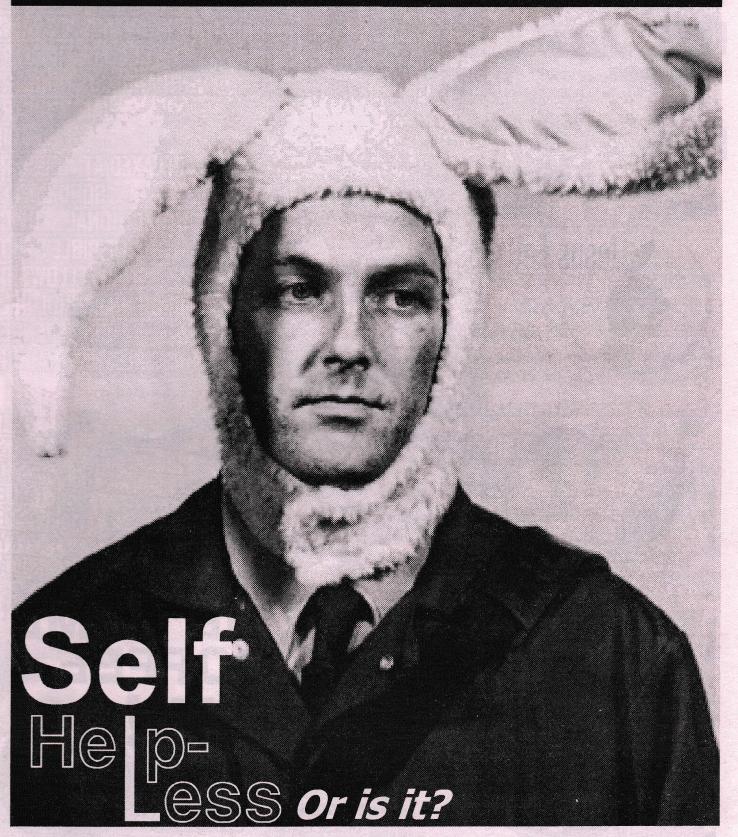
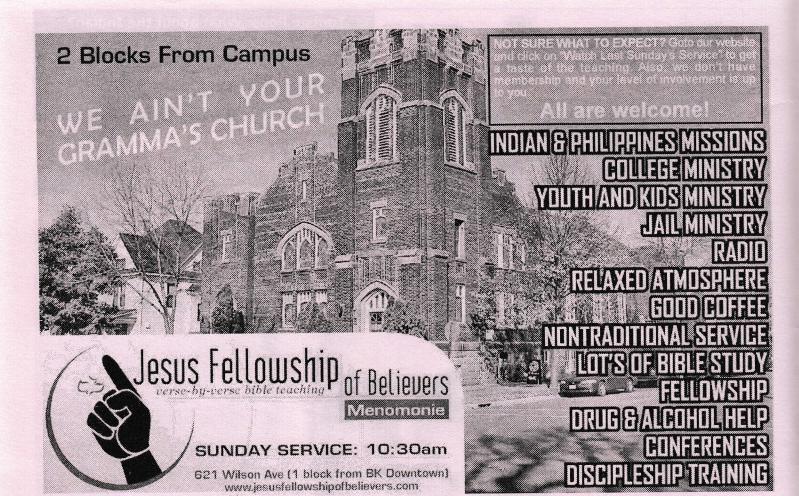
A Street Level Ministries Publication

Spring 2007

- Tootsie Pops: What about the Indian?
- Intersection of Church and State
- Need a job? How about some tips?
- Cool Cities Coffeehouses



Does Self-Help Really Work?





TUES-FRI - BAN-9PM

www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu/theblindmunchies

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#### Event Cala

Academic Calendar	2
UW-Stout Sports	3
Community Events	4

A quarterly publication of StreetLevel Ministries, a UW-Stout Student organization.



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on ers.

Coffeehouse Tour and
Review3
Coffeehouses in Minneapolis, MN
See what Datalit has to say4
Confessions

From Old to New.....5
A Testimony

10 Fun Things to Do at the Gym.....9

Tom Feldmann and the Get Rites ......10 "Side Show Revival"

Chariots of Fire.....11
Movie Review

CD Review

Burrachos.....12

If you're looking for a place to eat that will definitely fill you up with great taste and where you don't have to wait a while to be seated, check out Burrachos.

What about the Indian?.....12
Wrapped in Mystery: Tootsie Pops

How *Not* to Get the Job You Want......14

Want to know More? Check out our website www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu Any comments or suggestionsplease write us

### **Street Level Ministries**

621 Wilson Ave. Menomonie, WI 54751 wotsmagazine@yahoo.com

#### The Intersection of Church and State: Should their paths ever cross?



ecently, at Menomonie's own Mabel Tainter Theater, there was a forum to discuss the questions, "When does the separation of church and state apply to the pulpit?" and "Should we be less concerned with political matters and more concerned with matters of faith?"

This forum, as well as the other forums held by the Unitarians in town, present information in order to get people to think and to question. The panel was composed of four individuals of different backgrounds relevant to the topic at hand. One, Dr. Geoffrey Peterson, is a political science professor from Eau Claire. Another, Dr. David Cook, is a Stout counseling professor. Also included were Paul Oppedahl, a Lutheran pastor from Eau Claire, and Julie McNaughton, a Christian aid worker. Dr. Peterson opened the forum with a discussion of the American political culture. He pointed out that within the current two-party system, voters tend to be of the Catholic sect if they vote Democratic and Republican if their beliefs lean Protestant. Following him was Dr. Cook, whose views were mostly composed of his own personal beliefs. He mentioned that his current view of Christianity is taken from the "Cross Left" website, and he is currently labeling his Christianity as "Progressive Christianity." Next was the Lutheran pastor, Paul Oppedahl. He started off by giving a definition of serendipity, which he defined as "one's willingness to be surprised." He then discussed a Lutheran document called "Reclaiming the Vocation of Government." Simply stated, this document is attempting to "counter the trend of seeing the government as totally separate or alien from Christian life."1 The final panelist, Julie McNaughton, leader of the Menomonie area Bread for the World association, gave a story of the current hunger situation in the world, basically explaining that most governments do not take this task on. She went so far as to say that even here in Menomonie there are hunger problems.

Following the panel presentation was a question and answer period. The first question brought up was "What is the role of modern faith in politics?" One point from Dr. Peterson was that the Constitution states government cannot show favoritism toward any religion. Oppedahl pointed out that Christians are to not divorce their faith from the political arena, but are to find a balance. Another question mentioned was, "Does the common good benefit everyone?" A consensus seemed to be no, but there has to be a give and take. Oppedahl mentioned, "There needs to be a prophetic voice to comfort the afflicted and afflict

the comfortable. A Christian's vocation should be to seek the selfless good of others and to reach out to the most comfortable so they can reach out to the most vulnerable."

In recent years we've heard all kinds of news about banning religious wall hangings such as the Ten Commandments in public schools and government buildings and making rules against public prayer in school. On the other hand, we've seen religious picketers march to get laws passed to outlaw abortion, fight to keep the Ten Commandments on the wall, and be able to practice public prayer before the opening kickoff of the high school football game. They've used their valuable time to try to get laws passed to make people do certain things or act a certain way.

#### When does the separation of church and state apply to the pulpit? Should we be less concerned with political matters and more concerned with matters of faith?

The phrase "separation of church and state" is one we Americans have heard time and time again in the national news, in our schools, and in our churches. This phrase is taken from the "Federalist Papers" by Thomas Jefferson. In it, he is actually quoting the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights where it says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion..." Our founding fathers, in an attempt to stop the atrocities that occurred in England, created these laws to keep government out of religion. They felt that it was every Americans right to choose whatever religious beliefs they wanted to practice.

In light of this, I would like to present an alternative viewpoint of true love, instead of passing moral laws to force people to act in a certain way or trying to pass legislation to get non-Christians to act like Christians. I challenge us to look at the depravity of our hearts and to realize that, no matter how much we clean ourselves up on the outside by following some rule or Continued on page 16... law, our insides are still the



#### **Academics**

Friday, April 6 Spring Holiday, No Classes

Tuesday, April 10 Classes Resume

Friday, April 20 - Sunday, April 22 Family Weekend

Tuesday, May 8 Classes End

Wednesday, May 9 Study Day, No Classes

Thursday, May 10 **Evaluation Week Begins**  Saturday, May 12 Commencement

Wednesday, May 16 **Evaluation Week Ends** 

Sunday, May 27 Last Day of Contractual Year

**Summer Session 2007** 

Monday, May 28 Memorial Day, No Classes



## **Coffeehouse Tour and Review**

Recently, I took a tour of the Twin Cities to find a unique array of coffee establishments and set out to do a random test of their coffee, comment on the atmosphere, and note the daily clientele. The following is what I found:

**NINA'S:** My first stop was on the hill in St. Paul in a little village that I did not even know existed. Nestled somewhere behind the St. Paul Cathedral on Western Avenue is a community that is home to some real sweet vintage buildings. Located on the corner of Selby and Western, Nina's serves a decent roast and the atmosphere feels upscale. If you are lucky, you can claim rights to use the single lone table atop a set of stairs that really, beyond servicing the table, have no other purpose. Like most coffee shops today, they have wireless internet.

Americano – 4/5 Atmosphere – 4/5 Semi-pointless stairs – 5/5





**DUNN BROS.** @ **SNELLING & GRAND:** The second stop I made was to the official home of Dunn Brothers Coffee located on Grand Avenue at the Snelling intersection. Just a half a block from Macalester College, the original Dunn Brothers is a hot spot for the local college student and older. Commonly, you will find a student and professor engaged in conversation over a cup of Dunn Bros. finest bean. If you shy away from the college art crowd, this is not the place for you. The shop itself is a bit rundown, but that is part of its charm. They roast their coffee right in the lobby of the store, and they do it very well. Their apple fritters are also excellent. The employees, although funky in appearance, are always pleasant and helpful. I love the atmosphere of this store. They also have wireless internet.

Single Shot Espresso - 5/5 Apple Fritter - 5/5 Atmosphere - 5/5

**COFFEE NEWS CAFÉ:** Located a mere 3-4 blocks down Grand Avenue from Snelling, the Coffee News Café is part of a strip of storefronts that serve the Macalester College crowd. The Coffee News is a very inviting place. They not only are a full service coffee shop, but also a great place to get lunch. Their sandwiches come highly recommended, their garlic-fries are "two thumbs up" and they make a good cup of coffee. What else do you need? The Coffee News takes up two storefronts, giving it ample room. The food counter side tends to be a bit louder and busy, but the second room remains quieter. Every time I've been there, the room has been occupied by studying students. The iced caramel latte was a nice blend of coffee, cream and sweetness.

Iced Caramel Latte – 4/5 Garlic Fries – 5/5 Atmosphere – 5/5





**GINKGO COFFEEHOUSE:** North of I-94 on Snelling Avenue, Ginkgo is an interesting bean stop. They are home to a regular schedule of live shows in a wide range of music styles. Ginkgo's also dubs as a trinket shop with a full line of items you might find in the back of an old comic book. If you are looking for a Whoopie Cushion or a bug in an ice cube, they most likely have it on the shelf. Their menu offers a reasonable selection of soups, sandwiches, bakery, ice creams, and more. In terms of the cafe, they serve *Fair Trade* coffee. Although *Fair Trade* is not a brand name and, therefore, does not mean one *Fair Trade* coffee is the same as another, many *Fair Trade* coffees I have sampled have been sub-par in flavor. On the up-side, Ginkgo's coffee comes from *Alakef Coffee*, an excellent

Continued on page 13...

Tuesday, May 29 Pre-Summer Session Begins

Sunday, June 10 Pre-Session Ends

Monday, June 11 First Four-Week Session Begins

Wednesday, July 4 Independence Day, No Classes Sunday, July 8
First Four-Week Session Ends

Monday, July 9
Second Four-Week Session Begins

Sunday, August 5 Second Four-Week Session Ends

Monday, August 6 – Sunday, August 26
Post-Summer Session

#### **UW Stout Sports**

Monday, April 9 Softball at St. Scholastica, 3 p.m.

Friday, April 13 Men's Golf at Buena Vista Invite, Storm Lake, Iowa, 9 a.m.

Saturday, April 14 Men's Golf at Buena Vista Invite, Storm Lake, Iowa, 9 a.m. Softball at UW-La Crosse, 2 p.m.

## Confessions

## 1. What activities do you do while traveling in the car?

Laugh at Ajax, laugh at outrageous looking drivers and things like that.

2. What's your favorite music to listen to while driving?



Depends who's driving, if Josh/guitar player drives, it's going to be some super heavy burdensome metal band....Stevie/drummer...he might turn on some Elton. Ryan/lead, he might have on some Fallen Chains or Barry White.

3. Have you ever been to a restaurant and told the waiter/waitress that it was one of the other member's birthdays? No.

4. Which one of you would win if you were at a hot dog eating contest?

That's a good question. We all eat like barbarians so that would be a close contest.

**5. What exercise (if any) do you do on a weekly basis?** Some pilates, water dance, stuff like that so we can be strong for live performances.

**6.** Does one of your members assume the role of band mother? The band members are all mothers.....in a very unfeminine way.

7. What was the most shows you ever played in one week? Probably 3!

8. If you could tell today's college-agers one important thing, what would it be?

Come to a Datalit show!!!



Sunday, April 15 Softball at UW-Platteville, noon

Thursday, April 19 Softball at UW-Superior, 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 21 Women's Golf at UW-Oshkosh Invite, 9 a.m. Softball vs. UW-Stevens Point, 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 22 Women's Golf at UW-Stevens Point Invite, 9 a.m. Monday, April 23 Women's Golf at UW-Stevens Point Invite, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 25 Softball vs. UW-Eau Claire, 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 28 Softball vs. UW-Whitewater, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 29 Softball vs. UW-Oshkosh, 1 p.m. Monday, April 30 Men's Golf at UW-Parkside, Kenosha

Tuesday, May 1 Softball vs. Hamline University, 4 p.m.

Friday, May 4 Softball WIAC Conference Tourney, Eau Claire, TBD

Friday, May 5 Softball WIAC Conference Tourney, Eau Claire, TBD

## My Story:

When I was born into this world I didn't know what to expect. I went through life living for myself: consuming, wanting, desiring. Throughout all of this, my mother took me to a local church where we lived. We moved a couple times due to my fathers job, but as soon as we moved my mother would start looking for a church to attend. It was during this time that my mother posed a question that required a response. I said yes to her question, but I didn't really mean it. I was only five at the time, but I remember that point on that

specific day very well. The question my mother posed was, "Do you believe that Jesus died for your sins?" What happened is my life up to this point. What follows is how God found me.

I grew up as a Christian, doing Christian things. I lived in a Christian household. I had gone to church every Sunday for as long as I could remember. My mother would read the Bible to me as a bedtime story and then pray with me before I went to sleep. To me, growing up in this type of household didn't seem too different. It felt normal. I basically grew up as a suburbanite. Most of my friends were from my elementary school, but I also had a separate group of church friends since we traveled out of town to get to church. Most of my friends from school lived similar lives, attending different denominations or churches, so I didn't feel too out of place.

What this type of living did do was provide a knowledge of God in my life. I remember simple things from this early life: Sunday school songs, my mother reading her Bible every morning, my grandfather praying before having coffee with a fellow church member. Basically, I

saw people who had a relationship with God, but I couldn't seem to translate this to my everyday life. I remember actually telling a close neighborhood friend about Jesus because I was concerned he was going to go to hell. For the most part, though, my Christianity was compartmentalized. I went to church on Sundays and then lived however I wanted the rest of the week.

My parents did provide discipline, which I naturally rebelled against. What's funny, though, is that I rebelled within the confines of my home life. Like any kid growing up, I was embarrassed to be seen with my parents so I began to distance myself from them. I joined the Boy Scouts in the sixth grade and found this group and other extra-curricular activities to be an escape. I was able

to work at a Boy Scout camp during the summer months of my high school years, which got me out of the house more. So, for the most part, I was avoiding my relationship with my parents. Basically, my relationships with everyone dwindled as I did my own thing. The toughest year was the summer after my senior year since I thought I was missing so much because I was working. I was afraid that I would never get much of a chance to see my friends again since that summer would have been the last hurrah with them.

I went straight from working at camp to my first year of college. The new experiences of college led me to a life of chasing women, pornography, and just about anything that could satisfy my appetite for happiness. At the same time, I complained that all churches were full of a bunch of hypocrites, so this gave me a good reason not to go to any of them. Needless to say, I was messed up.

I was a disgruntled Christian, angry at God for not giving me what I wanted. For some reason, Christians tend to stick together and somehow word got out that I was one. A friend from my floor invited me to an evening worship service in Amery where he had grown up. Supposedly, the leader at the service had special powers to speak from God, and he started listing off things God wanted to tell individuals in the audience. This sin and that came down the pike from his mouth, which left me quite skeptical until he mentioned that there were some in the crowd that needed to get involved with a local church. This just floored me. I wasn't doing that, I had never heard someone say this before, and I thought all churches were

full of a bunch of hypocrites, but still the response I uttered was, "Well, okay God." After about a month of going to church, God quickly paired me up with a roommate who was attending a different church's Bible study in River Falls. This fulfilled my desires for sermons, but I still led a life of sin which got worse, especially over school breaks when my high school friends brought home new mind-enhancing chemicals they discovered at their schools. Yeah, that blew my mind, my grades dropped and I do believe my demeanor changed. I continued living a somewhat successful double life, but I was tormented about it because I was

Continued on page 16...

#### "I was a disgruntled Christian, angry at God for not giving me what I wanted."



May 8-11 Men's Golf NCAA Division III Championships, TBA

#### **Community Events**

#### March 23-April 23

UW-Stout Advanced Drawing Class Exhibit, Mabel Tainter Theater

#### April 12

The Violet Burning, Club 3 Degrees, Minneapolis, MN, 8 pm

#### April 17, 7 pm

Camp Cooking Class-Stout Adventures Student \$5, Community Member \$7

#### April 18-21, 7:30pm

Damn Yankees, Stout Theater Musical, Mabel Tainter Theater

#### April 19, 8 pm

Falling Up, Club 3 Degrees, Minneapolis, MN

#### April 20, 7 pm

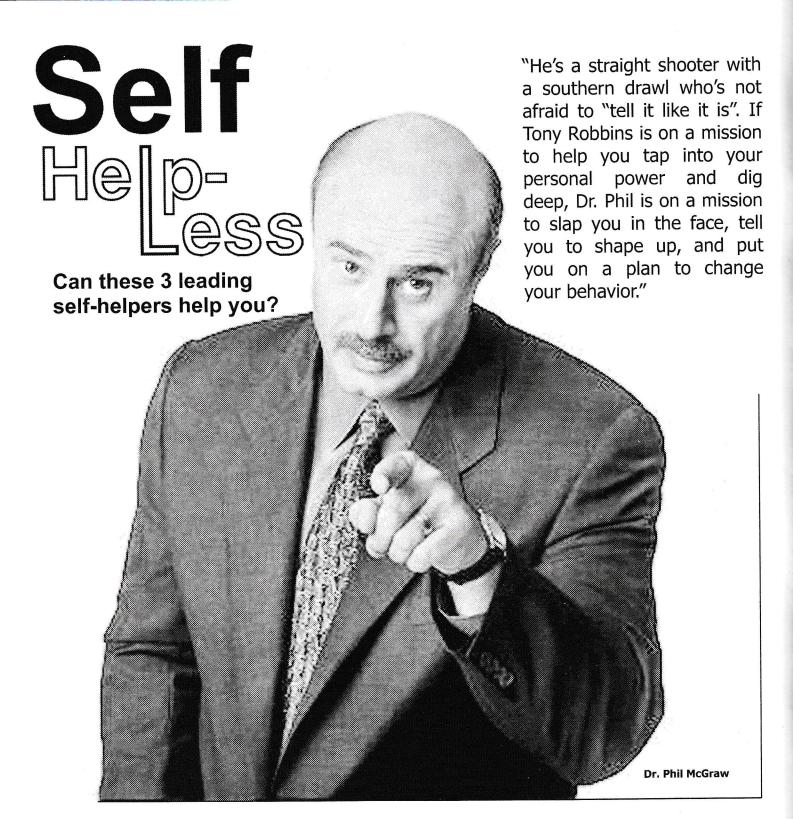
*In Overflow*, Blind Munchies Coffeehouse, No Cover

#### May 5- Oct 27

Farmer's Market, Wilson Park, Menomonie, Wed-12pm-6pm, Sat-8am-1pm

#### May 3, 8 pm

Roma Di Luna w/ The Floorbirds, Rec Center, UW-Stout

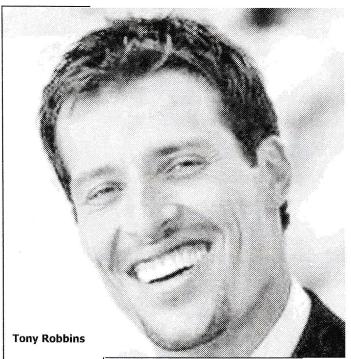


omedian George Carlin put it well when he said,

"What I really don't understand is if you want self-help why would you read a book written by somebody else? That's not self-help, that's help! If you can do it yourself you don't need help!"

Can you really help yourself? Billions and billions of dollars have been spent on what can only be called the Self Help *Industry*. People scarf down books, infomercials, personal coaches, CD's, DVD's, 12 step programs and motivational speakers with high hopes of finally overcoming that one hurdle, facing up to that pesky temptation, getting rich, getting thin, becoming successful, more

relationship-savvy, or bolder in their interactions with others. Did you know that the research firm *Marketdata* projects that in 2008, the self-help industry will be worth over \$11 billion? With that much consumer money at stake, we were curious to see what these "helpers" were offering and whether or not their methods could produce any lasting change in a life. First, let's dig up the facts on three of the world's leading "help sellers"—Tony Robbins, Dr. Phil and Joel Osteen—and sift through their teachings to find out what they believe. Then, we'll use our brains and reason through some of their proposals about health, wealth and happiness, and also what the Bible has to say about these issues.



help you," and while your problems are worthy of being acknowledged, they shouldn't be dwelt upon. He proposes stripping away emotional clutter and giving people a challenge to move ahead and past their issues. As a result of this approach, he's been criticized of offering a quick fix sort of pseudo-psychology that can help find an immediate solution, but doesn't really dig to the heart of the problem. Is there a happy medium?

#### Joel Osteen- "The Smiling Preacher"

Joel Osteen is on a mission to let everyone know that they can achieve success, happiness, and financial prosperity, and doggone it, "God wants to give it to you now." Osteen is the pastor of Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas, North America's largest and fastest growing church, averaging more than 42,000 attendees at weekly services. He is also the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller, *Your Best Life Now: 7 Steps to Living at Your Full Potential.* The book is summarized by booksellers as follows:

Pastor Joel Osteen realizes that <u>deep within you is a voice that doubts your self-worth and does its best to destroy your dreams</u>. For this reason, he is committed to helping you exchange your insecurities for a godly self-image and discover your personal strengths and abilities so that you can live Your Best Life Now. Through the ministry

"As a result of his desire to encourage and motivate, he purposefully leaves out parts of the Bible in his teaching that are deemed as less than desirable or hard to swallow."

#### Tony Robbins-"The Mahatma of Motivation"

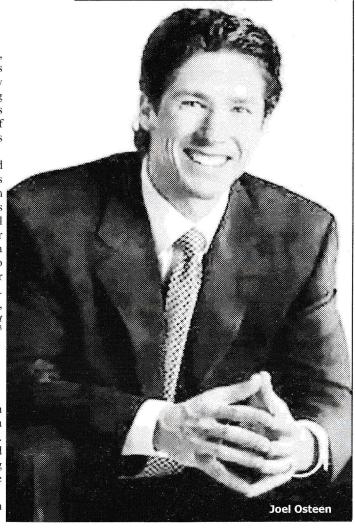
Tony Robbins is a best-selling self help author, motivational speaker, and advisor to many world leaders, sports professionals and business people. Robbins found himself at a low place in his life in his early twenties. Overweight, broke, and working a job he disliked, he decided to attend a self help seminar and was inspired to take matters into his own hands. Through methods of Neuro-linguistic Programming (NLP), Robbins "took charge" of his life.<sup>2</sup>

NLP is the process of making mental associations and modeling methods and attitudes of "highly successful" individuals such as Ghandi, Helen Keller, Martin Luther King Jr., Abraham Lincoln, Leonardo Da Vinci, Albert Einstein and Rosa Parks. This includes visualization, meditation, and using spoken word and mental imaging to change bad actions into ones deemed more positive. For example, if you were trying to quit smoking, instead of visualizing a cigarette coming to your lips in your mind's eye, you would try to visualize the image of a healthy and fit person and you would pair some set of words with it like a mantra to keep you from smoking. Robbins believes this can produce change because he believes, "There is a powerful driving force inside every human being that once unleashed can make any vision, dream or desire a reality." <sup>3</sup> Will it work when the rubber meets the road?

#### Dr. Phil - The "Get Real" Guru

If Dr. Phil McGraw is a straight shooter with a southern drawl who's not afraid to "tell it like it is". If Tony Robbins is on a mission to help you tap into your personal power and dig deep, Dr. Phil is on a mission to slap you in the face, tell you to shape up, and put you on a plan to change your behavior. He's known for being Oprah's animated psycho-analyzing sidekick, and boasts a huge following on his own daytime television show. <sup>4</sup>

On the "Phil Plan," help-seekers are told that only "you can



of Lakewood Church, Pastor Osteen has already helped millions of people advance down the road towards <u>health</u>. <u>abundance</u>, <u>significance</u> and <u>success</u>. Don't miss this opportunity to let <u>him</u> lead you down the road to Your Best Life Now. 6 (emphasis added)

Osteen places a great deal of importance on his ability as a motivator with a "God" twist. He says, "I see myself more as a coach, as a motivator to help them experience the life God has for us." As a result of his desire to encourage and motivate, he purposefully leaves out parts of the Bible in his teaching that are deemed less than desirable or hard to swallow. For example, in a 2005 interview with Larry King, Osteen openly admitted that he doesn't talk about sin or hell. He also believes that while Jesus is the best path to choose for your life, others who are sincere can find God through their religions—a belief contradicted by what Christ actually said.

Perhaps one of the most disputed aspects of Osteen's philosophy is the fact that he belongs to the word-faith movement. This is the belief that health and prosperity are promised to all believers and are available through faith. Osteen's central draw revolves around the belief that God created us to prosper and that if we just have faith and follow the steps Osteen lays out, we will realize our full potential to succeed. Is it right to pick and choose which parts of the Bible to talk about in order to be more popular with listeners?

#### **Boil it Down**

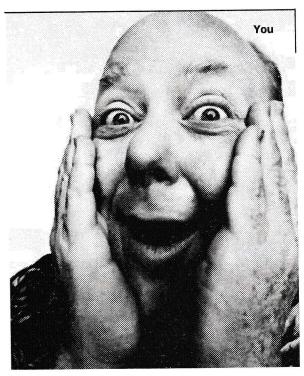
All of these men have three important ideas in common. First, they all claim that *their* process/set of steps/methods will lead you to the desired end result. However, at the same time, they tell you that you have every resource inside yourself that you need to accomplish change. If everything you needed was already inside you, then why do you need *them* at all? Secondly, they all put some sort of emphasis on speaking positive things into existence, whether through pure repetition, a bold statement such as "I *will* change," or a "word of faith." Finally, under the auspices of *self* help, they tell you exactly what to do and hold their life up as the standard, as if they have it all figured out. Are they offering help, or dependency upon their program?

The fact that all three of these men are only human raises a few questions. How can a human being, on the same level as you and I, with the same type of brain, help you get your life together? Common sense would tell you that you need someone higher than yourself to help you through life, otherwise the advice you're receiving is questionable because it's coming from another person who's full of faults and makes mistakes. The fact that these men are all human also causes me to question the purity of their motives. With all of the money, fame and prestige wrapped up in being an "authority" on self help, there are a lot of reasons why these helpers might just tell you what you want to hear instead of what you need to hear. Everyone loves to hear a motivating message full of emotion and promises, but so much of the emotion wears off and becomes irrelevant when you come back down to the reality of everyday life. What we all need is someone higher who tells us the hard truth and presents it in a way that applies to the daily details—both large and small—of your personal life.

#### The Real Deal

The Bible has a lot to say about lasting change and direction for your life. Jesus offers a completely *new* life. He doesn't just offer to patch up our current life and make it look and feel better. Instead, he offers to strip it all away and start over.

...Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ,



who died and was raised for them. So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!" (2 Corinthians 5:14-17, New Living Translation, emphasis added)

Maybe if Tony Robbins or Dr. Phil could come live inside your brain they could constantly coach you through all the steps you need to take to "live the life you want." But even if that were possible, would the life that you want bring you happiness? The cool thing about letting Jesus into your life is that He knows you inside and out and He wants to give you the life you were created for, which may be different than the life you might think you want to live. New life with Jesus isn't a promise of wealth, luxury, or comfort, but it is a promise of peace, the security of knowing Him, love, and joy in the middle of hard times. It doesn't mean you'll never have problems, like Joel Osteen might want you to think, or that you just have to "get real" like Dr. Phil says, or even that you have to "want it" bad enough like Tony Robbins teaches. New life with Jesus means that you realize you need Him to pull you out of the pit you've dug for yourself and put you on a new path.

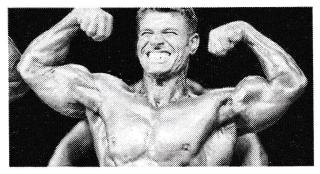
Then Jesus got into the boat and started across the lake with his disciples. Suddenly, a fierce storm struck the lake, with waves breaking into the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him up, shouting, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!

Jesus responded, "Why are you afraid? You have so little faith!" Then he got up and rebuked the wind and waves, and suddenly there was a great calm. Matthew 8:23-26 (New Living Translation)

The solution to this storm was a person, not a seven step program. Jesus could have shouted orders about how they could help themselves: "Tie the sails down! Bail water!" But those orders wouldn't have done any good because the waves kept breaking and the storm kept pounding down on them. They were outside of the realm of helping themselves; they needed the One who would stand in for them and calm the storm. The next time you feel like you're going to drown, look outside of yourself, look outside of the advice of others, and look for help from the God who made you and knows you inside and out.

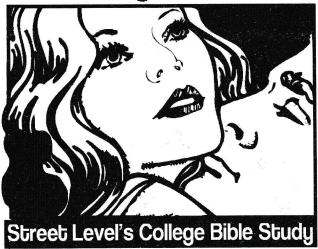
Notes on page 17.

# THINGS TO TO at the



- 1. Go with a few people you know and wear matching clothes.
- 2. Wear an obnoxious amount of sweatbands.
- 3. Dress up in nice clothes or some other silly garb and work out like you do it all the time.
- 4. Ask one of your muscle head buddies if you can use his weight belt and then just run on the treadmill with it.
- 5. Bring in a small Christmas tree and a concrete deer and put it by your treadmill and explain that it makes you feel at home because you used to run outside.
- 6. Work out with "rec specs" or safety glasses.
- 7. Bring a cookbook to read while on the treadmill and see if anyone notices.
- 8. Fill a Mountain Dew bottle with water and drink it between reps.
- 9. Sing along to the lyrics on your iPod.
- 10. Call your mom or dad in as a guest to work out with.

## Tired of guilt inside?

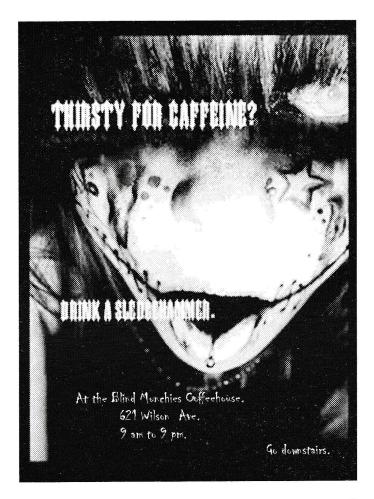


We can help you figure out what the HECK the Bible means

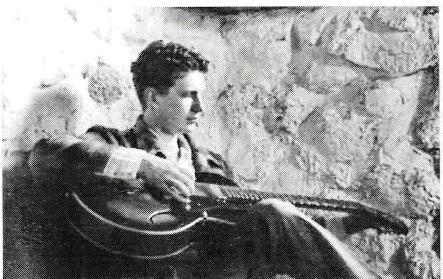
\* MONDAY nights at 7PM \*

The Northwoods Room UW-Stout Student Center

www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu







Tom Feldmann and the **Get-Rites** "Side Show Revival"

Genre: Americana, solo acoustic blues

friend and favorite of the Blind Munchies Coffeehouse, Tom Feldmann has performed here in Menomonie as recently as September 2006 at the annual Yeshuapalooza music festival in Wilson Park. Returning again on March 30, 2007, the locally infamous trio will be promoting the release of their newest musical offering "Side Show Revival".

His musical history reveals a well established credibility among those in the industry, having opened for such bands as the Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash, Kraig Johnson (the Jayhawks), John Munson (Semisonic), and "Catfish" Keith. Feldmann, however, brings a religious flair that many others won't dare to offer. His heart-felt praise of Jesus Christ is bold and without shame or apology. Tom Feldmann returns with his posse in their sophomore release in which he once again demonstrates his impeccable talent as a singer/songwriter.

Appearing 28 times in less than 3 minutes on the second track

Feldmann leaves no room for doubt as to whom he loves as he wails, shouts, and all but screams the name of Jesus repeatedly throughout the album, mixed thoroughly with strong Biblical themes and countless Scriptural references. Foot stomping sounds of Gospel Blues slide back and forth across steel strings as Feldmann's fret board brings the need for a Savior to life with songs like "One of These Days" and "Bought by the Blood". Along with the unmistakable sounds of his resonator guitar, the Get-Rites add the perfect blend of upright bass and percussion to bring about the sound that makes this trio unique, neither underpolished nor overcooked. Feldmann carefully lifts his audience on the musical wings of praise and adoration for his Lord before dropping them into a sobering free-fall with lyrics like, "One of these days you're gonna hear His voice say 'come' ... where are you gonna run to then? What have you done with what God has given you?", and before

you hit the ground, he catches you at your lowest and brings you up again, shouting "I'm so glad, and I don't know what to do".

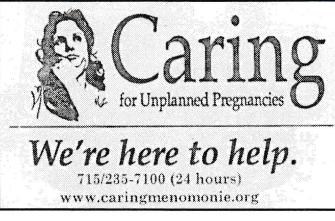
length recording endeavor, the musical talents and album structure make Tom Feldmann and the Get-Rites look like veterans. With lyrics that are refreshingly intelligible and a message that undoubtedly uplifting "Side Show Revival" is just that, a revival of sorts for the Spirit that may lose its appeal if it were ever thrust onto the main stage. Not sure

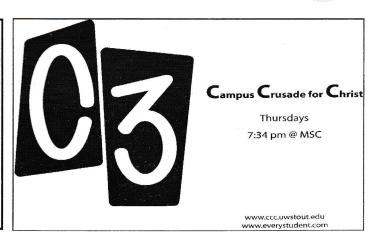
if you could call it dancing,

move you.

but this album is guaranteed to

This being only their second full-The New CD: SIDE SHOW REVIV











#### **Chariots of Fire**

Drama Rated PG Actors-Ian Charleson, Ben Cross, Ian Holm, Nigel Havers Director-Hugh Hudson

ired of the same formulaic movies of late that end with a twist? Well, then jump back a little over 25 years for a film that is both entertaining and poignant. Chariots of Fire is known to most by its famous score, but this film took home Best Picture for more than just its music. The film centers on the stories of two very different men who happen to both be runners that eventually make it to the 1924 Olympics in Paris.

Eric Liddell (played by Ian Charleson) is a Christian Scotsman who just naturally "runs like the wind." His parents are missionaries in China and Liddell has been groomed his entire life to follow in their footsteps. Harold Abrahams (played by Ben Cross) is a Jewish student at Cambridge University with a deep desire to win. The film begins with the famous music by Greek composer Vangelis Papathanassiou playing as a group of men run along the beach. It then moves to Harold Abrahams' funeral in 1978. After this, the movie flashes back and really begins the story with Abrahams arriving at Cambridge in 1919. Something fascinating to note is how formal college was in the 1920s in Britain. Abrahams' first night consists of an extremely formal freshman dinner complete with all of the university's "big wigs" and freshman in tuxedos. Compare that to a freshman's first night at UW-Stout now!

Based on a true story, the film switches back and forth between the lives of the two men. Abrahams uses running to fight back against the anti-Semitism he was consistently encountering. He even hires a professional trainer, Sam Mussabini (played by Ian Holm), to help him train for the Olympics, even though this is frowned upon by the higher powers at Cambridge. Liddell, on the other hand, really enjoys running and sees it as a means to bring glory to God. This is evidenced by the way he runs wildly with his arms flailing and a crazy

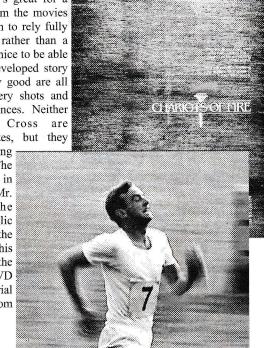
smile on his face. One of the best lines of the movie occurs when Liddell's sister Jennie is trying to convince Liddell to give up running to join their parents at the missionary they run in China. Jennie implies her brother's running is getting in the way of his calling from God, and Liddell responds by saying, "God made me for a purpose, but He also made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure." It is obvious Liddell truly believes this, as he frequently gives sermons to the crowds after his races, encouraging them to use the gifts God has given them.

What makes this movie worthwhile is the fact that it could be just another "road to glory" sports movie, but it's not. Most sports movies clearly establish an underdog and their seemingly undefeatable foe early on and the triumph of the underdog in the championship game is the whole focus. This movie is not all about making it to one big race (the Olympics), but also all the smaller races

that lead them there. It also focuses more Liddell and Abrahams as individual men rather than competitors pitted against each other. Neither man runs to glorify himself, but for a purpose. Running seems to just be the method or means of achieving that purpose. There comes a point in the movie where Liddell is forced to choose between his faith and his running. Choosing to stick with his convictions, he is told that standing for what he believes in makes him a person of principle and the very people that tried to dissuade him will end up respecting him even more.

This drama is a full 7 12 m or a ratio or 123 minutes and takes a while to get moving, but it's great for a change of pace from the movies of late, which seem to rely fully on special effects rather than a decent plot. It was nice to be able to watch a well-developed story unfold. Particularly good are all the beautiful scenery shots and the running sequences. Neither Charleson nor Cross are professional athletes, but they

give very convincing performances. The film is available in Menomonie at Mr. Movies or the Menomonie Public Library. To get the most out of this movie, check out the special edition DVD with bonus material available online from Netflix.com.





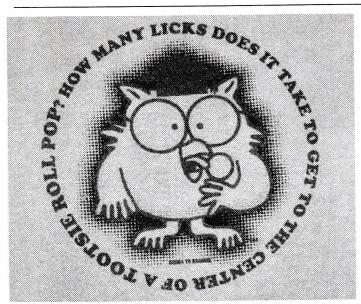
If you're looking for a place to eat that will definitely fill you up with great taste and where you don't have to wait a while to be seated, check out Burrachos. Burrachos is a newer Mexican restaurant in North Menomonie located in the strip malls across from Wal-Mart. Rather than having a traditional wide variety of Mexican dishes to choose from, they specialize in just a few items: burritos, tacos, and nachos. And even though it falls into the fast food category, none of their food is ever frozen so you can be guaranteed it will at least be fresh.

A newly formed restaurant chain started in 2005 with a vision of creating a fun, fast, and casual Mexican alternative in small to medium sized Midwestern towns, Burrachos does just that. Menomonie has always been in desperate need of new restaurants and it's refreshing to have one with different offerings than McDonalds, Wendy's, and Burger King. It's definitely not a second El Patio (like Dona Rita), but it has its own appeal.

... you can get the chips and salsa for free just by going to their website...

Those who have been to a Chipotle restaurant before will practically feel like they're at Chipotle. It's the same concept with a lot of similar offerings. Burrachos is set up like Subway, in that you walk along as they make your food and tell them what you want them to put on next. The inside is spacious and clean, with a lot of light and a long row of stools against the front, which makes it appealing to sit down and eat. And it is a good idea to actually sit down in the restaurant to eat! Warning: these are not burritos one can eat in the car. They are large and over-stuffed, and sometimes require silverware to be able to eat without spilling all over the floor. They offer chicken, beef, pork, and ground sirloin as well as a meatless option. Most burritos cost around \$5.75 and the rest of the items are close to that too. It may sound a little high for one burrito, but as previously mentioned, this is not your average burrito and it is way better than anything Taco Bell or Taco Johns has to offer. They also offer a wide variety of drinks from soda to energy drinks and even beer.

Although practically the same restaurant as Chipotle, Burrachos doesn't seem to have quite as much flavor. Some may not mind this, though, because Chipotle can be kind of spicy. Burrachos offers four different types of salsa to choose from, so you really do get to decide how much spice you get. It's worth it to go if only for the awesome chips they offer! They have this subtle lemon pepper/lime type seasoning on them which is wonderful. It's unexpected and makes for something different. Plus, you can get the chips and salsa for free just by going to their website (www.burrachos.com) and signing up on their mailing list. They are open Monday-Sunday from 11am-10pm. And in case you're traveling out of the area, you can check out one of their other locations in Onalaska, Marshfield, or in Eau Claire (soon).



## Wrapped In Mystery

Here at Word on the Street magazine, we dedicate ourselves to bringing the raw truth to students at UW-Stout, and we decided that a certain issue needed some serious attention. There's been a rumor circulating among children for decades concerning the idea that finding an Indian boy shooting an arrow at a star on the wrapper of your Tootsie Pop will get you another free sucker if you are willing to part with the wrapper. Some say the wrapper is worth 10 suckers, while others claim

that you'll receive an entire case of the tasty confections.

Being assigned to the duty of researching this mystery was nothing less than a commission to explore my own subconscious and dredge up some of the most character-shaping disappointments of my childhood. Wrought with anxiety, I was forced to confront the painful memories of times past standing at the drugstore check-out, humbly offering my Indian wrapper to a scowling clerk who turned me away shouting, "I've never heard such a thing", "stop asking me", "Just give up already!".

Wrestling with the recollection of constant humility and utter rejection, I began my research only to find that such a promotion was never offered by Tootsie Roll Industries. Apparently, children have been pursuing this rumor since the 1930's, which prompted the company to write letters of apology to each of the young hopefuls until 1982 when a full-page history of the legendary Indian on the wrapper was returned to every optimistic tot who spent their hard-

earned allowance on the cost of postage.

Though my childhood scars will never be healed by an exploration of my own subconscious, finding the answer to this mystery has temporarily diffused the unrest of a once disheveled mind in search of answers to life's toughest questions. We hope that our efforts to provide you with an honest answer to this age-old mystery will bring you the peace and resolve needed to attain higher intellectual achievement and freedom from the weight of darkness and uncertainty.



roaster, who <u>is</u> a registered *Fair Trade* coffee roaster. I ordered a latte and, frankly, it tasted like they had reused yesterday's coffee. It is quite possible I just got a burn cup, but it certainly is not because of the coffee roaster. At any rate, I was displeased with the quality of flavor.

Hot Latte – 1/5 Trinkets – 5/5 Atmosphere – 2/5

BOB'S JAVA HUT: Bob's is located halfway between the interstate and Lake Street on Lyndale Avenue in Uptown. Don't let its rough and tumble facade spook you; Bob's Java Hut is a prime coffee hot-spot for bikers, businessmen, hippies, artists and vegetarians. Bob's atmosphere is very "50's auto repair shop" feeling. The front of the store is a large garage door which opens up in the summer to bring you right outside. The interior décor includes steel, racing stripes and old signs. Would you like bulk beans to-go? Look for the antique oilcans on the back shelf. I bought a can of their French roast and I am still enjoying the goodness. What can I say, the place just feels like a coffeehouse. Here I ordered a double espresso, which was a smooth kick in the pants, strong but not bitter. Wi-Fi is available and you just might see a shaved-headed, vegan, tattooed, Harley-riding CEO trying to "close the deal". You have to go there!

Espresso – 5/5 Bulk Coffee at home – 5/5 Atmosphere – 5/5





**MUDDY WATERS CAFFEINE CANTEEN:** MWCC is located on Lyndale Avenue just a few short blocks from the interstate on The Wedge. This coffee shop was probably the most eclectic range of clients. I wondered at times if the guy in the corner wasn't completely whacked out on something, if you know what I mean... The look and feel of the place was quite "50's" with the bar stools, hanging lights and logo. Inside, the place was very "street" and so, it loses the luster of the typical mainstream coffee shops (this is a good thing). I ordered a single shot espresso, which was very bitter. A travel-mate ordered coffee and was pleased with the taste. The shop is smaller and seemed cramped so traffic flow at the counter seemed clogged and ill organized. Overall, it's a groovy place to visit (but I wouldn't want to live there).

Espresso – 2/5 Strange Customers – 5/5 Atmosphere – 2/5

**CAFFETTO:** Within walking distance (2 blocks) from Muddy Waters is this laid back coffee shack (and art gallery) located just off of Lyndale Avenue. Caffetto has a nice selection of coffee drinks, sodas and bakery items. I ordered a dark roast coffee and enjoyed every sip. The serving area of the shop is designed with paintings you would find in Goodwill stores or garage sales, like pirate ships at sea or vases of flowers. Grab good coffee, a sandwich and a piece of delicious six-inch tall cake and relax. Do you want a drink with a real kick? Order a Flaming Mocha. It's coffee and chocolate a la hot pepper.

Food – 4/5 Coffee – 5/5 Garage sale paintings selection 5/5





## JESUS FELLLOWSHIP

OPEN:

Tuesday - Friday 8:30-4:30 pm Sunday 10:00-1:30 pm

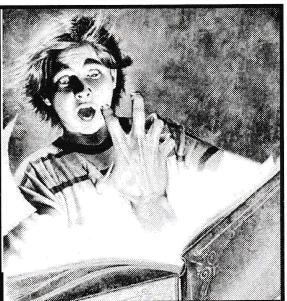
Great place to get Bible learning tools and books on life direction. We have an extensive audio lending library as well to build you up in your faith.

We are located at 621 Wilson Ave. in the Jesus Fellowship church. One block from the downtown Burger King and two blocks from UW-Stout.

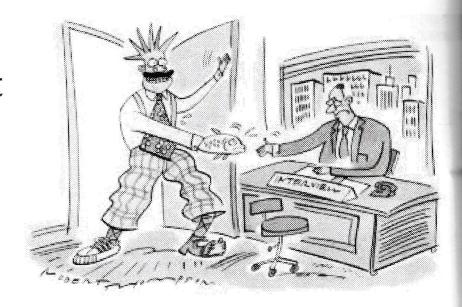
Our books are marked 10 percent above our cost.

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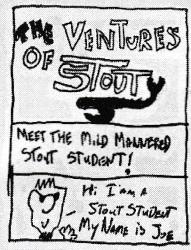
## How *Not* to Get the Job You Want

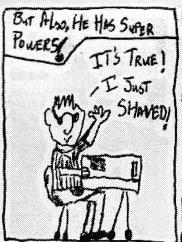


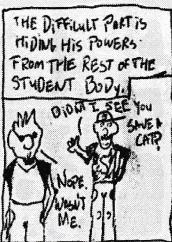
- Make sure you are fully accessorized. This means body jewelry too. It's important to be shiny. After all, this will make you stick out.
- Answer, "It doesn't matter" to a question or two in an interview to show your flexibility.
- Feel free to stop in the office to fill out an application when you're on your way home from a day at the beach. Start by saying you were just driving by and thought you'd stop in. Then it won't matter that you're wearing your "beach shorts."
- When asked why you left your last position, don't hesitate to go into detail about your incompetent boss and difficult co-workers.
- Arrive five minutes late for your appointment and look at the clock when you walk in and say, "Oh, I guess this clock is different than mine." That will smooth things over.
- Try to demonstrate how hip you are by exposing your lower back tattoo. That will definitely impress.
- Give very short interview answers, sometimes even one word. Make the interviewer really work for it.
- Wear a t-shirt to your interview that says, "Fire Me Please!"
- Put your email address that you use with your friends on your resume. What's not professional about lizardguy520@gmail.com or fiestagirl@yahoo.com?
- While waiting for your interview, feel free to take

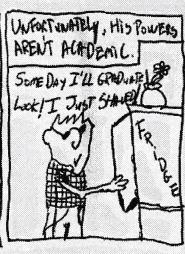
out personal work or check your email on your cell phone. Then, when the interviewer is ready for you and it takes you a couple minutes to put away your items, he/she will see that you are a hard worker.

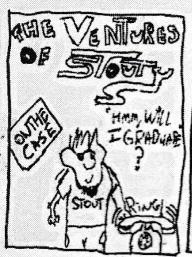
- Ask the receptionist to make a copy of your resume for you. Or, better yet, ask if you can use your USB key to print off a resume since your printer is "on the fritz."
- Make it a point to call and demand to know why
  you have not been contacted for an interview yet
  because you know you are more than qualified for
  the job. Being overly aggressive is key.
- Make as little eye contact with the interviewer as possible. Look around the room and gaze out the window to get a "feel" for the place.
- Explain to the interviewer that you are just really trying to "get your foot in the door." Then they'll know you're really serious about the position.
- Lean back in your chair and put your hands behind your head during the interview. This will show that you are not overly serious, but relaxed.
- Go ahead and listen to your iPod while filling out an application at the office. I mean, you're just filling out an application. It's not like you're in an interview, right?
- Don't bother to turn off your cell phone. And when your "Jay-Z" ring tone goes off, feel free to answer your phone in the lobby and tell your friend you're just waiting to go into a job interview. This shows that you're important.

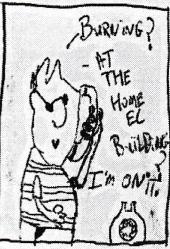






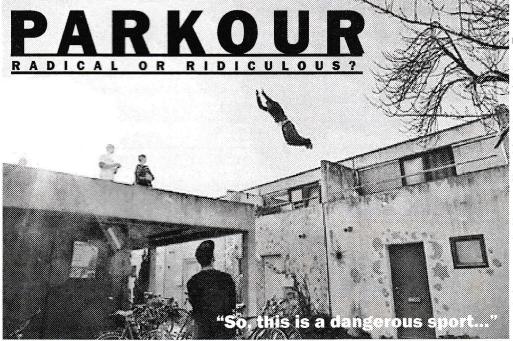












- WARNING: We believe this activity to be hazardous and may cause serious injury.
- To search, Google "Parkour" and look for the Wikipedia link.

#### http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/parkour

his is for those people bored with their normal, everyday, walk through life. Literally, I mean, how you physically walk

If you're sick of just walking and would rather traverse through portions of your life, maybe Parkour is the discipline for you.

In this art form, the goal is to fluidly move through environments that present a challenge to a normal person who walks.

Climbing walls, jumping from heights, rolling, and balancing are all involved. Basically, the world is your obstacle, artfully moving through it is Parkour's goal. **Be forewarned, though**. I have a friend who attempted a jump and he thought he shattered his heel on the landing. So, this is a dangerous sport. Play it safe out there, or just watch other people do it. That's what I do.

#### Continued from page 5...

still going to the Bible study in River Falls.

Jump ahead a year and a half ahead and I find myself in jail housed next to a killer popularized by the media. I was busted with a "QP" (a quarter pound) of marijuana. For those who haven't used, this is a lot since a quarter ounce is usually a good amount for an average user. I later found out I could've been charged for dealing, which would have pretty much ruined any opportunities to get a job. I read through most of Romans, a book in the Bible, while I was in jail, and, being struck by the clarity of chapter 13, I realized that God had spoken to me yet again. First, I knew I should obey Him, and second, I deserved the same punishment as the guy next door. I too was a hypocrite, and now very humble for some reason. I was only in jail for three days, since it was my first offense, but I believe it was an act of God because I should have been locked up for much longer. I left jail with a new hope that God would take care of all of my needs. As I walked out, there were news crews standing outside the

entrance to the jail waiting for word about the killer housed next to me. I heard sighs of disappointment from their pent-up anticipation and I almost wanted to laugh. I walked out with a new life.

God has done a lot in my life since then. I am certainly not finished yet, but God has given me a purpose to my life now, which is to live for Him. I try not to seek after my own desires anymore, but even that can be difficult at times. I've recently moved to Menomonie, and my life has never been fuller. I can't complain because I really didn't do anything. Menomonie wasn't in my future back then, and my relationship with Jesus certainly was lacking. I should've been dead a number of times, but God was the one who took care of me. I never expected my life to be so fulfilled. I don't want fleeting happiness anymore. I want what God has to offer. God did it all, through and through. God did the finding, I wasn't the one who found him. He found me.

#### Continued from page 2...

most important. Instead of picketing, yelling, or fighting on Capitol Hill, try reaching out and touching another human being through love and relationship. To make an impact in people's lives, try really caring about who people are. It is through pinpointing the true problem of man (sin) and providing an answer grounded in truth and love, that the climate of our country, our state, and our homes, will be changed, one life at a time.

The Christians who subscribe to this view may seem few and far between from what is seen on television and in the news. Instead, they're often behind the scenes using their time building relationships with those who are in need or searching for more. They point people in the direction of the One who provides peace, true fulfillment, and the hope of the heaven to come. They choose to sacrifice themselves and lay their lives down to help other people, even if it disrupts their own life. They accept the fact that they can't pray out loud in some public places, but it doesn't stop them from talking and listening to God silently all day long. They don't spend their time investing in losing battles over hanging a certain sign in a school. They are more concerned with comforting the mother who has just had an abortion rather than shoving a sign in her face on her way out the door.

Now this viewpoint is not something invented by imperfect man. This is the very teaching of Jesus. Jesus didn't come to set up an earthly kingdom or to clean people up on the outside. Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again<sup>2</sup> he cannot see the kingdom of God." He didn't say we have to be morally right

if we want to see the kingdom of God. In fact, God said that all of the efforts we attempt on our own to be good are the same as dirty menstrual cloths (Isaiah 64:6) Jesus spent his time on earth bringing good news to the poor, comforting the brokenhearted, and releasing those held captive by their sin. He did not spend time fulfilling a political agenda. Those who say they are following Him should be following his example (1 John 2:6)

The above view is one that I, personally, have come to believe. After studying the Bible for several years, *it is* the conclusion I have come to regarding a true Christian's purpose on this earth. I am not trying to press my beliefs on you, rather just presenting another question for you to think about in your free time. I've seen lives changed and impacted for the good by those who hold this viewpoint. I've seen the hungry fed and the poor clothed and the suffering comforted by those who hold this belief. How about you? Have you seen lives significantly changed by the other views? Has all of the time spent picketing, yelling, or debating had positive results?

#### Notes

 $1.http://www.lutheranworld.org/What\_We\_Do/DTS/DTS-Reclaiming\_the\_Vocation\_of\_Government.pdf$ 

2. To be "Born Again" you must:

- a. recognize you are a sinner on the highway to hell
- b. whip a "U-ee" from your sins
- c. Run to Jesus Christ and ask him to come into your life

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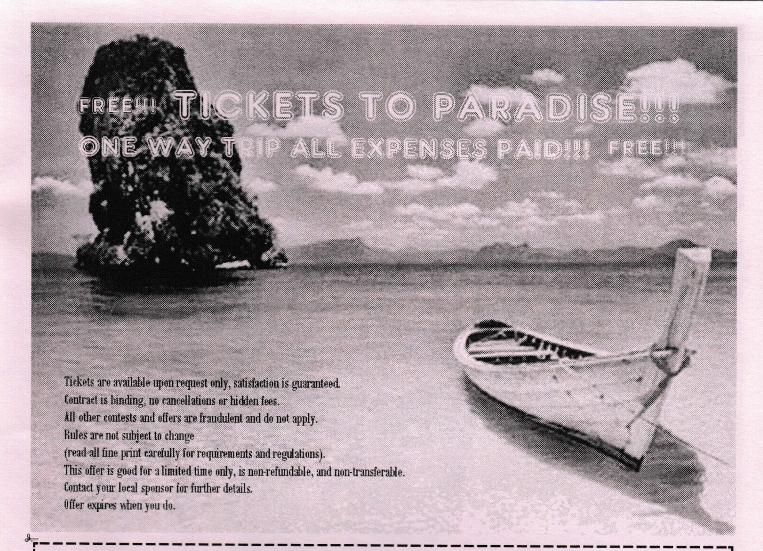
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1. www.wikipedia.com

- 2. http://www.woopidoo.com/biography/anthony\_robbins.htm
  3. http://www.zaadz.com/quotes/Tony\_Robbins?page=1&size=venti
- 4. http://drphil.com/shows/page/bio/
- 5. http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0506/20/lkl.01.html
- 6. http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/cms\_content? page=1208889&sp=51177&p=1008728
- 7. http://www.focusdep.com/quotes/authors/Joel/Osteen

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fuseaction=user.viewPicture&friendID=40378301 Tootsie Pop pics:

www.snopes.com ("legend of the Indian wrapper" story) How not to get the job you want cartoon:

www.realbusiness.co.uk/images/

10 fun things to do at the gym photo: http://image.guardian.co.uk/sys-images/Lifeandhealth/Pix/ pictures/2006/09/13/999RolandWeihrauchepa.jpg

"free tickets to paradise" Bible ad:

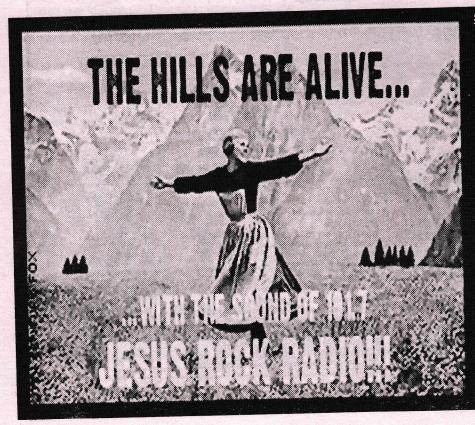
www.skepchick.org http://www.skepchick.org

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#### Street Level Ministries

UW-STOUT 621 Wilson Avenue Menomonie, WI 54751 www.streetlevel.uwstout.edu



S u n d a y Jesus Rock Radio on Sunday Morning 7-10:30 am Live Sunday Service 10:30 - Noon

Monday Wildcard (Bible Study) Rock the Flock (Bible Study) Noon Wildcard (Bible Study) 5 pm

#### Tuesday

5 pm

Live DJ show-Jeremy Jones-Jones'n in the Morning 7-10 am Wildcard (Bible Study) 8 am **Rock the Flock** Noon Get a Life (Bible Study)

W e d n e s d a y Wildcard (Bible Study) Rock the Flock Noon

#### Wildcard (Bible Study)

5 pm Live Underground Bible Study 7 pm

Thursday Wildcard (Bible Study) Rock the Flock Noon Get a Life (Bible Study) 5 pm

Friday Wildcard (Bible Study) 8 am Rock the Flock Noon Wildcard (Bible Study) 5 pm

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

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