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affect her. She accused me of nagging her and said that voting was "just not important" to her life.

I wanted to reach through the phone and strangle her. How could politics be that unimportant to her life? How could it be unimportant to anyone's life?

The top issues for young voters this election, according to the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), were the state-of the economy and jobs (35%), terrorism and national security (22%), the war in Iraq (15%), education (12%), civil liberties and civil rights (11%).

How could any 19-year-old conclude that these issues do not affect them? The outcome of the November 2nd election will directly effect the state of economy and jobs when many students graduate from college. Aren't these students concerned about whether or not they'll be able to find suitable employment and pay back their

student loans? That is assuming they will be able to meet the rising cost of education.

And what about national security? The War Against Terrorism with its unpredictability and lack of formal rules of engagement is more frightening than Fascism or Communism.

And what about your civil liberties? The Patriot Act, which was enacted after the attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, gives the government the right to access your private information and infringes on your rights as an American. Have you considered its implications?

And what about the war in Iraq? What about the military personnel and civilians affected by that conflict? Are they too far removed from our daily lives to matter? What if they reinstate the draft? Is that even a real possibility? Do you even know?

In 1944 Elie Wiesel (at sixteen), his mother, father and sister, were sent to Auschwitz II in Birkenau. His mother and

sister were murdered there. He and his father were sent to Auschwitz III in Monowitz, a labor camp. At aged 17, he and his father were marched to the Buchenwald concentration camp, where his father died. How important were politics to young people then?

If the Rock the Vote and Vote or Die campaigns, with implorations by hipsters such as Britney Spears, Eminem and P. Diddy, could not persuade my young sister that voting is, at the very least, the "cool" thing to do, what could? Does it have to take a stint in a concentration camp or a tour in Iraq to convince her of the importance of voting?

Music Review

Albert React

Confluence and Scrapes

Ian Moore

In an era in which bands that fit into a mold and follow a specific formula dominate the music industry, it is a rarity to find one that exhibits a unique flavor in their music. Although going through several lineup changes after forming in 2001, Albert React blends emo, screamo, and hardcore sounds into their music.

Upon first hearing their E.P. *Confluence and Scrapes*, many listeners will be amazed by the dazzling guitar riffs and gut wrenching screams that set this band aside from what your teenage sister would have in her cd player.

Confluence and Scrapes opens up strongly with "Breath" and "Vanilla," which are two of the heavier songs on the album. However, the album gets softer towards the end. So if you are tired of listening to the same prepubescent bands whine about how they can't get a date, go to your nearest record store and pick up a copy of Albert React's *Confluence and Scrapes*.

Movie Review: *The Bourne Supremacy*

Daniel Verderosa

Rating: PG-13 for violence and language

The Bourne Supremacy continues the story of the amnesiac CIA operative, Jason Bourne. *The Bourne Supremacy* recasts Matt Damon as the clever, resourceful protagonist who finds himself involved in a murder conspiracy while still battling his own demons from the past. Bourne, only wanting to carry on with a normal life, becomes more and more entangled in international espionage, an assassination plot, and the mystery of his true identity.

This action packed thriller is a sequel that matches its predecessor. *The Bourne Supremacy* has a plot full of twists and turns that will keep the audience guessing until the very end. The chase scenes and the stunt work are riveting. Matt Damon fills the role of agent

under fire perfectly for the second time. Strong efforts come from supporting actors Joan Allen, Brian Cox, Franka Potente, and Julia Stiles.

A major problem for some viewers could arise in the filming technique and the camera angles used during many of the action scenes. Some could find it irritating that the camera is very close to the action at almost all times, making it difficult to make out everything going on. Also, the continuous shifting of the camera shots during the action can leave the viewer confused.

Still, the film is high quality entertainment. If you are a lover of action movies and have an appreciation for intricate plots and pay close attention to detail, this film is for you. My only advice is that before you watch *The Bourne Supremacy*, make sure you have seen the original, *The Bourne Identity*.

New Program Addresses Needs of Adult Learners

Jean Barlup, Director of the Learning Center, has established a "Gathering Place for Adult Learners" (GPA) on Angel. This is an online chat room catering to the special needs of adult learners. This program is open to all adult learners.

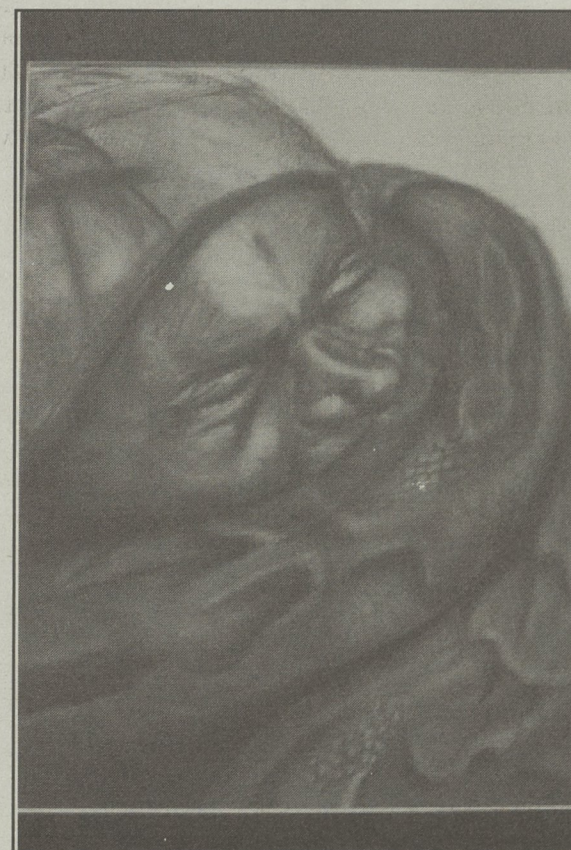
The purpose of GPA is to give adult learners the opportunity to meet and chat from the convenience of their own home. One student says, "I am really excited about this program. I hope to talk to other adult learners about their experiences, learn from each other, and support each other. I truly hope that everyone participates and enjoys the camaraderie that will be built here."

One of the greatest challenges adult learners face is

coordinating their schedules with each other between work, school, and kids. For this reason, campus involvement is very low among adult learners.

Barlup has created individual chat rooms for Accounting/Finance, Chemistry, Economics, Engineering, Forestry, Language, Math, Nursing, OT PT, English, Psychology, and Statistics. A coffee house chat room is also available to talk about anything that may be on your mind. Also, tutors are available online to answer questions about their respective tutoring classes.

If you are interested in joining GPA, email Barlup at jxb63@psu.edu to be added to Angel.



Sample of artwork displayed in the Learning Center

Photo by Tamara Clark