

U-VIEWS

Techno-phobes unite

Hey, nice editorial ["My technological clock is a-rickin'." Oct. 1995]. We are entirely too hung up on our computer systems. I have a friend that I can't even talk to unless I e-mail her. I cringe at the fact that universities might make us take tests on computers. Keep up the good work!

*Trevor T. Bailey, sophomore,
Calif. State U., Sacramento*

Thank you for your thoughts about this whole superhighway/e-mail-crazy mode that seems to be taking over the world. I've been online for a few weeks, but I still don't know if I'll ever like it. There are too many little rules and very few guides to let me in on proper "netiquette." I'm glad to know that I'm not the only one out there that still remembers when people used a good old pen and a piece of processed tree flesh.

*Jani Binion, freshman,
CSU, Chico*

I can relate to the editorial. I'm a lab monitor in the student computer lab — talk about scary. The only thing I knew about computers I learned my freshman year in a basic computer class, and now I'm expected to help students troubleshoot and to answer their questions. The first thing I do when I get to work is check mail and write to everyone I can think of just so I can touch the keyboard! Hang in there, it'll get better!

*Betty Ricker, junior,
Oklahoma State U., Stillwater*

Funny how these letters were sent by e-mail, huh? —ed.

Sexcess

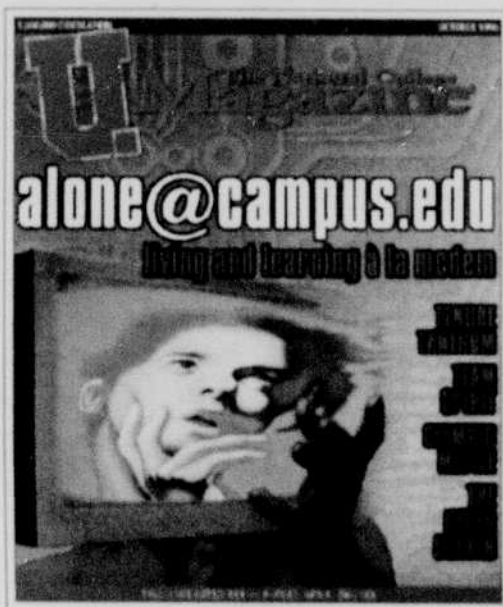
U. Magazine description in the front cover: "Editorial content focuses on the

diverse interests, activities, attitudes and concerns of students attending four-year colleges and universities." U. Magazine Table of

Contents: Sex, Drinking, Sex, Music, Sex, Drugs, Sex, Optional other story, Sex, Diversity... of sex?

Rich Campbell, staff, U. of Delaware

We'll try to abstain in the future. —ed.



Back on Prozac

In response to the letter in the October issue that attacked my story on Prozac [Aug./Sept. 1995]: I'm sorry that the letter-writer was offended, but she is mistaken about the facts.

Fact: Prozac is used to treat drug addictions, eating disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorders, problems with household pets and more.

Fact: Both Prozac and depression are responsible for sexual numbing. Any psychiatrist will tell you that one of the top complaints about Prozac is its effect on the sex drive.

Fact: A person on Prozac still has highs and lows, but these emotions are put into perspective.

Fact: I did not claim that Prozac would turn us into a "New World Order society of passionless robots." The quote was preceded by "Some fear..." and followed by me stating that this is "ridiculous."

*James Hibberd, senior,
U. of Texas, Austin*

Book 'em, Dano

You know, some of us do have an ability to read above a fifth-grade level. Maybe you should review books, too. Hmmm... just a wise-ass thought.

*Daniel S. Griffith,
sophomore, Purdue U.*

Well, Daniel, at the risk of printing more wise-ass thoughts, we'll answer you. We're working on the book reviews right now! Feel free to send us a suggested reading list. —ed.

Bravo!

Hey, you guys! Some good stuff in the latest issue. Appreciate the good read and you making campus life a bit more bearable.

*Hafiz and Hazik Bin
Mohamed, juniors,
U. of Arkansas*

Bravo! Part II

Thanks for giving nontraditional students notice in the Back to U. "Breaking Tradition" story [Aug./Sept. 1995]. I'm a married 31-year-old who is trying to work a part-time job, carry a full course load and deal with my son and daughter's daily dose of "this/that person doesn't like me." This is one time I can truly relate to this magazine.

*Jonathan E. Johnson, senior,
Western Illinois U.*

Tough pill to swallow

I found the [editorial cartoon depicting a student being forced to swallow a pill labeled "multiculturalism"], U. Views, Aug./Sept. very offensive. It is truly amazing to me that people are upset about recognizing that the U.S. is culturally diverse. Multicultural education seems especially important in a university setting because the goal of education is to teach us how to live and work with people from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. I hope that U. Magazine will not run illustrations that are specifically designed to offend our diverse population.

*Cynthia Newberry, graduate student,
Ohio State U.*

Gimme s'more

I just love your magazine. I received it once when I was in high school, and the articles were really upbeat and humorous. Where can I get it? Do I have to have a subscription? Keep up the good work!

*Leslie D. Zeigler, freshman,
Penn State U.*

Subscriptions are \$18, but you can get it free! Just look for it in your student newspaper. —ed.

U. Goofs

Due to some random cosmic misalignment, we miscredited last month's U. Views editorial cartoon, "Next Season on MTV." The illustration was by Jason Jeffers, U. of South Carolina. Sorry 'bout that. It'll never happen again.

Your first time — ecstatic or traumatic?

Ecstatic: 50%

Traumatic: 39%

Virgin: 7%

Both: 3%

Huh: 1%

My first time with a guy was traumatic, but my first time with a woman was ecstatic. **Jenny ••••• Junior, Emory U., Ga.** • I was 16 years old, out with my boyfriend, and we just decided to do it. It was unplanned. It really was the best time. I didn't want to try and make it good or bad. I think that's why it was best for me. **Brigitte Hradsky, sophomore, U. of Maryland** • It was basically like sexual freedom all over. **Andrea Hansen, sophomore, U. of Iowa** • No one is more deserving of my virginity than my future wife. Our sex will be ecstatic because we will have proven our mutual love by waiting for one another. **Bruce Lange, sophomore, U. of Michigan** • I was in Cozumel, Mexico, with my boyfriend, who I'd known a little over a month. I was 19 years old, and my parents had arranged for us to have a room together alone because they really felt my first time should be ecstatic. **Stephanie Bigbee, sophomore, Southwest Texas State U.** • It was ecstatic, but I think that's because I waited until I knew I was in love. **Darren Beltz, senior, Louisiana State U.**

Should the government regulate the Internet?

No: 88%

Yes: 12%

The Internet is a global network. For the U.S. to try and regulate the 'net, it would not only have to police the entire U.S. but each and every foreign post coming in. **Dennis Yates, senior, U. of Mississippi** • The Internet is one of the largest freedom forums people have. If the Internet was regulated, it would definitely violate First Amendment rights. **Lisa Lansperg, senior, Ohio U.** • I don't believe the government can regulate the Internet. It's dangerous when you have people setting up policies or trying to control behavior that's obviously outside of their control. **Bryan Vogh, sophomore, U. of Nebraska, Omaha** • The Internet is something that can expand our horizons socially, intellectually and just about any other kind of way. The government should not have its hands on it. **Eric Pratt, senior, U. of Nevada, Las Vegas** • Rights of free speech should be protected, but there shouldn't be anything on there that violates community standards — porn. Kids who are just surfing the 'net can end up in a place they shouldn't be. **Ray Hacke, sophomore, Syracuse U.** • If we allowed them to do so, we might as well allow the post office to read our letters every day. **Michelle Rydberg, senior, Michigan State U.**

Hashing it out solo for Thanksgiving

Orphaned again. That's what I was. Another family holiday away from home. The only difference this time was that an ocean, not the Mason-Dixon line, was the great barrier between me and another down-home Louisiana Thanksgiving dinner. Sigh.

Going abroad for a semester was no different from being at school a zillion miles from home. It all amounted to the same thing — another holiday spent with Swanson's best, watching Snoopy whip up a toast and jelly bean feast for fellow Peanuts.

Or so I thought. Two other "orphans" were also saddled in London without plans. So being stranded Americans in a vehemently un-American land, we chose the equally un-American alternative: a 12-hour bus ride to Amsterdam.

Yep, that's right. Twelve hours. On a bus. With skeezy potheads on a pilgrimage to Marijuana Mecca. And a broken toilet.

So there we were, finally. Checked into our shady hostel and delirious with exhaustion. Orphan 2, the designated tree-hugger in our trio, insisted on a cultural Thanksgiving experience. We ate at "a vegetarian bistro run by two women and a cat," according to her peace, love and travel guide.

Two words: Big Mistake. A plate of falafel and a blob of congealed garlicky stuff looked adventurous at the time, but a few pints and a local smoke later, it was downright scary.

The whole experience was a slow trip down Surreal Lane: Orphan 2 begging to visit the Anne Frank house and tour cheese factories, and Orphan 1 and I dying to hang out in the Van Gogh museum and tour breweries.

In the end, we compromised. I ate cheese with a new understanding, and Orphan 2 experienced Van Gogh with the munchies.

Take that, Snoopy. How 'bout them peanuts?

Colleen Rush, Assistant Editor

U. Polls

Funding for college athletics — too much or not enough?

Do you believe in aliens?

800/6U-VIEWS (688-4397)

More polls at <http://www.umagazine.com>

