

Gas Woes Grow with Price

By Austen Lindberg
Special to the Live Wire

Growing tired of rising gas prices? Although the overall cost of gasoline per gallon may not lower anytime in the near future, there are still some ways you can save money on petrol.

Currently gas prices have risen to more than \$3.40 per gallon in much of the U.S. and are climbing. According to the AAA, the automobile club, the average price of gasoline in Connecticut was at a record high of \$3.48 per gallon as of April 15. Speculation has it that the price could climb to \$4 per gallon or more over the summer, making travel plans all the more difficult.

Of course, drivers can just refrain from going anywhere at all, but that's not a realistic choice for most people. And as Manchester

Price	Name	Location
\$3.66	BJ's	1046 Tolland Tpke. & Allied Way, Manchester
\$3.69	Famous Johnnie's	West St. & Talcottville Rd., Vernon
\$3.69	Citgo	229 Talcottville Rd. & Regan Rd. & Dart Hill, Vernon
\$3.72	Citgo	229 Talcottville Rd. near Sunset Terrace (Across From Little Marks BBQ), Vernon
\$3.72	Xtra Fuel	220 Spruce & Maple, Manchester

A sample of local gas prices as of 4/29/08.
Information gathered from GasBuddy.com.

Community College student Amanda Sumislaski pointed out, gas prices are far too high for kids who still want to go places.

But there are some alternatives for the average traveler.

Using a car that gets good gas mileage is probably the first alternative. Matt Brodeur, who teaches biology, said that he owns a smaller, energy efficient Honda, and a Ford Explorer, the latter of which he only uses when he absolutely must.

Another idea is carpooling. Not only do travelers save money on gasoline by taking one car, but they also get to hang out with friends or family on the way. Chris Duda said

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Fine Wines Raises Funds for 16th Year

By Jonathan Chappell and
Emily Hein
Special to the Live Wire

Wine, food and fun were featured at the 16th Annual An Evening of Fine Wines April 4. The event raised money for scholarships and other programs at Manchester Community College by selling vintage wines, trips, gift certificates, gift baskets and other items donated by area merchants.

The evening also serves as a time for the students and faculty of the Social Science and Hospitality Department's Culinary Arts program to show off their versatility.

"It's hectic, but it's fun hectic," said Grace Talaga, chief instructor with the program, adding that while the event raises money for

scholarships and other college programs, it is also a key part of the curriculum for students in the Hospitality programs.

"For a lot of people [attending] it looks like a one-night affair," she said, "but we've been working at it for months."

Jayne Pearson, who is a hospitality professor and was on the planning committee for this year's event, said about 200 students were involved in preparing meats, hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

"There are students here today that will be in charge next year," she said.

Among them was

See Wine on page 6



Pres. Jonathan M. Daube greets the crowd at the 16th Annual An Evening of Fine Wines event April 4.

Photo by Jonathon Michals

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"If you could choose to be another ethnicity, what would it be and why?"

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Writing Contest Deadline Approaches

The annual MCC Writing Contest deadline is Friday, May 23, 2008. Submit entries in the following categories: personal essay, expository essay, literary criticism, research paper, short story and poetry. Entries in the personal, expository, literary criticism and research categories must have been written for an MCC class between August 2007 and May 2008 or published in the Live Wire between those dates. Students may submit a maximum of two entries in the personal, expository, literary criticism and research categories. There are no limits on the number of entries for the short story or poetry categories. Winners will receive prizes at a ceremony held in Fall 2008. Winning entries in the poetry and short story category will be published in the Spring 2009 issue of Shapes, MCC's literary magazine. For more information contact Prof. Jeanine DeRusha, 512-2670, or jderusha@mcc.commnet.edu.

MCC Faculty and Students Honored by the Connecticut Chefs Association

The Connecticut Chefs Association recently honored three MCC faculty members for their service to the culinary profession and their involvement in the community. CCA recognized associate professor Linda Coons as Chef of the Year, and professor Sandra Jenkins as Member of the Year. Adjunct faculty member Marc Hussey received the Herbert Zimmerman Leadership Award. In addition, a team of student chefs, enrolled in MCC's culinary arts competition course, won several honors at the annual Connecticut Chefs American Culinary Federation (ACF) competition in March. Christine M. McVey received a Gold Medal for novelty cake, the G. Nagir Award for the most novel piece in show, and the Second Place Ribbon for Cake with Fondant and Gumpaste Achievement Award. Elizabeth Garrett Bunker received the Silver Medal Judges Special Award and Best Overall Student Piece for the cold hors d'oeuvre selection. Theresa Olchanowski was awarded a Bronze Medal for the cold hors d'oeuvre selection and the Bronze medal and Student Achievement Award for chocolate centerpiece. Marc S. Cutler was awarded a Bronze Medal for the five-course gastronomique tasting menu and Brendan Chapman received the Bronze Medal for dessert platter. Also, adjunct faculty member Marc Hussey, was awarded a Silver Medal for seafood platter and the Bronze Medal Trophy Citation Award and Achievement Award for appetizer selection.

MCC Student Excels

Ashley Odell, 22, of Manchester, has earned several honors for her academic achievement and community involvement. In April she was named the 2008 Guistwhite Scholar; she made the All-USA Community College Academic First Team after being nominated and was named the 2008 New Century Scholar; and was recently featured in the USA TODAY education issue. Guistwhite Scholars are chosen by application, and awarded \$5,000 based on academic achievement, participation in Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society, and service to their colleges and communities. Odell was the only recipient to be named in New England. She maintains a 3.93 GPA, is the student representative for the Connecticut Community College Board of Trustees and most, recently, has received national recognition from Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.

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Ashley Odell

Photo by Jonathon Michals

CORRECTION

In a photo titled "Pres. Daube Earns Merit Award" on page 3 of the March 31, 2008 issue of the Live Wire, a person in the photo was misidentified. The photo shows Rep. Henry Genga presenting Pres. Jonathan M. Daube a General Assembly Official Citation for his New England Board of Higher Education State Merit award for 2008.

Team Green Wants You!

By EveAnn Mazur and
Andy Paterna
Special to the Live Wire

Some of you may not have heard of Team Green, aka the Manchester Community College Sustainability Team. We have been wintering underground, but spring has finally arrived and we're emerging from our months of hibernation. We want to show our true colors and we want your help.

For those who are yet unfamiliar with the goals and projects of Team Green and the concepts of sustainability, it has many definitions. But the basic principles remain constant: balancing a growing economy, protection for the environment, and social responsibility – together leading to an improved quality of life for ourselves and future generations.

More specifically, MCC's Sustainability Team has already begun work on a number of initiatives. Perhaps you've seen the seasonal tents belonging to the MCC Farmers Market. This sale of fresh, Connecticut-grown produce aims to support local growers, cuts down on vehicle emissions and all the other environmental costs resulting from the long-distance shipping of the fruits and veggies each of us consumes. This year, the Farmers Market will open on Wednesday, June 11, and will continue visiting every Wednesday through October.

This year we also supported MCC's Earth Day Celebration April 21-24. Events included Neil Hornish from the Compassionate Living Project, who spoke about the impact of consumer practices. Members of the Team removed trash and invasive plants from the detention basin near the AST Tower entrance and planted native trees and shrubs along the slope to reduce the need to mow the area. Local vendors, including Eastern Mountain Sports, highlighted environmentally-friendly products, and information tables allowed Citizens for a Greener Manchester and CT Transit to communicate their recent accomplishments and continuing goals. And Rachel Mintell, who teaches biology, put on a composting demonstration and provided information about student involvement in the project for the Fall 2008 semester. Additionally, campus nature walks were led and enjoyed by both MCC folks and Manchester townspeople.

MCC's Culinary Arts Department is, perhaps, one of the more diligent in taking "green" measures in cooking and classroom practices. Culinary Arts recycles all cans, bottles and boxes. All leftover food



Honore Futtner of Futtner's Family Farm, with locations in East Hartford and South Windsor, displays her produce at the MCC Farmer's Market last year. *Photo by Cindy Seiwert.*

products are, in effect, reused and recycled by being sent out to local food shelters.

Another seldom discussed fact is that our Sustainability Team has worked to keep more than five acres of the campus free from pesticides, and hopes to expand this environmentally friendly zone over the coming year. Another pending endeavor is to conduct an "Energy Audit" to determine the carbon footprint of the college. This study will take place on campus in the very near future and will provide the Team with more information as we work towards our goal of making our campus "green" and an eco-friendly place to work, study, and grow.

Now, more than ever, we are interested in getting your ideas about projects you think we should pursue. Some of the present ideas include:

- Improving Recycling of paper/bottles/cans on campus
- Installing Bike Racks on campus & encouraging use of bicycles over motor traffic
- Working with the college Cafeteria Service to improve its recycling efforts
- Composting waste materials from our Culinary Arts Program and the Cafeteria
- Using Solar Powered Trash Compactors for outdoor areas
- Purchasing Electric Vehicles for the college landscapers
- Planting a "living roof" atop campus buildings

- Incorporating units of studies into the Culinary curriculum on sustainability

As always, MCC is truly a "community" college and the success of Team Green depends on the support and participation of our students, faculty and staff alike. We want **YOU** to help make MCC's campus a safe-haven for all living creatures – for our local wildlife, indigenous plants, and for the very *people* who inhabit its grounds. For more information about the Sustainability Team or to become a member contact Andy Paterna at 512-2708 or by email at apaterna@mcc.commnet.edu; EveAnn Mazur at emazur@mcc.commnet.edu; Rachel Mintell at 512-2728, or rmintell@mcc.commnet.edu; or Patrick Sullivan, 512-2669 or psullivan@mcc.commnet.edu.



Photo courtesy of Google

A solar trash can called Big Belly.

Lack of Participation Cancels Elections

By Ben Davis
Live Wire Staff Writer

Why haven't people signed up to run for Student Senate? That is the question being asked by faculty, staff and students, and the current members of the Student Senate themselves.

When the call for candidates to fill the seven executive board spots for the 2008-2009 school year was made earlier this semester, only one student applied, said Linda Thomas, coordinator of Student Activities.

There are many reasons for the lack of participation, said Dean of Student Affairs Alfred Carter.

"Many students are working, and going to school full time or some type of balance of work and school," he said. "Another reason is that some of the students have not been student leaders before they come [to MCC] and at a community college it's not like a four year institution where you stay on campus and you get to really learn the campus. At a community college sometimes when you're ready to say you want to be a leader you're ready to graduate and transfer."

Dealing with the issue will be up to the new director of Student Activities, for which the college is currently conducting a search, Carter said. Currently, Cynthia Washburne is serving as both director of Athletics and Fitness and Student Activities. Carter said the new director should be on staff by the start of the fall semester and then he and other Student Activities staff members will work to recruit students to run and have an election in the fall.

This type of situation is not unheard of, said Carter. It has happened before, and there were signs that a slow down in participation was coming.

"It's a random kind of thing... and I think that part of it may be a generational cycle," said Carter. "Over the past three or four years there were indications that maintaining the Student Senate was going to be a challenge. In the past 20 years that I have been here there have only been one or two instances where there wasn't anyone who was running for office."

If there are no participants in the fall, Carter said, then the director of Student Activities will conduct programming until there are new student leaders. And then elections would be held when the next school semester starts. The current Student Senate members are not allowed

to stay in office past the end of the school year. When the spring semester ends, their terms are up.

Growing concern over the lack of participation has not only affected faculty but also the current members of the Student Senate.

"This is obviously disappointing news," said Anthony Goiangos, Student Senate V.P., of the lack of participation in an e-mail sent out MCC faculty and staff on March 31. "It is our hope that next school year more individuals will step forward for this great opportunity."

Student Senate Secretary Elizabeth Ponchak has her own theory as to why people might not want to participate in Student Senate.

"Being involved with the Senate is a lot of pressure, you have to work hard, and must have teamwork," said Ponchak. "But, most importantly, you must be able to disagree without conflict."

Student Senate President Narjis Xiong said there are people who want to participate, but did not get the required materials, including applications and petitions, in by the deadline in March.

Working on Student Senate is a large responsibility, said Xiong.

"It takes a lot of hard work, determination, and someone who is very ethical and honest and who is not into dirty politics," she said. "We deal with an \$86,000 budget and maybe more at times and [members must be] ethical leaders and to spend the money and to think about the student body as a whole, and not just the 20 people sitting at the table."

Xiong said she understands launching an election can be difficult.

"Some people might just be scared at first," she said. "And taking that first step to run can be scary, because they don't want to walk up to random people and ask them for their signature [on a support petition]. And it will be ok, it won't be a big deal, the first step is to talk to people and people are just afraid to talk with each other."

To finish out its current term, Student Senate members have arranged for the library to be open an extra hour during final exam days May 13, 14, and 15, and will hold a Spring Fling on campus May 7. The next meeting of the Student Senate is May 21 at 11:30 a.m. in room LRC A108.

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that he carools to MCC with other members of his family in order to save on gas.

There's also public transportation. CT Transit runs buses across the state, including some that stop at MCC, for those who don't really want to waste gas just driving around town or commuting to work. The only problem, however, is that Connecticut lacks a large-scale commuter system, like the light rail subway systems in New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C. and other large cities.

"I've felt jealous of people with mass transit options," said Brodeur. "When I travel somewhere, I like to use the subway system."

Of course, the classic fallback for people desiring to save money on gasoline is the bicycle. Riding a bike to work, school, or a friend's house is a cheaper and environmentally cleaner alternative than any motor vehicle. Weary of the high gas prices, MCC student Tom Demko said he is thinking of making the change.

"During the summer, I might ride a bike to work," he said.

Another alternative to driving is walking. Duda said he often does that.

"I'll walk for 30 minutes just to get somewhere local," he said.

Still, some people like to drive around their area and look for the station with the cheapest gasoline. Although the difference per gallon may only be a few cents, it still makes a difference when refueling. To find lower prices without using what you currently have in your tank, visit ConnecticutGasPrices.com, a Web site where drivers post the prices of gasoline at different stations around Connecticut on a daily basis.

And the Internet is full of websites that offer ideas for saving money. Bankrate.com offers 15 ways to save on gasoline, which include getting regular tune-ups, not carrying too much weight, driving slower, and combining errands.

Following these tips, you can survive the gas price climb.

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From left to right, Rick Olmstead, Julie Walter, and Holly Mann of the Outdoor Club take a break while hiking up Case Mountain in Manchester in March. *Photo by Mike Hiza.*

IBS Conference Covers Radio's Past, Present and Future

By Dana Howard
Special to the Live Wire

On March 7, the IBS National College Radio Conference was held in New York city. This was the 32nd annual gathering of more than 1,000 college radio and television faculty, staff, professionals, guest speakers and students from across the U.S. It was interesting to hear from so many professionals, mainly from the radio industry; however there were guest speakers like Broadway actors and actresses who frequently appear on TV shows like "Law and Order."

I attended two seminars led by professionals from the "radio drama" industry. It was interesting to listen to short and entertaining audio skits, which made me feel as if I was sitting in a time machine traveling back to the 1930s, when radio dramas were still popular. Though this was way before my time, I still felt almost a sense of nostalgia, a sense of loss amidst our modern methods of entertainment and information. There is something intriguing about using your imagination to create the appearance of characters for the voices you are listening to, and knowing that everyone in the room had a different, yet vivid, image in their minds as well. It made me realize how far away from self-imagination today's generation has drifted.

I later sat through a workshop with "Juice," a radio personality in New York. Juice's genre leans toward rap

and hip hop music, yet he encouraged programmers to enhance their Top 40 playlists and give new and upcoming artists the opportunity to shine. I respected his initiative to break out of the mold and be different from his competitors. Though at times he did have a tendency to drive his points home more than necessary, I had to admit he has a true love for what he does, and this, in my opinion, makes him credible. He hit on the fact that this generation, 20 years of age and under, have been introduced to music visually through music videos. These predetermined visuals make people less aware and less passionate for the actual music itself, he said.

Later I attended a workshop with a panel of professionals, one of whom was even partially responsible for shock jock Howard Stern's fame. For me, this panel was the friendliest,

approachable and helpful panel I had attended. They were honest and open and even offered their e-mails to those of us who may have questions later. They explained how satellite radio has not become the rampant success the industry hoped it might. By the time one company paid Stern his \$20 million salary, they were barely beyond breaking even. They did mention how HD radio will be the "thing of the future."

Apparently, after the recession subsides, car manufactures will be making new cars HD radio-ready. My concern with paying for radio is that eventually it will become like cable television. When cable first came out it was optional, and not everyone had it. Yet over the past 20 years, cable has taken over television and TV's are now digital ready and will not play unless you have a digital connection.

If I walked away from the conference with any important messages, I would say for me, the message was *Radio isn't going to die*. People still want to hear radio personalities and amusing morning shows to serve as their companion during a long commute to work or school. But the most important message for me was: "If you love what you do, and you are passionate about it, you will make money and become successful." This IBS Convention made me aware that there is a great big world out there filled with much opportunity for any student interested in media.

Dana Howard is a General Studies major and serves as the Operations Manager for I.C.E. Internet Radio at MCC. Contact ICE at mccradio@yahoo.com or myspace.com/mccinternetradio For more information about IBS visit www.ibsradio.org.

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Photos by Jonathon Michals

Students in the Culinary Arts Program prepare hors d'oeuvres for guests of the Wine Auction.



Gift baskets created by MCC faculty and staff were raffled off during the event.

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Chanthoeun Thanh. He was at a table in a corner handing out slices of pork tenderloin.

"I've been cutting meat since 5 o'clock, so I guess I'm getting pretty good at it," he said, then laughed.

For Kevin Le Rous, a Hospitality student who wants to get into the restaurant business, the event was "a great opportunity...to practice the skills we learn here."

The evening also draws representative from wineries both in and out of state who come to let patrons taste their wines and, perhaps, purchase a bottle. Mark Raymond, Connecticut and Rhode Island manager for Frederick Wildman and Sons, said it was his sixth year at the event.

"It's great exposure for the company," he said. "The attentiveness [of the staff] is really great. It's a great event."

In addition to the tasting, the evening also features a Silent Auction and a Live Auction, which began at 8 p.m.

"Bid high, bid often!" said Stephen Finger, president of Pratt & Whitney and the honorary event chairman to kick off the live auction.

In the past, the event has raised more than \$100,000, most of which goes to student scholarships. The Evening of Fine Wines "helps to make college a reality," said Edgar Chavarriaga, who is assistant director of MCC's Information Technology department and also acted as one of several sommeliers – or wine specialists – during the evening.

"It's also a nice benefit to the community," he said.

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MCC NOLA Represents A Community Engaged

By Jonathon Michals
Live Wire Assistant Editor

In August of 2005, the third-strongest hurricane to make landfall in the United States ravaged New Orleans and the city's surrounding areas, including parts of Mississippi and Alabama.

Nearly three years later, much of the area still lay in ruin, while federal relief and aid remain woefully poor. This summer, students, faculty and staff from Manchester Community College and Great Path Academy will lend a hand to a city still struggling to regain its footing, while they also take in and experience the culture of the famed Louisiana city.

"It's a chance for students to be civically involved and engaged in something bigger than themselves, their college campus community, and their local community," said Lucy Anne Hurston, associate professor of sociology at MCC, and the creator and director of the program.

Involved students partake in a three-week, three credit course called Community Engagement. The first week involves lecture and information gathering, the second

week is spent in New Orleans, and the third week involves reflection on the trip.

The students will work with Habitat for Humanity to build a house, Hurston said, and they will experience the history and culture of New Orleans through tours, sightseeing, and immersion.

This is the second summer that the class has traveled to New Orleans, and last year's trip left an indelible impression on many of those who attended. In fact, some are returning for the second year.

"I'm looking forward to revisit our national neighbors to help them rebuild, recover, and to eventually rejoice," said MCC student JoHanna McCashland, who was also

went on the trip last year. "When I was in NOLA in 2007 I could see a piece of home wherever I went. It will be great,



Above is the logo design that will be used on T-shirts for NOLA 2008. It was designed by Jennifer Paganetti, a graphic design major at MCC.

probably a little emotional, to revisit the pieces of home I found there." Hurston said she hopes that the course will inspire those involved to be more involved in their communities, both locally and nationally.



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The Art of the Transfer

By Jonathon Michals
Live Wire Asst. Editor

As summer approaches, many Manchester Community College students have only a few things on their minds: exams, graduation, a nice break over the summer. But summer is short, and many have to concern themselves with what the fall will bring.

Students often attend MCC, or one of the other 11 state community colleges, with plans to transfer into four-year institutions as juniors. That transition can range from smooth and easy, to hectic and wildly stressful. Luckily, MCC has many resources and programs to assist those aspiring to higher academic goals; but you have to do a little research.

"It's always a little surprising how many are not aware of the transfer programs and partnerships we have with four year institutions here at MCC," said Ta'Shema Odoms, an MCC counselor who deals mainly with transfers. "They are detailed in the catalogue, as well as on the school's website."

For those hoping to transfer to a state university, there are a number of options. With the University of Connecticut, MCC has a guaranteed admission program for those interested in the colleges of Liberal Arts and Science, or the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. There are also admission agreements and general education requirement guidelines for each Connecticut State University, as well as many local private and out of state colleges.

UCONN, Central Connecticut State University, and Western Connecticut State University are the schools most often sought after by MCC transfers, Odoms said. But there are plenty of out of state schools taking notice of the caliber of students produced at MCC.

"Transfer students are not aware that they are in high demand," said Odoms.

Florida State University, for example, wants to set up more campus visits in the coming school

year, Odoms said, because they have been impressed with MCC students who have transferred there in the recent past. MCC already has programs and agreements with some of the more local private and out of state schools, including the University of Hartford, Elms College, the New England Culinary Institute, and the American International College, among others.

For many students, the agreements with other schools make both academic and economic sense.

"I wanted to come to MCC to save some money, and then transfer into the College of Liberal Arts and Science at UCONN," said MCC Liberal Arts and Science Major Laurie Stillman. "It's a guaranteed admission; I can't go wrong."

For those who are still uncertain about their future, or who have questions on the process of transferring, Odoms suggests making an appointment with a counselor, and to do it early. The counselors, she said, can not only

guide the students in what classes to take and what paperwork needs to be filed, but they can also provide contacts at many of the schools that students are interested in.

"If we don't have a contact for a particular school, we will find one and get them in touch with the student," Odoms said.

She also suggested that students look for resources on their prospective schools on official sites like www.collegeboard.com and www.knowhowtogo.com, as well as the school's own website. But, Odoms said, be cautious with message boards and information from non-official sites, as they can often be misleading, or flat out wrong.

So, while the college admission process, especially for transfers, can be stressful and confusing, MCC has the resources and assistance available to help ease the process, so you can plan out your summer with little worry to what the Fall will bring.

GPA Construction Moving on Schedule

By Amanda Skehan
Special to the Live Wire

The construction of Manchester Community College's newest addition, Great Path Academy high school, is under way and as the building takes shape questions are beginning to arise about the status of its completion.

There are rumors it will be finished by the Fall of this year, but they are just that, rumors, said Thomas Bavier, dean of Administrative Affairs for the college.

"Great Path Academy had a potential completion date of January 2009, but it is still too early to tell,"

he said. "The project is about one-third of the way done. They have finished building all the steel rods and next they will be working on building the exterior, moving onto the roof and buttoning up the whole building to be able to work on the inside."

When it is complete, the school will accommodate 325 students in grades 10, 11 and 12 from throughout the Greater Hartford Area. The building will offer space of use to both high school students and MCC students, faculty and

staff, Bavier said.

"The Academy will have classes held for the college students from 4 p.m. on, after the high school students are out of school for the day," he said.

And GPA will also offer one thing the college doesn't have: a gymnasium.

"The gymnasium can be used for leagues in both schools," said Eric Rodriguez, an assistant project engineer with Banton Construction, the project builder. The building was designed by architectural firm Tai Soo Kim Partners.

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Poetry Slam Champ Brings Dynamic Performance Style to MCC

By Larry Tucker
Special to the Live Wire

Medusa

A poetry reading featuring a range of emotions took place in Manchester Community College's Fireside Commons April 16 when four-time National Poetry Slam Champion Patricia Smith visited the college.

Smith's appearance was part of a series of poetry readings presented over the course of the school year. She gave the large audience a new experience by performing poems from her books "Teahouse of the Almighty" and "Blood Dazzler," which is coming out in the fall. She made her poems come to life and she created a variety of emotions through the audience.

"Blood Dazzler," is about Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans and other parts of Louisiana and Mississippi in August 2005, and it takes on the views of different characters, such as a dog. The room was filled with faculty members, students, and friends. In between each poem, the crowd applauded and during the performance Smith had the crowd laughing, embarrassed, stunned, and at times on edge.

After the reading, Smith signed books and talked to the audience.

"The slams taught me confidence and how to read the mood of an audience and how to respond to it," said Smith of the poetry

reading competitions, also known as "slams." "It made me think of poetry as an oral art as well as a written one."

The audience should be able to understand the poem the first time, Smith said. Performing is more than just creating images and entertaining an audience, it is also about making a connection with the audience through poetry, she said.

Smith was born in 1955, and started her career as a journalist at *The Boston Globe*, before going on to become a poet, performance artist, author, and teacher. Besides being a four time national slam champion, she was also featured on HBO's Def Poetry Jam program and has also performed all over the world. Currently, Smith said, she is working on a biography of Harriet Tubman, who led many slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad, called "Fixed on a Furious Star."

Many in the audience were impressed with Smith's presentation.

"I thought she had a very good presence when she spoke," said Kevin Covill, a first year MCC student. "Her word choices were simple but strong, and how she performed it made it the best reading of the series."

Listening at the Door

Beneath the door, I could practically see
the wretched slither of tobacco and English Leather.
Hiding on the other side, I heard Mama giggle
through clenched teeth, which meant potential
husband sitting spitshined on our corduroy couch.
The needle hit that first groove and I wondered
why my mama had chosen the blues,
wrong, Friday-angled, when it was hope
she needed. I pressed my ear against the door,
heard dual damp panting, the Murphy bed squeal,
the occasional directive,
the sexless clink of jelly jar glasses.

What drove me to listen on those nights
when my mother let that fragrant man in,
banished me to the back of the apartment,
pretended she could shine above hurting?
I'd rest my ear against the cool wood all night
as she flipped through the 45s—
looking for Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder,
somebody blind this time,
somebody crawling on his knees toward love.

Poseidon was easier than most.
He calls himself a god,
but he fell beneath my fingers
with more shaking than any mortal.
He wept when my robe fell from my shoulders.

I made him bend his back for me,
listened to his screams break like waves.
We defiled that temple the way it should be defiled,
screaming and bucking our way from corner to corner.
The bitch goddess probably got a real kick out of that.
I'm sure I'll be hearing from her.

She'll give me nightmares for a week or so;
that I can handle.
Or she'll turn the water in my well into blood;
I'll scream when I see it,
and that will be that.
Maybe my first child
will be born with the head of a fish.
I'm not even sure it was worth it,
Poseidon pounding away at me, a madman,
losing his immortal mind
because of the way my copper skin swells in moonlight.

Now my arms smoke and itch.
Hard scales cover my wrists like armour.
C'mon Athena, he was only another lay,
and not a particularly good one at that,
even though he can spit steam from his fingers.
Won't touch him again. Promise.
And we didn't mean to drop to our knees
in your temple,
but our bodies were so hot and misaligned.
It's not every day a gal gets to sample a god,
you know that. Why are you being so rough on me?

I feel my eyes twisting,
the lids crusting over and boiling,
the pupils glowing red with heat.
Athena, woman to woman,
could you have resisted him?
Would you have been able to wait
for the proper place, the right moment,
to jump those immortal bones?

Now my feet are tangled with hair,
my ears are gone. My back is curving
and my lips have grown numb.
My garden boy just shattered at my feet.

Dammit, Athena,
take away my father's gold.
Send me away to live with lepers.
Give me a pimple or two.
But my face. To have men never again
be able to gaze at my face,
growing stupid in anticipation
of that first touch,
how can any woman live like that?
How will I be able
to watch their warm bodies turn to rock
when their only sin was desiring me?

All they want is to see me sweat.
They only want to touch my face
and run their fingers through my . . .

my hair
is it moving?

Exploring Race

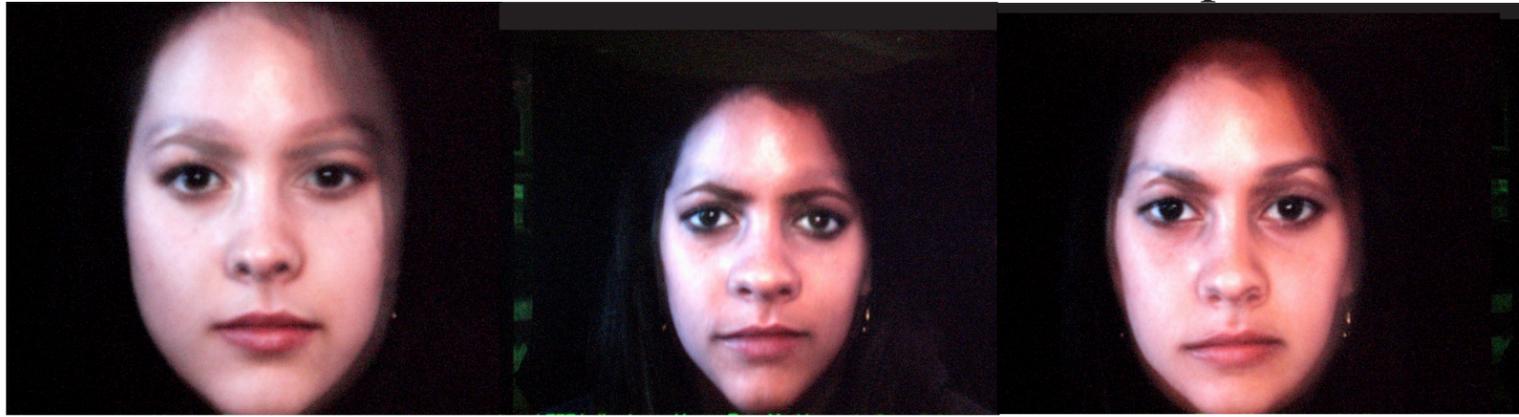
Asian

Black

Hispanic

Ashley E. Lang

Layout Editor



Jason Cunningham

Editor



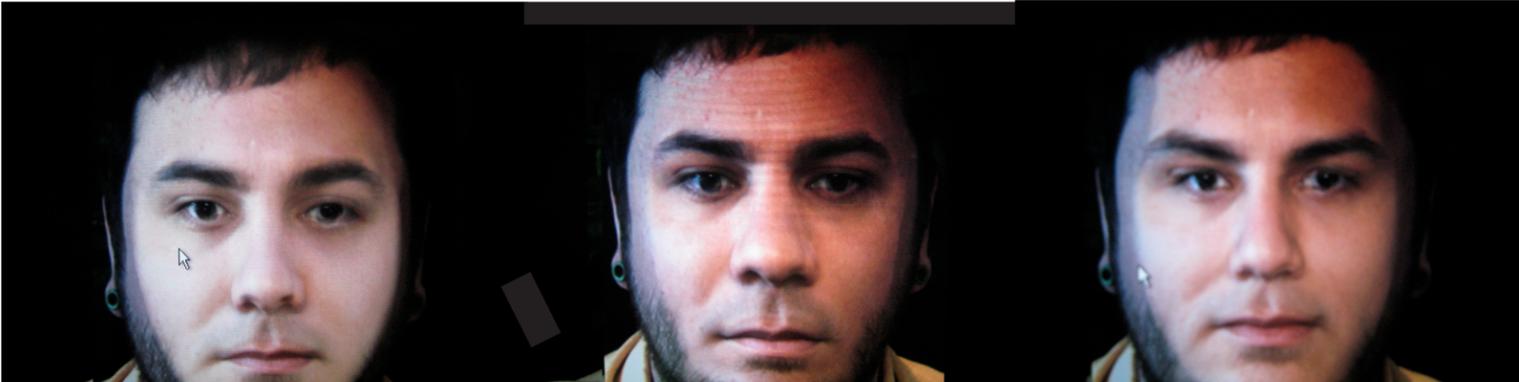
Ronald Duenas

Business Manager



Jonathon Michals

Assistant Editor



“I think that my experience with the Human Race Machine was enlightening, for the most part. It was interesting to see myself in a different light.”

- Ashley E. Lang

“The idea of the human race machine is awesome, I absolutely love the concept. The only problem is that the technology is so outdated that it doesn’t really give you an accurate representation of what you’d look like as another race. I went in excited and came out unsatisfied. Still, getting an idea of what I’d look like as another race was cool. It made me wish I had much darker features.”

-Jason Cunningham



“It was identity person ‘would or chan

e in the Machine

Indian

Middle Eastern

White



How would you look as a member of another ethnic group? Dozens of students learned the answer to that question last month when the Human Race Machine came to Manchester Community College the week of April 21-25. Developed by digital artist Nancy Burson, the interactive piece of art technology displays on a monitor what a participant might look like as a member of one of six different races. A camera in the machine captures the picture and then a computer inside of the machine offers different options. The Human Race Machine has been used in schools all over the USA.

The results, as officers of the Live Wire found, were often startling and thought-provoking.

“The Race Machine is high on novelty, low on sociological value. While I applaud the proposed concept, merely applying stereotypical features of different races, and rather poorly at that, only works to perpetuate and accentuate the assumed physical variations of different races. I wish there was some sort of presentation with the machine that could work to involve the mind in deconstructing the social barrier that I feel the machine only strengthens. I was certainly intrigued by the idea of wearing a new skin, but the dynamic was off, and the experience felt more like a cheap carnival attraction.”

-Jonathon Michals



really amazing to see how technology can change one's . I've always wondered what I would look like as a of a different race. After seeing the pictures, I thought I really look like this picture? Would I dress differently ge my hair?" This was truly an excellent experience.”

- Ronald Duenas



Headaches Abound with Xbox

By Tom Nugent
Special to the Live Wire

Imagine this: you're a pretty hardcore gamer. The game you've been waiting months for - in my case, Mass Effect - is finally out and you are a few hours into it. You've reached a pivotal moment in the game, when all of a sudden, you hear a horrific grinding noise and the game locks up. An error message pops up saying "Cannot Read Disc." Completely shocked and appalled, you try to restart your Xbox, but the same error message pops up.

This has happened to thousands of Xbox 360 users, including me.

The failure rate of Microsoft's game console is approximately 16.4 percent. This may not seem like much, but when compared to the failure rates of the Nintendo Wii and Sony Playstation 3, which each hover around 2.5 percent, it is inexcusable. Microsoft claims that the rate is closer to 3 percent, and has not publicly admitted that there is an actual problem. However, an anonymous source claiming to be involved in the creation of the Xbox 360 has come forward on

several video game Web sites and blogs, claiming that the problems are caused by poor testing and design. According to this source, every Xbox will break at some point in its lifetime, and there is nothing that can be done to stop it without changing the design of the system.

Microsoft has ignored these claims, and has instituted a free three-year warranty extension on all Xboxes. Unfortunately, this only covers general system failures, more commonly known as "Red Ring of Death," and not the more common disc drive errors.

I also have had issues with Microsoft's customer service. They were not in the least bit helpful, and expected me to pay \$90 for my repair, despite the fact that the console broke only a few days after the warranty expired. After I had explained to them that I was a student with limited resources, that I spend a lot of money on games (I bought Rock Band, which was \$160, and the HDDVD drive, which cost me \$150 and went

on to become a dead format), and that I had been a loyal Microsoft customer for years, they offered me a \$5 discount. I still wasn't able to afford that, so I had no choice but to let my console collect dust for a few weeks.

Luckily, I guess, when I tried to start it to see if anything had changed at all, the system gave me

the Red Ring of Death, and I was able to send it in for free. The turnaround took about two and a half weeks, and the machine seems to now be working fine.

The 360 is a great system with great games and features, but be sure to buy any extended warranty you can with it.



Graphic courtesy of Google



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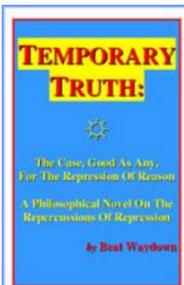
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Photo by Patricia Forrest

The Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Pres. Jonathan M. Daube on March 30, 2008. He is above with Michelle Nickerson, left, president of the MCC Alpha Upsilon Alpha chapter. The Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to college presidents, campus CEOs at two-year or senior institutions, and state community college directors who have been supportive of Phi Theta Kappa, and are retiring from their careers. Dr. Daube was nominated by the MCC chapter.

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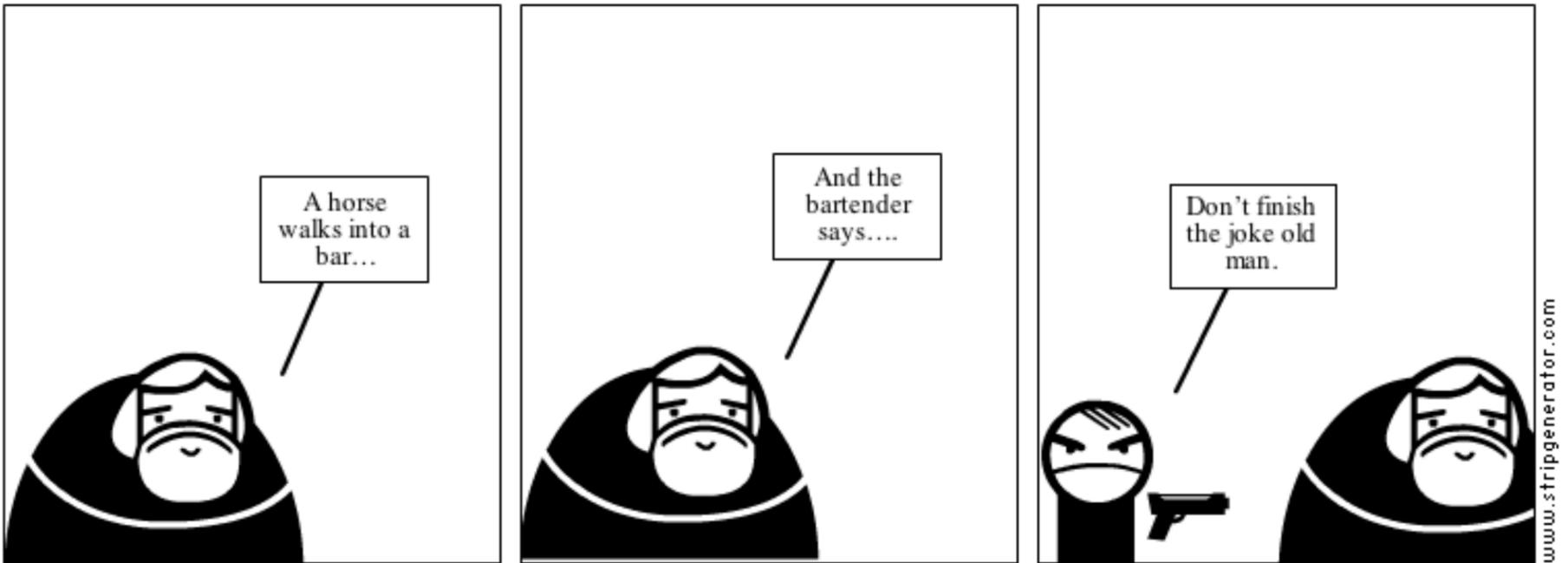


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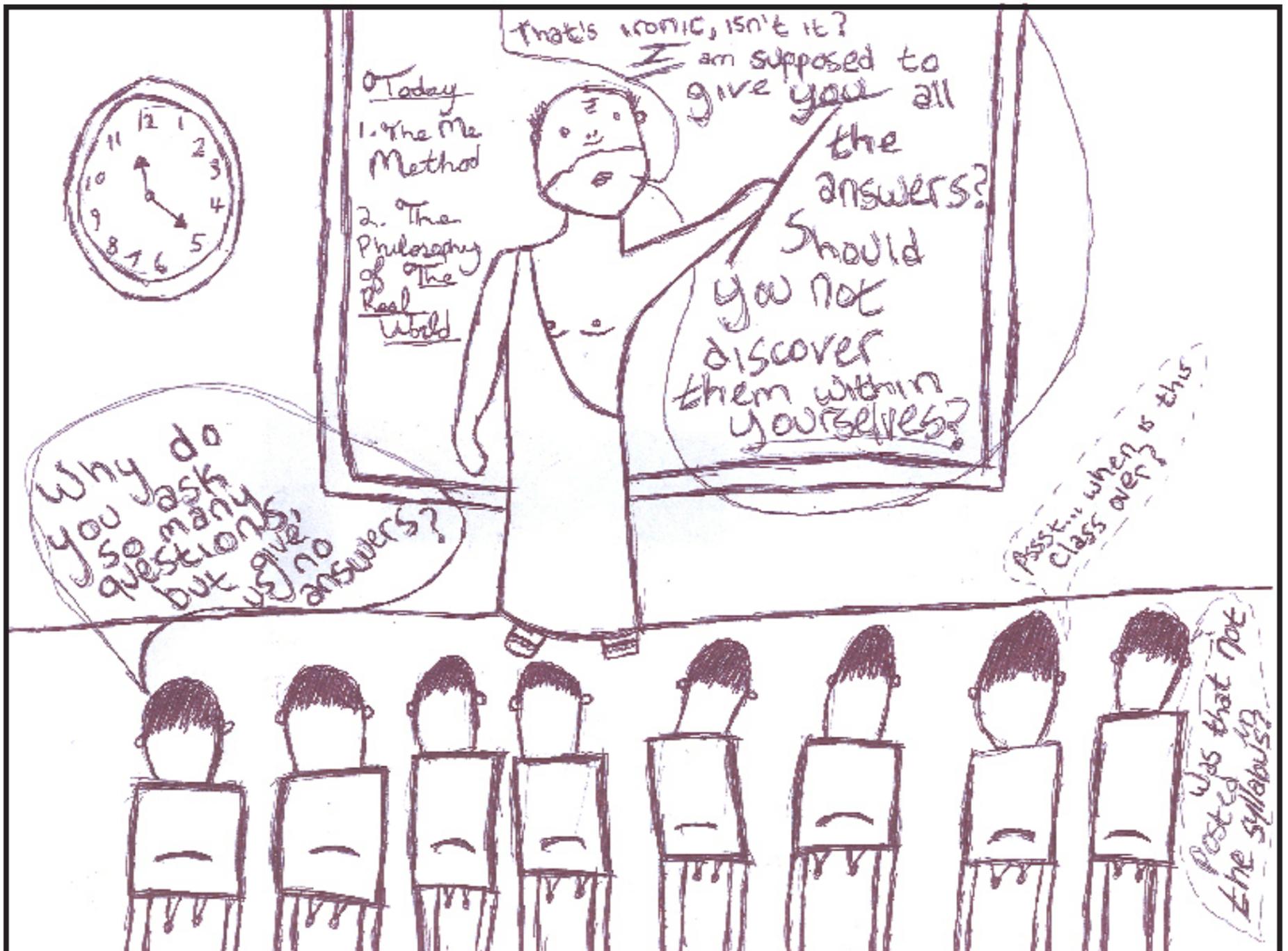


Generated By Jason Cunningham



Logos

By Jonathon Michals and Jason Cunningham



Bob Saget Gets Down and Dirty at Foxwoods

By Tom Nugent
Special to the Live Wire

When most people hear the name Bob Saget, they think about 1990's television: home videos of people getting injured in humorous ways, and three men raising children in suburban San Francisco.

Long thought of as the quintessential family-friendly funny man, that side of Saget was nowhere to be found at Foxwoods Casino two weeks ago. The side of Saget I saw was raunchy, raw, and gut-bustingly hilarious. In what may have been the dirtiest stand-up set I have ever seen, Saget talked about his days in prime-time television and his fiancée, who he claimed was 13 months old, messed with drunken audience members, and even sang a few songs.

Saget's style is very disjointed and ADD-friendly, as he goes hopping from one subject to the next. At one point, he was talking about his daughter's going to school, then somehow made the leap to talking about Smeagol from "Lord of the Rings," then went on to describe his experiences with drugs. Although I am usually not a very

big fan of sophomoric and juvenile humor, I must admit that every sexual and bodily fluid reference had me rolling on the floor.

The audience for this show could not have been better, and was probably the best crowd I've been in at a comedy show. Usually, stand-up comedy audiences are either too stiff to laugh and are boring, or are full of extremely irritating drunks who talk through the whole thing. Besides an adorable elderly couple who left within the first 30 seconds of Saget's set (I guess they were expecting the "Full House" Saget), I did not see a single person not laughing. This may have been the last chance to see this side of Saget in Connecticut, as he has claimed that he will now perform a cleaner act.

"Saturday Night Live" veteran and bit role king Jon Lovitz co-headlined with Saget. While it took a little while to get used to him not repeating catchphrases over and over ("Yeah, that's the ticket"), Lovitz performed a funny and solid set.

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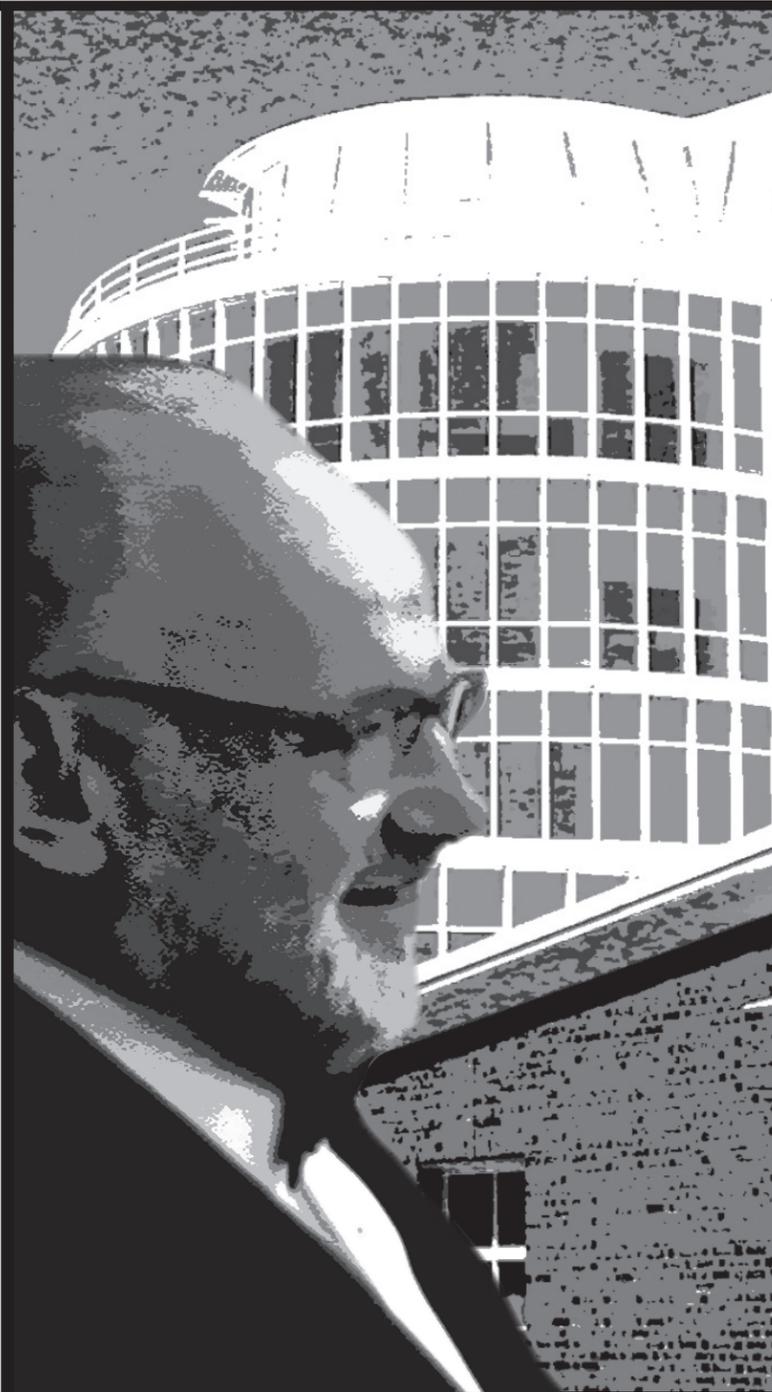
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Day's Events

Noon – 1:30 PM	Luncheon
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Celebration and Tribute
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Dessert Buffet

Speakers include:

- The Honorable M. Jodi Rell, Governor, State of Connecticut
- The Honorable John B. Larson, Member, United States Congress; former President, Connecticut Senate
- The Honorable David M. Bartley, former Speaker, Massachusetts House; President Emeritus, Holyoke Community College
- E.R. Braithwaite, author of *To Sir, With Love*
- Reverend David L. Cannon, former Chair, community college board of trustees
- David G. Carter, Chancellor, CT state universities; former President, Eastern Connecticut State University
- The Honorable Melody A. Currey, Mayor, East Hartford; former Deputy Speaker, Connecticut House
- Carol W. Eaton, President, Frederick Community College, Maryland; former Dean, MCC
- Marc S. Herzog, Chancellor, CT community colleges
- William J. McGurk, President, Rockville Bank; community college trustee
- Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, President Emeritus, The George Washington University; former President, The University of Hartford
- And others



¡HOLA BARCELONA!

By GlenDaja' Woodard

Day One (March 17, 2008)

We arrived at the airport in Barcelona, where we met our group tour guide, Javier. We traveled through Cataluña until we arrived at the Hotel Catalonia Suite, where we'd be staying for the remainder of the trip. We later took a walking tour of Barcelona, Cataluña's capital city. This tour allowed us to view many historic places such as the Catedral de Barcelona, and Las Ramblas. Las Ramblas is a tree-lined pedestrian boulevard that is known for its beautiful shops, restaurants, and hotels. It was in fact called "the most beautiful street in the world." We also walked past a site where architects found tombstones of soldiers who fought in Spain's Civil War in 1936. The last thing we viewed was what is known as the Upside-Down Stairs.

Day Two (March 18, 2008)

Today we went on a bus tour, first stopping at El Parque Güell. This park was designed by Antoni Plàcid Guillem Gaudí i Cornet, and is decorated with Modernist mosaics. This park has been featured in many TV shows and films such as *The Cheetah Girls 2*, and *America's Next Top Model*. Our next stop was La Sagrada Família, where we were only allowed to take photos. When Gaudí first began the construction of the church in 1882, he predicted that it would take 200 years to finish building. And now, 126 years later, this piece of work is still nowhere near to being finished. It is actually a fact that none of Gaudí's works were ever finished. The rest of the tour was just being able to stop for a few minutes at certain places around the city. We passed by "the three houses": La Casa Terrades or "Les Punexes," La Casa Batlló, and La Casa Milà or "La Pedrera." These houses were all designed by Gaudí as well. We glanced upon La Casa Amatller, and the Universitat de Barcelona. We took a tour of Passeig de Gracia, La Plaza de Catalunya, La Plaza de España, and La Plaza de Colón. We rode to the top of Montjuïc Hill, where the 1992 Summer Olympics were held. We viewed the Palau Nacional de Montjuïc, Torre de Calatrava, Anello Olímpica, and Estadi Olímpic Lluís Companys. We passed by El Parque de Joan Miró, El Parque de la Ciutadella, the World Trade Center, and Mirado de Colón. Our last stop was the Museo Picasso, which consists of the private collections of Christine Ruiz-Picasso, the widow of Pablo Picasso's son, Paul.

Day Three (March 19, 2008)

We spent the day in Tarragona, the most important Roman town. Tarragona is a 2nd and 3rd century town surrounded by a great Roman Wall. We stopped in the Ajuntament de Tarragona, where we learned some history about the ancient city. Our next stop was the Tarraco Scipionum Opvs or the Museo Nacional Arqueologia de Tarragona. We spent the remainder of the day in Stiges, at the beach.

Day Four (March 20, 2008)

Today we toured the Modernist district of Barcelona. This is the home of the works of Gaudí, Lluís Domènech i Montaner, and Josep Puig i Cadafalch. We visited La Casa Milà, an apartment designed by Gaudí. It's also known as "La Pedrera," or rock quarry because it has no straight lines and its balconies resemble moving ocean waves. Antoni Gaudí had great respect for nature and religion, and showed it in every piece of his works. Pedro Milà i Camps was the friend that Gaudí built "La Pedrera" for Pedro wanted the house to resemble Gaudí's previous work on La Casa Batlló, but the finished product didn't. Gaudí's mistake caused their friendship to fall apart. We later passed La Casa Batlló, La Casa Amatller, and the Baro Palace, which were created by Cadafalch, who tried to promote the study of modern and contemporary art. La Casa Batlló represented the story of the princess and the dragon. The princess was trapped in the very top of the castle that the dragon guarded. One day, when she tried to escape, she was eaten by the dragon. We also passed La Casa Terrades, and Fundació Antoni Tàpies.

Day Five (March 21, 2008)

Today was our last day of touring. We visited the Catalàn city of Figueras, on the Costa Brava. Here, we spent time in the theater museum dedicated to the Spanish artist Salvador Dalí. We also passed the Castell de Sant Ferran, a massive fortress created in the 18th century.

Day Six (March 22, 2008)

Today we departed from the Barcelona airport to make our eight hour trip home. Adios Barcelona...Hola America.



La Casa Milà or "La Pedrera" (Day Four).



A Day in Tarragona, Spain (Day Three). From right to left, Iris Rivera; Nereda Perez; Isis Shipley; Natalie Rosado; Glenda Woodard; and GlenDaja' Woodard.

Ending the Cycle of Abuse

By Jason Cunningham
Live Wire Editor



Jason Cunningham, right, visits with his father, George Cunningham, in Springfield, Mass., in December. *Photo by Jason Cunningham*

In February, 23-month-old Amari Jackson died of dehydration. Two Hamden residents, Sharon Patterson and her brother Robert Patterson, were temporarily taking care of little Amari while his mom was sick with a fever. The two deprived him of any fluids for more than a week as punishment for urinating in the bed he slept in. They went as far as to lace drinking glasses around the house with hot sauce to keep the boy from using them.

Amari was a victim of child abuse. The Pattersons claimed they were not trying to kill him, according to a story in *The Hartford Courant*. But though he had no bruises or scars, he was tortured to death by two awful and uncaring individuals. Nobody deserves to die this way. This sweet, innocent boy was a fresh soul in the world. He had yet to experience the many wonders of life before these two monsters unrightfully stole it from him.

To the child being abused, abuse is often an abstract idea. When the people providing you food, shelter, and love decide to hurt you, it's hard to tell whether or not they're really in the wrong. As a child, I remember telling myself my father loved me. Every time he hit me, whether it was with his open hand, his fist, or something else, I always

knew for sure it was my fault. I just didn't know how to behave when I was in his care.

When I would come home with bruises and marks on my body, my Mom would always call and scream at him. Sure enough, however, I would always end up there on weekends so my Mom could go out drinking without having to pay a babysitter. I'll never understand why her social life was more important than my safety. I remember she asked me once, while looking at a bruise on my arm, if my father was beating me or just "disciplining" me. I was unsure of the answer.

Unfortunately for Amari, no one—not even his own mother—noticed what sick people Sharon and Robert Patterson were. This boy's only crime was wetting the bed. No one had noticed he was in the care of people who shouldn't have even been watching a dog, let alone a human being.

My Mom knew what kind of man my father was; yet for some reason she didn't keep me away. He abused her, another ex-wife, and four of his other kids, but she kept him in my life anyway. It wasn't until my parents tried to rekindle their relationship, and she saw how awful he was to me daily, that the illusion started to fade. Still, she wanted our family

to stay together. It took a very messy break up and us losing our home for her to realize he had a sadistic, evil side towards me that went far beyond the realm of discipline.

I often wish someone had come to rescue me from the hell that was life with my father. If only someone had rescued poor Amari from Sharon and Robert Patterson. According to WebMD, when you're dehydrated, you lose 10 percent of your body mass, you have horrible headaches and hallucinations, then your kidneys fail and you die. Dehydrating is a horrible way for someone's life to end.

Adults need to protect kids. Case closed.

Abuse is a pattern; it goes from one generation to the next. I know that whenever I'm angry my body tenses up and I clench my fists. But then I remember the horror of being beaten and unable to protect myself, and I instantly relax. Other survivors of child abuse aren't so lucky, and they end up passing on the disease.

My Dad turned 64 last month. I've been trying to have a healthy relationship with him for the past couple of years. When I was 17 and I could drive, I thought that visits to his house would help us build a connection. Now I'm 19

and I still don't feel one. I hope that one day we can have a real father-son bond before it's too late. When I called him to wish him a happy birthday, he sounded ecstatic to talk to me. He told me how much he loved and missed me and asked when I'd be visiting him again. His words were appreciated, but felt empty to me. Sometimes it feels like no matter how hard he tries, it'll never be enough.

Take notice of the welfare of the children in your life. If you see a bruise, ask questions. If you suspect someone might be hurting them in any way, please don't ignore it.

Amari's mother had known the Pattersons since she was a child, and for some reason she had completely missed the side of them that would kill her own flesh and blood. I feel as if her negligence is also to blame for Amari's death.

My Mom knew how awful my father was, and she still placed me in his care. She is also to blame for the abuse he inflicted upon me. Abuse isn't only caused by the person directly doing it, but also by the people who place children into dangerous situations. The person who leads a man in front of a firing line is just as responsible for his death as the gunmen pulling the triggers.

What You Don't Know About Digital Rights Management Can Leave You Broke

By Jonny Dailey
Special to the Live Wire

Imagine buying a book. You read it and it is the best book you've ever read. It has mystery, action, and an unforgettable climax that leaves you sweating. It's so good, you decide to read it a second time.

Well, before re-reading it, make sure you call the publisher to notify them of your second read so they can authorize it. If you want to read the book on the bus, on your way to work, make sure you call the publisher to authorize that the book can be read at that location. After the bus ride, notify the publisher of the book's whereabouts so you don't exceed the number of places it can be read. And lastly, you are forbidden from lending this book to anyone as per restriction by the publisher.

These restrictions in digital media exist today; however, when applied to older forms of media like books, they sound absolutely ludicrous. Everyone knows there's an unwritten rule of literature: one can purchase a book, resell it, trade it, and cite it an unlimited number of times – as long as proper attribution is used - while paying no royalties to the original publisher or author.

But in a digital world, there are documents, and software created for restricting the use of works: one can purchase a digital copy of a work and do nothing outside of just that. Based on the type of restriction, the said purchaser can play it a limited number of times, inside a limited time frame, and is limited on where the digital work can be played. This written rule of digital media is called Digital Rights Management, or DRM. DRM is essentially a way for big businesses to protect their profits, leaving the consumer as an after-thought. It can be applied to anything in a digital format, whether it be a song, movie, or a text file.

Apple Inc., the creator of the most popular mp3 player, the iPod, is one of many companies who have used DRM to restrict users. When Apple launched the iPod in October of 2001, there was no way for customers to easily obtain music and move it to their device, outside of copying a compact disc to a music library and moving the files over. In 2003, Apple sought a way to simplify the process. They went to the top record labels and proposed a plan. They wanted to sell each labels' entire catalogue in one place. They called it the iTunes Music Store. It would allow anyone with a computer, an Internet connection, and a credit card to download any music of their liking from a library of over 2 million songs.

The labels agreed to the deal, but on their terms.

They would have Apple build a DRM system, later dubbed Fair Play, which restricted the use of the songs available in the digital store. Two of the many rules of the Fair Play DRM system: If buying digitally, a music purchaser would only be allowed to play the music on up to five authorized computers, and only seven copies of the music could be burned to a compact disc for personal use. Mind you, you could still go into any brick-and-mortar store and purchase the same physical album, without restrictions on its use whatsoever.

One serious issue with Apple's DRM is that you can't take the music you legally purchased to any other device that isn't an iPod.

Say, for example, you've purchased \$500 worth of music digitally from the iTunes Music Store and a friend or family member gives you an mp3 player that isn't from Apple as a gift. Under the DRM applied to the music, you cannot move the songs you have legally purchased to an mp3 player outside of the iPod. You're essentially locked into buying iPods, unless you want to be out \$500.

DRM, from a consumer's standpoint, is nothing more than a hindrance. It takes the power away from you as a consumer and gives it to the corporations. To put this in layman's terms, the company offering digital media with restrictions could go out of business and essentially turn your media off. When I say "off," I mean they can completely take the media that you've legally purchased away from you. The hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars spent can leave you with nothing.

Recently Apple, as well as other giant media organizations, including Microsoft and Amazon, has been in the works to remove DRM from the music they offer in their respective digital media outlets. They realize that treating customers as thieves and restricting what they can do with the content they purchase is not a good way to do business. The record industry as a whole is starting to understand that people want freedom of choice.

If their business model was built around locking you in and stripping you of choice, they don't deserve your loyalty as a customer.

Ridiculous Hate Crime Proves Society Needs To Change



Photo courtesy of Google

Lawrence (Larry) King

By Rachel M. DePenning
Live Wire Staff Writer

Homosexuality is a hot, controversial topic amongst people today. Many are against it for religious and phobic reasons, but many are for it. But whether you say "it's okay to be gay" or not, we can all agree that being a murderer is not okay.

But what if the victim of a murder was gay? Would those who have issues with the gay community justify murder in this circumstance? If that's the case, then they're prejudiced, which isn't such a great character trait to have.

My reason for these questions is to make a point about an unfortunate event that took place in February, where a 15-year-old boy discovered the harsh reality that not everyone accepts homosexuals and will kill to make their point.

Lawrence (Larry) King was an openly gay high school student in Oxnard, California, who was shot and killed on Feb. 12 at school by a fellow classmate because of his sexual orientation, according to an article in the *New York Times* published Feb. 23, 2008. It is unknown where the gunman obtained the weapon. Though this statement itself is shocking and heart-breaking, the motivation for this murder is even more appalling.

Comedian Ellen DeGeneres told the story on her talk show about how King had asked fellow classmate, Brandon McInerney, to be his Valentine. McInerney, who is straight and homophobic, must have been so mortified by King's innocent offering that he felt he needed to kill King.

"We've never had school violence like this here before, never had a school shooting," said Oxnard Police Department spokesman David Keith in the *Times* article.

I have to say, this is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard in my life. What is wrong with being gay? Does killing someone because they're gay make it okay? The answer is simple – no. Nothing is wrong with being attracted to the same sex because it's not a choice. And nothing ever justifies murder.

It's so sad that society has led people to believe it's right to kill someone because they're different. And I'm not the only one who feels this way.

Masen Davis, executive director of the Transgender Law Center, spoke to the *Times* about how kids are "expressing [different gender] identities at younger ages."

"Unfortunately, society has not matured at the same rate," he said.

And for all of those who have a problem with homosexuality because of religious reasons, the Rev. Dan Birchfield of Westminster Presbyterian Church told the *New York Times* that, "God knit Larry together and made him wonderfully complex. Larry was a masterpiece."

So even a reverend can accept homosexuals.

Fortunately, police have plenty of evidence to prove that McInerney was the gunman. They have charged him, as an adult, with murder as a premeditated hate crime and gun possession. And if convicted, McInerney faces up to 52 years in prison.

Personally, I want McInerney to rot in prison. I just hope I never read or hear about another situation like this ever again. Let's stop setting standards and start accepting diversity. Diversity is what makes the world interesting.

WORD on campus

“If you could choose to be another ethnicity, what would it be and why?”



Becca Lender
Liberal Arts

“I would be Asian, because they’re beautiful. I guess that sounds a little vacuous; everyone is beautiful. It’s hard to make a decision like that based on anything deeper, because I think everything about different cultures is interesting.”



Alex Czerwinski
General Studies

“I would say Middle Eastern, because stereotypically they are really smart in like science and math. You know, just to see what it’s like, maybe I could be like a doctor or something like that. And with the whole war thing I might get looked at differently if I were Middle Eastern.”



Jen Gorcenski
Early Childhood and Liberal Arts

“I would be black. I would want to see the different reactions of people and the different experiences. I would want to know where I would go; how I would act.”



Alvin James
Engineering

“I would be Hispanic. Spanish is a beautiful language. I like the dance, I wish I could grow up in a culture and grow up dancing like that.”



Kristela Kajana
Liberal Arts and Science

“I would be the same, because that is the person I am comfortable with. I don’t want to change the way I am, race doesn’t really matter to me, it’s not an issue.”



Cedric Johnson
Graphic Design

“I wouldn’t want to any other race. I feel like the race I am now gives me a better sense of my and other cultures because I am a minority. It gives me an idea of who I am and my culture’s history.”

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