

FEATURES

Website of the Week

by Christy Piccola
staff writer

Have you ever gone to do laundry and realized that you really weren't sure what you were doing? Or cleaned your room and noticed that it looked a lot less clean than when your mother did it? Wouldn't it be helpful if there were somewhere you could go for advice without calling home? Well, now there is.

At WWW.ABOUT.COM, there are many helpful hints on all aspects of life. For college students, ABOUT.COM offers a wonderful perspective into college life, written by Ben Miller. Some of the sections included are *Dealing with Roommates*, a humorous look into surviving possible problems you might have with the person you share your incredibly tiny room with, and *Housekeeping 101*, which offers some essential cleaning tips that would make any mom proud. They suggest cleaners, cleaning tools, and how-to's.

Now, if you're like me, just the thought of cleaning makes you cringe more than an 8:00 class on a Monday morning. I can't promise

that you'll enjoy cleaning, but the pointers on this site make it a lot less dreadful.

Of course, along with cleaning comes laundry. After having someone do yours for 18 years, being alone with a washer and dryer can seem a pretty formidable task. The advice in the laundry section is aimed at people who, like me, have never had to think about sorting, detergents, or drying.

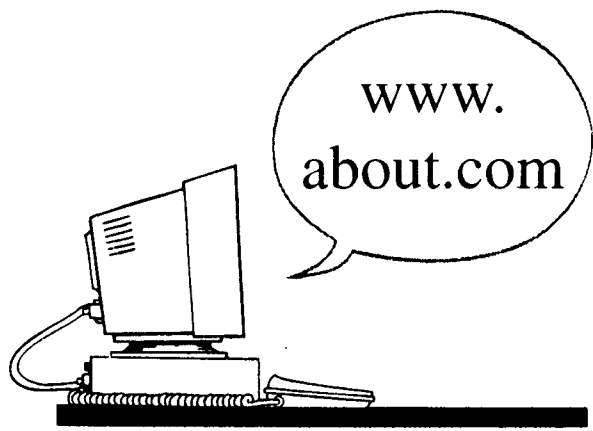
Surely, at least one of the sections on this website will apply to you, whether it's your first semester away from home, or your last. The instructions are easy to understand and the articles are written so that you don't have to have a Ph.D. in domestic engineering to understand. The links they provide, to sites like WWW.TIDE.COM and Domino's Pizza, add a different viewpoint and much more current ideas.

There are a few drawbacks to the site, but definitely not enough to keep someone from using it. To get to the college section, you have to follow about 4 links (Home, Society/Culture, Groups/Subcultures, and College Life), which can be a little time consuming. Also, the graphics leave a lot to be desired, from the font to the lack of pictures. However, it was easy to

navigate and that made up for whatever it lacked on the surface.

Another perk to the site was the advertisements offered on the different pages. One in particular was a link to WWW.COOLSAVINGS.COM, where you can print free coupons. Anything free when you're in college is a good thing, and these coupons can really help cut down on what you spend at the store. Other links were geared more toward entertainment, such as *TV Listings* and *Cable TV Spotlight*, while some presented ways to *Find a Friend* and then send them *E-Cards*. All of this is located in the InfoCenter, while more deals are right above it in the ShopCenter.

As a reference guide for college students, ABOUT.COM is a great source for everything from detergent to Domino's, and roommates to the rinse cycle. Print out the hints and tack them onto your bulletin board, and you won't have to worry about shrinking clothes or shrieking roommates. I'd give it an 8, with work needing to be done on the graphics, but the content of the website is so valuable that it's something you can't afford to click over.



Top 40 cont. from pg. 8

This venture puts Zomba, whose albums are distributed by BMG, in business with EMI music, also part owner of Musicmaker. In return for allowing their entire catalog to be part of Musicmaker's stock, Zomba receives an undisclosed equity stake in

Musicmaker. Part of the deal also allows unreleased songs from Zomba's artists to be available for custom CDs.

The United States has not seen much of current hit compilations on the shelves of the local music store, but Britain's charts are full of them.

Not until recently were *Now* and *Now Volume II* introduced to the States. Both of the afore mentioned compilations were released by the previously mentioned EMI Music, featuring artists from that label as well as other labels.

HOROSCOPES

Aries (March 21-April 19). If someone makes a request of you, go along with it. It's worth it!

Taurus (April 20-May 20). Keep an eye on personal belongings this week!

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Go ahead and make the phone call you've been putting off!

Cancer (June 22-July 22). A trip could open your eyes to great possibilities!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Break routine and try something you've been thinking about!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Watch for coincidences this week, someone could be trying to tell you something!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Voice your concerns, people may feel the same way you do!

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Abandon the Playstation and seek some human contact!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be understanding if someone disappoints you this week, nobody's perfect!

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Get acquainted with your domestic side, and start cleaning up!

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb 18). Realize what you have before it's too late!

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). A little extra energy this week could be put to great use!



by Bongo the three legged monkey

The Beacon's New Advice Column

Advice Etc.

Tired of Ann Landers?

Dear Abby avoiding your questions?

Get fast, reliable advice on love, school work, life, etc.

From two seniors that have seen it all.

Send your questions to behrcoll5@aol.com

Tupac legend lives on

by Douglas Smith
staff writer

Tupac Shakur has once again received national attention. His legacy keeps growing throughout the United States and with good reason. Tupac proved himself not only in music, but also in life. Despite this, some Americans have elaborated on a so-called "conspiracy" surrounding his death.

In case you haven't heard, a new album featuring the late Tupac Shakur has been released this month. The album features a protegee group called The Outlawz that collaborated with 2Pac on "Hit 'Em High." The constant barrage of new songs from the late rapper is also a reminder that his spirit will never die.

The album entitled *Still I Rise* (at press time) was supposed to hit record stores on the 24th of August but was postponed two weeks. The record company cited production delay as the reason for late release. Despite all of this, many people find it remarkable and perhaps surprising how much of an impact 2Pac has made on the mainstream music charts. It is indeed unfortunate that the event of his death opened the eyes of the population to his widespread popularity.

Tupac Shakur's songs filled the streets not only in urban areas, but also in small rural areas of the country. The graduating class of my Apollo-Ridge High School was only

97 people in 1999. The number of 2Pac CDs in the possession of that class at least doubled the number of graduates.

Tupac's music was a special brand. He vividly detailed life in his neighborhood often calling on Watts and Compton, California for inspiration. The country embraced this style because it was a way of expression for those that lived in urban areas and also a way to gain knowledge for those in rural areas. Tupac faced topics from death to teenage pregnancy and drugs to love. He was a "gangsta rapper" who did not care to veer away from everything "hardcore."

This musical ability of 2Pac allowed for many tributes. Other rappers such as Master P and the group Naughty by Nature wrote songs in the wake of 2Pac's death that showed the late rapper's impact. The World Wide Web is full of tributes by random web page makers. A simple search will give thousands of results on the topic.

Music was not the only contribution Tupac shared with the States. Love for his mother was often seen in his material and interviews that he gave. This love was admirable by all.

"Dear Mama," most recently released on the greatest hits album, is one of the more sentimental songs released by this artist. Respect should also be shown to Shakur because of his no-fear attitude. He vividly described life in the ghetto and the tough life that

had to be overcome by so many. The recently released "Changes" and "Brenda's Got a Baby" are two such songs.

Of course there is a bad aspect to the new releases. Many Internet sites have been devoted to the so-called conspiracy that 2Pac's death was not real. One such site is ewsonline.com/2pac/info.html. These sites give evidence such as listening to the first 3 seconds of *Makaveli* and hearing an apparent shout out of whom the killer really was. The cover also depicts 2Pac in a Jesus Christ-like pose that some of the pages say predicts a "resurrection." The album also had a sub title of "The 7 Day Theory" which lives on. It was released on the 25th of November 1996. Two plus five equals seven. Also, Tupac was shot in Las Vegas on September 7th, 1996, and died seven days later on Friday the 13th. The number seven is reoccurring and is found peculiar by believers of the conspiracy. One last thing that can be noticed is that the video for "I Ain't Mad at Cha" "foretold" the death of this west coast rapper.

It is sad to think that the life and times of Tupac Shakur can be second-guessed by the people who created these sites. He was a powerful man, artist and family member. This is how he should be remembered. No one should take away from his achievements whether it is intentional or not.

STUDENT CLUB OF THE WEEK

Lion Entertainment Board

by Elizabeth Hayes
associate editor

The Lion Entertainment Board is an organization on campus that sponsors events for students. More specifically, it sponsors non-alcoholic events on the weekends so that students may have something constructive to do. The movies shown in the Reed Union Building every weekend, and the comedians, bands, karaoke, and other special performers featured in Bruno's Café, are all due to the workings of the LEB.

For those who are confused and have not been paying attention to the signs posted around campus, LEB was formerly called the Student Programming Council until this year.

According to club president Terry Brand, the name was changed primarily because the organization felt the former name was lacking "spirit," and didn't sound as appealing to the student body. Also, it was changed from a "council" to a "board" to help express the fact that students were working together to make these decisions.

There are currently about 20 members on the Lion Entertainment Board, including four officers and three committee chairpersons. The club is still looking for chairpersons for the Special Events and WebPage Committees, as well as general members to

provide more input on upcoming events.

LEB begins choosing movies at the beginning of the summer, at least two months before the start of a new school year. This year, the club received a preview tape from the movie distributor they deal with. From that tape, they decided which movies to show this year. Among many other things, the club needs to be concerned with choosing a diverse selection - not just comedy, or just action films. The club also tries to meet video release dates. However, due to availability constraints, release dates, etc., movies are always subject to change throughout the year.

Some movies to be shown this year include *Shakespeare in Love*, *The General's Daughter*, *The Haunting*, and *Big Daddy*. Movies are shown on Thursdays and Sundays at 9:00 p.m., and on Fridays and Saturdays at 10:00 p.m. Admission cost for these movies is just \$2.00. Also, students can purchase movie cards for \$20.00. These cards allow them to see all 32 movies this year, normally a \$64.00 cost. Plus, that student is then enabled to participate in LEB planning, and may be able to get some free movie posters and other promotional items.

Admission to Bruno's Café for the comedians featured this fall is free.

A few names to be on the lookout for are Al Ducharme, Spanky, Renee Hicks, and Butch Bradley. All shows usually start at 8:30 p.m. on either Friday or Saturday.

Currently, LEB alone makes all the decisions on what programming to premiere and when to do so. However, they are looking to work with other campus organizations, possibly co-sponsoring events so that they are not always competing with other organizations for attendance. Last year LEB announced that they were looking for input from the student body to help choose movies and Bruno's events. Unfortunately, LEB received little response.

LEB has meetings every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in room 113 of the Reed Building. These meetings are open to the public, and students are encouraged to attend. The club discusses both new and old business, upcoming events, publicity concerns, etc.

The club also has an office on the first floor of the Reed Building, in the hallway just to the left of the Back Room. The office is usually open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and members are available to answer any questions. The office can be reached by phone at extension 6221.