

Affirmative Action

from page 4

matic acceptance to any Texas state school to all high school seniors in the top ten percent of their class. Though the method itself seems too simple, it is efficient and effective for a variety of reasons. First, this process does promise campus diversity. We must remember, however, that diversity comes in many forms. This program promises students from all over the state and from all different types of schools. Hard-working seniors at poor-functioning schools are given the same opportunities as hard-working students at better schools. Secondly, to be eligible for the program, students must meet a certain criteria (top ten percent). Therefore, students can-

not ride solely on their minority status.

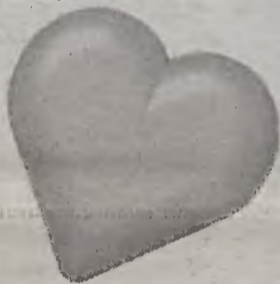
I personally believe programs such as these should at the least be tried at colleges throughout the country. Affirmative action is a risky yet necessary and integral part of higher learning. Our goal is to create a balance in which we retain diversity, but not at the expense of deserving applicants. The Ten Percent Plan is certainly not perfect; however, this method comes closer than any other I have seen in creating this balance.

Hopefully in the near future new ways of thinking about diversity and affirmative action will create a truly effective system.

JT Morgan,

We love you just the way you are, even when it's not Valentine's day!!

Love, Anna and CJ



to my staff:
thanks for all your hard
work for this go around.
you all get gold stars
<3 t

To Morgan R, Kris,
Guiane and V.
I love ya'll so much!!
Morgan Walls

Linux Myths Debunked

ANDREW HIGGINBOTHAM

What is Linux? Linux is the free operating system originally created by Linus Torvald's. It is distributed under the GNU Public License, which means that it is not only free, but open source. You can download Linux from many distributors such as Suse, Mandrake, Debian, and Slackware.

Myth 1: Most people have no need for open source products like Linux

My Reply: If you use the Internet, you're already using open source. Bind, the program that translates domain names into IP addresses is open source, as is apache, the most popular web server on the net. Many web pages are created using the open source language PHP, and the open source database MySQL. The next generation of Windows products, dubbed Longhorn, will use a file system based on MySQL.

Open Source products that you might want to try include Open Office, a complete office suite that compares quite favorably to Microsoft Office, and Mozilla's Firebird, a fast cross-platform web browser.

Myth 2: Linux is the same as Unix

My Reply: WRONG! Linux is protected under the GNU Public License. Just in case you have trouble remembering, it GNU stand for "Gnu's Not Unix". Unix is a proprietary operating system,

"If you use the Internet, you're already using open source"

that is distributed under licenses bought from a company called SCO.

While they may seem similar, they are anything but. Most importantly, SCO recently sued IBM for distributing the Linux operating system, which they claim contains code stolen from the Unix operating system.

Myth 3: Red Hat is the maker of Linux

My Reply: No. Hearing some one say this is like having my spine tickled with a jackhammer. Red Hat is one of possibly hundreds of distributors of the Linux operating

system. Red Hat distributes a particular "flavor" of Linux, as well as enough support for the companies who purchase it. Red Hat no longer even offers a Linux distribution for home and small server use.

Myth 4: Linux "looks" like something

My Reply: If you get anything from this article, please get that Linux doesn't look like anything. There are a plethora of available Graphical User Interfaces (GUIs) for the Linux operating system. They range from the ultra usable KDE and GNOME, to the more bare bones interfaces like Fluxbox, Tab Window Manager, and Ion.

Myth 5: Linux is too hard for me to use

My Reply: Linux is no harder to use than Windows. While Windows should never be used as a benchmark for anything, according to a recent study by Relevantive AG (a consulting business), if you can use Windows, you can use Linux. If you can't use Windows or Linux, get a Mac. While you won't be able to use it either, at least it will look cool.

What the Republicans Must Do to Win the 2004 Election

JONATHAN SMITH

The Republicans have many starting advantages coming into the 2004 presidential race. They have an incumbent, they are united behind one candidate (unlike the Democrats), and Bush has popular support stemming from the events of September 11 and the war on terror. In order to win the election, and maintain their lead, the Republicans must do the following:

•Come clean about Iraq.

Many Americans still feel animosity toward the administration for what they view as lies about the status of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. The administration needs to admit that perhaps they were wrong on that fact, but still maintain that America had the right to invade because of the international consequences of letting Saddam stay in power, in addition to emphasizing the atrocities that the Saddam regime committed against the Iraqi people.

Rally behind Bush's foreign policy and his idea of Homeland Security. If the

Republicans can make it look like the Democrats do not want a safer America, and that they are undermining the valiant Republicans' efforts to secure America, then it will diminish the effect of the Democrat attack on Bush's

"Republicans have a history of getting the most money in any political campaign."

lack of protection of civil liberties.

•CATCH A TERRORIST!

The American people are getting fed up with the fact that it has been over two years since 9/11 and the world's hegemony has still failed to capture those that helped mastermind the operation. While capturing Saddam helped the moral of out nation, it did not capture those who were responsible for the lives lost in the terrorist attacks.

The Economy.

This last quarter in the US's economy was the best in over 3 years. Most economists now agree that the US is coming out of the recession. If Bush can capitalize on this, he can gain the needed domestic issue to boost his campaign.

•Money.

Republicans have a history of getting the most money in any political campaign. They will no doubt be receiving large sums of money from corporations, and business owners. Bush has already denied federal matching funds, meaning that he expects to not only raise, but spend more than the federal limit. This means that expectations are high for the amount of capital that the Republicans can raise. And, as we all know, it is name recognition and awareness that wins elections. Obviously, Bush (as the incumbent) has more name recognition than any of the Democratic nominees, but his status as an incumbent will also help in his ability to raise capital.

when the c-list actors finally got their revenge and power, the voters said "we're tired of nicole and she was ugly in the hours." being vicious and tender for each other has been fun, bad for you is the sun. if anyone ever does wrong to you with clout tell me so i can find a window to throw them out.

cats smirk and dogs grovel,

a good short story is better than a novel.

i bet you don't listen to floetry,

now you can see why i don't write poetry.

a lot of crappy books are published by ballantine,

i consider you to be my valentine.

my favorite character in winnie-the-pooh was eeyore.

you deserve everything you have and much more.

momecky,

i love you becky.

**2nd Beall,
To
the lovely
ladies of
2nd Beall.
Thanks for
all the memories.**

**From:
Yolanda**

Kristen and Shay,
I got very lucky with you two, the best junior sisters a criminally neglectful senior bro could ask for. From Robin Williams to Rammstein, Hugh Jackman to Teletubbies, I hope you'll remember our conversations fondly. Have a great senior year. --
Bryan

Ayiesha,
If things were different, you'd be the one. Still, in ten years, our children will be very pretty. Perhaps slightly confused, but hey. History debates, chem webassigns, and long nights wondering how to fix things in our senior year lives-we've almost gotten through it, together. Someday when you cure a disease there will be a journalist taking notes beside you, and that will be me. I have lots of love for you and will no matter where we end up. -Bryan

