

BUSTIN' A NUTMEG SINCE 1997

DECEMBER 2009

TEXAS

TRAVESTY



Interviews with Mike Birbiglia & John Krasinski

Angie Cooper The Extraordinarily Unhelpful Government Advisor

Texas Travesty: Hi. I was wondering how I can add GOV 370L to my schedule next semester?

Angie Cooper: I can help with that! All you need to do is to



Google "utexas course registration" and it will take you right to the registration page.

TT: Yeah, I did that, but I got a 404 error when I tried to navigate the De-

partment of Government homepage.

AC: It's so simple! All you need to do is to Google "utexas course registration" and it will take you right to the registration page.

TT: No, you just said that. All I want to do is add this course so that I can graduate on time next semester.

AC: Oh, certainly. Be sure to check out AskDON on the Student Financial Services webpage to clear up any financial bars you may have.

TT: That's not even remotely close to the question I asked.

AC: The University Chicano Association meets every Tuesday in the Texas Union, room 4.312.

TT: I'm sorry I even showed up. I'm leaving now.

AC: I can help with that!

Turn-ons: big smiles, helping bewildered undergraduates, pestering, always being there, gossiping about other advisers, being a real grad student one day, registration bars, 5PM, tears of confused freshmen, motivational cat posters, playing Farmville all day, the 2008-2010 course catalog, that hunky post-WWII in America professor and his abs

Turn-offs: complaints, being helpful, questions about other departments, questions about minors, questions about registration, questions about building locations, questions about degree audits, walk-in appointments, Internet Explorer crashes, students with thick accents, undeclared majors

around campus

- Don't worry, President Powers administered **30 lashes** to that guy that missed the kick that would have won the whole stadium Chick-Fil-A.
- So lame, God invited like EVERYBODY to his **meteor shower party**.
- When you have to add lightning to attract an audience for your garage band maybe it's time to fill out that **Pizza Hut application**.
- There's really nothing better than a **UT home football game** to remind you why, out of 50,000 students, you only associate with .04%

of them.

- A **dedicated thief** will steal the signs talking about the huge amount of thefts that have occurred in the PCL.
- A lonely student will have his hopes raised only to discover that he was invited to attend **another marketing survey**.
- Students wary of public bathrooms will continue avoiding **West Campus sidewalks** altogether.
- Much like the grizzly bear, businesses on the drag will enter a **state of hibernation** to make it through the slow winter months. Drag rats will, of course, migrate.
- **Urban Outfitters** has announced that their plain white t shirts will be discounted to \$29.99 for Black Friday sales.
- The recent box office success of **the Twilight Saga** once again proves teenage girls' dominance over comic book nerds even outside of

high school.

- When you leave your dorm for winter break, be sure to unplug your computer, turn off the gas, and **grab your stash** lest the RA pinch that shit.
- **Roommate gone?** Time to push the beds together!
- **Sigma Chi** brothers returning from winter break will not be able to understand why their house is filled with booby traps, until they realize that youngest pledge was left home alone all holiday season.
- Did you see the production of **Pride and Prejudice** on campus recently? We have nothing funny to say about this...it was quite good.
- Why would I buy Windows 7 when I can have **Windows 98?**
- We'll take this opportunity to jinx our football team. We're calling it: **UT National Championship 2010!**

In This Issue...



Man somehow loses real-life daughter during game of Oregon Trail



Reusable tote bag inspires less fortunate plastic bags



Nancy Pelosi wounds eleven House republicans with laser death vision



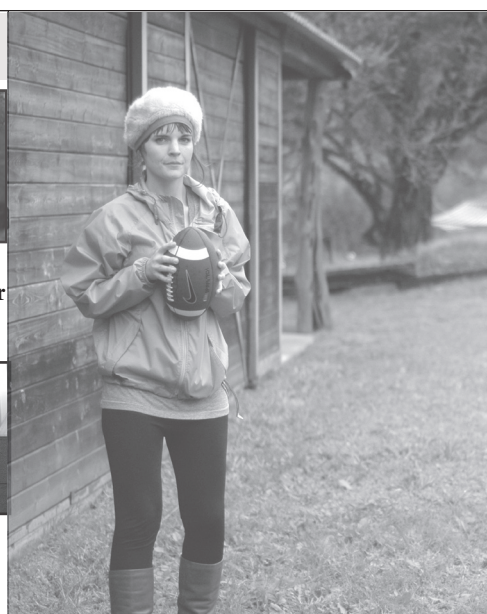
Opinion: I don't act like a pretentious asshole right now, but I Plan II



Piece of tape refuses to get off thumb, forefinger, pinky



Suicidal man living life ironically



DECEMBER
2009
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SHOUT OUTZ TO...

Matt's awesome lakehouse camping. Thank you Dr. Lester: 21st Co-op's 21 (hidden) keg 21st birthday party. Alyssa's first kegstand; holy shit bats; Jessica does NOT like pigs; We'll do it live; C.J.; Good Ol' Fashioned sing-a-longs; close up of Kyle's face; death smell of the refrigerator eradicated; dear UT maintenance, please kill all the ants in our office; Alyssa's average cookie choice; Matty had a dance party; Always Sunny, The Office, and 30 Rock...more fun than co-op parties; camping indoors; all the schoolwork we're neglecting; Aztec Stadium; Sarah's tire trouble and her knights in shining armor

Poll: 29% of Boyfriends Unaware of Relationship

Marshall Dungan

STAFF WRITER

WASHINGTON, DC—According to a recent poll by the Gallup Organization, 29% of American boyfriends are completely unaware that they are in a relationship with the women they see on a regular basis.

The poll, which has been the cause

of heated debate among both non-boyfriends and sort-of-but-not-really boyfriends, reports that nearly a third of men, when asked about the girl they see at least three times a week, denied being in a committed relationship.

“Nah, she’s not my girlfriend,” said Rob Hamils, a UNC graduate who has reportedly not been dating fellow graduate, Sarah Mallow, for the past eight

months. “We’re not like, dating or anything. It’s just that we like to hang out every day of the week. No big deal.”

“Also, sex,” added Hamils. “We have sex frequently. But it’s nothing, really.”

Experts have been baffled to find such a large number of men had been frequently seeing the same women without classifying their relationship as “dating.” The Gallup Organization, which

conducted the poll over the course of a year amongst several state schools, reports 19% of men responded with “Wait, what?” while 37% chose “Define girlfriend...” Among those polled, 8% refused to answer and 14% immediately ran away.

“I mean, I’m not, like, seeing any one person. Well, I do technically ‘see’ her, but not in that way. Not in the boyfriend way.”

“The most difficult part of the study was the initial investigation,” explained Gallup statistician Candice Melton. “A large percentage of respondents simply stuffed their hands in their pockets and whistled innocently. We also found that questioning the subject within three feet of his girlfriend produced optimal results.”

Since the study was released, thousands of boyfriends have objected to the investigation, citing leading or deceptive questioning to explain the results. Ole Miss Sophomore Teddy Akers addressed the media Friday: “These

results have overt and flagrant biases in them,” said Akers, who has objected most strongly to what he calls ‘stupid-girlfriend-confusion-wording biases.’ “I mean, I’m not, like, seeing any one person. Well, I do technically ‘see’ her, but not in that way. Not in the boyfriend way.”

The poll left Akers’ girlfriend Brittany Sharp unmoved. “People can talk all they want, but every time Teddy lets a door swing shut on my face, I know he’s really saying ‘You’re my everything,’” said Sharp as her reported boyfriend Akers sped away in his Camaro. “He loves me, I know he does.”

While many women across the country have taken this news in stride, others have reacted with disdain. According to investigators, Kari Tillinghast, an Iowa State senior and girlfriend of Byron Hawkins, elected to make no mention of the study and act as if nothing was wrong only to later hurl Hawkins’ X-Box at him while he was sleeping. There have been numerous reports of girlfriends employing other methods to show their frustration including, but not limited to: withholding sex, the silent treatment, and keying “You’re a pussy-shit asshole” into their boyfriend’s car door.

The poll also revealed that 51% of men are painfully aware of their role as boyfriends, and 12% are just rebounds.



■ Hamils is checking the score of the Patriots game right now.

Parents’ Divorce Talk Interrupted by Chili’s Waiter

Dan Treadway

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PLANO—While in the midst of a conversation revealing their impending divorce to their two children, Michael and Barbara Bradley were abruptly interrupted by Jeff Baker, their enthusiastic Chili’s waiter, who had finally brought out the family’s sizzling entrees.

“Kids, we have some bad news,” said Mr. Bradley as he excitedly observed the waiter approaching out of the corner of his eye. “Your mother and I are getting a divorce. But we just want you both to know that we still love — oh look, food’s here!”

Baker, one of the local Chili’s most animated waiters, paid no mind to the family’s plight. He fervently adhered to the Chili’s official policy, which states that a server should “provide service with a smile, even if [they] are serving a family that is falling apart at the seams.”

“Hey, hey, hey, folks!” exclaimed Baker as he set down a tray full of crispy, smothered, and “chipotle style” dishes. “Now who had the Jalapeno Smokehouse Bacon Burger?”

“And I have a kid’s order of macaroni and cheese for you, little buddy!” added Baker as he set the plate down in front of the Bradley’s youngest child, Billy, who was sobbing hysterically. “And here are

some crayons so you can do your crossword puzzle! On the house!”

Michael and Barbara Bradley continued their talk, explaining to the kids that it is not their fault, and that it would be best for the entire family if their parents were no longer married, all the while dipping their deep-fried food into Chili’s wide array of dipping sauces.

“Your father and I still love each other very much, but we’re just two different people,” said Mrs. Bradley while her husband stuffed handfuls of Cajun-seasoned French fries into his mouth. “Everything is going to be — hey, where the hell is my blue cheese?”

“Your mother and I are getting a divorce. But we just want you both to know that we still love — oh look, food’s here!”

“Why? Why? Why are you doing this to us?!” cried their daughter Cindy, age 12, knocking over the honey mustard in which her now-annoyed father had intended to dip his Crispy Sweet Chili Glazed Chicken Crispers. “I hate both of you!”

Before Cindy could complete her tirade, a perky Baker returned to the table to check on the family.

“Hey, hey! How’s everyone’s food?

Delicious I hope! Who’s ready for some Chocolate Chip Paradise Pie? How about you, little girl?” asked Baker, to which Cindy responded, “Shut up! Just shut up!” Unphased, Baker told the tearful children, “I think some Blackberry Cherry Limeade twist will spice this lunch up! I hope they don’t split you kids up, you’re a great crowd! Two Christmases!”

Mr. Bradley had thought that bringing the kids to the fun atmosphere that only Chili’s could offer would relax them while hearing the news of the divorce. He had also accounted for the fact that they would likely encounter a waiter as enthusiastic as Baker.

“When you come to Chili’s to discuss big life events, there’s always a good chance the waiter is going to intrusively delegitimize the moment,” said Bradley. Bradley noted one occurrence in years past when his mother informed him at a local Chili’s establishment that he was in fact adopted, which resulted in their waiter offering the table a complimentary ‘sorry you were adopted’ Awesome Blossom.

“It was a little salty” noted Bradley.

When the family was ready to leave the restaurant, Bradley urged the children to place their untouched meals in a to-go box. “Take heart kiddos, Chili’s leftovers have more staying power than any modern suburban marriage!”



■ Chili’s Baby Back Ribs and dissolving the bonds of matrimony. Photo Creative Commons

Nigerian Martha Stewart makes flower pot out of skull

Matt Ingebreton

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

ABUJA—During another episode of her hit show, *Abagbe Kanu*, known by most as the “Martha Stewart of Nigeria,” demonstrated the steps in constructing a beautiful flower pot out of a skull, an item common in the region that has been plagued by near-continual sectarian violence and horrific violations of human rights.

Kanu, who inspires weekly viewers with her creative and inventive uses of everyday items, like handbags made from the amputated limbs of war-torn citizens and bird houses out of rubble from the razed villages nearby, has been producing her show for almost two years.

“People tune in every week to see how to make beautiful crafts and delicious meals,” said Kanu as she put the final touches on a centerpiece for the patch of floor in her hut that her family eats on. “There’s nothing that can’t be transformed into a masterpiece.”

“Tomorrow, I’ll be teaching viewers how to make placemats woven from scraps of your child’s old army uniform,” added Kanu.

In her most recent episode, Kanu taught viewers how to make fun scrapbooks of all of the wacky memories they have of the years of civil unrest, war, and the government’s gross violations of human rights and dignity through various incendiary and unmentionable acts.

“Tomorrow, I’ll be teaching viewers how to make placemats woven from scraps of your child’s old army uniform”

“Look at the cute puppy dog border I put around this photo of mass graves,” said Kanu. “I like to think of scrap-booking as a way to recreate and relive memories—and since most of the memories in this country are extraordinarily tragic and difficult to overcome, creative borders and shiny stickers are vital.”

Kanu then placed five stickers in

the shape of exclamation marks next to a photo of the time when mercenaries pillaged her village using assault rifles and massacred everyone not quick enough to escape.

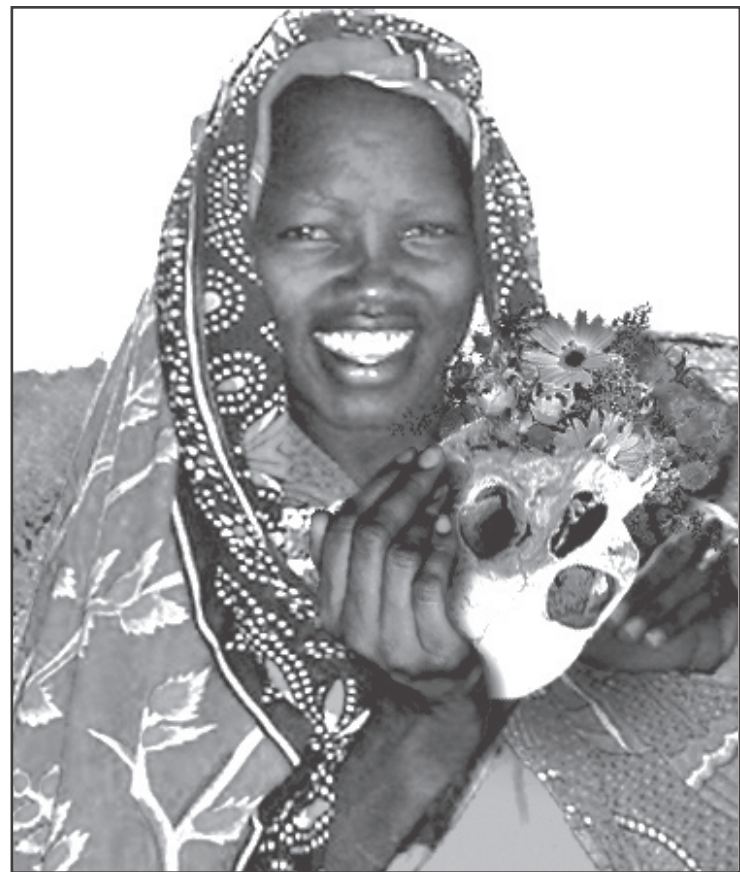
Many of Kanu’s most popular segments involve food preparation, as most African families subsist off meager rations and are always looking for new ways to spice up their meals.

“One of my favorite meals to make is salty rice with a nice grass garnish,” said Kanu. “There’s something about eating salty rice with grass that brings me right back to my youth, and I think my viewers can really relate to that feeling.”

Some of Kanu’s other famous dishes include mashed bean curds topped with the ashes of desecrated crops and rodents smothered in cream of insect.

“The best thing she’s ever made was a mud-water cocktail,” said frequent viewer of the show, Sadiki Gethii. “I spent hours and hours digging up mud water behind my house after she made that recipe.”

“Let me tell you something,” added Gethii. “You haven’t seen drunk until you’ve seen me with about seven or eight mud-water cocktails in me.”



■ She waters the flowers in her skull every day. Photo Texas Travesty

James Cameron hoping Bollywood dance sequence at end of “Avatar” will create Oscar buzz

HOLLYWOOD—James Cameron, writer and director of blockbuster movies such as “The Terminator” and “Titanic,” hinted that he has decided to add a traditional Bollywood dance sequence to the end of his new sci-fi war film, “Avatar.” “The editors and I have been working on this project for over a decade and we never seemed to get the ending quite right,” said Cameron. “Then it struck us, why not put in a dance sequence!” The world famous director hopes that by bringing all the dead and forgotten characters back to sing and dance in a traditional Bollywood style finale, “Avatar” will receive the added boost it needs to become a serious Oscar contender. Cameron is also currently under negotiations to have Tom Hanks play a mentally handicapped alien who has chance encounters with various important historical figures.

Breakfast Taco stand edges out Alamo as top tourist spot in San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO—The San Antonio tourist commission revealed that in the past year record numbers of visitors have decided to forgo visiting the Alamo in favor of getting a first hand taste of Loco Tacos’ delicious, saliva-inducing breakfast tacos. Loco Tacos, located in a trailer across the street from the historical monument, specializes in breakfast tacos and has consistently beat out the Alamo in attracting tourists since it parked there three weeks ago. “Honestly, I was overwhelmed by the response,” said Frank Sanchez, Loco Taco owner. “I came here thinking being next to the Alamo would help my taco stand, but it seems more so that my taco stand has helped the Alamo.” Since the stand opened, tourists can frequently be seen aimlessly wandering the grounds of the Alamo while consuming breakfast tacos and carelessly discarding their aluminum foil trash inside the history-filled fort.

Successful prostitute given a fucking medal

LAS VEGAS—Hundreds gathered around City Hall Saturday afternoon to witness Easy Sammy D award his employee, Chastity Moon, a seasoned prostitute, a medal to commemorate her remarkable aptitude for fornicating for money. “Austin has got no shortage of whores, none at all,” said Sammy D

while placing the medal around Moon’s neck, where it rested upon her silicone infused torso. “But you Chastity, you’re the best!” The crowd, mostly comprised of businessmen between the ages of 40 and 50 on their lunch breaks, gave Moon a rousing applause as well as several approving whistles. “It’s just so

nice to finally receive some recognition for doing my craft so well,” said Moon. “It wasn’t easy to sleep my way to the top.” Moon is hopeful the publicity will give even more traction to her already thriving enterprise. “There’s no better community service than servicing the community.”

Civil Rights professor shows “Remember the Titans” for the fifth time this semester

CAMPUS—Students in Sean McConnley’s HIS 356P, “The US during the Civil Rights Era,” class were disappointed on Tuesday when they came to lecture only to discover that McConnley planned to show them “Remember the Titans” for the fifth time this semester. “I was pretty stoked when I saw

that he was going to play this movie the first time,” said student Rick Baran-Chong. “But then once it ended, he just went to the DVD menu and started it over from the beginning, without giving any explanation.” Students in McConnley’s class felt that, despite being a culturally relevant and entertaining

film, they got the point after the second viewing. “Ironically enough, watching this movie repeatedly has made me begin to regret that the Civil Rights Movement took place at all” said John Larigakis, a student in the class. “Because if it hadn’t this movie would not have been made.”

Local motorist hopes courtesy wave will make up for paralyzing other driver



AUSTIN—After cutting off a red Toyota Prius on I-35 early this morning, Austin mother of three, Lana Castleton, gave the other drivers a brisk wave of her right hand to make up for the resulting six-car pileup. “I feel super bad about what happened,” said Castleton, whose inattention to the road caused partial paralysis in a 32-year-old com-

puter programmer from San Antonio whose Prius was forced into a guard rail. Carlton noted that she would have stopped to provide aid if she had not already been late for her tri-weekly yoga class. She explained that she was still in the clear however because “[The wave] is a universally acknowledged way to say, ‘My bad.’”

That guy always hanging out at Kohl's apparently an employee

Michael Prohaska
MANAGING EDITOR

ANAHEIM— The guy who spends a large amount of time hanging out at Kohl's has been determined to be Luis Gonzalez, a 19-year-old employee who has worked at the department store for three years. Gonzalez has been seen walking around aimlessly inside the Kohl's at Ventura Boulevard for months, and customers have largely assumed him to be just another person shopping inside the store.

"Wait, that guy right there works for me? I thought Gonzalez died a few years back from leukemia or something," explained shift manager David Chan. "This store is so big; how I am supposed to know that some guy playing solitaire in the men's department should be folding shirts right now?"

Gonzalez has been seen browsing merchandise, examining the store di-

rectory, and walking down the up escalator, leading customers to believe that he was just another patron of the store.

"He seemed like a nice, average guy. We talked for hours about politics and sports, and then he showed me that the back room was unlocked and we could go in there anytime and trash it," said Anna Brady, a recent customer of Kohl's who has been confirmed to not be a current employee. "We made out in a fitting room for a while."

"Gross," added Brady. "I can't believe I made out with a Kohl's employee."

Customers began to take notice last Tuesday after seeing a guy in a Kohl's uniform sampling cologne and readjusting mannequins in suggestive poses.

Regional manager Richard Lennon was shocked and dismayed at Gonzalez's attitude: "Are we to assume that department store employees are unmotivated, unhelpful, distracted, inert,

uninterested, listless, apathetic, menial, indifferent, unconcerned, and blasé?"

Lennon added: "I hope not."

After reviewing security tapes, shift manager David Chan spotted more than a dozen violations of store policy, including footage of Gonzalez wrestling with his friends in the baby department and racing shopping carts down crowded aisles.

"Ah, this must be the guy that put up the 'closed' sign right after we opened last Friday," explained Chan after he attempted to locate Gonzalez on the store's intercom system. "It's all starting to make sense now. I thought that he was just some guy who really liked shopping at Kohl's and trying on every brand of shoe we carry. At least customers put the shoes back into the boxes when they're done with them."

Although Gonzalez was unavailable to be located for comment, friend and classmate Andrew Mankin shed some



■ This Kohl's employee is working harder than he ever has before. Photo Texas Travesty

light on Gonzalez's whereabouts.

"I think I saw him over by the clearance section playing a Game Boy and drinking a Slurpee. We hang out there all the time."

As of press time, Gonzalez could be seen having a conversation with the mannequins in the men's swimwear department.

Shell discovers oil under Chevron station



ST. PAUL—In what many energy experts are describing as the most important discovery in the last decade, Shell workers stumbled upon thousands of gallons of oil underneath a Chevron station off Highway 94 earlier today. "It's black gold!" said Shell foreman Wayne Olson as he shot mid-grade gasoline into the air out of a Chevron pump. "Sweet black gold! We're rich, my boys! Rich, I say!" As of press time, a group of Shell employees were chasing down an 18-wheeler with what they described as "the only moving underground oil reserve in the world."

Fork-in-electrical-socket experiment declared success by local child

HOUSTON—In a landmark scientific breakthrough, 5-year-old Billy McGillis finally circumvented the plastic safety barrier and successfully inserted a clean metal fork into a 120 Volt AC power electrical socket. The effects of the 60 Hz, single-phase electrical load on the four-pronged Oneida flatware was described by McGillis's colleagues as "awesome" and "very awesome." While some older scientists in the community question the long term viability of his research, Billy plans to continue his work. "Scientific discovery is paramount to our understanding of the world," said Billy. "And I won't stop until I know exactly what all the stuff under the kitchen sink tastes like." This discovery marks the second major breakthrough in the past year for the McGillis Research Institute. In July, Billy's friends successfully implanted six pieces of fully popped popcorn into Billy's left lateral sinus cavity.

Nervous father goes off on Mockingbird tangent during birds and bees talk

AUSTIN – While trying to explain the intricacies of human intercourse to his 12-year-old son, local father Greg Stanton became distressed and digressed into an ornithological discussion about the behaviors and mannerisms of the Mockingbird. "When a

man and a woman are in love, sometimes they take off all of their clothes and when the man is ready he puts his... binoculars up to his eyes and looks and beholds a Mockingbird!" said Stanton. "Mocking Birds have a strong preference for maple trees and a sweet song."

Added Stanton, "Yep, maple trees." As of press time, Stanton had approached his son again to talk about sexual interactions, but immediately digressed into a conversation on the co-evolution of humming birds with ornithophilous flowers.

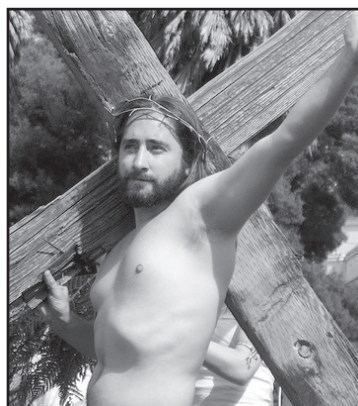
Super Wal-Mart drives regular Wal-Mart out of business

WICHITA FALLS, TX— After 22 years in business, a local Wal-Mart will be closing its doors, making it the latest casualty of the Super Wal-Mart that opened across the street. "For over two decades, we've served the hard working members of this community by of-

fering low, low prices," said Wal-Mart Manager Stephen Phelps. "But that's all over now—everyone knows that Super Wal-Marts are Wal-Mart killers." As Phelps gazed at the larger yellow smiley face across the street, a tear glistened in his eye and he noted that Super Wal-

Mart's super predatory pricing practices will lead to the end of his Wal-Mart's predatory prices. "These super store bastards have reached a new 'always low,'" added Phelps. "It's a sad day for American business when the big guy finally crushes the littler big guy."

Jesus wishes mankind good luck after wrapping up second visit to Earth



HEAVEN-Jesus Christ, Lord Almighty and Atoning Sacrifice for the Sins of Humanity, wished everybody his best as he ended his much anticipated second visit to earth. "I realize that I didn't give you guys the exact time I would return, but come on, you had like thousands of years to decide," said the glowing deity as he waved goodbye to the terrified and panicked masses. "Wow, look at the time. Good luck with the apocalypse, you guys. I really should be going." Before leaving, The Holy One picked up a vanilla latte from Starbucks and then ascended into heaven as all of earth lit up in a fiery blaze of eternal damnation.



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Texas Travesty Interview

John Krasinski

By Matt Ingebretson

John Krasinski, A.K.A. Jim from NBC’s “The Office” seems to have the whole package: actor, director, and writer. Krasinski, whose career exploded with NBC’s 2005 launch of “The Office,” has made his directorial debut with “Brief Interviews with Hideous Men,” a film adaptation of David Foster Wallace’s provocative and awesomely bizarre collection of short stories. The Travesty got a chance to speak with John about his experience on the film set, and, of course, his most favored flirtatious moments with Pam Beesley.



Photo by Jojo Whilden

Texas Travesty: *This is your directorial debut. Was it fun having that kind of creative control over a project, or would you rather just go back to acting?*

John Krasinski: I think acting is sort of it for me. But this one was sort of a perfect experience, in a way. I never wanted to be a director, so doing this was something I did because I felt really inspired by the material. I had read [the book] in college and did a stage reading of it and was so moved and blown away that I just wanted to do something with it ever since I left college. I finally got the rights, wrote the script and ended up directing it. Really, after we were searching for a director, just one day, believe it or not, Rainn Wilson and said “Why don’t you just direct it?” I was like, “I can’t do that! Wait a minute...” So I jumped up to the plate and did it, and it was just phenomenal. I don’t even know if I would direct again, not because I didn’t have a great time but because this one was pretty perfect. To be surrounded by a crew and a cast like that is a very rare occasion. I had a really good time directing this, but I think I would be hard pressed to find material that would inspire me in the same way to do all that work for a movie like that again.

TT: *I read this book about a year ago and I was really excited when I heard you were making a movie about it. Being both writer and director, you had control of the*

adaptation by one of the greatest authors in the last decades. Was it stressful to make decisions about how you were going to portray this work in film, or was it pretty easy to just adapt it?

JK: It was actually really terrifying from the adaptation side of it. First and foremost, I’m a huge David Foster Wallace fan, so to be doing the adaptation of a book that I think a lot of people love, written by an author that a lot of people love; it’s a really scary prospect. You’re taking something that is beloved on so many big, deep levels. The hardest part for me in adapting it was editing the book. To just cut out huge chunks of text was sort of terrifying, because I kept thinking to myself, “what right do I have to think these three pages aren’t good enough to make it into my movie?” So that was the hardest part: editing down the monologues to a place where actors could actually get their hands around them and really work through them, because some of the dialogue is a bit overly literary and, in that way, really, really great for the book. But for actors to speak it, you need to cut it down and pare it down a little bit. That was the toughest part.

TT: *Along those lines, did you do very many alterations to the story? Or did you pretty much just copy the book into the script?*

JK: The interviews were definitely taken right from the book and put

into the script. As far as through-line and things like that, I just basically had to invent the world that all these guys lived in, and create the character of Sarah, who is the woman that is interviewing them the whole time. That was really fun. I think for me, for some reason, it was always really vivid in my head that this was a woman that was interviewing these guys. Then, when the guys answer her questions in the book, their responses to her always seemed like they had been challenged in some way, that this isn’t just a clinical series of questions, but that this is actually sort of delving into something that these guys are finding very difficult to talk about. I thought that was really interesting and that’s where I got the idea that she’s on some sort of personal quest as well as this academic pursuit. That was the big thing there, creating that character was actually extremely fun.

TT: *The interviewer doesn’t have a voice in the book. So, did your mind go directly to this character that you created? Or did you have some other ideas for how you were going to link these stories together?*

JK: At first I was going to set it in space and it was going to be an action thriller...no. [Laughter] It’s a difficult thing, because when you direct a movie and it’s definitely your first one, the fact that you come out of the gates and you say, “I want it to be nonlinear and I want it to be sort of a crazy

experience, similar to the one you had when you were reading the book,” it’s sort of a wild concept. I was super psyched about it, because, like I said, I wasn’t planning on having this be some huge epic film in the directing world, so I wanted to solely do the book justice. So, throughout the whole process, I really tried maintaining that sort of feeling of the experience. I had written a couple of different versions of the arch of Sarah and in one I sort of made the breakup a little more problematic and made the whole thing sort of linear and cinematic, but the truth is the material itself won’t hold onto that sort of a fabricated structure, because it basically wants to be a series of interviews with guys and have you basically experiencing one sort of guy after another and putting them all together at the end. It was kind of amazing at the end of it that the more I tried to put a linear structure to the movie, the more it didn’t work. It felt like it was falling flat.

TT: *So, this movie is billed as a comedy, and while David Foster Wallace’s writing is hilarious, there’s a lot of weight to it. When you went into it did you have a strictly comedic mindset?*

JK: No, I don’t know why it’s been billed as a comedy. I mean, I think I appreciate it because there’s something ironic about that whole thing and there are many funny moments in it, but at the end of the day, I think that it’s an experience. I’m sure I sound incredibly pretentious saying it’s a “film experience.” One of the two main reasons that I ever wanted to do this were to have more people experience what I experienced the first time I read the book in college, and sort of this mind-altering thing I thought the way these guys were speaking so honestly with a very unique perspective on the world. I just wanted more people to know about David Foster Wallace. If I could bring one of his books to a bigger medium and get more people interested, maybe he would have more readers, which would be exciting.

Then the other thing is, literally, the only thing I want from this movie, with people walking out, is that they have a conversation. Usually, the biggest thing to me is that even if you didn’t like a movie, which is totally acceptable and fine with me, I would hope that you would take

the material in and you would actually let it sit with you for a second and then not be sure what you thought of the movie for a few minutes. That’s kind of an amazing compliment, and that’s definitely the way I felt when I read the book. So, if you say, “I don’t know, I thought maybe this was a little uncomfortable, and that part I thought was funny, and this part was offensive,” and this and that. Hopefully, you would find somebody willing to talk it out with you. Hopefully it’s one of those things that at the end of it you kind of have to stop and think about your life for a second.

TT: *There were a lot of really great actors in this film. As a director, when you’re setting up a scene, do you kind of let them develop the characters themselves or do you give them a lot of guidance for what you envision the characters to be?*

JK: Well, you know, it’s funny. I was really interested to see what their take was on it in the beginning. The truth is that the material is kind of an actor’s dream, that you have a three-part arch all in a few pages. All the actors completely identified that immediately, and so they had an idea of who these people were and they were really excited to give it a shot. Then I basically set them on the path and said, “These are my thoughts on the guy,” and just basic things like, “This is where I think this guy goes after work,” and they would take that scene and sort of do their own thing with it, which I really loved. If people kind of got off the path I would bring them back, but the big conversations happened right off the bat before we started filming. I would go to lunch with all the actors and talk about where they were coming from, and it was pretty right on. Most of the guys knew exactly what they wanted to do. There were a couple of times when I wanted to push the envelope a little bit and make it a little bit funnier than it seemed on the page, because I think that’s very interesting when people are talking about very serious stuff in a comedic way. Then, with people like Dominic Cooper, we pushed it all the way. We tried to get him as fired up as he could possibly be. That was an incredible scene to shoot.

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Hipster Gazette

Winter Solstice 2009

A Discussion of the Elusive Concept of "Super Irony"

by Summer McCaw



Super Irony has no appearance or even tangible application, but does this mean such a thing doesn't "exist?" Many have theorized the true nature of Su-

per Irony, but it is yet to be observed on a metaphysical level. "Incongruity cannot dismay the rhetorical advantage of Super Irony," noted Stan Greenberg, Epoch Theologian. The hegemony of irony alone supersedes the relevance of Super Irony, but this does not impose on its foundational importance.

For one to understand the true nature of Super Irony, one must put it into context of an atmosphere of such ironic platitudes that the only words that can possibly even manifest in one's mind is "Red" and "Lobster."

Yes, Red Lobster, the mighty hub of Super Irony. If one is to eat at Red Lobster, do they truly enjoy it? The answer is objectively 'no.' But, what if, on some occa-

sion the mighty Seafood-Stuffed Flounder resonates on one's palette for just half a fragment of a mili-second too long, and across your left cortex, a flash of elation appears. This is where the nature of Super Irony exists. When the most ironic activity fails to uphold its ironic nature because it is subconsciously enjoyed. Super irony has many forms. The man wearing an Animal Collective T-Shirt playing Guitar Hero. The heavily pierced fine arts student drinking an Iced Latte from McDonalds. And alas, Zooey Deschanel appearing in the movie "Surf's Up."

Super Irony is but a notion in a sea of realities, but it still maintains its salience.



Calendar

December 1

Spike Jonze Appreciation Day

December 2

Indian Headdress Party. Best smallpox joke wins a case of PBR

December 3

Charity luncheon benefiting some shit downtown at the Driskill. Good excuse to dress like a Mad Men character

December 4

Man, we'll probably just chill at the house tonight. Text me later?

December 6

Monthly Vegans for Vespas meeting. Bring your favorite veggie snack and an over-blown sense of entitlement

December 7

Radiohead cover band "Kid B" plays the Mohawk. Walk by, flip off the stage, and go get plastered at Creekside

December 8

Zombie Prom

December 9

Ninja Prom

December 10

Robot Prom

December 11

Dinosaur Prom

December 12

Fallout Boy plays Emo's. Walk by and scoff at those lame-ass scene kids. Ignore the fact that you were in line for the same thing last year

December 13

Second Sunday Sock Hop!

December 14

Moleskine Open Mic Poetry Reading And Circle Jerk at Sidebar

December 15

Ironic Ed Hardy Party

December 16

Arguing about whether or not it was too soon for an Ironic Ed Hardy Party

December 17

Downward Dog with Devo! Bring your favorite new wave

vinyl to yoga

December 20

Informational 1990's Seminar - learn everything you need to know to hold your own in stimulating dinner conversations about combat boots, angsty hard rock, and Jonathan Taylor Thomas

December 21

Get fucked up and play ironic Chutes and Ladders

December 24

Christmas Eve service with conservative family you spend much of the year avoiding. At least you'll be the best dressed person smashed on communion wine

December 25

The day you re-embrace your family in order to get free Christmas loot

December 31

Ditch all irony and get incredibly drunk for the new year

Reviews.

Twilight: New Moon

Two shrugs and a furrowed brow



I thought that "Let the Right One In" was a much better representation of the social plight of modern vampires. "New Moon" relied much too heavily on the bone structure of Robert Pattinson, and not nearly enough on the inherent dichotomy in the term, "New Moon," which obviously invokes ideas of backwards realism, subversive universal maxims, etc. The biggest suspension of disbelief, however, is that a werewolf or vampire could ever be attracted to Kristen Stewart.

Rihanna

Rated R

One shrug, maybe



This album fails to live up to the level of commercial exploitation that we have come to expect from the Pop Princess. Rihanna certainly "brings it like a diva," but I think we can all agree that the "diva" aspect of her personality is completely not self-aware, and therefore incredibly banal. Further, Rihanna looks like an alien, which is clearly post-modern, a trite cliché in this era of post-post-post-modernism.

Sarah Palin's Memoirs

Going Rogue: An American Life

Five ironic shrugs



The existential and abstract title sold me on Sarah Palin's book. She really has her finger on the American pulse from her remote cabin in Wasilla, Alaska. What most people fail to realize is that Palin used wide-ranging ironies in her campaign, all of which, I believe, were intentional and with purpose. Sarah Palin is the most brilliant ironic public figure of modern day.

Fashion Watch UpNext Trend



the mega v-neck with cut-off jorts.

Texas Travesty Interview

Mike Birbiglia

By Michael Prohaska

If you ever see Mike Birbiglia walking down the street, you should go shake him, because he's probably sleep-walking. Despite struggles with his sleep disorder, Birbiglia has quickly emerged as one of the funniest and most inspired comedians in recent years. After making a breakthrough appearance on the Late Show with David Letterman at age 24, Birbiglia wrote and produced an off-Broadway comedy show called "Sleepwalk with Me." Most recently, he's been working on a new book and touring across the country with Comedy Central Live. The Travesty recently spoke with Mike about success, parents, and how a unique life provides the best inspiration.



Texas Travesty: What would you consider to be your first big break into the world of comedy?

Mike Birbiglia: There's been so many along the way. You think there's going to be one big break, and then that one will happen, and you're like, "Well, I'm still poor," so I think I need some more breaks. Then you get another break, and you still need more. Probably the most memorable thing that I've ever done is doing Letterman when I was 24, because I really idolized Letterman my whole life, and to be on his show and to have him like my set was pretty mind-blowing for me.

TT: I read that you were voted "Funniest Person on Campus" at Georgetown University when you went to school there.

MB: Yeah, it was a contest, so that was actually the first time I ever did stand-up. I entered this contest and I won, so maybe it was just beginner's luck. In fairness, it was not a hilarious school, but there's some good people there. I worked with Nick Kroll, and he's a very funny comedian and actor. He's in that new show "The League".

TT: So you didn't count anything as a major success until you did Letterman after finishing school?

MB: Yeah, that was the point where it legitimized me to my

parents, which I think is more important than anything, or at least it seems that way. It feels like you have to legitimize your existence when you explain yourself to your parents, and that was the point in which they stopped telling me not to be a comedian.

TT: Were your parents supportive of you making this career move, or were they more like, "No, you should go to law school"?

MB: Yeah, there was a lot of that. Certainly when I was in college there was a lot of that and also when I got out of college, for the first couple of years. My dad would say semi-supportive things like, "This comedy thing might parlay nicely into advertising," and I told him, "No, this is it. This is the plan." Yeah, it's kind of hard. My dad's a doctor, and he didn't send his kid to college for four years to get a job making fun of him in front of strangers; that was not in the cards.

TT: Living in New York City, do you feel like a lot of your material comes from the city?

MB: I definitely think there is a pace to New York City that's really fast, and I think it leads to a lot of productivity and a lot of writing. When I'm in California, for example, I never get any writing done. There are so many people, and that's part

of it, and there are so many different types of people living in a small space. New York is good for comedy, overall.

TT: Most people who have disorders tend to not talk about it much and keep it quiet. You, on the other hand, turned your particular situation (REM behavior disorder) into a big time production. What inspired you to go in this direction?

MB: It kind of evolved into that. It started off as this one-man play that I was writing about a guy and a girl who had been dating since college, and the guy mentions that he wants to break up, but he didn't want to deal with it or confront it. The metaphor that ran through the play was that the character was sleepwalking, and it would kind of represent this sort of anxiety. And while I was writing this play, I had this incident where I jumped out of a second-story window in my sleep, from my own personal sleepwalking, and my director Seth Parrish told me, "I think that's your play. I think that's how you need to structure it." So that's what the play became about; the idea that you can avoid something for so long that it can kill you.

TT: It's interesting to see how that idea evolved. I know that the play has seen a lot of critical success.

MB: Yeah, and we're very fortunate for that. We were nervous to see what the critics would say, because you kind of live and die by the critics in New York, and luckily they were very positive. It was a great experience. What was great about it was the fact that it allowed me to stay in New York for eight months straight. I usually tour about 100 cities and towns a year, and for an eight-month span I was able to be in one city. It was good for my relationships and good for my personal life.

TT: I noticed that you poke fun at your brother Joe in some of your shows. Does he ever try to come up with ways to get back at you?

MB: I don't think so...maybe in really subtle ways. Now I'm getting paranoid. No, Joe has always been extremely supportive and I make jokes about him, but we're really close and he collaborates on a lot of writing with me. He's a really great comedic writer; he's the funny guy in the family. He's always the class clown of the family. I write my 'Secret Public Journal' blog and I'll email it to him, and then he'll send me back some ideas and edits. Then I'll take half of them and do a new version, and send it back to him, and so forth. That's how I write my journals every week.

TT: You're performing this Saturday at the Paramount Theatre here in Austin. Do you ever write jokes specific to the places you visit?

MB: Not really. I always try to make my material as human as possible, so I don't really have to adjust it that much. But I also try to improvise a little bit every show depending on what's going on or where I am. I always like visiting Austin—I've been there probably four or five times over the years. I performed at SXSW at Emo's. Eugene Mirman and I did a show there once. I always have a great time there. I find the people to be really smart there, and it's always fun to visit.

TT: The Austin show is the last stop on your latest tour. What do you do usually when you're off tour to kick back and relax in your free time?

MB: Well, I don't have a ton of

free time. I play a little bit of tennis, and I went to this adult tennis camp thing this summer. I play guitar a little bit as well, but I spend quite a lot of time writing. I see it as a privilege to be able to write. I'm working on a screenplay adaptation of "Sleepwalk with Me" and also a book with Simon and Schuster called "Sleepwalk with Me and Other Stories". I'm kind of up to my neck in writing assignments right now.

TT: So no rest for the weary?

MB: Yeah, exactly. I feel like when you do what you love, you have to do it much more than what is comfortable, in order to keep up with everyone else who is doing what they love.

TT: What's going to be in your latest book? Autobiographical stories?

MB: Yeah, it's all autobiographical stories. The centerpiece of it will probably be some stories from the show, but the majority of the stories will just be kind of awkward childhood stories, and things like that. It's been fun. I've actually had to force myself to sit down and think about it. I wake in the morning and go to Starbucks and I just say, "I'm going to spend the next four hours here and just type until I have nothing else in my brain." What's come out of it is a lot of stories that I say, "Wow, I forgot that even happened!" Overall, I end up finding stuff that I didn't know was there. Actually, some of the stories I discovered in the book process. I'm telling on stage. I have this story about going to a carnival when I was a kid with this girl I had a huge crush on, and I described my experience going on the Scrambler with her and the digestive insanity that ensues from eating popcorn, peanuts, and cotton candy and then going on a ride called the Scrambler. That was just a story I found writing the book, and now it's one of my favorite stories in stand-up. The cool thing about coming back to Austin is coming back to town with a whole new show that people here haven't seen before...I have a whole new thing and I'm excited about it.

Your "Elevator Speech"

Hi there, my name is _____, and I think I would be a _____ addition to
(your name) (superfluous adjective)
your _____ team. My skills in _____ would make me a valuable asset to
(field) (useless major)
_____. Although I was recently _____ from _____, I feel I would have
(1st proper company name) (past-tense verb) (fast food restaurant)
no trouble transitioning into the _____ world of _____. In my previous position
(synonym for "exciting") (career)
at _____, I was in charge of _____, as well as _____. I appreciate your
(fast food restaurant) (responsibility) (menial task)
consideration and anticipate a _____ response, as I am _____ at the moment
(synonym for "fast") (euphemism for 'broke')
and need this job or I will be forced to _____. I have been sleeping under _____
(suicide method) (public place)
for the last _____ weeks. I saw you walking out of _____ and thought you
(number) (building name)
could help. Please give me this job, I have been fighting off _____ every night, who
(proper hobo name)
keeps trying to _____ me.
(sexual act)

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What was an obstacle in your life that you had to overcome?

This is the time for your best drunk-driving anecdote. Let them know it took you four, five, even six times to put the keys in the ignition; this will show perseverance. Then explain how you sped up to 135MPH to get home faster to highlight your punctuality.

Why are you interested in this position?

Explain to your potential employer that you've also applied to at least 300 other companies, but this one pays the most with the least amount of work. This will prove that you are economically savvy.

What are your strengths and weaknesses?

When they ask about your strengths, they mean literal strengths. Be sure to say how much you bench press, squat, and dead lift. As far as weaknesses go, you should go ahead break down into tears. Why tell your employer about your weakness when you can *show* them weakness?

Why did you leave your last job?

Tell them that you never left your last job; your last job LEFT YOU.

Do you work well in a team atmosphere?

Game time. Bring out the football analogies that you've been saving up since high school. Start every sentence with, "Back when my team made state..." Be sure to make very specific references to your familiarity with the spread offense and the time you stiff-armed that middle linebacker from Klein Oak high school. If you're a girl, don't talk about cheer-leading. It's not a team, and you know it.

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HORNS UP, HORNS DOWN

Horns Down: This shitty day

The editorial board is strongly opposed to how shitty today is. I mean, my alarm didn't go off until 15 minutes after my 9:00 AM class started, and then I had a quiz, so it was just like, fuck. And then I went to Chic-fil-a to get lunch and they didn't have any God-damned waffle fries. And now I'm stuck in this piece-of-shit office writing this shitty Horns Down. Thank God for whiskey.

Horns Ambivalent: Apparently we can get into the Blanton for free?

So, students at UT can go to the Blanton whenever they want. That's pretty cool, I guess? I mean if students want to go they should go because that thing must have cost a lot of money, but I don't really like...art. I don't know, I guess I'll go next month or something if I have time. Or maybe I'll sit at home and watch TV. Either way.

Quadruple Horns Up: We're going to the championship! Pasadena! Fuck yes!

Texas fight! OU sucks! We're going to California and we're going to get wasted and we're going to win! And then we're going to get even more wasted and start storming the streets and destroying stuff! Fuck yeah!

Horns Up: The Health Services offers students access to unlimited free condoms

University Health Services provides students with free access to contraception upon request. This ensures that the University continues to be one of the most sexually safe in the country. After all, it's much more convenient to fear a midterm than a second trimester.

Horns down: Opposite of unlimited people will sleep with me

Seriously, why am I concerned about how many condoms I have access to? I spent all Friday night huddled in my dorm room playing Halo 3 while drinking Vault.

Horns Down: Cap Metro raising fares

The Capital Metro board voted in favor of raising fares 25 cents in January, making the new fare \$1, and the new cost for a monthly pass \$28. The move will generate revenue for the organization that has been grossly mismanaged in recent history. It's unfortunate that the general public is being forced to suffer because of Cap Metro's poor business practices.

Horns Up: Increased fares will result in a 50% decrease in public masturbation on Cap Metro buses

Economists predict that the raised fares on Capital Metro buses will result in a 50% decrease in scraggly older men that sit at the back of the bus and masturbate while looking at other passengers. The case analysis revealed that half these men will no longer be able to afford purchasing a single ride pass as well as a bottle of Kentucky Deluxe, resulting in safer and less sticky rides for the general public.

Horns Aroused: That hot girl in the front of the class

The editorial board has come to the consensus that the girl sitting in the front row is banging hot. Every guy in the class is currently hatching plots about how to ask her over to his house this Friday and proceed to start watching a movie, stop watching the movie, and then make a strong move to initiate raw, uninhibited fornication.

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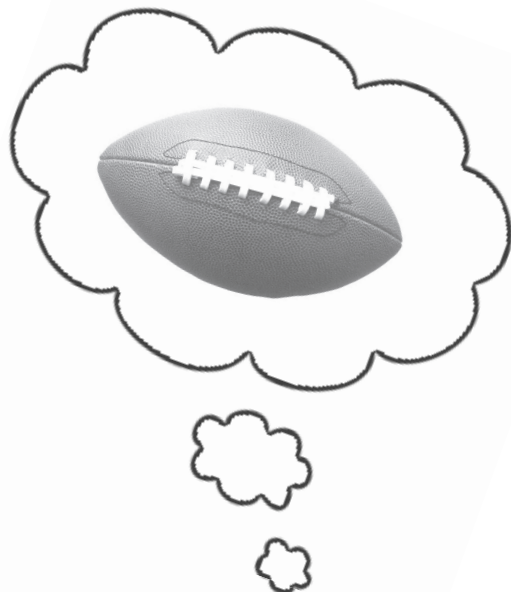


Right now, PPD is looking for men and women for a post-surgical pain relief research study. The surgery is performed by a board-certified oral surgeon, and managed through Austin Oral Surgery Associates by James R. Fricke, Jr. DDS, MSD. Financial compensation is provided upon study completion and the surgery is performed at no cost.

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PPD

Colt McCoy & Jordan Shipley *Pillow Talk*



CM: Today was exhausting...I am so tired from football practice.

JS: Practice was good today. You threw a lot of footballs.

CM: And you caught a lot of footballs. Hey! No cleats in bed.

JS: Sorry, I forgot. Don't tell coach.

CM: I won't.

JS: Oh, and don't forget to take off your helmet.

CM: Dang it, I always forget. Haha, look, Helmet-hair!

JS: Nice...G'night, Colt.

CM: G'night, Shipster...

JS: ...

CM: ...

JS: Psssssssst, Colt?

CM: ...

JS: You still awake?

CM: Yeah buddy, what's up?

JS: Whatcha thinkin' about?

CM: ...touchdowns.

JS: Me too!

CM: ...

JS: ...

CM: ...

JS: I can't sleep.

CM: Why?

JS: It's just...you know, there's a lot of things on my mind.

CM: What's on your mind, Shipper?

JS: Football things. Like, things that...oh never mind, you wouldn't understand.

CM: Try me.

JS: Do you remember the time you threw me that touchdown pass?

CM: Yeah.

JS: And do you remember that other time when you could have thrown the ball to anyone, but you threw it to me?

CM: Of course I do. Why?

JS: Well...can you keep a secret?

CM: Of course I can, Big Ship!

JS: Sometimes, when you throw the ball to me, I worry that I won't catch it.

CM: Really?

JS: Yeah, but don't tell anyone.

CM: Are you kidding? You always catch the ball.

JS: Hey, you're right, I do!

CM: It's like your hands are made of big nets. Ha, you're Mr. Net-Hands!

JS: Haha!

CM: (jumps up and down on bed) NET-HANDS!!! NET-HANDS!!!

Coach Mack Brown: You boys keep it down in there! We have football in the morning!

CM: (rolling eyes) We ALWAYS have football in the morning.

Coach Mack Brown: What was that?

CM: Nothing!

JS: Sorry coach...

Coach Mac Brown: Alright now, you boys get some sleep.

CM: ...

JS: ...

CM: ...Hey Jordan?

JS: What?

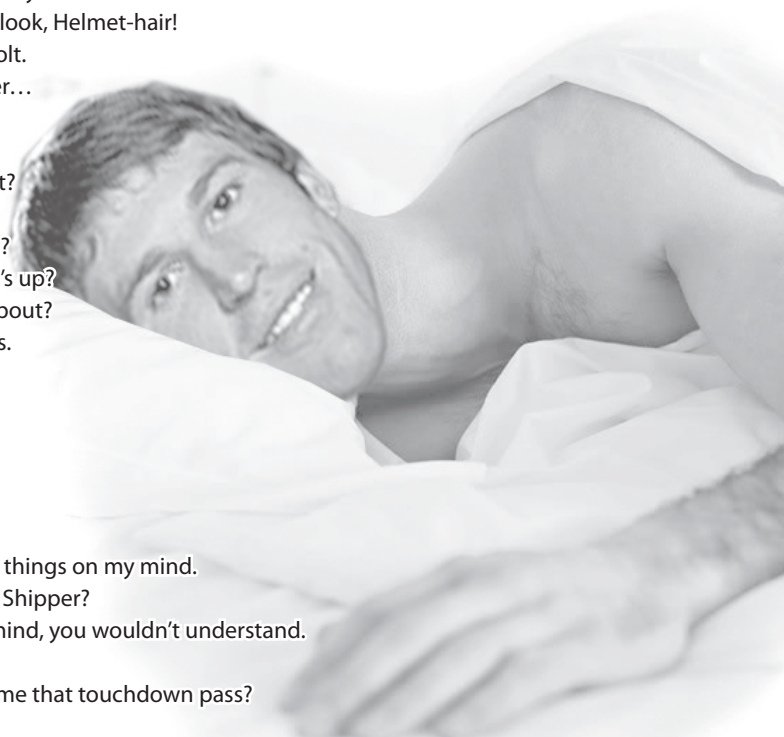
CM: I meant what I said, you know, about touchdowns.

JS: Really?

CM: Shhh...you heard coach. I really do, Jordan.

JS: You think anyone knows we're roommates?

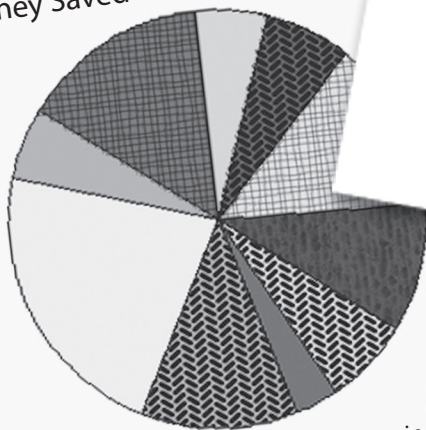
CM: Naw. Let's keep it our little secret.



UT Budget Cuts

Budget Cut Statistics

Money Saved from Budget Cuts



- No more watering the lawns with vitamin water (13%)
- Free cigarettes will no longer be provided to pretentious students in the French department (5%)
- Engineering students will need to purchase super colliders from Costco (20%)
- Replace Godzillatron with 10 guys with Lite Brites (11%)
- Plan I Liberal Arts will be reduced to Plan 0.5 (3%)
- In an effort to maximize space, the Jewish Studies and the Middle Eastern Studies Departments should share an office (6%)
- Make 2011 Commencement speaker a graduate student from the engineering department (9%)
- UTPD should no longer waste time on bomb threats that are probably not serious (12%)
- Custodial Services will just Febreeze everything (6%)
- UT Suicide hotline now a continuous loop of Third Eye Blind's "Jumper" (5%)

Level of
employee
happiness

All UT employees
are excited about
both budget cuts
and layoffs. No
need to display this
graph.

Number of budget
cuts and layoffs

Dear Students,

As one of the largest universities in the nation, the administration here at UT takes fiscal decisions very seriously. Every year, millions of dollars are allocated to our most important institutions, including academics, research, the football stadium, and piping hot dinner rolls in Jester City Limits.

However, we have a bit of a problem on our hands. Due to some sort of error in our registry system, we accidentally sent 800 million dollars to the Iranian government. That money represents a large part of our endowment, most of your tuition, and all of our profits from that "Save Darfur" racket. Unfortunately, they're not going to give it back. We've asked politely, but they have grown quite fond of our money. So, the University is proposing a few budget cuts in order to earn some of that money back.

—University Health Services will now teach abstinence-only education, so the university is no longer required to provide free condoms to students

—Student Legal Services will be scaled back to a tape library of "Law & Order"

—Each member of the Longhorn football team will receive a 2009 Toyota Highlander 4x4 Hybrid instead of a 2009 Lexus RX-10 Special Edition

—Due to the fact that nobody, including the dean of the school, knows what is being taught, the School of Information has been cancelled

—We have sold the rights to the tower inscription to the Pepsi Corporation. Instead of "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," the inscription will read, "Ye shall seek the Pepsi cola and the entire family of Pepsi products"

—The Career Services staff will be replaced by a Magic-8 ball, which will give students career advice such as "legal assistant," "retail clerk," "accountant," and "please try again"

As you can see, everyone involved here at UT will have to adjust to the budget cuts for our upcoming fiscal year. If everyone does his or her part, we should have no problem getting back on track financially late next year. Or maybe we will head further into debt. Lord knows I don't have a clue, I just hope they don't cut the snack budget, because I get fidgety when I don't get my afternoon Milanos.

Hook 'em!

Steven Leslie

Steven Leslie
Executive Vice President and Provost of UT



Christmas Time **FUN PUNS!!**



**Frosty the
Slowman**

**Charlie
Brownstein**



**ABDOMINAL
SNOWMAN**



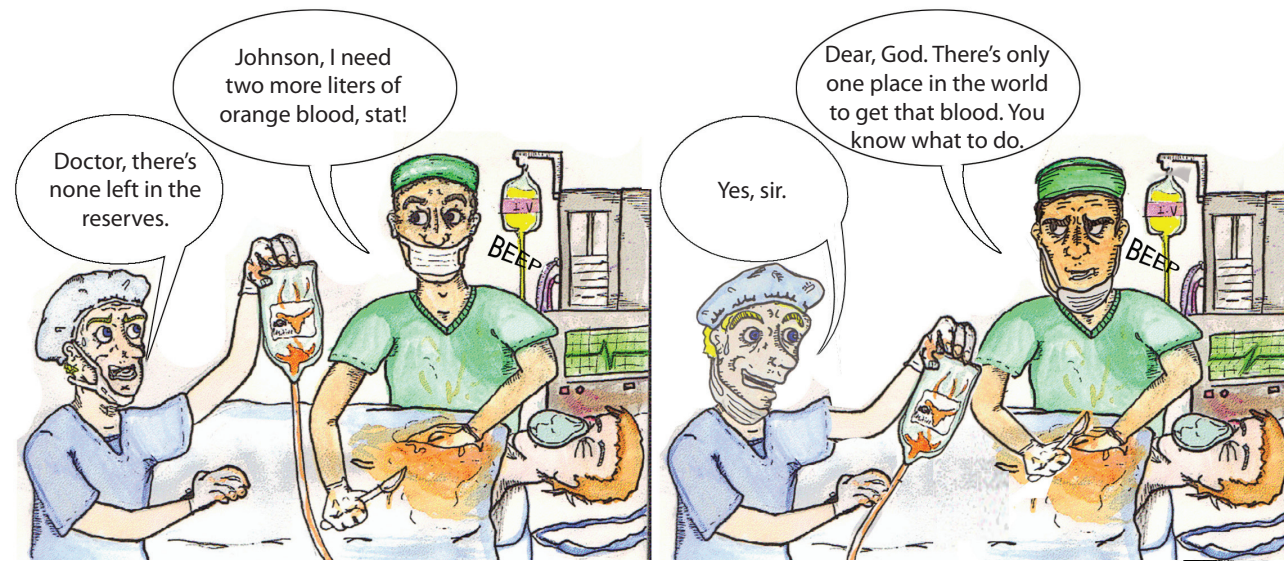
Oy
Brother!



**Santa
Clause**



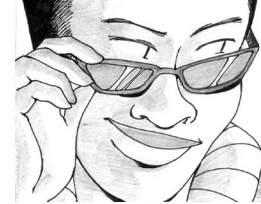
**Rudolph the
Red Nosed
Raindeer**



A WIF? CHRISTMAS



Christmas is a time for family, so get of-fline for a while and hang with the 'rents.



Or you can give them the best gift of all, the gift of wif!

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING DINNER

John Woodleaf: Hello, Chief Running Bear! My fellow Englishmen and I would like to thank you for accepting our invitation to this momentous celebration.

Running Bear: My people and I are honored by your invitation. We are happy for your friendship.

JW: As are we, Chief. We have so much to gain from you.

RB: You mean that both of us have much to gain.

JW: Yes, that's what I said.

RB: Well, our women have prepared many baskets of our bountiful crops and meats so that you may feast for many days.

JW: Why thank you, Chief! What can we give you?

RB: Our hunters were hoping you might give them some of those thundersticks that you and your men use.

JW: Oh, those? I'm sorry; we don't have enough to share. But we do have a lot of blankets for you.

RB: Are you sure? Winter is nearly here, do you have enough to spare?

JW: We no longer have any need for these blankets. Really, they're yours.

RB: Are they clean?

JW: Pretty much.

RB: My people thank you. Our children will be kept warm by your kindness.

JW: Our pleasure, Chief. Hey, what is this that I'm eating, by the way?

RB: Buffalo. It is the animal from which much of our food, clothing, and tools are derived from.

JW: Boy, it sure is delicious. I think I could eat about 280,000 of these! By the way, you guys have some nice digs here. What more can you tell us about this land you call home? How large is it?

RB: Our land stretches as far as the eye can see. It has forests, mountains, and rivers that are bountiful with the fruits of nature. There are literally millions of acres of undiscovered land just waiting for someone to claim.

JW: Interesting, that will be perfect for the millions of European friends I'm bring over—

RB: What?

JW: Nothing. Oh, wow, it looks like a few more pilgrims just showed up for the feast. Would you guys mind sitting at that small table over by that tree?

RB: Oh, well, I mean, this is actually our table that you're using.

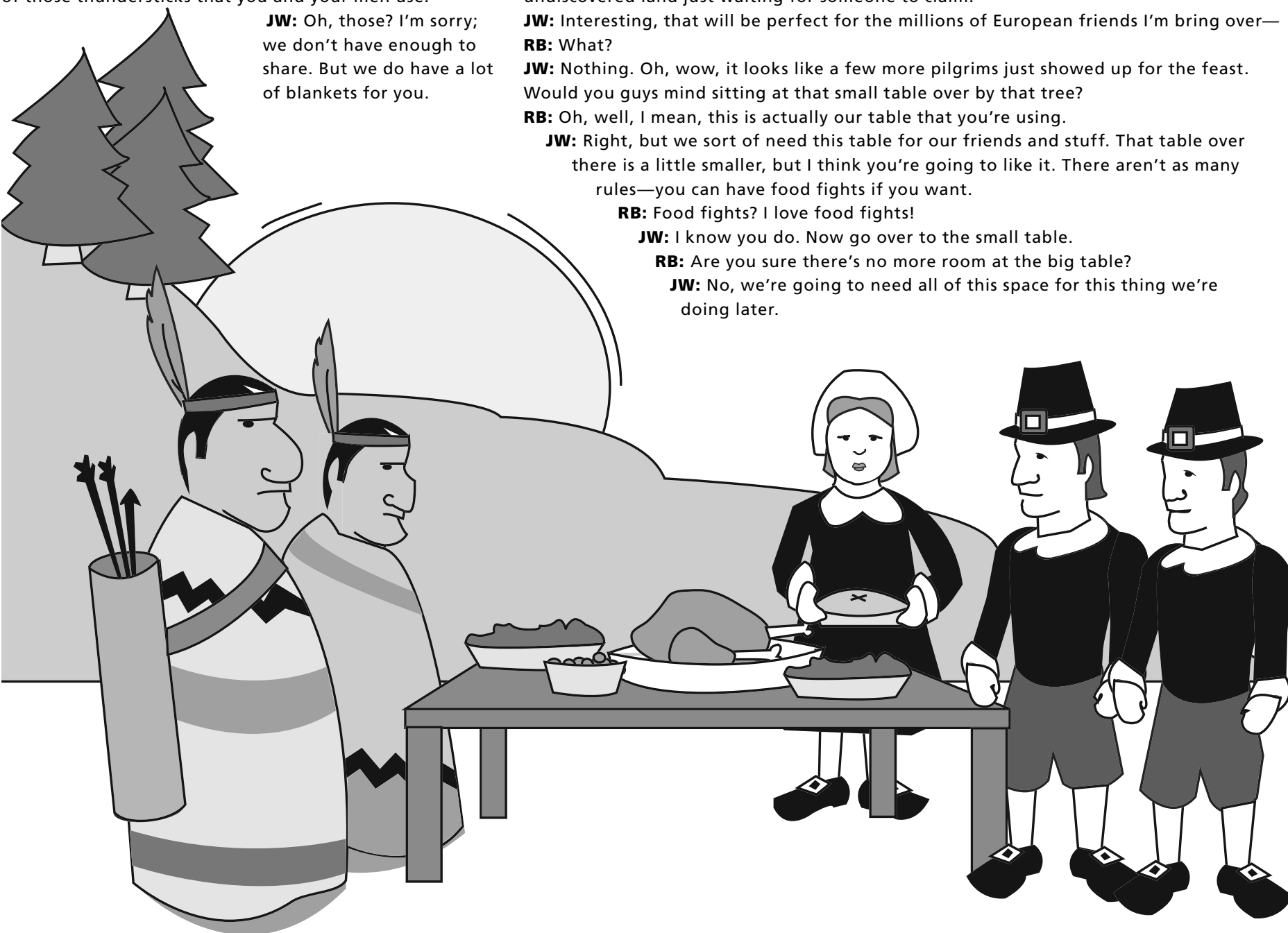
JW: Right, but we sort of need this table for our friends and stuff. That table over there is a little smaller, but I think you're going to like it. There aren't as many rules—you can have food fights if you want.

RB: Food fights? I love food fights!

JW: I know you do. Now go over to the small table.

RB: Are you sure there's no more room at the big table?

JW: No, we're going to need all of this space for this thing we're doing later.





0
CALORIES

BUD ZERO : ZERO CAL / 0 CARBS

MGD 64 : 64 cal / 2.4 carbs

Michelob Ultra : 95 cal / 2.6 carbs

Keystone Light : 115 cal / 5 carbs

anything worth drinking : a shitload of calories

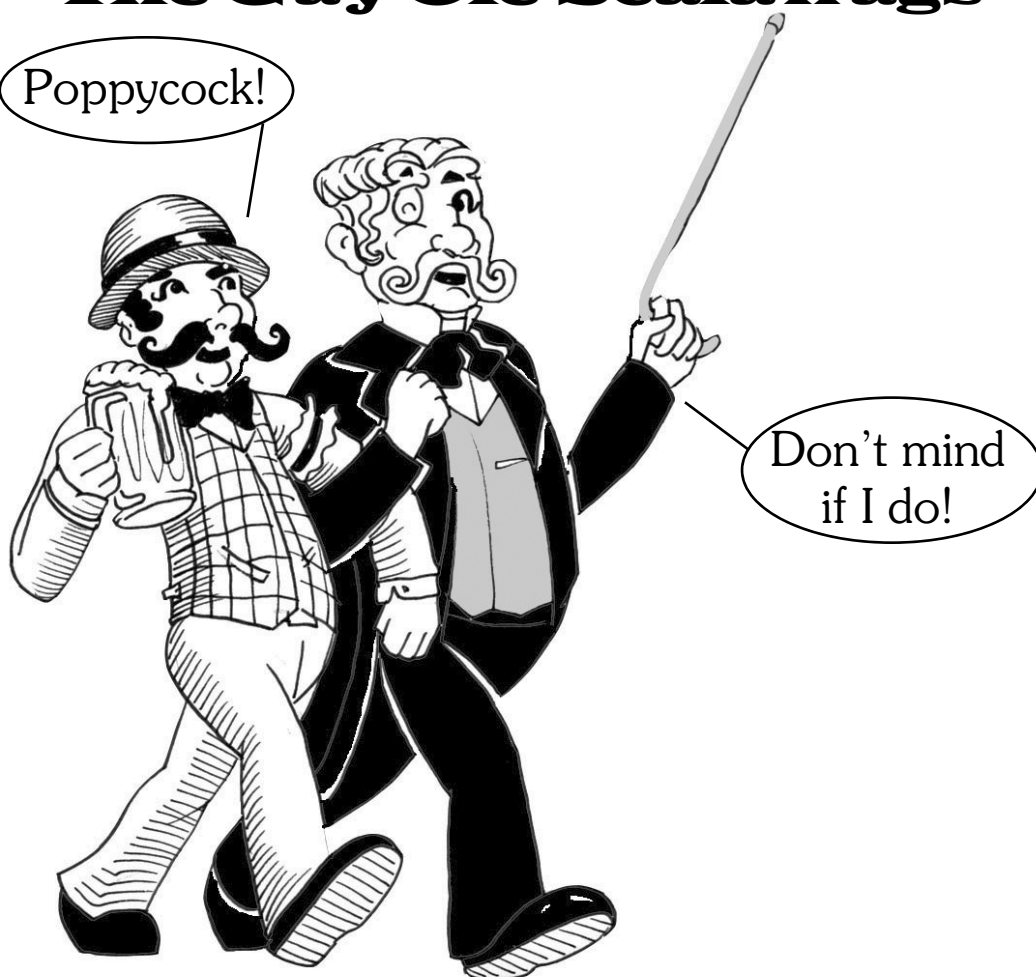
**All of the taste, none of the
calories or alcohol.**

Beer Flavored Water Beverage

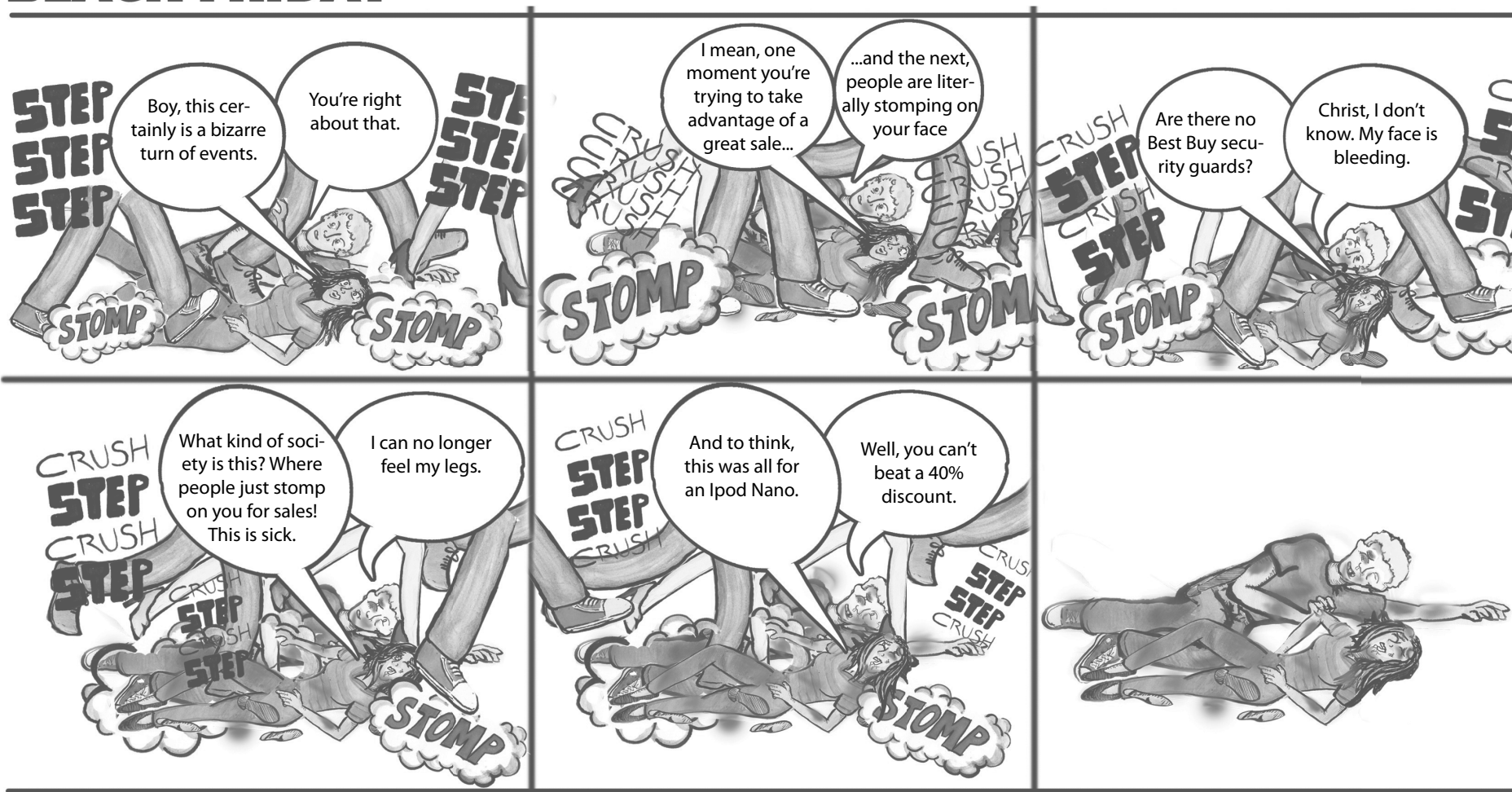


The Gay Ole Scalawags

Poppycok!



BLACK FRIDAY



I'm so finished with the Travesty I didn't even write my own goodbye column

Well, Jon Neal is finally throwing in the towel. The time has come for him to move on to that scary adult world where everyone has to get

jobs and stuff, but the time he spent working on our funny little paper will never be forgotten. Throughout the years, Jon has shared his sharp wit,

infectious laughter, and never-ending desire to keep yelling out puns and non-sequiturs despite how many sharp things we threw at him, and we thank him for that.

Since Jon is long gone now, we are just going to make up things that he might say in a goodbye column, as well as attribute any ethnic slurs, vulgarity, or libelous remarks as his doing. Enjoy, bitches!

His column might go something like this:

"To the editors of the Travesty - I would have been a much better editor. You know it, I know it, and even my mom knows it. She said so.

To the design staff - Remember when I came up with every single Fake Ad idea, and you guys fucked every one of them up?

To the writers - You guys always thought my ideas were too strange, but just wait and see in five years when my talk/variety/vaudeville show blows up big on Public Access Television.

To the publicity staff - What the hell is publicity staff?

To all of the administrative assistants - I would like all of you to come over to my house and clean up the mess I'm about to make. If I have one regret from my time at the Travesty, it's that I didn't exploit the AAs enough. So get ready to be exploited.

To Mom and Dad - Your unconditional love became a great inspiration for my jokes about stupid parents.

To President Powers - What up?

To Chester the Cheetah - What up?

To 40 Acres 411 - I will miss you. You and I certainly had some fucking fucktastic times.

To the Subway Sandwich Corporation - I went to the Subway at 24th and San Antonio the other day and got the Cold Cut Combo. Normally, it should have turkey, bologna, ham, and salami on it, but I swear to God



that there was chicken on it. Yeah, chicken. How will you uphold the integrity of your institution if you keep placing things on sandwiches that you didn't order? If I wanted the Teriyaki Chicken, I would have ordered it. But you probably would have put too much Teriyaki sauce on it like you always do."

And that about does it. Thanks for the good times, Jonny boy.

That's right...dance like no one is watching



Johnny Oswalt

That's a really nice blue dress you're wearing ...it really complements your eyes. The way you move your hips and arms is really incredible. Don't be afraid to let it all out: leave your inhibitions by the wayside. You don't have to worry about a thing. No one is watching.

Absolutely no one is standing in this dark corner watching your every move.

Tonight is your night. You came into this bar with your friends, and then you went to the bartender for a Limoncello cocktail that you always order. You wanted to pay with cash, but all you had was your Bank of America credit card with PIN number 8232. You talked with the bartender about the weather for a few minutes, but then it was your time to shine. When "SexyBack" came on the speakers you began to let your feelings go and rid yourself of all of the worries and troubles from the week.

That's it...you know I like it when you express your emotions through free-flowing dance.

Please, don't stop. Don't let anyone bother you in your perfect moment. You are in your element. You are a

beautiful canvas, nearly too good for any artist to recreate. But before a masterpiece can be produced, a good artist must study everything about his subject. Ooh, that's it. Let it all out. No one can see you right now. Not even some guy sitting at the back of the bar near the cigarette machine wearing a dark hoodie and

"Absolutely no one is standing in this dark corner watching your every move."

sunglasses.

You really are in true form when there's no one around to see it. It was so wonderful when no one saw you singing Ella Fitzgerald in your living room last week, or when you were by yourself at the park last night gazing up at the stars in complete solitude. Even when you tuck yourself into bed at night you breathe like an angel.

The world would be a much better place if they could see the real you.

Even when you won the talent show in 3rd grade, you were barely even trying; I could tell from your home videos. You held yourself back when you performed your pirouettes, as to not hurt the feelings of your pathetic challengers. Darling, let loose your inhibitions! Let the world see you like nearly no one else has.

Now you're really getting it. Sweat rains down your face in a torrential downpour of emotion. Your lips, soft and gentle, burn with sweet desire for just one more drink, but closing time has come. And now that your friends have left, there's no one to walk you home. You'll probably have to walk down some dark alleyways to get home faster. But I'm sure you won't be bothered by anyone, certainly by nobody obsessed with the way women express their emotions.

Wait, why are you getting closer to me? Please, that's close enough; you're starting to make me uncomfortable. Ok, please stop, I can't handle this. This is too much. You're too much.

And then the Lord said, "put money in that wicker basket being passed around"

Pastor Jacob

Good morning, everyone. I was walking downtown yesterday when I saw an old woman sitting on the sidewalk, begging for money. We are living in difficult times; the economy is hurting and the end is no where in sight. Our church, especially, is going through a rough period. All of this reminds me of the book of Isaiah, verse 40:31: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well...as long as you put a relatively large sum of money in that basket being passed around."

Powerful words, especially in this time of great need where that wicker basket that you, in the third row, have in your hand right now is particularly empty and in need of the money in your wallet.

This church is a pillar in the community and it relies on your generosity. Much like our lord Jesus taught us, there is never bad time throw the chapel a bill or two.

Give what you can. One could possibly dictate what they can give

based on how nice of a car they own. For example, it could be considered somewhat unsavory to donate only two dollars if one drove a fully-loaded Cadillac Escalade, Mr. Thomas.

Times are tough, especially for those that took the over in the Memphis Grizzlies game the day before Allen Iverson decided to ditch the team.

I think that it's always comforting to remember that we are a community; a community of people who support each other, even a pastor who may be a little down on his luck after a bad day betting the churches money at the tracks.

The bottom line is this: We are here for each other. Remember the 10th commandment; "Do not covet thy neighbors possessions, and if thy neighbor happens to be a pastor who literally has no money left in his bank account, throw him a bone."

And let us not forget the implied 11th-commandment: Thou shalt make checks out to St. Michael's Accounting Department. One cannot seek his kingdom if their church is foreclosed due to failure to pay rent.

Despite these dire times, it's always possible to find a silver lining—like food. Let us recall that after Jesus fasted for 40 days and 40 nights in the desert, he went back to his disciples and organized a pancake breakfast, which will be held in

"But let us not forget the implied 11th-commandment: Thou shalt make checks out to St. Michael's Accounting Department. "

the Franklin Center immediately after mass. We would appreciate help setting up chairs ...said the Lord.

In addition, let us pray that the Cleveland Browns see through this troubled time and compete for a Wild Card spot in the AFC. Only our combined faith can overcome the 600-1 odds.

