

Campus Voice

Due to the recent publicity in the media regarding the legalization of drugs, we asked students and staff how they feel about the option of the legalization of marijuana. Here are the responses we received:

by Vail Weller and Nan Quatchak
Entertainment Editors



Marybeth Peterson
Career Placement Counselor

"I think for medical purposes it should be pursued."



Chris Tann
5th Semester
English

"I am completely against it. The government should stay uninvolved. I think they'd screw the whole thing up."



Robb Brown
7th Semester
Business Economics

"From an economic standpoint, I feel that it could be a possible solution to our federal budget deficit."



Dave Ruffennach
7th Semester
Management

"It shouldn't be. The negative effects are that it's bad for the economy because it would be bad for productivity. And it would probably result in more traffic accidents and overall it would be bad for the health of the nation."



Dana Fletcher
5th Semester
Biology

"I don't know because on one hand I don't like it cause if it became legal it would be more likely to become socially acceptable but on the other hand it should be freedom of choice like any other drug such as narcotine, caffeine, and alcohol. Also, I wouldn't want my kids running around thinking that it's socially acceptable."

photos by Sue Feltenberger

Talk Show Hosts: Guts or Glitz ?

By Tammy Furiesz
Collegian Staff Writer

Oprah Winfrey-
One night David Letterman was conducting a one-sided debate with his band leader Paul Shaffer, about the New Oprah. I prefer the "old" Oprah, said Dave, the Oprah we grew up with as kids, the Mrs. Butterworth Oprah. There definitely is a New Oprah. Her hair once round and shrunny, has become flipped tip of black flame. Her neck and wrists are bound with ornate gold, her eyes are fitted with designer lenses, her dresses are fancy parachutes awhirl with flaps and billows. She casts a queenly aura. Sometimes as Oprah stands there in her all resplendent finery, a shade of dismay crosses her face and you can almost hear her thinking, What am I doing surrounded by all these sorry looking people? No doubt its because the butts in her bleachers look as if they were herded in from the nearest shopping mall.

Oprah often appears puzzled and distracted as she models her gowns for her fans. Perhaps it's because she guiltily knows that she hasn't done her homework. Of all the talk show hosts she comes across as the most ill-prepared. It's as if her show had become simply another

glittering facet of the ongoing entertainment experience that is Oprah. She is trying to get by on glitz. The show can still click when she grabs a hold of a thrashing issue and shows some tenacity. Too often, however, the New Oprah seems afraid of breaking a precious nail.

Geraldo Rivera-
After his empty raid into the cobwebs of Al Capone's vault, Rivera has opened his own nationwide trauma center. Though he now wears a reassuring grin he still walks barefoot across burning issues while fulfilling his quota of drag performers and male hustlers. So far the tackiest "Geraldo" concerned breast obsession, with a special all-bimbo panel starring author Erica Jong, actress Edy Williams, and Nonactress Angelyne (It's so much fun being famous for nothing"). The show began with Geraldo's historical overview of breasts. He introduced us to "A respected anthropologist [shot of anthropologist walking down street] whose work is unlocking the wonders of human behavior. We chose to ask her about her breasts," the respected anthropologist "When you think about big breasts, all it is is a lot extra fat around the nipple. I mean chimpanzees, our very close

relatives [shot of chimpanzee scratching himself], have the same nipple... but don't have large breasts that the human female does [ogling shot of disco bimbo in low-cut dress]."

Jong tried to take the high road, making march-of-history sounds about the "worldwide struggle" of women. But for Jong the highroad winds around her own mansion of ego. She informed Geraldo's audience that she's always had lots of men attracted to her although she doesn't have a perfect body. Even so, she was gracious enough to proclaim her "great empathy and sisterhood" with the inflatable Edy and Angelyne, whom the camera cut showed propping up her breasts and exhibiting lots of tongue. They seemed to extraterrestrial to achieve sisterhood with earth women. Geraldo then brought on a Psychobabblist who proclaimed that nature didn't design women's bodies for men's pleasure -- this didn't sit too well with Edy and Angelyne, who shifted buttocks and made breathy protests -- and then Geraldo plunked his mike in front of a grandmotherly type who, reading off a notecard, said "I'm a 36D. I was once a bra model, but I lost my job because I was a complete bust." Sid down, grandma.

Geraldo isn't all fun and frolics. The next day the topic was child abuse. Understandably, Geraldo was in an accusatory mode. "Look at these abuse pictures..." he said as the screen flashed shots of bruised bodies. "They make you want to scream bloody murder." But child abuse is so ghastly-appalling that it doesn't need this pornographic layer of pulp exploitation to make us feel distraught. And how does one deal with the severe mood swings that Geraldo's trauma center induces? One afternoon it's bubbleheads and their breasts, and the next afternoon it's children who have been raked through hell. Our clue to how to respond is whether Geraldo is wearing a happy face or his frown face. Both faces are pushy.

Is there an end in sight to these strip pallors? Doesn't seem so. There is even a series kicking around called "People in Crisis," on which a bearded shrink practices insta-therapy as a studio audience supplies rah-rah atmosphere. Could this be a sign that the trend is beginning to thin itself out through self imitation and may soon reach the final drops? We can only hope. But oh what one would give for even an approximation of wit.

Aids Talk Condoms

by Carl Dabler

Sitting cross legged on her bed, just dressed in an old gray tee shirt and a pair of blue running shorts, Patty was having one of those long talks with her good friend Lia. Lia was half leaning and half sitting on Patty's desk listening attentively to what Patty had to say.

"I just don't know what's up with Tony anymore," Patty said with perplexity written all over her face. "I really love the big brute, even when he tries to pull a big macho routine on me." The whole time she's talking she is playing with her long chestnut colored hair, wrapping it around her index finger.

"What do you mean, you don't know what's up with Tony anymore?" asks Lia with her blue eyes staring down on Patty.

"Well, you know Tony and I have been going together for the last two years and we've gotten really close--you can even say I love him. Last Friday night after the party was over at the Bridge House, we went back to his apartment down in Wesleyville like we always do on weekends. Well, one thing led to another--you know, but it was totally different. Tony and I had agreed early on in our relationship that neither of us were ready or willing to take the risk of me getting pregnant. So we've been using condoms when we have sex."

"OK Patty, just what did happen

that has got you so shook up" asked Lia.

"Tony outright refused to use a condom and said he wasn't going to use one anymore. He says it just doesn't feel right wearing one. He's complaining that its not just the same as really making love to me" replies Patty.

"Does Tony realize what kind of Russian Roulette you both could be playing, with not using condoms" retorts Lia.

Lia's right. When a couple, unless they are one-hundred percent monogamous over a long period of time are setting themselves up for all kinds of problems above and beyond the obvious of pregnancy.

From the simplest case of possibly passing back and forth a yeast infection to the more severe case of contracting Herpes or HIV viruses these are just a few of the possibilities.

Viruses come in many different varieties. You have your standard variety virus, such as a cold virus. After a while, the person's immune system fights off this virus and leaves the person. The individual may come down with a cough and/or fever, but that is the worst of it.

The Herpes simplex virus, which causes cold sores and genital herpes infections, live in nerve cells. After setting up an infection, the virus reproduces in the skin, causing painful blisters for a week or two.

Then, it travels down the skin's fibers to hibernate near the spine. When a person's immune system goes down for a bit of time, the herpes virus travels up the nerve and goes back to the skin to reproduce, just as salmon swim to their native waters to spawn.

The HIV virus is in another class of viruses all together, Retroviruses. The HIV virus which causes AIDS and ARC (Aids Related Condition), are subviral particles that enter a living cell and cause it to change its programming and produce massive numbers of copies of the virus. Retroviruses are especially sinister because the infiltrate themselves into the genetic makeup of a cell. Unlike an infection by herpes virus which infects the skin, hibernates and then recurs, infections by retroviruses are permanent. As far as is known, once a person is infected by a retrovirus, it becomes part of his or her genetic makeup forever; and able to be passed on to any offsprings that person may have after being infected. In particular the HIV virus attacks the T-4 helper cells in the blood system which carries the messages for the immune system to start or stop attacking an infection.

Once the T-4 cells are destroyed or nearly destroyed; fungi and other viruses, that the body carries at the time are able to proliferate and cause immeasurable havoc and destruction to the body eventually to the point where the person dies of diseases he or she could normally fight off with no problems.

Tony, the next day, is shooting hoops and all the time talking with Doug. Tony can talk to Doug about most anything, since Doug was his RA last year when he lived on campus, and had helped him out when he had had some problems.

"So, what's up with you and Patty these days. I don't think there is a day go by that I don't see you two together. The way you both act you'd think you two are married," Doug states as he's making a lay-up.

"It's been pretty good up until now for us. I must be the world's biggest goofball. I really love Patty and am thinking of asking her to marry me when we graduate this spring. Last Friday night after a party, we ended up back at my place for the night. Patty and I aren't exactly virgins--if you know what I mean."

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