

Really — don't straighten, don't dust, — You'll just scare your family

Parents Weekend (as it used to be known) is upon us, so there is little time to convert your college reality into the pipedream vision of college life that your parents hold. This is no time for martyrdom; the truth is not the best policy right now, not even close. The right preparation for Parents Weekend means

the difference between you enjoying much cash and prizes, and you enjoying the back seat view of your dad's Pontiac as he speeds you off

to Smalltown Community College. I, Johnny Senior, as a veteran of many a Parents Weekend, will help you in this, the eleventh hour, prepare for the coming of the Two



KEVIN BRENNAN
HOW'S MY DRIVING?

Horsemen of the Apocalypse — Mom and Dad.

The most important preparation will take place in your dorm room. Of course, if you live in Hinton James, skip this step. Your parents are probably not crazy enough to risk their lives among all the bats and asbestos. For everyone else, this is a necessary step.

Even though on the ideal visit your parents will only spend moments in your room before wisking you away to an all-expense-paid dinner, they have special visual powers that can detect even the most microscopic speck of dust. So clean the place up. Although I understand what a pain doing the laundry is, you might want to pick up your clothes, so the carpet is actually visible. Especially if your parents are the ones who paid for it. I

usually just chuck 'em in my closet, but before you do, you need to get some stuff out of there. Somewhere in the back of your closet should be all of those neat little high school graduation gifts you got, but never used. Things like that alarm clock or typewriter you'll want to have them prominently displayed throughout your room. See, one important rule to remember with parents is that the more they see you using gifts that they bought, the more inclined they'll be to spend more and more. If you're feeling guilty about trying to sponge off your parents, forget it! We as children are burdened with the obligation to allow our parents to pamper us because it is their only joy in life. Really.

Next on the list, is your room decor. Although your buddies may be impressed by your vast collection of

malt liquor bottles and your leaning tower of pizza boxes, these are usually interpreted as signs of too much disposable income by visiting parents.

Another good idea would be to also ditch the posters of bronzed, semi-clad models in favor of kitty cats or sports figures. This will aid your mother in maintaining her image of you as a 13 year old who still thinks members of the opposite sex are yucky. Although you may have been trying to shed this rep since puberty, it is crucial for your parents to believe in your innocence enough to trust you in this pit of temptation we call home. This is extremely important for those of you who live in co-ed dorms.

Along with a reconstruction job on your room that will make the work done on Old East pale in comparison, your lifestyle will also need a complete overhaul as well. This weekend is probably not the best time for you and your significant other to try-out the new 24-hour opposite-sex visitation policy. It would also be wise to make sure that your hallmates do not address you by any nicknames you may have earned because of your ability to consume mass quantities of alcohol. It is extremely difficult to convince Pops that you're called *Spenmeister* because of your dedication to your studies.

Oh yeah, now is probably a good time to buy your text books. I recommend used books. Not only are they economical, you don't have to waste time bending their bindings or dog-eared the pages. When choosing books, it is more important to choose big, impressive-sounding texts as opposed to books you'll actually need for your classes. An 800-page volume called "Gastro-Intestinal Evolution

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