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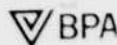
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Spring Break adventures along I-95

By ROBERT LAMOREAUX
The Spectrum, SUNY, Buffalo



The plan was to meet Heywood, Keith and Killer in Ft. Lauderdale, as I was unable to make the trip down with them on the Wednesday before Spring Break because I had a Friday afternoon exam in my Third Reich awareness class. Fortunately, a friend of Heywood's also was in the same precarious predicament, and planned on driving down Friday evening. I accepted the offer — even though Space, as he was called, had to make a couple of stops before our final destination. I was in need of some serious therapy...

Space was to pick me up at 7 p.m., which left me only 45 minutes after my exam to pack my clothes, sequester my meager savings of \$117, and break up with my girlfriend before we left. But as I approached my girlfriend to break the news, she broke news of her own. She informed me that there was a chance she might be pregnant.

The prospect of this situation frightened me immensely, so I paused momentarily and decided that I really needed this vacation. Fifteen minutes later I was on the road, with all of my money back home just in case.

Space turned out to be a rather congenial person — that is with the exception of a few quirks. For one, his entire head was shaved, except for a Roman style circular wreath of hair that wrapped the circumference of his head — not unlike one made of olive branches that Julius Caesar might have worn.

But this really didn't bother me as much as Space's other distinguishing feature: I'm not sure if he was ever clinically examined, but he appeared to be somewhat narcoleptic.

In other words, he was continually falling into slumber while driving, leaving me to navigate the vehicle from the shotgun position. After a few hours of this I thought it would perhaps be better if I did the



JACK GRAY, THE METROPOLITAN, METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE

driving from then on.

Our first destination was New York, where Space was to pick up a friend, Jonah. Reaching this location, it was evident that Space and Jonah wanted to spend the earliest hours of Saturday drinking in a local pub. This was fine with me, but I thought it would be best that I visit a friend who lived a few hours away on Manhattan's lower east side. Needless to say, Anita was a little surprised to receive me at 3 a.m.

I caught a lot of sleep at Anita's and then spent the rest of the afternoon hours in Washington Square with a cup begging for change. By early evening I took my five dollars in nickels and dimes and bought two slices of Ray's world famous pizza. Things were going well.

Before I knew it, we were on the road again. Our next stop was Smyrna, N.C. We stopped at Space's parents' house, had a good meal, and were anxious to get on our way. It was now Sunday night and we thought we could make Florida by Tuesday if we drove non-stop.

But just as we were about to leave, Space's

parents suggested that we pay a visit to the in-laws in New Orleans. Since I was penniless and not the owner of our vehicle, I was grudgingly obliged to embark on this off-road pilgrimage. My sanity would have been totally lost had it not been for Jonah's generosity with beer. Louisiana was a blur. I remember a brief visit with Space's relatives (half of whom seemed to be anapiters), and a lot of talk about gnor hunting.

Of course, we never did make it to Ft. Lauderdale, as Space enjoyed his relatives' company so much he decided to spend the rest of the week there.

But it's just as well, though. Heywood told me later that the first night in town, Killer stole a fire extinguisher from their hotel and drove around spraying other cars on the highway. Apparently someone got upset, chased him into a dead end and broke his nose with a tire iron. They spent the rest of their vacation paying fines and doctor bills.

As for me, I arrived back in Buffalo to my girlfriend's most-welcome menstrual cycle, and spent the rest of the semester inebriated on \$117 worth of beer.

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