



Nick Zeppos Cancels All Upcoming Exams Of His Prostate

Tells Doc "The swelling seems to have gone down on its own."

THIS JUST IN

New Shit/Piss Initiative Leads to 44% Drop in Pee on Seats

By: David Sanchez

Urinary Tract Infector

José Noreña was just plain sick of it. Every time he would go to relieve himself of last night's Qdoba, he had hunt through three stalls before he found one without piss on the seat. "It was a scavenger hunt. I figured with all the time I was wasting looking for a clean toilet seat, I could really make a difference," said Noreña.

Since taping up signs labeled either "Shitter" or "Pisser" in the bathrooms on a few floors of the Martha Rivers Ingram Commons, there has been a huge fall in the amount of urine resting on the toilet seats. "People are really getting on the bandwagon with this one," says Noreña. "They see 'Shitter' on the door, and they know they better be sitting the fuck down. We're really playing to the school's strong side here - smarts."

When I asked José what the future of the campaign held, he seemed optimistic. "Right now our test groups are showing really positive results. It'd be a dream come true if we could get labels across the en-

tire Commons. We'll be hard at work in the coming weeks."

According to Noreña, the biggest obstacle has been the first-years' inability to "make it in the hole." "It's a challenge to get the students to care about where their piss lands, ya know?" Noreña hopes one day to begin a "Ready, Aim, Pee" program for incoming freshmen. "When they get here, they think it's okay to do a little dance number while they're draining the dragon. I'm hopeful that our program will teach these young adults otherwise."

Eager to get in on the growing movement towards getting freshmen to pee properly, Commons Dean, Frank Wisclo decided to make toilet cleanliness a part of the Commons Cup Competition.

Says Wisclo, "We've decided to grant students one point every time they pee without hitting the seat and ten points for every BM that they make go bye-bye like a big boy. It's a great program."

Tom Cruise, John Travolta Join Even Crazier Cult Called Catholicism

By: Michael Woods

Sentient Scientologist

Last Wednesday, two of the most well-known members of the Church of Scientology, actors Tom Cruise and John Travolta, held a press conference to announce their conversion to what Travolta characterized as "a more time-tested pyramid scheme, I mean, religious movement."

Cruise elaborated, "We're just not happy anymore with the way our Dianetics profits are going, and we've always been impressed by Papil actions and fashions, way back even with Paul VI. Who else can make that hat look good?" He added, laughing, "I think this is just the boost our careers need after *Hairspray* and *Knight and Day*."

The pair also announced that, later this month, they will be flying around the world on a "Catholic Carousel" in celebration of their conversion. VH1 film crews will be following them for the next two months and the station is expected to air new episodes of *Cockpit Confessional* every Monday at 6 PM.

The Pope was overjoyed,

claiming, "It's miraculous that these two wonderful men have given their lives and 10% of their earnings to the Church." In a tweet later that evening, he insisted everyone go see Tom Cruise's new film *Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol* on December 21, "just in time for our lord's birthday."

Not everyone was as jubilant as Benedict over the conversion. When asked to state some of the differences between the two cults, Cruise replied, "Beside the obvious, Jesus addition, it's really not too different, you know? Once I looked to Ron Hubbard and his writings for support and guidance. Now I only have to look to the Pope, or Joey, as he lets me call him. I used to think Scientology was a religion of science, but now I know the truth - reading religious texts cannot get you to heaven - you need an interpreter."

Tom Cruise, originally a Catholic, says his seminary schooling as a teenager heavily influenced this decision. "When I went to school there, I wasn't a big fan of the relationships between teachers and students; I've really come around to that idea."

Rick Santorum Polling Extremely Well Among Voters Named Rick Santorum

By: Dan King

Santorum Sniffer

A new poll released this week by Quinnipiac University shows that Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum still holds a strong lead among voters named Rick Santorum.

The poll showed that while most major categories of likely voters, including white males, women over 30, non-white males, and women under 30, did not support the Santorum, voters named Rick Santorum are effectively unanimous in their support of the former senator.

According to political analyst Sean Hannity, "This poll shows that Santorum's ideas don't appeal to a very broad audience... but to people named Rick Santorum, not only is Santorum the best candidate, he is the only candidate. These people [named Rick Santorum] just don't trust any other candidate to represent them in government."

Santorum's campaign has been showing signs of weakness after several poor performances in primary debates, but Santorum says that as long as his core group of supporters remains steadfast, he will con-

tinue his push for the White House.

Says Santorum, "I'm not going to give up. Just because my supporters are in the minority does not mean that our voice should not be heard. I will stay in this race to make sure that the things people named Rick Santorum care about continue to be important issues in this race."

The consistent support Santorum receives from these voters has baffled many pundits in recent weeks. Bill O'Reilly tried to make sense of the data on his show last night.

"Voters named Rick Santorum are reactionary and intolerant. They hate immigrants almost as much as they hate gay people, and they are generally out of place in educated conversations. So it is natural that they would identify so strongly with Santorum. He is the embodiment of all the things that they, and only they, care about."

This same poll from Quinnipiac showed that Rick Perry has lost significant support from voters named Rick Perry in recent weeks. The Governor of Texas is currently running second in this category to Mitt Romney.

INSIDETHISISSUE

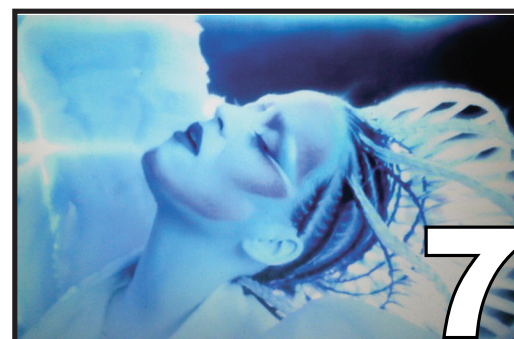
Turtledoves	2
French hens	3
Calling birds	4
Golden Rings	5
Maids a-milking	8
Tacky Sweaters	8



Time-Warping Kittens Found in Purr-mewda Triangle



Bored Public Works Official Adds LSD to Vanderbilt Water Supply



Katy Perry's Single "Extraterrestrial" Surprisingly Autobiographical

**FROM THE EDITOR:
MY SISTER IS REALLY SMART**



DAN KING

My sister is super smart! Just check out this thing she wrote for her history class in high school. It's a mock interview of a Roman general:

=====

You may have heard of Clementicus' "10 to 1" victory at Merionicon, but as his general Johanthancus says, "the Romans scraped by, barely defeating the Volturi." What in the world could have happened that would make the great Roman army falter against the Volturi? It may be the fact that their great leader Clementicus was found drunk and stuffed with food at the time of battle. Hmm, or it could be the fact that several soldiers mysteriously disappeared after listening to Clementicus play the violin. But never fear loyal readers, I've conducted an investigation as to what really happened at Merionicon.

I sat down with Emperor Clementicus himself hoping to find out the truth.

Maddie King: So Clementicus, what do you think was key to defeating the Volturi?

Clementicus: Definitely my amazing military leadership. I've trained the best army in the world. Nothing could stop my legions.

MK: Then how do you explain the fact that 90% of your troops were killed?

C: (After a long pause) I don't feel comfortable talking about that.

MK: May I ask why?

C: No.

MK: Okay. I also heard you sacked the barbarians' villages. Do you have any treasures from your sacking?

C: No, of course not! Why would anyone want the barbarians' stuff?

MK: Well, don't they have large sums of gold and marble that can't be found anywhere else?

C: If they did, we did not find any of it, I assure you.

MK: Alright moving on. How's Johanthancus?

C: He is no longer in my army due to misconduct.

MK: That's interesting. Isn't he one of your best generals?

C: At one time, yes, but I can't have any disobedient soldiers.

MK: I see. Do you know what happened to several of your soldiers before the battle even begun? They were last seen listening to you play the violin.

C: I don't know what you're talking about, but I am a very good violinist. Would you like to hear?

MK: No, I'm good. I have one more -

C: Listen! I've been working on this wonderful piece.

(After a brief break to hear the Emperor's music.)

MK: Now that you've defeated the Volturi, what do you plan to do?

C: Well as you can see, Rome is clearly prospering and I have decreed this time Pax Romana Per Clementicus, and I'm having some of my slaves - I mean citizens - make monuments to commemorate the time.

I tried to contact Johanthancus to hear his side of the story, but he is rumored to have gone underground to avoid the wrath of Clementicus. I'm afraid we'll never know what truly happened at Merionicon, especially with our great Emperor Clementicus controlling the story.

Fucked Image



Hanukkah Christmas Trees: for the fence sitter in all of us.

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**CULTURE CORNER!
NBC to Replace Community With an Auto-Tune Recap of *The Biggest Loser***

By: Jessica Ayers
Community Communicator

In light of the recent cancellation of the NBC show *Community*, Robert Greenblatt, Chairman of NBC Universal Television Entertainment, announced a new addition to *The Biggest Loser* franchise. Currently, people can enjoy *The Biggest Loser* for an hour on Tuesday and during the three-hour weigh-in on Wednesday. Now, in case you miss either event, NBC's "Comedy Night Done Right" will begin with a half-hour auto-tune recap for the two previous nights.

"This integration of reality show and sitcom is the future of American television," Greenblatt comments. The development comes after years of NBC executives investigating how to integrate their most successful franchise with the sitcom format. The new show will help add accessibility to what has been called NBC's most "precocious," "alternative," and "terrorist-sympathizing" night of television.

According to Greenblatt and others, *Auto-Tune Biggest Loser (ATBL)* is the brand of humor Americans crave: fast, simple, and with a message that it's okay to be fat. The show will be in a musical variety format, with every 3-4 minute segment featuring a different song. Every song can then be released as a separate YouTube video. Some episode highlights will include "My Arms Fit Around You Now," "Get the F*** Back on the Treadmill" and "My 90-Year-Old Grandmother Could Do This."

"If you think it's entertaining to watch Jillian Michaels tear apart people, just wait until you hear it auto-tuned and put to looped video of the person falling down," raved a viewer. NBC executives also hope that the new format will attract younger applicants to

appear on *The Biggest Loser*. NBC had similar goals with the spin-off *Losing It With Jillian*, but faced PR nightmares when young male applicants got confused as to what they exactly got to do after winning the competition.

The new trend in sitcom format also takes care of what NBC Programming Exec Jennifer Salke likes to call the "writer problem." NBC executives feel the elimination writers will improve the quality of American television. Salke added: "It will also create a generally more hygienic and less self-loathing atmosphere at NBC."

While many *Community* fans remain outraged over the show's cancellation, some say they will watch the new show. "As much as I hate to say it, a show combining strenuous exercise, yelling and auto-tuning? Yeah, I'd watch it," one fan said.

Coming out of an alcoholic stupor long enough to comment, creator and head-writer of *Community* Dan Harmon announced he's wasting no time getting back in the game. He is currently developing a show with Joss Whedon and Mitchell Hurwitz about a dysfunctional family on a spaceship, in which every episode is an homage to a different John Hughes movie.



Imagine seeing this epic fall... in Auto-Tune!

Here are some other ways NBC will desperately cry out for attention in the upcoming year!

- Shows will incorporate hip new internet trends like 13375P34K and lolcats.
- People seem to like *Whitney*. Would they like her more if she were on fire?
- Will go out into Rockefeller Center once a day and play 'Jumper' on their guitar for tips.
- I've got two words for you: Chess Boxing.
- Will constantly ask people what they think of its new haircut.
- NBC Execs are currently planning to send the network into a heavy 'emo phase.'
- Will try to ensure more bloodshed during Notre Dame football games.
- NBC will politely ask E! if they have any Kardashians they aren't using.
- TVs will start releasing laughing gas to improve quality of "Comedy Night Done Right"
- NBC will start to show episodes of *Big Bang Theory* just to see if anyone stops them.
- They already have like, fifty cats.
- Re-running political debates! I'll watch Nixon and Kennedy debate all day long!

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IN VANUM LABORAT QUI OMNIBUS
PLACERE CONTENDIT

Bastard Confession



"Football games? I thought you guys wanted me to be a truly random number generator!"

--The BCS Computer

New TSA Regulations Cause Airport Strip Shows

By: Elise Lasko
Nudity Newbie

More changes have been reported during security checkpoint, which Fox News reporter Jackson Henderson compares to, "the atrocities of Nazi Germany," despite little other complaint. The most noticeable implementation is the requirement of passengers to take off all of their clothes, rotate 360 degrees with their arms and legs spread apart, and jump a few times for good measure.

Former Congressman Anthony Weiner comments, "Airports have done away completely with the full body scanners due to their ineffective views and have resorted to this new fool-proof system of screening. No one can hide anything with all of that wiggling and jigging. I think it's an ingenious idea. I may consider traveling more often so that I can be privy to the system, free of charge."

Free entertainment may not have been the initial intention of airport officials, but there has been photo evidence of fellow passengers, flight attendants and pilots sitting in on the spectacle, openly judging on the naked passengers and preserving timeless moments with cameras and phones of sorts.

Detroit-based pilot Stanley Crump states, "[My crew] enjoys a good show before we report to our terminal. We used to watch an episode or two of *Modern Family*, but now this is an excellent substitute. Much raunchier and more comical."

The new rush to get through security has been complicated due to the undressing and dressing addendum. During an interview with a frazzled passenger Glenda Wiles, it became evident that "Getting through security was always stressful. What with the grabbing the bins, throwing your shit in them, taking off your clothes, emptying your pockets of change and taking out laptops,

it's a miracle if you come out of it with all of your belongings and clothes."

In the interest of exposed travelers, the Trans-



Nobody is immune from the TSA's wrath. Not even St. Nick.

portation Security Administration has expedited the process by limiting each passenger's time through security to a minute and a half. Additional security employees have been hired to time each passenger, and if they do not complete their process within the allotted minute and a half, they are asked to gather their belongings, head to the end of the line and try again.

National director of the TSA Jim Gallatin was quoted saying, "I know this seems like an unfair implementation to the elderly and disabled, but we are about equality here. Everyone gets the same amount of time to enter and exit the security checkpoint in a timely manner. This isn't a favoritism game."

Hopes that that airport conditions will change have been minimal. Despite many reports of these surprising regulations, passengers and airport employees alike have enjoyed the changes and are anxiously waiting announcements of the newest mandates.

Towers Quiznos Hoping that Professor Will Put a Heavy Curve on Its Health Inspection Score

By: Clay Christain
Unhealthy Eater

Despite its best efforts studying all semester for the routine health inspection, the Quiznos at Carmichael Towers is desperately hoping that the teacher will scale up its score of 77. However, prospects are grim, as the other classmates such as Rand, Chef James and even The Pub scored at least 90 or better.

"I'm really hoping that there's a curve," Quiznos said. "I'm applying to Med School next year, and I really can't have those recruiters seeing that I didn't ace basic health."

The adjunct professor, the Metro Public Health Department, has been unavailable for comment. Many close to the professor believe that he will simply give Quiznos an opportunity to retake

the health test. Many other students of the basic health inspection class are not so approving of Professor Department potentially choosing favorites and giving second or even third chances.

"Professor Department always gave his nagging overachievers a second chance," Suzie of Suzie's Café said. "I never understood why he always gave the total wash-ups a second chance, though. New Super China Buffet took the test six times last year and kept getting under 60 percent. What other kind of class gives you the opportunity to replace a test score like that over and over?"

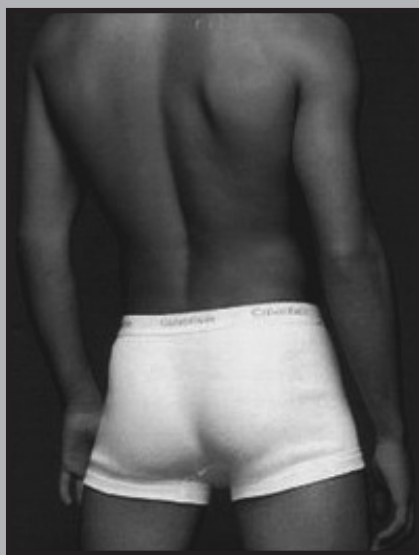
"Last year, I didn't do so well on one of my health tests," Rand said. "But with a little bit of studying and meeting very minimal health guidelines, I was able to up my score from 'hide it behind the counter' status. I'm really proud of that." Other former students of the health class are skeptical as to a grade influencing one's future.

"I got a 59 on my last test," Pancake Pantry said. "You don't use any of that 'health' stuff in the real life. You think all those stupid customers outside care about my health credentials? Just goes to show you how much of a waste education really is when you can make money breaking all the rules."



Eating garbage off the floor never tasted so good!

Coming up in the Sunday issue of *The Slant*:



Ten ways to convince a dude to let you take pictures of his ass!

Attractiveness Added To Vandy's Non-Discrimination Policy

By: Sam Mallick
Discerning Discriminator

In light of recent controversies centered around Vanderbilt's nondiscrimination policy, and in keeping with the school's growing trend of admitting uglier students, the University decided last week to add a clause to the student handbook stating that "no organization may discriminate on the basis of physical attractiveness."

This move comes as a shock to many organizations. Particularly irritated are NPHC sororities, which are currently busy rushing attractive girls in preparation for formal recruitment.

"This is, like, so unfair!" said Lindsay Cooper, a sister at Eta Omicron Epsilon sorority. "Like, what if we have to actually let ugly girls in now? We might have to replace the Coke Zero and celery in our fridge with real food, and that is unacceptable!"

Many fraternity brothers are also worried about the implications of sororities choosing girls based on content of character rather than physical attractiveness.

"This sucks, bro!" said Dan Harding, member of Beta Rho Omicron fraternity. "They used to sort the hot girls from the ugly ones for you. Now they're all mixed up. What if the ugly girls start coming to our parties too? I might get drunk and hook up with one! Where does this stop? This is

just part of the school's plan to kill Greek life!"

Greek organizations are not the only groups speaking out against the new policy, however. Performing arts groups are also upset by this move.

"You can't put ugly people on stage," said Ian Garrick, a member of Vanderbilt University Theatre. "We're going to have to start slathering all kinds of kabuki makeup on the ugly actors to hide their hideous faces, and arts groups are too underfunded for that kind of expense."

Some groups, however, are not worried by the new policy. The Melodores are confident that they will be able to weather this storm.

"Our outrageous sex appeal actually has nothing to do with physical attractiveness," Melodore John Peterson said. "Sing a sixteen-part arrangement of a popular song, throw in some sick beat boxing and sweet falsetto, and the ladies flock to you no matter what you look like."

Groups of traditionally unattractive students, however, are particularly indignant. The chess team, the Model United Nations club, and McTyre residents expressed concern that the status quo of their group dynamic would be disrupted if forced to admit pretty people.

"I can't believe we have to let pretty people start coming to our meetings," said Chester Green, a grand warlock in the LARP club. "If they come in here and start collecting more runes than me, my last shred of self esteem will be gone."

The story has stirred up a national controversy, with news analysts from across the country picking it up.

"This means that a sorority could be forced to let an ugly girl be president," Bob Wright of Fox News said. "This university is launching an assault against attractiveness. In its attempts to embrace diversity, Vanderbilt is chipping away at the values of attractiveness that it, and this country, were founded on."

Given rising academic standards, however, Vanderbilt admissions officials see this policy as the way of the future.

"Simply put, pretty people are too busy going to parties and having sex to study for their SATs," said admissions representative Jim Hudgens. "Four years ago, the average hotness on a standard 1-10 scale was an 8.7 for admitted students. That's unheard of outside of California. But today, with our academic admissions standards on the rise, we're sitting not-so-pretty at 6.3 and we only expect that number to drop. Give it another four years and the whole campus will look like the School of Engineering."



Don't worry sweetheart, nobody'll discriminate against your ugly ass again.

Awkward Moment Becomes More Awkward Upon Being Pointed Out

By: Jim Gillin
Awkwardness Alleviator

Two men doing their weekly loads of laundry at the Wishy Wash Laundromat were made exceedingly uncomfortable Wednesday as one of them pointed out an awkward moment which otherwise would have been laughed off or forgotten right away.

Ángel Arroyo Garcia was moving his clothes from the washing machine to the dryer late last night. Space was tight at the Wishy Washy, and Ángel is no small man. Bending over to pick up his sock, Ángel graced butts with another launderer who was also bending over to pick up something at the adjacent machine.

Ángel barely noticed it and was moving on with his laundry when the other man, whom we have been unable to identify, turned to Ángel and mumbled "that was awkward. Heh," laughing nervously.

Ángel told *The Slant* that he hadn't been feeling that the situation was awkward at all until

the other guy had the guts to point it out. At that point, "just like Adam and Eve realizing they were naked," Ángel says, his eyes were opened



Why did he point it out?!

and he realized how awkward the situation was.

Onlookers sympathized with Ángel; we were able to speak with Ángel's other laundry machine-neighbor who witnessed the incident.

Pierre Washington gave us his take on the situation. "I didn't think anything at the time, you know, accidents happen! But when a brother points out that he butt-touched another brother, there's no makin' that NOT gay."

Another Wednesday-night launderer who was present at the scene said the awkwardness was so thick she could cut it with a knife. "Yeah, I get how he did it. Sometimes when I'm talking to some guy, there's a little pause in the conversation. He's probably just drawing a breath or something, but I usually just say 'umm, this is awkward' or something, to fill the silence you know, and it always gets way more awkward when I point it out. Poor guy..."

Ángel, who had been in the middle of moving a Tapout t-shirt from the washer to the dryer,

said his whole night became more awkward after the incident.

"Honestly I didn't even know what he was talking about at first. I had moved on, but he had to remind me about how our butts touched. I was just thinking 'really? You bother noticing things like that?' and it got a lot weirder."

According to Ángel, the awkward-inducing man finished folding his clothes and scurried off soon after that, but his seemingly innocuous comment left Ángel feeling awkward for the rest of the night.

If the man had said nothing, witnesses agree, the situation would have been barely noticeable. But by pointing out the awkwardness, all he did was irrevocably plunge the two men into homoerotic silence for the rest of their time together.

Ángel concluded, "All I know is, I'm switching laundry day to Monday. I can't stand to see that guy around anymore."

WHAT DOES THE SLANT

Kelley Hines, Feminist

What I want: A bottle of Firefly; *Time Life's* Soft Rock collection, some candles, and a 6-speed, waterproof, rechargeable mini massager from Sharper Image. The red one.

Why: Alcohol will always be a good gift, no matter what time of the year it is. It's Ground Hog Day? Sure, I would love a bottle of Moscato! But seriously, Sweet Tea-flavored vodka could do nothing but spread holiday cheer... or holiday regrets. Whatever decks your hall.

As for the *Time Life*, well, who wouldn't want all of those memorable Soft Rock hits on one, 10-disc gift set?! Also, I'm taking Lighting Design next semester, and I'm thinking a light sequence design to Christopher Cross' "Ride like the Wind" would be pretty badass. I can already hear the glowing reviews and see the tears of joy.

Candles— Okay, let's see— if the power goes out during a storm or something, I could...continue to see? Yeah, candles are a super practical gift. Yeah.

And obviously I need a massager... for my back, because...ummm...I spend so much time studying! Yep, that's it! Leaning over all of those books can really take a toll on your spinal alignment. I bet you didn't realize how much one's posture could suffer. So, ha!

Give me a break; it's been a long semester.

Take a look around to see what I'm hoping to find under the tree this year.

Welcome to the Christmas edition of *The Slant!* As I'm sure you know, Christmas is almost upon us. Which means that it's time to start heading out and buying gifts to show our friends and relatives how much we love them.

Gift giving was never really my forté. I always put a lot of effort into selecting my presents, but never seemed to get the reaction I was looking for.

Like back when I was ten years old, and I got my mom a subscription to the *New York Times*. I thought it would be good for her because, at the time, she didn't know how to read. So, of course, ten year old me, just figures that if I give her something to read, she'll figure it out. Of course I was wrong, and my mother never actually used her *Times* subscription for anything other than squashing-ing bugs.

This was merely the beginning of my sad career as a gift giver, though. Back in high school, I had to get a Christmas gift for my girlfriend. I couldn't think of anything she would like, and it was getting to be close to Christmas. Then, a good friend of mine suggested that I try getting her something sentimental. So I decided to give her a little souvenir that I had saved from our first date.

I thought she would love it, she always liked little connections like that. But when I gave her the gift, instead of being excited, she just asked me why the hell I had saved the used condom for that long.

It's not just people, too. I have tried on several occasions to give my dog a pet bird, but he keeps eating them.

Two years ago was the absolute worst. I gave a gift so bad that my entire family turned on me.

Andrew Snow, Snowman

What I want: World Peace (and a modest vehicle)

Why: When I think of all the advantages and opportunities I've had, it's truly impossible for me to ask for anything at all for myself. Being the kindhearted and compassionate youth I am, I can't help but think about what other people really need during these difficult times: world peace. I stand firmly against that empty, hedonistic materialism that so many of my peers will embrace in their wishes this holiday season.

Even still, I know everlasting global peace is a tall order for you, Santa. If you can't get that for me this year, I'll understand. I know that in keeping with the true spirit of Christmas, you'll still reward my selfless intent. And that's why I'm also asking for a 2012 Lamborghini Gallardo LP 550-2 Spyder with a 5.2-liter V10 delving 398 lb-ft torque for a top speed of 198 mph. If you think you can swing it, that is.

Justin Barisich, Techie

What I want: A whole bunch of fancy technology in the form of a sexy-ass, iPhone 3GS; a big-ass, LCD screen TV and a paper book

Why: Since Santa and my parents have decided that this is their final year of gift-giving, I've narrowed my list down to include only the items that will help to get me employed. First, I would like the iPhone 3GS, because it's freakin' FREE with the upgrade/renewal of our 2-year AT&T Family Plan contract. The additional cost to you: only the pen's ink for your signature. The touch-screen tease of my poor-man's imitation iPhone just ain't as arousing as it used to be, and no future employer will take me seriously unless I can show him on command at least 5 new apps that he just can't live without. Second, to accompany item #1, I would also like the novel *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains* by Nicholas Carr so that I know just how stoopid mah brainz was becomeed aftur I gotz da iPhone in mah pockit and kould look up LOLCats piktarz instantlee and be kewl wif all mah nuw werk buddies. Finally, I would like a LCD Flat-Screen HDTV. While waiting for call-backs on my applications and interviews, I would like to melt my mind by watching pregnant teenage mothers attempt to determine who's the father of their third illegitimate son for the fifth consecutive episode of *The Maury Show* in high def.

Dan King, Slant Editor

What I want: A shovel, a tarp, several buckets of bleach and some Hydrochloric acid and a saw capable of cutting through a human bone.

Why: When it comes to Christmas gifts, I tend to be a pragmatist. If I've been needing something, I'll jump on Christmas as an opportunity to have someone buy it for me. I do the same thing with birthdays. Last September my favorite pair of boots busted right before my birthday, so I asked my parents to have them repaired as a gift. It was perfect! See, when the gift has some practical purpose, I'll appreciate it more.

What's that? Why do I need these things? Well... it's actually kinda a few different reasons. I need the shovel because... my dog has started burying things in the yard... and so now I need to use the shovel to dig them up. Dogs, right? And the bleach and the acid are for a science experiment I'm doing with one of my classes. We're trying to see what happens... when you mix bleach and hydrochloric acid. Do you know what happens? Well don't tell me! I haven't done the experiment yet.

And as for the saw and the tarp, those are for... a camping trip. Yes that's right, in a few weeks I'll be going on a camping trip. I can't tell you where I'm going, but I can tell you that they don't have cell service there. So don't try to call me when I'm gone. Unless the cops show up and start asking questions.

Your Mother

What I want: I want you to cut your hair, to stop fucking that guy/girl I don't like and to get a job.

Why: Sweetie, you know I love you, right? Of course you do. Well I know you've been trying to figure out what to get me for Christmas this year. I don't need another purse and I don't need another necklace. What I need is a child who isn't such a disappointment.

I mean, look at yourself. What the hell is happening on top of your head? Is your hair supposed to look like that? Is that really what you're trying to do?

And why do you keep sleeping with that person that you know I hate! I mean, they've just got such a nasty attitude about themselves. It's really generally unpleasent. I don't understand how you can stand to be near them long enough to have sex.

And, for the love of God, please get a job. Or at least try to get one. Just please do something to show me that sending you to Vanderbilt wasn't a complete waste of money. Please. For me.

Good talk, honey. Now if you'll excuse me, I'm gonna go have sex with the entire *Slant* writing staff.

Nate Braman, "Student"

What I want: *Skyrim*, a partridge in a pear tree, a Snuggie and M. Night Shymalan's latest masterpiece on DVD.

Why: I really, really need *Skyrim*, Santa. Everyone has it, and for the first time, being the one who isn't talking about slaying dragons and level 39 potion smelting skill makes me a social reject. Not like I'd want the attention anyway, mind you, I'm really just looking for a new excuse to avoid my friends/family/responsibilities. People are starting to figure out sunlightophobia isn't a real thing, oops. It's also imperative that I receive a partridge in a pear tree. I feel that this one is pretty self-explanatory, because where else would I keep my partridge? An apple tree? Like a fucking peasant? I'd also like a Snuggie, but without those dumb sleeves. If only such a thing existed. I know you deliver presents to every child on earth in one night, but you're not a miracle worker, Santa. Try your best on that one. Finally, I'd really like the latest M. Night Shymalan DVD partly because it turns out that I'm a radioactive Bruce Willis from another dimension who must consume shitty movies so that he can save the world from trees, or something, but mostly because I respect him as a filmmaker.

Ke\$ha, "Singer"

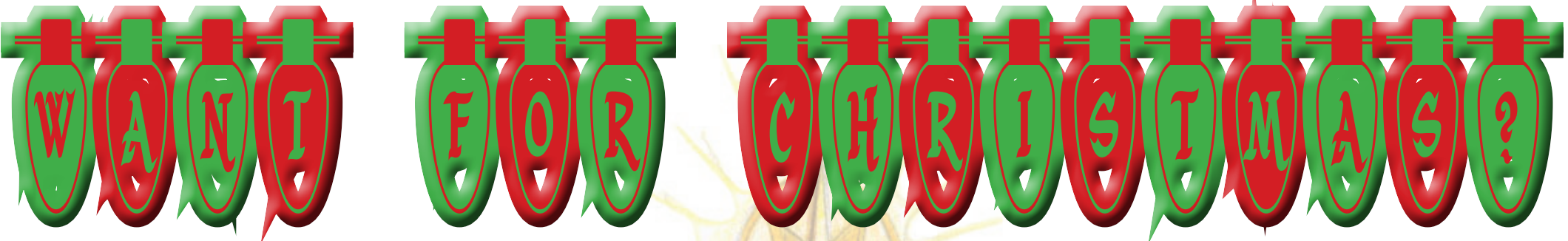
What I want: Glitter, casual sex, Four Loko and the strong father figure I never had.

Why: I go through a lot of glitter. Like, a LOT of glitter. I've actually become a bit of a glitter coineuseur. My favorite blend right now is this sweet muted rainbow mix put out by Lisa Frank. I used a whole bucket of it in my last show. Glitter is just a fantastic product. I use it for everything. Sometimes I'll just hide a bunch of it in my hair so when I scratch my head it all cascades down.

The Four Loko and the casual sex are kind of a combo gift. Because, lets be honest ladies, can you ever have one without the other? I don't know about you guys, but when I get a little bit of Four Loko in me, it isn't long before my legs shoot apart like they are magnets pointed the wrong way. It really is quite a fabulous drink.

And I guess the last present that would really round out my list would be the father figure that I never had growing up. And I guess there's a certain degree of irony here in that if Santa does manage to fit a new daddy onto his sleigh... I really won't need those first three.

Your move, Santa.



What your favorite Slanter is asking for this year!

You see, I have this one cousin who's really hard to shop for. I can never figure out what to get him. So this year I just decided to come right out and ask him, point blank, "What do you want for Christmas?" He got really excited and told me that the only thing in the world that he wanted was a gram of crack cocaine.

"Great," I said. On the way to that year's Christmas party I stopped to pick up the crack, then put it in a nice little bag, and I was done.

As soon as I walked through the door my cousin ran up and took the bag. I said "Merry Christmas," as he ran out to his car very quickly. I was proud, nobody had ever seemed so excited to open one of my gifts.

Here's where things went wrong. See, as it turns out, my cousin is addicted to crack. I had no idea. So I didn't know that giving

him the crack was probably the worst thing anyone could have done.

We didn't see him for a whole week, and when we finally did find him he was missing several toes. He had also gained one extra finger.

To this day, my sister won't let me buy any presents for her kids.

So anyway, to avoid any of these problems this year, I sent around a memo to the entire Slant staff asking everyone what they want and why they want it. Here I've collected all the results. Maybe someone you know is on this page. If so, then you're welcome. I've just saved you a whole lot of headache! Because giving gifts is a bit like playing with fire. If it's done right, it seems almost magical, and everyone's happy. But if you screw it up, my sister will get mad and say that I can't do it in front of her kids anymore.

David Sanchez, Jerkoff

What I want: A porn subscription (I seriously think I've watched every video on Spankwire at least twice), tissue paper, Icy-Hot (the stuff Shaq uses), hand lotion, more tissue paper, a DVD of the Victoria's Secret fashion show, that hand squeeze grip thing, and a Shake Weight.

Why: Statistics show that while 95% of porn subscribers are weird guys that use ChatRoulette or serial killers, the other 5% are CEOs of major companies who bank over a million large a year. Don't you want me to be successful?

Oh, as for the tissue paper, ABC family keeps replaying *The Notebook* and well...I just can't handle it.

The Icy-Hot is for my sore muscles from all the gym time. The hand squeeze grip thing so I can grow my left forearm--I'd hate to be uneven! Shake weight--same reason.

The lotion is for my weenus, you know that ever-dry part of the elbow?

The DVD is for a community service project I'm launching to bring fashion to low-income communities in Nashville. That's all I'm really asking for. I don't need much. Hold on a sec, I forgot to close out of this webcam pop-up...

Gary Bettman, NHL Commissioner

What I want: The NBA to go back to having a lockout!

Why: Aw, come on guys! You couldn't just let me have this one season? We were so close to having just one season where hockey was the only game in town. Sure, right now there's still football but come February we were going to be the biggest pro sport in North America. We would've had everyone and their mother watching hockey games every night. We could've turned the whole continent into one big Canada!

But no, the damn NBA owners and the damn NBA players had to come to an agreement, and now they've 'saved' their season. Well what about my season, NBA? Huh?

I swear to God it is so hard to sell this damned sport. Why don't people want to watch it? It's fast paced, there's tons of blood, ice... what more do you guys want?

Come on NBA, just sit out the rest of the season for me, as a Christmas gift! I'll make it worth your while. I could... I don't know... give you all our concussed players while they recover? Huh? How'd you like to see Ryan Miller suiting up for the Lakers next week?

Jim Gillin, Slant Editor

What I want: All the shit Santa never brought me back before I figured out that he is my parents.

Why: I would like all the retroactive shit I wished for on letters to Santa as a child but never got. Back when I believed in Santa, there was a bunch of cool junk I asked for, and now that I know my parents are Santa, I wonder why the hell didn't I get this stuff?

A chess set (wishlist '98) surely would have helped develop my genius. And if I had gotten a skateboard (wishlists '99-'04), maybe I wouldn't have been such a fat little fuck. Plus, seriously, none of the video games I asked for? I didn't ask for *Carmen Sandiego Math Detective*; I wanted *Metal Gear Solid* (wishlist '98)!

Also, kids aren't too young to appreciate brand recognition, "Santa." We all know MegaBlocs are the I-didn't-try-too-hard Legos (wishlists '95-'11).

It was pretty weird going back to school in January to hear that the other kids were getting real Legos and M-rated video games, when I was stuck playing with offbrand brick building toys and learning about math. A little kid shouldn't have to deduce that Santa isn't real based on his terrible taste in video games!

Jessica Ayers, Populist

What I want: For someone to help Jay-Z with his 99 problems, and to be able to make current pop culture references.

Why: Santa, I ask you for a gift not for myself, but for my close friend Jay-Z. While he has assured me multiple times that he is not having woman problems, 99 other problems still seems like more than any one man can handle. The last time I talked to my close friend Jay-Z, I said: "Jay-Z, my close friend, you recently procured a net worth of over \$450 million dollars. You're married to Beyoncé! What could possibly be wrong?"

He responded: "Jess, I only have 13 Grammy Awards, my pet tiger is sick, and I notice that my stress levels have increased dramatically since I found out where Biggie and Tupac are hiding."

He told me the other day that he addresses the other 96 problems in his personal letter to you, but I would like to emphasize how much he deserves your help.

For me, Santa? The ability to make topical pop culture references would be swell.

Rick Perry, Republican

What I want: A Bible, a big ol' American Flag for the upstairs bathroom, and uh... wait a minute... what was the third thing?

Why: Hold on, don't tell me. It'll come to me. It started with an H. I'm pretty positive of that. Or was it R? One of those. Or another letter in between. Wait, what? No, shut up, Ron Paul. That's totally not it. I don't want an iPhone. Or do I? No, definitely not.

Bible. Flag. Then just. Um. Someone help me out here, please.

Michelle, what am I thinking of? You don't remember, either? Well, what do you want? No, I don't think Santa would do that to all the gays. You're no help; it definitely wasn't that.

Come on. Think, Perry. It's like thiiiiiiiiis big. Comes in a box. You know what I'm talking about right? That thing. That thing that everybody wants. No, not that one. No. Oh, that could be it. Yeah, I'm not sure. Let's put that in the "maybe" column and come back to it later, I guess.

No, but it couldn't be that because it was totally the uh, um. Jeez. Oh! Wait. I've got it.

Nope. Nevermind, I lost it. I was close. I was so close. Fuck it, I'm just gonna go with EPA. Oops.

Brendan Gray, Lover

What I want: YOU!

Why: Santa, I don't want a lot for Christmas. In fairness, I'm part of the 1% so there is just one thing I need. Do I care about the presents underneath the Christmas tree? Yeah, but only because they make it more aesthetically pleasing. I don't need to hang my stockings upon the fireplace because I have more than one fireplace and I don't want you to get confused.

Santa Claus, you won't make me happy with a toy on Christmas day. I'm a little old for toys, unless of course it's a nice Barbie blow up doll — that would be awesome. I just want you for my own.

I know that sounds selfish, but in fairness I feel I am more important than everyone else. Please, just make my wish come true. All I want for Christmas is you. Well not you, Santa, but you know who I'm talking about even though I never mention his/her name, and have only used "you" to describe them, making it seem like I really wanted you, but instead I want not *you* you but *them* you.

You're magical, I'm sure you can figure it out, and if you can't, well, at least give me my two front teeth. I don't want to look like these hicks down in the South.

Elizabeth Wheelock, the 99%

What I want: A government that doesn't scare me.

Why:



The Slant speaks to Adam Mansbach

By: Justin Barisich
Author Authority

Every then and again, *The Slant* takes a break from its usual satirical toil, steps out of its cubicle in the Laughter Highrise, and chit-chats with other funny folks around the water cooler while still managing to look industrious. These are the idle talks from which legends are born.

This week, we took a page, quite literally, out of the new book from author Adam Mansbach and told our baby Slants to 'Go the Fuck to Sleep.' We found this mantra to be so effective with our own children that we decided to get to know Mansbach a little bit better, attempting to figure out why he's the cool guy at the office and we're still stuck in our small office space filling out those vaguely-relevant TPS reports.

Mansbach's most recent book, *Go the Fuck to Sleep*, is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and one of the most talked-about books of the decade. A viral sensation that shot to #1 on Amazon.com months before the book was even available for sale, it has been published in more than thirty languages, is forthcoming as a feature film from 20th Century Fox, and has been graced by the snake-abating voice of Samuel L. Jackson in audio-book form. Other major works by Mansbach include the novels *The End of the Jews*, *Angry Black White Boy*, and *Shackling Water*; the poetry collection *genius b-boy cynics getting weeded in the garden of delights*; and an anthology of original short stories that he co-edited called *A Fictional History of the United States With Huge Chunks Missing*. Almost all of these works have won literary prizes.

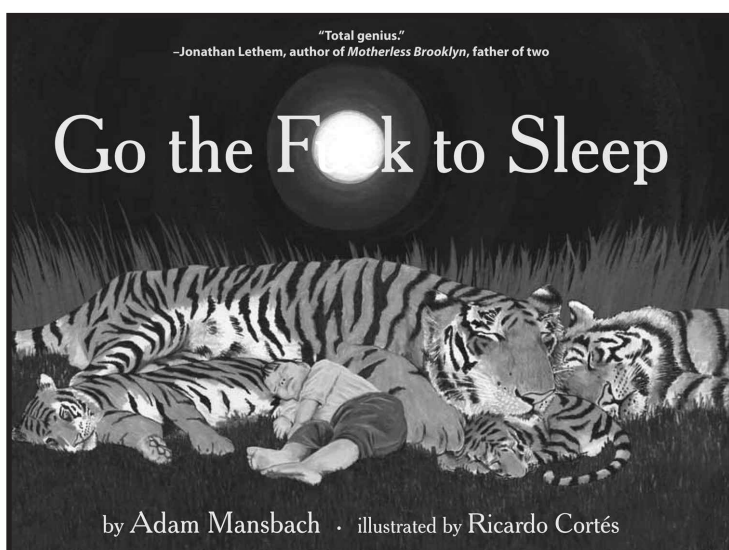
Mansbach is the current New Voices Professor of Fiction at Rutgers University, the founding editor of the pioneering 1990s hip-hop journal *Elementary* and a frequent lecturer on college campuses across the country. His works have appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *The Times of London*, *The Believer*, *N+1*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and on *National Public Radio's* "All Things Considered."

And, the dude's got his own website in his own name. For more information, check him out at <http://www.adammansbach.com>. We wish we could be as cool as he is.



The Slant: You're known for being satirical and obscenely honest, something we value highly here at *The Slant*. You've even been quoted before as saying, "One constant in my career is that I've always written the shit I've wanted to write," and we strongly approve of this message. So, as a successful humorist, why do you find satire to be such a useful rhetorical and literary device, both in this "children's book for adults" and in your other writings?

Mansbach: I think satire is useful to me because it allows me to pick up on the larger cues. The only piece of mine that I consider to be satire is *Angry Black White Boy*, and I'm trying to do a lot of things in that book. It's a broad piece that deals with race and white privilege in society at large, and to do that, I think it's useful to have characters who are fully fleshed out and three-dimensional set against the backdrops of people who are types, and satire allows you to do that, to sketch people in a way that sets them up to be taken down and taken apart. And, on the larger level, satire is useful to me because I can use humor to bring people to the table, get them laughing, and disarm them so that I can make my points more strongly. You can sort of lull people in with humor and then do what you need to do. It's a good way to make serious points while making people laugh, hopefully.



Shown here: Mansbach's *Go the Fuck to Sleep*

The Slant: Though the general answer may be obvious, what was the specific moment when you felt inspired to write *Go the Fuck to Sleep*? What exactly were you doing when the idea smacked you in the back of the head?

Mansbach: What happened was that I put my daughter to sleep one night and then I came downstairs and jokingly posted on Facebook that folks should be on the lookout for my forthcoming children's book *Go the Fuck to Sleep*, and it was upon writing those words, basically, that I knew what that book was and I knew how to write it. I didn't write it right away, but I knew as soon as I wrote [that post] that I was going to write [the book]. Seeing those words in print was the push. I guess the fact that I had a forum through which to make the joke helped, but I think it would have been the same thing had I made that joke to a group of friends. It wasn't like people on Facebook were all like 'Yeah, write it!'; it was just that I sort of got my own ideas down on paper.

The Slant: I'm still in college so I don't have any kids. In fact, my friends and I have implemented a strict "no babies" policy for this stage of our lives. What should I fear about my future children? Were you this kind of kid for your own parents, and how did they handle it?

Mansbach: That they turn out to be Republicans. I'm lucky that I come from a family of writers, so my desire to be a writer, which could have been met with a lot of resistance – a lot of my friends who are writers were met with a lot of resistance from their parents – but my parents were like, 'Yeah, that makes sense,' and I got a lot of support from them.

The Slant: What's your daughter's official opinion on being your muse? Are you paying her her due royalties, and is she investing them wisely?

Mansbach: That's really something for her lawyers and my lawyers to work out.

The Slant: *Go the Fuck to Sleep* has been so wildly successful that it reached #1 on Amazon's bestseller list a month before its release and its movie rights have already been snatched up by 20th Century Fox. In the film version, who do you think would be enough of a badass to portray you, and why?

Mansbach: I would probably go with Bruce Willis. He's my alter ego as far as actors are concerned.

The Slant: *Go the Fuck to Sleep* was also further propelled into popularity because of the release of an audiobook version voiced

by the purple light-sabered Jedi, the man who puts more pulp in fiction, Mr. Shaft himself, THE Samuel L. Jackson. How did you land that stroke of awesomeness, and what was it like getting to work with him?

Mansbach: It was fantastic. He's really, really cool and has really been a pleasure the whole time. The audiobook company reached out to him and he was already up on the book and he did it right away. He has been great to work with. We worked with him from a distance; he went in and recorded the audiobook. I was supposed to go to the [David] Letterman taping where he read the book, but, unfortunately, I had my own gig at that time, so I haven't yet met him in person. Probably the best email I've ever received was one from him. We were trying to use his likeness in the images of the children's version we're doing. They wanted to replace the father, who is me sneaking out of the room, with Jules Winnfield [from *Pulp Fiction*], and he was really into it. And the closing line of the email he sent me was 'Y'all some cool mothafuckas,' and I was like, that's all I need right there. I'm done. Samuel L. Jackson just called me a cool mothafucka; I don't need to accomplish anything else.

The Slant: Since you're something of a hip-hop expert, I have to ask, what is your favorite, current, above-ground hip-hop song? Why do you like it? Who made it? Do you think you could take him/her down in a rap battle?

Mansbach: Nate Marshall. I like all of Nate Marshall's songs. I could definitely take him down on a basketball court or a wrestling match and probably also, yes, in an emcee battle as well. Nate was actually very helpful to me in a short story that I wrote about a year ago. He was my consultant on, umm, the effects of marijuana consumption by farm animals. I reached out to him because he's in college, and I figured he knows stuff about animals, you know Nate is a smart guy, so he happened to be on Facebook chat at a time when I really needed to know what would happen to a goat that ate thirty pounds of marijuana. He was really helpful with that.

The Slant: If you could give yourself any rap name/stage name/nickname, by which your family and friends would be required to call you no matter what, what would you call yourself and why?

Mansbach: Well, I have had a series of stage names over the years, and this is not so much hypothetical as a reality. The name that stuck with me the longest is 'Kodiak Brinks', which a lot of my friends do call me by, but I've had others over the years as well. I went by 'The High Plains Drifter' for a while as an alias. Before that I was 'Flipside Nefarious' for many years. The story of why Kodiak Brinks has stuck dates back to the mid '90s when everybody, in the aftermath of the Wu-Tang Clan, was giving themselves these sort of monster-like names that sounded sort of quasi-plausible, but at the time it was kind of the thing to do. So, Kodiak Brinks was a name that was supposed to sound like it could possibly be a real name or cooler than most real names; that was kind of the idea.

The Slant: If you could be any kitchen utensil, which one would you be and why?

Mansbach: I think I would probably be a chef's knife. Wait, I'm in the car with my girlfriend and she suggested that I should be a lemon squeezer. Really? One of those two apparently.

The Slant: Any final comments or cautionary tales you'd like to share with our readers and with anyone who may have not read anything of yours yet? Basically, what would you want to tell our readers about yourself so that they will give you money by buying and either gifting or reading your books?

Mansbach: I would encourage Vanderbilt to bring me back to campus sometime very soon. It's been a couple years since I've been there and I think it's high time that y'all bring me back out. I would be happy to provide a live reading of *Go the Fuck to Sleep*.



Pressed by his girlfriend, Mansbach said he would be a lemon squeezer.

Constitutional Conservatives Angry Over Dirty Hippies Exercising Constitutional Rights

By: Michael Hogue

Constitutional Constituant

A democratic gathering that began at Zuccotti Park near Wall Street has received a great deal of outrage from right-wing critics. The democratic assembly in New York City has inspired many similar movements all across the country, particularly in major cities and college campuses.

Participants and supporters of the movement have been using the slogan, "We are the 99 percent," commenting on the "atrociously unequal distribution of wealth in this country," as well as the "horrendously corrupt influence of corporate America" on the democratic process.

Phil T. Richman, a former Wall Street broker and current executive at Goldman-Sachs, claims, "It's about time for these dirty hippies to wake up and smell the eggs benedict, champagne and caviar. This is America, where I have a Constitutional right not to be taxed. That's what this country was built on."

Richman, who was raised in a wealthy Connecticut neighborhood, went to Yale on a legacy, and was hired by his father at financial firm Goldman-Sachs, also had this to say: "Those liberal Commies need to get a job. That's what the American Dream is about! You start at the bottom and work your way to the top. That's what I had to do- all the way from a small Connecticut town to the top of the world here on Wall Street!"

When asked whether the "lazy" democracy participants could find work in his company's manufacturing plants, CEO Seymour Cash said, "No, I've actually been cutting hundreds of jobs. Congress finally passed a tax law that's letting us reel in billions we have stored in offshore accounts, virtually tax free, plus we have some money left over from Obama's stimulus package; what with that, and all the salaries we won't have to pay, our executives are getting great raises this year."

Many supporters argue that the participants in the democracy activity in Zuccotti Park are exercising their First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, assembly and petition. Critics argue that the movement is merely "Communist liberals who want to take all our money that we worked hard for," claiming that "It took a lot of effort to be born into the upper class and then lobby for Congress to give us billions."

Wesley Dawson, a member of the democracy participants in New York, said "We are the voice of the American people. We have Constitutional rights to assemble here, voice our views, and demand that our government be of and for the people!"

In response to this statement, Cash claimed, "I have a Constitutional right too! The right to free speech, and according to the Supreme Court, money is now a form of speech. I am exercising my right to donate extensively to campaigns in order to be compensated with lax tax policy."

Said Dawson, "We believe that in a true democracy, the government responds to the voice and needs of the people, and that the people have both a right and a responsibility to speak up and participate in the democratic process."

However, according to Richman, "The government is responsive to the voice of the people - our lobbyists." When asked whether he actively voted in local and national elections, Richman responded, "Hmmm...I think the last time I voted was...in 6th grade student council elections. They made us fill out the ballot in Social Studies class for a completion grade."



It says "WE the people," not, "YOU the people!"

Letters to the Editor!

Dear Slant,

I can't tell you how helpful your holiday recipe guide was! I especially like that you went out of your way to only include recipes that didn't involve any actual cooking.

When I was first assigned to bring mashed potatoes to our family's Thanksgiving celebration, I was terrified. But your simple instructions of "Go to KFC... Buy mashed potatoes," were so easy to understand that I felt like Emeril Lagasse that night.

I got so many compliments on those potatoes, and hardly anyone believed that they only took five minutes to make. Thanks, *Slant*.

Sincerely,
Rob Kvinkiner
Memphis, TN

Dear Slant,

My goodness, *Slant*, is that you? You certainly have grown in the past... well how long has it been? I guess I would have seen you at Easter. So what is that, six months? Wow, six months and you've just shot up! How tall are you now?

Oh and where is that little girlfriend of yours? You know when your mother called me and told me about your little girlfriend we were all so excited. And relieved. Not that we ever thought that... well I mean you know what I'm saying right? You just went all through high school without even one girlfriend so we were all getting a little worried.

But that's all behind us now, isn't it! Now where is she?

Come here and give me a kiss,
Your Aunt,
Edna Slant
Nashville, TN

Opinions!

Welcome to The Slant's Opinion section,
with the most opinionated opinions
on this side of the Volga River

I am the 1%

By: Michael Woods
Moneyed Man

What's the deal with all this anger toward the top 1 percent?

As far back as I can remember, I've been in the top 1 percent of everything I've ever done. You name it: IQ tests, grades, books read over the summer, bike accidents, doctors visits, Chinese checkers, hats, resume padding. I took the most AP classes of anyone in my school, ever. Then I even received a fat scholarship from one of the best universities in the world.

Sound anything like your story? Show some support for the top 1 percent!

As part of an elite, hardworking class of individuals at a genius-level university, everyone here can become whatever they want. You may become a doctor without borders, a CEO of a Fortune 500 company, or a world-renowned economist.

Incredible?! I know!

Recently, however, the top 1 percent has caught a lot of flack concerning its efforts. While I will admit that there are a few of us who make billions from the military-industrial complex, there are many more of us who are making a considerable difference to this world. Ever heard of Vincent Van Gogh? Top 1 percenter through and through, and it's people like him, people like us, who are providing for this world.

Admittedly, I did have a few perks while growing up, but that wasn't the reason I got into such a great school. My panther didn't help my admissions process at all, so don't even try to bring Peaches into this. And how many people got accepted because they had a Range Rover? I don't think that was even on my application. Did my personal chef cook a fabulous meal for Chancellor Zeppos? I wouldn't call it fabulous, I mean, it was alright, but that was just to get my name out there, not a bribe or anything. That's just unscrupulous.

Hardships and hard work were not lost on me, either. Once, I had to drive a rental Lexus to school after I rolled my second Mercedes. A rental! Can you even imagine the embarrassment? Another time, I needed pocket change for a trip through Europe, and my Dad told me I had to earn it myself. Ridiculous. Do you know how much a 2.5 GPA is worth to that man? Barely enough to swing that last ski resort in Switzerland.

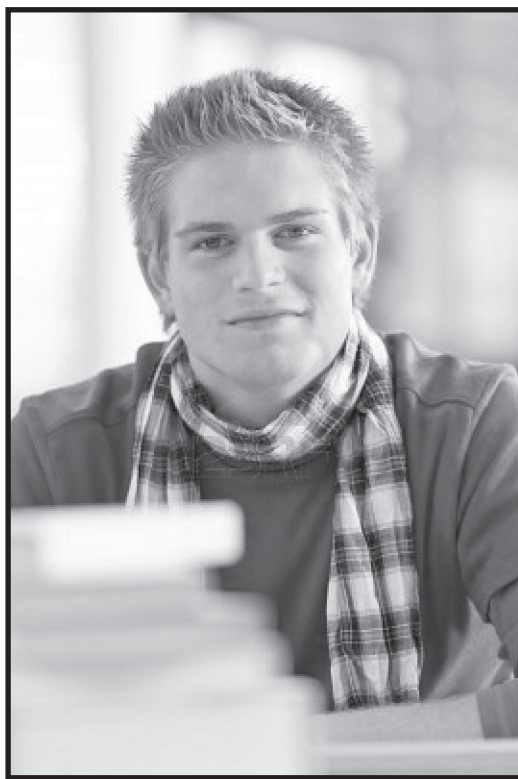
Let me give you the rundown on these 99 percenters. They didn't work hard enough in

school, so now that they've realized what they've done to themselves, they want the products of our labors. Sorry, 99, I already gave 25% of my paycheck for your schooling, and I've seen what you've done with that.

As 1 percenters, we need to stick together and stop being guilt-tripped into thinking we're privileged. We're not. This is America, and the best thing about this country is that we all start out on a level playing field. Nothing bad happens to good, hardworking people. Fact.

True, it would be wonderful if most people worked as hard as we do, but, for some reason, those 99 percenters can't reach the top 1 percent like we have. They might make the top 25 if they would only stop protesting and start studying.

Then again, I've been studying my whole life, and it doesn't matter that I never had to work a job during high school to help pay my family's rent, or that my parents are both living; where we are now represents all our efforts and no less. So next time you see an Occupy protester, tell them to crack a book instead of our economy.



You see this scarf? That's what I thought. Only poor people can see this scarf.

Tales From My First Black Friday

By: Kelley Hines
Bla-xpert

Coming to Vanderbilt from a small town in the middle of Idaho, I've always been astonished to learn about the vast melting pot of cultures in America. Hearing about all of their wonderful celebrations over the past few years has really just been the icing on the cake during my college experience. This year, for example, I learned about a brand new holiday tradition called "Black Friday," and boy was it interesting.

Now, I know we give African-Americans a whole month of recognition in February, but I think it's super that we've given them a whole extra day at the end of the year. It kind of makes up for the fact that February is the shortest month, or at least that's what I'm thinking it's for. Either way, I wanted to celebrate Black Friday in the traditional manner, so, of course, my morning started off in a Wal-Mart parking lot.

Apparently, it is customary on Black Fridays to camp out in front of stores, and that's just what I did. No one would answer my questions, but I'm assuming everyone was re-enacting what it must have been like to camp out during the slaves' travels along the Underground Railroad.

It seemed a little backwards thinking at first, but it was overall a very humbling experience.

After waiting for hours, the doors finally opened and the revelers flooded into the store. It seems customary that you travel from one store to another and the patrons sell you things for really cheap. Now I know you might be thinking this is some type of reciprocity, and I thought that too, but then I realized they were giving the sale prices to everyone, so I'm still not really sure what that had to do with black history. I did get a good deal on a Nook, though.

I would have to say that the highlight of my Black Friday, however, took place in the women's section of our local Old Navy. I was allowed the distinct privilege of viewing an ancient, African ritual in which young women display their social status by wrestling over 75%-off tube tops and velour tracksuits. Maybe next year I will be brave enough to join in the ritual, but to be honest, it seems like more fun to just watch. I don't like getting my hair pulled.

Overall, I'm glad I was able to celebrate Black Friday this year. I can whole-heartedly say that it is the one day during the holiday season when we can put aside our greedy, materialistic ways and truly honor one of America's great cultural groups.



Man, there must have been some GREAT deals up North!

[TFLVP:

Texts from Last Vandy Party
Remembering what you said when you can't.

(834): Oh I don't wanna call her. I'm such a whimper. I'm all bark.

(560): Well if you want to go out with her then you're going to have to bite her.

(239): I would argue being naked in Kissam Quad with just my Vandy card is better than being fully dressed without it.

(615): I'm thinking we shouldn't go back to the Chili's where I got tased.

(407): I have no idea why I said that. I have no idea why anything happened last night. I broke my toaster making an egg. I'm going to quit drinking.

(863): Yeah like 200 white people came and they were playing that one Biggie Smalls song everyone knows.

(202): They don't allow Qdoba in the ER. Go figure.

How do you think Adam Meyer, our current VSG president, is doing?

Angry VSGers



In the eyes of our student body, our president appears to them as having failed in his duty to uphold our governing documents.

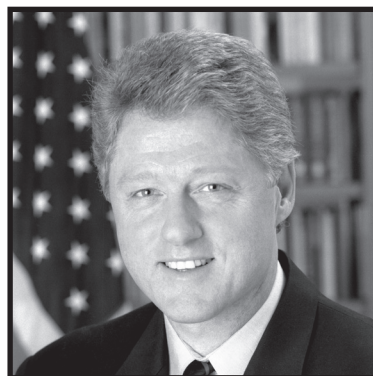
He ought to be thrown out!

Our Student Body



Who? What is he the president of?

Bill Clinton



Hang in there, kid. There will always be folks who want to impeach you. But you make sure to keep denying their allegations until they come up with the stained dress.

Fratstar



WHERE IS MY MOBILE MUNCHIE MART!?

Tea Partier



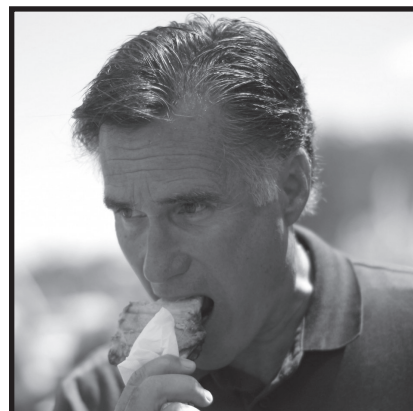
What kind of man doesn't know and love his constitution in a very intimate and sexual manner!?

Santa



Sorry, buddy, but I've got a big ole lump of coal for you this year.

Mitt Romney



I am against all incumbent presidents. I'll even be against myself when I am elected president.

Mdam Aeyer



Well I've never met him but I'd say that fellow is doing a fine job as president!

TOP TEN
Top 10 Christmas Carol Titles,
Adapted for Modern Times

- 10 Angels We Have Seen While High
- 9 I Came Upon The Midnight Clear
- 8 Santa Claus Is Not Coming To Town, But Your Parents Are
- 7 Chill Bro Wenceslas
- 6 Listen Up! Herald Angels Are Singing
- 5 Rudolph the Brown-Nosed Overachiever
- 4 Whose Child Is This? Maury's Paternity Test Reveals
- 3 The Six Days of Christmas (2005 "Twelve-Days-Took-Too-Long" edition)
- 2 The Little Sexually Ambiguous Drummer Boy-girl
- 1 I Saw Mommy Taking It Up The Ass From Santa Claus

OHARE Resolves Housing Deficiency With African Land Grabs

By: Sam Mallich
Africa Advocate

A recent statement from the Office of Housing and Residential Education made known plans to house 300 students in grass huts acquired through the university's involvement in African land grabs. OHARE plans to house sophomores in huts on land grabbed by Vanderbilt at criminally-low prices from impoverished Africans.

"When we decided to tear down Kissam, we didn't really make plans to house the extra students," said director of housing Jim Kramka. "We just hoped that things would work themselves out. Luckily for us, and unfortunately for thousands of poor Africans, this solution presented itself at the perfect time."

Chancellor Zeppos said he is proud of the university's investors for coming up with such a creative solution to the housing crisis.

"At first, I couldn't believe that we were involved in these land grabs," Zeppos said, "but when I realized that they could help us go forward with the College Halls project, I realized it was for the greater good."

When asked if he had ethical reservations about the land grabs, Vice Chancellor Matthew Wright expressed similar sentiments.

"We have a need and we have the resources to address that need," Wright said. "Our students need a place to live next year and it's bordering on sadism to ask four people to live in a Morgan/Lewis suite. Ethically speaking, I think the pros outweigh the cons."

Some, however, are concerned that the quality of life in the African huts will not be

up to the high standards that the daddy's-little-girls and fratstars of Vanderbilt have come to expect.

"These huts won't be the cushy living situation that kids are used to coming out of the Commons," Kramka said. "But these kids will still be better off than those poor bastards who got Kisslammed, have to live through two years of construction, and won't even get to live in the new College Halls." He went on to mock this year's Kissam residents for several minutes.

When asked who in their right minds would want to live so far from campus, Kramka noted that students willingly live on Highland Quad and seem to be fine.

"Yes, it's a bit of a commute in the morning, but it's not that bad if you're not taking 8 AM classes," Kramka said. "Plus, there will be a VandyVan stop and several bike racks there, so we think students will be able to handle the distance just fine."

"This is the ideal situation for someone who doesn't want to live in the remodeled nursing home," Zeppos said. "The distance from main campus is basically the same, and students won't be haunted by the spirits of the hundreds of old folks who died in that building. Plus they're going to be singles so students don't have to worry about getting sexiled."

OHARE is branding these new housing options as "The African Living/Learning Project." Students will have to apply for the program through a "strenuous application process" that's "highly selective."

As the grass huts are not up to Vanderbilt's housing standard, OHARE will be painting, carpeting, and installing cable in all rooms over the summer. In addition, a munchie mart will be built to provide food for students and taunt the starving locals who will not have card access to the facilities.



Fatalities Now Allowed for UFC Fights

By: Rachel Lundberg
Death Describer

UFC officials announced yesterday that fatalities will now be admitted for all fights in all weight divisions. President Dana White reported that the United Fighting Championship had been working toward this goal since its inception in 1993. "Until now, we'd been letting things like laws and public outcry against atrocities keep us from making this vision a reality," says White. "But the future is here. And it's a sweaty, testosterone-fueled future."

"This is just what the viewers ordered," said a UFC marketing official. "Studies show that our principal demographic, the thirty-five-year-old male, is not being exposed to enough violence in his daily life. The introduction of fatalities will serve to make the program even more mentally enriching, as well as bring in a boat load of money. Finally, we can start charging as much as the porn channels."

Reaction among the fighters was overwhelmingly positive. Anderson Silva, current middleweight champion, has already begun formulating ideas for his signature fatality. "I was thinking I'd punch the guy's head off and then shove it through his chest," says Silva. "But I want to make sure it's something unique to me, you know? Do you think somebody's already thought of choking the other guy with his own nuts?"

"I can't wait to choke Anderson Silva with his own nuts," says former middleweight champion Rich Franklin.

Not all UFC competitors were pleased with the change, however. Perry Akers, featherweight fighter with a 2-23 record, ex-

pressed uneasiness concerning the consequences of the new policy. "By making fatalities an option, it's like saying that only winners are important," says Akers. "And I think that's sending the wrong message."

"[Akers] is completely misinterpreting the change," White responded. "All we're trying to say is that losers don't deserve to live. That's a statement we can all agree on. Unless you're a pussy like Perry Akers, and then hopefully someone will do us all a favor and do a fatality on you."

Fans are already gearing up for the first fatality-inclusive fights, beginning in January of next year. "I bought one of those new-fangled high-definitive televisions just for that," says Agnes Mil-drew, 78-year-old mother of five and retired JC Penny's sales clerk. "When those greased-up giants start ripping each other's arms off, I want to see the blood and the agony on their faces. I've been saying for years that they just don't make brutal beat-downs like the used to, but it looks like that sweet boy Dana White and the other folks at the UFC are starting to get things right."

The legalization of fatalities has brought with it several other changes to the fight guidelines. Tittie twisters, curb-stomping, and groin attacks are all acceptable under the new rules. "It's great to see nut-punching make a comeback," says Johnny Cage, movie star and world-famous mixed martial artist. "There's really nothing like the feeling of balls exploding beneath your fists."

Despite criticism from various humanitarian groups, White stands firm in the UFC's decision. "This is the real deal. Either you like it, or you're gay. Though I have nothing but respect for the gay community, I'm just saying."



Area Man Dies Despite Resounding Financial Success

By: Elizabeth Wheelock
Rich Reporter

Jack Monroe, of Nashville's Belle Meade neighborhood, passed away earlier this week to the surprise of his family, neighbors, and financial adviser.

"When I first heard the news, I just didn't believe it," lamented his neighbor, Frank, owner of four luxury vehicles and two additional vacation homes. "I always thought it [death] only happened to people without things like retirement plans or savings accounts. He was too prepared for something like this to happen!" Monroe had apparently spent years amassing his sizeable personal fortune, even choosing a personally unsatisfying career in order to maintain a "secure" net worth.

Jack's widow, Christi, could attest to his economic stability. "We were ready for any and every situation: loss of job, burglary, work injury, sickness, failure of bank system, stock market crash, police state, nuclear holocaust. Literally anything. There is no way that he could be touched. For Christ's sake, we've got money in real estate, gold, offshore banks... You name it, we have money invested there."

Phil Stevenson, a senior advisor with Merrill Lynch's Nashville branch, expressed similar astonishment at Monroe's fate. "One of the main reasons we exist is to help our clients reach immortality through financial planning. Everyone knows that hoarding huge piles of money is the only way to be sure of a stable, successful life. How else do you explain the recent popularity of selling out your dreams? Honestly, there'd be no point if money didn't



Skiing at such an old age isn't a risk for the wealthy.

grant you some sort of invulnerability." The expert, with an estimated personal wealth of approximately five million, could offer no explanation for Jack's demise. "This goes against everything we know. Never before has our firm encountered a case like this."

Other residents of the Belle Meade area have been left shaken and unsure of the future. A couple living across the cul-de-sac from the Monroes confided that they are now questioning the safety of their self-described "upper middle class" position in society. "Maybe the Monroes simply didn't have enough," speculated Patti and Greg Sanderson. "You know, I've never heard of anyone who is truly 'upper class' dying." Other neighbors concurred, resolving to redouble their efforts and encourage their children, more than ever before, to pursue "something practical" instead of "all that nonsense about going into the arts or joining the Peace Corps."

All, however, were united in offering their condolences to the affected family. Jack's widow received them gladly, speaking for the family. "This has come as such a shock to us," Christi stated. "All we can do is be grateful that Jack had that life insurance plan."

Join The Slant!

By: Justin Barisich
Belligerent Beggar

Dearest Soon-to-be-Famous Future Slant Writer,
When I came to Vanderbilt 4.5 years ago, I was a nobody. I shuffled my feet on the criss-crossing sidewalks, longed for my long-distance girlfriend, read everything for all of my courses, actually attended all my class sessions, and even ate at Rand for most of my meals. (It was pitiful; I don't need to be reminded, and you don't have to be an asshole and make me bring up those shitty memories again for your benefit.) But, that all changed when I began writing for *The Slant* in my sophomore year.

Now, after years of guffawing at my clever wit, folks come up to me on the daily, stop me mid-step, and ask, "Hey man, aren't you that kid who wrote that thing in that silly paper that one time?"

and, though I want to express my elation and discuss the merits of satire and the joys of being a humorist into the wee hours of the cracking dawn with them, I know better than to respond so incautiously. (I had a disastrous run in with a stalker and the spying paparazzi a few months back, and I just can't afford another public debacle like that; it could quickly ruin the common man's gilded image of me that I worked so hard to create from nothing.) So, instead of acknowledging them, I put on my rose-colored, prescription sunglasses and walk right past them, completely ignoring them while taking advantage of the rightfully-earned sense of pompousness that fame has fully afforded me.

Disregarding overly voyeuristic fan boys and girls who have to be "taken care of," *The Slant* is a great way to get your opinions out of your deranged mind and into the open-minded and freely-accepting world. Also, if you don't have any friends and don't want to pay for any either, we offer a nice hodge-podge of other excluded folk who may find the way you smell tolerable.

You know what to do if you want to be somebody too. Join *The Slant*. It's the only paper that prints what's true.



Lifestyles of the rich and Slant-y.