

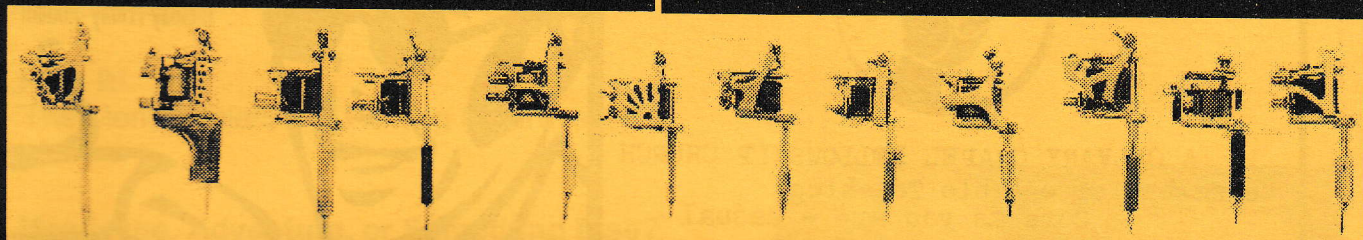
- **Park It?**
- **Spring Break Alternatives**
- **The Blind Munchies Coffeehouse**
- **The Rider**

ISSUE

25

Word on the street
magazine

A Street Level Ministries Publication. • Winter 2006



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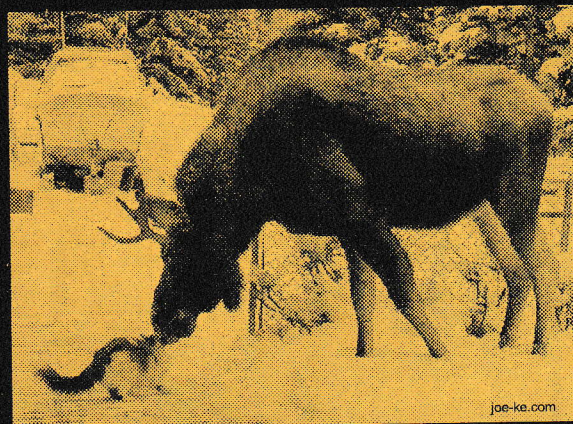


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Word on the street magazine

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Street Level Ministries,
a UW-Stout student organization.

Want to know more?

Check out our website—

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Any comments or suggestions please
write us:

Street Level Ministries

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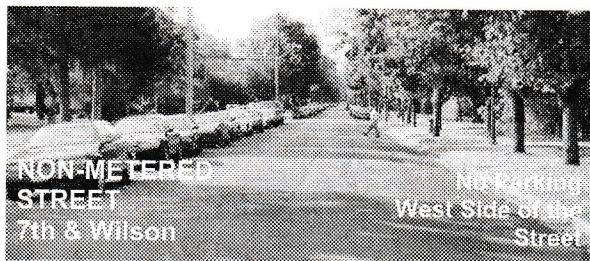
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Park It?

If you have ever complained about lack of parking, if you have ever grumbled under your breath about meter fines, if you have ever driven around the block countless times looking for a spot, only to have someone else wedge in there before you at the last minute, you are not alone! Parking is one of those everyday things that can be a real frustration. In Menomonie, parking is a major concern for students, professors, and community members alike. In an attempt to clear the air a bit, students, professors, community members, and even the Stout "Parking Guru" were interviewed to get opinions, suggestions, and answers.



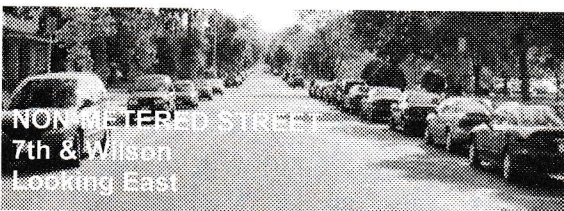
NON-METERED STREET
7th & Wilson

No Parking
West Side of the
Street

What Do You Think?

What opinions are floating around about parking in this town? One downtown business manager, (who wishes to remain anonymous), says parking is limited at best. Not only do employees have to pay the meters to park, but customers are sometimes forced to park blocks away. She says it would be nice if the city would give a little because her business is one of the fastest growing businesses downtown. They could use more parking for both employees and customers.

Valerie Kasinskas, a student and worker at the Menomonie Food Co-Op, suggested maybe adding some gravel lots in order to decrease the amount of runoff water from parking lots and save money in the mean time. She thinks one solution to the problem might come in the form of Earth-friendly parking lots. Molly, a Junior at Stout and an employee at downtown's Total Tan, also has to park at meters or walk from a distance when she goes to work. Her biggest issue, however, is the fact that she *did* buy a Stout parking "C" pass, and has only been able to park there one time this year because the spaces are always full (find out the reason for Molly's predicament in the "Guru" section).



NON-METERED STREET
7th & Wilson
Looking East

What about the professors? They're in the same boat as the students. They, too, have to buy passes to park, and some have voiced complaints to Parking Services about the accessibility of parking and the fact that they have to pay as faculty. Others, however, such as Wendy Dittman, the Administrative Program Specialist for Operations, Construction and Management, thought there were several things that Stout did well in regard to parking. She acknowledged that they promptly cleared lots in bad weather and that there were different levels of service to choose. She said that Stout's parking choices were adequate with several lots close to the buildings she works in.

With all these opinions about parking, the next place to turn is the man behind the scenes at Stout Parking Services.

The Guru Speaks

His name is Keith McCarten and he is the Sergeant in charge of Parking Services at Stout. He is referred to by members of the community as the "Parking Guru" due to his expertise on parking issues that affect Stout. He was asked some questions about the ins and outs of Stout parking.

Stout currently has 24 parking lots and over 2,500 parking spaces; 1,700 of which are dedicated to student

resident parking. The enrollment at Stout averages out at nearly 7,200 students, with 3,000 that live on campus. In light of all this data, it's easy to see why parking becomes a major issue.

McCarten said that all of the funding for parking at Stout is supported only by user fees. No tax dollars or tuition dollars may be used to help pay for creating and maintaining parking lots/spaces. This creates a bit of a catch-22 for the Parking Services Department. If they create more parking, user fees need to increase. If they leave user fees as they are, they have a very limited budget with which to create lots and do maintenance on existing lots.

While there are nearly enough parking spaces at Stout to meet student and faculty demand, one major problem is location. Students want to be able to park close to their dorms or classes, and some of the Stout lots are relatively far from campus. Therefore, some students choose to park on side streets or in city lots and, consequently, eat up parking spaces for people who live and work near campus.

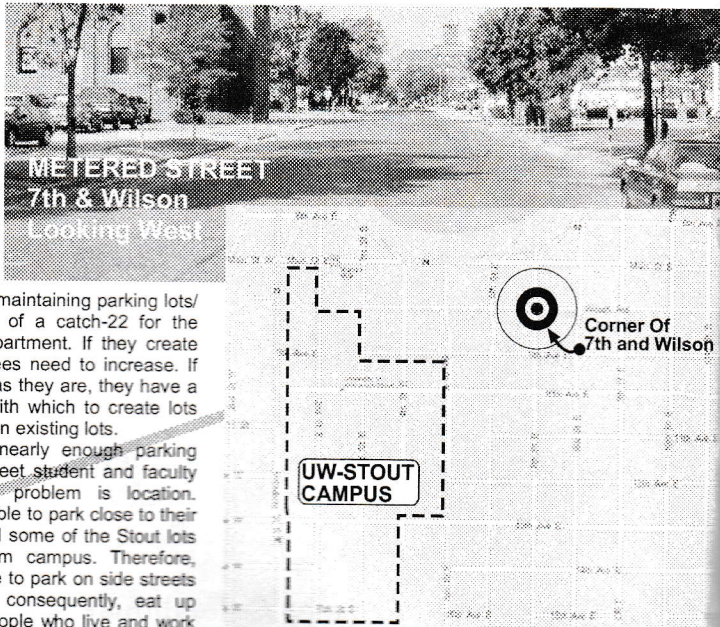
What about Molly's parking predicament? McCarten confirmed that "C" lot commuter parking passes are given with the assumption that students who use these passes are not on campus all day long. Therefore, they assign more passes than spaces for any of the several lots that "C" passes can park in. He said that lots near the Home Ec building fill up first, while lots near Applied Arts usually have openings. The problem, once again, is location and not necessarily availability.

According to McCarten, there's no easy solution. The idea of a parking ramp has been suggested, but creating a parking ramp would cost more than Parking Services could afford and would dramatically raise student user fees. Stout is currently trying to deal with parking issues one at a time. For example, when the upperclassmen moved to North Campus this year, the demand for parking in that area increased. They are also trying to keep students parking in campus facilities in order to free up parking for community members and downtown businesses. How are they doing this?—By adding more spaces in advantageous places close to campus. They're looking to buy up property that could be turned into meters or student/faculty lots. They've also made payments and parking citation appeals accessible over the web. Finally, they're working on improving the clarity of signs and information in the lots and metered spaces.

Heading Downtown

The next target for information was none other than the Menomonie City Administrator, Lowell Prange. Prange said that the idea of a parking ramp has been brought to the table a few times in the past, but always falls short due to some major discrepancies. For example, when the cost of maintenance is factored into the equation, it costs about \$10,000 per space to build a parking ramp, so ground parking just ends up being cheaper for everyone involved. However, some recent changes to improve parking in Menomonie have been made. Twenty metered spaces were added behind the Home Economics Building to alleviate stress on downtown parking. Downtown meters are two hour meters to discourage student parking, and Wilson Street meters are five hour meters to keep students in the Harvey Hall area and away from the business district. The Parking Committee has also been focusing on resurfacing and upgrading existing lots.

What are your chances of getting a day or overnight parking permit downtown? Slim, due to the waiting lists and the fact that someone needs to give up their permit in order for the next person



METERED STREET
7th & Wilson
Looking West

UW-STOUT
CAMPUS

Corner Of
7th and Wilson

to get one. Prange added, "It's like trying to get season tickets to the Packers' games." Better plan to pay the meters. Where does the meter money go anyway? At Stout, it goes right back into the pool to create new spaces, do maintenance, and pay parking employees. In the city, it goes to the Menomonie Parking Utility which also uses it to maintain lots, buy new spaces, and pay employees.

Sense in the City

What's a person gotta do to get a spot to park? Be a little sneaky. Here are some insider tips for parking.

1. All meters are not created equal: Check for prices and time limits on meters. City meters are cheaper than Stout meters, but they fill up faster and have shorter time limits. Stout meters are \$0.50 per hour and most City meters are \$0.25 per 50 minutes.

2. Side streets, baby, Yeah: Your free solution to parking stress is to find a side street near campus and park there. Side streets are free and often have open spaces in residential areas. 7th street, (East of the Applied Arts and Library buildings), is only 2-5 blocks away from most campus buildings and is less crowded than 6th street. If you have classes on South Campus, park near the Dairy Queen on 13th Avenue (but be careful because it's a one-way and you can only park on the left hand side of the road!)

3. Early Bird, Night Owl: The road by the front entrance to the Fieldhouse has free all-day parking. It fills up fast, but you have a chance at a spot if you can get there before 7:30 am. Most meters and "C" lot spaces aren't regulated after 4:00 pm, so if you come later, you can park there for free.

If you still end up cursing the day you were born every time you try to park remotely close to campus, stick a stress ball on your key chain and pack a pair of roller blades in your car. At least you can get to class on time if you have to park in nosebleed territory. You could also ditch the stiletto heels (freshmen), and wear shoes that actually make your feet happy when you trek across the frozen winter tundra from lot to warm building. If you live in the dorms now, don't say we didn't warn you about parking. Get wise when you look for off-campus housing and try to find something within walking distance from campus. Finally, if you've given up all hope and need to talk to someone in the know, stop by University Parking Services. It's located at 817 S. Broadway, across from the Commons, and the phone number is (715) 232-1792. You can also contact Menomonie Parking Services at (715) 232-2187. Happy parking!



NON-METERED
STREET
7th & Wilson

Headache, Adventure, or Something Else?

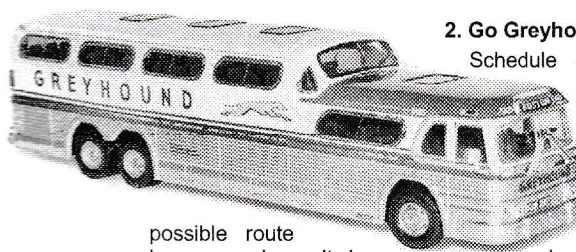
It seems to matter little what time of year it is when it comes to Stout students giving thought to the issue of spring break. Whether it be months beforehand as the student saves money and makes plans, days before as he makes last minute preparations, or anytime thereafter as the memories of his week linger on in his mind—for better or for worse. Spring break can offer a nice respite from not only the rigors of required bookwork and deadlines, but also from the bleak and dreary western Wisconsin winter. The vast majority of students this year will either spend their week back at the ranch with ma and pa, or pay an exorbitant portion of their precious funds to fly to Cancun, Mazatlan, or Daytona Beach. The former will find they are paying next to nothing for their spring break fling with the folks, while the latter may experience a serious shortage of funds upon their return. A trip to the beach can range anywhere from several hundred to well over a thousand bucks after all is said and done. Much research shows that trips like these can end up being more of a headache than they're worth, if not entirely a nightmare. So what if you set aside several hundred dollars and seven days' time, not wanting either of the traditional vacation packages? Here are several bizarre alternatives to the spring break norm.

10 Daring Spring Break Alternatives



1. Take a hike. Springer Mountain, Georgia is 1,039.88 miles from Menomonie, WI (roughly 17 hours driving time), and marks the beginning of the famed Appalachian Trail. Students are welcome to join the ranks of those who have been

called "section-hikers", outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy only a section of the trail as opposed to the entire length, as would a "through-hiker". It very well may be a chilly stint considering the time of year, but a few days of hiking and camping might be a vigorous wake up call from the routine of bone-chilling homework.



2. Go Greyhound.

Schedule a round-trip from here to there and back again, asking the one behind the counter to take you along the longest possible route in seven days. It has been done, but a trip like this is not for the faint of heart. Prices are subject to change, but are currently at \$230 for a ticket purchased seven days in advance. If you possess the mental endurance needed to enjoy a trip like this one, you are guaranteed to see some beautiful countryside and meet a lot of interesting people on very little rest. It may seem like a waste of time and money to some, but to the young sado-masochist, it'll be a trip to remember. Call 1-800-231-2222 for scheduling information.



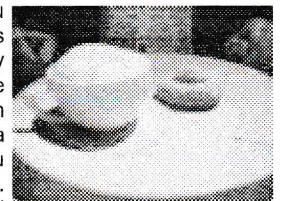
3. Save your spring break cash. Begin a separate bank account for your spring break funds and set aside all of the money that would have been spent on wine, women, and song to be used for one deluxe spring fling upon graduation. A trip to Antarctica is one of several viable

options and offers an all out-of-this-world experience. Package deals tend to run from \$4,000 and up, but exciting photo opportunities await those who are willing to brave the ice—penguins have no land predators and are easily approached by non-threatening students like yourself.

4. Surf's up!! Surfboards cost roughly \$300 and can be an excellent accessory for anyone needing a boost in coolness. Take your board to the California coast and try it out. Sleeping on the beach is adventurous and affordable. If you opt to try the Australian coast instead, beware of the Indo-Pacific box jellyfish, native to the coasts of Australia. The Indo-Pacific box jellyfish, also known as the Sea Wasp or *Chironex fleckeri*, is among the most deadly sea creatures. The average mature box jellyfish possesses enough toxin in its nematocysts to kill as many as 60 average-size humans, and its venom has been known to slay victims in less than five minutes. Mom and dad won't be happy if you've been slain by a jellyfish.



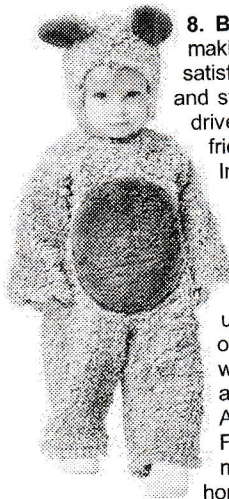
5. Bon Appetite! Wander the city streets of your choice until someone hits you up for spare cash, and then take them out for coffee and doughnuts instead. You won't have to travel very far for this kind of excitement, but you may enjoy the drive if you decide to leave the state. An adventurous spin on this idea is to take them instead to a very expensive restaurant that you would never have gone to otherwise. It'd be a treat for the both of you, and a great way to meet someone new. Doing something nice for a stranger can often leave both parties with a warm, fuzzy feeling. On the other hand, it could leave you with a mugged feeling, but that could've happened to you in Cancun.



6. Kidnapped!!! Tie up mom and dad and take them on an exciting and adventurous road trip against their will. Hit the road early and drive until you're nearly out of gasoline. At the station, allow the attendant to tell you where to go next. Drive in that direction until the tank is empty again, and then repeat the process. Believe me, they may seem angry at first, but this trip will be a journey that your parents won't soon forget. Be sure to pack for any kind of weather as you may end up in the furthest reaches of frigid Canada, or the very depths of warm and tropical Central America...and don't forget to feed the folks!!

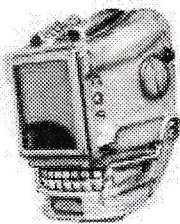
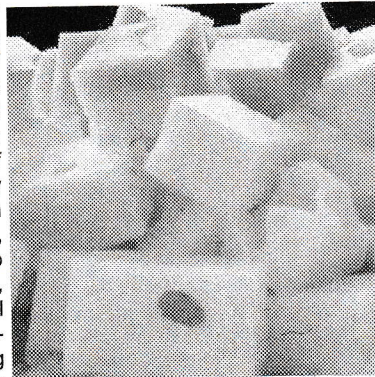
7. Bottom's up! Find out exactly where the heck Wall Drug is and drive there. Drink free ice water until you feel sick and dizzy. It's a safe and affordable alternative to the dangerous amounts of alcohol that will be consumed by those in your own class this week. Invite strangers to hold your ankles while you drink pure South Dakota tap water upside-down. Buy lots of tacky souvenirs for your friends, and eat plenty of buffalo burgers. The robotic dinosaur and the deluxe bathrooms are a must-see.





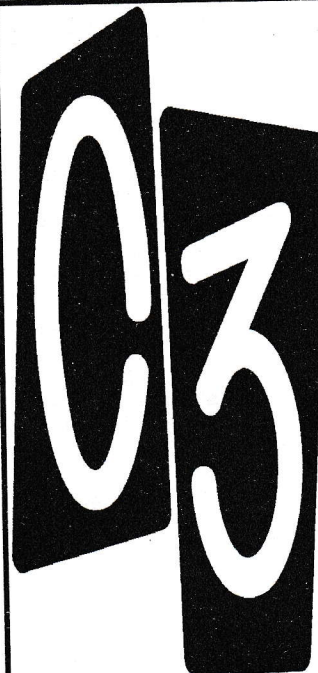
8. Bear attack!! Buying a costume is always fun, but making one for yourself can bring unparalleled personal satisfaction. Buy several yards of fuzzy brown material and stitch yourself a full body suit of furry brown fun, then drive cross-country with a friend as you bring warm and friendly brown bear smiles to fellow travelers on Interstate 94. Your destination will be Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. Park the car along the highway at the entrance to the park. Have your friend stand alongside the road with the video camera, filming you as you frolic in the weeds, barely visible. Continue rolling around in the brush until a crowd of tourists gather to collect video footage of the great, wild grizzly. Smiles will turn into laughter when you stand up from all fours to wave at your audience. Try several state parks across the country. Allow your friend to wear the suit while you videotape. For a "wild" spin on things, see if you can't knock a man's head clean off his shoulders with your homemade paw.

9. Hey, that's cheesy! Let's face it, we live in Wisconsin, and some may be looking for an idea that excludes the need for travel. In 1910, the average American ate five pounds of cheese a year, but that had grown to 28 pounds per year in 1998. Put yourself to the test and see if you can't up your personal average to 50 pounds or more this year with a quick start during spring break. Instead of your morning toast and coffee, try having grilled cheese sandwiches with a steaming cup of Velveeta. For lunch try cooking up a 16 inch deluxe cheese pizza, substituting the tomato sauce for cheese sauce, baked over several crunchy layers of "cheez-its". For supper try having a chef salad with shredded cheddar instead of shredded lettuce, cubed cheese instead of meat, and nacho cheese chip dip instead of dressing. A salad is always a healthy alternative to the quick microwaveable meals and T.V. dinners that will accompany many "spring-breakers" this year. Be healthy *and* creative over your mid-March respite, and you'll be ready to tackle the rest of your semester afresh with much *bound up* enthusiasm.



10. Look Mommy...DEER!! A fine local tradition in this part of the country is our beloved hunting season, which lasts but a few short weeks. Why not bring that warm, nostalgic feeling back to all during your spring break? A welding torch and \$69 will bring entertainment for everyone in the old neighborhood. Life-sized whitetail deer yard ornaments are made of PVC plastic and could easily be molded into various shapes with applied heat. A buck is 16"L X 8"W X 17"H and can be hung by the neck from a tree in dad's yard. Mold the legs, and melt through the belly to expose the body cavity with your welding torch as needed. Leave the deer up year round, or saw the head off for additional fun. Be sure to wear your protective welding helmet. When neighbors drive by and point at you, point back...and then chase them. This will be a spring break to remember!

Pics: Shoes: www.shareholder.com/bid/news/20020618-82953.cfm, Go greyhound : www.esnarf.com and www.3000toys.com, Igloo: <http://airtreks.away.com>, Surfer: home.wlu.edu/~goldsmitha/Ben_surfs.htm, coffee and donuts: www.estarcion.com, Wall drug: www.hey-guess-what.com, Bear costume: www.favoritechidren.com, Cheese: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swiss_cheese, welding helmet: www.jeffbots.com



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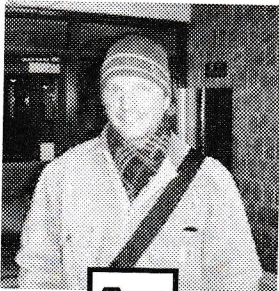
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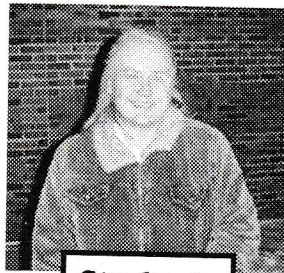
Student Poll

What is the **biggest** problem with the church today?



Tom

"It's lack of tolerance towards different social groups or lifestyles."



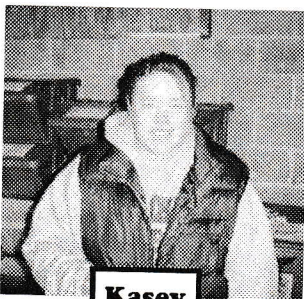
Stephanie

"Being too focused on their tradition and repetition instead of putting the focus on God."



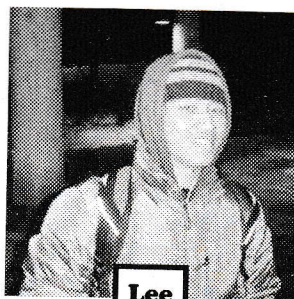
Ryan

"Arguing over which denomination is best and getting into arguments over that."



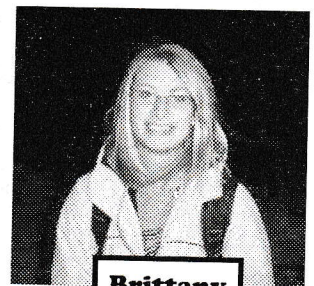
Kasey

"Lots of conflicting differences between different churches that make people unsure of what to believe."



Lee

"People look to themselves and other people for their answers instead of looking to God."



Brittany

"Hypocrites. The people in the church and even the leadership will preach one thing, but do another."

Street Level Response...

It is easy to find many problems with many different churches, but to pick one thing common to all is difficult. Things like arguing and sometimes even dividing over the smallest of issues, such as what type of music to play, is a problem. People who think going to church once a week makes them a Christian, and then go out the rest of the week and live just like the rest of the world is certainly a problem. Some pastors and

...many Christians seem to care less about their faith than the average person cares about what they eat for lunch.

church leaders do something similar by preaching and teaching one thing, and then not living up to that standard in their own lives. If these so-called leaders are not doing what they teach, then why would anyone choose to follow their teaching? Church-goers who do

not know the Bible or spend any time getting to know the Bible are a problem.

We may say that we are Christians, but we do not know what that means. Apathy is certainly a problem—many church-goers may be very aware of these problems, but just don't care

enough to do anything about it. Jesus Christ has saved them from going to hell and offers an abundant life on this earth, yet many Christians seem to care less about their faith than the average person cares about what they eat for lunch.

The list could go on as there are many contributing factors to the problems in the Christian Church. Many of them come down to the fact that we have lost our first love as the book of Revelation puts it when speaking to one of the churches at the time. What does that mean? Well, for starters it is probably a pretty good bet that if many of today's church attendees were asked what their first love was they may not have an answer or know what we're talking about. What we are getting at is that people should be going to church because they love Jesus. It is very easy, especially in today's society, to become very selfish. We all seem to have our own hidden agendas in mind instead of having the attitude that Jesus had—reaching out and bringing hope to a lost and dying

world. Christians often seem to be more concerned with the next bill being passed in Congress, or how they're going to spend their Friday night, or any amount of other things that have nothing to do with being a follower of Jesus.

Shouldn't we be doing something other than arguing about how our praise music sounds, trying to have the best car in the parking lot, or seeking only our own interests? Instead, those of us in the church often act like little, bratty kids rather than living a life of wonder and thankfulness at what Jesus has done and is currently doing for us. If we have been forgiven of all the hurt we have caused ourselves and other people, been saved from eternity in hell, and dramatically changed because of what Jesus has done for us, shouldn't He be first in our lives?

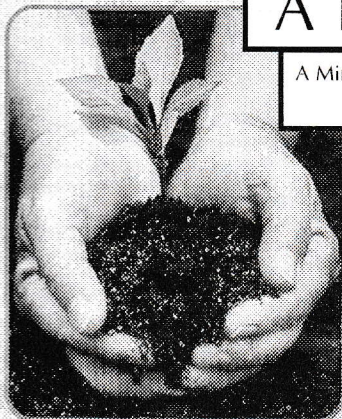
**But I have this complaint against you.
You don't love me or each other as you
did at first!**

Revelations 2:4 (NLT)

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FEBRUARY:

10th - Concert TBA
24th - Tom Feldmann Trio

MARCH:

3rd - B-Flick Nite
24th - Noah Riemer opening for
The Urban Hillbilly Quartet

APRIL:

7th - Brad Layher
21st - WannabeHasbeens
28th - B-Flick Nite

MAY:

5th - Concert TBA

SPRING CONCERT SCHEDULE

...in conjunction with **JESUS ROCK 101.7**



TO TATTOO Or NOT TO TATTOO

Abstractions

(1) are tattoo designs derived mostly from archaic tattooing. Almost all tribal tattoos belong to this category, as well as Celtic or

modern, and western abstract designs. **Naturalistic Tattoos** (2) are an attempt to portray some things in naturalistic style, and they tend to take a natural form. The portrayal involves detailing, shading and perspective to make an image look realistic. **Pledge or Dedication Designs** (3) are the

incorporation of images and characters, which are not directly associated with each other².

Cost is an issue when considering tattooing. It's common practice to pay for a particular design or to pay per hour. Shopping around at different parlors in your area will give you the best feel for the market. Keep in mind some things that generally increase the price are illustrations, personal designs, and multiple colors. It's always best to settle on the expected time and price before work begins. Remember, tipping is customary. As in every business transaction be wary of those who undercut the average market price.

In the past few decades, tattooing has managed to shed its tawdry image and now graces the scene as a means of decoration and expressing oneself. Now it is acceptable for everyone from college students to businessmen to get a tattoo for

*In 1891, the first electric tattooing machine was patented which revolutionized the technique.
Previously all tattoos were done by hand.¹*

any reason, whether design or personality. Now, more than ever, there is an immense array of choices for one contemplating a tattoo. Design, size, cost, and religious stigma are all issues to consider when venturing into the very permanent world of tattoos.



Once someone has decided to get a tattoo, the imagination is the limit. In general, there are five different types of tattoos.

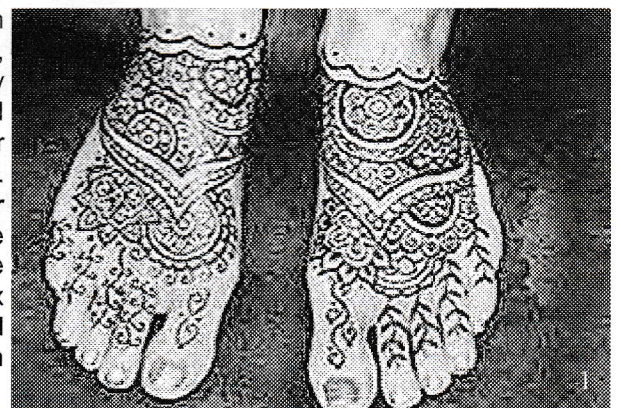
kinds of designs associated with sailors or "traditional" Western tattooing. Some examples of pledge or dedication tattoos are the heart and name banner tattoo, the anchor with a ship name, and the insignia of a military regiment.

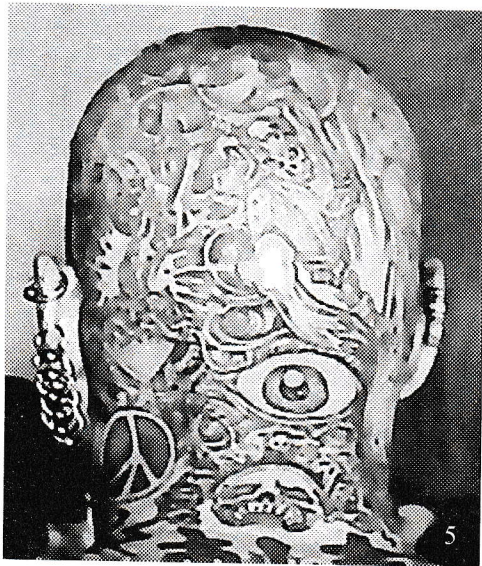
Simplifications or Stylized Designs (4) appear in all styles of pictures. They may range from a cartoon character, flash from the wall of the tattoo shop (pre-designed tattoos), to animals or flowers. You can also stylize non-flash, custom tattoos. This may include hearts, stylized flowers, leaves, and other images and characters.

Complex Structures or Combinations (5) are another popular tattoo type that includes complex structures like the traditional Japanese body suits or an

In other words, don't eat food from a skinny cook. Most of these artists are either new in the tattoo business or are still trying to perfect their tattooing skills.

Another serious issue to consider is the removal of a tattoo. There are many home remedies out there on the Internet, but you should consult a doctor before trying any of them. Most surgeons caution patients that complete

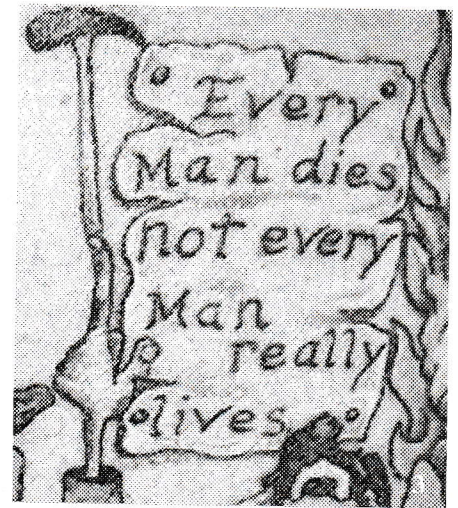




tattoo removal is not possible. (Beware if they do guarantee complete removal!) A lot of surgeons warn that the best result could be just a faded version of your original tattoo. The effectiveness of the removal

them removed. I was all for it, since she offered to pay for it, and I didn't really like them anymore. Well, four laser treatments (with two different types of lasers) and two dermabrasion treatments later (all of which were extremely painful), I still have the tattoos and a lot of scarring. Not to mention what I can only describe as a feeling of electric cramping coursing underneath the skin of the tattoos (the pain occurs sporadically and without warning). The doctors say it's because I got my tattoos on the fattiest part of my body."

Christians getting tattoos is also an issue for some people. The Bible is the only place to go to find out what God said concerning this. The only place where tattoos are mentioned is in law of the Old Testament. Leviticus 19:28 states "Never cut your bodies in mourning for the dead or mark your skin with tattoos, for I am the Lord" (NLT).



service, and family. However, the point of the law was to detail the standard required from a man in order to freely enter heaven. All human beings fail at this perfection. The Bible says that if we have broken one law, we are guilty of it all. What that means is that if we attempt to follow the law of the Old

*"The word 'tattoo' comes from the Tahitian word 'tatau' which means 'to mark something'. They are made by puncturing the skin with a sharp instrument and putting color into the hole."*³

technique depends on size, location, age of tattoo, colors, and type of ink used. For instance, the area on your body that contains the most fat will be the hardest area from which to remove a tattoo. The scarring can be significant and can result in lifelong pain. The following is just such a story:

"My friends and I were on our high school graduation trip in California and decided to get tattoos. I put maybe a half hour of thought into what I wanted and where. I got two tattoos that defined who I thought I was at that point in my life. A year later my mother found out and forced me to have

Many of the laws in the Old Testament were in place for sanitation, health, and some dealt with mankind's management of the Earth, animals, and goods. The law contained instruction for worship,



Testament, we must follow all of it. Even if we could, from this point on, we would still lose because of our failed past. This is the purpose for Jesus. The New Testament tells us that He fulfilled every detail of the law. Mankind cannot attain this level of righteousness. Now we are under the New Covenant (or New Testament), which is called "The Law of Love": love God with all of your heart and life, and love your neighbor as yourself. This is the essence of the Old Covenant. By accepting Jesus' righteousness and death on the cross by faith as payment for our sins, we have His righteousness and can freely enter

Where 2 Go:

Artisan Tattoo & Body Piercing
511 S. Barstow
Eau Claire WI
(715) 831-8631

Body Parts Custom Bike & Fabrication
927 W. Hastings Way
Eau Claire WI
(715) 836-2724

Cliff's Tattoos
2111 Birch St.
Eau Claire WI
(715) 830-0933

Primitive Penetration & Spirit Tattoo
408 Riverside Ave.
Eau Claire WI
(715) 831-7999

Skin Prints Studio
309 E. Grand Ave.
Eau Claire WI
(715) 831-8780

Rogues'Gallery
301 Main Street East
Menomonie WI
(715) 235-7713

Ten out of Ten...

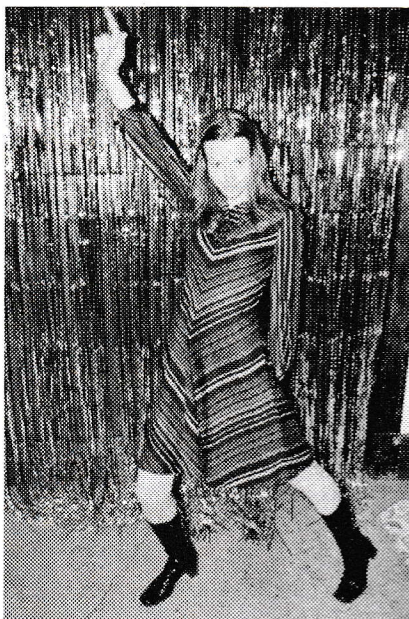
Throughout my childhood and teenage years, I was definitely what you would call a "goodie two shoes." I followed the rules, got straight A's, and went to church and Sunday school every week. Basically, my goal in life was to be good.

When I went off to college, I stuck to the straight and narrow path. I found a good group of friends, focused on my studies, and stayed out of trouble. I was of the rare breed of college students who never went to a house party, never got drunk, and never had premarital sex. As a result, I considered myself to be a pretty good person.

One day at the beginning of my sophomore year of college, I headed over to the cafeteria with my friends for a meal and was greeted by a group of students who were handing out surveys. I took one of the surveys, answered a few questions about God, and went on my merry way. I only remember one question from the survey I took that day, but that one question (and the response that followed) has changed my life forever. The question was, "If you could know God personally, would you want to?"

A few days after filling out the survey, I was introduced to two girls from the Christian organization on campus that had handed out the surveys. They asked me on a scale of 1-10 how sure I was that I was going to heaven and why. My response was 9. I figured that since I tried to do the "right" things and was generally a "good person," that I was at least on the right track to heaven.

It was quite a revelation for me when those two girls lovingly explained to me that there was no amount of good that I could do on my own to get to heaven. I also learned that the act of attending church isn't what makes a person a Christian. I heard a great analogy once that



It was quite a revelation for me when those two girls lovingly explained to me that there was no amount of good that I could do on my own to get to heaven.

really helped me understand this fact. It goes something like this: being in a church building makes me as much of a Christian as standing in a garage makes me a car. In other words, it doesn't make me one at all!

I realized that I knew *about* God from all my years of church and Sunday school, but I didn't know God personally. I understood that He was the Son of God and that He died on a cross, but somehow that knowledge had never filtered from my head into my heart. And though I didn't have it yet, I knew it was something I wanted.

I started getting involved in a weekly Bible study in my dorm and meeting one-on-one with a girl from the Christian organization. Before long, I was ready to stop trying to make myself right and, instead, to give control of my life to God. From the outside my life didn't really seem much different, but God was changing me on the inside. I started praying and wanting to read the Bible, and God began opening up opportunities for me to talk to some of my friends about Him. That was just the beginning.

I don't have to worry anymore about trying to make myself do good things by my own strength. Now that I am a Christian, I have the Holy Spirit living inside of me, giving me the power to resist temptation and the desire to become more like Jesus. God promises in the Bible that He will complete the good work that He has started in me, and I trust that He will.

God has done so many awesome things in my life thus far. He let me graduate from college (in spite of changing my major four times and transferring schools twice), gave me an amazing husband who also loves Jesus, let me travel to India for a month on a missions trip, and provided

me with a good job and an awesome church family. The list goes on and on! Sometimes life is great and sometimes it gets really tough. But through it all, I have true peace and joy in my life because I know God has

everything under control. I am so thankful that my God has promised that He will never leave me. And I can't wait to see what He has in store around the next corner in this path called life!

Tattoo Continued...

heaven. The law concerning tattoos and other practical and sanitary instructions was put in place to be our "school teacher" to show us that we are mankind, imperfect and in need of a savior.

Here's one person's story: "I had gotten a tattoo before I started following Jesus, but that was for me—I guess I liked it. After following my own way, even running away from the purpose God had for my life, He brought me back to Him. Because I am so forgetful, I decided to write His names on my wrists. On the right hand, my strong hand, is His name YHWH or Yahweh, which means 'the eternal one'. It is in dark blue for the blood that is oxygenated by His oxygen. On the left hand, my weak hand, is the name of Jesus in Hebrew, Yeshua, which means, 'He

is salvation'. It is in dark red for the blood that He gave for my inability to save myself. I put them on my wrists because of Jesus' death and how the nails went through them." (see picture below)

In a nutshell, it's always a good idea to pick out a tattoo and then wait at least six months. This allows you time to do a lot of research to find out what you really want and where you want to put it. Asking yourself will if you will still want the tattoo in 10 years



will shed new light on your decision. Wise planning will likely avoid the painful removal process or living in a world of regret with the ever-popular "Tweety Bird" or "I Love Betty" tattooed on your butt. For an informative tattoo safety checklist, go to the following website: <http://tattoo.about.com/cs/beginners/a/blchecklist.htm>

1. <http://www.into-you.co.uk/contents/misc.htm>

2. <http://tattoos.iloveindia.com/tattoo-types.html>

3. THE HISTORY OF TATTOOING
Hot English Magazine 24-Page 38
www.hotenglishmagazine.com

4. www.xtat.org/tattoosbible.php

5. <http://www.eviltattoo.com/> (pictures of tattoos)

The Eight

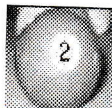
An Interview With The Vast Expanse

Modern Rock Band



What keeps you going as a band when you run into hard times?

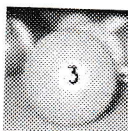
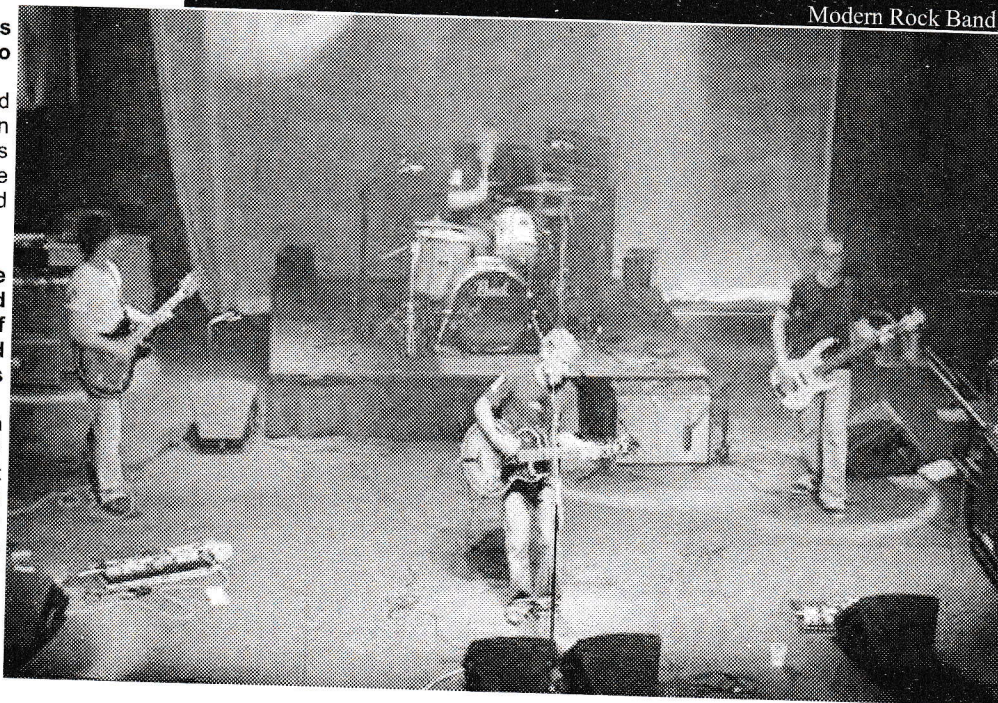
We always try to put God first in what we do so an immediate reaction to hard times would be to pray but we also love music and shows like the one we had at The Munchies make it all worth it!



If you could pick the perfect venue, what would it be like in terms of location, crowd, and anything else that comes

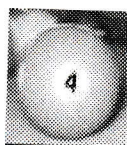
to mind?

I don't know if it's possible to have a perfect venue. A perfect venue would be all things to all people and that isn't physically possible—I think Club 3 Degrees in Minneapolis is pretty close, but it could be in a little more accessible location and free—as far as crowds go, I think they are more unique to each band—different bands draw different crowds—every band would want a crowd that loved what they're doing and that actually came to see them specifically—we're no different.



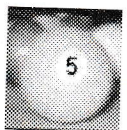
Name one, or a couple, of things that always go on the road with you?

Well—of course our equipment. Nothing like a pair of dirty boxers or anything like that. My wife Joanna and child Amara usually accompany us to all of our shows—Joanna does all of our photography. Mike, our drummer, is also married and Melissa usually comes to all our shows, too.



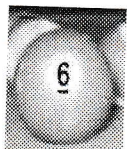
If you had known everything that you would go through, both the good and bad, when you first started out as a band, would you still have done it?

For sure. Even more so—Maybe done things a little differently but overall the good has more than outweighed the bad.



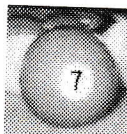
Coke or Pepsi?

Neither. Although, if I was in another country and that's all they had to choose from I think I'd go with Pepsi.



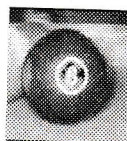
Once you're finished with the band and you get to be old, what do you hope will have been accomplished because of the band?

Hard to say. I guess that we made a positive impact (for the kingdom of God). Also that people remember us, and not only as a band, but as individuals. It would be nice to also have a lasting musical legacy—something musically that can stand the test of time and even still be purchased or at least sought after 10-20 or more years from now. I'd really just like to pretend that I could be involved in music somehow for the rest of my life.



If you could have one "superpower" like flying, being invisible, etc. what would you have?

Probably unending energy—which would remove the need for sleep. An energy that was contagious—I think there are already people with some sort of "supernatural energy" and they just light up a room or get you motivated somehow—that would be cool.



Finally, where do you see yourself and the band going in the next year?

Physically not far but Mentally, Spiritually, Musically & Creatively I see us going to the moon and back. We are actually planning on tapering our live appearances this coming year to focus on recording a quality project and then we'll see what comes of that. Hopefully, it's really cool and people love it and will want us to come play it live for them after it's completed.

Music Reviews

brother
down

BROTHER DOWN

To The Black Land

Genre: Progressive Folk Rock, Eclectic Emo Acoustic Rock

This freshman release from *Brother Down* (an ensemble of eclectic artisans from Santa Cruz, California¹), touches the auditory senses from the get-go as the first track, "Emancipation", pounds the heart with thumping percussion beats and funky bass picking. Strong, soothing vocals and message-driven lyrics characterize these songs with fun highlights of stringed instruments. One of the special features of this album is track seven, a traditional Irish tune instrumental, that just might get you in the mood to do a little jig. This cd would be great to listen to in the car—turn up those subwoofers—or when chillin' in

the dorms. You might be tempted to snap your fingers and tap your toes as the beats waft through the air and the contemplative lyrics penetrate your mind. Snippets of each song can be heard at www.brotherdown.com. To purchase cd, check out independentbands.com

1. independentbands.com

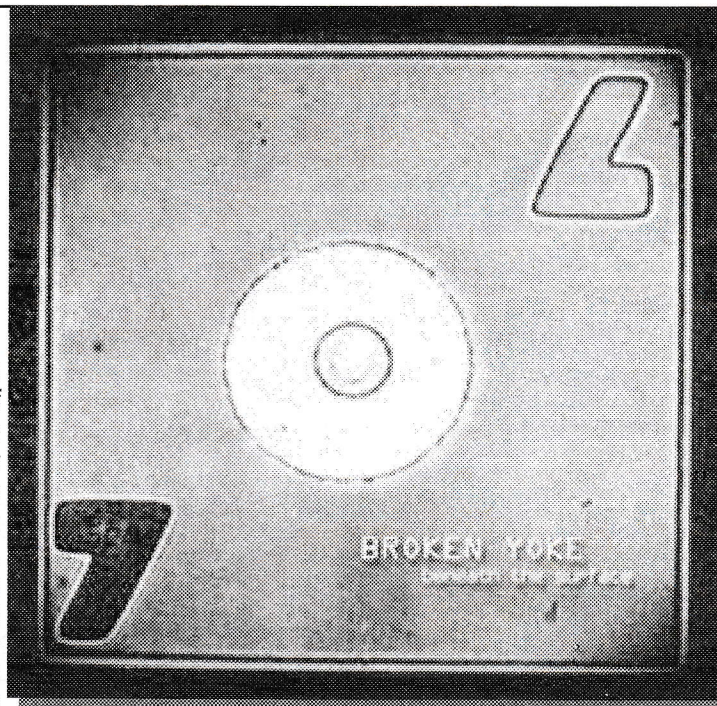
BROKEN YOKE

Beneath the Surface

Genre: Modern Rock

B*eneath the Surface*, the latest release from Ohio-based band *Broken Yoke*¹, is chock full of heart expressing lyrics with some high-energy bass playing. Lead singer Jon Lepinski's driving vocals draw a person in as he verbalizes his heart to God. With a range of sound from rapcore in the opening tune, "Ends With You" to the worshipful acoustic closing track, "Capture Me", this is an album for all to savor. To give you a feel for the band's flair, one of the t-shirts they sell reads, "HOW TO ENJOY A BROKEN YOKE SHOW WHEN ROCKING OUT, RESPECT THE SPACE OF THOSE AROUND YOU. STAGE DIVING AND CROWD SURFING ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED. THE BAND CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MARKS OF TRAUMA." Although their website, brokenyoke.com, only previews three of the album's songs, the sampling will give you a strong desire to listen to the entire cd. To purchase cd, check out independentbands.com

1. brokenyoke.com



Movie Review



BORN INTO BROTHELS

Starring: Avigit, Gour, Puja, Kochi, Manik, Suchitra

Rated: R (for some sequences of strong language)

Genre: Art/Foreign and Documentary
(Website: Yahoo! Movies)



Born Into Brothels, winner of the 77th annual Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature¹, is a vivid, eye-opening film worth checking out. Depicting a very real and raw view of the Red Light District of North Calcutta, India, producers Zana Briski and Ross Kauffman capture the essence of what the women and children in this area experience on a daily basis. As you watch this film from your cozy dorm room or comfortable American home, the difficulties of everyday life in the brothels may evoke tears of sadness with an acute realization of just how good we have it here.

Briski befriends a few children of prostitutes in the brothels, giving them cameras, teaching them the art of photography, and trying to improve their quality of life by helping them to enroll in the education system. Exciting field trips to the zoo and the beach draw out the children's creativity and playfulness as they use their cameras to capture the moment. One can't help but fall in love with these sweet children who each have a unique personality of their own.

Authentic Indian music is one of the highlights of this film with its crisp, feet tappin' sound that just might get stuck in your head for a few hours—this is not a bad thing. One of the downfalls to the movie is the lack of English subtitles when the children are talking—they speak in their native dialect and there is little interpretation of what they are actually saying. However, the narration throughout the documentary is in English. Check out the special features on the DVD, which include Briski's reconnection with the children a few years after she lived among them. If you want a glimpse into a different culture and want a change of pace from the typical Hollywood film, rent *Born Into Brothels* in the new release section at Mr. Movies in Menomonie.

Notes:

1. www.kids-with-cameras.org/bornintobrothels/film.php

Coming soon....



THE SECOND CHANCE

Starring: Michael W. Smith, Jeff Obafemi Carr

Rated: PG-13

Genre: Drama and Politics/
Religion

Ethan Jenkins and Jake Sanders are pastors who come from very different backgrounds. White and well-to-do Ethan is comfortable in his music ministry at media-savvy suburban mega-church The Rock; Jake is a street-smart African-American who ministers to the gang members, teen mothers, and drug addicts of the urban Second Chance. When the two men are suddenly thrown together in a tough neighborhood and forced to work side by side, Ethan discovers there is no boundary between the streets and the sanctuary. But can the faith these two men share overcome the prejudices that divide them to give themselves and a struggling urban church a second chance?

--Yahoo! movies

Website: www.thesecondchancemovie.com

Dates Live By

Academic Dates to Remember

Mar. 10 – End of Third Quarter
Mar. 11-19 – Spring Break Week,
 No Classes
Mar. 28 – Advisement Day,
 No Classes

UW-Stout Sports

Wednesday, Feb. 1
 Women's basketball vs.
 UW-River Falls, 7 p.m.
 Men's basketball at UW-River Falls,
 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 3
 Hockey vs. UW-Superior,
 7:30 p.m.
 Gymnastics at Hamline, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 4
 M & W Track host Warren Bowlus
 Open, 12 p.m.
 Women's basketball vs.
 UW-Oshkosh, 3 p.m.
 Men's basketball vs. UW-Oshkosh,
 5 p.m.
 Hockey at St. Scholastica,
 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 8
 Men's basketball vs.
 UW-Superior, 7 p.m.
 Women's basketball at
 UW-Superior, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 10
 Hockey vs. UW-River Falls,
 7:30 p.m.
 Gymnastics at Air Force
 Academy, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 11
 M & W Track at Border Battle, TBA
 Women's basketball vs.
 UW-Stevens Point, 3 p.m.
 Men's basketball vs.
 UW-Stevens Point, 5 p.m.
 Hockey at UW-River Falls,
 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 12
 Gymnastics at Air Force
 Academy, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 17
 M & W Track host Blue Devil Open,
 4 p.m.
 Gymnastics at UW-Oshkosh,
 7 p.m.
 Hockey at NCHA quarterfinals

Saturday, Feb. 18
 Women's basketball at
 UW-La Crosse, 3 p.m.
 Men's basketball at
 UW-La Crosse, 5 p.m.
 Hockey at NCHA quarterfinals

Monday, Feb. 20
 Women's basketball WIAC
 quarterfinals, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 21
 Men's basketball WIAC
 quarterfinals, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 22
 Women's basketball WIAC
 semi-finals, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 23
 Men's basketball WIAC
 semi-finals, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 24
 M & W Track at St. Olaf Invite,
 4 p.m.
 Gymnastics at UW-Whitewater,
 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 25
 Women's basketball WIAC finals,
 3/7 p.m.
 Men's basketball WIAC finals,
 7 p.m.
 Hockey at NCHA Semi-finals

Wednesday, March 1
 Women's basketball NCAA
 first round

Thursday, March 2
 Men's basketball NCAA
 first round

Friday, March 3
 M & W Track at WIAC
 Championships, Stevens Point,
 10 a.m.
 Gymnastics at WIAC/NCGA
 Regionals, Oshkosh, 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 4
 M & W Track at WIAC
 Championships, Stevens Point,
 10 a.m.
 Men's basketball NCAA
 second round
 Women's basketball NCAA
 second round
 Hockey at NCHA final

Wednesday, March 8
 Hockey NCAA playoffs

Friday, March 10
 M & W Track at NCAA DIII
 Championships
 Men's basketball NCAA
 sectionals
 Women's basketball NCAA sectionals



www.uwstout.edu/athletics/hockey/gallery



Music/Entertainment

Feb. 3, 7 pm
Piper's Crow in Concert, Mabel Tainter Theater, Menomonie,
Tickets: \$10 Students

Feb. 9, 8 pm
Nego Gato Dance & Music Ensemble, Great Hall, UW-Stout,
Tickets: \$18 Students

Feb. 10, 7 pm
Concert at The Blind Munchies Coffeehouse presented by Street Level Ministries,
Band TBA, No Cover

Feb 17-18, 23-25, 7:30 pm, Feb 19, 26, 2 pm
Bye Bye Birdie, Mabel Tainter Theater, Menomonie,
Tickets: \$14 Students

Feb. 24, 7 pm
Concert at the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse presented by Street Level Ministries
Tom Feldmann Trio, No Cover

Mar. 3, 7 pm
B-Flick Movie Night at the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse presented by Street Level Ministries, No Cover

Mar. 3, 7 pm
The Minnesota Ballet, The Heyde Center for the Arts, Chippewa Falls

Mar. 10, 8 pm
Minnesota Shakespeare Project "Twelfth Night", Mabel Tainter Theater, Menomonie
Tickets: \$12 Students

Mar. 24, 7 pm
Concert at the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse presented by Street Level Ministries,
Noah Riemer opening for the Urban Hillbilly Quartet,
No Cover

Mar. 31, 7 pm
Bohola in Concert, Mabel Tainter Theater, Menomonie
Tickets: \$12 Student

Other Events

Feb. 4
Cross Country Ski at Tower Ridge, Stout Adventures, \$7 Students

Feb 10-12
Cross Country Ski Sea Caves of Lake Superior, Stout Adventures, \$50 Students

Feb. 11, 6:30 pm
Snowshoeing by Moonlight, Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Visitor Center

Mar. 10-18
Spring Break Trip to the Grand Canyon, Stout Adventures, \$320 Students

March 11-19
Softball at Rebel Spring Games, Ocala, Fla.

Saturday, March 11
M & W Track at NCAA DIII Championships
Men's basketball NCAA sectionals
Women's basketball NCAA sectionals
Hockey NCAA playoffs

Tuesday, March 14
Baseball at Texas Lutheran, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, March 15
Baseball at Mary Hardin-Baylor, 12 p.m.

Thursday, March 16
Baseball vs. Franklin & Marshall, San Antonio, Texas, TBA

Friday, March 17
Men's basketball NCAA semi-finals
Women's basketball NCAA semi-finals
Hockey NCAA finals

Saturday, March 18
Hockey NCAA finals
Men's basketball NCAA championships
Women's basketball NCAA championships, Springfield, Mass.

Friday, March 24
Gymnastics at NCGA Championships, Cortland, NY

Saturday, March 25
Gymnastics at NCGA Championships, Cortland, NY

Nego Gato Dance & Music Ensemble
Great Hall, UW-Stout
Feb. 9
8 pm



Beatnik's Corner

The Rider

The best times in life
Are when I ride.
I ride on His back.
Taking a firm grip with tired hands,
Watching familiarity fly by,
Until all that is left is the unknown.

I am safest
When I ride.
No time to look back.
Protected from danger,
Yet somehow on the edge,
He takes the sharp turns and I hold on.

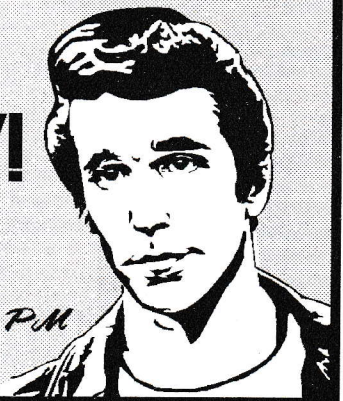
The most peace I've found
Is when I'm riding.
Sitting on His sturdy back.
There are bumps in the road,
There are trees in the path,
But we weather them well, as He navigates and I just hang on.



www.modern-art-reproductions.com

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It's Cool.**

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For Bible Study i All Are Welcome.*





Gone off the Deep End?



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Address: _____

E-mail: _____

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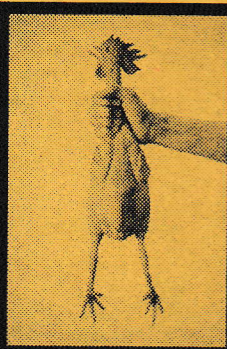


DO YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST?



MAIL TO:

Street Level Ministries, 621 Wilson Ave. Menomonie, WI 54751



WANTED:

Your Poem

To submit your original poem for an upcoming Word on the Street issue:

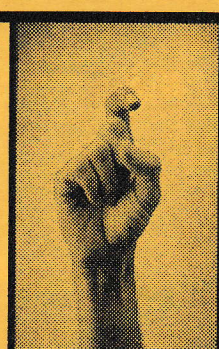
Email it as a Word document attachment to watsmagazine@yahoo.com

or

Send via snail mail to:

**Word on the Street
Street Level Ministries
621 Wilson Avenue
Menomonie, WI 54751**

Disclaimer: Vulgar, profane, obscene, lewd, or smutty poems will not be considered.





Street Level Ministries

UW-STOUT

621 Wilson Avenue

Menomonie, WI 54751

www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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MENOMONIE, WI

PERMIT NO. 354

Crank up the Phonograph Nipper!!!
it's 101.7
Jesus Rock Radio!!!!



Sunday

Jesus Rock Radio on Sunday

Morning

7-10:30 am

Live Sunday Service

10:30 - Noon

Live On-Air Bible Study

5-6 pm

Erik's Show

6 - 8 pm

Monday

John Duncan (Bible Study)

8 am

Rock the Flock (Bible Study)

Noon

Growing Thru Grace (Bible Study)

5 pm

Tuesday

Jones'n in the Morning

7-10 am

John Duncan

8 am

Rock the Flock

Noon

Get a Life (Bible Study)

2:30 pm and 6 pm

Growing Thru Grace (Bible Study)

5 pm

Wednesday

John Duncan

8 am

Rock the Flock

Noon

Growing Thru Grace

5 pm

Sacia's Show

5:45 - 6:45 pm

Underground Bible Study

7 pm

Thursday

John Duncan

8 am

Rock the Flock

Noon

Get a Life (Bible Study)

2:30 pm and 6 pm

Growing Thru Grace

5 pm

Friday

Josh & Travis Morning

Show

6:30 - 8 am

John Duncan

8 am

Rock the Flock

Noon

Growing Thru Grace

5 pm

Segues

10 pm-Midnight

All concerts at the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse are broadcast live starting at 7 pm!