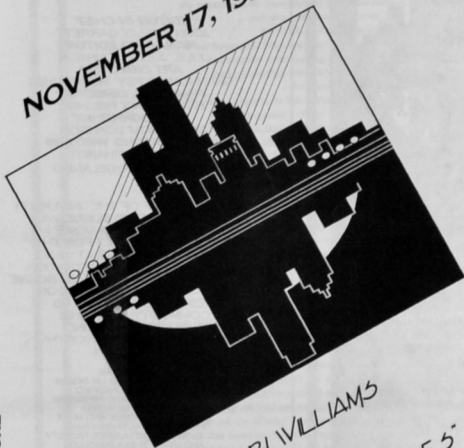

NOVEMBER 17, 1997

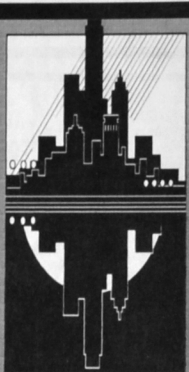


UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE

UB SPOTLIGHT: TARI WILLIAMS
"MY FRIEND"
ORIOLES
"LES MISERABLES"
& MORE

UB SPOTLIGHT

SIMPLY UBIQUITOUS!!!!



"the scene at ub"

NOVEMBER 17, 1997

WHAT'S UP WITH
THIS ISSUE?

"THE NAME GAME"	3
"ORIOLES..."	4
HEALTH & WELLNESS	5-6
"ASK MOM"	7
WHY IN THE WORLD...	8-9
UB BLOCK PARTY!!!	10-11
"MY FRIEND"	13-14
UB SPOTLIGHT	15-16
CALENDAR	17
"LES MISERABLES"	18-19

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

UB SCENE

1420 NORTH CHARLES STREET
ACADEMIC CENTER, 114
UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201
(410) 837-5417

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JOHN "LASLO" GARRETT

MANAGING EDITOR

JULIE "JULES" JOHNSON

ART DIRECTOR

SHANNON "GYPSY" MCCUTCHEEN

FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

ROB "GECKO" FISCHER

PHOTOGRAPHER

CHRIS "MOM" JOHNSON

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

ROBERT EHRHARDT

D.S. GRAY JERI DELAMBO

WE, THE STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE *UB SCENE* WILL SERVE TO PROVIDE A VOICE AS WELL AS AN OUTLET FOR THE STUDENT BODY, FACULTY AND STAFF, AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNIVERSITY. THE *UB SCENE* SEEKS TO BE A NETWORK OF RESOURCES FOR THE UB COMMUNITY, AND TO BE A BEACON OF SOUND, ETHICAL, AND NEWSWORTHY JOURNALISM.

SUBMISSIONS

ALL SUBMISSIONS TO *UB SCENE* (EXCLUDING CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS AND PERSONAL ADS) MUST BE TYPED OR WRITTEN LEGIBLY, AND MUST INCLUDE THE AUTHOR'S NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER. FACULTY AND STAFF SHOULD INCLUDE THEIR DEPARTMENTS. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR MAY NOT EXCEED 500 WORDS. ALL LETTERS WILL BE READ, HOWEVER, SPACE DOES NOT PERMIT THE PUBLICATION OF EVERY SUBMISSION. ALL SUBMISSIONS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE *UB SCENE* UPON RECEIPT, AND MAY BE EDITED. THE AUTHOR'S NAME WILL BE WITHHELD UPON WRITTEN REQUEST ONLY.

DEADLINES

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, PERSONAL ADS, AND ANY SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY TUESDAY AT 7 PM IN THE *UB SCENE* MAILBOX LOCATED IN AC 114. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

THE COLUMNS, FEATURE ARTICLES, ARTWORK, AND/OR LETTERS PUBLISHED HEREIN EXPRESS THE OPINIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHORS, AND NOT THAT OF THE *UB SCENE*. THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE, ITS ADMINISTRATION, OR THE STUDENT BODY.

"The Name Game"

Today I am one month old, yet I am still nameless.
My parents have been telling me to be patient, but I must tell you my patience is wearing thin.
After all, I am only an infant.

What takes you big people so long to make up your minds?
I remember overhearing them talking about some sort of contest, when they thought I was asleep.
I don't understand.

What kind of parents leave the decision of naming their child up to the public? Okay! I know of one such case, Pebbles Flintstone. But after all, she was only a cartoon character.
I, on the other hand, am to be the voice of UB.

Finally, the big day arrived, I was to be named. Anxiously, I waited as my parents remained sequestered in a dark and dingy room on the third floor of the Academic Center.

They tell me that this is to be our new home, but I'm NOT impressed.

There is very little furniture, no telephone, and no computer; but Laslo insured Jules, Gypsy, Gecko, and Mom that the equipment would be forth coming. I sensed that they were very uncomfortable. The contest had only yielded seven entries, and my parents were somewhat dismayed.

After all, they had logged in many, many hours from my conception to birth.

Jules, the eternal optimist said, "Why don't we name the paper ourselves?" For a moment, I breathed a sigh of relief, but it was short lived. Then the argument began. Laslo demanded that I be called Apathy. Jules quickly voiced her disapproval. Laslo cursed the day he gave away his executive powers with the penning of my constitution. Gecko, starting off into space, kept murmuring, "Show me the Money! Show me the Money!" as my budget was yet to be approved.

Gypsy shook her head in disbelief. Being a new age hippie, she thought Apathy was a bit harsh, and would not be representative of the idealism by which I was conceived.

Mom didn't like Laslo's idea either, but most of all she did not approve off all the bickering.

The debate dragged on for what seemed like hours, and I was beginning to feel as if I would remain nameless forever.

When, out of the blue, a ray of sunlight broke through the dirt and the grime of the third floor window, and filled the room with light.

The look of despair on my parents' faces was magically replaced with a glow of tranquility. Intuitively, I knew a decision had been made. I would be called "UB Scene."

Although the contest wasn't as successful as anticipated, the objective was still accomplished.

I was officially christened.

So just sit back and watch me grow, and be sure not to miss out on the "Scene" at UB!

WORLD SERIES ELUDES ORIOLES

-GECKO

The 1997 season for the Orioles was one of the most impressive displays in their history. The team brought back memories of the past, when the O's were one of baseball's elite. Their philosophy this season was the same as the teams of old — pitching and defense. (Unlike last year's "bash-ball" theme.) In the seventies, the team had Palmer, Cuellar, Robinson, and Buford. This year Mussina, Myers, Ripken, and Anderson lead the way. It was like de-ja-vu! However, there was one obvious difference between then and now — the teams of the past made it to The World Series. This year's pennant run resembled last year's *one step short*.

Although fans missed out on a World Series experience, the 1997 season included several positives. First, the birds good dominated teams like Atlanta, New York, and Seattle. The O's continually outplayed them all throughout the season. Second, with injuries to Alomar, Coppinger, and Eric Davis, this, coupled with decreased production from Palmero, Hoiles, and a fifth starter, would have buried the team in past years. Davey Johnson and his troops overcame these obstacles, and prevailed time and time again this season. Third, the output from the pitching staff was exceptional, starting with Mussina and ending with Myers. The first four starters were brilliant, and the bullpen was the best in the American League. As a staff, their earned run average was just under four runs a game — second in the American League only to the Yankees.

The post-season was not quite as uplifting. The O's opened as the underdogs to a hot and emerging Seattle Mariners. They managed to tear them apart, along with Seattle's vaulted "franchise player", Randy Johnson. Having disposed of the juggernaut, the ACLS appeared to be a warm-up for The World Series. The Indians were to be the designated trainer because Cleveland was just a poorer version of Seattle. Both teams had devastating lineups and questionable pitching. Seattle's lineup, headed by Griffey and Martinez, was slightly better than that of Cleveland's. Plus, Seattle's pitching rotation was much more formidable than Cleveland's. The Indian's best pitchers were Old Man Hershiser, and a rookie named Wright. "World Series here we come!" echoed all over Baltimore. The O's came out in the first game, with an impressive 3-0 victory, behind flawless pitching by Erickson and homeruns by Brady and Roberto. Momentum was building, and victory was certain. However, Baltimore's hopes for the pennant were dashed as the rug was pulled out from under them in game two. This occurred when Grissom, the Indian's centerfielder, smacked a three run homer — winning the game. After that, the O's never seemed to recover; bizarre plays and numerous missed opportunities plagued the team. Dropped balls, by Lenny Webster in games three and four, sealed the victory for Cleveland. Fourteen stranded baserunners in game six had the same effect.

Statistically, the O's out-performed the Indians:

	O's	Indians
ERA	2.64	2.95
BATTING AVG.	.248	.193
RUNS	19	18
HOMERUNS	7	5

The most important statistics; however, were the games won — WINS 2-4. Once again, October moved on without the Orioles; and Baltimore must wait until next year to reach the Fall Classic. Thanks, though, must go out to the team for a wonderful summer of baseball. Now, it's time to focus on the NFL and the Ravens...well...spring training IS only four months away!!!!

HEALTH & WELLNESS CORNER

"A Rose"

Robert Enhardt

"A rose by any other name is still a rose." So does it seem to fit that love by any other name is still love? Don't be your life on it, as many of us do at some time in our lives. Many people today seem to gamble that unprotected sex, though passionate, can define love. This brings us the nineties twisted definition of love and the tragic signature it can leave behind—AIDS. Love by any other name can mean death. AIDS attacked our middle-class innocence in the eighties, and has deeply embedded itself in broader social circles each year. Still, there remains no cure for the culprit.

I remember being a young adult in the late seventies and early eighties, doing all the wild and sometimes illegal activities we loved to call fun. We were teens of the seventies, and steam-rolled that "carefree sex, drugs, rock and roll" mentality toward record peaks as we brought in the new decade. AIDS knocked on our doors and tried to grip us in our cozy homes, but no one took notice. We read about some isolated cases of some weird phenomena in 1983, but the media was too busy with Reaganomics to give this deadly disease more than a buried byline on page 36. Anyway, it was only happening to those "other people" in San Francisco, so who cared?

The next group of "other people" that we heard about, who became infected, were the intravenous junkies in New York. This started to shadow our lifestyle, "but hey we weren't addicts." Sure, we got high, but only a few of us actually did heroin. Anyway, we were all friends, so none of us could contract anything from each other. We did go through a phase of shooting cocaine, but luckily freebasing came along, so we had nothing to worry about.

The next leg of the AIDS world tour took a frighteningly direct course into my safe world in 1985, when I was involved in a car accident. It also had to do with the next

group of "other people", a group I accidentally joined—recipients of blood transfusions. At the time, I didn't give it any thought. Anyway, everyone knew "that stuff" only happened in the big city. Luckily, I was in a hospital on the Eastern shore, and escaped any tainted blood. I did not escape the agonizing sense of dread as I heard the news of AIDS-tainted blood, while home recuperating. I also did not escape the depression for the 6 months between AIDS tests. I still feel anxiety when I think about what might have been. Innocence can sometimes be a security blanket.

When heterosexual white women and their babies started dying from AIDS, the government of this country finally took notice. It's too bad they did not do a damn thing initially for the "other people". When HIV claimed a major sports star, all of our innocence was lost. Magic Johnson drove home the point that AIDS can creep into every social and economic level on earth. Every community in America could see AIDS invading even their sacred sports circles. It was no longer THAT disease that only affects THOSE "other people". We were faced with the stark realization that we were, in fact, a part of those "other people".

The nineties have shown us that our heroes, our neighbors, our friends, and even our loved ones can contract HIV and AIDS. We no longer have to contend with just herpes or the socially transmitted diseases: we now have to worry about all those partners that we and our partners have had. Oh yeah, and *all their partners and all of their partners*. It truly brings home the point that "your past is very much a part of your future" and "what you don't know can kill you." Too bad AIDS was years old, and firmly rooted into our mainstream society before anyone with authority decided to care.

Our future need not be bleak on an individualistic level as long as we hold ourselves, and those around us, accountable for our behaviors. C. Everett Koop stated "abstinence" as the answer to AIDS prevention. I am sorry, but that just doesn't get it (never has and never will!

Abstinence is a preventive measure only to those who have not acquired the habit, or who do not have interest invested

(Cont'd on page 6)

(Cont'd from page 5)

in the particular behavior. Our society has made sex and relations a major focal point in all forms of media, advertising, and social interactions. Our hormones have made it an innate drive. We are bombarded on all sides by sexual stimuli. Telling our young adults to "just say no," sends a hypocritical message, a message that will not be heeded. We must face this fact and adjust our options to those choices that will curb AIDS.

Since the dawn of the pill, "raincoats" have not been a big seller, but have been proven to be a life saver against the spread of AIDS. Society has toned down the moral majority mentality enough for some of us to get our heads out of the sand, and admit we can not *will* this disease away. We can now see a conscientious effort on the part of the media and the condom manufacturers to portray this simple, sometimes ribbed for her pleasure, device as not only a pregnancy prevention; but as a protection from AIDS as well. Gone are my teen age days of sheepishly going into a drugstore to buy a lot of junk, so that I could score a pack of rubbers. They now freely and openly distribute condoms in health centers all throughout our communities. We no longer have an excuse for contracting AIDS.

I feel that education, both past and future, is our strongest weapon for curtailing this deadly spiral of events. I know it gets old and tedious having to research every prospective partner, but your future should take precedence over any present inconvenience. I am willing to bet one night of love is not worth my life, are you? Maturely presented and tastefully done, a condom can become a natural part of any foreplay.

This world is too complex and promising to lose everything on one night of alcohol induced fantasy with a stranger. Relief is just around the corner, any 7-11 is open 24 hours a day. The real tragedy here is that if you choose to be irresponsible, your choice could not only kill you; but all your future loved ones as well. Think about that the next time you get the urge to meet new people and try new things. I am not

promoting the idea of climbing into a shell or shutting out the world. The key to our future is getting the appropriate education and information, then implementing responsible behavior. For your sake, and the sake of your future generation, don't gamble on a love connection. *A rose by any other name still smells as sweet, only if you are alive to smell it.*

EXTRA!!!EXTRA!!!EXTRA!!!EXTRA!!!EXTRA!!!

The *UB Scene* needs writers and ad account executives. All account executives receive 20% of every ad they sell!!!!

Aspiring writers contact Jules at 410 321-4470.

Energetic-account-executive-wannabes contact Shannon at 410 225-9266. Only those seriously interested need apply.

*****EARN FREE TRIPS & CASH!*****

Class Travel needs students to promote Spring Break '98! Sell 15 trips and travel free!

HIGHLY MOTIVATED STUDENTS CAN EARN A FREE TRIP & OVER \$10,000!

Choose Cancun, Bahamas, Mazatlan, Jamaica, or Florida!

North America's Largest Student Tour Operator!

Call Now!

1-800-838-8411

"ASK MOM"

DEAR MOM,

I AM A TWENTY YEAR OLD STUDENT HERE AT UB. I AM ORIGINALLY FROM INDIANA. THIS IS KIND OF EMBARRASSING, SO ILL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT. MY MOTHER ALWAYS USED TO BUY THE SOFTEST TOILET PAPER AROUND. I SURE MISS HER!

WELL ANYWAY THE PAPER HERE AT UB IS ROCK HARD, AND IT'S CAUSING ME A BIT OF A PROBLEM. I JUST DONT UNDERSTAND WHY A SCHOOL OF THIS STATURE WOULD OVERLOOK SOMETHING OF THIS MAGNITUDE. I MEAN, IM IN SOME REAL PAIN HERE!! SO, MOM, I COME TO YOU FOR ADVICE. WHAT DO I DO?!!

AFFECTIONATELY,

CHAFFED

Dear Chaffed,

Sorry, your mother doesn't live here! As "Mom", my advice to you is "toughen up!" Kids, it's a cold, cruel world out there. The "soft stuff" is forever a memory. Unless of course you want to carry a roll around with you. I'm sure "mommy" will send it to you, if you ask nicely.

Love,
"Mom"

DEAR MOM,

I'M A GRADUATE STUDENT HERE AT UB, AND I'M CONFRONTING AN EXTREMELY LARGE PROBLEM. LAST WEEK, IN BETWEEN CLASSES, I WAS GRABBING A BITE TO EAT AT JAY'S; WHEN HE WALKED IN, WITH HER. I NEARLY DIED!! HOW COULD HE DO THIS TO ME?!! THAT SOB! WE WERE TOGETHER FOR FIVE YEARS!! TO TOP IT OFF, HE'S THE REASON

WORK WITH CHILDREN:
MAGIC ME SEEKS FEDERAL WORK STUDY STUDENTS TO HELP CHILDREN DEVELOP READING READINESS SKILLS.

CALL
(410) 243-9066
EXT. 148

I APPLIED HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE! I WAS ACCEPTED AT PENN STATE, AND I CAME HER BECAUSE I WANTED TO CONFIRM MY COMMITMENT TO OUR RELATIONSHIP. I THOUGHT HE WAS THE ONE! ANY ADVICE?
SINCERELY,

DUMPED AT UB

Dear Dumped,

Girl, you didn't have a commitment! Unfortunately, you changed your life for a man, but it's not too late. Chances are, you can transfer next semester to Penn State. If you had your heart set on that college, it might do you good to return to YOUR original plan. Especially if being here causes you this much distress.

Remember, he wouldn't change his choice of a school for you, so why would you consider it for him? Unless there's a ring on that finger, girl — you'd better watch out for numero uno! (They do!!)

Hang in there,
"MOM"



WHY IN THE WORLD...

-Jules (w/inclusions by: Dr. Clayton Harro)

...would anyone volunteer to test an HIV vaccine? You would have to be crazy, right? WRONG. You would have to be curious, smart, and adventurous. You would also have to be interested in being part of the fight against one of the most frightening epidemics of our time. HIV vaccines must be tested, just as Polio, Measles, and Hepatitis B vaccines needed to be tested. The biggest difference is the process, which is more involved, due to the complex and cunning nature of the HIV virus. What if you also knew that there is absolutely NO CHANCE of getting HIV from these synthetic vaccines?

Unfortunately, there has recently been an abundance of mis-information in the press regarding the use of a weakened form of the HIV virus in HIV vaccines. Dr. Clayton Harro, the Medical Director of the AIDS Vaccine Evaluation Unit (AVEU) at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Immunization Research, clarified some of these misconceptions in a recent interview. Hopkins is part of a six-site consortium, funded by the National Institute of Health. Other sites include: The University of Alabama, the University of Rochester, St. Louis University, Vanderbilt, and the University of Washington at Seattle.

These sites work together to conduct Phase I and II testing of preventative HIV vaccines. What does that mean? Well, Phase I testing focuses on evaluating vaccine safety. A small number of healthy volunteers take the vaccine, to see whether it is well-tolerated and safe. Phase II testing continues to look at vaccine safety, but it also evaluates how the immune system responds to the vaccine. Hundreds of volunteers are needed for this type of testing, and volunteer recruitment efforts "more closely target populations who are at higher risk for HIV infection," explains Dr. Harro. A Phase II study was begun this past summer, at Hopkins and 13 other sites nationwide. Is there a Phase III? Yes! There is a category for this testing, which actually involves using a vaccine that has a strong research foundation. In other words, a vaccine that is thought to work! Currently, there are no Phase III investigations being performed anywhere in the world. Each day brings the renewed hope for such a test group, and the outlook is favorable.

(Cont'd on page 9)

(Cont'd from page 8)

One might wonder, after hearing about the virus for so many years, why no preventative vaccine has been found. The answer remains elusive. AIDS is a crafty disease. It sometimes does not surface for seven to ten years. Its chameleon-like character also presents an enormous challenge. "One of the fundamental problems is that the interactions of the virus with the human immune system are so complex and changeable. Developing a vaccine against HIV is a lot like aiming at a moving target," contends Dr. Harro. What does a reptile's ability to change have to do with this virus? EVERYTHING. The AIDS virus has a protein envelope, or shell, that can change at any time. This provides obvious obstacles in discovering a cure, or a preventative vaccine. The goal is to find the aspect of the virus that doesn't change, or the aspect that is 'conserved' between strains."

Finding candidates to test vaccines provides yet another challenge for Dr. Harro and his team. Despite the excellent safety record over the past 10 years of testing, fear of contracting the disease makes potential volunteers hesitant. Dr. Harro emphasizes that there is NO chance that the vaccines used in these studies contain live or killed HIV virus. Like the successful vaccine for Hepatitis B, these vaccines are genetically engineered. They contain proteins that are engineered to LOOK LIKE the HIV virus, but no part of the virus is actually contained in the vaccines. So, there is NO chance of contracting HIV or AIDS from the vaccines.

What about using a live, or weakened, form of the HIV virus as a vaccine? Dr. Harro explains that human testing of this type of vaccine is unlikely to happen anytime soon. "Despite some encouraging early results in monkey studies, there continue to be a number of serious safety concerns that have to be addressed before this kind of vaccine is given to people."

At Hopkins, Dr. Harro works closely with interested volunteers in order to make them feel as comfortable as possible. Volunteers receive an information packet, and are provided with ample time to ask questions about all aspects of the studies. Once enrolled in a study, candidates are monetarily compensated; but they are also compensated with the knowledge that they are helping humanity to find a cure for this deadly disease. Even though the studies usually last for

(Cont'd on page 12)

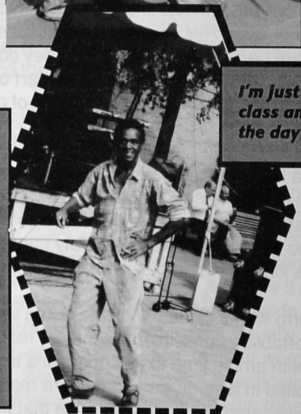
UB Block Party!!!!!!

Boy, Did We Have Some Fun!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Wrestling to the death!!!!



Thanks to the Senate Block Party Committee for a job well done!
Rob Siewierski
Sam Nelson
Leo Gallagher
Hugh Reavis
Rodney Boone
Mary Beth Albrecht
Stanley Nazaire



I'm just gonna skip class and dance the day away!!!!!!

Booth Contest Winners: 1st - Beta Alpha Psi
2nd - Marketing Club
3rd - UB Scene

October 16, 1997

The Black Student Union was out in full force, as always!



The band was jammin' Reggae style, Mon!



Busted!!!!
All of these cats are missing class.....



Can't wait for next year's Block Party, right?

(Cont'd from page 9)

1-2 years, the Hopkins team usually follows volunteers for many years after the studies are completed. "Many of the volunteers that we see become our friends, due to the fact that they are seen so often," says Dr. Harro. His true pioneer spirit surfaces as he talks about finding a vaccine to fight the disease. He was lead to his battle as a result of his work with AIDS patients. "This disease is so frustrating, so complex."

The Hopkins team is currently recruiting volunteers for an exciting upcoming vaccine study, which is scheduled to begin in late November or early December. "Baltimore can take a lot of pride in this study," says Dr. Harro, "since the vaccine to be tested has been developed and manufactured at the University of Maryland. It will be exclusively tested at Johns Hopkins." This vaccine is unique because it can be taken by mouth, and it has the potential to produce mucosal immunity.

If such an immunity could be achieved, a large step forward in fighting the disease would be taken. "It is hoped that this vaccine will produce some defense against the virus at sites where HIV often enters the body, such as the vaginal and rectal areas." The duration of this study is approximately 6 months, and it will involve 20-40 visits. The compensation for each visit is \$40. Research will involve: taking tablets by mouth, blood sampling, and mucosal sampling. Anyone interested in participating in this study, or receiving information about other preventive HIV vaccine studies, can contact Dr. Harro, or a member of his team at:

The Johns Hopkins University
Center for Immunization Research
624 N. Broadway/117 Hampton House
Baltimore, MD 21205-1901
(410) 614-7283
FAX: (410) 955-2791
E-mail: charro@jhsph.edu

**** Spring Break...Take
2**
Organize Small Groups!
Sell 15...Take 2
FREE!!!!
Jamaica, Cancun, Baha-
mas, Florida, Barbados,
Padre.
FREE PARTIES, EATS,
DRINKS!!!!
SUNSPASH
1-800-726-7710
http://
www.sunspashfours.com**

PREVENTIVE HIV
VACCINES!
HIV-NEGATIVE VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!
THE CENTER FOR IMMUNIZATION
RESEARCH AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVER-
SITY IS IN NEED OF PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE
IN A PREVENTIVE HIV VACCINE STUDY.
WE NEED PEOPLE WHO ARE 18-30, HIV NEGATIVE
& HEALTHY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STUDY.
THE STUDY IS BEING CONDUCTED AT
JOHNS HOPKINS IN EAST
BALTIMORE. WE ALSO HAVE A
CLINIC AT D.C.'S GENERAL
HOSPITAL.
(410) 955-7283

"My Friend"

gypsy

I had a friend once, she was a really good friend, although her name escapes me right now. A pretty girl, a gentle-hearted soul. She always tried to see the good in people, in all situations, in just about everything. You know-giving the benefit of the doubt to those who didn't even deserve it, one in particular comes to mind. You see, this cat took my sweet friend for a hell of a ride, for granted time after time. Some say by accident, some say be chance, she would say unintentionally-I say what is frequent is never happenstance. This cat was a real charmer, a fucking piece of work, quick with wit, lies, deceit, all that good shit. She never knew what hit her, my friend, my sweet friend-my, my, how she loved him. But I knew it wouldn't last, it was so plain to see, at least to all us outsiders-we all tried to warn her-me, Karma, Buddha, Zen, God, hell, Satan too. She just **wouldn't listen, even after he drove her to the breaking point** so many times. To look back on it now even breaks my heart, and that ain't easy to do-a cat like me-I don't take a lot of shit, I would have sent him packing long before this. But we're not talking

(Cont'd on page 14)

(Cont'd from page 13)

about me now, are we? We're talking about my friend, my beautiful, beautiful friend, and that she was, a real free-spirited girl. Man, she could find the silver lining in a blackhole. One day though, one day not so long ago-turning the other cheek became too much for my friend. You know that dude I told you about, that dude she loved-I did tell you she loved him, right? Hell, it wasn't too hard to tell. Anyway, he managed to break her heart, just as he always did, but this time was different-powerful, earth-shattering, **life-ending** type shit. I ain't gon' go into the details, it's too long, it's too blue, just might kill you. My friend, my poor, poor friend, she tried, tried her best to weather the storm, his storm-it was just too much for her. She had given him her **all** so many times, times when she had nothing left to give even. She could always rustle up some love to feed him, damn near starving herself to death in the process. And this time, this last time around, that's exactly what she did. Now there are a few who may say she took her own life; taking all those sleeping pills the way she did. But not me, I say it was a broken heart that killed her-took away her will to survive, her intuitive way of seeing the brighter side in the cloudiest of days. Yeah, that's

what killed my friend, not some damn sleeping pills-don't ever believe that, you know how cats gossip. Funny thing though, I say her just the other day, still a pretty girl, lost a little weight, looks a bit dazed, and she don't smile much, at least not like she used to. She's changed a lot these days, my friend, my good friend-don't take **no shit** now, don't live for yesterday-can't take that with us, you know, and don't live for tomorrow either-that might not come. She's just existing now-not hoping, no more waiting, long stop praying, just there-not too here, but not much anywhere. To look into her eyes is like looking down an empty black well, like looking into the abyss, some freaky shit going on behind those eyes of hers. I sure do miss her, you know, the way she used to be, she was as they say "good people", I mean she was always good to me. What you say, man? Where did I see her? She came pass my place just the other day, she does that from time to time-never stays too long. I was in the bathroom, braiding my hair, caught a glimpse of her when I was looking in the mirror-scared the shit out of me! My friend, my good, good friend-she was right there, right there looking straight back at me.

UB SPOTLIGHT:

TARI WILLIAMS

-jeri delamora



Many of the children in today's juvenile system have simply "fallen through the cracks," says University of Baltimore Law student Tari Williams. After graduating from the University of Maryland, College Park with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Williams was hired to work in a group home counseling juveniles who had run into trouble with the law. She believes such children should not have been locked up. But rather, they should have been placed in an environment committed to instructing the youths on crime prevention before even a minor misdemeanor had the opportunity to take place. It was this work that led her to realize the importance of helping children acknowledge that criminal actions have legal consequences.

In her present job, Williams sees juveniles as well as adults march through the corridors of the criminal justice system every day. She presently has a judicial clerkship with Judge Roger Brown who is on the felony drug docket at the Circuit Court of Baltimore City. Her day begins early, at 8:00 or 8:30 AM, and at times can run as long as 6:30 PM. It is a day filled with doing whatever is necessary to "make sure the Judge's day runs smoothly." On any given day, she can be found in the midst of an assortment of duties - fielding telephone calls for a busy judge, calming the family of an offender who was scheduled to be released but is still incarcerated, handling post-convictions or researching motions and writing briefs (Judge Brown is currently residing over a prominent case, [State of Maryland v. Phillip Morris, et al](#)).

For two years in a row, Williams and her partner, Linda Mason, have won regional as well as national titles for the American Bar Association's Client Counseling Competition. This competition places the best of UB Law School students against that of other Eastern Law Schools. Contestants are judged on their ability to conduct interviews with clients on a specialized area as well as on their ability to obtain their client's trust, and extract truthful and clear information from such clients. Adequate knowledge and application of the law is also one of the criteria. Williams and Mason have twice won the regional competition and have also placed in the nationals. Their plaque and trophy are displayed outside the Law School Library.

(Cont'd on page 16)

LES MIS VISITS BALTIMORE

-D.S. GRAY

For the fourth time in seven years, Baltimore's Mechanic Theater hosted the touring company's production of *Les Miserables*. While the current production of this classic tale may lack the star appeal of former years, the touring cast nonetheless delivers an emotional performance.

The story, set in revolutionary France, concerns the life of Jean Valjean, a criminal whose past haunts him, despite a radical departure from his lawless ways. Although Valjean assumes a new identity and treats France's poor with Robin Hood-like generosity, he must continually avoid the arresting officer, Javert.

Colm Wilkinson is usually associated with the character of "Jean Valjean," however, Gregory Calvin Stone turned in an impressive performance. With dexterity, he covered the thirty years of the character's life. Initially Stone had some trouble physically interacting with his fellow cast members, but his command of the music overcame most difficulties.

Todd Alan Johnson, as "Javert," well accentuated Stone's performance. The intensity with which he treated the law officer was remarkably compelling. The mad obsession with which the character regards his nemesis portends possible overdramatization. Instead of overwhelming the audience with high-blown soliloquies, Johnson combined physical movement and a subtle, yet impassioned

What's up with the Next Issue?

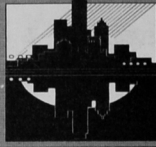
December 3, 1997

Jerry Brown

"The Geek Circus"

"A Man's Day at the Mall"

Poetry



Earn MONEY and FREE TRIPS!!!

Absolute Best SPRING BREAK Packages available!!
INDIVIDUALS, student ORGANIZATIONS, or small
GROUPS wanted!! Call INTER CAMPUS PROGRAMS at
1-800-327-6013 or <http://www.icpt.com>

delivery of the character's notoriously powerful language. This created quite an engaging renditions for the audience.

Stone and Johnson team particularly well during the scenes with Lisa Capps' "Fantine." Her character further complicates Valjean's plight, in that the criminal promises to find and care for her child, "Cosette." In life, Fantine made the ultimate sacrifice of selling her hair and her body to support the child. Capps, whose credits include a stint on ABC's situation comedy "Growing Pains," carries the part well. Her death scene, shared with Stone's "Valjean,"

(Cont'd on page 19)

(Cont'd from page 18)

was powerful; as she delicately tread the dramatic tightrope, producing a heart-wrenching scene.

To find Cosette, Valjean travels to the home of Monsieur and Madame Thenardier. The couple, also raising their own daughter, Eponine, resembles Cinderella's evil stepmother in the way that they treat Cosette. The couple also serves another purpose in the production - comic relief. J.P. Dougherty's "Monsieur Thenardier" and Tregoney Shepherd's "Madame Thenardier" illuminated the lighter aspects of the play. Their rendition of "Master of the House" delighted the crowd; as they moved about the stage, displaying deft physical comedy.

Cosette becomes Valjean's sole companion, throughout his life of isolation, threatened only by Javert's pursuit. Although Valjean and Cosette lead a relatively secluded life, she meets and eventually falls love with Marius. (A student who joins a revolutionary uprising.) Kate Fisher's "Cosette" interacted splendidly with Rich Affannato's "Marius;" as a team, the two worked well to carry the demanding roles of hopeful lovers in this play full of tragedy.

The exchanges of these passionate sentiments set the stage for Eponine who, aside from her will to be Marius' lover, transports his messages to Cosette. Although one may not consider Eponine's character essential to the play, the role was accentuated with exceptional singing and acting. Rona Figuerona's "Eponine" ascended to the level expected from the now legendary musical score of *Les Mis*, with her two major solos. Figuerona, whose previous credits include a stint as "Kim" in *Miss Saigon*, fulfill the demands of the role especially well, with her rendition of "A Drop of Rain." The song filled the Mechanic with sorrowful passion. In the wake of her performance, only the sniffs and muffled tears of Baltimore Theater-goers remained.

The legendary staging of the play lived up to expectations. Although much of the First Act included few props, the Second Act included a versatile stage replete with a movable backdrop. The backdrop, comprised of the seemingly incoherent collection of junk, transformed the stage into scenes ranging from: a barricade, to a row of tenements, to a dark alleyway, to a lamp-lit boardwalk.

The versatility of this monstrous backdrop was further extended by *Les Miserables'* now famous, spinning stage. This seemingly simple trait of the *Les Mis* stage enabled the performers to sustain the illusions of: a whirlpool, a riot, and a sewer.

With impressive lighting techniques, dry ice-filled canons, and great acting, challenging scenes in the play occurred with great deftness. *Les Mis* takes the audience on an emotional rollercoaster that is well-worth the cost of the ticket.



Help your environment
by recycling the
UB Scene
after reading it!!!!
THANKS

***Thanks for your commitment to
re-establishing a newspaper at the
University of Baltimore***

**John Garrett
Julie Johnson
Shannon McCutchen
Rob Fischer
Chris Johnson
Jeri Delambo
Rob Ehrhardt
D.S. Gray
Erin Lynn
Andrew Nutter**

***Best Wishes and Continued Success!
-J.G.F.L.D.I.***
