



Gracie's Dinnertime Theatre

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Introduction

This week's issue of Gracies Dinnertime Theatre is a little bit unorthodox.

Over the last couple of months, our inbox has been filling with requests for "the old GDT". It seems that the lack of the "old GDT" is a problem that has been vexing many people on campus (and possibly off campus).

But lets face it, those people who have helped maked this a... um... interesting magazine in past years are either graduated or otherwise missing. However, it isn't in our hearts to sit by while all of you tear-up with nostalgia.

Why I need to move off Campus

So I'm lying in bed at 10:30 AM on a Thursday sleeping, like any sane person. There is a knock at the door. "Probably the usual rabble of dorm solicitors," I think to myself. Turning toward the wall, I attempt to continue sleeping. The knocking grows louder; more persistent than the average coin collecting Greek-life participant. Eventually the pounding ceases and I hear a fainter rapping farther down the hall. "Excellent. They've given up on my pocket change." As I slowly regain my comatose disposition, the knocking returns, loud and angry. As the key turns in the lock, I realize people who feel the need to knock first are coming into my room and I'm not wearing pants.

The door swings wide and I am looking at George Forman's bigger cousin. He looks me in the eye and in a deep Louis Armstrong voice says, "You request a service call on your heater?" Now my mind is grinding away like Fran Drescher's laugh on human ears. With a flash of insight, I ask "wha?"

"DID YOU REQUEST A SERVICE CALL ON YOUR HEATER?" He is now speaking slowly, as one would explain to a pet why the bed does not function as a lavatory. Putting my full intellect into the formation of a concise and intellectually redeeming response, I answer "no?" Victory! The large man would leave now and I could sleep. Score one for the home team.

Then a squeaky voice is heard from somewhere behind the mountain of muscle on his left arm. "Actually, we're checking the wiring for another floor; it just goes through your room." He might have a normal voice, but after the baritone chords from the man filling my doorway, it's hard not to imagine Mickey

By Editors

This week, we've decided to compromise. We're giving you your old GDT back. Oh yes. Take a look around campus and you'll find a dozen of your favorite old issues of GDT. Of course, for those of you who couldn't give a shit about old GDTs, there is this issue, and it's pretty good so don't fret.

If you've been waiting for the old GDT to return, now's your chance! Snatch it while you can! But remember, you can get all the old GDT that your mournful heart desires at: <http://www.hellskitchen.org/gdt/pdf/>

Ed.

By Patrick Saccoccia

Mouse standing in the hall. I realize now the man in the door has no interest in entering my room, rather he is more of a maintenance bouncer. If I gave Mickey any problems, such as not immediately letting him inside my bedroom, the bouncer would simply break my legs and or face, and they would come in anyways.

This all occurred to me as Mr. Bouncer asks, "Can they come in?" Keeping in mind I was missing some clothing, some sleep, and some common sense, I respond "Sure." Mr. Bouncer steps to the side, and Mickey is revealed to be a skinny electrician, with a mullet and full tool belt. Still another skinny electrician is standing beside him, wearing a black beanie and an equally impressive array of tools strapped to his waist. They saunter in, and without further preamble begin moving furniture.

Looking back I figure the day has gone pretty well. I've been awake for three minutes and I've already met three new people, two of which were helping me redecorate my room. And all this without pants. Imagine the possibilities. They move my dresser from the corner to the middle of the room, and open up an access panel in the wall. One chuckles and proclaims "Hey, there aren't any wires in here at all! That must be the problem!"

"Why aren't these guys teaching quantum physics?" Clearly they are over qualified for the "find the wire" game. They spend another 5 minutes putting my dresser back, then they head out the door, thanking me for my help. I smile and wave, hoping that next time I'm forced to match wits with these three, I'll have more on than my boxers.

Save Marriage From Conservatives

By Andrew Morgan

Little old ladies are, perhaps, the quintessential representation of harmlessness. With the possible exception of the odd granny attacking someone with her cane, the elderly typically do not incite fear and terror into those that behold them.

Therefore, it comes as a surprise to me when I hear what two old ladies are accused of being responsible for: everything from destroying marriage, to destroying the family to even --- I have heard people say this --- destroying the moral fabric of society so completely that we can no longer function as a self-representing republic. Yes, I am speaking about gay marriage, and I am tired of hearing the nonsense that conservatives nationwide say on this issue.

This past Friday, in San Francisco, the Mayor ordered the County Clerk to begin issuing marriage licenses to gay couples. The first such couple was Phyllis and Dorothy, two gay rights activists, 80 and 83. They have been together for fifty-one years. FIFTY-ONE years. That is more than twice as long as I have even been alive, and given my family's history of heart disease, I will be rather lucky if I manage to live for another fifty-one years.

Clearly the two of them love each other. This is not some random tryst; this is not a casual love affair that you read about in bad romance novels or on the

cover of some sleazy supermarket tabloid. They have devoted their lives to each other, and they will finally be allowed to share the same benefits, and have the same respect bestowed upon them that heterosexual couples enjoy. But not if the right wing religious zealots in California have their way.

Conservatives claim that this will destroy marriage. How are gay couples going to destroy marriage? By letting a partner visit the other in the hospital if there is an accident? By being able to share health benefits? By getting the government out of their bedroom? Marriage is about love. It is about commitment. It is about saying to yourself, to your partner, to your friends and family that this is the person that you want to spend the rest of your life with. Sharing a life, sharing memories, becoming a better person, and helping another person to grow along with you, regardless of whether or not they are of the same sex, IS NOT DESTROYING MARRIAGE.

There is nothing amoral about love, and that is perhaps the cornerstone of marriage. Clearly the sanctity of marriage and love is being abused, and people are not taking the responsibility and the right very seriously. As is often touted by conservatives, the divorce rate really is 50%, and that is a serious issue. But how does allowing gays to marry influence that percentage, or "damage" marriage in any other way?

Marriage needs to be saved from the conservatives who claim they are defending it. Given that gays and lesbians are so desperate to marry, so wanting of that right, if there is ANY group who would defend it as an institution, they would. If there is any group of individuals who would be so proud of their right to marry that they would take it more seriously than the rest of us, it is homosexuals. Allowing homosexuals to marry would give them the chance to STRENGTHEN marriage, which is exactly what conservatives say needs to be done. And further, since gay marriage has never been legal, how does anyone have the ability to claim that gay marriage threatens it? Without it being

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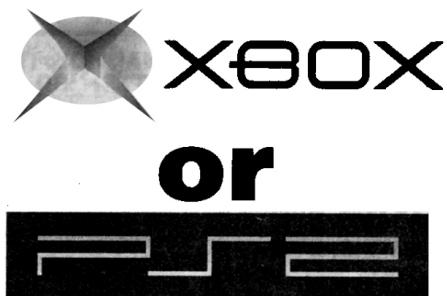
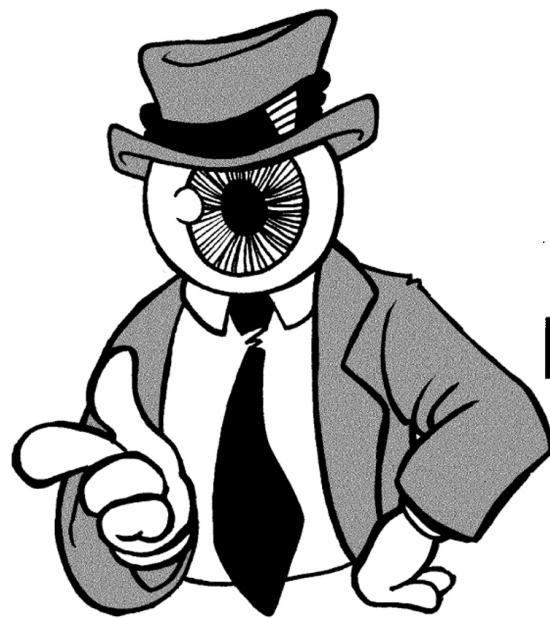
legal there is no proof of this and there is no logical basis for the claim.

Britney Spears, that no-talent teen pop queen who would sooner use her body to sell records than produce actual music, was allowed to marry some old friend and then divorce him two days later. I do not want to even imagine what hearing that news must have been like to gay couples, who for decades have wanted nothing than to have themselves and their love respected through marriage. Imagine wanting something so badly, something that is your right as a human being but which you have been denied for years, only to watch it be abused by the likes of Britney Spears. It is abuse such as hers that damages marriage, not letting two people in love get married for life.

Conservatives, and people everywhere, need to realize the simple fact that two people loving each other, regardless of sexual orientation, is perhaps the biggest DEFENSE of marriage that could possibly

be given. Also, conservatives need to break out of their self-righteousness and stop proclaiming that it is "against God's will" that homosexuals marry. Aside from the fact that you cannot speak for God --- the existence of whom is dubious enough but beyond the scope of this discussion --- saying that it is "against God's will" is no basis for legislation or public policy. It is surely a violation of the establishment clause to base legislation on "God's will."

It makes no logical sense to deny an entire group of people the ability to share in the joys of marriage, especially when that group understands and respects better than anyone else the kind of undertaking that marriage truly is. Why, pray tell, would homosexuals be so desperate for the right to marry if they only wanted to abuse the privilege? It does not make sense. Our society may indeed be under attack from many places, but not from people who love each other.



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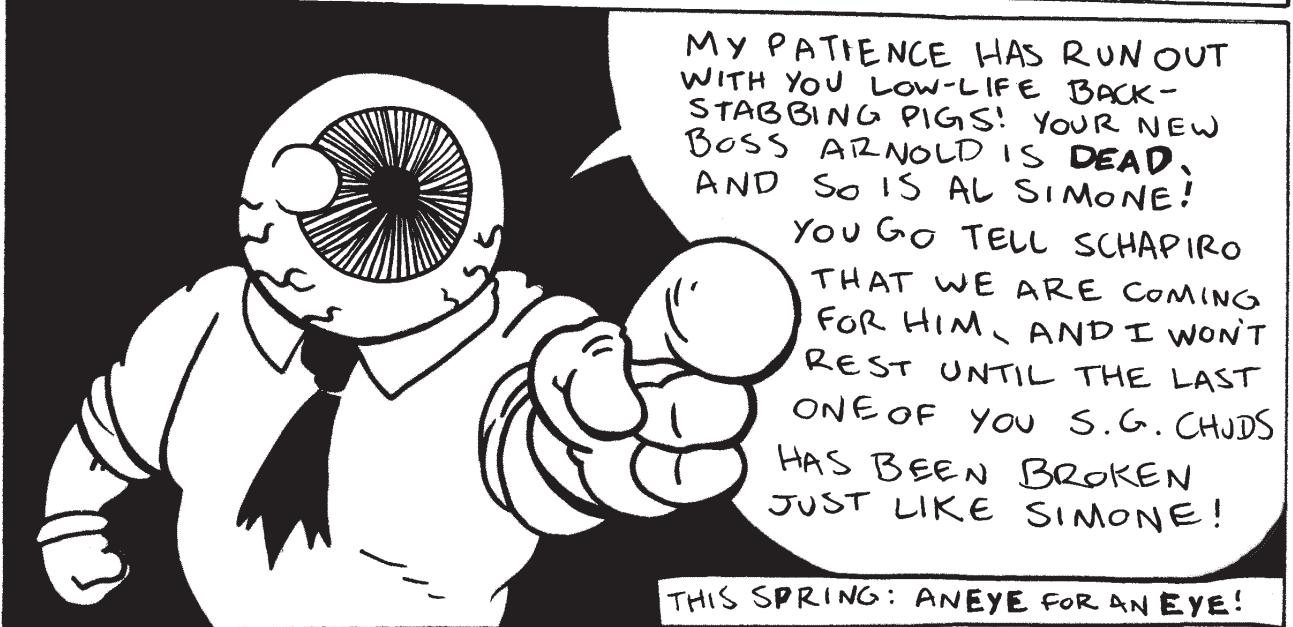
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by PETER J. LAZARSKI '04



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GDT meets Wednesdays at 8pm at Crossroads. We are always looking for people to help us edit, write, fold, distribute, cheer, get off and other fun activites.

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