MISSION STATEMENT
Jaded is an alternative media magazine meant to encourage political, cultural, and social discourse among UCI students. We celebrate and support the Asian Pacific Islander community by retelling the past, engaging the present, and creating a vision for the future. We hope to build connections and bridge gaps between different people on and off campus. The goal of the publication is not only to provide a space where students can voice different opinions and artistic expressions, but also as a form of community activism through education and awareness. Despite the fact that we are misrepresented, our images misconstrued, and our culture misunderstood we are not jaded in spirit. This is what we are doing about it.

COVERS
Front and back covers by Albert Ok
Inside cover by Jamora Crawford

EDITORIAL
Welcome
Americans are afraid of the wrong things.

Americans are afraid of the wrong things. Our administration employs the politics of fear to take advantage of the legitimate concerns of citizens. We are told to be afraid for our security when the Technicolor alert is elevated from tangerine orange to salmon pink. However, our real security problem lies in the inability of our national emergency response system to help Americans in catastrophic events. The fear of terrorism is reframed to target illegal immigrants from Latin America, while the government sends more secret agents to track Fidel Castro than Osama Bin Laden. Our fears are exploited to justify unchecked powers and invasion of nations. Issue seven of Jaded discusses the scary tactics of military recruitment in our schools, the profit motives of petition collectors, the antagonism of civilian border patrollers, the fear of the “other” in suburbia, the lack of accountability in police brutality cases, and our future with the oil dilemma. Now, that’s some real scary shit.

-Diana Jou

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WORKER BEES

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Questions? Comments? Criticisms?
Send them all to comments@jadedmag.org.

DISCLAIMER

The ideas and opinions of the articles do not necessarily reflect those of the entire Jaded staff or the University of California, Irvine.
FEAR OF THE OTHER

“Walls can provide a refuge from people who are deviant or unusual and perceived as dangerous, but the borders require patrolling to be sure that no one gets in. The resulting vigilance necessary to maintain these ‘purified communities’ actually heightens residents’ anxiety and sense of isolation rather than making them feel safer.”

— from *Behind the Gates* by Setha Low

TEXT BY JULIANNE ONG HING

New Chancellor

Ralph Cicerone stepped down as UCI’s chancellor following his induction into the National Academy of Sciences in May of 2005. The vacancy was filled by Dr. Michael Drake, a physician, scholar, and longtime member of the University of California community. UCI students got a chance to meet Dr. Drake on October 1, 2005 when he addressed the 200 participants of the All-University Leadership Conference in Palm Springs. In his speech he expressed his personal commitment to ensuring diversity in both our student body and faculty. Chancellor Drake quickly earned the approval of students with his perceptive, sincere and enthusiastic demeanor.

Aramark

Aramark recently signed a contract with UCI which goes into effect this year and gives the national food service company a complete monopoly over all food outlets on campus, from Cornerstone Café and the Phoenix Grille to all on-campus housing dining halls and the Student Center. Aramark has a reputation for unfair labor practices; the fiercely anti-union company pays food service workers inadequate wages with no medical benefits. At the October 1–2, 2005 All-University Leadership Conference, the administration defended the University’s decision to allow Aramark to come to UCI by underscoring the $2 million Aramark offered to pay upfront for the kitchen facilities in the new Student Center. Vice Chancellor Gomez also said that other independent companies lacked Aramark’s financial stability, thus making it the most convenient and reliable option. Gomez did not address Aramark’s treatment of its workers in his explanation.

New Rules Regarding Free Speech Area

Club officers were informed of new rules governing the use of outdoor space and campus grounds at orientations presented by the Dean of Students on October 12 and 14, 2005. According to Director of Campus Organizations and Community Service Marti Barmore, amplified sound for outdoor events will be limited to one hour per day from noon to 1 pm. While Barmore suggested that minor exceptions could be made, the new rule forbidding the use of bullhorns at all times was non-negotiable. The new rules were supposedly instituted to appease professors who complained that their classes were being disrupted by on-campus protests and rallies in recent years.
Walls can provide a refuge from people who are deviant or unusual and perceived as dangerous, but the borders require patrolling to be sure that no one gets in. The resulting vigilance necessary to maintain these "purified communities" actually heightens residents' anxiety and sense of isolation rather than making them feel safer.

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- GLENN SPENCER, FOUNDER OF THE AMERICAN BORDER PATROL

THE IRAQ FACT SHEET
from the Institute for Policy Studies

- U.S. soldiers in Iraq: 138,000
- U.S. soldiers killed in Iraq: 1,996
- U.S. soldiers wounded in combat since the war began: 14,120
- Number of “Coalition of the Willing” soldiers in Iraq: 23,000
- Number of Private Military Contractors in Iraq: 20,000-25,000
- Percentage of reserve troops who earn lower salaries while on deployment: 30-40%
- The bill so far: $204.4 billion
- Estimated cost of war to date to every U.S. citizen: $727
- Average monthly cost of the Vietnam War, adjusted for inflation: $5.1 billion
- Average monthly cost of the Iraq War: $5.6 billion
- Amount that military contractor Halliburton has been awarded in contracts: $10 billion

More online at www.ips-dc.org

Anti-immigration protesters fly Nazi and Confederate flags across the street from a day labor center in Laguna Beach last August.
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The Challenge

In June of 2003 the Council on Foreign Relations released a report on the progress of the First Response System and emergency responders since the implementation of post-9/11 efforts. The Independent Task Force, a team of Nobel laureates, public officials, and experts researched and prepared the comprehensive report. It wastes no time in its critique, opening with the point-blank title: “Drastically Underfunded, Dangerously Unprepared.”

While the report responded primarily to terrorism, funding and procedures related to natural disasters and other emergencies were also discussed. The Task Force declared that emergency responders were not sufficiently prepared for basic emergencies, let alone catastrophic disasters. They determined that the level of standards, appropriation of funds, and communication efforts were of foremost concern. The report declared that the emergency response budget fell $98.4 billion short of adequate funding for disaster preparedness. Funding failed to provide even enough radios and protective gear for an entire shift of firefighters or police officers in any given station—a disturbing fact, disasters aside.

“Establishing national standards that define levels of preparedness is a critical first step toward determining the nature and extent of additional requirements and the human and financial resources needed to fulfill them,” the report states.

Southern California’s “Fire Siege of 2003” put things into perspective. Deemed the most devastating fire disaster in California state history, it drastically illustrated the need for on-hand emergency responders and resources. The lack of sufficient resources, emergency responders, and unreliability of communication transpired as the biggest setbacks for the disaster’s relief. Earlier that year, budget cuts of $52.5 million in funding toward California’s Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) brought forth a resident fee to offset the losses. Victims of the siege that destroyed thousands of homes and took hundreds of lives paid additional taxes for protection against fires in 2003.

The so-recent-we-can-almost-smell-the-smoke Burbank and Topanga fires around LA County remind us of the reality of such incidents. Resources often wane in the struggle to contain the fires, with outcomes depending on fluctuating climates like the infamous Santa Ana winds. Costs of the recent fires rose to approximately $14.4 million only days after the fire’s outbreak. Most costs are covered by federal and state grants. Needless to say, preparedness is weakened by budget cuts like those that the CDF experienced before the 2003 fires.

The National Response

Since the analysis on emergency responders, the DHS released The National Response Plan (NRP) in December of 2004. The document sorts and reviews a collection of four years of facts, statistics, and proposals. The hodgepodge of documents introduces a detailed plan of action to handle any threat or incident. In the preface Secretary of DHS Tom Ridge deems the approach of the NRP “unique and far-reaching.” He adds that it will result in “vastly improved coordination ... to help save lives and protect America’s communities by increasing the speed, effectiveness, and efficiency of incident management.”

The devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina diligently writes off the essentials made by the DHS in the report. Americans are finding it an increasing challenge to put their faith in the government’s efforts, even when changes appear to be implemented. The 100-plus-page document lists tactics, facilities, organizations, and reorganizations that confidently address past mistakes and future plans. Unfortunately, in retrospect, the credibility of DHS falls short from page one.

On September 30, 2005 DHS announced the allocation of $30 million toward Competitive Training Grants, striving toward a new level of national preparedness. Little surprise should stir when skepticism runs high this time around.

What can Californians anticipate in the event of a disaster? It all comes down to the dangerously unpredictable conditions the state faces and the resources and support with which we are defended. The Task Force said it best: “The building blocks of increased capabilities can only be laid upon a solid foundation.” Plans and proposals for the emergency response system continue to circulate among government officials, reinforcing false hopes and security. But until the next disaster strikes, results are pending.
Sunny California—music, film, and travel brochures alike pay homage to its beauty. It’s depicted as an escape from the rest of America’s troubles, and you can check out anytime you like, and you can never leave.

It’s the state of endless sandy beaches and frequent earthquakes. Rows of towering palm trees sway a stone’s throw from unpredictable floods and fires. With a heightened risk of terrorism and outrageous natural fires and floods, California treads on unstable ground as the American government falters on disaster preparedness.

In a post-9/11, post-Katrina juncture, the federal government’s performance amongst national disasters hardly reinforces trust in America’s security. Where does California fit into this picture? As part of a nation struggling to prove its preparedness for innumerable threats, Californians are compelled to ask: What is happening to our nation and what is the government doing about it?

The passing of the Homeland Security Act in November of 2002 planned to address concerns and dangers related to terrorism and possible terrorist attacks in the US. Within its first year the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) implemented policies to beef up security domestically and internationally to detain drug smugglers, illegal immigrants, and terrorist suspects.

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The National Response Plan in December of 2004. The Department intended to focus on reducing the nation’s vulnerability to natural disasters and other emergencies through emergency responders and resource funding. Emergency responders, who include the police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical teams, prepare for large-scale attacks and disasters. Their very lives frequently depend on adequate resources and preparedness for such events.

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I t is a common sight at gas stations: people drive up in their cars, push the necessary buttons, then sit back in quiet horror as they watch the price ticker climb ever higher. You can almost see the images of clothes, shoes, and concert tickets dancing before their eyes before floating off into the “fuel payment” abyss. There’s no denying— we have an oil problem.

Trouble in Paradise

Proponents of the Peak Oil Theory maintain that the western world only has so many years before our oil resources are completely depleted. According to the IEA (the International Energy Agency, of which the United States is a member), oil production will peak in the years 2008-2009. Gerard Ungernont and Audrey Brohy, directors of the documentary The Oil Factor: Behind the War on Terror, predict that oil reserves will be completely drained by 2010. If all the different estimates of Peak Oil theorists are taken together, oil resources in the West could be depleted within the next 10 to 30 years. Although the consequences of an oil shortage would be felt more severely by the countries in the West, they are by no means limited to oil-dependent countries. Economically, environmentally, and most importantly, politically, the impact of depleting one of the world’s most valuable resources would be felt worldwide.

The high dependency of the United States on Middle Eastern oil is undeniable. Ungernont and Brohy state that while the United States supposedly has only 3% of the world’s proven oil reserves, we consume about 25% of the world’s daily production. America imports approximately three-quarters of the oil it needs.

This can prove an ominous prediction given the love-hate relationship between the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and oil-importing countries. According to Slate.com, an online newsmagazine, OPEC members want to “keep prices high enough to ensure profits but low enough to deter the development of new fields.”

Prices are often set to make money for the oil producers. This has proven especially so in the United States, the Corporate Average Fuel Economy aims to raise new car model standards to 40 miles a gallon.

These environmental effects will only worsen if no greater measures are undertaken to promote fuel efficiency and alternative energy resources.

For those of you pooh-poohing the “green” perspective, these environmental effects can translate into expensive economic costs such as healthcare expenses, rebuilding costs from climate change such as acid rain, and expenditures for pollution control.

The oil problem is not limited to the exorbitant prices we see at gas stations. It infects our environment, our economy, and our very way of life. Problems in the oil industry translate into disruptions of people’s lives worldwide. At the current state of our dependency on the industry, oil depletion could mean a breakdown of the societal infrastructure.

Efforts Toward Sustainable Development

Economists and environmentalists alike have turned their attention to the oil issue. The IEA recognizes the interdependence between the economic, environmental, and social spheres. In its book, Toward a Sustainable Energy Future, the international agency argues for “sustainable development”—development that lasts not just for us but also for future generations—that would “improve the world’s energy supply and demand structure by increasing efficient fuel usage and developing alternative energy sources.”

Economic policies in the past have not been of much use because of their shortsighted take on the environment situation. These short-term “solutions” smack of Americans’ capitalistic greed and the need for immediate gratification. In the end, after wading through temporary solutions, we are right back where we started.

Among their numerous solutions for energy efficiency, the IEA suggests “direct funding for research and development, subsidies or taxes, labeling programs and the branding of efficiently produced energy services in order to allow informed consumer choice.” Other researchers largely concur on the important role of the government in encouraging the efficient use of fuel.

Voluntary agreements between oil industry corporations and economic incentives such as rebates for green policies would encourage many companies to adopt more environmentally and economically sound practices.

Shifting the economy towards more fuel-efficient cars is another option. Internationally, many governments have been phasing in policies that would increase passenger vehicle fuel economy standards. In the United States, the Corporate Average Fuel Economy aims to raise new car model standards to 40 miles a gallon.

An increase in the federal gas tax is also a viable option, although because of opposition from both Democrats and Republicans, it is doubtful that any such measure will exist in the near future. If we could just ignore our knee-jerk response to the dreaded “T-word, we would see that the extra revenues from taxes could be used to pay for things like better public transit and research into alternative energy. In Europe, taxes make up as much as 60% of gas prices. This has encouraged many people to turn to alternatives, choose and develop more efficient cars, and has funded a public transportation system that Americans can only dream about.

(continued on page 30)
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Oil producers stand to gain more profit if they pump less oil in order to make a profit. It is usually the oil-importing countries that inevitably get jerked around by this tenuous economic balancing act. Big Oil’s tactics in the United States, however, are not any less heinous than those of oil importers. Oil refineries, the middlemen between oil exporters and oil consumers, have been known to engage in price gouging and other tactics to gain profits from a market dependent on their products.

Beyond the economic perspective, there have been strong research results indicating the detrimental effects of oil dependency on the environment. Among the many effects are the intensities and duration of natural disasters, air pollution, unpredictable climate change, and global warming. In France and many other European countries, historical monuments are blackened by diesel smoke. Natives of Los Angeles have grown accustomed to that endearing brownish film that envelops our entire city. The development of recent natural disasters such as hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Stan can be traced back to global warming and the consequent temperature imbalance worldwide. These environmental effects will only worsen if no greater measures are undertaken to promote fuel efficiency and alternative energy resources.

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(continued on page 30)
An ensuing chase by multiple law enforcement agencies and their helicopters led Bui to enter Madison, a side street off of Newland. According to eyewitness Tuan Nguyen, Bui stumbled out of his car and limped near the sidewalk. Shinn’s patrol car, traveling at an approxi- mate speed of 35-45 mph on Monrovia St (as estimated by the eyewitness) struck Bui, forced his body under the patrol car, and dragged him for an estimated five feet, along the street and up a curve. A palm tree prevented the car from advancing but Bui’s body was entirely wedged under Shinn’s car. Bui died at the scene. According to several individuals who observed the aftermath, Bui’s body was left pinned under the car from 10:30 p.m. till 5 a.m. the next morning; medical at- tention never came until hours after his death. As news of Shinn’s aggression spread within the local commu- nity, city and county representatives rushed to assure the enraged public that professional, independent, and objective investigations would supposedly take place. Chief of Police Andrew E. Hal, Captain Mitch Walker, Councilmember Andy Quach, and Mayor Margie Rice all maintained that the investigations, conducted by the Orange County Sheriff Department, the California Highway Patrol, and the Westmin- ster PD (all of which were present at the scene) and reviewed by the Orange County District Attorney, would “uncover every fact and piece of evidence,” and would ensure that “officers are held accountable for their conduct.”

Unfortunately, such public statements were empty promises meant to placate angry citizens and extenuate the crime. The reports, which were supposed to settle any doubts of misconduct, still left many questioning their impartiality and credibility. From the onset, it appeared that the intent of the investigations were concentrated in providing justifications for, first, Shinn’s shooting of an unarmed suspect, and second, Shinn’s control of his vehicle. This objective be- came evident when Mayor Rice, less than a month after the incident, maintained that Shinn “would never deliberately run over someone.” Rice has since insisted on remaining neutral until all investigations are complete.

Governed by the two objectives outlined above, the investiga- tors’ findings, disclosed by Capt. Mitch Walker in late July, claim that “the shooting was justified because Bui was trying to veer his car into Shinn.” (OC register, Aug. 9th) Walker elaborated: “Officer Shinn stated that he saw Bui turned on his car and hurled forward as if intending to run into him. Shinn said that he recalls grabbing his gun and firing, but he cannot recall clearly if it was him who stepped aside (avoiding be- ing hit by Bui’s car) or if it was Bui who intentionally avoided Shinn.” Officer Shinn’s recollections, permeated with uncertainty and ambigui- ty, are at best confusing and convoluted. From his testimony, one would expect that professionals like District Attorney Tony Rackauckas would not jump immediately to the conclusion that Bui attempted weav- ing his vehicle under Shinn, therefore justifying the shooting. However, in an interview on Vietnamese radio station VNCR 106.3 FM, Rackauck- as not only maintained that Shinn’s gunshot were justified, but also stridently derogated the victim’s character by calling him a “capital criminal.” Rackauckas stated: “When Bui turned the steering wheel, started his car and spurted in the direction of the officer—that was an assault on the officer. At that moment, according to law, Bui is a capital criminal and is dangerous and the officer’s shooting does not violate the laws and he cannot be prosecuted.” Critics believe that this is a blatant manipulation of Shinn’s words that places the blame on Bui in order to exonerate Shinn. In addition to this posthumous character as- sasination of Rackauckas’s implicit charge of Bu’s involvement in gang activity—a problem associated with Little Saigon, he maintained. Similarly, the justification for Shinn using his patrol car as a weapon was heavily based on tenuous, implausible, and unsubstanti- ated conclusions. In his discourse of the CHP’s findings, Capt. Walker stated: “Officer Shinn reported that when he made a turn (from Monroe St. onto Madison St.), he did apply the brake. According to CHP’s investigation, when Shinn made the turn, he was traveling at a speed of 23-24 mph. when he hit Bui, the speed was 12 mph.” Finding this more than sufficient evidence, Walker continued: “I have investigated many car collisions; a car that hit a person almost always has remnants of damages. I was present that night at the scene of the killing. Shinn’s car had very little damages thus leading me to believe the CHP’s esti- mation of 12 mph.” Susan Kang Schroeder, spokesperson for District Attorney Tony Rackauckas, too stated: “He (Shinn) wouldn’t have ap- plied the brakes if he wanted to intentionally kill someone.” While that conclusion alone raises many questions, the disregard of the evidence gathered from Bui’s autopsy is more puzzling. As stal- ed in an independent autopsy report, Bui suffered from an innumerable list of bodily damages, ranging from a fractured skull to a fractured sternum to numerous broken ribs, to internal bleeding and the lazer- ation of internal organs that led to his immediate death. Whether or not a 12 mph collision could possibly have caused such severe injuries, the investigators’ and politicians’ neglect of these factors is troubling. Interestingly, Walker based his understanding of the collision solely on the amount of damages visible on Shinn’s patrol car. While investigative reports continue to be withheld from the public, the city has taken efforts to settle the matter with monetary compensation—an amount recently raised from $300,000 to $1 million. Seeking a more equitable settlement that acknowledges police wrong- doing, the Bui family has refused this offer. As this case drags on, blips of police brutality continue to surface: August 11, 2005: Dubai police shot and killed Kwang Tae Lee, a visitor from Korea, when responding to a report of domestic violence. . . . Today, Police Officer . . . .
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News of police brutality has become nothing more than trite blips presented in isolated fragments without a critical examination of the commonalities among them. Elements of racial profiling; a wanton demonizing of the victim while vindicating the perpetrator. Examining closely the politicians' and institutions' callous attempts at the cases mentioned. Certainly, the Bui case is a precise match. In their conduct.

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THE MILITARIZATION OF AMERICAN SCHOOLS

TEXT BY KEVIN LI & TRINH LUU

The militarization of American schools refers to the increased presence of military recruiters and programming within schools, often targeted at high school students. This practice has been criticized for disproportionately targeting underprivileged youth and sugarcoating the benefits of a military career.

Although military recruiters’ access to college student data has been guaranteed by law since 1996, it was not until the enforcement of an obscure section of the No Child Left Behind Act that the disclosure of secondary school students’ private information became mandatory. Under the clause of NCLB Act Section 9026, all elementary and secondary schools receiving federal funds must provide the name, phone number, and address of students to recruiters. Although parents have the right to “opt-out” of this data collection, many are not informed by school administrators before private information is handed over.

The military, as a sophisticated and well-funded marketing machine, has hijacked popular culture to draw in potential recruits. This incorporation of American popular culture lies in the military’s portrayal of combat and warfare as masculine, athletic, adventurous, and cutting edge. "Money is not the only form of enticement for students in high schools. The military, as a sophisticated and well-funded marketing machine, has hijacked popular culture to draw in potential recruits. This incorporation of American popular culture lies in the military’s portrayal of combat and warfare as masculine, athletic, adventurous, and cutting edge."

According to Lt. Col. Hilferty to the Associated Press, "The军事 occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan on Terror," which extends from the community and parents are fighting against the military’s invasive recruitment tactics. In Seattle, the PSATS of Garfield High School has carried on a persistent fight against military intrusion on campus and into the lives of students. Santa Monica High School, for example, kicked off their military recruiters by citing that the military practiced discrimination based on sexual orientation—the "don’t ask, don’t tell" policy. At Roosevelt High School, students organized protests against the military and passed out information on alternate career or educational paths for students who have either been approached or may be approached by military recruiters. These mostly grassroots efforts stemming from the community and parents have been successful in countering the military’s efforts. As mentioned in the beginning, military recruitment has fallen below the quota, something that has not happened for decades. Younger siblings or other family members are perhaps being exposed to the same tactics as described above. It is our responsibility to inform those that may be vulnerable to recruiters.

If you want to get involved, please visit the following websites: www.comdsd.org, www.militaryfreeschools.org, and www.objector.org.
The militarization of American schools

Text by Kevin Li & Trinh Luu

Money is not the only form of enticement for students in high schools. The military, as a sophisticated and well-funded marketing machine, has hijacked popular culture to draw in potential recruits. This incorporation of American popular culture lies in the military’s portrayal of combat and warfare as masculine, athletic, adventurous, and cutting edge.

The quagmire of this so-called “War on Terror,” which extends from the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan to the increased American presence in the rest of the world, has cost this nation nearly $200 billion and close to 2,000 American lives. In light of these facts and mounting public disillusionment, military recruitment has been dealt with a harsh blow, falling behind annual quotas by over 7,000 recruits. The shortfall in recruitment has prompted the military to adopt a more aggressive strategy in public schools, focusing on gathering student data, exploiting the vulnerabilities of impressionable and underprivileged youth, and sugaring the benefits of a military career.

Although military recruiters’ access to college student data has been guaranteed by law since 1996, it was not until the enforcement of an obscure section of the No Child Left Behind Act that the disclosure of secondary school students’ private information became mandatory. Under the clause of NCLB Act Section 9028, all elementary and secondary schools receiving federal funds must provide the name, phone number, and address of students to recruiters. Although parents have the right to “opt-out” of this data collection, many are not informed by school administrators before private information is handed over. Military recruiters must also be given equal access to the student body and equal visibility on the campus as recruiters from other agencies. This has various implications, one of which is the inequity of warfare recruitment between schools located in different socio-economic regions. This inequity has tangible consequences in what Arlene Inouye, a founder of the Coalition Against Military in our Schools (CAMIS), describes in Newsweek: “Local military recruiters have access to a ‘strong national economy’ which gives young people ‘other choices.’ What the spokesmen for the Army essentially implies is that success of recruitment is based on a lack of other opportunities—the military has the most success within those who have few, if any, other places to go. However, the benefits and ‘choices’ of a strong economy do not extend to everyone, which is precisely why recruiters are so drawn to low-income areas where students have few or no opportunities to attend college. According to The Nation, only about 8% of new recruits have one or more parents in professional careers. Capitalizing on the economic struggle faced by students, recruiters like Lt. Col. Hilferty oftentimes promise large bonuses or subsidized tuition. Unfortunately, only an approximated 35% of enlistees receive aid for college, compared to 70% of civilians, as many do not qualify for the GI Bill because they do not possess a ‘critical skill.’ If the military will not pay for college, then the experience should be beneficial for civilian occupations, right? Wrong. Stephen Barley, a labor policy expert, noted that the average soldiers would earn 11% less than their civilian counterparts. We, then, can see the enormous discrepancy between what is touted by military recruiters as the benefits of a military career and the grim reality of rarely having those promises materialized.

Money is not the only form of enticement for students in high schools. The military, as a sophisticated and well-funded marketing machine, has hijacked popular culture to draw in potential recruits. This incorporation of American popular culture lies in the military’s portrayal of combat and warfare as masculine, athletic, adventurous, and cutting edge. By attracting young people, the military has hijacked popular culture to secure the vulnerabilities of impressionable and underprivileged youth.

The instructors quietly project themselves as educators while functioning fully as recruiters. The instructors project a facade of reliability and benevolence, while functioning as recruiters. The instructors quietly project themselves as educators while functioning fully as recruiters. The instructors project a facade of reliability and benevolence, while functioning fully as recruiters. To accomplish this, the Army, Navy, and Air Force all have exhibition vans that travel across the country to various schools and public places. The diminutive label of “vans” should not mislead us because these are gargantuan moving recruitment bases, featuring advanced video equipment, exciting rock walls, realistic weapon, tank, and helicopter simulations along with attention-grabbing F-16 jet replicas, according to www.objector.org. By attracting young people, the recruiters, then, get to “sell” the military and the purported benefits of being part of it, often lies as we have seen earlier. This strategy not only has the immediate effect of helping the military reach their recruitment quotas, but is also a highly motivated move to militarize the next generation. Television ads, interactive games, and glossy leaflets all glorify and obscure the military’s role as a killing machine.

Some schools, parents, or even students may have succeeded in warding off opportunistic recruiters, but we must also note the long-term ramifications of the military’s media campaigns. Functioning in a more subtle and intransparent manner, the country’s 1,500 plus Junior ROTC programs have firmly set root. The instructors quietly project themselves as educators while functioning fully as recruiters. The dual-role of the JROTC instructors, most of whom are retired servicemen, gives them as much as, if not more, access to students than regular Science or English teachers. According to The Nation, JROTC instructors are directed to get involved with school extracurricular activities and to get to know student leaders—to weave themselves fully into the school structure. In junior high and high schools has been so effective that about 45% of those recruited have signed up for service through JROTC programs. Some may contend that these students are fully capable of making decisions about their career and that they have the option to choose not to participate in these programs, but the reality is that many students often don’t have any say. Especially for schools in poverty-stricken neighborhoods where schools have fewer course options, a higher ratio of nonwhite students to white students, and fewer qualified teachers, the JROTC programs fill the void.

In addition, since the district and the military share the salary of the JROTC instructor, disadvantaged schools get the perceived benefit of having an instructor for half the cost. Many students have involuntarily been placed in paths for students who have either been approached or may be approached by military recruiters. These mostly grassroots efforts stemming from the community and parents have been successful in countering the military’s efforts. As mentioned in the beginning, military recruitment has fallen below the quota, something that has not happened for decades. Your younger siblings or other family members are perhaps being exposed to the same tactics as described above. It is our responsibility to inform those that may be vulnerable to recruiters.

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Don’t trust anybody over 30! Mario Savio pronounced at Berkeley in 1964. His words evoked the passionate, youth-ful nature of the protest movements of the period. The motto would soon grow into a popular reminder that the burden of disaster against racial injustice at home and the Vietnam War abroad was taken up most vigorously by the country’s young people.

Though Savio passed away in 1996, thousands of protestors who had saluted his motto in the ’60s took to the streets once again on September 24th, 2005 to demand an end to the war in Iraq. The event was a joint march between United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ) and the ANSWER Coalition, the peace movement’s two largest umbrella organizations. By differing accounts, the march drew between 100,000 and 300,000 people, with thousands more attending solidarity marches in cities from Los Angeles to Mentone, Alabama.

In Washington, D.C., many smaller but significant events occurred in the days before and after September 24th. UFPJ led over 700 activists into the halls of Congress to lobby Senators and Congressmen for an end to the war. Forty-one members of the War Resisters League shut down an entrance to the Pentagon on Monday. And nearly 370 people, including Cindy Sheehan and Princeton professor Cornell West, were arrested at the Pentagon on Monday. And nearly 370 people, including Cindy Sheehan and Princeton professor Cornell West, were arrested at the Pentagon on Monday. And nearly 370 people, including Cindy Sheehan and Princeton professor Cornell West, were arrested at the Pentagon on Monday.

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“Revolution” is more a marketing phrase than a realistic goal, and now even George W. Bush can claim to be a “peace president.” Even if the war in Iraq has a human cost that is lower than that of Vietnam, the social protest movements of that era set the precedent for empowering individual citizens to directly and aggressively challenge their government when it acts unjustly. We saw that precedent in action this weekend through the March and all the other direct actions that took place. But that just brings us back to the original question: where are all the students? Are they really so tuned out from all things political that even the antiwar movement is not just sexy enough to join?

Times may be different, but one thing is surely constant. If you want something to happen, you have to organize it. There is simply no equivalent mobilizing force today to the SDS. The Campus Antiwar Network (CAN) claims to have had at least modest successes in kicking military recruiters out of universities. But that’s hardly a widespread movement. The National Youth and Student Peace Coalition (NYSPC) may be even more obscure than CAN, but its recent adoption by UFPJ may be a promising step toward attaining the resources necessary to organize student initiatives around the country.

Ending the war is going to require tapping the same kind of energy that provoked students like Mario Savio 40 years ago. But it won’t come out of nowhere. The huge organizing vacuum needs to be filled by young people with the passion and dedication necessary to push an uphill fight. Rather than wait for the draft to come around, students need to reclaim our role as unified, passionate voices of dissent in the struggle against war and injustice.

Visit Jared’s weblog at jaredhall.blogspot.com
WHERE ARE ALL THE STUDENTS?

TEXT BY JARED HALL

Don’t trust anybody over 30!” Mario Savio pronounced at Berkeley in 1964. His words evoked the passionate, youth-ful nature of protest movements of the period. The motto would soon grow into a popular reminder that the burden of dissent against racial injustice at home and the Vietnam War abroad was taken up most vigorously by the country’s young people.

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This time around, however, the movement was marked not by youthful enthusiasm, but by middle-aged nostalgia. The sea of gray hair at the March suggests not just the dedication of the Boomer generation to peace and social justice, but also the failure of students today to carry on that tradition.

About 40 years ago students like Savio emerged as the most outspoken critics of the war in Vietnam. From the 1962 Port Huron statement to the massive antiwar convergences on the National Mall and the Pentagon, student groups powered the New Left into a full-blown movement. Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and countless other groups demanded social change while remaining both independent of Soviet interference and critical of trigger-happy Cold War Democrats. By the time the antiwar movement reached its zenith in 1968-72, young people dominated mass rallies and assumed leading roles in the movement’s coordinating committees. Young people including Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin, Tom Hayden – even John Kerry – were all leading anti-war voices.

Today, while soccer moms and other Boomer generation activists lend legitimacy to the movement, they also highlight the degree to which students are so much less central in opposing the war in Iraq than they were opposing the one in Vietnam. There are some easy clues as to why this might be. The lack of a draft has made the war less urgent and threatening. The body count, while fast approaching 2,000 U.S. deaths, is thankfully not on course to exceed the staggering Vietnam total of over 58,000. Consumer culture has become even more pervasive. And political culture ever more conservative.

Yet, among these factors, only the draft is truly particular to young people. The consensual dual absence of military conscription and a grassroots youth movement lends weight to the critical words of black radical activist Bayard Rustin, who predicted during the late ’60s, that “as soon as the Vietnam War is over, and with it the threat of conscription, the students will go quietly back to their studies and from there to their comfortable middle class lives.”

So then, is that it? Are students incapable today of mobilizing against an unjust and immoral war because of their economic situation? It’s a tough charge to confront, but consumer culture undoubtedly plays a role in warping young people’s perspectives. Today, individual identity and self-worth are gauged by a culture of commodification and materialism that differs drastically from the culture of the ’60s. Where our parents might have expressed dissent in by rejecting consumer culture altogether, many young people now frame their objections within it. Politically, the limits of debate have shrunk to conform to this Urban Outfitters-ization of American culture. “Revolution!” is more a marketing phrase than a realistic goal, and even George W. Bush can claim to be a “peace president.”

Even if the war in Iraq has a human cost that is lower than that of Vietnam, the social protest movements of that era set the precedent for empowering individual citizens to directly and aggressively challenge their government when it acts unjustly. We saw that precedent in action this weekend through the March and all the other direct actions that took place. But that just brings us back to the original question: where are all the students? Are they really so tuned out from all things political that even the antiwar movement is just not sexy enough to join?

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ix of the eight propositions are frighteningly harmful policies that can drastically change our schools, stifle the checks and balances system, silence public worker unions, and hurt consumers. What is just as frightening is the manner in which these propositions are brought to the ballot. In order for propositions to be on the ballot, policymakers must provide thousands of signatures of registered voters as proof of public support. Sponsors use private companies that hire workers to collect signatures by any means necessary. These "political consultants" will sit in public spaces like Ring Road on campus and entice/cajole/pressure people to sign petitions. The setup is so convenient you can sign four vaguely described propositions and even open a credit card. Depending on the issue and who is sponsoring it, each signature garnered can be worth anywhere from $0.75 to $3.25. The November 9th election will cost the state government $40-80 million that is largely in the interests of corporations and Republicans.

Being aware of the profit motives behind some propositions is essential to fight the manipulation of the electorate. Here are Jaded's endorsements on the propositions:

NO on Proposition 73
"Waiting period and parental notification before termination of minor’s pregnancy. This proposition will require physicians to notify parents at least 48 hours before abortion. It actually puts vulnerable and scared teens in more danger. Not only does it violate the confidentiality agreement between doctor and patient, it trims to mandate family communication.

NO on Proposition 74
"Increasing probation period for teachers from two to five years.” Unnecessarily increases probationary period for public school teachers from two to five years and also blames teachers for the problems in our public school system. Bad teachers can and are fired. It punishes new teachers for speaking out against the governor’s poor record on education and does nothing to improve student learning or attract and retain quality teachers.

NO on Proposition 75
"Public Employee Union Dues. Restrictions on political contributions.” Prop 75 prohibits union dues for political contributions without each individual consent. This is sponsored by corporate special interest to silence the voice of teachers, nurses, firefighters, and police. It unfairly targets public employees. It is about politics, not fairness. It will not require corporations to get each and every stockholder to approve the company’s political spending. This will weaken unions’ political power to protect their pensions, wages, and health benefits from being taken away by the governor.

NO on Proposition 76
"State spending and school funding limits” This initiative breaks the promise to schools and colleges by eliminating the minimum education funding guaranteed in voter-approved Proposition 98. The governor will have unchecked power to reduce appropriations of his choosing, including general school funds, employee compensation and state contracts. This proposition is dangerous because it will cut school funding by over $4 billion every year.

NO on Proposition 77
"Redistricting” Prop 77 will amend the process for redistricting California’s Senate, Assembly, Congressional and Board of Equalization districts. A panel of three retired judges will decide whether to draw the lines. This initiative is specifically written to prevent judges from any consideration of ‘communities of interest’ while redistricting. This essentially eliminates the power of community and minority groups seeking to retain voting power for their communities. Redistricting California, a diverse state of 37 million people, is too big and too complex to be left in the hands of a special interest group.

NO on Proposition 78
"Drug companies’ voluntary discount program” Establishes a voluntary drug discount program and allows the program to be terminated at any time. The discounts offered are based on a "lowest commercial price" set by the drug companies, which are subject to change at any time. This initiative is sponsored by the prescription drug companies as a smoke-screen designed and bankrolled with millions of dollars from prescription drug lobby to block 79. If both measures get a majority, the one with more votes becomes law.

YES on Proposition 79
"Prescription drug discounts through state negotiated rebates.” It provides prescription drug discounts to Californians through rebates from participating drug manufacturers negotiated by the California Department of Health Services. At least 95% of the rebates will be mandated to fund discounts. It also provides oversight of the board. But most importantly, it has an enforcement mechanism. If a drug company refuses to provide discounts, the state can shift business away from that company and buy more from other drug companies that do offer discounts. This will benefit low income families, people with medical expenses of more than $5,000, and all people who will benefit from adequate drug coverage. If approved into state law it will be a civil violation for a drug maker to engage in profit-seeking from the sale of drugs.
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NO on Proposition 74
"Increasing probation period for teachers from two to five years" Unnecessarily increases probationary period for public school teachers from two to five years and also blames teachers for the problems in our public school system. Bad teachers can and are fired. It punishes new teachers for speaking out against the governor's poor record on education and does nothing to improve student learning or attract and retain quality teachers.

NO on Proposition 77
"Redistricting California's Senate, Assembly, Congressional and Board of Equalization districts. A panel of three retired judges will decide how where to draw the lines. This initiative is specifically written to prevent judges from being taken away by the governor.

NO on Proposition 78
"Drug companies' voluntary discount program" Establishes a voluntary drug discount program and allows the program to be terminated at any time. The discounts offered are based on a "lowest commercial" price set by the drug companies, which are subject to change at any time. This initiative is sponsored by the prescription drug companies as a smoke screen designed and bankrolled with millions of dollars from prescription drug lobby to block Prop 77.

YES on Proposition 79
"Prescription drug discounts through state negotiated rebates" It provides prescription drug discounts to Californians through rebates from participating drug manufacturers negotiated by the California Department of Health Services. At least 95% of the rebates will be mandated to fund discounts. It also provides oversight of the board. But most importantly, it has an enforcement mechanism. If a drug company refuses to provide discounts, the state can shift business away from that company and buy from other drug companies that do offer discounts. This will benefit low income families, people with medical expenses at or above 5 percent of their income, Medicare recipients, seniors, and the chronically ill with inadequate drug coverage. If approved into state law it will be a civil violation for a drug maker to engage in profiteering from the sale of drugs.
TEACH FOR AMERICA
BUILDING THE MOVEMENT TO ELIMINATE EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITY

TEXT BY ANNIE LY

In the minds of many, Brown v. Board of Education ended segregation in public schools in the United States. But the reality is that plenty of schools in our country still face segregation; educational opportunities for children are still determined by racial and socioeconomic factors.

We live in a country where the reading abilities of nine year olds in low-income areas are on average three grade levels below nine year olds in high-income areas. Where fourth graders in low-income areas are on average three grade levels behind their higher income peers in math. Where children growing up in these poverty-stricken areas are seven times less likely to graduate from college than children from wealthier areas. Educational disparities are greater in our country than in any other industrialized nation, which is a shameful but a very real fact that American children are confronted with on a daily basis. Since such an immense achievement gap between the rich and the poor still exists, there is a group of individuals who are working hard to tackle this issue in hopes of reducing educational inequality in our country. This powerful group is Teach For America.

Teach For America is a national corps that selectively recruits recent college graduates of all academic backgrounds to commit two years of teaching in the nation’s toughest and most underprivileged public schools. Children in these schools are not only faced with disadvantages in the classroom, but also with inadequate housing, limited access to healthcare, and unique forces that can take time and focus away from school. These are the challenges that corps members have to face in order to help their students. In June of 2004, Mathematica Policy Research published a study that found that “Teach For America corps members make 10% more progress in a year in math than is typically expected, while slightly exceeding the normal expectation for progress in reading.” In the short run, Teach For America corps members work tirelessly in classrooms all across our nation to ensure that their students gain the academic skills necessary to succeed in life. In the long run, Teach For America continues to build a force of alumni leaders from education, public policy, and several other sectors to ensure that all children have an equal chance in the classroom.

Teach For America began its grassroots effort to eliminate educational inequity in 1990 with 500 corps members in six different sites. The founder, Wendy Kopp, was angered by the educational inequalities facing children in low-income areas, so she developed her idea of a national teaching corps in her senior thesis at Princeton University. Now Teach For America has 3,500 corps members teaching in over 1,000 schools in 22 states across the country. They have directly impacted the lives of two million students and are committed to improving the lives of many more to ensure that our country lives up to its principle of equal opportunity for all.

For more information about Teach For America visit www.teachforamerica.org

SUNDAY AUGUST 14, 2005 marked the passing of a very influential figure in the world of punk. At the age of 88, Esther Wong fell victim to cancer and emphysema after spending over a decade promoting numerous bands in the Los Angeles area.

Born and raised in Shanghai, Wong came to the United States in 1949 to escape the newly erected communist government and worked for a shipping company for two decades. She then proceeded to open her own restaurant in 1970, Madame Wong’s, in Los Angeles’ Chinatown where she originally hired Polynesian bands to help bring in customers, which they did not. So in a smart business move, Wong began booking various up-and-coming new wave and punk bands in 1978. The shows proved so successful that Wong opened her club Madame Wong’s West in Santa Monica within the same year.

While she has been dubbed the “godmother of punk” for helping jump-start the careers of such acclaimed bands as the Go-Gos, X, Oingo Boingo, the Textones, the Plimsouls, Plane English, Police and the Motels, in her career she has simultaneously garnered the affectionate nickname “the dragon lady” for her strict proprieties ways. She was popularly cited for having stopped a Ramones performance so that they could clean the graffiti they had left on the bathroom wall, limited viewing to the 21 and over and even went as far as to refuse to book any female bands because they were supposedly always trouble. Wong was also said to have cruised the audiences during shows in pursuit of weed-smoking guests, in addition to banning any bands that had played for her rival, the Hong Kong Café. On the other side, her supporters cite not only her providing of a venue but also her payment plan which allowed groups to simply split the admission fee.

Gary Valentine of the Know told the LA Times in 1979 that Wong’s was where they made the most money since they were paid by their popularity. Despite the controversy of her “titles,” Wong’s contributions to the promotion of music in Los Angeles are undeniable and invaluable in the history of the genre.

Madame Wong’s closed in 1985 and Madame Wong’s West in 1991. In her passing, Wong is survived by second husband Harry, son Frank, daughter Braun, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.
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VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass- tereism of the image of the World Trade Center towers falling has diminished from excessive viewing, the consequences of being a Muslim in the U.S. have not. VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass- tereism of the image of the World Trade Center towers falling has diminished from excessive viewing, the consequences of being a Muslim in the U.S. have not. VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass- tereism of the image of the World Trade Center towers falling has diminished from excessive viewing, the consequences of being a Muslim in the U.S. have not. VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass- tereism of the image of the World Trade Center towers falling has diminished from excessive viewing, the consequences of being a Muslim in the U.S. have not. VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass- tereism of the image of the World Trade Center towers falling has diminished from excessive viewing, the consequences of being a Muslim in the U.S. have not. VISIBEL, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions whether or not these sort of subversive media attention surrounding 9/11. One subject matter was exhausted by the mass-"Art is often regarded as only aesthetic, something too abstract and too pretty to be politically empowering. That's just not realistic. Perhaps the government didn't consider art a threat, but now the lens has shifted and art is under attack.”

Since 9/11 we are constantly told to be fearful the “other” in order to fight terrorism and protect our democracy. These fears materialize as discrimination and silence the voice of Muslim Americans. This art exhibit challenges that rhetoric of fear and offers a voice for the people that are marginalized in the name of “democracy.”

www.disappearedinamerica.org

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VISIBLE, an arts collective composed of artists, activists, and lawyers, questions and challenges how America has changed since 9/11. It strives for objectives similar to as prominent civil rights activists groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights. Their latest project is an international installation tour entitled Disappeared in America that reminds their audience of issues that surfaced after 9/11 and which continue on to this day.

Disappeared in America’s primary intent is to inspire and provoke discussion on what national identity means today in an “Islamophobic” society. It brings attention to what they call “ghost prisoners,” a group of mostly working class Middle Eastern detainees who were taken from society without notice or lawful prosecution. The exhibit speaks for victims that are unable to speak for themselves because they are not U.S. citizens and lack the proper resources to fight unlawful arrests.

Heid at the UCI University Art Gallery, the exhibit addresses issues of identity, citizenship, and constitutional rights through five pieces, each in different mediums. Jeeyun Ha’s paper tree sheds real rose petals whose thin branches are actually excerpts from books such as Tram Nguyen’s We Are All Suspects Now. A video trilogy simultaneously showing all three short films are projected onto the walls, telling of a Pakistani scientist who was falsely arrested, an examination of disappeared (a term used to refer to the many arrests that go unreported) New York city residents, and an Indian man’s tribulations with airport security. However, the boldest display is a floating line composed of six giant scrolls featuring the photographs of ghost prisoners, each with a unique story. Among these faces includes Chaplain James Yee, whose story was notorious in the public media when he was accused of spying at Guantanamo Bay. Consequently, Yee faced 76 days of solitary confinement in a maximum security prison only to be released when the government dropped all charges due to a lack of evidence. There is also American-born Tariq Abdel-Muhti, whose activist father was denied medicine throughout his illness, and an Indian man’s tribulations with airport security. Asects with airport security. The struggle of this group is a difficult one, for they are already at the bottom of the social hierarchy, often do not have some form of citizenship, and are thus easily targeted due to their lack of political power.

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www.disappearedinamerica.org
Broken Social Scene Self-Titled

Dear Canada: Hello there, mysterious neighbors to the north. This is America. Remember us? We haven’t hung out in ages! In your defense, you’ve been pretty busy lately, right? You guys have basically become the coolest place in North America at this point. Not that you don’t deserve that title! You (rightfully) earned it, you multi-talented and prolific noisemakers. You had that whole Montreal “year of The Arcade Fire” deal going on, the release of Vancouver’s The New Pornographers’ Twin Cinema (which everyone is completely gaga over), and let’s not forget the new Metric release. Speaking of Emily Haines, didn’t she contribute her suave vocal musings to something else recently? Walt, am I thinking of the new Broken Social Scene full length? Correct me if I’m wrong, oh humble nation, but isn’t Broken Social Scene one of the greatest collectives to make anthemic, beautiful, ethereal music in recent world history? Come on, 2003’s You Forgot It In People is probably one of the most memorable albums in the last decade of independent music. Heck, even the uptight hipsters at Pitchfork Media, the snarkiest of all the internet indie gods, dig them. A lot. But honestly, this new album is going to be really major, despite the fact that Broken Social Scene got lazy and named it after their band. Even Franz Ferdinand wised up and decided that the whole “we can make albums without real titles and refer to them by their art” concept of no great consequence was ruined it with their “green” one. But we’ll let it slide, because, umm, Broken Social Scene is incredibly fantastic. Okay Canada, we’re starting to get the feeling that you guys don’t even want to be seen with us anymore. Is that it? Have we lost our edge? Montreal, Vancouver, Saskatchewan: have they replaced New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco? This is worse than the Britpop invasion, if only because you guys just stuck in through the border, under our radar, and established yourselves as the most impressive geographical icon in music right now. Broken Social Scene is heartbreakingly good. It just builds and builds, then descends subtly, leaving the rest of us in awe. “Windsurfing Nation” starts up where “Almost Crimes” left off two years ago, with its enigmatic lyrics and fast-paced melody. When Haines sings, “Give me more of that beat”, we say, “Give us more of everything,” and then we get depressed because Canadian citizenship is really hard to get. Oh well, if it’s any consolation to us, Degrasse has nothing on The OC. Please return our calls soon.

With Affection,
The United States of America

-Kayleigh Shaw

Wolf Parade Apologies to the Queen Mary This sophomore release of this quirky Canadian quartet reminds us why we still buy full-length albums, demonstrating solid production from start to finish. There’s no need for song skipping on this album, as each track flows smoothly into the next. The eclectic, distorted Isaac Brock-esque vocals of Dan Boeckner and Spencer Krug force more than an initial listen. But they complement and tackle the best of lyrical bitterness and disparity in tracks like “Dear Sons and Daughters of Hungry Ghosts,” and the regret-driven ballad “Choker Bells,” which is fully worthy of several minutes of your time. With lyrics that chew you up and spit you out (“Nobody knows you and nobody gives a damn.”), Wolf Parade finds the formula to draw in the masses like a Hollywood romance that you secretly kind of hope has a happy ending. But this is definitely not a Hollywood production. It’s just another fine, five addition to the ever-growing list of Canadian musical accomplishments.
-Eva Messaros

Blockhead Downtown Science We all know Blockhead as the renowned NYC hip hop producer who has done impressive work for Aesop Rock and Cage. And for all of you who know the gut-busting, knee-slappping, Party Fun Action Committee, he is one of the two members. Even though his last full-length in 2007 dropped last March, everyone was itching to hear what Blockhead would put out next. Downtown Science, although on a whole other level, is comparable. The album is dedicated to his hometown Manhattan, where we are taken on a fifty-four minute journey through the atmospheric downtown streets getting a sample of everything from funk to downtempo to jazz and sweet melodic vocals-12 tracks in 12 delicious flavors to satisfy all your needs. “The Art of Walking” stands out in particular with a funky disco flair that almost makes you want to scream “Get on the good foot!” Also on this tour is a nostalgic stroll with “Long Walk Home,” a playful adventure in “Dough Nation” and the witty yet romantic “Serenade.” Point is, if you haven’t given it a listen yet, I suggest you do so.
-Sheena Chan

Ladytron Witching Hour Ladytron have been written off as just another product of that flash-in-the-pan, dreadful electrolauch movement, which is completely unfair. They have snappy haircuts, they’re Eastern European, and they wear all black, but there’s much more depth to their music than most critics will admit. Their third full-length builds on the sound of their previous two albums and comes off feeling more like a record made by humans instead of machines. The album’s two singles alone should be enough to demonstrate Ladytron’s successful transformation into compelling dance music makers on Witching Hour “Destroy Everything You Touch” showcases all their fancy bells and whistles. It’s seamless and more polished than their previous cuts, which sometimes sounded choppy and disjointed. Later in the record, “Sugar” promises to be an underground dancefloor hit, not simply because it’s a not-so-subtle nod to Mary-Kate’s favorite meal. “I get the sugar-will you get me something elusive/and temporary” could be Kate Moss’ next campaign slogan. Plus it’s a kicking good tune. Ladytron’s lyrics add another layer to their rich electronic sound on Witching Hour. Whereas 904 seemed like randomly-drawn phrases from a telephone book being read aloud over a succession of beeps and boops, Witching Hour provides more of a narrative. But don’t expect storyline with Ladytron. They’ve outgrown the tired electrolauch label, but they’re still too cool for school. And America.

-Kayleigh Shaw

D.J. Language Real Music For Real People Hailing from NYC, DJ Language has gained international recognition as a selector of stellar club tunes, and is known as somewhat of a tastemaker. With his first official release on the quality BBE imprint, this mixed compilation is an afflaring excursion through a sweet blend of sultry soul, honest hip-hop, electro-influenced funk, and forward-thinking dance rhythms. The mix has a superb selection of lesser-known tracks from renowned artists such as Pete Rock, Nasa, Roy Ayers, and Patrick Rusher, while Primaries of progressive crosscutting genres like the Platinum Pied Pipers. Bugs in the Attic, and DJ Spinna are also on here to open your ears and keep bodies moving! (no parking on the dance floor) For an unadulteratedly gutsy synth groove on Beanfield’s “Close To You” (Remix) sequencing into theubby broken-beat of L.A.S. freedom fighter anthem. “Brown Eyed Warrior Epilogue,” is the highlight of his set, and a must-have if you ask me. File this disc under: Future Classics.
-Dave Hu

Criteria When We Break Most people who give up their pursuit of a law degree don’t go on to do wonderful things. Don’t count Stephen Pedersen among that group of failures. He is not very anticipated (but should have been) follow-up to their debut album Apologies to the Queen Mary. Pedersen’s band Criteria is back with even more massochistic yet original metaphors than the mind can imagine. The album is a product of of gravel guitarist Pedersen and his midfield-inflated base- ment, but don’t let that dismay you. Between Pedersen (vocals), AJ Mogis (bass), Mike Sweeney (drums), and Aaron Dreyer (guitar), Criteria is solid proof that Omaha is some kind of freakish breeding ground for new and ingenuous music. With unrelenting distortion and syncopated drum lines. When We Break gives you a new reason to dance around in your car. If you had Pedersen’s talent, you’d probably drop out of law school and make music, too.
-Mattress Santiago
well, if it’s any consolation to us, Degrassi has nothing on The OC. Please return our calls soon.

With Affection,
The United States of America
-Kayleigh Shaw

Wolf Parade
Apologies to the Queen Mary
This sophomore release of this quirky Canadian quartet reminds us why we still buy full-length albums, demonstrating solid production from start to finish. There’s no need for song skipping on this album, as each track flows smoothly into the next. The eccentric, distorted Isaac Brock-esque vocals of Dan Boeckner and Spencer Krug force more than an initial listen. But they complement and tackle the best of lyrical bitterness and disarray in tracks like “Dear Sons and Daughters of Hungry Ghosts,” and the regret-driven ballad “Cinder Bells,” which is fully worthy of several minutes of your time. With lyrics that chew you up and spit you out (“Nobody knows you and nobody gives a damn”), Wolf Parade finds the formula to draw in the masses like a Hollywood romance that you sacrificially弃 hope has a happy ending. But this is definitely not a Hollywood production. It’s just another fine, five-act addition to the ever-growing list of Canadian musical accomplishments.
-Eva Meszaros

Blockhead
Downtown Science
We all know Blockhead as the renowned NYC hip hop producer who has done impressive work for Aesop Rock and Cage. And for all of you who know the gut-busting, knee-slapping, Party Fun Action Committee, he is one of the two members. After Music by Cavelight dropped last March, everyone was itching to hear what Blockhead would put out next. Downtown Science, although on a whole other level, is comparable. The album is dedicated to his hometown Manhattan, where we are taken on a fifty-four minute journey through the atmospheric downtown streets, getting a sample of something from funk to downtempo to jazz and sweet melodic voices -12 tracks in 12 delicious flavors to satisfy all your needs. “The Art of Walking” stands out with a funky disco flair that almost makes you want to scream “Get on the good foot!” Also on this tour is a nostalgic stroll through theFMFFV urban adventure in “Dough Nation” and the witty yet romantic “Shivers.” Point is, if you haven’t given it a listen yet, I suggest you do so.
-Sheena Chan

Cinema (which everyone is completely gaga over), and let’s not forget the new Metric release. Speaking of Emily Haines, didn’t she contribute her suave vocal musings to something else recently? Wait, am I thinking of the new Broken Social Scene full length? Correct me if I’m wrong, oh humble nation, but isn’t Broken Social Scene one of the greatest collectives to make anthemic, beautiful, ethereal music in recent world history? Come on, 2003’s You Forgot It In People is probably one of the most memorable albums in the last decade of independent music. Heck, even the uppity hipsters at Pitchfork Media, the snarkiest of all the internet indie gods, dig them. A lot. But honestly, this new album is going to be really major, despite the fact that Broken Social Scene got lazy and named it “Windsurfing Nation” starts off with its enigmatic lyrics and fast-paced build, then descends subtly, leaving the rest of us in awe. “Windsurfing Nation” starts off with “Almost Crimes” left off two years ago, with its enigmatic lyrics and fast-paced melody. When Haines sings, “Give me more of that beat,” we say, “Give us more of everything,” and then we get depressed because Canadian citizenship is really hard to get. Oh...
When someone hands you a flyer on a city street, they’re really saying, “Hey. You throw this away.”

For freshmen looking to belong, there is a wealth of clubs to belong to: trash picking fraternities and hobby specific gangs. One thing is for sure, you have the whole rest of your life to ingest MTV culture. The first step towards exploring the progressive environment of higher education is to open yourself up to progressive music.

When I was 14, I wrote letters and prowled the Internet to find the UCI hoodie/pajama pants combo that seems ever so comfy around campus. Please start a new trend this year: wear clothes you didn’t wear in! Unless of course you were parting so hard and you crashed at the pad of a bearded someone, which of course is totally acceptable.

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club – In Like The Band

This song will remind you why metal in any shape or form (hardcore, death, black, whatever the fuck else) is nothing more than soundtrack music to a Renaissance fair.

My Bloody Valentine – Only Shallow

A girl once asked me if my engineering class was “for guys only”… O my goddiggity, I thought this was really all about the new pictures you took of yourself holding a camera in the mirror to show off the new haircut you gave yourself at an awkward angle while wearing your new blazer hoods in low lighting.

Q And Not U – Wet Work

This is what dance inspired music done tastefully sounds like. But anyway my friend me! The Faunt backstadium and they were totally drunk and hitting on her and she said she wouldn’t have sex with them; she knows all these best dance core bands like Head Automatica.

Mono – Halo (beautiful days)

It’s all pointless, pull pranks on them. If you crashed at the pad of a bearded someone, which of course is totally acceptable.

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There is a wealth of clubs to belong to: trash dorm buddies: do you know Jonny from not being able to go home this weekend; so stay there and compare friends with your Sigur Rós – Hoppípolla has an exotic collection of Magic The Gather-ability MC Hammer pants... o yeah, your mom college requires a belly button ring and soror-Rose and you crashed at the pad of a bearded hoodie/pajama pants combo that seems ever yourself up to progressive music. the first step towards exploring the progressive rest of your life to ingest MTV culture. The when someone hands you a flyer near you. Donald Duck blowjob clip circling an internet the guts to hit on someone over aim. Don't listen to Test Icicles on myspace. RA's are pointless, pull pranks on them. If all these best dance core bands like Head she wouldn't have sex with them; she knows tastefully sounds like. But anyway my friend don't respond to your post that one time about the new pictures you took of yourself holding a camera in the mirror to show off the new haircut you gave yourself at an awkward angle while wearing your new blazer hoods in low lighting. Q And Not U – Wet Work This is what dance inspired music done tastefully sounds like. But anyway my friend me! The Fact bad backside and they were totally drunk and hitting on her and she said she wouldn't have sex with them: she knows all these best dance core bands like Head Automatica. Mono – Haloicy (beautiful days) It's a pointless, dull prank on them, if they have a power trip, seduce them. Then go listen to Test tics on myspace. The Redwalls – Cool Your Boots being straight edge yet acting like your on drugs. Real women do heroin.

SO HOT RIGHT NOW PLAYLIST

TEXT BY DAVID PETTER

Benjamin Eisenstaedt from Warmwood?

Brian Jonestown Massacre – Satellite Dear Mrs. Dying On A Broken Dagger Of Death On a Sunday Tuesday in September’s Past, I’m sorry I didn’t see that blog an- nouncement about how you felt bad that I didn’t respond to your post that one time about the new pictures you took of yourself holding a camera in the mirror to show off the new haircut you gave yourself at an awkward angle while wearing your new blazer hoods in low lighting.

My Bloody Valentine – Only Shallow A girl once asked me if my engineering class was “for guys only”... O my godddddd! my boyfriend bought me boba (it was nasty but then) I was once with him to cyber cafe and he played countertops and ignoring me so then I called my homiegirl Vivian and Tiffany to pile me up. I’m so mad at that boi. I will strike him if he buy the necklace. The Kinks – Sunny Afternoon Why? It’s the fucking Kinks that’s why! cunt!

Black Rebel Motorcycle Club – In Like The Rock First off, this song is about how being cool in college requires a belly button ring and soror-

D

Honorable Mention: Rick Bain – I Want to Die Ride – Cool Your Boots Kasabian – Processed Waterfall Having trouble finding these songs? Any sug-

gestions for the next playlist?

Email JadedDavis@gmail.com

A MOSTLY STEREOTYPICAL PLACE THAT I’LL NEVER VISIT AGAIN

TEXT AND IMAGE BY KAYLEIGH SHAW

Dr. Rossetti...

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A MOSTLY STEREOTYPICAL PLACE THAT I’LL NEVER VISIT AGAIN

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Fourth graders in low-income communities are two to three grade levels behind their peers in high-income communities.

Our generation must take on this issue.
Fourth graders in low-income communities are two to three grade levels behind their peers in high-income communities.

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TEACH FOR AMERICA
www.teachforamerica.org

Full salary and health benefits. Seeking all academic majors. No education courses or experience required.
Political Roadblocks

Despite multiple solutions offered by environmentalists and economists alike, political barriers continue to obstruct the efforts to move beyond oil dependency. For example, a recent bill that proposed to build solar panels on one million roofs within ten years (Bill S. 1134, also known as the Million Solar Roofs Bill) failed in the Assembly Appropriations Committee despite broad bipartisan support because of the conflicting interests of electrical utilities, solar energy contractors, and other laborers in the industry.

The structure of the energy industry under the current system is, in itself, a formidable barrier to the adoption of efficient fuel standards and the development of alternative energy because of its close ties to politics. Presently, nuclear plants and oil companies still receive subsidies from the government. Businesses are allowed to deduct energy costs from their revenues before filing their income taxes. The energy infrastructure is organized in such a way that utility companies make a profit if people use more energy. Efforts to make sound policies continuously stall because of the interests of oil tycoons who are reluctant to give up control of their profitable market.

Other administration policies, such as those towards drilling more, digging more, and building more, have not only doomed us to major setbacks in the alternative energy field but also have fueled not-so-subtle antagonism from countries around the world. It is understandably difficult to steer the United States away from Big Oil if the President himself has a stake in what his administration considers a great solution: more fossil fuels. The Bush administration’s policies towards drilling more, digging more, and building more have not only doomed us to major setbacks in the alternative energy field but also have fueled not-so-subtle antagonism from countries around the world. It is understandably difficult to steer the United States away from Big Oil if the President himself has a stake in what his administration considers a great solution: more fossil fuels.

The political problem surrounding oil dependency is by no means restricted to domestic policies. Very few can deny that the need for oil has been the underlying factor guiding much of the foreign policy of the United States. The Oil Factor predicts that by 2010 all of the world will depend solely on the Middle East for oil. Is any coincidence that the United States seems to have such a strong presence in this very area? Researchers predict that by 2010 all of the world will depend solely on the Middle East for oil. Is any coincidence that the United States seems to have such a strong presence in this very area? Researchers predict that by 2010 all of the world will depend solely on the Middle East for oil. Is any coincidence that the United States seems to have such a strong presence in this very area?

Another administration policy that is designed to meet the energy demands of heavily-consuming nations such as the United States is the Oil Factor. It is obvious that new technological advancements will require more financial investments—the IEA has named these financial contributions to the field of energy research. But what can many people not seem to realize is that over a period of time, this capital can be much more rewarding than what is right now being offshored by the oil industry. Issues concerning investments for the future seem to be recurring problems in the United States. (Social Security, anyone?). Think of investing in alternative energy as its waste. In addition, hydrogen fuel cells could produce energy that could be used outside of the transportation sector.

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(continued from page 11) Policies towards fuel efficiency, however, are only primary steps in the fight against oil dependency. Eventually, policymakers should look towards alternative renewable energy sources that are both economically stable and environment-friendly. According to Environment California, “renewable energy is inexhaustible, and beyond construction and maintenance costs, free. It is less susceptible to market manipulation and supply shortages.” Waterpower, wind power, solar power, and energy from hydrogen fuel cells are some of the better-known technologies out there. In his book Energy Revolution, Howard Gellat writes that wind power is growing in popularity, and many countries have taken advantage of the energy generated from turbines and rotor blades. Solar PV (photovoltaic) power is an alternative energy source that should ring a bell with many Californians. There must be better uses for the sun beyond achieving a cancer-inducing tan. Much effort has been devoted into researching into hydrogen fuel cells. The chemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen emits only water as its waste. In addition, hydrogen fuel cells could produce energy that would be used outside of the transportation sector.

Other, lesser-known alternative sources include geothermal energy, which uses heat from within the earth, and biomass energy. Biomass energy, according to Gellat, involves “wood, forestry, agricultural residues, and crops grown for energy use.” “Energy crops” such as corn can be processed to ethanol. Unfortunately, the land mass needed to grow such crops for energy use would not be enough to meet the energy demands of heavily-consuming nations such as the United States.

It is obvious that new technological advancements will require more financial investments—the IEA has named these financial contributions “learning investments”: “expenditures that need to be made to bring a new technology to the point of commercial acceptance.” But this is money that far too many Americans are reluctant to part with. What many people may not seem to realize is that over a period of time, this capital can be much more rewarding than what is right now being thrown off by the oil industry. Issues concerning investments for the future seem to be recurring problems in the United States (Social Security, anyone?). Think of investing in alternative energy as diversifying your portfolio. No one should put all of his eggs in the oil industry basket.

A switch toward fuel efficiency and alternative energy requires gradual steps. But at the current sluggish rate at which things are advancing, the result of such issues as conflicting political interests, we’ll be lucky if we manage to make a dent within our lifetimes.

**Political Roadblocks**

Despite multiple solutions offered by environmentalists and economists alike, political barriers continue to obstruct the efforts to move beyond oil dependency. For example, a recent bill that proposed to build solar panels on one million roofs within ten years (Bill 811, also known as the Million Solar Roofs Bill) failed in the Assembly Appropriations Committee despite broad bipartisan support because of the conflicting interests of electrical workers, carpenters, and other laborers in the industry.

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