Time For A Change
-by Ed Rubin

I rarely have much free time to myself when I can sit around and do absolutely nothing. The most frequently occurring scenario occurs when I tell myself that I have nothing to do, but subconsciously, I realize that I am only wasting valuable time. However, on a few rare occasions, I have convinced myself that there is time to kill. In this situation, I often catch myself fantasizing about my life and undergoing some form of drastic change. Throughout my existence, I have been sheltered by financial security, and the three-layered blanket of protection and stability provided by my family, my country, and my God. What if, by some stroke of bad luck or turn of fate, all of these shelters were to disintegrate.

All of my life, I have been provided with everything that a person needs to prosper in today's society. The main topic of all the headlines in every newspaper and on every talk-show today is the increase in the crime rate. People who seem to be most unlikely to become criminals are making the tabloid papers. I have often wondered how someone who seems to have everything going for him can suddenly lose his sanity. These thoughts were triggered when I visited my uncle's church last Sunday, and the preacher began to talk about a girl I knew that murdered another person one day for no known reason. The preacher, who was only doing his job, used the actions of this girl to show everyone that a person is never happy until he knows God, thereby increasing everyone's morale. The explanation that most experts on human behavior are giving for this temporary insanity is an event that occurred in the person's past or the lack of proper schooling, discipline, or other provisions that a person needs to live in.

continued on p. 5

The Student Lounge: Yes, We Need One
-By Sarah Young

There has been quite a great deal of speculation on the future of the student lounge situation. For years, a student lounge has served as a refuge for juniors and seniors. Granted, the lounge was just for juniors and seniors, but all upper school students feel as though a lounge is an important and well-deserved place for us all.

In the past, there have been several different locations for the lounge. Yet, in all of those places, it was a place to escape from the academic pressures of each day. It was a place where students could go, if they had free time, to relax, enjoy good music, and have conversations with their friends. I understand that in the past, there have been problems with the lounges ranging from younger people being in the lounge to improper food disposal. Simply keeping it neat and clean was problematic. The students complained about the administration interfering with an operation that they wanted to call their own. Now, the students have learned that though the lounge was a tradition, it was, indeed, a privilege.

cont. p.6

In this Eclectic:
The Poll Results
Liberals Vomit and Cry
Students give opinions on the lounge
Faculty Chorus: Friend or Foe?
A Commentary on Religion
Plus... the Eclectic Crossword Puzzle
William Barousse's new comic strip
and, as always, much, much more...
Eclectic Poll Results - December 1994

Results include all participating students and faculty, and may not be entirely accurate.

1. Do you smoke?
   - yes 44%
   - no 39%
   just a few times 17%

2. Have you ever used an illegal drug?
   - yes 45%
   - no 55%

3. Would you use a student lounge if one were available?
   - yes 99%
   - no 1%

4. Did you understand the banana thing?
   - yes 26%
   - no 74%

5. Could you find Bolivia on a map of Europe?
   - yes 20%
   - no 80%

6. Would you re-elect Bill Clinton?
   - yes 17%
   - no 83%

7. What parish is Cade located in?
   - Iberia 0%
   - St. Martin 97%
   - Lafayette 3%

8. How old is E.S.A.?
   - 8 years 1%
   - 11 years 6%
   - 15 years 90%
   - 19 years 2%
   - 22 years 1%

9. What would you consider to be a fair starting salary (per year) for a college graduate?
   - $2500 2%
   - $12000 5%
   - $18000 29%
   - $30,000 47%
   - $60000 12%
   - $100000 5%

10. Would you describe yourself as:
    - conservative 20%
    - liberal 13%
    - moderate 21%
    - don't know, don't care 46%

11. Have you violated the "new" library rules?
    - yes 89%
    - no 11%

12. Have you ever been the victim of a homicide?
    - yes 20%
    - no 80%
Eclectic Reviews

**Album: Wildflowers, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers**
Reviewer: Preston Robinson
Breakdown:
Category: Old Tyme Rock 'n Roll with a bit of a methodical twist.
Rating: *****/5 (of 5)
Best Stuff: "You Don't Know How It Feels," "You Wreck Me," "A Higher Place."
Fast Forwards: would be sacrilegious
Overall Impression: Its good.

Every few months, I find an album which renews my faith in the ultimate goodness of man. Nothing can compare to good rock 'n roll. Not to say that bands such as Nirvana and Dinosaur Jr. are not great, but they lack something. Rock has become an endangered species in recent years, and when you find it, you can truly appreciate it.

After a dozen or so releases, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers have achieved the sound that they've been working toward for years. Just as with their last hit, "Last Dance With Mary Jane," all of the songs on Wildflowers are a blend of vocals, harmonica, and acoustic guitar in the image of Bob Dylan, combined with drumming and electric guitar riffs which conjure up memories of The Byrds and Neil Young. If you listen closely, you might even recognize a little bit of old-school Bruce Springsteen. But, most importantly, the drummer never plays one note more than he needs to. The result: You can hear the guitar solos and lyrics.

As if the music itself wasn't enough, the lyrics are even more impressive. While they are simple, they are by no means generic. Basically, they are about sex, drugs, and the eternal turmoil of the human soul, eating away at you like a big dog, with rock 'n roll playing the part of the almost mythical bottle of Pepto. Well, ok, that might be a bit extreme, but Petty proves that he understands the roll of jazz and blues in rock. Without this understanding, it deteriorates into a generic musical carcass which can, on any given night, be seen at 2:00 am on MTV's Alternative Nation. So, if you've been turned off to rock 'n roll by the likes of Bon Jovi and Guns 'n Roses, give it a chance. It will be worth it. Do it for your own peace of mind.

**Album: Unplugged, Nirvana**
Reviewer: Deep
Rating (out of 5): *****/5 (of 5)
Category: Good
Personal Favorites: "Pennyroyal Tea," "Oh Me," and "Lake of Fire."

MTV's popular Unplugged series is responsible for some of the finest performances by musicians such as Eric Clapton, Pearl Jam, and more recently, Led Zeppelin's reunion show. Nirvana's unplugged set is perhaps the greatest of these distinguished shows. The album is a perfect example of the music and songs which popularized the band. Dubbed as the voice of a generation, Curt Cobain gives a painfully beautiful performance. The set ranges from their newer songs such as Pennyroyal Tea and All Apologies to their earlier songs such as About a Girl. They also cover songs by David Bowie, the Vaselines, and the Meat Puppets, who cameoed for their selection. To many fans' relief, the packaging is not full of emotional good byes to the late singer and songwriter, however, the album itself is probably the perfect monument and farewell to Cobain. Even if you do not enjoy Nirvana, get this album. You might be surprised.

**Album: Down, The Jesus Lizard**
Reviewer: Charles "Tartaglia" Barouche
Rating: **** (of 5)
Category: Modern Rock (I think)

Amidst a live album, an EP, and several 7"s, Down is the Jesus Lizard's fourth full length studio LP. Ever since their first studio release, the Pure EP in 1989, this Chicago quartet has earned one of the largest fan bases that a minor label band has ever had. This is probably attributed to the very unique stylings of the Jesus Lizard, and the title many magazines and critics have bestowed on the band: "The best rock 'n' roll band in America." Oddly enough, it is fairly difficult to classify the Jesus Lizard. I asked several fans for their input. Steven Miller used many colorful
metaphors to say, basically, "The Jesus Lizard are rock n' roll, and some blues, but the music is approached in the most bizarre manner possible." This is true; the music could be simple rock n' roll if performed by someone else. But, the Jesus Lizard has an extremely warped sense of the genre. Yet, even a more complex description cannot suffice. When inquired, Gabe Blackwell's only description was "Good, there is no category that they fit." Perhaps it is this unique sound that has earned them their immense admiration by both fans and critics. But, as a result of their bizarre approach, they are also an acquired taste. If anybody is open to suggestion on a "hard rockin'" band, I highly recommend you listen to **Down** or any other available Jesus Lizard records.

**Album: Toreador of Love, hazel**

Reviewer: David Aurich  
Genre: Punk  
Breakdown:  
Rating: ***1/2 (of 5)  
Best stuff: almost all of it  
Fast forwards: the rest  
Overall impression: Sounds like Green Day and Nirvana being abused  

Hazel's second release on Sub-Pop is pretty good. The overall sound is akin to Green Day on drugs with the characteristic feedback of Nirvana. Yes, hazel is a Seattle band. Toreador of Love was mixed by Jack Endino, a veteran of the Nirvana album Bleach. Obviously, hazel patterns itself after Nirvana, but still produce a sound of their own. If you like Nirvana, Green Day, or even the Dead Milkmen, give hazel a try.

**Movie: Monster in a Box**  
Reviewer: Gabe Blackwell  
Rating: **** (of 5)

This film is basically a straight shot of Spalding Gray's monologue. We Are not told weather or not Grey is speaking to an audience, but one gets that feeling. This is Grey's second film, his first being the brilliant "Swimming to Cambodia", to which he constantly refers.

Quoting a CIA agent, Grey says, "I never thought I could sit through eighty-five minutes of someone else speaking, let alone another man." This time around its ninety-six minutes and no less exiting. Like the agent, you will be drawn in by Grey's spellbinding storytelling skills.

This movie is the story of one man's obsession. It is the story of the "monster", a huge novel that is mainly used as a prop in the performance. This is more than just a talking head, it really is a performance. His stories are both interesting and quite funny. These stories do not deal exclusively with the monster. They range as far as afield as a story of how Grew was caught smoking vodka in his drink.

This movie strength lies not only in the stories, however. The expressiveness of his voice, the resonance of his words, the infections made by his instrument, are all here in force. He creates through his voice the very emotion that he describes in his words. You feel his claustrophobia, his fear.

In the end, that is what it comes down to, a man and his words. And what powerful words they are.

**Movie: Interview With A Vampire**  
Reviewer: Ginger Courville  
Starring: Bad actors.  
Rating: Did not deserve one.

To quote Saturday Night Live, "Not gay enough." I mean, this was a really bad movie.
Movie: The Crow
Rating: R
Starring: Brandon Lee
Rating: ****1/2 (of 5)
Reviewer: Deep

Alex Proyas screen adaptation of James O'Barr's comic strip mini series, The Crow, is a story of love, violence and retribution. Brandon Lee's greatest and final performance is both scary and beautiful. He portrays a rock and roll singer who was murdered with his fiancee the night before Halloween, their wedding day. Not being able to rest in peace until justice is done, the guardian of souls, the Crow, leads him on a quest of revenge. Driven by anger and love, Lee's character fights so that he may sleep eternally next to his fiancee. The Crow is the ultimate story of both unrequited and requited love. The film also boasts one of the greatest rock and roll soundtracks ever, featuring Nine Inch Nails, Rage Against the Machine, Rollins Band and Machines of Loving Grace. The Crow can be found in any video store.

Movie: Pulp Fiction
Director: Quentin Tarantino
Reviewer: Mike Barry
Rating: *****(of five)
Content: Travolta, burn outs, french fast food, Uma Thurman, and a steady diet of blood.

From its opening scene, the twisted nature of this movie shows its colors. Containing spontaneous acts of violence, extremely graphic language (in some sections equaling the profanity found in Menace II Society), comedic dialogues and action sequences, Pulp Fiction offers us a rare glimpse into the not-so-familiar life of organized crime. The movie is presented in sections which are no particular chronological order, thereby confusing some viewers while amazing others as the bizarre story unravels. The movie itself doesn't follow a main plot line, though all of the little stories (there are about five or six) eventually tangle into each other, creating sort of a "Big Bang" effect, with a fascinating and fresh story emerging from the multitude of chaotic scenes. The subtleties of the film, which were both comical at times as well as very symbolic at others, leave an impression on the viewer.

Not only was the film's writing superb, but the performances of John Travolta and Bruce Willis were incredible. Pulp Fiction, like Tarantino's earlier film Good Fellas, is destined to become a magnet for cult followings and a long life of viewing in VCRs everywhere, despite its Flack of success in the box office. I personally feel, as I'm sure many others who have seen this film do, that this was one of the best pictures released this year, and definitely worthy of five stars.

A Change  cont. from p.1
today's society. I have always laughed at their explanations, because I believe that people can control their destiny, and their actions no matter where or how they were raised. However, recently my views have been somewhat changed on this topic. I have come to realize that people who have not been provided with the shelter and stability that I have received all my life are the top candidates for violent crimes. Before I came to ESA, I attended a small school on the north side of Lafayette, and was sometimes treated as an outcast because I was more fortunate than most of the students. During my years at that school, I got to know everyone and their family backgrounds. Most of them were poor, had one parent, and were on welfare. One of my peers, whom I had gotten to know, had a father who was on death row and scheduled to be sentenced to death by electrocution a week later. Dalton, (the boy whose father was on death row), lived with his mother and a younger sister in the government owned projects of Truman subdivision in north Lafayette. Dalton's mother had no way of disciplining him, and as a result of this, the
way she treated him made it seem as if she had given up on making him a better person. Dalton was one of the most troublesome kids in the entire school, and after viewing his actual living situation, I could see why. I often think about how much different I would be if I were in Dalton's situation. If I had been born into his dysfunctional family instead of mine, I doubt I would be much different than the way he is now. Every day I hear people saying that criminals are naturally evil persons who must be punished with the maximum penalties. I wonder if these people know those criminals and their family backgrounds. Many of my old friends have family traditions of being menaces to society. My goal here is not to glorify crime, but to simply suggest that those people who become criminals, especially at a young age, were probably not provided with any morals. Because of this fact, these criminals tend to believe that crime is not wrong. My father is a judge, and for this reason it is very difficult to imagine myself as a criminal; however, I believe that human nature is naturally evil, and anyone who is not taught what is right and wrong has the potential to become a criminal.

In the same train of thought, I sometimes imagine myself being a rich, spoiled brat living in a mansion in Beverly Hills. The love and desire for money can be possessive and drive a person to insanity. In recent years, Louisiana seems to be on the verge of being swallowed up by greed. The Lottery has taken over the hearts and minds of the middle-class people, and in a few years the gambling casinos will take over their souls. All of the old sayings such as "money can't buy happiness," are true. My trainer won thirty million dollars in the Lottery last year, and I told him he was the luckiest man in the world because of this fortune. I spoke to him recently, and the last thing he said to me was, "I almost wish I could give it all up." I thought about this for a while and realized how difficult a situation he was in. People call him every day with sad stories, begging for money that he has not even received yet. If his answer is "No," then he is labeled as a scrouge by that person and his entire family. If I were to acquire a large sum of money today, I would change nothing about my life, and probably give most of the money away. However, if I were born into a rich family, I would be a stingy show-off. The reason I believe this is because most brats whom I have encountered tend to believe that the world was built around them, because they have received everything they could possibly want from the time they were born.

The more I think about this topic, the more I realize that there is no one I would rather be than myself. I often write about my problems in my journals, and complain about certain obligations that I have, but now I realize that my life could be much worse. My parents have provided me with everything I could possibly want, and I consider myself to be quite fortunate. Although it would be nice to wake up one day living in a different world, my fantasy could only last for a short time, because I am satisfied with my present lifestyle.

Lounge

cont. from p.1

My position on the Student Council has earned me both questions and debates about the status of finding a new student lounge. There are locations which could be used, but are already designated as serving some purpose. It appears to me that the teachers do not want us to have a student lounge. I cannot understand why those teachers don't think we should have a lounge. Students, along with many teachers, do work in the library. However, when Middle School classes come into the library, staying there becomes impossible for both teachers and students. At that point, the teachers can go to an empty classroom, the teacher's lounge, or even go outside. The students don't have that choice. We have no place to sit and relax and converse with friends. A few days ago, I sat down on the bridge and was talking to a friend about this situation. I looked around and saw the entire Upper School running around trying to keep warm. When its cold, everyone I talk to asks the question "When are we getting a Student Lounge?" Never are they satisfied with my answer of "We're trying, we're trying."

In a nutshell, a student lounge would mean a refuge for us. We could listen to music, play cards, sleep, or just simply relax. With all of the changes that ESA has
undergone, I feel that maintaining at least one of the primary student traditions is not too much to ask. There are so many new things to get used to, like sharing the entire campus with Middle Schoolers, asking for a place for us to call our own seems like such a small favor. Now, this school has transformed from a second home to a place where none of us feels as though we have a voice.

The Future of the Lounge
-by Andon Briggs

Personally, I believe that our class destroyed any chance of receiving another student lounge. I don't blame the administration for closing it down. But, the student lounge is part of the freedom that ESA students have had. However, I also agree that the faculty and administration need more workspace for themselves, so there isn't any free room for a lounge. If possible, we should find some way to give both the administration and faculty what they need. If the student body can raise enough money to build or buy a building, I don't see how a lounge would hurt anybody. Eventually, a decision will have to be made one way or another, but we cannot be criticized for our efforts. We appreciate the consideration of our ideas.

An Appeal From the Students
-by Liz Harwood

Students—Before you read any of this, please read the following questions:
Are you feeling...tired?
...run down?
...overworked?
If you answered yes to one or more of these questions, then we have a problem. I have been attending ESA since the sixth grade and my body has grown accustomed to the late nights filled with completing homework and studying for tests. My body has become well adjusted to this routine, but what about everyone else? I am worried about the rising middle schoolers and new students. How are we to know how their body will react to the hours of studying and worrying? I would like to propose a solution: Communication. If we can better communicate to our teachers (this excludes WHINING!!!!!!) then perhaps they will better understand the pressures we undergo, and will spread out the work load among classes better.

Teachers—I hope you don't feel that I am complaining about the work. Far from it. I appreciate all the information that's being crammed into my little brain. I just wish that there was some way that the work load could be spread out more evenly. It is as if one week I cannot breath because I am so overwhelmed with work, and then I fall asleep in all my classes. And the next week I play cards or paint my toe nails because I have nothing to do. I just hope that with this plea a better communication will develop between the teacher and the student.

So, I wish everyone good luck. Hang in there! And if you've seen the Crow always remember that: "It can't rain all the time."

Editor's Note: Teachers, there is a scheduling calendar to solve this problem.

New Year's Resolution— Something More than Losing Weight
-by Scott Mayers

As we rapidly approach Christmas and the New Year, many people take time out contemplate their lives. Often, they evaluate the year and weigh the good and bad events. They also might review some of the changes that have occurred over the last year. In conjunction with these things, people also make resolutions concerning the year to come. I thought I might share some of my observations involving the New Year's Resolution.

I never really agreed with the concept of New Year's Resolution because I feel that if someone wants to do something, then they should do it at that time. It should not take New Year's Day for someone to begin doing something they could have easily started on any other day. But, for many people, the New Year represents a good time to change some things in their lives. The most obvious resolution include going on a diet, watching
Passing Thoughts

less television, spending more quality time with the family, being nice to siblings, and making better grades. Although these are often useful, they usually lack any real substance and are forgotten before February. These types of resolutions should be made every month or even every day in order to be effective.

New Year's Resolutions should be of a more permanent nature, after all, New Year's Day only occurs once every year. They should be goals that you must think about and work to achieve. In the past, I have made a resolution to be more accepting of other people's ideas. Throughout the entire year, I kept this goal in mind and strove to accomplish this new attitude. A resolution I might consider making this year would be to expand my cultural horizons. I could accomplish this through a more active participation in community arts programs for example. These types of resolutions are ones that I feel could actually change myself into a better person.

It seems that every time you turn around we are entering a new year. Because time is limited, we must realize that we cannot wait to do certain things, for if we do, we will miss the opportunity. Resolutions are excellent ways to remind yourself of things you want to change or experience, but they are useless if you ignore them. The New Year is time to contemplate where you are and where you want to be, and resolutions could be the bridge from here to there.

Athletic Strikes

-by Lawrence Simon

By now, you have probably read about ten million articles on the various athletic strikes in progress. The owners and the players continue to go at it as the battle for the bucks keeps loyal and upset fans from enjoying their Sunday afternoons. What upsets me the most about these athletic strikes is that they are over who will make more money. Players and owners sound like children as they scream, “No! I want ten million! Five is too little!” Come on, most people in this country make less than forty thousand dollars a year as it is. Furthermore, for some of these players, their baseball salary is only a small percentage of their income; endorsements often quadruple their already unfathomable salaries. If the argument is over who will get the money, why not give the extra money to charity? That way, neither the players nor the owners will make “too much.” Each faction can simply take what they want, and put the rest to good use. With the money that that bargain would produce, we could probably feed all of Rwanda. Anyway, that’s all I have to say.

Faculty Chorus: Friend or Foe?

-by Wes Raine

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1994: a day which will live in infamy. Actually, I had the pleasure of seeing the newly unveiled ESA Faculty Chorus. I must say that I was pleasantly surprised. It was rather impressive. There were the usual strong singers like Mrs. Bridges, Mr. Jebby, and Mrs. Margaret, but Mr. Morris, Mr. Sims, and Dr. Clarke, to name a few, showed serious promise in singing ability. "I enjoyed it." was all Dr. Clarke could say. Mrs. Luckey could only express gratitude and congratulations for learning "such a complicated piece." I'm happy to announce that Bobby Luckey is newest member of the ESA faculty. If anyone can tell me what class he teaches, I would like to know so I might take it next semester. I recommend that everyone request to Mrs. Luckey that the Faculty Chorus sing in Chapel because they are quite good. To those of you who missed Lessons and Carols, for some reason or another, you missed out on quite a performance. If they ever perform again, I recommend that everyone try to see them.
Notes on an "Alternative" Nation
-by Gabe Blackwell

I refuse to let my generation be packaged as a marketing ploy. I cannot (and will not) stand to see our rebellion defamed and declawed, set defenseless in front of the masses. Millions plug into TV, and, unknowingly, resign their thoughts and ideas to it. We are Gen MTV, and it fits. To be part of this "rebellion" is to buy into the myth that image is everything. The revolution IS televised. Anyone with a gold card can join. These attributes are ill-conducive to the goals we should seek. And so, I rebel against the rebellion, I cut against the waves, and peer down the barrel of individuality.

My rebellion is a rebellion of the mind, an intellectual rebellion. I challenge YOU to join me. Don't give in. Don't "grow up." Don't "act mature." Act your age. Be yourself. Everyone should be an "alternative." In a perfect world, there is no mainstream. There shouldn't be a common ideal. There should be millions of ideals. Be selfish. Don't compromise your ideas. YOU should be YOU. (If you have an opinion, which you should, I'd like to hear it.)

The Fall of The Liberals
-by Adam Young

The Republican party has swept the '94 midterm elections, causing liberals everywhere to vomit and cry themselves to sleep. I myself could not be more pleased. Bob Dole-senate majority leader, Newt Giengrich-speaker of the house, it's a dynamic duo. The president's ultra-leftist agenda has been stopped dead in its tracks. After the loss of president Bush in 1992, the only conservative stronghold at the time, it appeared as though the country had once again stumbled into the gaping abyss of nauseous liberalism. Now, the electorate has come through for the right and pulled us away from that sordid path.

Here's my political theory on the past three years in America. After the republicans had controlled the presidency for twelve years some things were less than perfect, but-hey nobody's perfect. Anyway, almost every democrat and some vital republicans wanted to change the direction of the country in the presidential election. These people thought they were doing the right thing by supporting a democratic candidate, yet they still did not have enough supporters to defeat president Bush. Lucky for them, old Ross Perot came around and captured the hearts of so many of us with his witty one-liners on Larry King and aggressive half-hour prime time infomercials. Perot took from Bush those vital voters who wanted change, but couldn't vote democratic because it felt too silly. This gave President Clinton the edge and clinched the popular vote with forty two percent. After two years of President Clinton's distinguished pursuit of ultra-leftist ends, those voters realized what they had done, and they regretted it. When the recent elections came around, voters tried to put things back like they were, before something really terrible happened. Thus, the republican sweep. I hope that clears things up.

Even though the Republicans control the legislature, things will not be kosher again for a good while. Bill Clinton is still president of this great and powerful nation, however unpleasant that may be. The republican legislators' job is to stop the president from pursuing his goals at all costs. Gridlock is the only way. After Mr. Clinton is ousted from office, then things will be set back right.

The Nature of Student-Faculty Relations
-Jeremy Carrier

When one becomes part of such a close-knit community as ESA's, you immediately are absorbed into that community as a working member. Within this network of life comes a special bond between
peers, and between students and faculty. A few questions are then raised:
1) When is a teacher no longer a teacher, but a friend?
2) Where does the line between teaching standards and friendships become unclear.
3) When does a teacher or student cross the line of good judgement over personal matters?

In ESA, we are fortunate to have faculty members that go beyond the typical knowledge giver, establishing personal relationships with their students. When is a teacher no longer a teacher, but a friend? At ESA, the standard between teacher and friend is not a part of the community. Therefore, within our school society, teacher = friend.

In college level systems where teacher/student relations usually extend beyond the classroom, teaching standards are often compromised over the value of a friend. To ask a teacher to maintain standards while working on establishing friendships is a request that is both difficult and potentially dangerous. However, the faculty of ESA has managed to prevent any incidents of compromised values whether it be on behalf of the student or the teacher.

Finally, is there a point that no one should cross concerning personal matters. Unfortunately, there comes a time where privacy outweighs social acceptability, and a student or teacher crosses into a dangerous area of discussion. However, very few incidents of this occur within our community, and congrats are therefore due to the faculty of ESA for maintaining dignity without compromising ideal or standards.

M.Y.O.B., U.N.
By: Ann-Marie Cain

If you've read the newspaper in the last few days, even if it's just the front page in the last few days, you might have noticed an increase in the activity of Bosnia. As I write this article the Bosnian Serbs, the rebels, are on the verge of defeating the Bosnian government. The Bosnian Serbs control almost 70% of Bosnia, the town and safe-zone of Bihac has fallen to the Bosnian Serbs, and NATO and the U.N. can't do anything about it. The official government of Bosnia sees the end is near and is pressuring the U.N. to accept a peace treaty presented by the Bosnian Serbs in which the Serbs keep all of the land that they control.

This conflict officially began in 1991 when the Bosnian Serbs rebelled after a move by Bosnia's Muslims and Croats to secede from Yugoslavia and, the fighting has been continued ever since. However, the conflict has been going on much longer than three years. For centuries, the Serbs have been fighting with the Croats and the Muslims, whether it concerns religion, territorial boundaries, or ethnic differences. This civil war is merely an extension of these age-old conflicts and the U.N. and NATO have no business getting involved.

This war from the start has been a civil war. The U.N. and NATO should never have gotten involved and, they never would have, if the balance of the veto powers in the U.N. Security Council had remained the same as when the U.S.S.R. was still considered a major power. But because there is virtually no veto power opposing the U.S. anymore, the U.S. supports everything that the other nations propose. If the U.S. would develop a backbone and vote down foolish plans such as getting involved in a civil war that doesn't threaten outside nations, there wouldn't be over 200 U.N. and NATO personnel being held hostage by the Bosnian Serbs. The worst case scenario is that this minor civil war that should have remained an internal dispute escalates into an international conflict in that could cost hundreds of thousands of lives.

THE POST-MODERN SOCIETY
by Lawrence Simon

If love, the spring of motion, acts
the soul;
Reason's comparing balance rules the whole,
Man, but for that, no action could attend,
And, but for this, were active to no end...

In this passage from Know Then Thyself, Alexander Pope summarizes the modern philosophy: that Reason rules the entire
universe. One of the most fascinating aspects of history, and one of my favorite hobbies, is the study of cultures and how they have changed throughout the past. A culture consists of a set of beliefs and assumptions which govern the people of a certain era and are often visible in the literature of the time period in which they prevail. For example, Pope wrote the above quotation during the Enlightenment, the birth of Modernism. The Enlightenment represents an intellectual shift from the Middle Ages to the Modern era, and it was the first major transition society had seen in over one thousand years. Today, history is repeating itself as we are moving from Modernism to Post Modernism.

The term Modernism describes the group of assumptions which replaced the medieval order of Dante. Modernism first made its impact in 1610 when Galileo cracked the foundation of medieval society by confirming the Copernican theory of the universe. Then, Sir Isaac Newton astounded scientists and professors with his physical equations that explained the previously unfathomable universe. Newton's Natural Laws led to a new branch of philosophy as the French philosophers sought to establish Natural Laws for everything. As opposed to medieval laws, these Natural Laws showed no preference toward people of higher ranking. Contemporary traffic laws are a perfect example of this change. In the Middle Ages, right-of-way was given to the person with the most noble lineage. Today, however, everyone must stop at a red light whether they are a CEO or a bum. The Enlightenment also gave birth to Reason, which, like the Natural Laws, applied to everyone. Therefore, since all people were reasonable and under the jurisdiction of the Natural Laws, the philosophers of the Enlightenment concluded that, "All men are created equal," and proceeded to define a new societal order: Modernism. Unlike his medieval counterpart, who had been relaxed and content that the truth had been given to him, Modern man would be mechanical and determined in his search for Truth, Justice, and Order. Because of his faith in Truth and Reason, when faced with a challenge, he would attack it single-handedly and without complaint. This trait of Modern man would be especially visible in the Victorian Era, when people believed that hard work could earn anything.

Modern society had its roots in the early to late 1600's with the changes in the beliefs of the intellectual community. However, the actual shift from a Medieval to a Modern society did not occur until the American Revolution in 1776 and the French Revolution of 1789. Thus, for almost a century and a half, society underwent a transition phase. Today, it looks as though we are in such a period. The evolution of Quantum Theory and Chaos Science has caused dramatic changes in how the intellectual community views the world. Scientists are moving away from the firm conclusions of Newton's Natural Laws and the Modern assumption that we know the Truth. Instead, they now proclaim that we know nothing; everything is governed by chance and probability. As did the ideas of Newton and the philosophes, these new concepts are slowly filtering through to the general populace, and evolving into Post-Modernism. As the unyielding restraints of modern Truth have melted away, Post-Modernists subconsciously believe that they themselves are the only real things in the universe. Furthermore, planning and patience are useless to a Post-Modern, who thinks that the future is unpredictable and uncontrollable. The only important sensations are what we know and want right now. Post-Modern man is trapped in a "Culture of Narcissism" in which he (or she) is constantly striving to get what he wants. All other people and things fade out of the picture, for to a Post-Modern, he and his immediate desires are all that exist. Also, because a Post-Modern believes that he is the only real thing in the universe, if something goes wrong in his life, he feels that the universe must accommodate and compensate him for his losses. Post-Modern man is the American victim, and our transition to Post-Modernism is manifested by our glorification of the victim.

Many of my peers evince this transition as they are living by Post-Modern assumptions and do not even know it. For example, last Halloween, my brother had a lot of homework that he did not feel like doing. While a Modern person would have tackled this homework without self-pity, my Post-Modern
brother complained about how cruel his teachers were. Consequently, my mother was moved with pity and telephoned several of my brother's teachers to reprimand them for giving such an extensive assignment to seventh graders on Halloween night. Without even realizing it, my brother, my mother, and even myself, for I somewhat supported my brother, were making decisions based on Post-Modern assumptions.

As society has moved from Modern to Post-Modern thought, many people have had a hard time dealing with the assumptions derived from Max Planck's Quantum Theory, Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, and Chaos Science. Even Einstein exclaimed that, "God does not play dice." However, the proponents of Quantum Theory and Chaos Science either quiet down or die off as the transition from the Modern era to the Post-Modern era continues. Evidence of this shift appears everyday in the news. Therefore, saving major newspaper clippings might not be a bad idea, for by staying abreast of current affairs, we can witness history in the making.

**A Personal View of Religion**
-Tyson Cromwell

I hate to ruin a good chapel talk, but I honestly feel like I can keep your attention better on paper. I have always been very curious about religion. Well, actually, there is not much that I am not curious about, but I am especially curious about religion because the people who have raised me, parents and teachers, have made such a big deal out of it. If I left ESA, sat down, and took the rest of my natural life to think about God and mankind, I do not think that I would uncover even the tip of the iceberg. Not that we are incapable of exploring all of the ideas of religion, but we simply do not have the time to do so. I am an Episcopalian, so I guess you are going to have to bear down and read my little thoughts on what we are as Episcopalians. It is all right to ask the person next to you to wake you up if you fall asleep reading my article!

First of all, a Christian is a Christian. Whether one is Catholic or Baptist, in my opinion, the two are equal in God's eyes. I cannot think of a religion that would dispute that God created the world, so I will first address that issue. We are the definition of hypocrites. If I went to look up hypocrite in the dictionary, the definition would be the human race. If God created the universe all at once, then how can we explain evolution.

Now perhaps we are wrong and all the science and "knowledge" that we have is false, but I cannot doubt everything that I have tested and believe to be true. Of course, I know, we cannot prove anything, but you have to assume some things. My entire thesis is built on the idea that God created the smallest particle that became the universe and eventually evolved into what we are today. Now I am not a deist, one who believes that God created the universe for man and then left us alone to rule it and do as we pleased, because I believe that God is with us every day.

When I try to figure out who I am, I usually think about Michaelangelo's fresco of the Sistine Chapel Ceiling. Have you seen the portion of the ceiling where God is touching Adam's finger and giving him the divine spark? If you have not, then you really should because that is it. That picture, where God gives Adam the divine spark, is the key to humanity. I believe that we all have a divine spark, and it is that spark which makes us human and separates us from the rest of the animals. Because we cannot forget that we are part animal, but we are also very much divine. To me, this is the ultimate privilege. But, it is not as if we can separate the body from the spirit, until we die of course. The spirit is what goes on after our bodies wear out. I do not understand why people fear death. I understand why one would feel sad about leaving someone they loved, but in my opinion, a part of you is always going to be with them, and, some day, their spirit will be with you in heaven. Also, our spirit is what allows us to have emotions, to learn and to grow, so why would we not continue to grow in these ways in heaven?

Spiritual growth is the best kind of growth because there is no limit to how much a person can grow spiritually. It is really fun, because after a while, one begins to see that all the ideas that our teachers are presenting to us, all the ideas that television is giving us, and even the ideas that our friends are giving us are slightly influenced. If I stand back and
look at all the general ideas of math, english, history, french, or any other class, I can see that the ideas are all connected, and I personally feel better about my original ideas when I have understood where the idea that I am being taught came from, and if I understand its origination, then I may have a good idea where to start forming my own ideas. Yes, there is a chance that my ideas would be influenced by the ideas that I have studied, but there is also going to be an element of originality in my ideas. It is all interconnected. We are all interconnected. Religion is a great example of this because it is at the heart of our being.

There is no such thing as hating someone, because deep down inside, under all the turmoil and conflict, there is that divinity. Some people are terrified by the idea of being half angel. I have to admit, it is quite a compliment, but use it to the best of your ability. Explore, learn, grow, and if you do not like what you find, then try another method, but I have found nothing but happiness in exploring God's world. It is beautiful. We are beautiful. Before Michelangelo died, he was working on another "Pieta", which is a statue of the virgin Mary holding the dead Christ in her arms, but this "Pieta" was to be different. This "Pieta" was molded together in that there were not very clear separations in the virgin Mary and Christ. Michelangelo was a pioneer for this idea of oneness. We are all on the same road. Where we are heading, I am not exactly sure, but I know that we all heading there together. Some may go kicking and screaming, but they are going. Just remember that because you go to ESA, everyone around you loves you and is always there to go through what ever potholes you are going through with you. Dr. White said it best when he said that he loves all of us. Lastly, have a wonderful and safe Christmas vacation.

As 1994 winds down, we should, as is common at the end of every year in recent memory, take a look back at some of the highs and lows of the year.

On the political scene, the Republican Party has driven the woeful Democrats from Congress. With yet another conscientious vote for change (which, ironically, also happens every year), the voters have ensured yet more gridlock in an already tortoise-like government. Internationally, we narrowly avoided invasions of both Cuba and Haiti, due in large part to the hard work of... former President Jimmy Carter.

On the music scene, Nirvana lead singer Curt Cobain's tenure as a member of the human race abruptly expired. In another unfortunate incident, MTV's Alternative Nation failed to expire... The Superdome was visited by three bands from the glory years of rock music: Pink Floyd, The Eagles, and The Rolling Stones.

As for our own little corner of the cane fields, we at the Eclectic are proud to announce that the entire class of 1994 successfully graduated. Soon after their graduation, work was completed on three new buildings to hold an expanded student body of three hundred and twenty-five.

So, as 1994 passes into the history books, look ahead to an eventful 1995, keeping in mind that, according to Nostradamus, the third anti-Christ will invade Europe and begin WWIII this year. With any luck, he'll wait until the Senior Trip is over.

Thanks to Mr. Ducrest, Mr. Broussard, Mrs. Romero, and Linoleum. The Eclectic is still sponsored by Mr. Tutwiler...
The Adventures of Jacques

Hey Jacques! What do you think about the FED raising the interest rate?

Now I must sell my stocks and move to the bond market.

What happened to your great sense of humor and ability to make anything funny?

Oh yes! What I meant to say was "Why don't you tell me genius" HA!

Boy are you funny! Your humor never ceases to amaze me!

The Moral Is:
You cannot have your cake and eat it too
-OR-
Don't drink and drive
You can determine which moral fits best according to your interpretation.
ACROSS

3. These are generally too long in chapel
7. The most heavily stressed word defining our school
9. This team just went for big number eight
12. This is what you receive when you get a study hall
13. Poisonous type of snake thought to be found in the biology lab (and subsequently killed)
14. Our fight song is this type of music
15. Bobby
16. Mr. Broussard's favorite smell in the morning

DOWN

1. The type of snake really found in the biology lab
2. What every student would like to have on those cold, wet days
4. This animal appears after every article by Anne-Marie Cain
5. This happened to the campus this summer
6. This country is NOT in Europe
8. Dr. Clarke's "foreign" language
10. A very special French convention
11. ____-N-Fun
The Eclectic is:

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