

## Editorial

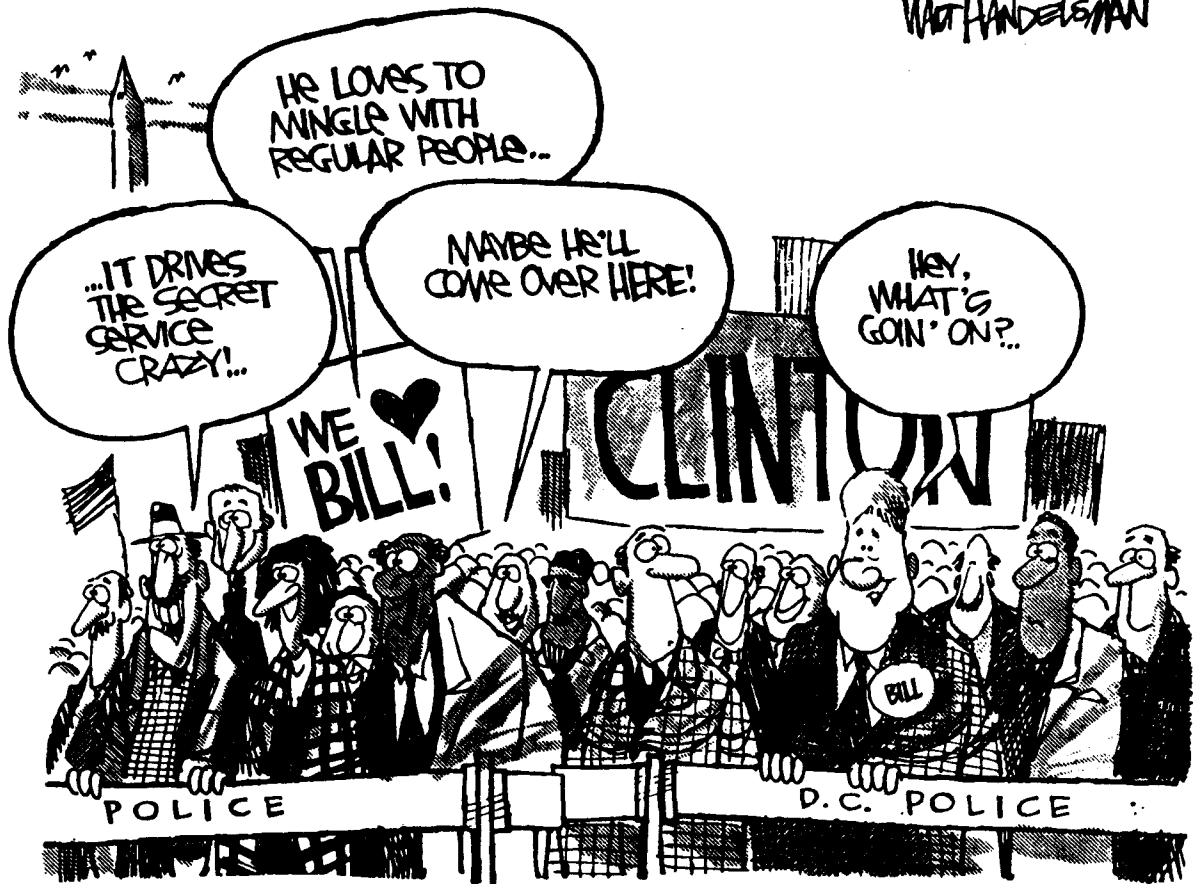
### Where do we stand?

Lights. Camera. Action. Several hundred television crews from around the world took advantage of a rare opportunity to watch U.S. Marines land and secure the seaport and airport in Mogadishu, Somalia Tuesday. Initial reports out of Washington indicate Operation Restore Hope is a huge success so far.

According to President Bush, our goal there is to reduce the level of violence. But what about the level of violence in Bosnia-Herzegovina? How can we commit ourselves to one area of the world and not another? In this day of the peacetime military, humanitarian efforts will be the new challenge. To go or not to go, that will be the question. It is absolutely essential that a policy be established in this area.

Nobody wants to see people in any part of the world starving or suffering. But, we must be prepared to commit to this effort for more than the estimated three months government officials have predicted it will take to end this operation. Once we have reduced the level of violence, we will be obligated to ensure the Somolian people get the humanitarian aid they need, not only for the short term, but also for the future.

As college students, we need to be aware of how our government handles these situations and how they plan to handle similar scenarios. We've got to be the ones to push for a standard or at least a decision-making process. Let's hope that Operation Restore Hope truly does what the title suggests and doesn't instead give the Somolian people false hope.



## From the Hip

Gary Johnson

I'm going to address a problem of mine--and maybe yours as well, but I hope not.

I'm sittin' on the bed wondrin' what I'm gonna do next. Sure, I don't have to decide what I'm going to do with my life until the end of my sophomore year, but this is all work--I'm not having any fun. My parents want me to go to college, society only approves of graduates, my friends all get drunk, and I don't like any of it. I'm not in control. I just don't fit in with anybody. Don't tell me "that's life" or "learn to live with it", because I shouldn't have to. I'm not clear on why I pay so much money to do all of this work and worry so much--they tell me that it's so that I can get somewhere in life, but I can't even remember where I've been, let alone think about where I'm going. So what am I doing here?

Maybe it's just a phase, but I'm a first semester freshman, and I'm already sick of it. It feels like just another high school, except here they go ahead and suggest to you (seemingly encourage you) to break the rules. "Just don't get caught."

It seems like this is all I ever do. I don't see the logic in paying for something I don't like. I never have any energy and it seems like I never have time to do what I want to. But isn't that contradictory? I should do what I want--what I really want, not what someone else tells me I like.

Why am I not in control? I shouldn't have to go with the flow or do whatever anyone tells me to do. The final decision is mine, and I'm gonna do what I wanna. Thinkin' for myself.



It's good for me. . . it's like soup, it's like nothing bad, let me tell you that much. ---Innumerable thanks to Kinkelahara and MLB---

Gary Johnson is first semester history major and a news reporter for The Collegian.

Looking for letters? Check out pages 6 & 7

## The Collegian

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