

## Defining the Xiled

A Response to *Voices of the Xiled*

by Harper Best  
Editor

*Voices of the Xiled* is a relatively new anthology which is the brainchild of Michael Wexler and John Hulme. Recently it has received a lot of press.

Although the editors claim that this anthology is not intended to be a definitive work, it certainly is. Its subtitle is *a generation speaks for itself*. It touts itself as *the best stories by the best young writers in America*.

Indeed, *Voices of the Xiled* features a table of contents that reads like a menu from a restaurant specializing in pop culture du jour. For the most part, the authors of the stories are fairly well-established, well-educated fiction writers.

My problem with this anthology that supposedly defines me and what I stand for is that every story in it is extremely bizarre. Of course, there are a few that have a point and are actually very good. In general, though, these stories are self-pitying, surrealistic mush.

I would like to point out the exceptions, and recommend them to anyone. After all, good literature is not age-specific. There are two stories in this anthology which are really great. They are "Utopia Road" by Chris Hallman and "Nude Men" by the highly acclaimed Amanda Fillipacchi.

The idea of this anthology proved better than the end result. What it turned out to be was another cliché about Generation X. From its Kerouac-esque cover to its hip layout and fonts, it once again portrays us as a generation that looks good on the surface, but has little substance.

## MOVIE REVIEW: "PULP FICTION"

by Josie Allen  
Staff Writer

Movie Review: "Pulp Fiction"

Rating: 5 popcorn boxes

Written and directed by:  
Quentin Tarantino

Starring: John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman, Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth, Amanda Plummer, Maria de Medeiros, Ving Rhames, Eric Stoltz, Rosanna Arquette, Christopher Walken, and Bruce Willis.

The primary biword for a superior dining experience is Capper's. Located on Lassiter Mill Road across from the North Hills Mall, Capper's combines an array of excellent cocktails, beers and wines, along with live jazz, gourmet meals, and a subdued atmosphere of sheer relaxing elegance.

The menu at Capper's features a multiplex of dishes, ranging from veal, seafood and beef. Each of Capper's main dishes are served with a fresh Italian salad

and steaming breadsticks. Every item served at Capper's is prepared fresh by their exceptional staff of professional chefs.

The nightly specials served at Capper's includes a varied panacea of dishes. One of their most popular specialties is the "Carpetbagger." This palatable delight consists of a juicy filet mignon that has been stuffed with a multitude of fresh oysters. This dish is served smothered in a special sauce and accompanied by garden vegetables. Capper's also prepares the ultimate lobster tail, as well as mouth watering racks of lamb, tangy yellow fin

tunas, fresh trouts, and supreme pasta dishes, all of which are served promptly and courteously by the Capper's staff.

While enjoying the tasteful meal, customers are serenaded by some of the area's top jazz performers. Mingling with rich aromas and dancing between muted lights, the jazz music provides the perfect accompaniment to a magical dining experience. Whether or not your out for dinner or just a drink and hors d'oeuvres, Capper's is indisputably an extremely excellent choice.

## Enjoying *East of Eden*

by Jennifer Zahren  
Photography Editor

When asked if they are familiar with American author John Steinbeck, many reply with a comment concerning his novels, *The Grapes of Wrath* or *Of Mice and Men*, thus overlooking one of the most intriguing novels of Steinbeck's distinguished career: *East of Eden*.

*East of Eden*, published in 1952, is the saga of the Trask and Hamilton families as they are born by the current that settled the wilds of California. The fictional work, based on many of Steinbeck's experiences in the state, is filled

with episodes of deception, love, lust, and survival.

Steinbeck catalogues the intensity of human experience, revealing his belief that "there is one story in the world, and only one..." Humans are caught - in their lives, in their thoughts, in their hungers and ambitions, in their avarice and their cruelty, and in their kindness and generosity, too - in a net of good and evil... It occurs to me that evil must constantly respawn, while good, while virtue, is immortal."

Hailed by many critics as his best work, *East of Eden* is a fantasia of history and myth that is both strange and original. The novel is a moving pageant of the wilderness that has been innate in humanity since the first exile to the east of an always elusive Eden.

## Music of the Month: Led Zeppelin

by Josie Allen  
Staff Writer

### LED ZEPPELIN FOUR DISC BOX SET

Hey all of you Led Zeppelin fans out there, there is a box set out for you! It has four compact discs, a book, and just about every Led Zeppelin song that ever was.

The price ranges from about thirty to seventy dollars, depending on where you purchase the compilation. I paid sixty-nine dollars for mine, and I must say that it was worth every dollar. This box set helps me get through my day.

Ladies, when your are typing your papers in the library, these compact discs are the perfect things to pop into the CD ROM to listen to.

I give this Four Disc Boxed Set from Led Zeppelin five music notes. I am sure that it will be one of your favorites, too.

"Pulp Fiction," for those of you who enjoy violence on the big screen, is a masterpiece of violence. Quentin Tarantino did a spectacular job of portraying the violent life of drugs and small time crime. "Pulp Fiction" is an anthology that blends three stories and twelve principal characters into a mesmerizing mosaic of the Los Angeles scuzz world.

As the lights go down and the movie begins all you see is darkness, then through all the blackness shines, in bright white letters, a definition of pulp. It reads as

follows: "Pulp(pulp) n. 1. A soft, moist, shapeless mass of matter. 2. A book containing lurid subject matter, and being characteristically printed on rough, unfinished paper."

The beginning is very fast and is slightly confusing. All the stories connect somehow together but they are not shown in order. Each of the stories has a high point that makes them more interesting.

Overall I enjoyed the movie a great deal. I have to say it is one of my favorites, and I am sure I will see it again. I highly recommend this movie.