

EDITORIAL

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The Behrend Beacon

The Behrend Beacon

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Beacon

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The Beacon encourages letters to the editor. Letters should include the address, phone number, semester standing, and major of the writer. Writers can mail letters to behrcoll2@aol.com. Letters must be received no later than 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in that week's issue.

POSTWAR PLANS

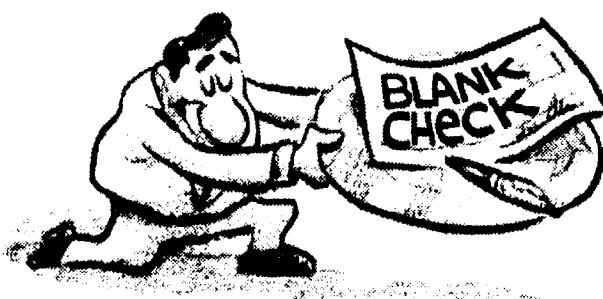
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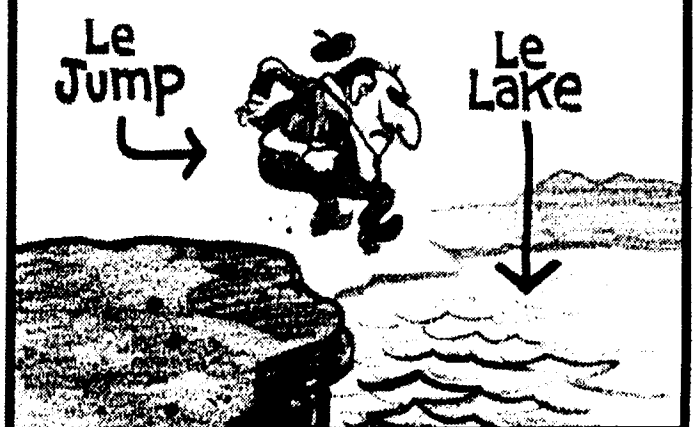
For the U.N.:



FOR CONGRESS:



For FRANCE:



STAR TRIBUNE

The war is really rockin' now

National Public Radio recently reported that many teens are getting their information about the war with Iraq from alternative news sources. In this case, it's MTV News.

Sure, MTV News might not be as respected as, let's say, Jay Leno's monologue. But I think it's great that MTV is bringing important issues to a place where teens will more likely be exposed to them.

I went to MTV.com to check out some of their war coverage for myself. I found the war stories right between "Get Spring Break Party Tips" and "Christina Aguilera Gets 'Dirrty' at Mardi Gras."

This raises an interesting question. What do rock stars think about the war?

The Dixie Chicks have received the most press for speaking out against Bush. One of the Chicks, Natalie Maines, recently told a London crowd, "We're ashamed the President of the United States is from Texas."

In response, many Texas fans had public Dixie Chicks CD smashing parties. The band's songs were pulled from many radio stations, and sales of its album "Home" fell by more than 42 percent.

Don't mess with Texas.

I totally agree that people should be outraged at the Dixie Chicks. But not

because of what they said about Bush. Their butchering of "Land-slide" is enough reason for me.

But not all rock stars are against this war. In fact, the always-poignant Nickleback singer Chad Kroeger supports the war.

"I really love my girlfriend, and I really love my country, and I really love every-

one who's in my life," Kroeger told MTV News. "And if there are some @#%ing a@#%holes anywhere with the ability to launch a weapon of mass destruction and hurt any of those things that I love or anybody anywhere, then that's a problem that has to be dealt with."

Whoa, that's deep. Don't mess with Nickleback (or their girlfriends).

MTV also reports that the war inspired Jewel to make an electronic album.

"I knew we were headed to war, and I wanted to make a record that was fun, that made you ... want to lose yourself in rhythm and feel pas-

sionate and young," said Jewel to MTV.

Ahh yes, how could bombing a country led by an insane dictator not make you think of going to a dance club to get your groove on? Nothing says, "party" like weapons of mass destruction.

MTV also covers some more serious aspects of the war such as news updates. It also explains the war to teens in a way they can understand.

For example, the article "When Congress Doesn't Declare War, Is It Still A War?" tries to explain to younger readers the difference between a war and a military operation of "shock and awe." It may be confusing to some of the simple minded and

uneducated youth of this country how President Bush can in all but name go to war even though the Constitution gives Congress alone the right to declare war.

The article does a good job, but I would like to explain it further to any young readers out there.

See, these are trying times. And that means sometimes you have to give up some measly rights in the interest of national security. The problem with the



Kevin Fallon

Show your parents that you actually did something in college.

Send a letter to the editor!

Behrcoll2@aol.com

Include your name, major, and semester standing.

Do you want to join the Beacon?

The following positions will be available for the Fall 2003 semester:

- Editor-in-Chief
- Managing Editor
- News Editors
- Sports Editors
- Editorial Editor
- Features Editor
- Advertising Manager
- Calendar Page Editor
- Distribution Manager
- Public Relations
- Staff Writers

The Beacon provides a great place, for all majors, to get real world experience. Letters of application for the editor-in-chief position are to be submitted to: Ken Miller/ Office of Student Affairs. Letters of application for all other positions should be submitted to the Beacon office.

Who the heck is Oscar anyhow?

by Paige Miles
Editorial Page Editor

I didn't watch the Oscars. Hell, I didn't even know who was nominated (coincidentally, however, I went and saw "Chicago" at Tinseltown while the Oscars were on). And honestly, I don't give a damn about these awards shows. The only one that ever remotely interests me is MTV's Video Music Awards. At least it's entertaining.

I have never felt the need to praise all of Hollywood's well off more than they already are. Don't they already have the mansions, the cars, the money, and the looks? Ok, so let's praise them more by telling them that out of five crappy movies, their movie sucked the least. And then, let's watch them cry while they thank everyone from their psychiatrist to their dog-walker. (I heard this year they could only thank a minimum number of people. It's about time.)

But the reason I choose to rant about the Oscars this year is because many actors think that because they are all powerful and know everything about the world, they can preach about the war and politics. As I recall, many of the elite in Hollywood never even made it through college, much less ever took a political science course. Hence, they really aren't all that educated in the dealings of the war. Therefore, they should shut their mouths.

Sure, they can go ahead and preach peace, but when the United States is attacked again, they'll be all for breaking out a can of whoop-ass on Sadaam and Osama.

And the whole not walking on the red carpet out of respect for the soldiers? Please. I don't think the soldiers could care less if the stars walk in the front of the back entrance. In reality, they were all scared of being attacked, so like cowards, they went through the

back way.

Maybe it's time they do what they are good at—looking pretty and making bad movies.

Thus lies one of the major problems in the United States right now. People are uneducated. They choose to whine and moan about President Bush and the war, but they know so little about what is actually going on. Some of them haven't yet turned on CNN or opened the newspaper.

But of course, sitting on their butts and watching MTV makes them experts. In fact, it makes them so smart, they want our President impeached right in the middle of the war. God forbid they support our soldiers who are risking their lives, and proud to do it, to save our basic freedoms.

In essence, if you're going to remain on the couch, turn off HBO, the award shows, etc., and watch CNN or MSNBC. Inform yourself before you shoot your mouth off. The country is better off that way.