Schwarz Says Fix Culture Shock or the Party’s Over
By Steven Tartick and Bill Reese

Like a bad hangover, the days after Culture Shock are usually filled with uncomfortable recollection of the blunders of the previous days. Cases of alcohol poisoning, a student in intensive care, a cop car’s tires slashed, a dozen robberies, drunken abandonment, and other acts of reckless stupidity accompany the enjoyable weekend most students experience.

Though this year had one of the smallest number of “incidents,” several major crimes and injuries during the 2006 Culture Shock continued the trend of excessive problems arising during the festival. Four years ago, The Cave in CCN was completely destroyed by vandals. Three years ago, the ATM machine was destroyed and a huge window broken in the Humanities Building. A vending machine was destroyed this year and last. A sink was pulled out of a wall in Big Haus this year. “These types of events don’t happen at the same time on a regular weekend,” said PSGA advisor Jeffrey Putman at last week’s executive meeting.

This has led President Schwarz to offer an ultimatum to the PSGA Executive Board: Fix the event or the party’s over. Schwarz believes that numerous aspects of the event “invite conduct that causes trouble.”

“I don’t like to be a hammer,” Schwarz said, “but the students need to accept the responsibility that comes with their authority.”

The Student Government began to form their resolution by identifying the causes behind the problems during the festival. Many have pointed to non-student guests as the main concern. The current security policy allows anybody to enter the campus before 8:30, with or without a guest pass. After that, a police blockade is set up and visitors must identify the name and residence location of a Purchase student to be allowed in.

A rather obvious solution that was quickly vetoed was to have the blockade up 24 hours during the event. Unfortunately though, shows booked at the Performing Arts Center made this an impossibility. Other suggestions, such as requiring Purchase students to register all guests numerous days in advance seemed more feasible and would give the UPD a list of all students and guests allowed on campus.

The other main concern identified by the PSGA was the current security measures. Though the number of cops on campus is largely increased during Culture Shock, their efficiency is debated. The need for cops to man the beer tent and respond to medical incidents is debated.

You might notice someone in your class this week who seems sullen and exhausted. Do not mention the recent Student Government executive elections, as this person knows that the loss suffered runs deeper than those candidates who failed to garner enough votes.

Two weeks ago Wednesday, Student Center Coordinator Alex Malamy attended the Student Senate meeting and expressed concern that the bylaw which requires candidates to have a 2.5 GPA would exclude one of his managers, James Blinstrub, from running for his position. After rejecting a proposal to lower the required GPA of all candidates to a 2.0 (the college minimum) the Senate passed by two-thirds vote a motion to decrease the required GPA of only the Student Center Coordinator position to 2.3. This was on the pretense that the position was intended to be made into a hired one, and would have if the revised Constitution had been passed.

After discovering that he had competition for the position in Cliff Connor, James’s first order of business after the Candidate Forum the following week was to make a Facebook group online in which his friends could support his campaign. In this group which Cliff would soon find, were statements claiming, “The kid who is running against me has never even been to the student center.” and “because otherwise the student center is going to be shitty” and ended by saying “Elect me. Not some asshole trying to pad his resume.”

This was found and brought to the attention of Cliff and then to the Elections Committee on Friday, where it was discussed whether it violated the election bylaws. The bylaw in question stated, “The posting of any other candidate’s name is prohibited without their written approval. This is to protect against slander.” Both candidates stated their sides in continued on page 8...
**Letters to the Indy**

Editor’s Note - Last week, The Purchase Indy printed an article titled “Dispatch Botches Nunchuck Nonsense.” The article unfairly characterized a previous Dispatch piece as being biased and unresearched. The article also had several factual errors that weren’t discovered until after publication. The Indy editorial staff takes full responsibility for the printing of this piece. The points made in the rebuttals below are legitimate, and are recognized by us as current issues in our editorial procedure. We apologize to Amber and all of the Journalism department students.

Dear Indy,

Last week my Journalism professor pulled me aside. She wanted to let me know she got wind of an Independent story in the next day’s issue that claimed my Dispatch story, “Freshman Actor’s Faux Nunchucks Spur Arrest,” was biased and wrong. She wanted to give me a heads up and make sure our bases were covered. My stomach dropped; I felt totally nauseous. I’m not saying I as a human being am always right, but in my opinion as a journalist, being told you got a story wrong is the greatest insult and disappointment you can receive. I ran all the possibilities through my head. I couldn’t focus. I couldn’t eat. I was on the verge of tears all night.

Luckily the next day, I found the story to be almost entirely bogus. Your top ranking college official deep throat was Prince Chartwells from the Hub?! You claim my article was biased. Here’s a direct quote from my article: “Because of Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act (FERPA), Qui Qui Balascio, Campus Judicial Officer, could not comment on the case.” Because of this act, intended to protect students, no one on the judiciary committee could comment without breaking the law. And as for bias, your article only has one unnamed source. How is that balanced?

I have a lot of respect for the Independent. I have worked on other papers before the Dispatch. I know how much work and dedication goes into putting out a paper, especially one that is entirely student run. I also think it’s great that you’re trying to do more “real” stories and less Dispatch stories. Above all, you can’t run a story that is untrue, hurt a young reporter’s reputation. And for what? If you’re get intimidated. You have written a faulty story that could possibly botch your own publication although I’m sure there have been opportunities.

I didn’t write my article with any agenda. I heard about the arrest and I felt there was something off about it so I investigated further. I’m not trying to fight the police or the man or anything but I chose Journalism as a major because I want to help people. I wanted to bring this case to the attention of the student body so they could make their own decision. It would be nice if the judiciary committee or Police could be quoted, but they couldn’t. I reported the facts I had and feel I reported them fairly. I stand behind my story, and the Journalism Department stands behind it as well. I know you’re retracting your story, but maybe in the future you should think before you print.

Sincerely,

Amber Van Natten

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The Independent grated the Dispatch office this morning, and to my surprise, I read the front page article, “Dispatch Botches Nunchuck Nonsense” (something I never do). Usually, I’d take this as another cheap shot at The Dispatch, but this particular article bothered me.

The article, written by Allison Dvornek, accuses the Dispatch of biased reporting in the Nunchuck incident. I’ll agree to that extent that the reporter did not interview anybody he/she should have (i.e. independent eye witnesses). However, the Dispatch article did say that Qui Qui Balascio, Campus Judicial Officer, could not comment on the case due to the Family Educational Rights to Privacy Act. The article says that “Neither the police nor the college judiciary committee would comment for this article.”

That said, I find it despicable that The Independent would take this opportunity to call out a reporter for bias without interviewing the reporter in question. Dvornek does not say that she or the staff at the Independent tried contacting the reporter. In fact, Dvornek writes that “it is not mentioned whether UPD or Chartwells were contacted for statement or comment.” Had Dvornek actually read the Dispatch article, she would have read that “Neither the police nor the college judiciary committee would comment for this article.”

That is a bias in its worst form. The article even goes as far as attributing an anonymous source that contacted the Independent. If you’re going to criticize a publication for bias, you should have a source willing to go on record.

Being a student for four years and a journalism major for three, I’ve noticed that many feel the Dispatch is a faceless creature open for criticism and slander. What people don’t realize is that there are undergraduate students who write these articles. They make mistakes. They get intimidated. You have written a faulty story that could hurt a young reporter’s reputation. And for what? If you’re going to take a shot at the Dispatch, make it a good one, because this story is even worse than the Dispatch article in question.

-Dan Rivoli
To The Class of 2006
By Jeff Stein, PSGA President

We did it. We are almost there. After two, three, four, five, and (in some cases) six or seven years of study here at Purchase, we have completed every task, passed every Gen Ed requirement, taken every challenge and survived it all.

We now take one of the greatest steps of our lives. Some of us are going to grad school, some to work, some to share our art with the world. And some of us are entering public service. But no matter what choices we make, all of us are about to experience a great change and a whole new set of challenges.

But if there is one thing to be said about our graduating class, we are experienced in change. Locally, nationally, and internationally our world has entered a new era. The 2002-03 academic year was marked by the preparation for, and launch of, the war in Iraq. We watched the news. We debated the issues in class. Many of us went to New York and Washington to protest. A few of us were called to serve.

 Sadly, we lost a fellow student to this war, but Anthony Kalladeen will not be forgotten. And neither will his sacrifice.

Nationally, the American culture has taken a drastic shift. We saw gay marriage legalized in Massachusetts and San Francisco. But just as quick there was an attempt to ban gay marriage via Constitutional amendment. And with the Supreme Court having two new judges, some states are already preparing to challenge Roe v. Wade.

For many of us, our first year at Purchase was also President Schwarz’s first year. Because of his leadership there has been a burst of energy. And perhaps the most rapid changes are occurring right here. We have seen the Henry Moore moved to make way for the new Student Services building, the addition of the Alumni Village Apartments, and the new Resident Hall, Fort Awesome. We have a new Student Center that is about to be renovated, and of course we have our second annual exhibit of student murals.

So, yes, we are experienced in change. And we are well prepared for the changes and the challenges that we are about to endeavor upon. But there are more challenges that we must add to our personal agendas.

First, we must challenge ourselves to truly understand and fully accept those opinions and beliefs which are in direct contradiction to our own. Whether liberal or conservative, Republican or Democrat, pro-choice or pro-life, whether we are for the war in Iraq or against it, we must not become so entrenched in our opinions that we fail to see the common ground between us. There are valid points on every side of every issue, and it is our collective responsibility to understand and accept perspectives other than our own. This is not giving up. This is not giving in. The only way for us to progress is for us to work together even when we disagree.

The only greater challenge we have is the challenge of knowing ourselves. It is easy for us to face our greatest virtues. It is easy to revel in accomplishments and celebrate great deeds. But these great deeds are only half of who we are. The old adage of “know thyself” needs revision. It should read, “know thyself, good or bad.” Some will say that we must learn from our mistakes, and this is true, but we need to do more than that. We need to realize, accept, and overcome our own individual capabilities to be as harmful as we are helpful, as selfish as we are altruistic. We will not always act for the good of others. We will not always be true to ourselves and our values. That’s the truth. It’s a difficult truth but one that must be faced. It is in recognizing our own humanity, our own capacity for “greatness” and “corruption” that we will have been honest enough to build a truly better society. I am not saying that we should not judge. On the contrary, I believe that we must judge slowly, precisely, and begin with ourselves. This is the way to “know thyself.” And in knowing ourselves we will be able to correct our actions as we continue down the path of becoming.

But in all of this we must also be very careful to not become jaded, cynical, or worst of all, pessimistic. There is no doubt that our future outside the Purchase bubble will lead to disillusionment, but we cannot allow this to ruin our ideals. We should not and do not want to live in a world of illusions. We want to be disillusioned so that we may temper our ideals with reality and bring to fruition a more perfect version of the world in which we must reside.

So, yes, we are ready to graduate and we are ready to enter the world outside Purchase. We can and should celebrate our accomplishments. We have earned the right to be proud. We have earned the right to relax. And we have earned the right to party.

Congratulations to all of the class of 2006. I am proud to have known you.

Jeff Stein
PSGA President 2004-2006
Hillary Clinton Recalls Olympic Dreams During Purchase Visit
By Patrick Cassels

At a visit to Purchase College Monday morning, United States Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton recalled her ever-changing childhood ambitions and admitted she got into politics through a “process of elimination.”

“I desperately wanted to be an Olympic athlete,” said Clinton during a conference in the Performing Arts Center. “But I couldn’t run, I couldn’t jump, and I couldn’t swim. I was lucky if I finished second-to-last.”

Clinton was at Purchase as part of a symposium to support the Title IX Amendment, a congressional act meant to promote gender equality in college sports and academics.

Though she was joined by Olympic champions, including gold-medalist Teresa “T-Spoon” Weatherspoon of the 1988 women’s basketball team and track star Benita Fitzgerald Mosley, who won the gold in 100-meter hurdles in 1983, the former First Lady confessed she had little athletic ability as a child: “I was really good at HORSE and PIG,” the senator said.

After giving up on her dreams of Olympic glory, Clinton thought of being an astronaut.

“I wrote to NASA and said, ‘How do I sign up to be an astronaut?’” she said. “They wrote back very politely and said, ‘We don’t take girls.’”

Clinton then pursued a career in medicine—a short-lived ambition that ended during the young lady’s tenure as a volunteer at a hospital.

Continued on Page 10...
Let's Push Purchase Towards a Gender-Blind Housing Option

By Rayden Sorack

I was initially interested in changing Purchase’s housing system because as a transgender person, I was having difficulty figuring out my own housing options. Freshman year, I lived with seven amazing women, but once I began physically transitioning, I knew it would be awkward for me (and perhaps for the other roommates or their parents) to appear male and live with women. Also, I had been living with women for years (at a boarding high school). I wanted the validation of living with a guy.

I was surprised how helpful John Delate was throughout the entire process. I wrote him one e-mail explaining my situation and I was able to live with a male friend of mine by the next housing selection.

The problem with Purchase’s current housing system, even though it worked out well in my case, is that there is no policy for housing transgender students at Purchase. I am hoping that Purchase might adopt a gender-blind (or gender-neutral) housing option so that a transgender student could live with their preferred gender. For example, when I applied to Purchase, all of my documentation listed my gender as “F,” and I could not have lived with a male even if I wanted to.

I have heard stories of boys being uncomfortable living with other guys for whatever reason. Maybe they just think boys are dirty. Or they might be queer and nervous about being placed with a random boy. Or maybe none of their friends are male. Or maybe they identify as a woman and wouldn’t feel safe living with boys. Some girls only have male friends and don’t want to end up with someone random.

I’m not saying that new students should be thrown into mixed-gender housing, or that everyone has to live in a mixed-gender dorm or apartment. I’m asking people to support the option.

Some worry that mixed-gender housing might attract hetero couples and then create conflict if they broke up mid-year. Maybe we could implement a contract to try to work out personal issues before requesting a room change (or a parental consent form, if that’s what the admin is worried about). John Delate’s response to gender-blind housing included a concern that there would be a higher risk of harassment/assault. First of all, those who wanted to live in mixed-gender housing would have to request each other. I don’t think anyone should be thrown unwillingly into a potentially uncomfortable housing situation. That includes those people who feel
**The Tommy Awards**

Celebrating another year of accidental celebrity.

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**The Covergirl Award**

*Emily O'Leary*

Conspiracy theorists had a silent orgasm when the poster child for the new Purchase website turned out to be the chair of the “corrupt” student Senate. And by the way, what the fuck is she looking at?!

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**The 15:01 Award**

*Crack Monkey*

With a nickname straight out of an SNL Coffee Talk routine (Crack Monkey is neither a crack, nor a monkey, discuss.), she begged us to pay attention. We gave her 15 minutes, but no cigarettes.

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**The 28 Days Later Award**

*PTV*

This award goes to PTV for their slow reanimation this semester after their violent death. Not even rampant infectious disease can keep them down! Here’s hoping that they don’t receive a head wound from Schwarz’s 24 gauge.

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**The Jesse Leher Memorial LJ Bitch Fight Award**

*Sam Jaffe*

Sam took Jesse’s God Ordained Live Journal superiority a step further this year. Along with grading posts on the Purchase LJ Community, Sam started—and finished—many an LJ flame war. With two weeks left, here’s knowing that the infamous hitlerlover will strike again.

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**The Thanks But No Thanks Award**

*Fraternities*

Thank God the kid who wanted to start this got expelled for pouring urine out of his window. (By our estimate, Frats would increase urine pouring by 647%).

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**If You Wanted The Naked Pictures That Bad, You Could’ve Just Asked Award**

*Campus Thieves*

Congratulations to all of the thieves for being the most organized and efficient group on campus.

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**The Older Than The Bricks Award**

*Jeff Stein*

Sometimes it’s comforting to know that the student in charge of guiding the rest of us through campus bureaucracy is older than some faculty members. And sometimes it’s just creepy.

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**The We’re Not Groupies, We’re Band-Aids Award**

*Fire Flies*

Maybe it’s his smooth, shaved head or the fact that he wears the same pair of clothes every day, but girls just can’t seem to get enough of Dan Romer or his legendary campus band Fire Flies.

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**The No Bullshit Award**

*Scott Mason*

Singlehandedly causing the sales of cheesecake at Ritazza to spike, Scott certainly ran the most colorful PSGA election that we’ve seen in a long time—and that’s no bullshit.

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**The No Bullshit Award**

*Tom Schwarz*

Everybody takes so many pot-shots at President Schwarz on a daily basis, including us at the Indy, that it’s about time he got the recognition he deserved. After all, the damned awards are named after him.
The Purchase Independent presents...

By Jay McInerney

Wind-Up Bird Chronicle by Haruki Murakami

Happy Birthday, Emily Farrell!

Attention Juniors
Last Day for Graduation Applications is May 18th at 9 am
**WHORE-O-SCOPES**

By Sable Yong

### Aries (March 21-April 19)

Thinking outside the box has always been touted as a virtue of great minds. Why not find an alternative, like a bigger box? That talking Chihuahua may have been onto something...

### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your mind has an affinity for space travel this week. Taurus, Watch out for bees and other such winged enemies.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Opportunities for heroism are at your every turn—quick, save this failing prediction!

### Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Talk is cheap and this failing prediction! I've taken it.

### Leo (July 23-August 22)

You know that chant about some guy being our man and if he can't do it then someone else can? Yeah. That's you this week, Leo. Have at it.

### Virgo (August 23-September 22)

With Spring fever rampant in these parts, it's no wonder your actions are so exciting. Take this week to prune unwanted flourishes of fever-induced acts.

### Libra (September 23-October 22)

If you find your ears burning this week, it's probably because you're sticking them someplace they ought not to be.

### Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

If you find it particularly difficult to restrain impulsive decisions this week, you may want to consider treating it like a virus—let it run its course.

### Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

They say fools rush in. There is also the term “Fool's gold” and “Fool's paradise.” Clearly your level-headedness is hindering your personal gain.

### Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Learning from experiences is always a valuable resource. Don't let past experiences sour new ones to come, otherwise what else is there to learn?

### Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Of all signs, Aquarians are known to be the most eccentric. Reflect upon your own eccentricity this week to determine if this is true. If you find yourself getting nowhere, remember that crazy people don't go around wondering whether they're crazy; they've got better things to do.

### Pisces (February 19-March 20)

I've taken it into account that Pisces are always the last on this list of horoscopes. That said, I can only give you my cosmic permission to jump any guns and/or lines this week. This time, it's you first and others secondary!

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**No Room For Sexual Harassment**

By Olubukola Akinnuoye

As I was walking to my mailbox before class early one morning last week, I noticed five or six flyers attached to the bulletin board outside that said in big, bold, black letters: “There is no room for sexual harassment in our music conservatory.” I later saw about seven or eight more on the big bulletin board in the Humanities building along the wall in front of the main lecture hall. They appear to have been posted in the early morning hours. I immediately wondered if anything had happened. They could have been put up by a girl or a guy. Most people in both areas walked right by the signs, not noticing anything out of the ordinary. I figured that there are so many flyers around it, who would notice a few more? I’m not in the music conservatory, but I did wonder who had put up the flyers and if anything had happened to them or someone they knew. It would be a shame if something actually happened. I think it’s good that the flyers are up so that the issue can be addressed instead of ignored.

First, I asked around to see if any music students had heard anything. Almost all the people I asked hadn’t seen any of the flyers and when I showed one to them, they told me they weren’t aware of anything out of the ordinary. “I haven’t seen the flyers” was a constant refrain among conservatory and non-conservatory students. Since many of the conservatory students spend most of their time in their particular building, they might have not seen them.

When I went to the Hub and asked around, all the students I asked said that they weren’t aware of anything occurring. Two tables of guys I asked joked about it.

I decided to ask a member of the administration at the music conservatory. I asked around with little success at first. Finally, someone pointed me to the administrative assistant, Amy Glauber. “I don’t know anything about it,” she said. She did tell me to email the dean of the music conservatory about the issue.

In an email, the dean of the music conservatory, Laura Kaminsky, said “We are aware of the signs. Sexual harassment is not tolerated in the Conservatory of Music nor anyplace else on campus. Should there be any complaints about such improper behavior, they are and/or will be handled through the proper channels.”

Unfortunately, feelings that males should dominate and females should stay “in their place” are more prevalent than ever. It made me think of male dominated areas like sports, business, and music where people still operate with that old thought process. Most students I talked to about the flyers said that they hadn’t noticed and it was the first time they had seen it. One person gave me their opinion on the issue. “I know that there’s a lot of machismo in the music conservatory,” said Katherine Mikaulk, junior. “Females can be pushed out of the way.”

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**“Election” from Front Page...**

The committee. Cliff did not ask the committee to disqualify James. After deliberation, the committee decided that because it was on Facebook and did not mention Cliff by name, it was not enough to disqualify James. They did, however, order him to remove the offending statements, deactivate his wall, and recognize Cliff as a worthy opponent as well as write a private apology. This was satisfactory to both opponents.

This past Tuesday The Organization of Afrikan Peoples in the Americas (OAPIA) began distributing a leaflet explaining the events pertaining to the race for Student Center Coordinator. This act sprung from the perception that previous events were evidence of PSGA exclusivity and favoritism. Within this letter, intended to expose said unfairness, were inaccuracies pointed out to OAPIA in an executive meeting including statements that, “A week before the election packet was due, Alex proposed the SCC position be changed from elected to hired.” when the change had actually been proposed two years before and had been a major issue in the Steering Committee since.

Also the letter insinuates that Jeffrey Putman urged the Elections Committee not to disqualify James, as well as claiming that Jeff Stein slandered his opponent last year, which did not happen. Most importantly, the leaflet accuses the PSGA of restricting access and favoring those who have connections inside the Student Government. In short, it accuses them of corruption.

Did changing the standards or moving to make the position hired instead of elected restrict access for the student body? The mission statement of the PSGA is to make sure all students have equal access. On the other hand, if James was denied the right to run or had been disqualified, would that have been considered a restriction of his access to the PSGA? The question of access was a major pillar of this year’s election. The candidates supported by OAPIA ran on the platform of taking the PSGA out of the hands of the select few who monopolize it, while at the same time working towards diversifying the campus and all its activities.

This struck fear into the hearts of those who were heavily involved in the PSGA and conjured images of an executive board unaware of PSGA rules, policy and precedent. No one can argue that the Student Government isn’t in desperate need of student involvement or that diversity isn’t noticeably lacking in most aspects of the school, but what this election showed us is how passion and effort can be so quickly changed into a destructive force.

More specifically, the race for student center coordinator exposed the flaws within the Student Government that, one can only hope, will be corrected with the experience gained from these events. Meanwhile, the election and all the controversy surrounding it has more than likely disgusted a significant number of people and most likely discouraged them from becoming involved; the exact opposite of everyone’s intentions.
"Clinton" from Page 4...

"I kept getting lightheaded and woozy when I saw someone in any kind of distress," she said.

The would-be doctor also admitted that her lackluster grades made her reconsider working in the fields of math and science practiced by her co-panelists, Florence Hudson of IBM and Purchase's own chemistry professor, Dr. Joseph Skrivanek, who unabashedly asked her to autograph her copy of her autobiography.

Having exhausted all other options, Clinton decided to pursue politics—a field she claims to have inadvertently been prepared for by "lively dinner-table conversations" on current events.

"I thought I do like to study what goes on in the world around me. I adore government as a subject in school. I'm very interested in politics and history. So I went to law school."

Clinton also spoke of her difficult first days at Wellesley College in Massachusetts in response to a question regarding obstacles in her life.

"I'm used to people saying "You can't do this" or "You can't do that," she replied. "I mean, all I have to do is look at the paper."

Monday's visit marks Clinton's second to Purchase College. In 2000, the First Lady announced her candidacy for US Senator at the school's gymnasium.

Purchase College president, Thomas Schwarz, and congresswoman Nita Lowey also attended the symposium which was originally proposed by Sen. Clinton to raise support for Title IX and introduce gender equality to younger children, of which over 150 from local elementary schools were in attendance.

"We know that girls who participate in sports are less likely to smoke, drink, drop out of school or become teenage mothers," said Clinton. "I'm thrilled that students from throughout Westchester will have the opportunity to learn more about this law firsthand."

The senator went on to criticize recent developments in Title IX that allow universities to minimize its spending on girls' sports based on results of internet surveys sent to the campus community.

"You don't have to be a statistician to know online surveys show poor representations," Clinton said. "Many students delete online surveys without looking at them."

Despite her lackluster memories of childhood sports, Clinton expressed overwhelming support for Title IX, which, according to her, helps promote "physical and mental health" in the midst of "rising child obesity" and gives students "valuable life experience."

"Even if," she added, "you find out from a young age, like I did, that you're not good at anything."

"I'm used to people saying "You can't do this" or "You can't do that," she replied. "I mean, all I have to do is look at the paper."
A Final Note From the Editor

The first issue I ever edited was the last issue of the spring 2004 semester. Erica DeMott had just stepped down and Steven and I had stepped up to try to steer the fortunes of a faltering, irrelevant publication.

With nothing to fill the issue other than a Pancake Madness photo spread, I received a letter called “This Place I Love” by my friend, Laura. In her letter, she spoke about how this fantasy world that we call home, filled with its ominous flat bricks, dark, mysterious woods, and mind boggling technicolor people had stolen her heart.

Her conclusion—a quasi orgasmic, stream of consciousness ramble—reflected everything that Purchase meant to me inside my heart.

“This place holds me together and rips me apart. This place smells of sex and grass, Snow and music, brains exploding, Love forced addictions, cigarettes and regrets.”

I cried reading that letter because I knew that it was true. I was so happy to know that somebody else out there loved this place as much as I did.

What has driven my work at The Independent is that I love this place with all of my heart in spite of all of the bullshit. I do this because in a way, I see a lot of Purchase reflected in myself. I have my own hard exterior of brick and concrete. I have my own dark forests and mysterious pasts. I have my own stupid bureaucratic, administrative bullshit. And somewhere, deep inside, I have the heart of a vibrant, irreverent iconoclastic Purchase student. I love this place in spite of its faults for the beauty I see in its people, the same way I have been continually amazed by the caliber of work that has come through my mailbox.

In the end this place does hold me together and split me apart. It challenges everything that I believe in, everything I thought I knew growing up in the suburbs. It has told me from day one, from the top of those big brown buildings that great things are expected of me and that this is not a place where you should go unnoticed.

This place changes with the seasons, it grows with us, goes through dark winters, bright summers, disconcerting autumns and life-affirming springs. It had introduced me to people who I have loved with every ounce of my being. Roommates like Tony and Sean, who became my brothers, who I would have fought to the bowels of my own selfishness, whose friendship I cast away under the weight of my own regrets.

In the end, the place that I love, the place that Laura so eloquently described in her letter, has become a part of me. It’s only fitting that I end my tenure right where I began, celebrating this place for what it is. There are so many faces and stories, so many loves and fears, so many late nights and early mornings and so many empty bottles and hopeful dreams that I could go on about for forever. But instead, I will wear this town like a badge and proudly declare to everyone I know that I am a part of something very special. I have always known I belong here, and I’ll feel the same way forever.

Thank you for reading,
Bill Reese

Here’s to You, Bill

Issue 114 marks the end of an era. Bill Reese, current Chief Editor and longtime staff member of the Independent will be graduating from Purchase in two weeks. Bill came in at a time when the future of the Independent was uncertain. His unending dedication and passion elevated the Indy from a novelty diversion to a true powerhouse on campus.

Bill started as the Backpage Bitch in 2003, his freshman year. In those days the Indy staff was literally working in a closet with two budget PCs and a dream. During this time they began to establish themselves, overcoming several controversies and beginning the tradition of pushing the campus’s buttons whenever possible. The next year, with a bigger office, shiny new eMacs and a fresh freshman willing to take over the duties of the Backpage Bitch, Bill became assistant editor helping to define the paper with a unique and quirky layout design. The year certainly saw its setbacks with numerous printing problems, missed deadlines and the appearance of another weekly news source. It was time for a change and by the end of the year, Erica DeMott was ready to let the paper fold.

Then in 2004 Bill became Chief Editor (along with Steven Tartick). Bill kicked the paper into high gear making sure every publication date was hit. Printing in house offered a whole new set of challenges that Bill was eager to attack, often staying up all night printing on a shloky photo-copier to put the paper out first thing Thursday morning. This amazing dedication was what brought the Indy out of its slump and set it on its way to what it is today.

On several occasions Bill has battled malfunctioning machinery in order to meet Thursday morning deadlines with drastic measures. In the wee hours of the morning he went from office to office asking people to each print 50 copies of the paper. Enough people obliged and the issue was able to come out on time.

As an editor, Bill’s been passionate about using the paper as a tool to improve the culture of Purchase. We like to think that the Naked Issue was the pinnacle of that achievement. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that every student has the opportunity to have his or her voice heard.

Although we are saying goodbye to Bill, we hope to hang on to his passion for being Purchase’s number one news source. If students are being wronged, the Indy will cover it. If the administration is acting up, the Indy will criticize them. And if we fuck up, the Independent will grow from it.

And with that, Bill Reese, we salute you. We wish you the best of luck and know that you will work with dedication and passion at whatever rag you end up at, and that you will work to make it as kick-ass as you made the Independent.

With Much Love,
The Indy Staff
Manhunt for Funk Band’s Replacement Drummer Continues
By Stone Catwell

State police joined the ongoing search at Purchase College on Friday to find a replacement for a student funk band’s recently-kidnapped drummer.

Troopers searched alongside campus officers and volunteers, who have spent the last two weeks helping rock group, The Alan Alda Project, in its manhunt for a new percussionist following the violent abduction and disappearance of long-time member Gordon Tornator.

“It’s always a tragedy when a band loses such a big part of its composition to kidnappers,” said campus police lieutenant, Froman Malachi, who is leading the search party. “But rest assured campus and state police will not rest until this group is back on stage delivering their funky beats to the students.”

Tornator’s kidnapping shed a cloud over the university as students mourned the potential loss of such an essential element of The Alan Alda Project’s eclectic beats.

“All our hearts are with AAP now,” said senior Barney Rohr. “May the Lord protect this group’s funkiness and deliver it safely back to the stage.”

“The kidnappers demanded 10 thousand to release Mr. Tornator,” said music agent Flip Simmons, Esq. “So we countered and offered them 5 thousand to temporarily lend him out for no less than three and no more than five performances.”

Simmons says he was unfazed by a package delivered to him from the criminals containing a finger allegedly belonging to Tornator.

“These amateurs don’t know thing one about negotiation,” said Simmons. “Tornator needs that finger to play, so that’s a huge disadvantage at their end of the table.”

Bereaved band members mourned over the loss of Tornator’s mellow backbeats and swift tempo that gave The Alan Alda Project its one-of-a-kind sound.

“It’s been really tough without Gordon’s sticks backing us up, man,” said lead singer Mitchell “Joker” Greenblatt. “These kidnapper’s didn’t just take our drummer, they took our ride, and our weed connection, too.”

Mental Health Officials to Attend Pancake Madness
By Hallie Kornenbault

Answering calls from the administration that Purchase’s annual pre-finals flapjack fest had driven several students to the brink of insanity, President Thomas J. Schwarz demanded to school officials that psychiatrists, psychologists and insane asylum orderlies attend Pancake Madness next week to maintain a sense of mental stability.

This dramatic plea by the president stems from an incident at last year’s Pancake Madness where freshman VA, Charles W. Doubleyoo, had a nervous breakdown in the middle of the crowded late night breakfast. Witness Truman Tritium said the real madness happened after the pancakes were served.

“He just dropped his fork onto the plate and began to seize uncontrollably. Next thing I knew, he lunged for a full bottle of maple syrup, bit the cap off with huge, gnarling teeth and proceeded to suck the whole bottle down like a frat boy on speed.”

Doubleyoo was suffering from what doctors refer to as a severe case of “Jemima’s Syndrome,” an affliction caused by the ingestion of tainted syrups. This is a common occurrence in Canada, where maple trees get contaminated by rabid Moose urine and produce hallucinogenic syrup.

Chartwells officials assured the campus community earlier this week that they had checked and double-checked this year’s syrup supply and that everything was safe. But this did not appease Schwarz, who would not allow a similar cases of Jemima’s syndrome to place Purchase in yet another situation where the college’s liability would come into question.

“We have created a culture of mental instability at these pancake madnesses. Hell, the flyers promoting the festival use the word ‘Madness’ in them! Unless the student government makes significant strides to improve these safety liabilities, there will be no Pancakes, and you can guarantee there will be absolutely no Madness!”

Students viewed Schwarz’ comments as empty threats. “He can’t cancel Pancake Madness, that’s like, a campus tradition.” Says sophomore Julie Roofies, “I mean, this is college, of course we’re going to drink syrup, take off our clothes and do stupid things.”

“I thought Pancake Madness sucked last year anyway,” said a Preston P. Pretension, “They totally didn’t book any of the pancakes or waffles I wanted to see”

This year, campus police will be in full force at the Dining Hall, as well as over a dozen members of the psychiatric ward from Westchester County Medical Center, leaving both the campus community and the local community completely vulnerable to iPod thieves and schizophrenic cat ladies.
To my 3 chicks in 143 Bh, have a great summer.

-Jenzsta

Devine is simply divine

“How did you fail?”
“Hell... I got more questions WRONG than I got right.”

To the bitch who put cheerios at my front door, I’m a return wit my sweet milk on your backdoor.

Stinky Pete... you are my wonderful!

I CAN FIND HIM AND STAKE HIM, CAN’T I?

“To my 3 chicks in 143 Bh, have a great summer.” - Jenzsta

On a scale of one to dick I want some dick.

The cresendos help me tune you out

that’s how my life is. dark, isolated, and lonely

I WOKE UP THIS MORNING WITH ONE EYE.

The Ritazza over ice was a mistake

USE OPENED BOX FIRST

C- STOP TALKING ABOUT YOUR PENIS. FUCK - J-9-1 CREW

Fort Retarded

“Space Cases” Marathon
Friday May 5th
Farside Lounge

“It’s like six degrees of genital warts.”

Last Soca Party of the Year
Southside Friday
10 pm - 2 am

Purchase Prom pictures are available at:
http://ashcampmedia.com/gallery/purchaseprom
The discount print code for students is: studentdiscount

I WOULD LIKE TO SLEEP PAST 5 AM, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

News Flash:
GLBTU and OAPIA are not the only clubs on campus...
GET OVER YOURSELVES

Purchase w/ School Spirit?
Cheerleading at Purchase
General Interest Meeting
Where - Big Haus TV Lounge
When - 9:00 10:00 5:10:06 10:00 5:11:06 10:00
Come with ideas and spirit!

Hi, I’m Tory Macurto. You may remember me from such educational films as “Two Minus Three Equals Negative Fun,” and “Firecrackers: The Silent Killer.”

B: Oh no! My butt is so big! I look like a horse!
Dad: Oh yeah? Well... can you run like one?!!
B: No! (crying)

It’s one thing to serve chill dogs at 1:30 AM, it’s quite another to know why they need to be served at 1:30 AM: Thank you Kendric-whatever-your-name-is.

I did it because I’m not funny. All I can do is Bullwinkle and Popeye. I’m not related to anyone in this house and I haven’t jerked off in 8 years. I am afraid of getting caught. I leave my Red Wings jersey to Danny. Sorry I did it in the girls room.

-Joey

BG, DJ, you are fat

The only thing open after 12:00 pm is legs

Chartwells gave me the runs for my money

what is an oprah?

Gave the little boy herpes

“Sometimes I feel like my whole life is a speed bump.” - Hillary Rodham Clinton

(Hanging from chair) “Sanctuary!”

Here’s my graduation shoutouts: Lachuga, Professor, Vagina, Danica, and everyone else can go fuck themselves.

Love, Blair

I should get a humanitarian award for all the money I spend on weaves.

G-WAR

Sometimes I want to kill you, but in the end, I LOVE YOU. Pimpin Minnie and Minnie Ho Life :)”

J- I wish it did <3 L

B, you are my K-Fed... Do you know what a “kept man” is? HaHa!

The whole world might see this. And I’m telling you to go away.

“Jenny, these aren’t my clothes.”

OHHH SIIHH!

Chartwells: Give me the runs for my money

OFAA

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