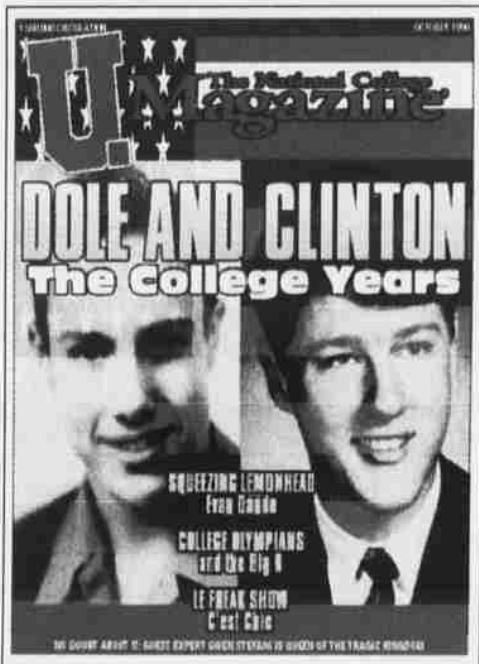


U. VIEWS



You reap what you sow

I was deeply disturbed by the "Generation Hexed" cartoon [September 1996]. This particular cartoon ridiculed a person because they were ... gasp! ... a middle-aged student!

People need to realize that the seeds of bigotry and prejudice can be planted anywhere and these seeds can grow into a bias against any person or culture. Prejudice is not restricted to a few groups or circumstances. If people wish to stop racism, sexism, classism or other forms of prejudice, they must address their own personal biases. Ageism is as detrimental to our society as other forms of prejudice.

Stephen E. Buckalew, copy editor, School of Agric., Pennsylvania State U.

Renee Shiflet, senior, Southeast Missouri State U.

I found "X Marks The House" very disturbing. I found the problem was a complete contradiction of what the house stands for. A quote from Angie Montgomery reads, "The Malcolm X House gives us a place where we don't think about race. We can be ourselves." If the house is a place where race isn't a concern, why are they so concerned if "non-black" students live there? Shouldn't any form of education be open to people of all nationalities? I hope in the future people can really not think about race instead of saying it to keep their single-race home.

Mike Brooks, sophomore, Iowa State U.

Yum, yum, good

It's good. It's fun. It's healthier than

Ebony and ivory

I'm writing about Wesleyan U. and their Malcolm X house ["X Marks The House," September 1996]. I think it's a shame that we have regressed back into segregation. Do these students who want an all-black house also want all-black diners and water fountains?

The quote that the Malcolm X house gives them "a place where we don't think about race" made me laugh. How can the junior residence advisor say they need a place where race doesn't matter when it obviously matters very much to them?

Renee Shiflet, senior, Southeast Missouri State U.

SPAM. It's U. Magazine — the breakfast of gods.

Justin Nemmers, sophomore, Virginia Tech U.

Return to sender

Thanks to the watchful eyes of many eco-groovy college granolas we realized that the wrong Web address made it to print [Acid Rain Drain, September 1996]. The correct URL for the ARRF at U. of Southern Maine is <http://www.usm.maine.edu/~postarrf.htm>. Sorry to all of you readers who got lost.

Ever cheated in a class?

Yes: 59%
No: 42%

I have an indirect answer to the question. My dad is a teacher who caught a student cheating in the back of the class. He had his sock and shoe off and his textbook on the floor. He was turning the pages with his bare foot. Kevin Moore, graduate student, Texas Tech • The question "Ever cheated in a class?" was offensive to me. I come from a conservative, Baptist background. I never cheat. Anyone who has needs to be expelled. It's just wrong. Robbie Foster, junior, Middle Tennessee State U. • Hard to believe, but no, I haven't cheated on a test since high school. Shannon, junior, U. of South Carolina • What kind of question is that anyway? Of course! The best ways that I have gotten away with it is to write a small cheat sheet and I've been able to put it under my class ring, in my ear, in my pen top and on my baseball cap bill. I don't think I could ever have passed half the math and science classes I've taken. Nick Anderson, senior, Florida State U. • I haven't cheated at

the university, but in high school it was a must. It was the only way I got by. Sasasha Emanuel, freshman, Florida A & M U. • Yes, I have cheated in a class although it has never been off someone else. Just crib notes. DJ Menuet, junior, Louisiana State U. • Yes, I have cheated in class and I will cheat until I graduate from college. Kenya, senior, Norfolk State U., Va. • No, I have never cheated on a test before. Cheating doesn't get you anywhere. All you have to do is study, study, study and you will make it. LaShawn Johnson, freshman, Winthrop College • Yes I have because I'm a business student at USC. Anonymous, U. of Southern California • As far as college, I've never cheated. When I was younger, I was in a competitive honors program and I felt compelled to. At that time, it was nothing major. I definitely wouldn't do it again. I know it's wrong, but the peer pressure got to me. Anonymous • I have always figured that the guy or girl sitting next to me had to be as stupid as I was otherwise they would not have been there, so why bother cheating? Jim, grad student, Cleveland State U.

Vegetarian or meat eater?

Vegetarian: 33%
Meat eater: 67%

I'm a proud, full-fledged carnivore. None of this omnivore shit for me. It's meat, meat, meat all the way. I think anyone who just eats vegetables or eats half vegetables needs to be shot. Because the only thing they are doing is promoting agriculture and what does agriculture do? It promotes Southern life and what does that do? It promotes stupidity. And just ... just ... just ... oh hell, oh shoot, oh bloody hell, I need to go eat a steak. Scott Pejaver, junior, Middle Tennessee State U. • Meat eater definitely. Shannon, junior, U. of South Carolina • If there's one thing I know, it's eating. I spent the first 22 years of my life glutarian (eating anything). Then I spent time vegetarian (no meat), vegan (no meat + dairy), fruitarian (only fruit), liquidarian (only liquids) and breatharian (only air). Also two 20-day water fasts. My recommendation: Choose the purest food and the least amount of it you can. But, most importantly, be happy with what you eat. Ed Peterson, law student, U. of Wisconsin, Madison

ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN MURRAY, SYRACUSE U.



Hail to the Chief

When I heard the news that our publisher and editorial director, Gayle Morris Sweetland, had passed away Sept. 17, I couldn't believe it. Yes, she had been battling cancer for two and a half years, so you might think it shouldn't have come as a shock. But you didn't know Gayle. She was one hell of a tough broad (her own words) who refused to lose a fight.

Even little things that didn't seem to matter to others took on great importance to Gayle and were worth fighting for. Believe me, we had our share of battles over the most minute details in this magazine — a comma here, a caption there. But this was her baby, and Gayle wanted the magazine to be perfect. She wanted it to be informative but also fun to read. I remember her telling me soon after I was hired in 1994, "We can be irreverent. We can be controversial. We can be funny. But we can never ever be boring."

Actually, if Gayle knew I was writing this column, she'd probably be screaming down the hallway, "What the hell is this crap?! Who wants to read about some old broad? Either get rid of it or find some way to make it funny!"

For someone who never took a journalism class in college and had never had a bylined article appear in a publication, Gayle's influence on the field of journalism will be felt for years and years to come. Even though she lost the fight for her life, she didn't lose the battle to help struggling student journalists get their start in publishing.

Since 1991, when Gayle bought U. Magazine, hundreds of student writers, photographers and artists have beefed up their portfolios with freelance work for U. Magazine. And some 30 graduating college journalists have come



from all around the nation to our Los Angeles headquarters to be assistant editors.

Following their yearlong fellowships, these bright and talented journalists have gone on to jobs at Entertainment Weekly, Spy, Teen, PC World, ComputerLife, People and various newspapers and broadcast news stations. And U.'s future assistant editors will continue to take a bit of the Gayle brand of journalism (irreverent, controversial, funny, but never boring) into their future jobs.

Gayle's commitment to helping college journalists doesn't stop there. The Gayle Morris Sweetland Scholarship Fund has been established at the U. of Michigan.

It makes me sad that these students will never get the chance to know Gayle — the bionic publisher who could leap tall editors in a single bound, as we wrote about her on our Web site.

We will miss her terribly. But Gayle, you can rest assured, you will never be forgotten.

— Frances Huffman, Publisher & Editor