

# Opinion & Review

## EDITORIALS:

### What Happened, Bill?

By Mike Jamison

The anniversary of Bill Clinton's election occurred last week. My mind turned to the election of '92 as I watched an ad for the gubernatorial race in New Jersey. As I watched the ad, my thoughts turned to those heady days a year ago, when change was in the air and the world seemed ripe for a revolution. Sitting here, staring at my computer screen, I can't help but think: What went wrong?

On November 4, 1992, I watched the election returns on television all night. When Bill Clinton was finally announced the victor, I was elated. This was the first presidential election that I had gotten involved in, and the candidate I had supported had won. With thoughts of more jobs and less taxes swimming in my head, I joyously berated friends who were Bush supporters and even wrote an editorial in the *Lion's Eye* celebrating Clinton's victory. I anxiously awaited Clinton's swearing in, and taped the moment for prosperity when it happened. I should have known when I saw Hilary's hat that trouble was on the horizon.

I truly believe that I, and many others, expected too much. We were looking for the second coming of Kennedy; what we got was a rookie trying to help rebuild a struggling organization. And like any other rookie, the sins of players past suddenly become his problems. As Clinton entered office, it became evident from Day One that the honeymoon was over. Unemployment was still on the rise, taxes were still a problem, and health care was in a shambles. Not that all the problems Clinton had in his first year were all Bush-related. Let us not forget the Attorney General controversy, the tax talk, Bosnia, gays in the military, and of course, the haircut fiasco.

I recently bought a compact disc by the 10,000 Maniacs, and on the inside cover was a paragraph lauding how the youth vote had turned this country around and that we were the voice to be heard. All I could do was smile and laugh. I had thought my vote could change the world, and when Clinton was elected, I thought he would. I've now learned it's not that simple.

### Cranberries and Questions

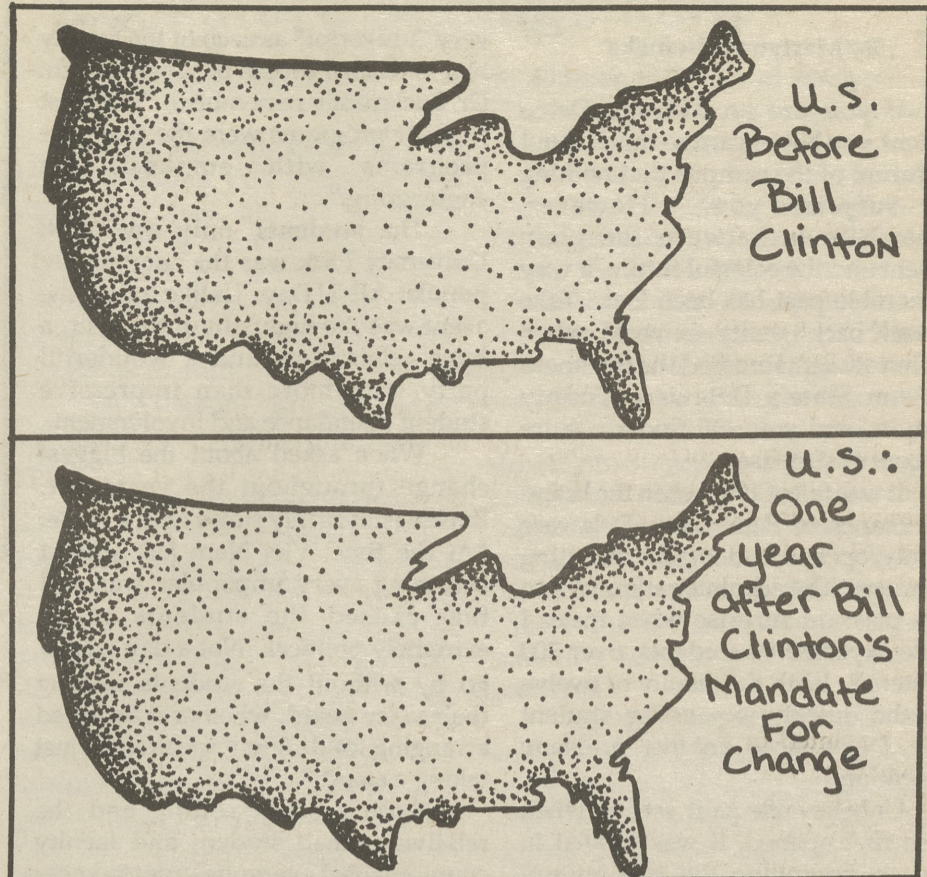
By s. cohoon

November has arrived and it's almost time for another Hallmark holiday: Thanksgiving. That's the wonderful holiday that gets you together with a bunch of people that you don't want to deal with, spend a bunch of money that you don't need to and otherwise wouldn't spend, and get fat in the process.

As you go out to buy turkey, cranberries, and cards with pictures of pilgrims and Indi...(excuse me) Native Americans, ask yourself this question, Does anyone really like cranberries? (If they do I'm pretty sure that they are the same people that like fruitcakes.) Seriously though, ask yourself this question: Is there a person indigenous (that's the proper term, not Native Americans) to North America that is thankful on the USA's great holiday?

The celebration of Thanksgiving is akin to celebrating the holocaust. It's like, yeah! Isn't it great that a bunch of WASPs came and shoved the native people out of their own land? That's what most Americans celebrate when they try to recreate this fairy tale meeting of the brave overseas adventurers with the cute little savage natives.

So, if you still need to celebrate Thanksgiving, try being thankful that your ancestors were immigrants and not native to North America.



## Halloween

### Without the Masks

By James Foltz

Another holiday just passed by this October. Many children were seen walking from door to door, saying, "Trick or treat." They dressed in costumes ranging from ghouls, ghost and clowns to athletes or comic book heroes. The reason for this, of course, was the celebration of Halloween.

Does anyone know what exactly we are celebrating when we put on our costumes on October 31?

Halloween's original roots come from old Druid holidays. The Druids honored the lord of the dead, Samhain, on the night of the harvest moon, which appears in late October to early November. The belief was that when the harvest moon appeared, Samhain, released the spirits of the dead to walk about and mingle with the living.

The Druids would gather themselves and terrorize the streets. They would go from house to house,

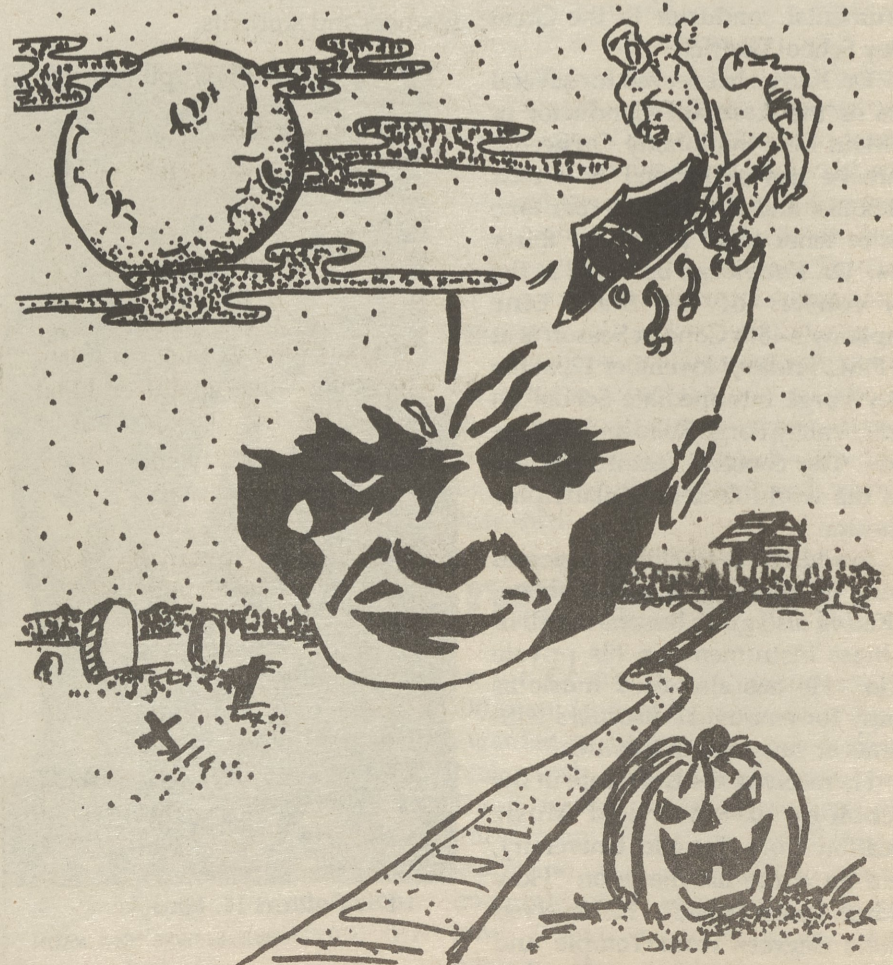
demanding money and offerings from the people for their lord. As the Druids did this, they would scream out horrifying shouts, which later evolved into the modern, "Trick or treat."

Another tradition which carried its way into Halloween was disguising one's self. Since on this night the spirits were believed to be roaming the earth, fear settled into people. They made up masks and disguised themselves as a spirit, so as to trick a "real" spirit into leaving them alone.

The name "Halloween" originates from "All Hallows' Eve" or the eve of "All Saints' Day" which was a church feast celebrated on November 1. In a membership drive to convert pagans, the church combined the two holidays.

Thus the origin of Halloween.

So, when it comes time for Halloween again next year, take some time to strip off its disguise and see it for what it truly is.



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