given to the nine students)

were escorted into the school by troops from the 101st Airborne division on September 24, 1957. In the "Civil Rights Movement," Little Rock Nine member, Elizabeth Eckford, recalled the struggle to attend Central High School.

"I tried to see a friendly face somewhere in the mob. I looked into the face of an old woman, and it seemed a kind face, but when I looked at her again, she spat on me," Eckford said.

On May 29, 1958, Ernest Green, another Little Rock Nine member, became the first black student to graduate from Central. Things hadn't changed much when he graduated, according to a recent television interview.

"When they called my name, there was nothing, just a name, and then silence. Nobody clapped. But I figured they didn't have to, because after I got that diploma, that was it. I had accomplished what I had come for," Green said.

Had it not been for the involvement of that generation of youth, many of the gains we currently enjoy would not exist. There is still work left to do and this is the generation to do it.



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Women still struggle for equality

By Chanel Polk
University of Illinois (at Chicago)

For more than 12 years, March has been recognized as National Women's History Month, but women are still not recognized for the achievements or gifts they have given to the United States and the world.

For many young women, the thought of being restricted from participating in any activities that fall outside of household responsibilities and caring for children, is an alien concept. Yet the adage, "a woman's place is in the home," still exists among too many men.

In too many cases, women are still being seen as the property of males for gratification through acts of sexual harassment, rape and other forms of intrusion. Violence and disrespect against women are still concepts that remain familiar to women even at the end of the 20th century.

From the 1800's to the present, women in America have constantly struggled against these widely expressed ideas of what women's roles in society should be. They have

blazed new frontiers for women to participate in all facets of society. But these gains didn't come overnight.

According to the Chicago Area Woman's Conference and the Women and Labor Project, in 1860, about 85 percent of Chinese women in San Francisco were essentially enslaved as prostitutes. At that same time, nearly 2 million black women were slaves in America.

By the early 1900's, American women pulled together to fight against these and other injustices. The right to vote, unequal pay in the workplace and sexism were their top issues, and the last two still exist as major concerns today.

In the 1960's, women won major victories against dominant American ideologies. In 1964, the Civil Rights Act was passed. Title VII of that law protects people from employment discrimination based on sex, race and other grounds. Title VII provided for the creation of the

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) which investigates complaints and enforces the laws created in the Civil Rights Act.

According to The Women in Labor History Project timeline, in the first five years the EEOC was established, 50,000 complaints of gender discrimination were reported.

By the 1970's and 80's more women than ever were receiving college educations and were involved in politics. The right to have an abortion was granted in the Federal Supreme Court Case of Roe v. Wade. Sexual harassment was finally taken out of the closet as Anita Hill presented formal charges against then Supreme Court judge nominee Clarence Thomas.

Women construction workers, women fire fighters and women doctors have become a reality. Women's presence in male dominated aspects of life indicates that the myths of incompetence and weakness that surround women have diminished.

National Women's History Month Facts Compiled by Ne Staff

The 19th amendment to the constitution was ratified, guaranteeing women citizens the right to vote in 1920.

In 1968, Shirley Chisholm became the first black woman elected to congress. San Francisco in 1955.

The first battered woman's shelter, founded by Cheryl Frank and Jacqueline Flenner, opened in the U.S. in Urbana, Illinois, in 1971.

The world's first women's rights convention was held in New York in 1848. in 1972.

The U.S. military began admitting women and eliminated women's only branches in 1973.

The first woman chief of a Native American tribe, Wilma Mankiller, was elected in 1985 to head the Cherokee nation in Oklahoma.

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Events

March 1-7

How I Learned to Drive
Northlight Theatre
9501 Skokie Boulevard
For more details, call
(847) 673-6300

March 1-15

12th Annual Juried Exhibition,
a student group show
Chicago Academy for the Arts
1010 W. Chicago Ave.
For tickets, call
(312) 421-0202

March 1-16

Titanic: A New Musical
The Civic Opera House
20 N. Wacker Dr.
For tickets, call
(312) 902-1500

March 1-31

Some Southern Stories
A photography and literature
exhibition
The Museum of Contemporary
Photography
Columbia College
600 S. Michigan Avenue
For more information, call
(312) 663-5554

March 1-31

Ragtime: The Musical
The Ford Center for the
Performing Arts
24 W. Randolph
For ticket information, call
(312) 902-1400

March 3

New Expression Journalism
Workshop
Free workshop designed to
improve students'
ability to research, interview
and write for publication.
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
623 S. Wabash Avenue
Room 207 (Columbia College)
To reserve a seat call Billy at
(312) 922-7150

March 7

Star Trek Convention
Hyatt O'Hare
9300 W. Bryn Mawr
For more information, call
(847) 696-1234

March 10-14

Alvin Ailey Dance Theater
Auditorium Theatre
50 E. Congress Parkway
For more information, call
(312) 922-2110



(312) 744-6630

March 18

Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
Take the time to let a child in
your life know that they're spe-
cial!
Call Camp Fire at (312) 263-
6218 for more information

March 5

"Analyze This!" - Billy Crystal
is a psychiatrist who helps a
pushy mob boss (Robert
Deniro) over come psychologi-
cal problems.

March 12

"Carrie 2: The Rage" - the
sequel to Steve King's "Carrie."
Emily Bergle is a new kid at
school who gains power to kill
with thoughts.

March 26

"Doug's 1st Movie" - The nick-
elodeon cartoon series comes
to the big screen.

"EDTV" - A video store clerk
and an enthusiastic TV watch-
er, Matthew McConaughey, is
convinced by a cable executive
to let a camera crew broadcast
his life for months.

March 31

"G's Trippin'" - A comedy
about the fantasies of a black
teenager during his senior year
in high school.

Concerts

March 3

Sugar Ray w/ Everlast and 2
Skinnee J's
Riviera
4746 N. Racine
For more information, call
275-6800

March 9

Alanis Morissette with
Garbage
Rosemont Horizon
6920 N. Mannheim
For more information, call
(847) 635-6601

March 4-7
Big Ten Men's Basketball
Tournament
United Center
1901 W. Madison
For more information, call
(312) 455-4500

March 5-6
Monsters of Grace
3-D Film Animation with live
music
Chicago Theatre
175 N. State
For more information, call
(312) 902-1500

March 5-21
Medinah Shrine Circus
European Style Circus
Medinah Auditorium
600 N. Wabash
For more information, call
(312) 266-5000

March 6
Threads of Ireland
A tour through Chicago's many
Irish neighborhoods
Chicago Cultural Center
78 E. Washington St.
For more information, call
(312) 744-0832

March 13-21
Chicago Flower and Garden
Show
Festival Hall at Navy Pier
600 E. Grand Ave.
For more information, call
(312) 595-7437

March 14
South Side St. Patrick's Day
Parade
Along Western Ave. from
103rd-114th Streets
For more information, call
(708) 239-7755

March 16-28
Cirque Ingenieux
Circus!
Shubert Theatre
22 W. Monroe Street
For tickets, call
(312) 902-1500

March 18
Young People's Concert: All
City High School Band
Performances of a variety of
band music
Chicago Cultural Center
78 E. Washington St.
For more information, call

March 18-28
Wizard of Oz
Rosemont Theatre
5400 N. River Road
For more information, call
(847) 671-5100

March 25
New Expression All City
Staff Meeting
Opportunities to join
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pletely by, for and about
Chicago teens.
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.
623 S. Wabash Avenue, Room
207 (Columbia College)
Call Billy at (312) 922-7150
to RSVP.

March 27
Underground Adventure
Grand Opening!
The Field Museum
Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore
Drive
For more information, call
(312) 922-9410

Movie releases

March 21
The Roots
329 N. Dearborn
For more information, call
(312) 527-2583
(For ages 18 and over)

March 25
Korn
Rosemont Horizon
6920 N. Mannheim
For more information, call
(847) 635-6601

March 26-27
N'Sync
Rosemont Horizon
For more information, call
(847) 635-6601

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may also E-mail us at: newex-
press@aol.com. Please type
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1st Place
Mary Mitchell,
Lane Tech

I'll do anything for a friend, even die. Another thing about my friends is when a friend tells me something in confidence, my friend doesn't have to worry about me telling anyone. But if my friend tells me something that one of their parents needs to know, because it could endanger my friend, then I'll break that confidence. I only do that in extreme cases.

One time I had to break that confidence.

It all started when my best friend started going through a rough time after breaking up with her boyfriend of three years. The reason she gave for their break up was she refused to have sex with him before marriage. She was so sad and I didn't know how to comfort her.

At the same time, her parents were getting a divorce. She thought that in some way she was part of the reason. That made her feel terrible, even though I kept telling her that it wasn't

her fault.

She slowly began isolating herself from the rest of her friends, including me.

That set off warning sirens in my head.

Finally, I got her to tell me what was wrong. She was depressed about everything, and said she didn't want to live any longer. I didn't think about it at the time because I say that sometimes and don't really mean it.

Weeks went by and she was still depressed.

One day, I unexpectedly went over to her house and found a gun in her room. When I asked my friend why the gun was in her room, she told me that she had just tried to commit suicide. I asked her if she was going to try it again. She said maybe.

The next day, when she wasn't home, I went to her house and told her mother what had happened. She was shocked. I felt sorry that I had to tell her that her daughter was trying to commit suicide. When my friend came home, her mother told her what I did and that she wanted them to seek counseling.

She stopped talking to me and

would not forgive me. I know I had done the right thing, but it felt as if it was wrong. I wanted her to still be my best friend, but not dead.

2nd Place
Lisendy Rosa,
Wells

This may come as a shock to people who know me, but I would not go too far to help a friend. I would not risk my life for someone who could come and go, as friends tend to do.

Dying is the most drastic thing a person can do for anyone. I would only risk my life for my family. I couldn't do it for a friend because they can be really unstable.

I've had many friends that were here today and gone tomorrow. Some of them even became my enemies, or we just became cordial "hi" and "bye" associates.

When I was a freshman, there was this person who I thought was my best friend. We were always together and talked about everything that was on our minds. However, when I became a sophomore, we broke apart and never talked again. She started rumors about me and I began to hate her every time I saw her. I helped this so-called friend whenever she needed it and she betrayed our friendship.

This may sound mean to others or just stupid, but I would not risk my

life, or my precious time on someone who doesn't deserve it.

3rd Place
Alfredo Remigio,
Juarez

Friends are supposed to help and be there for one another. In a friendship there is no limit to how much a friend can help, but every bit counts.

We should be with our friends during their difficult times and have assurance that they will be there for us. Only in tough situations does one find out who his real friends are. I have proven myself to be a good friend on many occasions.

For example, one of my friends was failing all of his classes. He had tutors for most of his subjects except science. I offered to help. He had a science project to do for his class, which was due in two days. I dug up my old science project from seventh grade and gave it to him to copy. It was dishonest, but I think that I helped him out a lot. That semester he received a "C" in science. I felt good for myself because I was able to help a friend out.

If I didn't help my friend, then I would have lost something very important to me. I would have lost a friend, which would have been a terrible loss, because a friend is a very special person.

March's Essay Contest Question: "What should you look for in a Date?"

Please present your arguments clearly and concisely. Your essay must be 200-300 words. The first, second and third place essays will be reprinted in the April edition of **New Expression**, and the winners will receive \$75, \$50, and \$25, respectively. Also, the teacher of the student with the first place entry wins \$25.

Rules: Must be under 20-years-old to win. All entries must be submitted with a typed cover sheet that includes your: 1) Full name; 2) Home address with the city, state and zip code; 3) Home Phone Number; 4) Age; 5) Full name of your teacher, if he/she assigned you the essay contest. Failure to comply with any of the rules will automatically disqualify your entry.

Send to: **NEW EXPRESSION**, 600 S. Michigan Ave, Chicago, Illinois 60605-1996 • Fax: (312) 922-7151 • e-mail: NewExpress@aol.com • Deadline: March 3, 1999 - 5:00 p.m. No Extensions!

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Prepare students to take tests

Staff Editorial

The Chicago School Board is making it very hard for students to go to school these days. Thanks to the board's efforts, no matter how well students do in classroom assignments, their fate lies in how well they score on a series of exams.

Introduced last year, the IGAP and TAP tests have ignited debate among parents, students and teachers. On one side you have people who applaud the tests for challenging stu-

dents to compete with national standards, but on the flip side, some students are forced to take these exams when they haven't mastered some of the subject matter in the tests. These tests are given during the winter, and some subjects won't be covered until April. How can a student pass a standardized test if he has not covered the material?

In early January, the Board of Education issued the CASE exams,

which are geared toward freshmen and sophomore students taking math, history, and English classes. Many teachers have complained that these exams were sprung on them, and they didn't have enough time to prepare their students.

While the Board's efforts to improve student test scores are great, it seems that it's rushing the process just to say Chicago students are taking these tests. If ill-prepared stu-

dents are taking these tests, then they will score poorly, and this would defeat the purpose of having the tests.

Instead of issuing test after test and policies that basically conflict with each other, School's CEO Paul Vallas and the school board should establish monthly forums that invite student input on our education. It appears that we are working against each other, when we should be on the same side.



Art by Erik Perez

Down with tests

By Marcus W. Johnson,
Harper

When is enough too much?

Each year the Chicago Board of Education sets up more challenges for public school students. Most of these challenges involve tests. While tests are generally designed to improve grades or see how students are ranked in their classes, now they're getting ridiculous. The Board of Education is forever claiming these tests are for our benefit, but how are they helping us if we don't understand them?

The most recent test is called the Case Exam. It's a multiple choice and writing test designed to determine how students are doing in their classes. The problem many students have with this test is some subjects have not been covered in class. Yet we are expected to pass it.

Adding to the frustration is that students really don't get enough time to prepare for the tests. The Case is just another pointless test that does more harm than good.

Pitting honor and regular students against each other

By Oana Cojocaru,
Lane Tech

Many teachers don't work as hard with their honor students as they do with their regular ones. Maybe they think that honor students have it all together and don't need much guidance, but nothing could be further from the truth.

High school is meant to prepare us for life, and in the real world, you will not have everything spoon-fed to you. However, there is a point where things get ridiculous.

If a few honors students in a crowded classroom are trying to have their voices heard above 30 regular students, and are ignored, then there is a problem.

Report card time makes honors kids go crazy. Their grades have always been important to them or they

wouldn't be taking honors classes now. To some, it's their identity and in high school it's very important to have an identity.

Many students complain about having to stay up all night studying, because a teacher was more interested in talking about their weekend than preparing kids for the next day's test. A history teacher at Lane Tech explains that many teachers act that way because they know you'll stay up all night learning the material, so regardless, you will be ready for the test.

Even though this is not true of all honors classes, it's sad that the majority of the time the kids who believe that learning is most important get the least incentive to learn.



Art by Erik Perez

Many thanks to our friends and supporters who made this issue possible:

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Why are teens so branded?

By Bianca Karriem, Providence St. Mel

Tommy Hilfinger, Polo Sport, Nautica. Millions of teens wear brand name clothes like these, and many others, with pride. There is a great importance based on the type of clothing that a person wears and how much money is spent on them. There are quite a few teenagers who spend literally over \$100 on a pair of shoes without even knowing if they will be wearing them six months from now.

Many teens refuse to wear clothes if they are not designer items. Even if the off-brand clothes look exactly alike, or even better than the popular name brands, they still must have that special name.

There are other issues that are more serious. There are teens that cannot afford the designer brands. Everyone



does not have the luxury of wearing \$250 jeans. Teens that don't have this luxury are often teased and excluded. It is unfortunate that material possessions are placed over a person's character. There are young peo-

ple who are taking and losing lives over materialistic objects, such as shoes, jewelry, and clothes.

Calvin Klein and the Gap seem to be more important that someone's personality. There is nothing wrong



Photos by Colleen vander Nat

with wearing designer clothes or enjoying material things. Clothing is a way in which young people express themselves as individuals. A problem occurs when young people make their main focus centered on material things. If people judge others based upon what they wear, or attempt to guess how much others paid for their shoes, this makes them materialistic.

People are born with nothing and will die with nothing. People should enjoy the things that a truly important in life, such as love and friendship. People should also be thankful that they are able to buy the expensive name brand clothing because there are some people who can't afford to "look good."

What's wrong with braids?

By Lamont Offord,
Harper

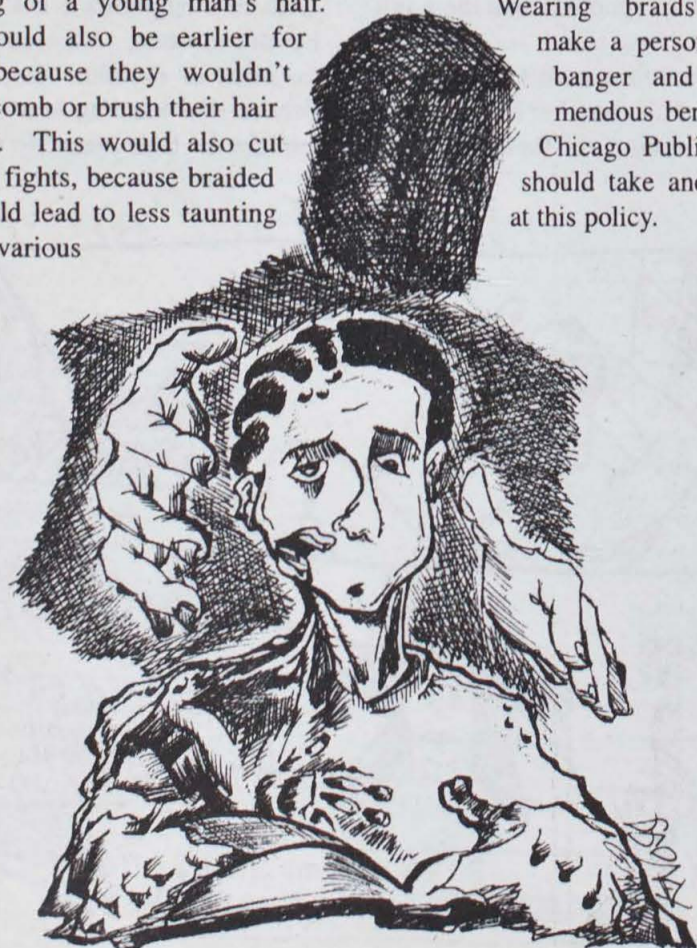
Males should be able to wear braids in school. Contrary to popular belief, braids do not represent gang banging in the way that some earrings do.

There are several benefits for a school allowing students to wear braids. For example, officials would not have to comment about the poor grooming of a young man's hair. Guys would also be earlier for school because they wouldn't have to comb or brush their hair everyday. This would also cut down on fights, because braided hair would lead to less taunting over the various

hairstyles teens wear.

Wearing braids is also part of African, Hispanic and Indian heritage. Many NBA players are criticized for wearing braids because the critics don't understand history. Just because they don't understand something, does that mean people have a right to criticize it? I don't think so.

Wearing braids doesn't make a person a gang-banger and has tremendous benefits. The Chicago Public Schools should take another look at this policy.



Art by Joaquin Ochoa

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Public transportation can be a trip

By Bianca Karriem, Providence St. Mel

If you're like me, then you don't like riding the CTA.

In fact, many teens find themselves in uncomfortable situations while using public transportation. Some have complained about being threatened, insulted and even being victims of physical and sexual assault.

Unfortunately, many of us don't have cars or many alternative modes of transportation. So we are kind of stuck. Fortunately, there are several important tips that can help us remain safe:

1) Always be aware of your surroundings and look for ways to

escape.

2) Remember where you are and find out what you can about the neighborhood that your bus or train passes through.

3) Don't travel alone, especially at night. If you can, try and find a friend that is able to take the same bus route as you.

4) If there are any passengers that seriously make you feel uncomfortable, it may be wise to remove yourself from that particular bus or train and wait for another one.

These tips may not ensure complete safety, but they can be effective.

No miracles?

By Francesca Eadie,
Columbia College

Many people are looking for miracles in their lives, but they overlook the obvious one. Perhaps it's because people are looking for miracles in all of the wrong places.

Hollywood has done a good job of painting miracles as an angel beaming down into a room and zapping heavenly stereo systems in every corner. Some may even feel that a dead person rising from a coffin would be a miracle. Events like these are bizarre and could be categorized as miracles. But do you realize that you are a miracle?

Of all the children that have died at birth or at young ages, you were given the chance to live. You are wonderful. Out of all the young people who were murdered, or hurt by unseen danger, you are alive and reading this article.

Many people had plans of waking up this morning but died in their sleep. You have breath in your body and warm blood running in your veins. Thank God for miracles.

Many people try to associate miracles with large and unbelievable events while overlooking the "small" miracle that happens everyday.



Art by Crisol Gracia

Photos by Colleen vander Nat

The Sermon

By Brittany Freeman,
Providence St. Mel

Have you ever been in church and saw people rolling around on the floor, doing cartwheels and running up and down the aisles? Some might suggest the Holy Spirit has touched these people. But what about the quiet people who sit down in silent reverence to the Lord? Do these worshippers have less of the Holy Spirit than these people exhibiting acrobatic movements?

Sure, God is worthy of praise because of the great benefits He has given us. According to Genesis, the first book in the Holy Bible, it is declared that humans are made in the image and likeness of God. We are designed to worship God, because of His awesome benefits. But we are also to fear and rever Him. People are worthy of respect for their humbleness to God's grace. The church should not ridicule members for praising God in different ways.

Just because some people dance to organ music, as the pastor is speaking at a loud and feverish pitch, doesn't mean they have gained more access to the Holy Spirit than those who choose to worship in silence.

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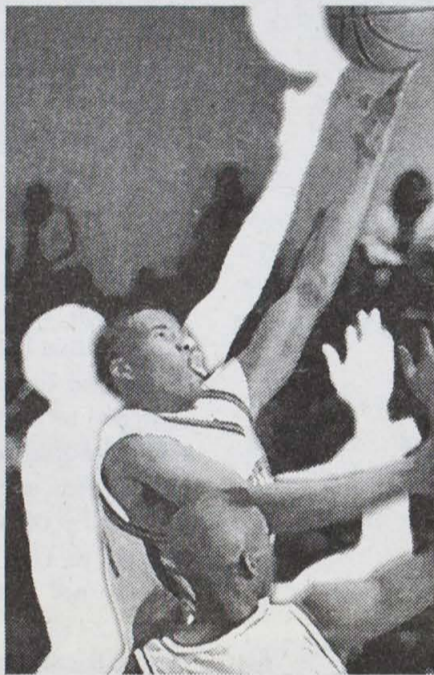
Young Dolphins drowning in section

By D'Sheadra "Dot" Benford
Hyde Park

This time last year public league fans were rocking and rolling with Whitney Young, but Young supporters are now singing the blues as an improved Public League South section has pushed last year's city and state title winners near the bottom.

Young's strength was sapped as they lost major starters to college. These included: Quentin Richardson (DePaul), Dennis Gates (University of California) and Cordell Henry (Marquette). They also lost their head coach, George Stanton, who retired from the court to accept a desk position with the Chicago Public Schools.

Meanwhile, the new Dolphin squad is having a hard time coping with these changes. Internal conflicts have caused the team to forfeit several games and the rest of the sec-



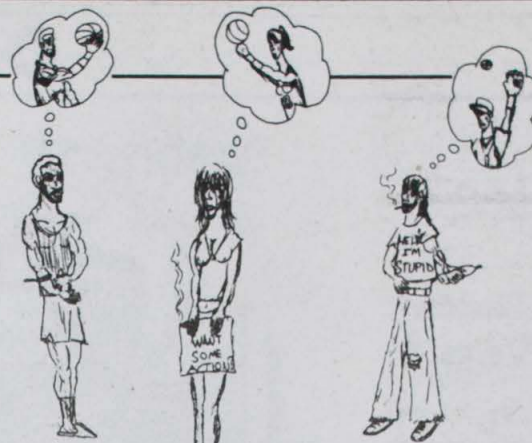
Last year, the Dolphins spent the year putting up victories. Now they are just lying down after losing players like Quentin Richardson (pictured with ball)

tion isn't feeling sorry for them as Westinghouse presents a strong challenge to take the city title.

Ranked number one most of the season, Westinghouse has risen to the top and appears to be running away with the South section.

Other teams smelling Dolphin blood are the King Jaguars and the Dunbar Mighty Men, who are in a tight first place battle in the Red Central section. Many sports writers are predicting King and Westinghouse to go head-to-head for the city title.

However, there are other section leaders who may have something to say about that, including first place bidders: Mather in the Blue North, Austin in the Blue West, Lindblom and Kenwood in the Blue Central and Carver and Simeon in the Red South.



Testing athletes for drugs

By William Kaffie, Lincoln Park

If you were an athlete, and your school required drug testing to make the team, would you consent? According to George Stanton, Athletic Director for the Chicago Board of Education, several suburban schools, including Evanston and Oak Park, have already implemented drug-testing policies.

While plans are not currently in the works for Chicago Public Schools, NE raised this issue during a recent round-table discussion with three area athletes. Their last names and sports have been withheld at their requests for anonymity.

NE: Would you consent to mandatory drug tests?

Carol (Lincoln Park): Why just athletes though? If they are going to test athletes they might as well go ahead and test everybody else. Anyway athletes would know how to get around the tests. They would be smart enough not to do anything close to or around the season.

NE: Unless they were serious about playing for the team, don't you think?

Carol: Yeah, but this isn't college or

anything, you know? It's not like we're getting paid to play. We're just playing sports at this level because we like to. We shouldn't be watched that closely.

Kenya (Senn): Drug tests could be a good idea. It would create a better focus for the team.

NE: Yeah?

Kenya: There are a lot of athletes that maintain a strong performance in school and in sports, even though they do drugs. There are also some that can't perform on drugs. It really depends on the person and what they feel they can do.

Hector (Senn): I think it would be a good idea because people would take being an athlete more seriously. Athletes should serve as role models to the rest of the students.

NE: Do you really think teens look at teen athletes as role models?

Hector: We are looked up to, and we should put out a better image than mixing drugs and alcohol with sports. If drug tests have to be implemented, it will make our sports more legitimate in the eyes of our fans.

Street recruiting runs over teen athletes

By Jabari Evans,
Luther South

Is street recruiting taking young athletes down the wrong avenue? Many people have raised this issue in light of the new faces in the NBA, those who have little to no college basketball experience. Also, there is a new culture of recruiters who even monitor playground and grammar school games.

Not long ago, athletes depended upon scholarships and recommendations from coaches. Now their allegiance has shifted to slick-talking agents who fill their heads with dreams of playing pro-ball.

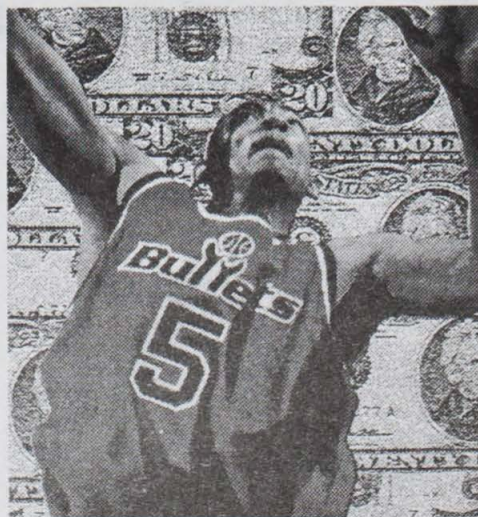
"The recruiting game is a meat market. My job is to serve professional meat," says basketball-recruiting guru Bob Gibbons, in the movie "Hoop Dreams."

Like most street agents, Gibbons' philosophy is to find a coach, get some financial backing and "your name will spread around the coaches' circle."

Street agents now roam parks and YMCA's searching for the next Kobe Bryant or Kevin Garnett to ship from high school to the pros. In addition, recruiters who work for shoe companies, universities and agencies go to public parks to woo kids with free stuff, take them to dinner and manipulate their entire careers.

In *Fab Five*, a book by Detroit Free-Press columnist Mitch Albom, the author shares extensive details on how Washington Wizards forward, Juwan Howard, was recruited to play college ball at the University of

Michigan. Howard played high school ball for Chicago Vocational.

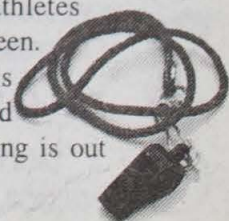


Former Chicago Vocational standout Juwan Howard (pictured) was one of many local high school athletes targeted by "street agents,"

According to the book, an agent that followed Howard since grammar school said one school was going to give him \$25,000 dollars to get Howard to go to a particular college and an additional \$10,000 for each month Howard stayed.

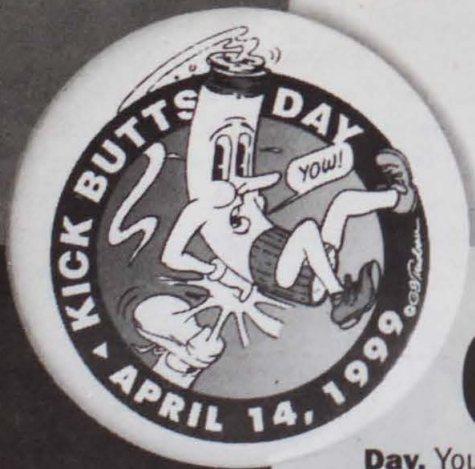
Imagine the pressure that Howard faced.

There are numerous other examples of athletes who get lured away by street agents, acts which have changed the natural recruiting process. How this affects the next crop of high school athletes remains to be seen. But one thing is for sure, the old way of recruiting is out the door.





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Rally Cross 2

For Sony Playstation

By Brandon McGruder,

Whitney Young

This game was utterly disappointing in almost every way imaginable. The combination of bad graphics, sounds, and controls leave this game with the usefulness of a drink coaster. It was a chore to play this game, even if only to review it. But, let's begin.

At first, before the race starts, the graphics can pass for better than average. However, once the motion begins, all hope is lost. It is impossible to see where the roads lead until the car is practically there. Therefore, obstacles (jumps, parked cars, etc.) appear abruptly and are hard to avoid. Sometimes the entire road and landscape can just flash in out of nowhere.

Even the instant replays are a let down, offering horrible camera angles. Often, the cars are blocked out completely as a result of the views, because the camera chooses to replay the action from behind a mountain or tree.

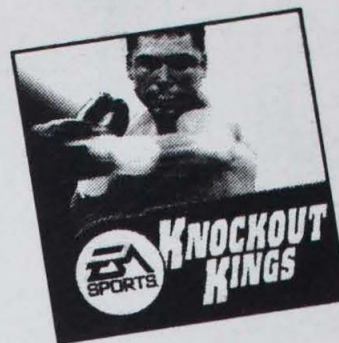
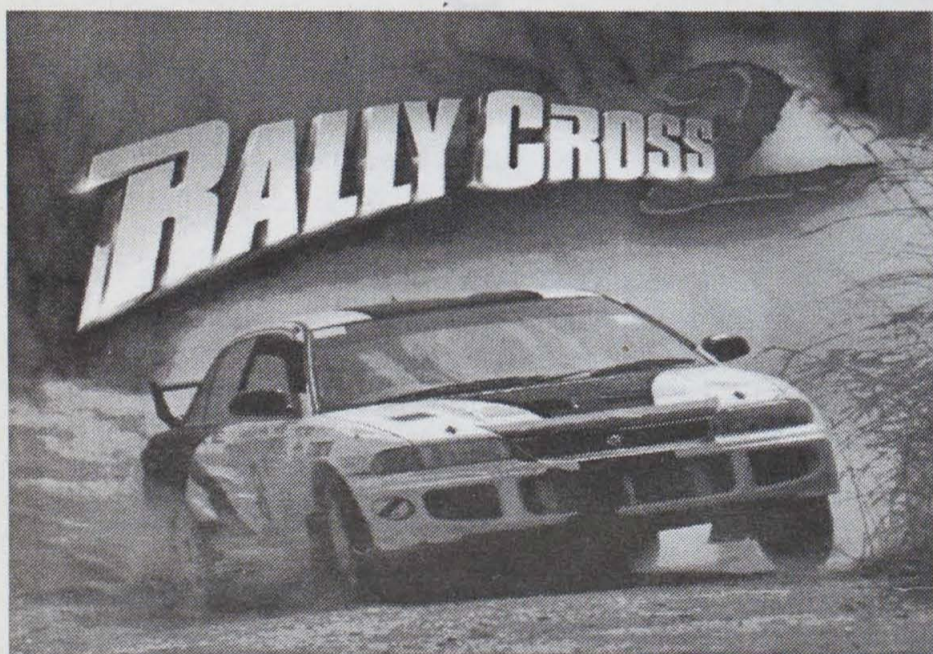
The cheering of the crowds is flat and dry and often pops in and out of synch, like something off an old tape recorder. To add to this, the sound of the cars is comparable to the sound made by children when playing with

toys (VVVVRROOOOMMM!). All the sounds in the game, including the music are muffled and fake. Each of the car looks like it weighs over a ton, yet makes a feeble, weak tinkle when it crashes or flips over.

Turning is frustrating. Tap the directional buttons softly and the car starts to skid. Tap harder or in the opposite direction, and the car skids more than you'd expect, causing an accident involving other cars or obstacles on the road. To add to that, the courses all suck. Each course has its fill of wannabe off-road feel.

Despite its troubles, Rally Cross 2 isn't a total waste. It has many options, which include track creation, four different modes of play, three different ways to play each mode (race, head-on, and suicide), practice, and time trial. Also, the load time isn't long, averaging from 10-15 seconds per load.

All in all, the game isn't the worst out there, but it's definitely not the best either. But after the half-hour it will take you to get bored/frustrated enough to turn it off, it will make a great Frisbee.



VS.



Knockout Kings and Contender battle

For Sony Playstation

By Nick Suttner, Whitney Young

When the bell rings, it's Contender who has the real knockout!

While Knockout Kings wins in the graphics and realism department, Contender wins in game play and entertainment value, which is what really matters.

Knockout Kings is pretty much for die-hard boxing fans who have always wanted to see how a Muhammad Ali versus Evander Holyfield match-up would look.

The graphics are very smooth (a lot smoother than Contender's), and the boxers all very closely resemble their real life counterparts.

However, the 1-player mode gets very boring very fast and the boxers are not varied enough in their actions to be entertaining. And on top of it all, there is at

least a 20-second load time before each fight, which really slows down the action.

Contender is overall a much more entertaining game. The game is very fast-paced and looks like a fighting game.

While they may not be based upon real boxers, the characters are very well-designed and fun to play.

The game is very colorful and nice to look at, especially the instant replay.

The one-player mode is just as fun as the two-player and the fighters are a lot more balanced.

Don't get me wrong, Knockout Kings isn't a bad game. It would be a good rental and maybe a good buy if you absolutely love boxing, but Contender excels past Knockout Kings in nearly every way. It should have a home in your video game library.



Design by Brandon McGruder

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