



Winter Convocation

McNaught Lays Heavy Feelings On Diverse Congregation

BROOKE KVASNY
Contributing Writer

I was truly moved as I stood and gazed at the few hundred other people who had gathered to hear Brian McNaught speak. Although I may not agree with everything he had to say, I defend his right to speak.

An activist for 25 years for the rights of gay, lesbian and bi-sexual individuals, he is an idealist. He is also sensible about the need for people to change their hostile attitudes toward homosexuals. He pointed out they already have more than enough fear for them to handle from peers, co-workers, family and friends. They live with questions they ask themselves everyday about friends, "What if they don't accept me?" or "What if they don't love me anymore?" from family members.

McNaught would like people to be more understanding of these issues. He wants everyone to feel safe in everyday activities and

cilities. The suicide rates and the number of runaways among gay, lesbian and bi-sexual individuals is extremely high. The reason for the disturbing numbers is the fact that they feel so uncomfortable in common surroundings and also within their own skin. It is an unsettling thought.

The average person picks apart the wrong that is in everyone, but never settles on the good that is in each person. Too many of us laugh at bad jokes regarding anyone who is different from what we call the norm (whatever that is). The majority of us would never participate in a hate crime. We would regard it as unthinkable.

Brian McNaught laid some heavy feelings down on me and others in the crowd. He made me think a little more clearly, and gave me a measure of understanding toward the diverse culture we are here in America. People like Mr. McNaught are the truly compassionate ones who will change the way we think about others.

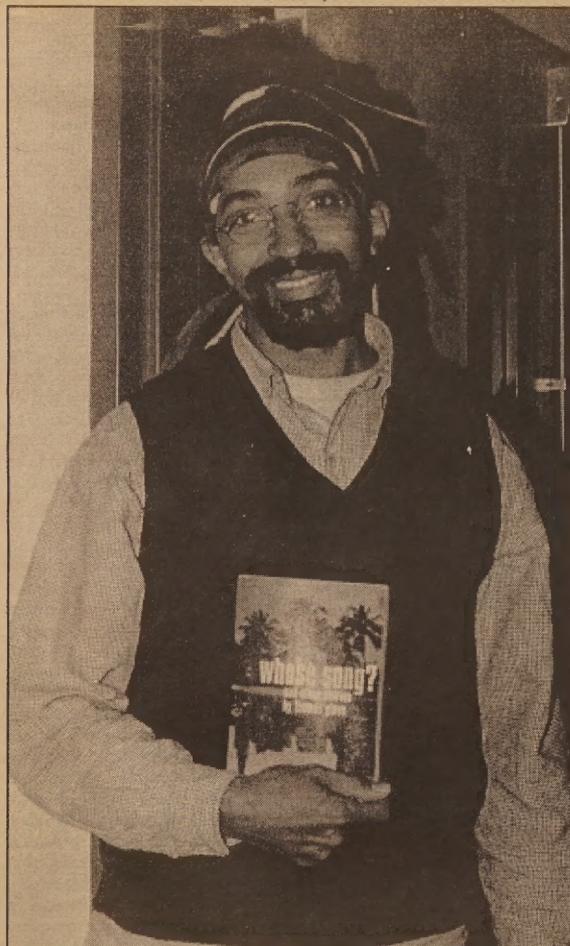
Most of us living in this self-centered America have a lot to learn

about diversity. In this year of 2001, we need to eliminate hate in

order to survive with humanity in the next century.



Speaker Brian McNaught, left, and BCC President Dr. Donald Dellow pose for a picture prior to the Winter Convocation.



Thomas Glave gave a reading from his book, *Whose Song?* He is a writer with a compassionate voice, appreciated by all who listen. The reading on February 22, was attended by approximately 50 students, faculty and staff persons. The BCC Readers Series presents common hour readings in Decker 201-202 with reception and writing workshop following the readings.



Ken Waldman read poetry and fiddled, setting most toes to tapping in spite of themselves in time to an old-fashioned hoe down. He is a teacher, a world traveler, a reader and writer of musical poetry and fiction, a fiddler and a new age Renaissance man from the farthest reaches of the Alaska to the southernmost tip of Florida. He will read to all who will listen and hear his melodies with their hearts as well as their ears. Waldman was presented by the BCC Readers Series during the common hour on Thursday, March 1st.

EDITORIALS

Credit Cards are no Bargain: Let the Charger Beware!

If you are like most people with plastic in your wallet or purse, the temptation to charge when you are in great need is unbearable. It's too easy to whip out the card and charge the purchase. But let the charger beware!

Don't think they are doing you a favor that you won't have to pay for. In fact, what product are they selling to you? You did make a purchase but you also bought a debt. They sold you the opportunity to pay their interest.

Consider

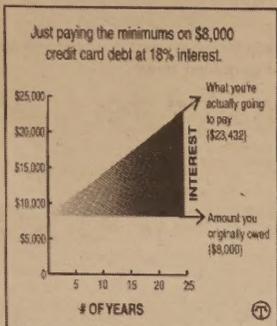
the following statistics the next time the urge overwhelms you.

* The average balance on a credit card today is \$7,000.

* The average interest rate is 18.9%.

* Late fees are now \$29 if not received by the stated due date.

Check this out on your computer for further enlightenment: if



Just paying the minimum on a credit card can be a mistake, adding more than \$15,000 to credit card debt of \$8,000.

you have a credit card balance of \$8,000 and you make the monthly payment at 18% interest, it will take you 25 years, seven months to pay the debt off. You will pay an extra \$15,432 in interest, and the total payback at that point in time will be \$23,432. Scary? Do the math if you have any doubt.

And now the answer to getting out of debt once you have been sucked in.

1. Shop for the best credit card deal with long-term low interest rates. (A few companies will

Credit card interview by Inquiring Reporter

BY CAREY LITAVISH
Contributing Writer

Carey asked three questions: how do you feel about credit cards and do you have one? Then asked: are you aware of how much you pay back? Third: Would you like to get your card(s) paid off and never use them again?

Lee Hunkovic, 21, a SUNY Binghamton student said: I have three cards, I do know I pay interest but I am not sure how much, and yes, I would like to get all of my cards paid off in due time but try to still use them sparingly.

Michael Lane, 20, a BCC Stu-

dent, says he likes credit cards because they are free money. He does not know how much he pays back in interest. He would like to get them paid off but he'd still like to use them.

Jesus Diaz, 19, Exchange Student (Mexico) says he has one credit card. He thinks they are good because he does not have to carry a lot of money. He knows he has to pay interest. Yes, he'd like to pay it off, but still use it.

Roy Cager, 50, YMCA Program Director, Binghamton, said he does not have a credit card because it's an easy road to get into debt. "They have become a substitute for cash," he added. "That's one of the reasons I don't have one. The credit

card companies are not as ethical as we'd like them to be. I haven't had a card in years. They give real meaning to the term 'buyer beware.'"

Joe Yanuzzi, 17, student, said he will not get a credit card because he prefers to pay cash. There was education in high school business class about the dangers of them. But teens are still not educated enough about them and a lot of them get into debt because they don't have enough money to back them up.

Kyle Shaw, 23, Wilson Hospital, said "Credit cards are dangerous, that's why I don't have one. The payback interest high, too much, and I'd rather pay cash."

charge very low interest for a six month period if you transfer a bill from another card. The balance then will have the higher interest rate charge.) Switch balance to another card at that time offering lower beginning interest. It will be like a game of hop-scotch until you

1. Get caught up.
2. Pay more than the minimum payment required on your monthly bill. (If you pay only the minimum, you are usually only paying the interest, and nothing you pay will go to reduce the amount you owe.)
3. If you cannot handle what

you owe, the obvious suggestion is to leave your plastic at home in a drawer. Pay off your charges and cancel your card. It only sounds impossible. It is being done all the time by people who have become aware of the exorbitant price they are paying for their charge card.

Napster Getting the Bum's Rush?

Scenario one: "Hey, Bob! Have you got the new 'Crib Death' CD?"
"Yeah, and it's awesome! I'll burn a copy for you."

Scenario two: Go to <http://www.napster.com>, the embattled music file sharing site, and download 'Crib Death'—or any other music for that matter—to your hard drive or CD Rewriter.

What's the difference between the two? Very little, it says here. In the first example two people are sharing a music recording. In this single instance two CDs of the same music are now in existence even though only one was paid for. No big deal. Magnify this transaction by a factor of 250,000. Big deal. And this is only one CD; one piece of music. A CD runs about \$16. That comes out to \$4 million in lost revenue to the record company that produced the CD. That's \$4 million for that one selection. If the same thing happens to another 100 issues you are bearing down very quickly on half a billion dollars. Remember this is only one record company and it's subsidiaries. These numbers were pulled from thin air. The point is this: record companies are denied (not losing) big money with this

line file sharing and can do nothing to stop these transactions. They sell all their product and while they would certainly like to increase their market share and thereby increase profits, the word loss is a term for accountants.

Now go to the Napster site and make the same transaction. It's essentially no different from the first example, yet Napster is on the verge of extinction as the result of an appellate court decision handed down February 12, in San Francisco. Bob is still burning CDs with impunity.

This is like two cars speeding down the interstate one behind the other. Both cars are in excess of the speed limit but the trooper pulls the second car over because the first one was too difficult to catch.

The New York Times reported in its Feb. 13 issue the decision of the United States Federal Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit that Napster was guilty of aiding and abetting copyright infringement in allowing its subscribers to share music without paying royalties. The ruling claims Napster has infringed on copyright holders' exclusive rights in two areas: reproduction and distribution. Although this

is a severe blow to Napster, it may not be over yet.

Napster is still up and running today and perhaps even busier than normal as users scurry to download music while they still can. The free music sharing will continue at least until terms of an injunction can be worked out. In the meantime Napster is proposing a \$1 billion pay out to the plaintiffs: Universal Music Group, EMI, BMG, Sony, Seagram's Universal, and Time Warner's Warner Music. Industry analysts say the billion dollar figure will be regarded by the record companies as far short of satisfactory. There is also the possibility of further appeals.

The courts can rule only on points of law but the problem comes down to a question of when does current law become inapplicable? The Internet, despite its breadth and popularity, is a new technology and will require new vision in determining what rules must apply. A part of that consideration will be the plausibility of enforcement. It's a matter of the record companies telling the Court, "We can't get Bob so let's go after Napster." There are other sites providing the same service as Napster. If you knock one down others will pop up. P2P (peer to peer) file sharing is one of the most popular uses of the Internet and it is not just music files being shared.

Music sharing on the Internet is considered the same as information sharing, along with books, visual arts, and ideas. Unfortunately, these other disciplines are not the cash cow the recording industry is. Money, as always, is the conversion

factor.
That is only a small part of why this ruling may fail. A similar case can be cited.

The Volstead Act of 1919 or The National Prohibition Act as it is more widely recognized, banned the manufacture, transportation and sale of alcohol. It was hugely unpopular, considered by most people as an infringement on their constitutional rights. In 1933 prohibition ended with adoption of the 21st amendment, after it was realized it created more illegal activity than had been apparent before the Act was passed. Public disfavor made enforcement impossible. The key is enforcement. There was no Internet in 1930 to help distribute alcohol. The Government couldn't catch every body, so they gave up. Why should the Internet be a law enforcement tool now simply because it's the only way they can catch any body trading music?

Since it's inception in Dec. of 1999 Napster has grown to 9 million subscribers. As impressive a number as that is, it is only a drop in the bucket compared to the overall numbers of people who share music. Consider this: to use Napster or any other similar program you must have a CD burner or be willing to give up huge amounts of hard drive space to your music. You must make a fair investment to make sharing of music files work for you. That fact alone keeps the number of on line file sharers below that of the ones who, like Bob, make CDs and cassettes for friends, off line. Regardless of the technology you use the outcome is the same: someone

will get free music; whether the recording industry wins every court battle or not.

It is also important to note the absence of the artist's voice in these lawsuits. There is a reason for this. Artists, are generally more interested in getting their music heard. Most of the artists represented by these record companies make large amounts of money. But they don't get it from the record companies. The recording industry has a reputation for being penurious (read cheap) in their dealings with artists, if not downright dishonest. Record sales are not the lion's share of an artist's income which comes mostly from concerts, souvenirs, and endorsements.

There is also the case of the millions of artists not wishing to be mainstream. To shut down Napster is to shut down one of the best ways for struggling artists to get their music heard.

The Napster ruling affects us all and the consequences to Society are serious. Make no mistake about it, this is a form of censorship. Another case of The Money telling us what we should see and hear. The recording industry really does less for the arts than they would have you believe. The only music that gets recorded and distributed is that which is profitable. Profitability has nothing to do with artistry. Popularity has nothing to do with artistry. Money is the issue here and it should not be. This ruling benefits only the recording industry; not the (mainstream) artists; not the consumers. The five plaintiffs already have too much say in determining what we hear. What happens when those five are whittled down to two? Or one? The same thing that's happening now with newspapers and magazines; TV and movies. A handful of companies decide what is news and what is not news. A handful of companies decide what we will see on TV or the big screen. If you think we have pap for choices now, wait until only one company runs it ALL.

If the courts want something to do, they can try and keep the Government from using the Internet to invade the security we are supposed to be guaranteed by the fourth amendment of the constitution.

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TALK TO ME —

This is your newspaper. If it is to be successful, you must use it. Read it. Respond to it. We can increase it's size if you help by letting us know what you are doing today, and what you will be doing tomorrow and next week. We want to know what you think.

What's right with BCC? What's wrong with BCC? How can BCC be a better place for all?

If your club is having a meeting or planning an event, please call us at 778-5110. Leave a message and a number, we'll get back to you.

Let us know about fund raisers, trips or if your band is looking for a bass player.

We ask only that your comments be responsible and your opinions be informed. The Hornet is your forum. Use it.

The Hornet Office (S-107B) is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

- Your editor, Grover Craig

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No Hecklers At Convocation A Pleasant Surprise

To the editor:

Keynote speaker Brian McNaught was scheduled for the Common Hour, Thursday, February 8, 2001, and this was no Big Secret, as the Lambda Club made decided efforts to cover the campus with announcements to that effect. What was surprising (unfortunate that the term "surprising" is used here) is that a rather small minority

of posters were surreptitiously "removed" i.e., torn down in defiance, I imagine, of the human right to exist and be heard. To the credit of many professors on campus, attendance of the event was either heavily encouraged, or in some cases, required. Equal credit goes to the students who showed up, because in many cases it meant going without lunch, or making a

special trip to campus (those that did not necessarily have a class conveniently scheduled near the time of the event). And perhaps (again, unfortunate necessary use of the term) most surprising of all: to my knowledge, there were no visible hecklers or protesters.

Perhaps an environment of civility, of respecting of one's space and right to be, is creeping in to our

little campus. Because events such as this have oft times brought out the less desirable components of our society, and Brian was instead warmly received, and the people who came to hear his message heard it without static.

That is not to say there were no naysayers. The voice of dissent was heard in half-grumbled tones

around campus by a bit more than one person (as was reported and verified in The Binghamton Press and Sun-Bulletin). "OH yeah, it gave me a 'warm and fuzzy feeling'..." "I had to go, it was required..."etc., ad nauseum.

Oh well. You can't please everybody.

KYLE WEBB

Death Shouldn't Mean Dollars

To the editor:

Due to the recent death of NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt, I find myself ashamed of our society. While I was at work the day after he died, several people asked me if we carried Dale Earnhardt

merchandise. I told every single one of them that we didn't, and even if we did, I wouldn't sell it to them. The people who asked this, weren't real fans. They were out to capitalize on someone's death, and make a quick buck. I find this dis-

respectful towards him, his family and his fans. It's a shame that our society is hell-bent on making money, that we have no respect for the deceased.

ANONYMOUS

Stairways No Place for Garbage

To the editor:

I am dismayed to see so many signs of disregard for our community's environment. In particular, I am bothered by the way people toss things away just anywhere and don't consider the affect. Some of the specific problems include: ash trays dumped out in parking lots or on roads; cups, candy wrappers, tissues, fast-food containers, cans, bottles and bags dropped anywhere; bubble gum on the ground, under table tops, or even on branches outside. Many of these things do not break down, and will be there for weeks,

months, or years, messing up our environment.

The penultimate offenses on campus is drinks left on stairways. A spill will inevitably occur, and will produce a potentially sticky, but always dangerous mess for everyone using the stairs. The worst thing is spitting. Spitting is disgusting, and it is a way diseases are spread.

Have you noticed all those wads on the sidewalks? Have you noticed there is a garbage can at every major entrance to every building on campus? (There are

also garbage cans in parks, malls, office buildings, on sidewalks in town, etc.)

Come on, people, this is our community. Please care about it. There are many things not perfect in the world we can do nothing about, but this is something we can change, if we all make an effort. Let's work together to keep our campus (our area, our hometowns) and our world as nice as they can be! Please think about what your role is in the quality of your - and your children's - environment.

ALEXANDRA K. HEDER

McNaught Affects Many

To the editor:

I think the presentation given by Brian McNaught was very powerful and informative. McNaught was a wonderful speaker who I'm sure was able to give many college kids the courage they needed to present their true selves to the world. His own personal experiences were touching and inspiring, to those afraid to show who they are. He made me believe that we are all human beings, and even though we may be different, we all deserve the love and respect of others. We should never be ashamed of our true selves, nor try to hide from others around us. I think McNaught was able to convince some of the students that facing up to who you really are, can sometimes be a difficult journey. How-

ever, once you reach the end of the road you will feel at peace with yourself and have gained the confidence needed to face others. McNaught was also inspiring because he seemed very content with his own life and very much together. This is something we all wish to have, whether we are heterosexual or homosexual. He is proof that life is what you make of it and you can only truly be happy and proud of who you are.

McNaught was a funny and entertaining speaker and it was wonderful to listen to his presentation. I'm glad the college allowed McNaught to speak at BCC because I believe he was an inspiration to us all.

SABRINA D'ANGELO

To the editor:

I would like to take the time to thank the school for inviting such a dynamic speaker as Brian McNaught. He was very funny and he involved the audience. I think we should invite more speakers like McNaught to the school. Even if I have a different opinion from what McNaught holds to, he didn't only speak on his circumstances, but situations that each one of us find ourselves in. In ad-

dition to that, he was not at all dry or boring which made him quite easy to listen to. Listening to him speak forced the audience to have an open mind toward his subject.

For that reason alone, I think it would be a great idea to invite more speakers, like Brian McNaught, to speak to the students here at BCC. Once again thank you BCC for inviting Brian McNaught.

AMANDA HILL

Recycling Program at Broome?

BY TOM BRANDT
Contributing Writer

Have any of you ever heard of a recycling program at Broome? I was curious to know if Broome has an operating recycling program for the administration and student body to take advantage of.

So I did some research and found out what our student body had to say on the issue. The consensus reveals that ten out of ten students prefer that we have a prominent recycling program here at Broome Community College. Each individual student interviewed felt it was necessary to start a recycling program by placing bins in each building lobby.

This furthered my research to the Richard Armstrong, the Head of Waste Management. Following is a condensed version of the interview:

Armstrong said that we have tried in the past to have a recycling program but it didn't work because the recycling materials would become contaminated and wouldn't be taken by our recycling carrier.

The contamination was caused by students throwing cigarette butts into our paper bins or throwing cans in with the plastics, for example.

The Ecology Club has made efforts to manage a recycling program but it is too much of a task to handle because students misuse it. For that reason, we don't have a recycling program as far as the student body is concerned, but at an administrative end we do. We recycle and separate papers for recycling and the cafeteria separates plastic cans and bottles. The janitorial staff separates the waste from each of the building lounges. This is then put into assorted bins for recycling and regular garbage.

After speaking to Armstrong, I furthered my development by taking student opinions on the issue. Denise Malagari, a Psychology Major, responds: "I feel that a program should definitely be implemented. Elementary school and high schools all across the country have such programs, so there is no reason why colleges shouldn't. A properly planned out and kept up program would most likely be more sufficient than most people anticipate."

Michael Williams, Computer Sci-

ence Major, states: "I definitely think we should have a recycling program. I know there has been many a time when I have thrown out a 20 page program because it didn't print right or I forgot something, all that paper could have been recycled."

Jessica Weir, Liberal Arts Major, replied: I think that Broome should absolutely have a recycling program! I do think the majority of students would participate. It's about having access to it.

It would be nice to have a recycling program here at Broome for the students to use. It would take a strong formative effort on our part to use it properly and to make it worth our while to recycle and not misuse it.

Editor's note: At present a recycling program is non-existent for the use of the student body. This is a project that should be developed in the opinion of many students. The problem may be having enough bins to collect recyclable materials in strategic places. No one will walk a mile to drop an item in a barrel. The Hornet would like to help with this by printing your comments on this program. Please bring your ideas to our office 5107B.

You don't pay tax on a Roth IRA



This is the big attraction of a Roth IRA - you don't pay tax when you make a qualified withdrawal, not even on the earnings and gains that build up. You must follow certain rules, such as holding the Roth IRA for at least 5 years and reaching the age of 59½.

What's more, you can convert many traditional IRA accounts to a Roth IRA. And you can contribute to a Roth IRA after the age of 70½.

You will need to meet the guidelines, and make careful comparisons to determine which choice is best for you.

Other IRA options also offer tax advantages. For example, you can withdraw up to \$10,000 from most IRA accounts without paying an early-withdrawal tax, if you use the funds to buy a first home or pay for higher education.

For all the facts on Roth and other IRA benefits, see your 2000 tax booklet. Or check the IRS Web site: www.irs.gov

Reporters are welcome at The Hornet!

Stop by Room 5107B And See Grover Craig



While You're There... Place Your FREE Classified Ad With The Hornet at the Same Time!

To the editor:

On Thursday Feb. 8th I attended Brian McNaught's presentation in the West Gym. I must admit, before the presentation I thought it was primarily aimed at gay people. That wasn't the case at all. The stories and examples that were given were about a fellow dealing with being gay, but as a straight white male I feel I obtained some useful knowledge from his presentation.

To the editor:

I would like to comment on the presentation given by Brian McNaught this month. I found him to be a wonderful speaker and beacon for many students. His character and wit made him a pleasure to listen to. Although the subject at hand is quite controversial

but twice. He also stated how much trouble he had fitting in with the kids at school, which so many people struggle with now.

I think our school was very lucky to have him come and talk to us.

KRISSY

To the editor:

I think it was a great idea to have Brian McNaught talk about the homosexual society at our school. I also think he gave a powerful speech, which allowed us to view homosexuals in a different perspective and to realize that to neglect them is immoral and unjust, just because they are different. McNaught told us to value our own lives no matter what and to think positive about the future and ourselves. As human beings homosexuals deserve the love and re-

spect of others in this world. He gave people the confidence and self-esteem they need to come forth about their true identity. I was impressed to see that he shared his life experiences with us, as a way to deliver this message.

McNaught was a funny and entertaining speaker, so I hope he can continue to go around the world and share his personal experiences with others.

MAY ZHOU

To the editor:

After hearing McNaught speak, it helped me understand how difficult it must be to keep your feelings bottled up inside. I only now realize the hurt I may be inflicting when I tell gay jokes. I would like to thank BCC for the opportunity to hear such a moving speaker. I believe it was money well spent and hope more students get the chance in the future.

CHAD HOCKADAY

In this day and time, he gave us a new understanding. It's a shame more people cannot see things the way he does and I salute his courage in coming to a college campus to tell his story.

MICHELLE WOODY

JUST FOR THE HEALTH OF IT

Gonorrhea-Current Outbreak in The Broome County Area

MARY LIGOURI
Director of the Student
Health Services

The Broome County Health Department (BCHD) recently released a health bulletin stating that there has been a significant increase in the number of gonorrhea cases reported to the BCHD in the

Thank God for Questia

BY LIZZ HENDERSON
Assistant Editor

According to the Student Monitor of 2000, 90% of us U.S. students have access to the Internet and 43% of that time is used for research. The monitor also said that 56% of us spend between 12 and 14 hrs. Of our time on a research paper. That's crazy. I know most of us have jobs or other things in our lives, irrelevant to school and we don't have that much time to spend on a research paper. That's why Troy Williams invented Questia in 1999.

Questia is designed especially to help college students research and write better papers faster. Questia provides a massive online library with almost 250,000 books from Humanities to Social Sciences. The service enables us to read the full text of hyperlinked sources, automatically create footnotes and bibliographies, and provides us with an online dictionary, thesaurus and encyclopedia. We are also able to personalize text with highlighting and margin notes.

So I gave it a try, I went to www.questia.com for more infor-

past six months. One hundred twenty four cases of gonorrhea have been reported between May 2000 and November 2000 in the Broome County area. In the United States the incidence of gonorrhea is estimated to be 6000,000 new cases of gonorrhea each year (BCHD report 1200).

Most infections among men produce symptoms such as dysuria

(painful urination) that causes them to seek curative treatment soon enough to prevent further health problems. Though with women it is a different story. Most infections among women do not produce recognizable symptoms until complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) or ectopic pregnancy (a pregnancy that occurs outside the uterus). PID is one of the leading causes of infertility in women.

Gonorrhea is one of many known sexually transmitted diseases (STD's). The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) now groups STD's, Tuberculosis (TB), and HIV/AIDS as a triangular disease risk as there is greater risk for contracting HIV and/or TB when one is at risk for contracting i.e., gonorrhea. Dr. Ronald Valdiserri, Deputy Director of the Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention at the CDC states that a woman with

matation, I became a 48-hr. subscriber for \$14.95, and you can also subscribe monthly for \$19.95 or annually for \$149.95. Don't worry about the price, it's completely worth it. You will literally save hours on the unproductive and frustrating aspects of doing a research paper. Our research papers require a work cited page and usually require at least three different references; that's no problem with Questia. I was amazed how quickly I received my information and how much available information there was on my topic, and the best part was I didn't have to leave the computer. The Student Monitor said that 70% of students don't live on campus and have to travel to a library. Well know we don't have to. Everything is right there for you, if you have access to a computer. You can even take notes to help you and all your reference books are handy on the program, when you need them.

So put away \$20 bucks next paycheck for a months subscription, go to www.questia.com, and I promise, you'll save a whole lot of time and frustration with your papers.

chlamydia (another STD) has twice the risk of contracting AIDS from a sexual partner than that of an otherwise healthy woman. Dr. Valdiserri further adds that gonorrhea puts its carrier (one who transmits the disease to another) at a two to five times higher risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. (Press and Sun Bulletin 12/6/00).

The What and How of Gonorrhea

Gonorrhea is spread directly by person to person contact. Gonorrhea infections can occur in the reproductive organs, urethra, rectum, and throat. Most common site is the urethra in males causing painful urination and in addition may have a creamy/pus-like discharge and possible testicular pain. Women may have a similar discharge, as well as painful urination, bleeding between periods, excessive menses, painful inter-

course, and/or lower abdominal pain. At first the symptoms may go unnoticed which leads to further health problems such as PID.

The only way to protect oneself from contracting gonorrhea or other STD's is abstinence. If you are sexually active, you can lower your risk of contracting gonorrhea or other STD's by:

·Using a condom
·Maintaining a monogamous relationship

·Prior to engaging in sexual intimacy partners get tested and treated as needed for STD's.
·Limit your number of sexual partners. One's risk of acquiring gonorrhea and other STD's increases with the number of partners.
·Make it a habit to have regular STD' health check ups. Contact the BCHD-STC Clinic at 778-2839. They are located on Front Street, in Binghamton, New York.

I WISH I'D SAID THAT!

Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead. —Gene Fowler

Happiness is like a butterfly, which when pursued is always just beyond your grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you. —Nathaniel Hawthorne

Nothing is more dangerous than an idea, when it is the only idea we have. —Alain

It is one of the great troubles of life that we cannot have any un-

mixed emotions. There is always something in our enemy that we like, and something in our sweetheart that we dislike. —William Butler Yeats

As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live. —Goethe

If you don't run your own life, somebody else will. —John Atkinson

Ten persons who speak make more noise than 10,000 who are silent.

—Napoleon Bonaparte

When people agree with me I always feel I must be wrong. —Oscar Wilde

Every dog should have a man of his own. There is nothing like a well-behaved person around the house to spread the dog's blanket for him or bring him his supper when he comes home man-tired at night. —Corey Ford

The reason so many people never get anywhere in life is because, when opportunity knocks, they are out in the backyard looking for four-leaf clovers. —Walter Chrysler

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Who is... 佐々木 愛

Megumi Sasaki came to America from Japan three years ago on a high school class trip. Last May she came to stay. She is now in her second semester at BCC. Her major is Theater.

"My country's theater education in college is not as good as in America," she said, "so I decided

to come here to study theater." Meg will be here one more year to finish her Associates Degree. After graduation she wants to go to New York.

"I want to go to a university in New York City and I also want to do some theater there."

She is going home to Japan this

summer to see her parents because she was in the recent production on campus of 'Ashes' and was unable to go over winter break. She said there is little opportunity to do any theater in her hometown. Mostly it is for children and in addition to that, she said her parents are against her theater pur-

suits and so it is hard for her to do any theater in her country. She says, however, it is all right for her parents to know about her going into the theater, "because it is her way."

The most difficult thing about the transition to America was the language. Meg said she sometimes spoke English at home because her sister had classes in English. She said she could tell people what she wanted or did not want to do but it was hard for her to "understand what they were talking about."

The language barrier made it difficult to make friends right away. She felt lonely at first, like she didn't fit in. "When I moved into my own apartment," she said, "I had some Japanese friends and... I made friends in the Theater Department." She said she no longer feels like an outsider, that now she

has real friends.

"I feel very comfortable here now." She said and added, "I never get homesick."

Where Meg lived in Japan has a more temperate climate than Binghamton. "The cold is very bad," she said, but, "I like the snow. After I came here I saw all the snow and I touched the snow and I was very happy. I want to make a snowman sometime."

Meg is bright, talented and courageous. Imagine one of us running off to Japan, only able to say good morning, good afternoon, good evening and I just made soup in my hat. There's no doubt Megumi Sasaki will make plenty of opportunity for herself whether it's in the theater or making a snowman. She's just that kind of person.

Hannibal Reviewed

BROOKE KVASNY
Contributing Writer

I was so excited to see previews of Thomas Harris's latest novel, Hannibal, back in May of 2000. It took thirteen years to develop Hannibal, the sequel to Silence of the Lambs.

I even went out to buy the book to be ready when the movie came

out. The book was excellent, so I thought that the movie would be the same. I couldn't wait to see how they developed the characters and the scenes.

When I went to see the movie, I was very disappointed in what was offered. The movie cast was excellent: Anthony Hopkins, Jullian Moore, and two of my all time favorites, Ray Liotta, and Gary

Oldman. However, the whole movie just didn't make sense.

I was glad I had read the book beforehand because I think if I had not, it would have been hard to follow. A few of the scenes were complete, but in a few others, a lot was left out.

I would end up rating Hannibal as three stars, but as always the book is so much better.

Survivor: Who's In, Who's Out?

LIZZ HENDERSON
Assistant Editor

Survivor Days 10 to 12

I've honestly never seen Survivor before until this week. So when I watched it for the first time, just to see what all the hype is about, I realized a lot of interesting things.

First of all, for all of you who have never seen the show, there are two tribes, the Ogakor and the Kutcha tribe. Both teams each originally consisted of 8 ordinary people from all around the U.S., now the teams are down to 8 and 6 people, with the Kutcha tribe in the lead. Each team is given a challenge they must participate in. Last night's challenges dealt with a giant map puzzle, the whole team had to put together and if they were the first team to put it together, than they were given a map to get chickens. Oh yeah! That's another thing on survivor, you don't eat, unless you eat rice, earn the right by winning a challenge or catch something on your own. The second challenge was for immunity. It was a question and answer type game about survival. The Kutcha team won again with more questions answered correctly. So then the opposing team (the Ogakor tribe) had to hike up a mountain for tribal council. There they had to vote someone from their tribe off the island for good.

That's what the show basically boils down to; you receive challenges and then you either are granted immunity or you have to vote one of your teammates off the island. More important, you have to survive, without shelter and food etc. But that's not what the tribes are mostly worried about during the show. Each person is basically thinking about staying on the island and winning a million dollars. Well in order to do that you can't be voted off. So the main thing is to get everyone on your side that you possibly can. Tina, a member of the Ogakor tribe said the hardest part of the show is team survival; if no one likes you you're voted off. That right there leaves more than half of the participants conniving. The whole show they talk bad about each other and try to see

who can pick up the most friends for assurance. They seldom work as a team, but stick in little clumps of 'friends,' all working against each other. The trick to surviving on "Survivor" is not surviving the elements but surviving your 'friends.'

Survivor, Days 12, 13, 14 and 15

The last couple episodes of Survivor, the Ogakor Tribe did not win many challenges. They were focusing more on forming their own alliances within the group. This week they realized they're sick of losing, and the only way to win is as a team. Too bad they didn't realize this until the 2nd challenge.

The first challenge required each team; the Ogakor tribe and the Kutcha tribe, to make a tri-pointed stretcher out of wood and some kind of string. Then each team would run a relay type race through the water, the object was to pick up your teammates who were stranded on different islands and get them back to shore. The Kutcha tribe won that challenge and received a chest full of blankets, shampoo, soap and spices. Which is actually ironic, because the first half of the show the Kutcha tribe was making fun of Kimmy one of their teammates, for not washing herself and smelling. This is also the girl who got attached to the chickens they were about to eat for survival, I understand she's a vegetarian but they have to eat, especially if they want to win anything. They have to be strong.

The second challenge was a very large human maze. Each team had to stick together and find their way to four flags located in different locations of the maze. The Ogakor went in determined to win and they did, they kicked butt and won immunity for their team. This meant the Kutcha tribe would have to go back to tribal council and vote someone off. This was only the second time they lost and had to vote someone off, compared to Ogakor's three times. The Kutcha tribe all decided to pick Kimmy, it was unanimous. She caused the most problems for the team.

So now the Kutcha tribe has 6 people left and the Ogakor has five. The rule of the show is when combined their is only 10 people left, then the teams merge. So next week we'll see who goes where.

Survivor, days 16, 17 and 18

This week on Survivor the show started out with a huge rainstorm. Everyone and everything got soaked. The Kutcha tribe tried an experiment with their food. Actually chicken's food. They decided it didn't look that bad, so they tried it and it popped like popcorn. They loved it. It was like junk food to them. They're a little deprived right now.

On the other side, the Okakor tribe is complaining about having no food and they are starving. That team is terrible! All they do is nag and push each other's buttons.

The day's first challenge was a trust game. One person from each team sat up in a life guard chair and yelled out directions for their blindfolded teammates. Each team had to do a series of tasks together, all while blindfolded. The Kutcha tribe and their directional coach; Nick, did really well. Because they are all friends they work together as a team. The Okakor Tribe on the other hand didn't do so well. Jerry was their leader for this challenge and she's the most conniving of them all. She wasn't working with them, she would yell out directions, but not to anyone specific so they would all do it and it was just a mess. The Kutcha tribe won the challenge and received many cans of Mountain Dew and Doritos. Believe me, those are luxuries to them right now.

Then something terrible happened, Michael the leader of the Kutcha tribe badly burned his hands when he inhaled smoke from the fire he was tending and passed out just long enough to fall into the fire. All we could see as an audience was the skin peeling off his hands. He stood in the water until the paramedics came in a helicopter, all of his teammates stood right by him and helped as much as they could. He left in the helicopter and the Ogakor tribe was notified of the accident and told there would not be another challenge that day. But since, technically, there were only 10 people left in both tribes combined: five on each, they would merge right away.

Next week will be very interesting. I'll keep you posted.

CHOW and Com Club Combine Efforts

Ciao? No, CHOW, the Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse. You've seen the barrels with the bright red letters at various locations around the Triple Cities. Now you can add two new locations to the list: the Tichener lobby and Business Building lobby.

The barrels were put in place by the BCC Communications Curriculum Club and now they want you to fill them and fill them again. You don't need to buy a big bag full of groceries, unless you want to, of course, a little here and there by everyone on campus will make the campaign a success.

The CHOW program has grown steadily since it started over 20 years ago. CHOW is part of the Broome County Council of Churches and provides meals for approximately two million people who might otherwise have nothing to eat. That's two million each year; a figure that has doubled since 1998.

It takes nine full and part time employees and 350 - 400 volunteers on a regular basis to run SHOW and Broome County, Broome County is a perishable food recovery program that takes over production from area restaurants and hospitals and distributes it to shelters and other service pro-

CHOW/GIANT PROMOTION
Thurs.—Sat.
May 17-19

WE NEED JUST 2 HOURS OF YOUR TIME

- Greet shoppers at the doors of your local Giant Market
- Encourage them to "Buy For The Barrel" or Round-Up at the Register
- Thank departing shoppers for helping CHOW

350 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MAY

Call CHOW
724-9130

grams.

This is an easy way to do a good deed, even if you just bring that can of split pea soup that's been sitting in the cupboard for a month. Drop it in a barrel. CHOW will thank you, the Communications Club will thank you but more important, somewhere, some hungry kid will thank you.

C.I.O.W.

&

BCC Communications

Curriculum Club

Are Stomping Out Hunger!

Please Donate Non-Perishable Foods Today!

Receptacles are provided in the lobbies of the Titchner and Business Buildings

Anime 2 K 1 Club

Japanese Animation at it's best.

Tuesday Nights

In T102 II
till 9pm



Animation that gets
In your face!

Join Us Underground

BY GROVER CRAIG
Editor

The Japanese Animation Club will not show 'Toy Story' or 'The Lion King,' or any mainstream animation for that matter. As the name implies the JAC plays only Asian cinema and Japanese animation. Japanese animation "is a dynamic and highly visual form of underground cinema only now reaching the mainstream American audience."

The JAC was started last year to create an awareness of Asian cinematic style and animation. "We want to foster an understanding and appreciation of Japan and this

unique filmmaking style." Said JAC Advisor, Jason Detrani. "Last year the club visited the American Museum of the Moving Image in New York and next year we would like to attend an Anime Convention in New York or Toronto." He continued.

Rex A. Henry, co-president of JAC along with C. J. Shern, said, "The club's objective is to encourage an exchange of ideas and promote understanding between the Japanese and Western cultures through the "symbolism, story elements, and historically significant events of the animated cinema of Japan."

Detrani said, "The club is now

ready to make an active effort toward community involvement. We are working with the Adult Literacy Program and the Literacy Volunteers of Broome and Tioga Counties." The JAC is also planning a concert to benefit CHOW and other local charities. The event will be a joint effort with the Musicians Network, another school club of which Mr. Detrani is also the advisor.

The JAC meets from 5 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday in Tichener 102 and all are welcome. For more information you can contact Professor Detrani at 778-5274 or e-mail him at detrani_j@mail.sunybroome.edu.

Update On PS2

ANTHONY SURA
Contributing Writer

The hype surrounding the Playstation2; the shortage of units being shipped, standing for hours in long lines waiting until the stores open, is it all worth the agony for just a video game system?

PS2 was scheduled for release to stores on October 26, 2000. Many of the stores had taken the proper arrangements to satisfy the demands. Many had pre-sell tickets while others were just first come first serve. I had the opportunity of getting my hands on one, but it was not all that easy. Wal-Mart

was releasing the systems at 12:01 am Thursday morning. Since Wal-Mart is open 24 hours, they were able to do this. So I gave it a shot and went there on Wednesday around 1:30. When I arrived there were already 22 people in line and Wal-Mart had 44 units available. So as the line grew to be more than 44 people, we stopped more from getting in line. A man standing in line thought it would be a good idea if we all had numbers, so we would all be guaranteed a system. Later on the management came out and said our number system was not official, so that meant that at 11:59 anyone

could walk to the front of the line and get one. This announcement started an outrage, so Wal-Mart had to call the police. Everything turned out fine. People got to know each other in the line and played cards together or whatever helped the time go by. Finally it was 5 minutes till midnight and some guy cut in front of me, who pretended to be with the person ahead of me. Well when we got to the registers, he snuck in and police caught him and threw him out of the store, it was pretty intense. So then I thought is all the mayhem game really worth a \$300 video game system? Well, time will tell.

THEATRE BCC presents *Agnes in Camelot* by Bernard Mendillo, back on the Little Theatre stage by popular demand. A romantic drama, re-telling in modern context, the compelling story of love, passion and captivation. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 16-17-18, 2001. For reservations call (607)778-5191 from 12 noon - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Club news

The Lively Arts Club is sponsoring a trip to New York City on Saturday, March 24th leaving from BCC at 7 a.m. and leaving the Big Apple at 11 p.m. (arriving at BCC between 2 and 3 a.m. There is no itinerary for this trip. You are on your own to choose your entertainment in the city. Members pay \$10 per seat on the bus, and if there are extra seats, during the last week before the trip, they are offered to non students for purchase. Two-fer (for the price of one) tickets for Broadway shows are available as are street maps for downtown Manhattan. Call R. Stoner at 5081 to sign up.

TRI-CITIES OPERA presents Puccini's *Suor Angelica* as part of Scenes Show 2001. Italian Opera takes center stage in their annual Scenes Show 2001, scheduled for Saint Patrick's Day weekend, including a full performance of Puccini's one act masterpiece *Suor Angelica*. It is the tragic story of a baby born out of wedlock, a cruel aunt, and years in a convent for the mother to atone for the sin. Reunion is the theme through the power of Holy Love. Other scenes selected will be from *La Boheme*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Così fan tutte* and many more. Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 18 at 3 p.m. at the Tri-Cities Opera Center, 315 Clinton Street, Binghamton.

Contact Tri-Cities Opera Box Office at 772-0400 Monday through Friday between 12:30 and 5 p.m. Also: www.tricityopera.com

Binghamton Philharmonic, John Covelli, Music Director and Conductor, performs two orchestral works on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at 8 p.m., which take their inspiration from Italy: Felix Mendelssohn's *Symphony #4, Italian* and Ottorino Respighi's colorful orchestral extravaganza *Roman Festivals*. Also on the program is Aaron Copland's lyrical Clarinet Concerto, featuring Binghamton University faculty member Timothy Perry as soloist. For tickets and further information, call 723-3931. www.binghamtonphilharmonic.org.

Binghamton University Theatre Department presents a Shakespeare comedy, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, April 27-28 and May 2-6 in Studio A. Further information, call box office at (607) 777-ARTS.

Pursue Proper Piercing Practices

MELISSA L. JONES
Staff Writer

What once seemed like a fad, body piercing has seen a rise in popularity among teenagers and twenty-somethings during the year 2000-01. Some get a piercing to be noticed, like Candice Moore, who is in the Guinness Book of World Records for having 427 piercings including 42 in and around her unmentionable! *Ed. Note, vagina*. Others do it to be rebellious. They do it to make their parents mad, or to put forth a rebellious, tough exterior. Some do it because everyone else seems to be doing it, so why can't they do the same. The need to fit in and be cool seems to ring true for the high school crowd, and their reason to get it done. While a piercing may seem harmless, there are many things one must take into consideration.

First of all, you need to find a licensed piercer/tattoo artist. This may actually be harder to do than most people realize, because most tattoo and piercing parlors are not cleared by the New York State Health and Safety Committee. In order to find such a place, you must do research. The internet is a good source, along with word of mouth. Most places actually have a reputation of either being clean, or the opposite. If you see someone with a piercing you like, ask where they got it done, and they usually not only tell you where, but they will also tell if it was a good or bad experience.

Next, it is important to consider the safety risks of the piercing you are planning to have done. For example, a tongue piercing. One major risk factor in tongue piercing is damaging the nerves in your tongue. This could lead to inactive taste buds, and a permanent numbing of the tongue. Another recently discovered factor is the increased risk of chipping a tooth. When you talk, the ball that rests on the top of your tongue touches your teeth, and that can cause chipping.

Don't forget the money factor. Getting a piercing at a safe place can be expensive. A piercing can cost anywhere between \$35 and \$75, and it

can get even more expensive if you don't want just basic jewelry. Ashlee Musgrave, of Scranton, PA, got her navel pierced a year ago, and it cost her \$175! But, she says it was worth it.

"The place was just like a doctor's office, and the people were really professional. It would have been cheaper if I got basic jewelry, (all silver), but I got an aquamarine stone instead."

Also, check with your employer to make sure body piercings are allowed to be worn while working. Most professional places do not allow their workers to have a body piercing, other than their ears, while most retail stores do allow them. Two such local stores are Kohl's and TJ Maxx, both located in Vestal. It is important to check and make sure they are allowed, before you go and waste a large sum of money.

Once you have taken all of the above factors into serious consideration, and get the piercing done, it's important to take care of your piercing to avoid infection and scarring.

Jesse, from Marc's Tattooing, in Binghamton, suggests cleaning body piercings with Bactine, rather than hydrogen Peroxide or rubbing alcohol, because they tend to dry the skin around the piercing as it is healing. Bactine can be used as often as you like, but do it at least twice a day. It is also important to wash around the piercing with anti-bacterial soap and rinse with warm salt water twice daily. This is so the piercing heals quickly, and the chance of infection is minimal. The most important way of avoiding infection is to not touch or twist your piercing while it is healing. Your hands have germs and bacteria on them, and touching your piercing with unwashed hands increases your risk for infection by 500 percent.

One benefit to a piercing is it's not permanent, like a tattoo. A piercing can be removed at anytime and will heal and disappear without a trace, like you never had it in the first place.

It can either turn out to be a good experience in which no problems occur, or a horrible one in which only dilemmas occur. Just as long as you take care of yourself in whatever you do, all will end well.

SPOLIGHT ON SPORTS

BCC Men Win Only Because of Raw Talent

RUSSELL JACOBS
Contributing Writer

Broome Community College men's basketball team this entire season have won because of the raw talent they brought to the game. They also lost games because that was all they had! With Coach Bob Rood, BCC men made it to the Mid-State Conference tournament for the same reason, the talent with which they began.

As a varsity basketball player for BCC, I can say that we ran up and down the court without running any plays. We just played street ball and our work was playing off of each other's talent.

We only had 7 offensive plays and we used 5 of them. Every team we played this season knew every play we had, as we run up and down the court scoring baskets.

When it comes to using time outs, we do use them, but when we go into a huddle, we do not have a play chart so that Coach Rood can draw up plays. Every other team I know has a play chart. In the huddle he tells us something we already know.

A number of things went wrong with our season off the court:

1. We were supposed to help kids at a local school with their

schoolwork.

2. We were supposed to take around an academic sheet to the teachers every two weeks so they could let Coach Rood know how we were doing in the classroom. Without this, a few of the players missed games in the beginning of the second semester.

3. We were supposed to have a study hall before practice. We never had one this season, as we did when Steve Bernath was coach. A number of players are behind in their work because we don't have the study hall. Instead, the basketball practice takes up our entire evening. Then, we are too tired to go home and do homework. If we had the practice after study hall, we could have gone home to rest later.

These things are very important to the team. Things were said, but never done.

Things that happen on the court were also bad for us this season.

1. For example, the coaches were not on the same page. In order to have a winning season, coaches must be on the same page.

2. Players did not take practice seriously. It was difficult because we did the same things everyday, things that did not help us in the games.

3. We never watched the games that we lost. If we had watched them, we would have been able to practice and correct the mistakes we saw on court in last night's game.

4. We never had conditioning in the beginning of the season. It was left up to the captains to run the conditioning (I was one of the cap-

tains). We told players that we had conditioning, but some of the players would not show up for it.

I was not happy this year whether we won or lost. Other players felt the same because of the system we were in. The feeling was that we were playing for a peewee basketball team in practice. We felt we should have been playing at a

college level as we were last year for the 1999-2000 season.

I am a senior and I won't be back next year to play basketball, but things will have to change for players and coaches that are coming back next season. If things don't change, many of the players and coaches won't be back.

SCHEDULES FOR FEBRUARY

Men's Ice Hockey (all home games at the Polar Cap in Chenango Bridge)

Feb. 1 vs Mohawk Valley Community College 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 7 vs LeMoyné/Colgate Club 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 10 vs Monroe Community College 7:45 p.m.

Women's Basketball (all home games at 6:00 p.m. in the Baldwin Gym)

Feb. 6 vs Corning Community College

Feb. 13 vs Finger Lakes Community College

Feb. 15 vs Cayuga Community College

Men's Basketball (all home games at 8:00 p.m. in the Baldwin Gym)

Feb. 6 vs Corning Community College

Feb. 13 vs Finger Lakes Community College

Feb. 15 vs Cayuga Community College

The History of The Negro League Baseball

BY GROVER CRAIG
Editor

Black History month was last month. I chose to run this article in the March issue in the belief that Black History, Women's History or the history of any Race or ethnicity should not be limited to a month. Baseball is entwined in American life. It is a metaphor for life the way we would like it to be. Baseball is played slowly with lots of time for conversation, reflection discussion, and analysis. It's a game that defies time. If no one scores a run, you can play forever. A game about which, Yogi Berra, really did say, "It ain't over til' it's over. Baseball is played in sunshine, a simple game that belies its complexity and difficulty and that one can watch and say, "I can do that." It's a game that satisfies the heart and mind.

Baseball has contributed more to American speech than any other sport. Whether you're getting a ball park figure, striking out, stepping up to the plate, or getting to first base, you're using baseball jargon.

Nearly everyone has a baseball memory. It may be a first game or a baseball card.

It may only be the story of the time grandpa saw Babe Ruth or when dad saw Mickey Mantle. It may be a game winning hit or a game ending strike out.

Baseball is an ebb and flow of success and failure and a team sport that depends on individual achievement; indeed, thrives on it. No other sport generates more statistical information or presents it with more concision than in the daily box score.

The Black Sox scandal in 1919, free agency and escalating player salaries in the 70's, stagnation and the surge of football, hockey, and basketball in the 80's, and strikes in the 90's threatened the game but couldn't kill it. The cavalry has always come to the rescue, be it Babe Ruth and his mighty bat and charisma or the Mark McGwire/Sammy Sosa home run derby of 1998. Attendance kept climbing. After scandal, labor/management strife and lack of public relations skills, baseball continues to flourish in spite of itself, and although it

may not be the most popular sport in America it is still referred to as the national pastime.

From 1898 to 1947 it was only the white national past time. Here are six names: Willie Mays. Henry Aaron. Jackie Robinson. Ray Dandridge. Judy Johnson. Smokey Joe Williams. If you don't recognize the last three names, it's because they never played Major League baseball. By the time Jackie Robinson got his chance in 1947, too many of the greatest players to ever set foot between the lines were too old to take their rightful place in baseball history.

Where did Robinson and all the other early black Major League players come from? They didn't materialize out of thin air; they all played Negro League Baseball.

Professional black baseball did not become a going concern until 1920 but its history is as rich as white ball.

Baseball as we know it started in 1845 as a gentleman's game played at leisure by amateur clubs in New York and Massachusetts. The first baseball league, the National Association of Baseball Players was formed in 1858 and strictly amateur. There were black ball clubs early in baseball history, to be sure, but it only took until 1867 for the NABBP nominating committee to declare:

It is not presumed by your committee that any club who have applied are composed of persons of color, or any portion of them; and the recommendations of your committee in the report are based on this view, and they unanimously report against the admission of any club which may be composed of one or more colored persons.

With the spread of professional baseball starting in 1869 with the Cincinnati Red Stockings, integration became a matter of expedience. Black ballplayers like, 'Bud' Fowler, acknowledged as the first professional black player, Fleet and Weldy Walker, Frank Grant, and George Stovey, played with white ball clubs through the end of the century. All were good ballplayers and as long as they could help a team win and consequently make money, color was less an issue, but an issue nonetheless.

Reception to black ballplayers

was always less than warm. Viewed mostly as oddities, they were sometimes booed and sometimes cheered. Often, however, bias was tangible.

Moses Fleetwood Walker, a student and a catcher at Oberlin College and the University of Michigan joined Toledo of the Northwestern League in 1883. The following year, Toledo joined the American Association, which was regarded as a Major League. As a result, Walker became the first black Major Leaguer. In September of '84, Walker became the object of a letter supposed to have been sent by some Richmond residents. It warned, "not to put up Walker. . . as 75 determined men have sworn to mob Walker if he comes on ground in a suit." Walker suffered a broken rib and couldn't play in the Virginia games so it became a moot point.

By 1886, there were four black players in organized baseball. In addition to Walker and Fowler, there were two superior ballplayers, George Stovey and Frank Grant.

Stovey was a strong left handed pitcher and, according to Robert W. Peterson, author of *Only the Ball Was White*, regarded as the "first great Negro pitcher". Frank Grant was a slick fielding second baseman playing with Buffalo.

1887 started with high expectations as more blacks were playing in organized baseball. Most notable were Sol White, who later wrote *The History of Colored Baseball*. Weldy Walker, Fleets brother, and Robert Higgins. The formation and recognition of the newly formed League of Colored Baseball Clubs raised hopes of this minor league becoming a stepping stone to the Major Leagues for black players.

It was not in the cards. As it turned out 1887 could also be viewed as the point at which black players lost ground that could never be made up. In Syracuse, two players, Crothers and Simon, refused to sit for a team photograph because Higgins was on the team. On July 14, at an International League meeting in Buffalo, it was finally put down in black and white. Sporting Life reported:

...see Baseball page 8 >

CLASSIFIED ADS

Do you need an apartment? A roommate? Do you want to sell a car? How about a singer for your band?

Put an Ad in the Hornet Classifieds. IT'S FREE! Call the Hornet Office at 778-5110 or drop it off at 5107b or the Student Activities Office in the Science Building.

Wanted: 1998 Fleer Tradition Baseball Cards. Contact Grover Craig at 648-6231 evenings, 778-5110 days or at the Hornet Office 5107b.

Student needs ride from Owego for an 8 a.m. class every day, Monday through Friday. Leave message for Alexa Heder at 778-5272.

For sale: Pontiac Sunbird 1992 for sale. 77K miles, four door, sun roof. \$3000.

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March 15: Gang of Five Political Forum - Battlefield Albany: Who Will be the Next Governor of New York State? The Gang of Five offers predictions on the gubernatorial race shaping up in New York State. Will it be McCall v. Pataki or Cuomo v. Pataki? Will NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani once again throw his support to Cuomo? Can upstate New York expect to benefit from this battle?

April 5: The Charm Offensive: An Examination of the Bush and Cheney Administration. The Gang of Five debates the merits and weaknesses of the new administration. Is Bush a lightweight or is he proving he earned his MBA at Harvard? What accomplishments can the new ruling dyad claim and what problems have they been unable to resolve?

"BOAT SMART" - Learn the basics that can save lives! Take the public boating course will be offered by the Susquenango Power Squadron beginning Monday, March 12, 2001. The course runs for 5 weeks. Instruction is free. There is a nominal charge for materials only. For details call (607) 669-4184.

► Baseball ... from page 7

"Several representatives declared that many of the best players in the league were anxious to leave on account of the colored element, and the board finally directed secretary White to approve no more contracts with colored men."

Adrian (Cap) Anson was a super star of the day. A gifted first baseman with the Chicago White Stockings, his power, popularity, influence, and bigotry made him a tough foe for blacks hoping to play Major League baseball. In 1883, he refused to play against Fleet Walker in Toledo. In 1887, he refused to play against George Stovey in Newark. His prejudice is well documented both in his actions and his words. But it wasn't just Anson; most players of the time did not want to play with or against blacks.

Integrated baseball was not put down by one knock out blow of racism, but worn down by jabs. It would be 60 years before Branch Rickey would help pick Black ball players up off the canvas and put them in his corner.

After 1900, Major League baseball consisted of two leagues. The National League, started in 1876 and the American League, formed out of Ban Johnson's Western League in 1901. These two leagues

reign to the present day, and although there were occasional attempts at hiring black players it was always on whim. Baltimore manager, John McGraw, who tried to hire a talented second baseman named Charlie Grant, made the most notable attempt. He gave Grant the name, Tokohoma and tried to pass him off as Cherokee. Chicago White Sox president, Charles Comiskey, would have none of it:

"I'm not going to stand for McGraw ringing in an Indian on the Baltimore team. If Muggsy really keeps this Indian, I will get a Chinaman of my acquaintance and put him on third. Someone told me that the Cherokee of McGraw's is really Grant, the crack Negro second baseman from Cincinnati, fixed up with war paint and feathers."

No realistic black player of the time had any expectation of playing Major League baseball. If he wanted to play it would have to be with his own. And many did.

By 1900 there were five professional black teams; The Cuban Giants now called the Genuine Cuban Giants who called many cities home, the Cuban X Giants of New York, the Red Stockings of Norfolk, the Chicago Unions, who played in Chicago on Sundays and toured the rest of the week, and the Columbia

Giants of Chicago.

By 1906 there were nine teams within a hundred miles of Philadelphia. With the growing popularity of black baseball and the almost daily growth of teams it was time to form a new league. This one was called the International League of Independent Professional Base Ball Clubs. It lasted a year. It would be 14 years before a Negro League team would hit the field.

Meantime the field was hit and hit hard. With the demand for baseball increasing it wasn't long before the supply caught up. Nearly every community had a team or access to one. Pro and semi-pro teams barnstormed throughout the Northeast.

Life was hard then and traveling on barnstorming tours was no exception. Unable to organize, teams had to find games where they could and get there the best way they knew how. Old cars, rickety buses, and horse drawn wagons were used and even walking was not out of the question. Contracts were virtually non-existent and verbal when they did exist. Pay amounted to \$10-\$25 a week. Major League salaries could be as much as ten times that.

Blacks in those days had a tough time just surviving every day life, as did many whites of course, but the week usually ended with a ball game. Black baseball was an enter-

tainment package. A ball game could include minstrels, a band, dancers, and exhibitions. Satchel Paige was said to have thrown strikes across a postage stamp and other pitchers would, it was rumored, pound a nail into the backstop with fastballs. It was not uncommon for teams to play 200 or more games a year. Some players would play all year round, playing up north in the summer and then go to Cuba in the winter.

Blacks and Whites continued to love their baseball. Both races developed great teams and star players. For every white star there was a black man across town who was his equal. Powerful teams emerged on both sides. There were black teams every bit the equal of the best white teams.

The white club owners could see profits in black ball and expedience once again put blacks and whites on the playing field together. Exhibition games between the two were hugely popular. Games were played hard and no matter how hard they tried, white teams were unable to gain the upper hand. Even using all-star line-ups they lost as many games as they won. Even though they were every bit the equal of their white counterparts, black stars got little money and even less recognition.

Black baseball continued to grow for the next 20 years and by the end of the First World War. It was time for another try at organization. All that was needed was the right man. The right man was Andrew (Rube) Foster.

Foster was a large, hard throwing RH pitcher, most notably, with the Chicago American Giants. His reputation was made as a smart player, stern manager, and astute businessman. His title, "Father of Negro League Baseball," is uncontested.

On Feb. 13, 1920, at a YMCA in Kansas City, the Negro National League was formed and Foster was named as president. The next day he produced a charter for the League. The first game was played in May of that year. The owners of the best teams in black baseball knew imbalance would sink them and star players were shifted to teams where they were needed most. That imbalance would be a major problem for the whole of the NNL's existence.

The first year of the league was mostly successful but what followed was a League that seemed always on the precipice of failure and only Foster's strong hand kept it alive. Many teams were under financed and franchises were frequently shifted from one city to another. Only Chicago and St. Louis had teams with uninterrupted membership in the NNL. There were scheduling problems and money problems with Foster often giving money to teams when rainouts left them with no income. It was his tenacity and belief in the League that kept it going.

The League maintained equilibrium under Foster's rule until 1926 when he was hospitalized for Mental Illness in Kankakee, IL. He died there four years later and his League declined under floundering leadership and by 1932 there was no functioning major Negro league.

Strong men were needed to revive Black baseball. Two men stepped forward. Cumberland Posey, owner of the Homestead Grays and Gus Greenlee, a Pittsburgh 'promoter' and organizer of the Pittsburgh Crawfords.

Posey formed the East-West League in 1932 but the League's

eyes were bigger than their pocket books and didn't last the season. Posey went back to his Homestead Grays and stayed there until his team became a cornerstone in the new Negro National League.

Gus Greenlee formed this new league in 1933. Helped, no doubt by the new prosperity emerging from the depression, the new NNL was on more solid ground financially. Unlike the old league, the new NNL had franchises in the Midwest and the more prosperous east. The League opened with teams in Pittsburgh, Homestead, Chicago, Indianapolis, Detroit and Columbus.

In 1937a H. G. Hall formed Negro American League. With teams located mostly in the Midwest, the NNL became an eastern circuit.

The events of 1947 and the introduction of Jackie Robinson to Major League Baseball are known to all but a few. Robinson was not the greatest Black player but he was the one who could carry the responsibility of history. His failure would have soured some 80 years of dreams and sacrifice. Integration was probably inevitable but enough was enough and the time had come. Branch Rickey opened the door. It was Jackie Robinson's job to keep it open.

The floodgates opened and many black players got their chance. Larry Doby, Joe Black, Roy Campanella, Willie Mays, Hank Aaron. Even Ken Griffey, Jr. owes a debt of gratitude to his baseball ancestors.

It's anomalous that success should lead to failure. With rosters depleted, of their best players the Negro Leagues were unable to continue. The NNL survived until 1948. The NAL absorbed some of the teams and continued play until 1960 but only with a faint glimmer of its past glory. A bittersweet passing marked by joy and sorrow.

A rich history of great men and little men playing a boys game slipped into memory with the demise of Black Ball. The contribution those men would have made to the game will now have to be counted as what could have been; their past recounted by a small part of a large society. Baseball was everyone's game. It should have been everyone's game together. But the sacrifice of Negro League Baseball was for the good of all. Blacks now play Major League Baseball, make the money, and get the recognition their forbears should have gotten. But the Fathers are always happy to pass on to the sons what they could not have.

There are fewer than 200 Negro League players alive today. Most will be gone before they see their teammates enshrined in the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. But they are getting there and have been since 1969, nineteen are there now. Many more belong.

There is a Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City. It's not a hall of fame but a venue for recognition of a large piece of history. The museum helps raise money for Negro League players through licensing agreements with MLB and direct merchandising through their online store at . Some Negro League players supplement what ever retirement money they receive with fees from personal appearances and a Baseball Assistance Team (BAT) has been formed through the offices of MLB to provide help for former players, black and white.

Go to the web site: . You don't have to be a baseball fan. You don't have to buy anything. Look through the archives and read the stories and articles. Immerse yourself in a history too long ignored.

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